

## Item 9.c: Wales Report

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### Cardiff University

Cardiff School of Modern Languages is delighted to welcome Professor David Clarke as the new Head of School. Professor Clarke has been at Cardiff since 2018 and is a specialist in German Studies. His research centres on the politics of memory in Germany and Europe, with a particular focus on issues relating to victimhood.

### Routes into Languages Cymru

Routes Cymru has launched the new **governor toolkit** on the Routes website:

<https://routesintolanguagescymru.co.uk/governors-2/>. This includes a guide for governors, an audit tool, a good practice guide, and presentation to use in a governing body. It has been promoted to schools and Local Authorities, and promoted by Governors Cymru. It has been shared with Routes franchises in England.

Routes Cymru has assessed the reach of its digital delivery this year, necessitated by the pandemic. Although we are miss the face-to-face contact, the digital delivery has increased our reach. For example there were 320 registrations for our AS/A Level masterclasses, with each registration reaching potentially greater numbers in the case of teacher registrations. Our Virtual Language Ambassador Talks series delivered by our Ambassadors from Bangor, Cardiff, and Swansea Universities was launched in September 2020 and has been viewed over 500 times on our Routes Cymru YouTube channel.

A Routes Student Language Ambassador from Bangor won the 'In Love with Languages' competition organized by the Association of University Professors and Head of French+ (AUPHF+). Sophie Cackett was the winner in the category: 'How Languages can change your life':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31iKzm0Eg>

### Student Mentoring Project

MFL Mentoring is delighted to have received funding to support its work from 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. This funding will support two work streams which are as follows:

1. The Year 8/9 Online Mentoring Programme.
2. The Teacher Resources and School Support Programme.

## **Project Summary Year 8/9 Mentoring**

The project has received funding to work with a minimum of 45 schools and a maximum of 65 schools in the coming academic year. Two rounds of 6 sessions of mentoring will be delivered to Year 8 and 9 learners. Dependent on the public health context, the project would look to offer relevant modes of engagement which might include: fully digital, blended and fully face-to-face. It is anticipated that a fully face-to-face delivery is highly unlikely.

All mentor training will be delivered online (via Aula). The majority of the training will be delivered in-house. Turbo-mentoring will be reintroduced where desirable and possible and the project will continue to consider the best format for Award and Recognition Ceremonies.

Currently, the project are in the process of recruiting mentors and schools to start the mentoring cycle in September 2021. Mentor recruitment is progressing well with 85 full applications received to date from a wide variety of departments and disciplines from across our 5 partner universities. School recruitment is also progressing well with 55 full applications received to date.

Application deadlines for both mentors and schools will close by mid-July.

## **Project Summary Teaching and Learning Resources**

This stream of the project will now focus on sustainability and reach by developing resources that will be accessible to all schools in Wales via the MFL Mentoring website. The resources will be targeted at Year 7 learners and will support actively the transition to the Curriculum for Wales. These resources will develop a positive approach to international languages by opening out learner perceptions of what languages are, how they function and what place they hold in our communities. These resources will be designed to be used by any teacher, encouraging greater cross-curricular working and encouraging a wider understanding of the intersections between languages and other subject areas.

The resources will also provide practical support for implementing the Curriculum for Wales, offering inspiration for how to develop multilingual resources and mindsets and will encourage exploration and curiosity driven learning. The approach will be less about knowledge gained and more about where this learning experience takes the learner next. All resources will be available bilingually.