



FEWEEK

National Finals 2025

A woman with blonde hair tied back, wearing a dark top and a pearl necklace, is sitting at a desk. She is looking at a laptop screen. There is a water bottle and some papers on the desk. The background is a solid red color.

25-28 Nov 2025



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WorldSkills UK finalists 2025

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A national finals week that inspires and raises standards



BEN BLACKLEDGE
Chief Executive,
WorldSkills UK

What an inspiring week it has been in South Wales celebrating excellence in skills. Our finals shine

a spotlight on the extraordinary talent of apprentices and learners across the UK, and on the vital role of competitions in developing world-class skills.

Meeting competitors from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland reaffirmed the tangible impact our programmes are having in every region and nation of the UK.

This year, over 4,000 apprentices and learners took part in our competitions, with more than 400 reaching the finals. The determination, creativity and commitment of our competitors remind us why skills matter, for individuals, for communities and for our economy.

A record number of employer entries shows the growing value industry is placing on our programmes. It has been fantastic to welcome so many of these employers, alongside representatives from a wide range of government departments to witness the transformational impact of competition training.

This week also demonstrates the potential



of competitions to both support those at risk of becoming NEET and also to enable the development of higher-technical cutting-edge skills.

The National Finals are more than a showcase; they are a catalyst for raising standards. That's why welcoming members of our Centre of Excellence to South Wales, together with NCFE, has been so important. Bringing educators into the heart of the finals creates a unique space to share best practice and strengthen skills development for tens of thousands of students across the UK.

This week is a true demonstration of what can be achieved through partnerships, and we couldn't achieve any of this without our competition organising partners, investment partners and supporters. Thank you for your unwavering support. My thanks also to the Welsh Government, Inspiring Skills Excellence in Wales and our host venues for such a warm welcome this week and for delivering such an exceptional experience for everyone involved, we can't wait to see what we can do together in 2026!

If you're inspired by our National Finals, now is the time to start your journey to the 2026 competitions. Local and in-house competitions, endorsed by WorldSkills UK, are the perfect way to spot potential, build confidence and prepare learners for success on the national stage. We are here to help you get started, so get in contact, start planning now and give your learners and apprentices the chance to shine.

Wales takes centre stage as UK's top young talent go head-to-head

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A new generation of skilled of skills champions emerged in Wales as 400 finalists showcased world-class technical talent and proved why competitions are transforming teaching, learning and employer confidence across the UK

Hundreds of students and apprentices showcased their talents this week, battling it out in dozens of skilled trades across South Wales.

Five Welsh colleges and universities hosted 400 WorldSkills UK national finalists in 47 competitions, including welding, landscape gardening and aircraft maintenance.

This year's gold, silver and bronze medallists will get a chance to represent the UK at the global contest in Japan in 2028.

The competitions attracted thousands of school students, parents, employers and government ministers to be inspired by the country's most impressive skilled young people, and witness how embedding competitions into the curriculum raises standards.

"It was a decision to really put Wales on the map as a place for inward investment and to really celebrate vocational skills, and that this would be a vehicle for us to do it," said Vivienne Buckley, principal of Bridgend College.

Welsh providers have proudly had a strong association with Team UK and sent three competitors to last year's WorldSkills event in Lyon. Cardiff and Vale College alumnus Ruby Pile also won the "best in nation" award for restaurant services.

However, though "small and agile", further education in Wales is in danger of becoming "severely underfunded".

FE saw an £8.5 million funding cut in 2023-24

and the apprenticeship budget has seen even larger cuts of around £35 million.

Combined with the demographic bulge, more learners with additional needs and rising costs of consumables in plumbing and construction, as well as an upcoming critical Parliament election, colleges are crying out for help.

"In real terms, the money we've all got available for actual new starts and apprenticeships at the time when industry is growing and we need people is a very, very difficult climate," Buckley said.

"Whoever ends up in power, skills have got to be at the heart of their manifesto," she added.

Engaging employers

WorldSkills UK hosted its annual business brunch at Cardiff and Vale College to drive more interest in competitions from local employers, which has already been growing.

In a panel discussion with key government officials and employers, Ben Blackledge, chief executive of WorldSkills UK, said the one thing that binds the competitions together is the "direct line of sight to learners being work ready".

"It's really important that these competitions are both developed and designed, and judged in some places, by employers working hand in hand with education to make sure that actually we are representing the real quality that we see



in our college system."

Co-CEO of Skills England Tessa Griffiths added that the executive agency is working to make the skills system "more responsive" to what employers and the economy need.

"We can't have occupational standards that take two to three years to develop," she said.

The panel also discussed how to adapt young people to keep up with the "pace of change" of fast-growing industries such as tech and advanced manufacturing.

"We can't predict what's going to happen. We've got to invest in skills that are transferable, and that will be needed whatever happens," Griffiths said.

"Post-Covid, kids are probably more resilient, and they have more technical skills than we ever had," Sharon James-Evans, principal of Cardiff and Vale College, told FE Week.

She added: "This is a good way to show our future could be really strong with these young people at the end."

Route to Shanghai and Japan

Nearly 90 young people have already been selected as candidates for the official team that will participate in WorldSkills Shanghai next year.

Some of Squad UK have been practising at this year's finals in Wales and participating in international pressure tests to get ready for Shanghai.

The few that blow judges away at this year's finals could be picked to compete in Shanghai.

But most winners from this year's competition will get the chance to enter an intense two-year training schedule to compete in the next global contest in Aichi, Japan in 2028.





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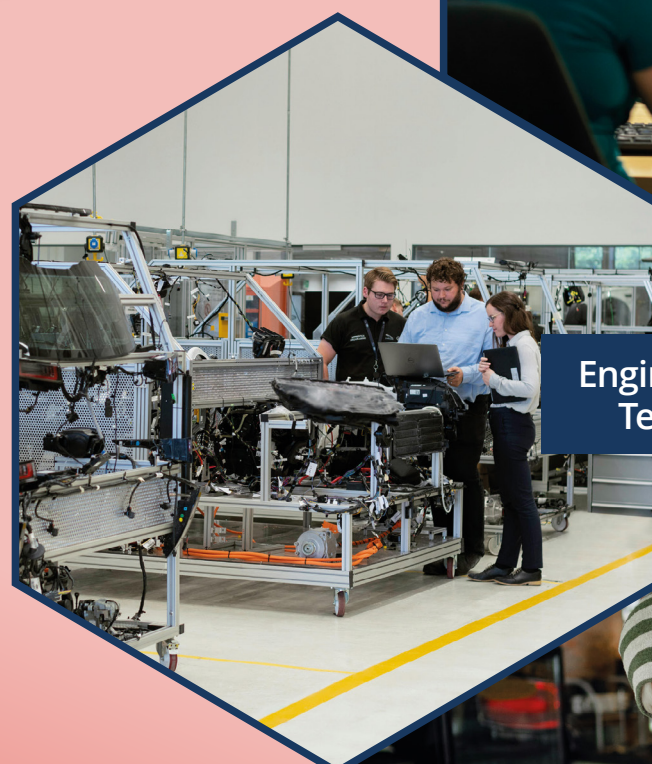
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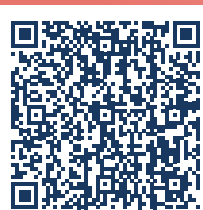


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Breaking barriers: The champions, funds and foundation skills shaping inclusive competitions

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From tackling imposter syndrome to covering childcare and transport costs, a raft of new mentoring and support schemes is helping competitors from diverse backgrounds

Equality, diversity and inclusion initiatives are boosting confidence amongst budding competitors by connecting them to ex-champions, lightening the financial load and shining a light on the excellence of students with SEND needs.

WorldSkills UK, which has recently updated its internal EDI strategy, is in the process of rolling out new programmes to boost diversity at all levels of competition.

Last year, 44 per cent of national final registrations were from female competitors, 19 per cent were from ethnic minorities and 16 per cent were reported with a disability.

