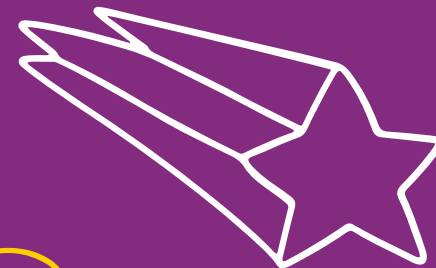


# IMPACT REPORT

25-26



# A SHARED AMBITION. A SHARED FUTURE.

Coleg Cambria is defined by its people and their stories - the thousands of learners, staff, and partners who make up our community across North East Wales. The aim of our Impact Report is to tell just some of these stories.

Our success is not solely measured by academic outcomes, but fundamentally by the progress of our students, encompassing their developed skills, the resilience and ambition they cultivate and the lasting friendships they form.

**This year, we have strengthened our commitment to ensuring that **Learner Voice** is embedded in everything we do.**

As you read this report, you will see how our students are not just participants in their education, but active partners in shaping it.



**We are building an environment that is inclusive, where every individual feels valued, and where wellbeing is treated with the same importance as a qualification.**

We also recognise our responsibility as a community anchor. We are proud to be a **bilingual** institution that champions the Welsh language and culture, ensuring it thrives in our daily operations.

**We are also deepening our links with local industry to ensure our learners leave us not just with a certificate, but with the skills to drive our local economy forward.**

Our direction is clear. We are building a college that listens, adapts and empowers young people.

