

GIRLGUIDING CYMRU PRESS RELEASE



BEING OUR BEST - BOD EIN GORAU

Girlguiding Cymru sets out its vision for Girlguiding in Wales in its strategic report launched today. The report focuses on four key areas for the organisation - excellence, access, capacity and voice - and plans the path the organisation will take to 2021.

Being Our Best is at the heart of guiding this plan sets out clearly, for all involved how this will be achieved in Wales.

Girlguiding Cymru has already started on its journey to 2021:

- **Excellence:** for Girlguiding Cymru this means promoting and implementing activities for girls with a distinctively Welsh flavour. 2016 has seen over 800 guides take part in a rugby training day with the Ospreys.
- **Access:** In 2016, 33 new units opened in Wales giving girls more opportunities to benefit from what guiding has to offer. Girlguiding Cymru plans to build on this growth, inspiring those who haven't yet been involved in guiding to join.
- **Capacity:** Partnerships with the Welsh government and non-governmental organisations will enable Girlguiding Cymru to offer guiding with a very Welsh flair. In 2016 in partnership with the Welsh Assembly 35 young women were trained as Assembly Ambassadors, 58 young women were trained as Sports Educators through a partnership with Sport Wales and a further 24 young members gained an NVQ in Digitising Materials through a partnership with The National Library for Wales and People's Collection Wales.
- **Voice:** Empowering girls to speak out on the issues that affect them and their communities. Girlguiding Cymru provides a delegate to the British Youth Council and



Girlguiding's Advocate group, and in 2016 guiding wants to empower a broader group of girls and young women to get their voices heard.

Lesley Mathews, Chief Commissioner Girlguiding Cymru, said, “*Girlguiding Cymru is dedicated to ensuring girls and young women in Wales have the very best opportunities to build skills, confidence and self-esteem to equip them to become future leaders in society. We are committing through this strategy to enable more girls in Wales to benefit from what guiding offers and to do that in a distinctive and authentically Welsh way. I am proud to have been part of developing this strategy but I am even more proud of the girls and young women who have helped shape this plan.*”

Beth Bradley, aged 23, Chair of Girlguiding Cymru's Youth Council, was amongst the young women who contributed to the report. “*I am extremely grateful for the opportunities I've been able to take advantage of through Girlguiding Cymru. I find it particularly empowering to see so many young women have their say on decisions that affect them.*”

To join Girlguiding Cymru and be part of this exciting adventure please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus.

<END>

Posted: 5th October 2016