The statistics have “inched up” for this year’s finals, but only very slightly.

Female registrations in 2025 increased to 46 per cent, ethnic minorities made up 20 per cent of the cohort and 15 per cent of competitors have a disability.

The issue is not just getting people from different backgrounds into the competition cycle, it’s also about keeping them in.

“Obviously, we have had to reprioritise in the last 12 months, but this has remained a really important area for us,”

“We’ve been looking at what we can do to help those groups feel more engaged and feel like competitions are more accessible for them, because they do drop out as the competition goes through,” WorldSkills UK’s director of external affairs Emma Roberts said.

To address this, the organisation has been trialling an initiative since April called ‘champions connect’, which links finalists with former competitors-turned skills champions to discuss what to expect at the competition.

22 finalists have had the opportunity to speak to skills champions in virtual sessions such as ‘adopting a winning mindset’, and ‘habits

of champions’.

Kerris Boulton, technical project manager at Electrica and a former competitor from 2018, ran a session named ‘channel your confidence’, which focused on addressing imposter syndrome and giving grounding exercises when the competition can feel overwhelming.

“Anyone can experience imposter syndrome,” she said. “It’s something I’m passionate about, as I faced it. I still do.”

“As a female in an engineering career, I’m quite keen to get rid of those barriers that are potentially facing other females,” she added.

Roberts added: “We do know now that these champions connect sessions work. We’re looking at how we can scale that up and just make it more available.”

Building the foundation

Another initiative that WorldSkills UK is maintaining a commitment to is its foundation skills competitions.

Aimed at young learners with special education needs and pioneered by WorldSkills UK chair Marion Plant, these competitions are shorter and focus on foundation skills in several skills areas.

This year 74 finalists from 32 organisations have made it to the foundation skills contests in catering, enterprise, hairdressing, health and social care, horticulture, digital, creative media and restaurant services.

Awarding body Skills and Education Group (SEG) is the new partner for the competitions.

Kaye Jackson, SEG’s director of business and growth, said it still wanted to be in the EDI space after WorldSkills UK funding cuts this year resulted

in a “pause” to its EDI Heroes award, previously sponsored by SEG.

“It was disappointing, but it’s paused so maybe it’s not gone forever,” Jackson added.

A WorldSkills UK spokesperson said: “We know how popular the awards are, and we’re currently exploring different opportunities to see whether they could return in the future.”

SEG’s charitable fund has also pumped funding into college SEND initiatives, such as a sensory garden at York College, and SEND teaching resources at Derby College.

Jackson said more recent demands from applications into the fund are for basic asks, such as books and help with transport.

“We’re funding learners to either have enhanced experiences at their learning provider, or we’re funding equipment. It’s those that are hard to reach from a low socio-economic background, it’s about enhancing the learning experience,” she said.

The University Vocational Awards Council (UVAC) has also targeted financial constraints that are prohibiting students from excelling.

In 2022, UVAC helped launch the competitor support fund, using some of its dues to make around £6,000 available to nearly 120 competitors last year.

Applications to access the fund are invited from young people who are under financial constraints that could prevent them from competing, and covers costs such as travel, childcare, accommodation and specialist equipment.

“It also particularly supports those from underrepresented backgrounds, including some of our BAME communities, neurodivergent learners, and those from high deprivation index areas across the UK,” said UVAC chief executive Mandy Crawford-Lee.

Adding the £1,400 that was awarded to foundation skills students, the fund is alleviating financial burdens for students so they can focus on their achievements.

“Of the participants who benefited from the fund, five went on to win gold medals, nine won silver medals, and eight won bronze medals, and six were highly commended at the national finals, so absolutely looking forward to seeing what the fund has done to support this next round of national finals,” she added.



WorldSkills UK champions left me inspired about the future of our country



JACQUI SMITH
Skills minister

The WorldSkills UK national finals once again showcased the extraordinary depth of talent we have in this country.

I congratulate each of the 400 young people who competed across over 40 disciplines, from engineering and digital technologies to hospitality, demonstrating the ambition, precision and professionalism that employers value and our economy urgently needs.

Their achievements on the national stage reflect not only individual commitment, but the strength of our colleges, training providers and industry partners who help young people reach this level of excellence.

Events like this matter. They show what high-quality technical education can unlock:



confidence, opportunity, and the skilled workforce that will drive Britain's future prosperity.

Speaking to competitors and teams at EuroSkills in Denmark earlier this year, I saw the same qualities in the young people representing the UK — determination, pride, and a clear sense of purpose.

It reaffirmed my belief that when we back young people with high standards, great teaching and clear pathways, they rise to meet the challenge. Their dedication, professionalism and world-class abilities left me inspired about the future of our country.

It is these young people who are exactly why this government is committed to transforming post-16 education and training. They represent the new generation of highly skilled professionals who will drive investment, create jobs and fuel the economic growth Britain desperately needs.

But too many young people are still being held back by a fragmented and confusing skills system that simply isn't working for them.

That's why our post-16 education and skills white paper sets out bold plans to break down barriers to opportunity and deliver the gold standard pathways our young people deserve through our Plan for Change.

We are setting up new technical excellence colleges across the country, focusing on upskilling the next generation in high-growth sectors including advanced manufacturing, clean energy, digital skills, defence and construction.

We're also introducing V Levels as a brand new qualification that will sit alongside A Levels and T Levels to complete the picture of choices at 16. These qualifications will allow students to explore different sectors, like engineering or digital, learning in a hands-on way.

In the budget last week, we set out how we're going to ensure young people are given the maximum chance to succeed. We are investing more than £1.5 billion to deliver a youth guarantee and reform apprenticeships — ensuring every young person has access to high-quality training opportunities.

We'll offer a guaranteed six-month paid work placement for every eligible 18- to 21-year-old who has been on Universal Credit and looking for



work for 18 months — helping young people across Great Britain take that crucial first step into sustained employment.

We'll cover the full employment costs for 25 hours a week at the relevant minimum wage and provide support to help young people succeed. These are real jobs with real pay, giving young people the experience and confidence they need to launch their careers and supporting the government's long-term ambition for an 80 per cent employment rate.

We're also investing nearly £800 million extra into funding for 16–19-year-olds next year, supporting an additional 20,000 students. And we're introducing structured professional development for further education teachers and an expectation that colleges deliver at least 100 hours of face-to-face English and maths teaching for those who haven't passed those GCSEs — because we know how crucial these foundational skills are.

Too many youngsters have been trapped in an endless cycle of GCSE maths and English resits, with white working-class pupils twice as likely to be affected. We want to break this cycle and will be creating new English and maths qualifications to allow us to do that.

All of this builds towards the ambitious target the prime minister has set for two-thirds of young people to be taking a gold standard apprenticeship or heading to university by the age of 25, up from 50% today. These reforms are essential steps in delivering that pledge and supporting our government's Plan for Change.

Every young person in Britain deserves the opportunity to build foundations for rewarding careers — whatever they choose to do as their next step.



‘Once you’re in, you’re hooked’: Champion becomes training mentor

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After winning European gold and earning global recognition, digital construction star Isabelle Barron is back, this time behind the scenes, supporting the next generation of WorldSkills UK competitors as an assistant training manager

Isabelle Barron hasn’t had enough of competitions yet. In fact, she’s reaching for international domination.

The former gold medallist has turned in her Team UK badge for a role that could see her running European competitions in the not-so-distant future.

Following her stellar performance at EuroSkills Gdansk in 2023, where she won a gold medal in digital construction, Barron earned a medallion for excellence at WorldSkills Lyon last year.

While she stayed in touch and did odd jobs with her training manager, Michael McGuire, Barron and her fellow competitor, Daniel Chesson, were recently hired as assistant training managers in a bid to beef up the digital construction training team for WorldSkills UK.

Barron sat down with FE Week to discuss her path to assistant training manager and how she caught the competitive bug.

A primary school talent show was the first time Barron entered a contest, but she said that was the “beginning of the end” for her musical career.