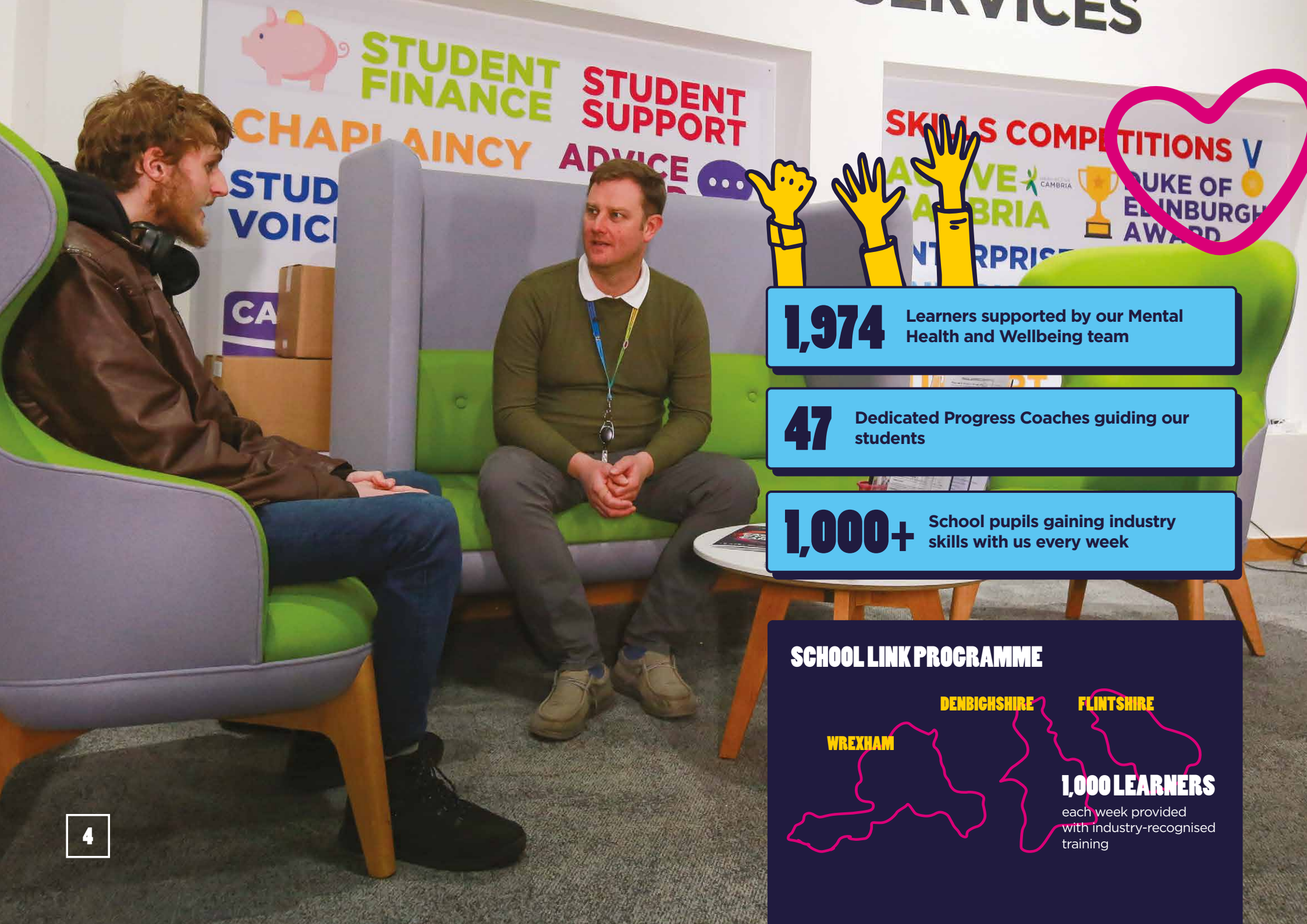


**Yana Williams**  
Coleg Cambria  
Chief Executive Officer



**Tim Wheeler**  
Coleg Cambria  
Chair of Governors





**1,974**

Learners supported by our Mental Health and Wellbeing team

**47**

Dedicated Progress Coaches guiding our students

**1,000+**

School pupils gaining industry skills with us every week

## SCHOOL LINK PROGRAMME

WREXHAM

DENBIGHSHIRE

FLINTSHIRE

**1,000 LEARNERS**

each week provided with industry-recognised training

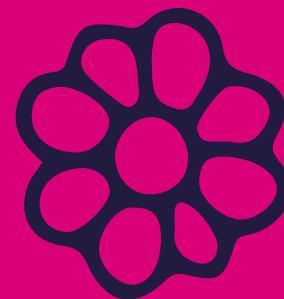
# SUPPORT THAT CHANGES LIVES

At Coleg Cambria, we know that true impact is measured by more than just examination results. It is defined by how we ensure **every single learner** has an equitable opportunity to succeed. This year, we have heavily invested in the wrap-around support that makes academic and vocational achievement possible.

Across all our 5 sites, we provide a safety net that empowers our student community. Last year, our dedicated team of **Academic Support Staff and 47 Progress Coaches** guided learners through their educational journey, while our **Mental Health and Wellbeing advisors** provided vital, bespoke interventions to **1,974 students**.

We are immensely proud of our **Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Learning Support provision**. Through targeted inclusion training and specialist teams, our learners with additional needs achieved success and retention rates equitable to or above their neurotypical peers. This is the very definition of an inclusive college culture.

Furthermore, our reach extends deeply into our local communities. Through our **School Link Programme**, we partner with **Wrexham, Denbighshire, and Flintshire Local Education Authorities** to provide over **1,000 learners** each week with industry-recognised training. Coupled with robust **financial support** for thousands of our learners, we are actively removing the barriers to education.



## RHIA CRUFFYDD,

A-Level Learner

“Before starting at Coleg Cambria, the transition felt entirely overwhelming. However, the college’s excellent transition support and the Inclusion Team changed everything. Accessing quiet spaces and receiving dedicated mental health support during my exams gave me the confidence to thrive. Without them, my success simply wouldn’t have been possible.”

## LIZZIE CRUFFYDD,

Parent

“As a parent, seeing your daughter move on to college is incredibly daunting, but Cambria’s thorough transition support instantly reassured us. They truly understood Rhia from day one. When exam pressure peaked, the proactive mental health care she received was an absolute lifeline. Watching her navigate that stress with new-found resilience has been the greatest relief for our family.”

