



DIARY MARKER

WALES, EUROPE & THE WORLD

Event:	Wales, Europe & the World (Conference for 14-19 year olds)
Where:	Cardiff City Hall
When:	Friday 3rd February 2012, 10.00 – 14.00
Contact:	Ellie Jones, Routes into Languages Cymru, 029 2026 5410

CONFERENCE TO PROMOTE LANGUAGES IN THE WORKPLACE

On Friday, 3rd February 2012, young people will congregate in Cardiff to learn how their foreign language skills will help them in their future careers.

Routes into Languages Cymru, working in partnership with CILT Cymru, Cardiff Council and the Confucius Institute are organising this free one-day conference for young people aged 14 to 19 years old. It aims to highlight Cardiff and Wales's European and global links and will help young people to find out more about opportunities to work, study and travel in Europe and beyond. They will also learn that speaking another language can enable them to get the most out of their experiences.

This fourth annual conference of Wales, Europe & the World will have a particular focus on languages and the world of work. Many of the seminars throughout the day will promote the importance of language skills in the workplace. The young people will have the opportunity to use their current language skills in a business context as well as learn about opportunities for work experience placements abroad and how understanding other cultures is important for business.

In addition to a full day of seminars, young people present will have the chance to visit the conference's exhibition. There will be 14 stands to visit, each one offering a unique reason to study a language. Local employers will be present demonstrating how languages are essential for their businesses and local education providers will offer information about the different courses available to study languages. Prizes will be awarded to pupils who complete tasks at all of the exhibition stands.

Ceri James, Director of CILT Cymru and Routes into Languages Cymru said *"At this event young people will see how relevant foreign language skills can be to their careers and future employment prospects, and they'll also learn about the fantastic funded opportunities that exist to study a wide range of subjects at universities abroad. Language skills are skills for life, whether that life is spent in Wales, in Europe or further afield."*

ENDS

Press enquiries to: Ellie Jones, Routes Cymru Project Manager, email: ellie.jones@ciltcymru.org.uk, tel: 029 2026 5410

Interviews with Ceri James, Director of Routes Cymru are available on request from Ellie Jones.

Routes into Languages Cymru website: www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/cymru

Event webpage: <http://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/cymru/events/2583>

Notes for editors:

1. The Wales, Europe & the World conference will take place in Cardiff City Hall on Friday, 3rd February 2012, 10am – 2pm.
2. The event is funded by Routes into Languages Cymru, CILT Cymru, Cardiff Council and the Confucius Institute. It is supported by the British Council, Colegau Cymru Colleges Wales, the Goethe-Institut, Cardiff University and the European Documentation Centre of Cardiff University.
3. The following organisations will be exhibiting at the event: the European Commission, the Goethe-Institut, the Confucius Institute, the British Council, Routes into Languages Cymru and CILT Cymru, Schools into Europe, Careers Wales, Cardiff University, Eries, Escape Routes Cymru, Eversheds, Open University, See Science, Cardiff and Vale College.
4. The Routes into Languages programme was developed by three organisations working in partnership: the University Council of Modern Languages (UCML), the HE Academy Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies (LLAS) and CILT, the National Centre for Languages. The Routes into Languages programme is coordinated by a team at the University of Southampton, directed by Professor Michael Kelly. <http://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/>
5. Routes into Languages Cymru is a £750,000 project funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW).
6. Led by CILT Cymru in partnership with 11 universities across Wales, the specific aim of the Routes into Languages Cymru project is to increase the take up of languages from school to university. It encourages young people to have a positive attitude towards their language learning and promotes languages as an essential skill.
7. CILT Cymru is funded by the Welsh Government and is managed by WJEC.