Instead, it was a WorldSkills UK competition in 2021 that was the first time she got involved.

Barron admitted that she only took part because her lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University encouraged students to participate in an online regional qualifier event as part of a 3D modelling lesson.

Her first challenge was later that year at the national finals in Scotland.

“That was probably my first time travelling alone, so it was quite nerve-racking,” she said.

“I suppose as well, the aspect of being in that competition environment, meeting all these new people and having to try and make friends, but also competing against them at the same time,” she added.

Barron ended up competing in a national final competition a second time the following year, but she was already well versed in what to expect.

“I enjoyed it so much the first time around and I’m very competitive with myself, I just thought, ‘I’m going to do it again, and I’m going to do it better’.”

Fast forward to 2023, and Barron made it to the international stage, where she competed confidently against her peers at EuroSkills Gdansk and took home first prize.

“I think it’s still one of the best things that I’ve ever done and one of the best experiences I’ve ever had,” she beamed.

The worldwide competition in Lyon, France, the following year, was “so much more chilled” even though it was on a global stage.

That’s because Barron was already riding high from her gold medal; her training schedule hadn’t let up since EuroSkills, and she was already familiar with what to expect.

Though it was hard to adjust back to normal non-competition life, Barron was satisfied.

She had graduated from university, where she was awarded outstanding graduating student, landed a job as an architectural technologist at Manchester-based architects Chapman Taylor and had more free time to play with.

“At that point, I was very content with what I’d achieved and the experiences that I’ve had that I was like, ‘I’m done now.’”

But she wasn’t quite done with WorldSkills UK yet.

Barron helped out at the national finals last year in Greater Manchester, where she met skills

minister Jacqui Smith.

“I still wanted to be involved and be part of that community still and pass on the knowledge,” she said.

She was then advised to apply for the assistant training manager role for digital construction, and together with her colleague Chesson, they help McGuire run training weekends for young competitors, creating tasks and testing automated marking to ease the workload.

However, the Clitheroe-born champion found the switch from being centre stage to stage crew a personal challenge.

“This is more like a second job,” Barron said. “It’s a lot of evenings and weekends still, but way more balanced than when I was competing.”

The team is now training one squad UK member in preparation for WorldSkills Shanghai next year.

“We’ve got a lot of new things that we need to teach them, but we’ve got resources in the bank that we can just fire at them.”

Ultimately, her ambition is to be running EuroSkills in her skill, and when asked if her goal extended to taking over from McGuire, Barron was a little more bashful.

“They are big boots to fill,” she said coyly.

Barron never expected to get to this point, just from entering a competition as part of her degree.

“I was only doing it as part of one of my assignments, and then I got sucked in and it felt like completely the right thing to do,” she said.

“I love it so much. It’s been a natural progression from the start.”

Local contests, national impact: how colleges are raising standards from the ground up

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College-run local skills competitions are expanding at pace, giving thousands of learners their first taste of competition-based learning and opening doors to jobs, university places and even Team UK

WorldSkills UK is on a mission to get thousands of students to start their journey to excellence close to home.

The charity has been endorsing and encouraging colleges to host their own local skills competitions, which have landed great jobs, university offers and places on Team UK for competing students.

Last year, WorldSkills UK introduced an endorsement framework which recognised and supported the “pockets of grassroots activity” that colleges across the UK were leading.

Over 5,000 learners participated in over 100 local competitions in 2024, and the stage is set for around 200 contests this academic year, boosting the chances of young people across the length and breadth of the country.

“We developed our framework to support and nurture the sector and to create a community that helps us transform the curriculum by aligning competition-based learning, not just to our national standards of excellence, but also to employer demand,” said Parisa Shirazi, director of standards at WorldSkills UK.

Having hosted the national finals for the last two years, Greater Manchester’s Oldham College set up an “excellence week” to galvanise learners’



excitement and preparation for the competitions.

After a visit up north, leaders at New College Swindon were determined to replicate the success and set up skills excellence weeks across the South West last academic year.

During these weeks, mini competitions are held at colleges and training providers, with the top performers progressing to the regional South West skills challenge finals.

Around 850 learners took part and 100 made it to the finals in 2024.

The colleges are responsible for selecting the skills competitions, preparing the competition briefs and marking schemes.

WorldSkills UK then ensures the contests meet the national standards of excellence.

Colleges also led roundtables and CPD sessions at the events, which bring educators and employers together to share best practice and strengthen regional skills development.

“We aligned our competitions, which included construction, health and social care and digital to hospitality and engineering, with the South West’s local skills plan to make sure they truly met regional needs,” said Jane Davison, director of quality and personal development at New College Swindon.

“We can confidently show participants and employers alike that these events build far more than technical expertise, they develop the teamwork, critical thinking, and communication skills that today’s employers demand,” she added.

Davison added that the impact reaches far beyond the actual competition.

“One student secured an unconditional university offer after impressing a lecturer who judged a local skills event, while another, who had struggled to attend college earlier in the year, found the confidence to travel with peers to compete at another college just months later,” she said.

After the success of last year’s event, the competition is now looking to expand into new sectors including media make-up, beauty therapy, SEND, ESOL and sustainability, and the college is also exploring how to involve A Level students too.

Shirazi said the take up of local competitions and impact on students “does not happen by accident”.



“We know that ‘baking in’ competition-based learning within the curriculum really does drive improvement and motivation,” she said.

“Ultimately, it can reduce the risk of attrition, where young people often fall out at points of an academic year,” she added.

London calling

The grassroots activity has spilled over into the capital city as well.

Hundreds of students from eight London colleges competed in 10 competitions last March at the inter-college skills show.

The lead college, Barking and Dagenham College, sought out WorldSkills UK to help them form connections with other colleges in the area to create a “trailblazer group” who run competitions against the national standards.

But providers maintain an “enhanced level of authority” over running the local competitions, Shirazi added.

“The authority that we have over national competitions, you can’t have that at a local level,” she said.

“This is real grassroots activity.”

Local competitions are a starting point for many competitors to get more involved and test their talents.

United Colleges Group student Mark Kiss worked his way up to securing a place in Team UK at WorldSkills Lyon last year and achieved a Medallion for Excellence in web technologies.

“Events like these local skills competitions will help deliver on ambitious targets in our new London Growth Plan to build the capital’s skilled workforce and ensure all Londoners can access not just good jobs but exciting career paths,” added Howard Dawber, deputy mayor of London for business and growth.

Wales' apprentice-turned-minister wants skills competitions to power economic growth

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Jack Sargeant says bringing the WorldSkills UK national finals to Wales has showcased the nation's strengths – from green jobs to industrial partnerships – even as funding pressures bite

Hosting the WorldSkills UK national finals has been a source of national pride to showcase what talented Welsh young people can do, according to its skills minister.

Jack Sargeant is the first former apprentice to be a Welsh government minister, and his remit leading the nation's apprenticeship and skills policy provides the potential to throw some weight behind a UK-wide skills competition.

The former mechanical engineering apprentice has been in post as minister for culture, skills and social partnership for just over a year. He's so far secured funding increases for flexible skills programmes and apprenticeships.

But there is a seismic change coming for the Welsh government next year. Under a new proportional system, voters will head to the polls in May for the Senedd elections, and recent polls show a century of Labour dominance could come to an end, and a coalition government running skills budgets next year.

Sargeant sat down with FE Week to discuss how the national finals fit into the Welsh government's economic missions so far.

"The reason I wanted to become an apprentice was to have a car, so I wanted the money to be able to afford one," Sargeant said.

When Sargeant finished his apprenticeship, he completed a degree at Wrexham Glyndŵr University and then worked in the manufacturing industry before pursuing politics.

On a tour of the automotive competitions at the national finals this year, Sargeant was keen to emphasise the government's desire to see green jobs and economic growth in the sector.

"To be able to see the skillset from those taking part in that was quite incredible. There was no difference from the skills that they were doing

to the very people I was working with in industry who've done this for a number of years and were at the very top of their game," he said.