# OUR VOICE, OUR COLLEGE



At Coleg Cambria, we know that the most vibrant, successful learning environments are those where students are active participants in their Cambria story. We recognise that coming to college is about more than acquiring a qualification; it is about building networks, developing independence, and creating lasting friendships.

**We are committed to ensuring that every learner is fundamentally valued. This year, our dedicated network of 301 Student Reps ensured that the voice of the learner is embedded in all we do. Through these representatives, we provide clear platforms for both individual and collective voices to shape our future. When our students speak, we listen and, more importantly, we act.**

**Crucially, we are dedicated to actively countering prejudice and building trust across our community. Through our expansive Chaplaincy programme, 2,691 students from 192 classroom sessions across all sites received bespoke, curriculum-contextualised training this year. Furthermore, to ensure our environments are truly inclusive, we are expanding our Multi Faith and Reflection Rooms, with a commitment to having them available on all sites by August 2026.**

Our students are the architects of their own experience. By empowering them to lead the conversation and fostering a culture of profound respect, we ensure that Coleg Cambria continues to evolve in a way that truly reflects the diverse people it serves.





**2,691**

Learners trained to counter prejudice and build trust

**301**

Student Reps shaping our future



**5**

Campuses united by our inclusive values

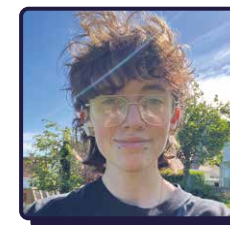


## TOBY TAYLOR

Coleg Cambria Student President



"As Student President, I am incredibly proud of the community we are building together at Coleg Cambria. This Impact Report proves that we, as a college, are about far more than just results. From groundbreaking inclusive spaces and wrap-around wellbeing support, to our active work protecting the environment and our life-changing global trips, Cambria truly empowers all students. Most importantly, it is a college that listens. By ensuring our views shape every decision, we aren't just attending college - we are active partners in creating the college's culture."



**1,000+**

Employer Partnerships  
driving our region



**2,500**

Active Apprentices  
building their careers

**20,000**

Part-time learners  
upskilling for the future



**JAMES ROBERTSON**

HR Resourcing Manager, Kronospan

“Cambria continues to provide us with world-class support for our training needs. They play a pivotal part in the training and development of all of our employees, and support us in remaining at the forefront of the wood panel manufacturing industry.”

**kronospan**

# SKILLS FOR THE REGION



We have always understood that our responsibilities extend beyond the classroom. As the **primary engine for skills in North East Wales**, we work in active partnership with over **1,000 employers**, from local SMEs to global leaders like **Airbus, JCB, and Toyota**.

**This year, that role has never been more critical. With the announcement of the Flintshire and Wrexham Investment Zone, this £160 million initiative relies on one critical resource: skilled people. Coleg Cambria is the bridge between that ambition and reality. As a £12 million Apprenticeship Contract Holder, our provision is vast and highly targeted, currently training over 2,500 Apprentices and supporting 20,000 part-time learners across 887 part-time courses.**

To further cement our impactful role in the region, we have launched the Advanced Skills Hub in partnership with Wrexham University. This 'one-stop shop' creates agile pathways from Level 2 to Level 7, directly supporting economic growth.

We do not just teach skills; we build industry-leading careers. This excellence was proven on the national stage as Cambria represented the **largest team from Wales at the WorldSkills UK finals**, securing multiple medals across critical disciplines including **Welding, Aircraft Maintenance, and Beauty Therapy**. When our region grows, our learners grow with it.

**Here is how we turn education into employment.**

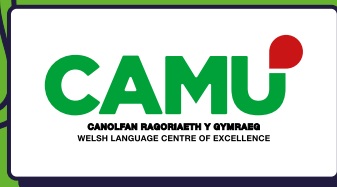
## TOMAS ANKERS

World Skills Finalist - Shanghai 2026  
CNC Milling

Three years ago, Tomas Ankers started his Level 2 engineering course at Coleg Cambria. Today, the 18-year-old Electroimpact apprentice is preparing to represent the UK at WorldSkills Shanghai in CNC Milling. Tomas's remarkable journey to the global stage includes highly commended finishes at WorldSkills UK and a Medallion for Excellence at EuroSkills. Discovering a passion for hands-on precision manufacturing, Tomas credits his success to his unwavering drive to win, alongside exceptional support from his employer and Coleg Cambria's dedicated staff. His inspiring story perfectly highlights how our strong industry partnerships and world-class training truly empower local apprentices to compete globally.



