



Taith Sector Stakeholder Schools Meeting - Summary
Thursday, 28th September 2023
12.30pm – 1.30pm
Meeting held via Zoom

Attendance List	
In Attendance:	Rebecca Payne, Taith (Chair) Andrea Waddington, Sully Primary School Hayley Brady, Pencaerau Primary School Vanessa Palmer, Ysgol Pen-y-Bryn Sian Smith, Llanwern High School Judith Rees, Fitzalan High School Hayley Wilkinson, Portfield School Eli Wapner-Carter, Portfield School Sharon Flint Wood, Dolen Cymru Louise Morgan, Carmarthenshire County Council Amanda Morgan, International Links Global (ILG) Alice Davies, Reaching Wider
Translator	Iola Llwyd
Apologies:	
Taith Programme Executive (TPE):	Ellie Bevan Walter Brooks Claire Richardson Sion James Bethan Williams
Secretariat support:	Michele Convery

Agenda item	Item
1	Welcome and introductions
1.1	Members were welcomed to the meeting and informed that, although this was not a decision-making group, the discussions and feedback from these meetings would inform any proposals put forward to the ILEP Ltd. Board of Directors.
1.2	Members were informed that the meeting was being recorded to support minute-taking and asked to use the virtual hand when wanting to contribute to discussions.
1.3	Members were informed of the option of simultaneous translation in Welsh and were given instructions on how to access this.
2	Minutes and actions of the last meeting
2.1	N/A
3	Topics for discussion
3.1	An overview of the 'Taith Updates and Topics for Discussion' paper was presented, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The following feedback was given in relation to the paper:
3.1a	Participants from underrepresented groups: In addition, members were informed that, although not fixed, initial internal discussions are suggesting a minimum target of 20%.
3.1a(i)	It was asked if there is a set criterion for underrepresented groups.
3.1a(ii)	Taith: Pupils with an annual household income of £25,000 or less; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils who are eligible for means tested free school meals; • Pupils who are care experienced; • Pupils who have caring responsibilities; • Refugees and asylum seekers.
3.1a(iii)	It was suggested that there needs to be flexibility, as it is not always possible to know, when making the application, how many from underrepresented groups will be part of the mobility. Taith need to consider whether the mobility will go ahead if the target is not met.
3.1a(iv)	It was advised that Taith should be wary about being too flexible as 20% doesn't seem that high.
3.1a(v)	It was asked if targets include staff training.
3.1a(vi)	Taith: staff only projects would need to justify how the mobility would impact on underrepresented groups on return.

3.1a(vii)	Targeted support of applications for specific schools was suggested.
3.1b	Changes to grant rates
3.1b(i)	It was commented that any more money to support pupil mobilities would be appreciated, as other fund raising usually needs to happen and this can deter families from disadvantaged backgrounds.
3.1c	Sustainability
3.1c(i)	Off-setting as opposed to ways of sustainable travel was suggested, as unsustainable travel cannot always be avoided.
4	Updates
4.1	Members were informed of bi-annual all-sector meetings. These will provide an opportunity for shared learning and to address cross-sector issues collaboratively. No date has been set yet, but an email will be sent once decided.
4.2	Members were reminded that the next Pathway 2 call for applications opens on 5 th October. In support of this, there will be a series of webinars, and registration for these can be found on the 'Events' section of Taith's website. In addition, smaller meetings can be arranged to discuss potential project ideas or to ask questions about the pathway.
4.3	Members were advised that the recruitment for six new members of the Advisory Board begins in October and were asked to share this through their networks. In addition, members were informed that the potential applicants cannot be in receipt of Taith funding.
5	Items raised by sector stakeholder group members
5.1	It was suggested Taith could use the consortia more to engage further schools, as dissemination is key.
5.2	It was highlighted that the application process was difficult and much of it wasn't designed for schools. To get around this, some schools are using third parties to complete their applications, but by doing this they are not receiving all the funding.
5.3	The importance of overseas partners and making use of existing relationships was highlighted.
6	Date of next meeting
6.1	Next meeting 4 th December 2023