Stimulating demand for training is key to Sargeant's mission to close skills gaps and strengthen industry partnerships.

The Welsh government has committed £1 million to competitions, which handed the majority proportion to the Inspiring Skills Excellence competitions across Wales and allocated £250,000 to WorldSkills UK to support national and international contests.

"It allows us to showcase Welsh skills at that national level and it gives us the ability to show what we're particularly good at," he said.

Welsh excellence

Welsh FE colleges are also skilled at making the most of their resources, even when under attack.

Two years ago, FE saw an £8.5 million funding cut and is also experiencing demographic bulge pressures and increasingly complex learner needs. Apprenticeship funding was slashed by £17.5m in 2023-24, and then by a further £35 million the following year, before the government u-turned and restored £5.25 million, taking total investment to £143 million.

Despite the funding pressures, Welsh colleges consistently do well in the national finals league tables. Five of the 13 colleges in the country ranked in the top 10 organisations for most medal points last year.

At this year's EuroSkills competitions in Denmark, seven of the 19 UK champions were from Wales, including Tomas Ankers, who won a medallion of excellence for CNC Milling.

Sargeant thinks the reasons are a mixture of "the level of engagement and competence of the lecturers".

"The people that I've met who helped shape what future learners will go on to learn, you can see just how much value they recognise in skills competitions, and that goes back to the international benchmarking of the competitions and also how we translate that into wider skills systems."

He added that "willing" industry partners who support apprentices also go a long way.



"Tomas Ankers is from just down the road from me. He's in a business called Electro Impact, and they traditionally have done well in supporting their apprentices to go into the programme. They realise the benefit."

Joining up tertiary

Last August, Medr, also known as the commission for tertiary education and research, was established as the system-wide tertiary body to oversee funding and regulation of further and higher education in Wales.

Sargeant said this "joined-up approach" allows for parity of esteem between FE, HE, and apprenticeships that trickles down to labour market demand.

"When young people are making decisions in their journey, I want the apprenticeship system and the vocational system to be a part of the thinking process," he said.

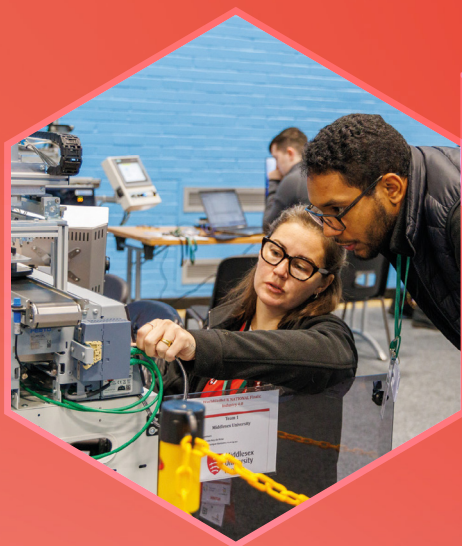
South Wales will host the UK finals again next year before it moves to a new region.

Sargeant said he was focused on next year's competition before considering a bid to bring a global WorldSkills competition to the country.

"When we host major events like this one, it's always good to just reflect on that and then look to the future about what is possible," he said.

"I wouldn't be able to say we would throw our hat into the ring, but that shouldn't stop the ambition."

"Here in Wales, we have a strong track record of hosting major events. We've got some very exciting events coming up in the sporting field in the next couple of years, Tour de France and Euro 2028. Who knows, a major event in WorldSkills, Wales could play a part in that in the future?"




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2026 National Competitions

WorldSkills UK's skills competitions offer a dynamic and inclusive way to nurture talent, boost confidence, and prepare young people for real-world success. They provide a proven method for upskilling students of all backgrounds and abilities – igniting ambition, unlocking potential, and developing future talent.

Competition registration
2-27 March 2026



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WorldSkills UK chair Marion Plant: Planting seeds for excellence now in full bloom

ANVIKSHA PATEL
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As Marion Plant prepares to step down as WorldSkills UK chair, she reflects on a decade that has embedded the charity in the national skills landscape and expanded access to excellence for thousands of learners

When Marion Plant steps into a WorldSkills UK arena, she's as likely to be found belting out cheers for competitors as she is quietly clocking how the organisation can push performance even further. But behind the enthusiasm lies a decade of strategic graft.

As Plant prepares to step down as chair next year, she leaves behind an organisation that is now embedded within the skills system and recognised by ministers.

Since she became a WorldSkills UK trustee in 2014, she began helping to steer the charity through determination, entrepreneurial thinking, and an unwavering belief in the power of technical education.

"I think you need to be passionate for this job to work," she said.

Throughout her tenure, Plant also juggled her day job as North Warwickshire & South Leicestershire College (NWSLC) principal, but she said the two have been mutually beneficial.

She saw the impact of rolling out the Centre of Excellence across 150 colleges in England, including her own, which gives lecturers and learners access to "world-class" skills training.

Relentless optimism

When she became chair, her priorities were clear: take WorldSkills UK's approach to excellence and scale it up across the FE sector.

The Centre of Excellence model has now become mainstream and led to WorldSkills UK being recognised in the government's post-16 education and skills white paper as one of a handful of "expert bodies" on further education workforce development.

"The recognition from the department that our approach to teaching, learning and assessment, the pedagogy that is applied in the Centre of

Excellence, is transformational," she said.

But despite the public ministerial commitments, WorldSkills UK has not been immune from the government's efficiency drive.

This year, it had to withdraw from three competitions and pause its equality and diversity awards after a 15 per cent grant cut.

But it didn't startle Plant, who said she has learnt to expect such precarious nature of public sector funding having served as a college principal for decades.

"I'm a relentless optimist, and sometimes I think it's been helpful to be able to look ahead and remain optimistic," she said.

"Anyone working in the skills arena has got to pivot, has got to navigate rapid change. People change. Ministers come, ministers go. You build a relationship, you then build the next relationship. It is relentless."

The charity has sought to diversify its income through commercial partnerships. Pearson now sponsors Team UK, and Skills and Education Group leads WorldSkills UK's foundation skills competitions.

Plant said: "I am confident that we are positioned well, and I'm now confident that we are embedded in a system which will continue to serve us well."

Critical friend

Plant has worked alongside two "really inspirational" chief executives during her board tenure, Neil Bentley-Gockmann and current CEO Ben Blackledge.

"They're an incredible team, and that includes the training managers and the outer circles of everything we do."

She said: "Neil was a very experienced CEO, and it is Ben's first CEO job. So they've required different types of support. I see myself as a critical friend. I have hopefully held that in the right balance."

That learning has flowed both ways. Plant explained she caught the CEOs' entrepreneurial skill and agility.

One example was WorldSkills UK's switch from the single 'skills show' event to what she calls the "touring show", taking the national finals to a different UK region every two years, which has attracted quite an interest from budding



Marion Plant

host cities.

"I know there are mixed views on this, but I'm really proud that the team grabbed the issue of, frankly, not being able to afford the single show and pivoted."

Pride in foundation skills

Nothing makes Plant beam more than her pioneering of foundation skills competitions at NWSLC, which snowballed into a nationwide contest adjacent to the national finals for learners with SEND and high needs.

The competitions mean a lot to Plant.

"When I stand and do those medals, and I'll really miss that, I see the exhilaration on the faces of those young people, their families and their tutors. That for me captures everything about WorldSkills UK."

Plant's legacy is firmly rooted in expanding access and impact over any accolade.