# CYMRAEG 2050



At Coleg Cambria, we are proud of our heritage and we're deeply committed to the future of the Welsh language. We recognise that the **Welsh language is a critical skill** for the modern workforce.

We understand that to hit the national ambition of a million Welsh speakers by 2050, the language must live outside the classroom. That is why we focus on creating an environment where Cymraeg is a natural, visible, and vibrant part of the daily Cambria experience.

As a provider for the National Centre for Learning Welsh as well as Learn Welsh North East Wales, we **deliver learn Welsh community courses to over 1,500 students**. Crucially, we also provide specialist 'Work Welsh' training to 2,000+ employees in partnership with major anchor organisations like **North Wales Police, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, and Wrexham AFC**.

Inside the college, our **new Welsh Language Centre of Excellence, CAMU, at the Yale site** provides a fully immersive social and learning space for staff and students.

We have invested in our staff through the **Addysgwr Dwyieithog** incentive scheme, we achieved a **7% increase in learners completing their work bilingually**.



Furthermore, nearly **1,500 learners benefited from tailored Welsh units** integrated directly into their English-medium vocational courses.

By actively collaborating with partners like **Urdd Gobaith Cymru, Mudiad Meithrin, and Mentrau Iaith**, we ensure that from the classroom to the community, Welsh is accessible, vibrant, and a genuine advantage for our learners' futures.

'Coleg Cambria emphasises the strategic importance of the Welsh language strongly by offering financial incentives to practitioners, in addition to non-contact time from their teaching timetables during the training, for increasing the use of the Welsh language in their sessions. This is a notable example of linguistic planning through workforce planning.'

**ESTYN THEMATIC REPORT: INCREASING THE USE OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE IN THE POST-16 SECTORS**





**2,000+**

Employees upskilled through our Work Welsh partnerships

**1,500**

Community Learners studying with Learn Welsh North East Wales

**7%**

Increase in learners completing their college work bilingually



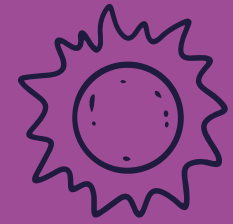
## MAGIROBERTS

Level 3 Creative Media & Technology

"I have always been taught through Welsh and wanted to continue at Cambria to maintain my language skills. The Welsh team's support was amazing - they helped with translations, allowed me to run Welsh clubs and work at the Eisteddfod. I won Welsh Speaker of the Year and became a Welsh ambassador. Now self-employed, I run 'Magi Roberts Media' as a bilingual freelance photographer and videographer, thanks to their help promoting my bilingual services."



# SHAPING OUR COMMUNITIES, BUILDING OUR FUTURES



At Coleg Cambria, we believe education is about more than personal achievement; it is about civic responsibility. This year, our **Jobs Growth Wales+ (JGW+)** learners from across our sites have stepped out of the classroom to deliver transformative, hands-on projects that directly benefit our communities.

From extensive landscaping and restoration at **Ty Mawr Country Park** to refurbishing the **Bowling Pavilion at Kynaston**, our learners have revitalised public spaces to make them safer and more accessible.

Their impact stretches across the generations - whether they are undertaking essential groundwork and painting alongside residents at **Chirk Court Care Home**, preparing facilities at **Black Lane Primary School**, or braving the winter weather to resurface and develop the historic **Greenfield Valley** site.





Crucially, these community action projects - including environmental initiatives with Keep Wales Tidy and Outside Lives CIC - are not optional extras. They are deeply embedded into the JGW+ curriculum. By taking ownership of these spaces, our learners are developing essential, real-world employability skills such as time management, resilience and community responsibility.

