



Academi Genedlaethol ar gyfer
Arweinyddiaeth Addysgol Cymru
National Academy for
Educational Leadership Wales

Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015



Meet our Associates

Karen Lawrence is an Executive Head with over 10 years' experience as a headteacher. Karen is a mentor for several new or acting headteachers across Powys and is the Chair of the Headteacher Reference Board for ERW

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The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 seeks to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. In order to create a more sustainable Wales, public bodies must plan and work towards the seven well-being goals and the five ways of working.

The Well-Being of Futures Act became statutory for all public bodies in 2016. However, its scope and reach are questionable. As the National Academy for Educational Leadership (Leadership Academy) is collaborating with various public bodies it is pertinent to explore the Act and its implications for cross-sector working when attempting to drive agendas forward.

During the summer of 2018, Sophie Howe, the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, delivered a seminar to the associates and selected stakeholders of the Leadership Academy in order to outline the principles of the Act alongside the implications for future working across the three tiers of education sector in Wales.

The significance of the Act became clear and how it could affect future activities when working with local and national government. Despite this it became obvious that the Act was not well known by educators in the room! This in itself is a concern as it is a pivotal piece of legislation which could act as a lever for joint working across the system. The principles of the Act, the seven well-being goals and the five ways of working are unquestionably useful for all. Further discussions with government officials on another occasion clearly indicated that they were very aware of the Act and worked on the plans associated with it. Unfortunately, their understanding had not been passed on to school leaders across Wales in a consistent manner.

The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is a very sound basis for joint working across the system. It needs to have a higher profile at all levels if it is to have the impact that it obviously could. Leaders in schools should be informed about the Act and its implications, referring not only to headteachers but also to Governors, who do have a duty of care for the well-being of headteachers. Well-being for all must remain a key driver in policy decisions across the system.

Through my increased awareness of the Act and its requirements, I have been able to use it in discussions with my local authority on a range of issues, including the ALN 0-5 agenda where addressing the health and well-being of pupils has been critical

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