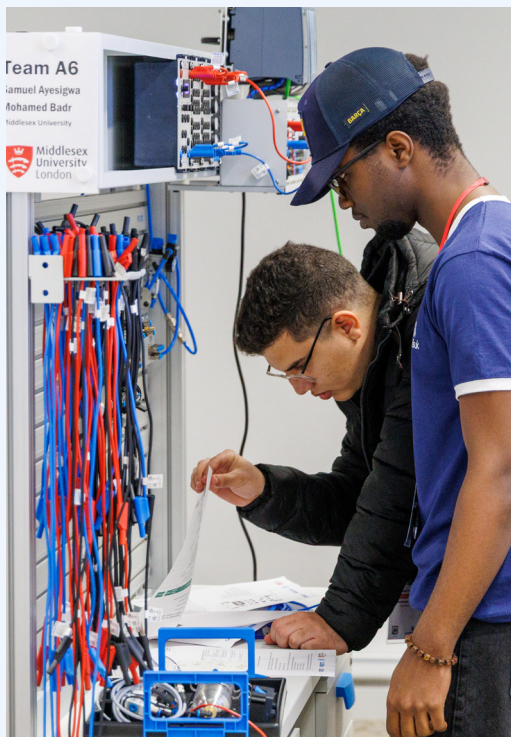
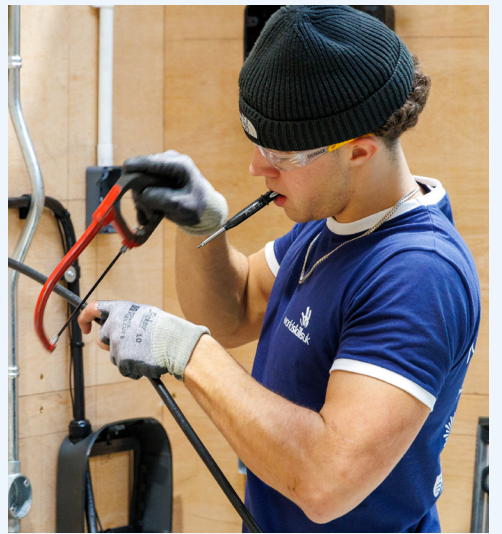
"It is not just about the 400 people that compete nationally and then the 30-plus that end up going to Shanghai — it is about the tens of thousands of students at the base of that pyramid all getting a chance to find their potential and be the best they can possibly be. It is in that moment that we can make the impact."

The one thing she is taking away from her role encompasses the one word that everyone at WorldSkills UK is striving for. Excellence.

"Every time I touch WorldSkills UK, in any different shape, size or form, I come away wanting to do better."

Competition photo highlights







NATIONAL FINALS 2025 RESULTS



Construction and Infrastructure



Electrical Installation

Competition Organising Partner: **NET**
Host Venue: **Bridgend College**
Gold: **Ellis Stevenson, SECTT**
Silver: **Adam Souter, SECTT**
Bronze: **Fabian Maciejewski, East Goscote Electrics**
Highly Commended: **Ewan Forsythe, Belfast Metropolitan College**



Electronic Fire & Security Systems

Competition Organising Partner: **Skills for Security Limited**
Host Venue: **University of Wales Trinity St David**
Gold: **Toby Moulder, APM Fire and Security Ltd**
Silver: **Joseph Jenkins, AGS Security Systems Ltd**
Bronze: **Declan O'Neill, Banham Academy**
Highly Commended: **Luke Wilson, South Eastern Regional College**

In partnership with **CSL / Nineteen Group (The Security Event) / Texecom Ltd**



Foundation Skills: Horticulture

Competition Organising Partner: **The Association of Professional Landscapers**
Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
Gold: **Junior Rozhon, Pembrokeshire College**
Silver: **Matthew Duncombe, Pembrokeshire College**
Bronze: **Aimee-Leigh Phillips, Riverside College**
Highly Commended: **Russell Reeves, Elidyr Communities Trust and Celyn Sollis, Pembrokeshire College**
In partnership with **Skills and Education Group**



The Association of
Professional Landscapers

Landscaping

Competition Organising Partner: **The Association of Professional Landscapers**
Host Venue: **Bridgend College**
Gold: **Archie Matthews, Myerscough College**
Silver: **Luke Donald, CAFRE**
Bronze: **Cameron Gilbert, CAFRE**
Highly Commended: **Rhyslando Logan, CAFRE**



Plumbing

Competition Organising Partner: **BPEC**
Host Venue: **Bridgend College**
Gold: **Dillon Newton, The Cornwall College Group**
Silver: **Jackson Gill, New College, Durham**
Bronze: **Jack Fenton, Belfast Metropolitan College**
Highly Commended: **Tristan McGrath, South West College**



Dillon Newton, The Cornwall College Group



Ellis Stevenson, SECTT



Archie Matthews, Myerscough College



Toby Moulder, APM Fire and Security Ltd

Digital, Business and Creative



3D Digital Game Art

Competition Organising Partner: **Cheshire College (South & West)**

Host Venue: **University of South Wales**

Gold: **Lewis Francom, Cheshire College South and West**

Silver: **Veronica Smirnova, South Staffordshire College**

Bronze: **Felix Lynch, Coleg Gwent**



ICAEW
PARTNER IN
LEARNING

Accounting Technician

Competition Organising Partner: **Kaplan**

Host Venue: **University of South Wales**

Gold: **Justin Jones and Ava McIntyre, Accrual World, Barclays**

Silver: **Mei Bei Quo and Joshua Rimmer, The Ledger**

Legends, Oscar Ip & Co

Bronze: **Robat Jones and Lowri Hughes, Tomos a Lowri, Grwp**

Llandrillo Menai

Highly Commended: **Jonathan Painter and Frederick**

Klingsick, Team SNC, Suffolk New College (Suffolk Rural)

and **Jamie Carr and Isabella Miles, Gas Ledger Legends,**

National Gas

In partnership with **ICAEW**



NEW
COLLEGE
LANARKSHIRE



Digital Construction

Competition Organising Partner: **New College Lanarkshire**

Host Venue: **Bridgend College**

Gold: **Peter Heggie, New College Lanarkshire**

Silver: **Adam Lyon, Glasgow Caledonian University**

Bronze: **Andrew Dearie, New College Lanarkshire**

Highly Commended: **Gabija Gailiunaite, BPTW**

In partnership with **Autodesk**



Cyber Security

Competition Organising Partner: **Glasgow Clyde College**

Host Venue: **Coleg Gwent**

Gold: **Jayden Sears, Burnley College**

Silver: **Samuel Bhuiyan, Ulster University**

Bronze: **Brad Biddle, LearnTech**

Highly Commended: **Priyansh Gupta, Middlesex University**

In partnership with **Amazon**



Digital Media Production

Competition Organising Partner: **North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**

Host Venue: **University of South Wales**

Gold: **Jack Little Jones, Ethan Woolstencroft, Brett**

Harrison and Benjamin Walton, SLC T2, North

Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College

Silver: **Sofia Speak, Maisy Dillon, Calleigh Riding and**

Benny Haley, Burnley College Team 1, Burnley College

Bronze: **Zachary Idzi, Morgan Richards-Jones, Ffion**

Traylor and Adeesha Wickramaratne, Coleg y Cymoedd



Skills &
Education
Group

Foundation Skills: Digital

Competition Organising Partner: **North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**

Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**

Gold: **Jesse Owen, Bridgend College**

Silver: **George Hennessey, Middlesbrough College**

Bronze: **Cathal Connolly, South West College**

Highly Commended: **Oscar Adams, Weston College**

In partnership with **Skills and Education Group**



COLEG Sir Benfro
Pembrokeshire COLLEGE



Skills &
Education
Group

Foundation Skills: Enterprise

Competition Organising Partner: **Pembrokeshire College**

Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**

Gold: **Abi Thomas, Sophie Davies-Jones and Bethany Johns,**

Project StepUp, Bridgend College

Silver: **Susan Bell, Leon Deane and Faith Hale, Cwtsh**

Creations, Elidyr Communities Trust

Bronze: **Mairah Taj, Natalia Siwy and Yusuf Asif, Itec's Finest,**

Itec Skills & Employment

In partnership with **Skills and Education Group**



The
Manchester
College
be amazing

Graphic Design

Competition Organising Partner: **The Manchester College**

Host Venue: **University of South Wales**

Gold: **Jess Sweet, The Northern School Of Art**

Silver: **Cambell Raine, The Northern School Of Art**

Bronze: **Harrison Yeomans, Birmingham Metropolitan College**

Highly Commended: **Jess Chesters, Cheshire College South**

and **West**



worldskillsuk

IT Support Technician

Competition Organising Partner: **WorldSkills UK**

Host Venue: **Coleg Gwent**

Gold: **Jake Wilkinson, The Oldham College**

Silver: **Joseph Storey, Sheffield Hallam University**

Bronze: **Euan Moran, Barnsley College**

Highly Commended: **Daniel Pitman, Cardiff and Vale College**

and **Anton Alayev, Bridgend College**



worldskillsuk

Network Infrastructure Technician

Competition Organising Partner: **WorldSkills UK**

Host Venue: **Coleg Gwent**

Gold: **Daniel James, Cardiff and Vale College**

Silver: **Michael Till, North East Scotland College**

Bronze: **Rehan Joseph, University of Wales Trinity Saint David**



worldskillsuk

Web Development

Competition Organising Partner: **WorldSkills UK**

Host Venue: **University of South Wales**

Gold: **Sam Blewitt, University of Portsmouth**

Silver: **William Banham, Burton and South Derbyshire**

College

Bronze: **Oluwatobiloba Awotoye, The Bedford College Group**



Lewis Francom, Cheshire College South and West



Jess Sweet, The Northern School Of Art



Ava McIntyre and Justin Jones, Accrual World, Barclays



Jack Little Jones, Ethan Woolstencroft, Brett Harrison and Benjamin Walton, SLC T2, North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College



Additive Manufacturing

Competition Organising Partner: **3DGBIRE**
Host Venue: **University of Wales Trinity St David**
Gold: **Harvey McLaughlin, Barking & Dagenham College**
Silver: **Josh Thomson, Liverpool Life Sciences UTC**
Bronze: **Musa Ali, The JCB Academy**



Aircraft Maintenance

Competition Organising Partner: **Coleg Cambria - Deeside**
Host Venue: **Bridgend College**
Gold: **Robert Jones, Airbus UK**
Silver: **Ross Lewis, Marshall Aerospace and Defence Group**
Bronze: **Jantsandorj Charnock, British Airways Maintenance**
Highly Commended: **Hannah Back, Airbus UK and Aaron Rommelrath, Jet2.com**



Automation

Competition Organising Partner: **Middlesex University**
Host Venue: **University of Wales Trinity St David**
Gold: **Teagan Dorman and Odhran McCluskey, SWC-auto-team2, South West College**
Silver: **Taylor Steel and Connor Gunning, BMW 1, BMW**
Bronze: **Phillip Fee and Matthew Conn, SRC_Automation1, Southern Regional College**

In partnership with **Omron**



Automotive Body Repair

Competition Organising Partner: **Institute of the Motor Industry**
Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
Gold: **Belal Al Haka, Cardiff and Vale College**
Silver: **Ryan Davies, Riverpark Training**
Bronze: **Joseph Cullen, Southern Regional College**



Automotive Refinishing

Competition Organising Partner: **Institute of the Motor Industry**
Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
Gold: **Jack Harvison, Southern Regional College**
Silver: **Keeley Tait, Steer Automotive Group**
Bronze: **Dafydd Jones, NPTC Group of Colleges**



Automotive Technology

Competition Organising Partner: **Institute of the Motor Industry**
Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
Gold: **Marc Cockerton, Inspiro Learning Ltd**
Silver: **Daniel Morris, Northgate Vehicle Hire**
Bronze: **Austin Watson-Jones, Exeter College**



CNC Milling

Competition Organising Partner: **University of Wales Trinity Saint David**
Host Venue: **University of Wales Trinity St David**
Gold: **Ben King, Kirkstall Precision Engineering**
Silver: **Martins Golubevs, Leeds City College**
Bronze: **Leo Verdi, All British Precision Ltd**
Highly Commended: **Tamzin Brewer, University of Wales Trinity Saint David and Luke Scofield, Science and Technology Facilities Council**



Heavy Vehicle Technology

Competition Organising Partner: **Institute of the Motor Industry**
Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
Gold: **Tristan Hunter, Man Truck and Bus UK**
Silver: **Oliver Thomas, Cardiff and Vale College**
Bronze: **Will Foulger, Skillnet**



Coleg Gŵyr Abertawe
Gower College Swansea

Industrial Electronics

Competition Organising Partner: **Gower College Swansea**
Host Venue: **University of Wales Trinity St David**
Gold: **Hamza Imansouren, Gower College Swansea**
Silver: **Conal Daly, Belfast Metropolitan College**
Bronze: **Iwan Nicklin, Grwp Llandrillo Menai**
Highly Commended: **Jake Greenwood, University of Sheffield**



Industrial Robotics

Competition Organising Partner: **FANUC**
Host Venue: **Bridgend College**
Gold: **Joe Ashton and Dylan Jones, Bridgend1, Bridgend College**
Silver: **Luke Evans and Luke Bodenham, Bridgend3, Bridgend College**
Bronze: **Ossian Thomas and Liam Warren, Bridgend2, Bridgend College**
Highly Commended: **Harry McKeown and Ashley Harrow, Retro Robotics, Northern Regional College**

In partnership with **Fanuc UK Ltd**



Industry 4.0

Competition Organising Partner: **Festo (Didactic Services Ltd)**
Host Venue: **University of Wales Trinity St David**
Gold: **Joseph Blackman and James Baker, GBS, Greater Birmingham & Solihull Institute of Technology (GBSIoT)**
Silver: **Zak Moore and Conor Frear, UoS 2, University of Sheffield**
Bronze: **Salman Irfan, Aston University Engineering Academy and Ashraf Ali Khan Royalpet, Birmingham City University, BCU & AUEA**

In partnership with **Festo**



Laboratory Technician

Competition Organising Partner: **Middlesex University**
Host Venue: **Bridgend College**
Gold: **Cliona Saunders-Cooney, Tiro Training Ltd**
Silver: **Ashley Coles, NPTC Group of Colleges**
Bronze: **Joseph Battle, NPTC Group of Colleges**
Highly Commended: **Darcey Moore, North West Regional College and Bartosz Suma, Tiro Training Ltd**



NEW
COLLEGE
LANARKSHIRE

Mechanical Engineering: CAD

Competition Organising Partner: **New College Lanarkshire**
Host Venue: **Bridgend College**
Gold: **Callum Patience, New College Lanarkshire**
Silver: **Toby Collins, Milton Keynes College**
Bronze: **Benjamin Beaumont, New College, Durham**



Mechatronics

Competition Organising Partner: **Middlesex University**
Host Venue: **University of Wales Trinity St David**
Gold: **Ross Graham and Carter McKnight, SRC_Mechatronics1, Southern Regional College**
Silver: **Tom Colder and Danylo Perehinec, Toyota Mechatronics Team 2, Toyota Motor Manufacturing UK**
Bronze: **Keiran Webster and Igor Dolgan, IOT, Burnley College**

In partnership with **Amazon / Omron**



Metal Fabricator

Competition Organising Partner: **Engineering Skills Competitions CIC**
Host Venue: **Coleg Gwent**
Gold: **Sam Tromans, Dudley College of Technology**
Silver: **Mark Wright, Coleg Cambria**
Bronze: **Jacob Myhill, East Coast College**
Highly Commended: **Henry Nelson, Pembrokeshire College**

In partnership with **EAL**



Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heat Pumps

Competition Organising Partner: **BESA**
Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
Gold: **Isaac Jervis, Royal Engineers Vocational Education and Training Trust**
Silver: **Samuel Jones, Practical Refrigeration Training Centre**
Bronze: **Craig Gow, Glasgow Kelvin College**
Highly Commended: **Evan Jones, City of Portsmouth College (incl Highbury)**

In partnership with **BAXI / BESA / REFCOM**

DN COLLEGES GROUP



Renewable Energy

Competition Organising Partner: **DN Colleges Group**
Host Venue: **University of Wales Trinity St David**
Gold: **Zac Cessford, Middlesbrough College**
Silver: **Zack Arnold, Grwp Llandrillo Menai**
Bronze: **Mckenzie Goodwin-Cotterill, Grwp Llandrillo Menai**
Highly Commended: **Daniel Bonnell, Coleg Sir Gar/ Coleg Ceredigion**