**We are immensely proud of these young people. They are not just building their own confidence and career prospects; they are proving that Coleg Cambria's impactful reach is felt in communities across North East Wales.**



**37** Community projects completed



**22** Community groups benefitted



**1110** Learners involved



**46** College colleagues involved





**4,793**

Student voices heard  
through our LIFE Survey



**9.5%**

Increase in welcoming staff  
with disabilities to our team

**5**

Campuses featuring dedicated  
Multifaith and Belief Spaces



# CHAMPIONING FAIRNESS AND BELONGING

We believe that outstanding education must be underpinned by a fundamental **culture of kindness**. We are actively working to identify and remove the barriers that prevent people from equitably thriving, ensuring every individual feels safe, supported, and valued for exactly who they are.

This year, we have taken significant, proactive steps to ensure our campuses are true safe havens. Led by our newly established **Fairness & Belonging team**, we launched the **'Call It Out!'** online reporting tool, empowering learners to safely and directly report harassment.

We also know that true inclusion requires physical spaces that reflect our diverse community. We are proud to now offer dedicated **Multifaith and Belief Spaces on all five of our campuses**. Furthermore, our pioneering new **Cosmetology Hub at Deeside** has been designed with inclusion at its core, offering bespoke services ranging from Cancer Light Touch Therapy to LGBTQ+ Hair Care.

Crucially, we are a college that listens. Our **learner LIFE Survey** received **4,793 responses** this year - a **22.2% increase** - ensuring our students' lived experiences directly shape our support. This commitment to equity extends to our workforce; our **Inclusive Recruitment** initiative successfully drove a **9.52% increase in hiring people with disabilities**, ensuring the staff guiding our learners truly reflect the communities we serve.



Coleg Cambria is proudly working with Colegau Cymru to play a leading role in a groundbreaking Wales-wide initiative to tackle misogyny and promote respectful relationships across the Further Education sector. Funded by Taith, this international collaboration saw our Fairness and Belonging team exchange best practices with educators in Canada.



# A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE, A LOCAL IMPACT



We believe that a **truly transformative college experience** requires opportunities that push learners out of their comfort zones, test their skills in the real world, and broaden their horizons. That is why enrichment is never treated as an add-on, it is **deeply embedded into our core provision**.

This academic year, our students participated in over **420 educational trips**. Locally, learners gained vital industry exposure through visits to **Mold Crown Court, Arla Film Studios and local emergency services**.



Agriculture students visited the CAFRE college farm and SlurryKat factory in Northern Ireland to gain practical crop production experience and understand the agricultural machinery supply chain.

Internationally, our learners have taken their skills across Europe and Africa. In Tanzania, Health and Social Care students delivered vital health education to 4,000 primary school attendees. In Spain, students worked alongside the Atlantic Whale and Dolphin Foundation to collect live marine conservation data.



Health and Social Care students delivered preventative education to 4,000 primary school children in Arusha, applying their vocational curriculum to reduce the burden on local hospitals.



Forensic Science students visited facilities and museums linked to the East German Police and Intelligence communities to learn about the history of a split Germany.



**420+** Educational trips and industry visits completed this year

**8** International destinations visited across Europe and Africa

**Importantly, these global opportunities are fundamentally inclusive. We recently supported 12 neurodiverse learners to complete a two-week tech and sustainability work placement in Pistoia, Italy, building their professional courage and independence.**

Whether engaging in emergency response training with firefighters in Zaragoza, studying historical intelligence in Berlin, or analysing agricultural engineering in Ireland, our learners are doing more than preparing for exams. They are developing the global awareness required to step into the world as confident, well-rounded professionals.



Neurodiverse learners completed meaningful work placements at FODY, a sustainable social business, engaging in circular economy practices to experience how adaptability and creativity are professionally valued.



Uniformed Public Services students completed emergency response training with Zaragoza firefighters and physical endurance challenges in Spain to build essential leadership and resilience for their careers.



