

**NATIONAL YOUTH WORK CONFERENCE  
4 MARCH 2020  
CARDIFF CITY STADIUM**

**AGENDA**

**09:30 Arrivals, refreshments, networking and market stalls**

**10:00 Welcome**

**10:05 Keynote speech:**

Keith Towler, Chair of the Interim Youth Work Board for Wales

**10:30-11:30**

**Workshops** (breakout rooms)

- *Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health of young people and practitioners* (David Williams, Torfaen Youth Service)
- *Identity Formation of Young People in a Digital World* (Cez James, Cardiff Metropolitan University)
- *Inclusivity* (Rachel Benson, Youth Cymru)

**'4 x 15' Professional Practice Talks** (main conference hall)

- *'What does the Future of Youth Information in Wales look like?'* (Arielle Tye, ProMo Cymru)
- *"We're the Welsh and our language is Cymraeg" - Your role in building a bilingual nation* (Ashok Ahir, UK Government in Wales)
- *'Using a Youth Work approach to help address the issue of youth homelessness'* (Nick Hudd, Pembrokeshire Youth Service)
- *'Relationships & Sexuality Education and Youth Work'* (Corinne Fry, Neath Port Talbot Youth Service)

**11:45-12:00 Keynote speech:** Kirsty Williams AM, Minister for Education

**12:00-12:45 Lunch and networking**

**13:00-14:00 Repeat of Workshops and '4 x 15' Professional Practice Talks**

**14:10-15:40 World Café** (main conference hall and breakout rooms)

**15:45-16:00 Closing remarks and evaluation by attendees**

**16:00 Close**

## **NATIONAL YOUTH WORK CONFERENCE**

### **Synopses of Sessions**

#### **Workshops**

##### ***Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health of young people and practitioners***

- The importance on creating an open, honest and secure organisational culture. Challenges and benefits of an organisation that is role-focused not status-focused. How team culture reflects the way we support young people
- The psychological theory behind creating wellbeing systems to support staff
- The practical application of the above theory
- Group activity, modelling a supported reflected session

##### ***Identity Formation of Young People in a Digital World***

- Youth work has to greater and lesser degrees historically played some part in the support of the formation of identity with young people.
- This workshop will critically consider the role of youth work engagement with young people and their formation of identity
- It will critically consider the role of social media, and media more broadly, and its impact on young people's sense of self and well being

##### ***Inclusivity***

- Accessible and inclusive youth work is central to the vision which the new Youth Work Strategy for Wales sets out. During its development, young people shared the importance of having access to safe spaces where they could belong and thrive.
- The workshop will enable participants to explore inclusivity and safe spaces, identifying and sharing good practice, including practical tips to remove barriers to participation.

#### **'4 x 15' Professional Practice Talks**

##### ***'What does the Future of Youth Information in Wales look like?'***

- Drawing on findings from a recent European-wide study into young people's information needs and behaviours, Arielle will present suggestions on how we build a modern, inclusive and accessible information service to support young people in Wales to thrive.

##### ***"We're the Welsh and our language is Cymraeg"***

- Looking at everyone's role in building a bilingual nation

##### ***'Using a Youth Work approach to help address the issue of youth homelessness'***

- Long term engagement of those aged 11-25 and a participative approach
- An ability to utilise community assets and experiential learning
- Vicarious learning opportunities and rights-based approach

##### ***'Relationships & Sexuality Education and Youth Work'***

- Raise awareness of the recommendations for SRE from the Sex and Relationships Education Expert Panel in Wales.
- Consider ways that youth providers and practitioners can contribute to SRE to support young people based on the recommendations.

- Professional Training Opportunities in the Field of Sexual Health and Young People to ensure practitioners can deliver SRE effectively.

### **World Café**

Groups of about 10 participants sit around tables, together with a "table host", and discuss questions which have been agreed upon at the beginning of the event or defined by the organisers in advance.

Each table has a different set of questions belonging to a theme. After approximately 15 minutes participants move to a next table where another topic - which ideally is built upon the previous one - is discussed.

Discussion results are directly noted down. The "table host" welcomes new participants and informs them about the results of the previous discussion at the table. Strategies for actions/ opportunities for participants are identified.

### **Stallholders**

Non-youth work sector organisations and bodies have been invited in order to ensure that practitioners have the opportunity to discuss youth work with colleagues from other sectors.

Attendees are encouraged to engage with stallholders to highlight the wonderful world of youth work but also to learn from others – on the basis of developing working relationships and always in support of better services for young people.