In partnership with **NOCN**



Welding

Competition Organising Partner: **Engineering Skills Competitions CIC**
Host Venue: **Bridgend College**
Gold: **Jack Billingham, Rolls-Royce plc**
Silver: **Kian Brocken, Training 2000 Limited**
Bronze: **Mason Aitchison, Pembrokeshire College**
Highly Commended: **Reece Naylor, Rolls-Royce plc and Prabin Shrestha, Royal Engineers Vocational Education and Training Trust**

In partnership with **Air Products / Eng EPA & Rolls Royce SMR / Enginuity**

Health, Hospitality and Lifestyle



Beauty Therapist

Competition Organising Partner: **Coleg Cambria**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Evie McManus, Coleg Cambria**
 Silver: **Shakyah Powell, Coleg Gwent**
 Bronze: **Lydia Roberts, Coleg Cambria**
 Highly Commended: **Viktoria Fyshko, Dudley College of Technology and Anisa Abidin, Cardiff and Vale College**



Beauty Therapy Practitioner

Competition Organising Partner: **Coleg Cambria**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Louise Allan, Blackpool and The Fylde College**
 Silver: **Lily Mathias, Pembrokeshire College**
 Bronze: **Maddison Hulbert, Weston College**
 Highly Commended: **Nia Whiteman, Coleg Sir Gar/ Coleg Ceredigion**



Culinary Arts

Competition Organising Partner: **Craft Guild of Chefs**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Otis Lorton, Pembrokeshire College**
 Silver: **Abbie Watkins, 21 Hospitality Group Ltd**
 Bronze: **Eleri Davies, NPTC Group of Colleges**
 Highly Commended: **Elis James, Coleg Sir Gar/ Coleg Ceredigion**



Foundation Skills: Catering

Competition Organising Partner: **North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Destini Bryan, DN Colleges Group**
 Silver: **Mollie Clark, North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**
 Bronze: **Faye Smith, Brooklands College**
 Highly Commended: **Izabell Jones, Bridgend College**
 In partnership with **Skills and Education Group**



Foundation Skills: Creative Media

Competition Organising Partner: **North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Denver Picton, Dylan Raymond and Phoebe Stannett, Life Skills Academy, Pembrokeshire College**
 Silver: **Rowan Love, Jack Bowler and Ella Evans, TEAM AWESOME, Coleg y Cymoedd**
 Bronze: **Tommaso Montagnino, Harry Metcalfe and John Subala, Burnley College Brood, Burnley College**
 In partnership with **Skills and Education Group**



Foundation Skills: Hairdressing

Competition Organising Partner: **North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Sawda Khalifa, North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**
 Silver: **Ellie Bennett, The Oldham College**
 Bronze: **Jasmine Barry, Homefield College**
 Highly Commended: **Tigerlily Lloyd, North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**
 In partnership with **Skills and Education Group**



Foundation Skills: Health and Social Care

Competition Organising Partner: **ACTAN**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Kate Halsey, New College Lanarkshire**
 Silver: **Leila Spree, Harlow College and Jack Jones, Bridgend College**
 Bronze: **Sophie McNally, North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**
 In partnership with **Skills and Education Group**



Foundation Skills: Restaurant Services

Competition Organising Partner: **North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Zara Fisher, NPTC Group of Colleges**
 Silver: **Eva Robins, Gower College Swansea**
 Bronze: **Emily Boulton, Coleg Gwent**



Hairdressing

Competition Organising Partner: **L'Oréal Professional**
 Host Venue: **Coleg Gwent**
 Gold: **Phoebe Miller, Coleg Gwent**
 Silver: **Teagan Davies, Reds Hair Company**
 Bronze: **Stevie-Leigh Tolland, Coleg Gwent**
 Highly Commended: **Kayleigh Blears, Grwp Llandrillo Menai**



Louise Allan, Blackpool and The Fylde College



Health & Social Care

Competition Organising Partner: **ACTAN**
 Host Venue: **Coleg Gwent**
 Gold: **Ester Sevim, Shrewsbury Colleges Group**
 Silver: **Isabelle Mears, The College of West Anglia**
 Bronze: **Ruby Collier, City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College and Abby Ward, New College Lanarkshire**
 Highly Commended: **Chris Ademola, Bolton College**
 In partnership with **Qualifi**



Restaurant Service

Competition Organising Partner: **Craft Guild of Chefs**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Leah Wood, Cheshire College South and West**
 Silver: **Darcie Garnon, Pembrokeshire College**
 Bronze: **Ruby Webster, Coleg Sir Gar/ Coleg Ceredigion**
 Highly Commended: **Rhianna Poole, Cheshire College South and West, Oudette Ferran, South West College, Evelyn Howells, Gower College Swansea and Evan Adams, Coleg Sir Gar/ Coleg Ceredigion**



SFX Makeup and Hair for Film and TV

Competition Organising Partner: **Coleg Cambria**
 Host Venue: **Cardiff and Vale College**
 Gold: **Emma Fisher, East Coast College**
 Silver: **Mary O'Brien, East Coast College**
 Bronze: **Isabelle Burgess, The Trafford and Stockport College Group**
 Highly Commended: **Leoni Wilson, North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College and Irene Rico Llavador, Brighton Metropolitan College**



Phoebe Miller, Coleg Gwent



Emma Fisher, East Coast College

Top organisations for medal points

(not including Foundation Skills)

Rank	Total Medal Points	Organisation Group	Organisation Type	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Highly Commended
1	13	Cardiff and Vale College	GFEC	Wales	2	1	0	2
=	13	Pembrokeshire College	GFEC	Wales	1	2	1	1
2	12	New College Lanarkshire	GFEC	Scotland	2	0	2	0
=	12	Southern Regional College	GFEC	Northern Ireland	2	0	2	0
3	11	Coleg Gwent	GFEC	Wales	1	1	2	0
4	10	Bridgend College	GFEC	Wales	1	1	1	1
=	10	Cheshire College South and West	GFEC	England	2	0	0	2
=	10	Grwp Llandrillo Menai	GFEC	Wales	0	1	3	1
5	9	Burnley College	GFEC	England	1	1	1	0
=	9	Coleg Cambria	GFEC	Wales	1	1	1	0
=	9	East Coast College	GFEC	England	1	1	1	0
=	9	NPTC Group of Colleges	GFEC	Wales	0	1	3	0

Top organisations for Foundation Skills medal points

Rank	Total Medal Points	Organisation Group	Organisation Type	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Highly Commended
1	12	Bridgend College	GFEC	Wales	2	1	0	1
=	12	Pembrokeshire College	GFEC	Wales	2	1	0	1
2	10	North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College	GFEC	England	1	1	1	1
3	4	DN Colleges Group	GFEC	England	1	0	0	0
=	4	Elidyr Communities Trust	Local/Regional Authority	Wales	0	1	0	1
=	4	New College Lanarkshire	GFEC	Scotland	1	0	0	0
=	4	NPTC Group of Colleges	GFEC	Wales	1	0	0	0
4	3	Coleg y Cymoedd	GFEC	Wales	0	1	0	0
=	3	Gower College Swansea	GFEC	Wales	0	1	0	0
=	3	Harlow College	GFEC	England	0	1	0	0
=	3	Middlesbrough College	GFEC	England	0	1	0	0
=	3	The Oldham College	GFEC	England	0	1	0	0
5	2	Brooklands College	GFEC	England	0	0	1	0
=	2	Burnley College	GFEC	England	0	0	1	0
=	2	Coleg Gwent	GFEC	Wales	0	0	1	0
=	2	Homefield College	Specialist FE College	England	0	0	1	0
=	2	Itec Skills & Employment	ITP	Wales	0	0	1	0
=	2	Riverside College	GFEC	England	0	0	1	0
=	2	South West College	GFEC	Northern Ireland	0	0	1	0
6	1	Weston College	GFEC	England	0	0	0	1

Thank you to the national final host venues





National Finals 2025

Thank you

To all our partners who support our National Competition programmes, promoting high quality skills throughout the UK.