Students partnered with the Atlantic Whale and Dolphin Foundation in Tenerife, conducting live marine data collection and conservation workshops to understand the impact of sustainable tourism.

# MADE

Maximising Achievement  
and Developing Everyone.  
100% of our full-time learners  
receive an Individual Learning  
Plan to keep their ambitions  
on track.

**350,000** Hours of dedicated coaching  
and support delivered annually

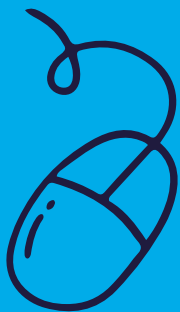
**5,000+** Learners guided through  
our MADE programme



**900** University applications  
successfully submitted via UCAS



# MORE THAN JUST A COURSE

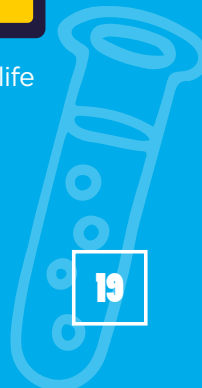
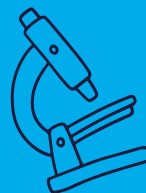


At Coleg Cambria, we know that coming to college is about more than just passing exams; it is about preparing young people for life.

That is why we are fully committed to supporting the “whole student” through our pioneering **MADE programme - Maximising Achievement and Developing Everyone.**

Operating across all our sites, the MADE initiative ensures that pastoral care is not an add-on. Every full-time learner is paired with one of our **dedicated Progress Coaches**, guaranteeing they have a consistent, trusted point of support from their first day at Cambria to their next steps.

The scale of this commitment is immense. This year, our team delivered up to **350,000 hours** of tailored coaching to more than **5,000 students**. Through interactive sessions and **Individual Learning Plans**, we tackle the real-world challenges young people face - from **mental resilience and online safety to emerging technologies and employability.**



## MAGDA KRYSZCZUK

A Level Student

“I couldn’t have asked for a better Progress Coach. Balancing A-levels in Chemistry, Psychology, and English Literature felt overwhelming at times, but his weekly check-ins gave me the mental resilience and practical advice I needed. He didn’t just check on my wellbeing; he actively championed my future, spending time helping me perfect my personal statement and supporting me to navigate my UCAS application. Thanks to his constant belief, I am heading to the University of Chester to study Primary Education!”



But MADE is fundamentally about futures. Whether it is helping to craft over **900 successful UCAS applications** or working alongside partners like **Big Ideas Wales** to spark entrepreneurial ambition, our **Progress Coaches** are there to unlock potential.

We do not just track academic progress; we build the confidence, life skills and independence our learners need to truly thrive.

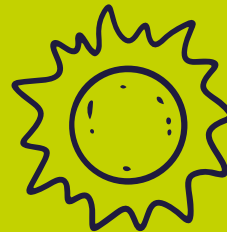
# CREATING A GREENER FUTURE

At Coleg Cambria, our aim is to embed sustainability as a core principle across all aspects of college life, ensuring that learners and colleagues can contribute positively to a greener economy. We know that true environmental responsibility requires more than just policy; it requires massive physical investment and active, hands-on student leadership.

To minimise our impact on the planet, we are heavily investing in energy-efficient facilities. Driven by major funding, including a **£1.7 million Government backed decarbonisation grant**, we are transforming our infrastructure.

Across our campuses, our **1,300+ solar panels** generated a staggering **265,215 kWh of renewable electricity** this year, which is enough to power **98 homes for an entire year**.

We are also incredibly proud that the new Hendre teaching building at Llysfas stands as the college's **first Carbon Neutral Building**.



But our green ambition is fundamentally driven by our people. Our students take the lead, planting **1,500 native mixed species trees** each November to actively offset our carbon footprint. Meanwhile, our dedicated grounds team manages **wildflower meadows equating to 2.25 football pitches**, producing enough nectar to feed **380,000 bees a day**.

From removing **90% of plastic bottles** from our refreshment outlets, to installing innovative, flood-preventing **rain gardens in partnership with the Welsh Dee Trust**, our community is proving that protecting the planet starts right here in North East Wales.



Building the Future: The new Hendre teaching facility at Llysfas is officially Coleg Cambria's first Carbon Neutral Building, designed to achieve a BREEAM **'Excellent'** rating.





**265,215** kWh of solar energy generated—  
enough to power 98 homes!

**1,500** Native trees planted annually by  
our learners

**380,000** Bees fed every single day by our  
campus wildflower meadows

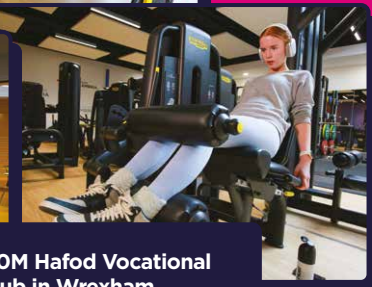
# INSPIRING AND INNOVATIVE LEARNING SPACES



At Coleg Cambria, we know that world-class education requires world-class environments. We are not just enhancing our estate through capital investment, we are **actively developing the future of the North East Wales economy**.

By investing across our sites, we have created inspiring, industry-standard spaces for our learners that **directly bridge the gap between education and employment**.

From cutting-edge clinical wards to award-winning eco-buildings, these facilities do far more than house our curriculum. They empower our learners, support their mental wellbeing, and provide the exact hands-on, commercial experience our employer partners demand.



Our **£20M Hafod Vocational Skills Hub in Wrexham** expands our curriculum facilities. It features a **commercial restaurant**, **performance theatre**, and a **commercial-standard fitness suite** while meeting **BREEM Excellent** sustainability standards.



The **£16.2M Health Care & Therapies Academy** at our Yale site provides **550 learners** with flexible, specialised training areas. This includes **hospital simulation wards** and an innovative **360-degree immersive room** with multi-sensory effects.





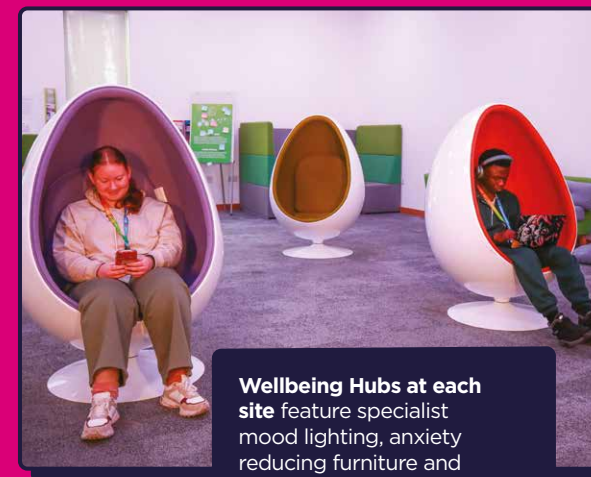
The college's **£9M Net-Zero Innovation Centre at Llysfasi** is award-winning. It features a cutting-edge sustainable timber frame and a vertical **climbing wall** to build student confidence. It provides an eco-friendly environment for **250 land-based and engineering learners**.

**£49M+**

Invested in industry-standard and wellbeing facilities across our campuses

**NET ZERO.**

The official status of our UK award winning innovation centre at Llysfasi



**Wellbeing Hubs at each site** feature specialist mood lighting, anxiety reducing furniture and video projection. They offer students a **dedicated, calming space to breathe, reflect, and renew**.



Our **£1.9M CAMU - Welsh Language Centre of Excellence (CAMU)** at Yale provides an **immersive area for Welsh language development**. This transforms the learning environment for **500+ learners**, apprentices and the local community.

A state-of-the-art **eSports arena at Deeside** equips **150 learners** with **high-specification gaming machines**. This modern, high-tech facility is also used to **host national eSports events**.



# CAMBRIA STORIES



At Coleg Cambria, **our impact is best told through the stories of our community.** This year has been defined by groundbreaking investments and extraordinary student achievements.

From launching **multi-million-pound, industry-leading facilities like the Innovation Centre at Llysfas and the Health Care & Therapies Academy at Yale**, to forging landmark partnerships with the NHS and global employers, we are constantly evolving. These stories highlight how we are **actively empowering our learners to thrive and driving the North East Wales economy forward.**



Coleg Cambria and **The Savoy Educational Trust** launched a **state-of-the-art, inclusive training kitchen at the Yale campus.** Unveiled by the Minister for Further and Higher Education, this cutting-edge facility ensures learners of all abilities receive highly accessible hospitality training, while also expanding specialist culinary workshops to help **local employers upskill the next generation of industry professionals.**



**Five Coleg Cambria apprentices from industry partners Airbus and Teledyne Giotiq achieved outstanding success at the MAKE UK Regional Manufacturing Awards for Wales.** Securing four regional titles, these talented learners are now advancing to the national finals in London, proving that our strong employer partnerships **actively develop the highly skilled workforce needed to drive Welsh manufacturing forward.**



**Coleg Cambria Llysfas officially launched its £9M Innovation Centre** alongside the prestigious Learner of the Year Awards. Backed by Welsh Government funding, this state-of-the-art, carbon-neutral facility provides our land-based students with a cutting-edge environment to master the agricultural, environmental, and technological skills required to **drive the rural economy forward.**





First Minister Eluned Morgan visited Coleg Cambria Yale to **celebrate the launch of the new £16.2M Health Care & Therapies Academy**. Supported by the Welsh Government, this state-of-the-art building provides an immersive learning environment and industry-standard spa, **giving health and social care students the real-world experience needed to confidently enter the workforce.**



Marking the 70th anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Coleg Cambria is proudly celebrating a **record-breaking surge in completions**. As the number one Further Education institution in Wales for DofE, we have supported over 400 learners in achieving their awards. This highly inclusive programme builds vital resilience, leadership, and outdoor skills, **ensuring every student can achieve their full potential.**



**Powered entirely by our students**, Coleg Cambria proudly hosted the landmark College Alliance International Conference, welcoming over 90 education leaders from across the UK and Europe to Wrexham. From managing high-pressure hospitality to leading interactive workshops, our learners gained transformational real-world experience while **showcasing our inclusive, learner-centred environment to a global audience.**



After five years of dedicated craftsmanship, staff and students at **Coleg Cambria's Bersham Road campus** have unveiled the **striking Knife Dragon**. Built from thousands of confiscated weapons supplied by North Wales Police, this breathtaking sculpture stands as a powerful symbol against knife crime, transforming violence into a permanent **beacon of hope, safety, and community collaboration.**



Coleg Cambria Deeside has officially launched a trailblazing, **first-of-its-kind Cosmetology Centre to revolutionise inclusive hair and beauty training**. This state-of-the-art community hub provides a safe, welcoming environment for clients facing complex barriers to treatment, such as cancer or dementia, while empowering our learners **with the cutting-edge, hands-on experience needed to become truly industry-ready professionals.**



**Coleg Cambria and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board** have formalised a **landmark partnership** to transform healthcare training across North Wales. Building upon our flagship Nurse Cadets programme, this agreement expands vital clinical pathways. Utilising the £16.2M Health Care & Therapies Academy, **we are actively developing the highly skilled, homegrown medical workforce required to support our local NHS and communities.**



# BE PART OF THE CAMBRIA STORY



COLEG  
CAMBRIA



## **Thank you for taking the time to read our Impact Report.**

We hope these pages have provided a powerful snapshot of how Coleg Cambria is actively changing lives, driving regional economic growth and empowering the next generation.

## **The successes showcased here are built on strong partnerships.**

Whether you are an employer looking to upskill your workforce, a community leader wanting to make a difference, or an organisation sharing our vision - we'd like to hear from you.

## **Let's build the future of North East Wales together.**

To start a conversation about how we can collaborate,  
please contact our team at [marketing@cambria.ac.uk](mailto:marketing@cambria.ac.uk).