WorldSkills UK finalists 2025

A n i s a

Abdin • Thomas Acum
• Jack Adams • Oscar Adams •
Evan Adams • Chris Ademola • Mason
Aitchison • Sumaya Akhtar • Abobakr Al
Ammari • Belal Al Haka • Anton Alayev • Musa
Ali • Dua Allah • Louise Allan • James Armstrong •
Emily Arnaudy • Zack Arnold • Jo Arrowsmith • Kieran
Ashby • Joe Ashton • Yusuf Asif • Oluwatobiloba Awotoye •
Samuel Ayesigwa • Brandon Ayres • Hannah Back • Mohamed
Badr • James Baker • William Banham • Hannah Barrow •
Jasmine Barry • Joseph Battle • Susan Bell • Lucy Bennett • Ellie
Bennett • Summer Beresford • Samuel Bhuiyan • Brad Biddle •
Milosz Bilas • Jack Billingham • Joseph Blackman • Kayleigh Blears •
Sam Blewitt • Keira Blundell • Luke Bodenham • Daniel
Bonnell • Junayd Boston • Rhamia Bouchez • Emily
Boulton • Jack Bowler • William Boyer • Laila-
Mae Bradley • Tamzin Brewer • Kian Brocken •
Destini Bryan • Isabelle Burgess • Jonjo Burke
• Lily Burns • Daniel Campbell • Jamie
Carr • William Carse • Archie Casson • Zac
Cessford • Samuel Chadderton • Nifesh
Chakubaji • Harley Chambers • Chloe
Chan • Alex Chan • Jantsandorj Charnock
• Jess Chesters • Bradley Claringbold
• Lennon Clark
• Joseph Clark • Mollie
Clark • Liam Clarke •
Marc Cockerton • Tom
Colder • Ashley Coles •
Ruby Collier • Marshall
Collins • Toby Collins •
Matthew Conn • Cathal
Connolly • Matthew
Cox • Joseph Cullen
• Conal Daly • Ryan
Davies • Eleri Davies •
Teagan Davies • Ffion
Davies • Sophie Davies
• Jones • Leon Deane •
Andrew Dearie • Lacey
Deschoolmeester • Simon
Desir • Dhwani Pragnesh
Dhanani • Maisey Dillon •
Igor Dolgan • Luke Donald
• Cecil Dondo • Teagan
Dorman • Alexander
Dogan • Jorge Dowler-
Morley • Adam Duff •
Abbie Duffield • Matthew
Duncombe • Patrick
Dunne • Ruby Edwards •
Ella Evans • Megan Evans
• Luke Evans • Phillip Fee
• Jack Fenton • Oudette
Ferran • Emily Findlay
• Scarlett Finney • Zara
Fisher • Emma Fisher
• Brendan Foley • Ewan
Forsythe • Jake Foster •
Will Foulger • Alan Francis
• Lewis Francom • Conor
Frear • Viktoria Fyshko
• Gabija Gailiunaite •
Matthildi Gasteratou • Guy
Geurtjens • Lily Gibbons
• Kath Gibson • Cameron
Gilbert • Kira Gill •
Jackson Gill • Martins
Golubevs • Mckenzie
Goodwin-Cotterill • Felix
Gorman • Craig Gow
• Ross Graham • Jake
Greenwood • Ellie Grimshaw • Maddison Groves • Naveen Gunasekaran •
Lauren Gunning • Connor Gunning • Priyansh Gupta • Solomon Hackett •
Faith Hale • Benny Haley • Kate Halsey • James Hamilton • Ashley Harrow •
Jack Harvison • Archie Hefford • Peter Heggie • Ethan Henderson • George
Hennessey • Cameron Hill • Toby Hilton • Johnathan Hobson • Alex Horton •
Harley Howcroft • Evelyn Howells • Roman Hrymalksiy • Carlos Ariel Huallpa
Fernandez • Lowri Hughes • Aron Hughes • Alwena Hughes • Maddison
Hulbert • Daniel Hunt • Tristan Hunter • Ella Hutchinson • Zachary Idzi •
Hamza Imansouren • Elis James • Daniel James • Kordian Jaroszczak •
Kieron Jefferson • Joseph Jenkins • Isaac Jervis • Imogen John • Bethany
Johns • John Paul Johnson • Ruby Johnston • Robat Jones • Justin Jones
• Robert Jones • Dafydd Jones • Elara Jones • Izabell Jones • Tyler Jones
• Dylan Jones • Samuel Jones • Evan Jones • Rehan Joseph • Aisha Kabiru
Bala • Heaven Kandola • Zeki Kaya • Slawomir Keller • Jake Kellett •

Tiernan Kelly • Alfie Kennedy • Joe Kent • Colin Kerr • Sawda Khalifa •
Nimet Kilic • Ben King • Frederick Klingsick • Jayden Knowles • Volodymyr
Kryvoshei • Ruby Lam • Jude Lea • Olivia (Liv) Leech • Murray Leven •
Jack Little Jones • Gareth Lloyd • Tigerlily Lloyd • Rhyslando Logan • Otis
Lorton • Rowan Love • Felix Lynch • Adam Lyon • Omar Maaouane • Kyle
MacDonald • Harsh Machhiyava • Fabian Maciejewski • Henry Mafe •
Harnek Mann • Tamunormiete Manuel • Owen Marsden • Jodi Massebo-
Bass • Adam Massey • Lily Mathias • Niven Matthews • Archie Matthews
• Jess Maundrell • Eoin McAuley • Odhran McCluskey • Millie McCullough
• Tristan McGrath • Matthew McIntosh • Ava McIntyre • William McIntyre
• Harry McKeown • Carter McKnight • Harvey McLaughlin • Taylor
McLaughlin • Evie McManus • Sophie McNally • Andrew McVarnock • Joe
Meara • Isabelle Mears • Grace Measor • Pip Mellor-Pringle • Anderson
Mendak Mayers • Alex Mentz • Owen Meredith • Harry Metcalfe • Isabella

Miles • Phoebe
Miller • Kieran
Mitchell • Oskar
Mizgala • Tommaso
Montagnino •
Samuel Moon •
Zak Moore • Darcey
Moore • Euan Moran
• David Morgan
• Daniel Morris
• Toby Moulder •
Leah Moule • Taylor
Murphy • Jacob
Myhill • Reece
Naylor • Henry
Nelson • Dillon
• Iwan Nicklin •

Newton
Mary O'Brien • Declan
• Matthew Owen • Jesse
Owen • Kai Pagett • Jonathan Painter • Callum Patience
• Austin Peacock • Danylo Perehinec • Finlay Perkins
• Aimee-Leigh Phillips • Denver Picton • Daniel Pitman •
Rhiana Poole • Shakyah Powell • Alex Punyer • Mei Bei Quo
• Cambell Raine • Cameron Rawstrone • Dylan Raymond • Luke
Redmore • Russell Reeves • Morgan Richards-Jones • Kayleigh
Richardson • Irene Rico Llavador • Calleigh Riding • Joshua
Rimmer • Lydia Roberts • Tomos Roberts • Bayley Roberts • Daniel
Roberts • Eva Robins • Victor McKenzie Rodriguez Gonzalez • Aaron
Rommelrath • Brandon Roughley • Ashraf Ali Khan Royalpet • Junior
Rozhon • Leon Ruddy • Jed Russell • Youssef Sadek •
Kian Saunders • Cliona Saunders-Cooney • Lewis
Saunderson • Aaron Saxton • Luke Scofield
• Jayden Sears • Joey Sedman • Ester Sevim •
Saium Shastri • Myu Shin • Prabin Shrestha
• Oluwatunmise • Shuaibu • El Simpson
• Mengeh Sinyan • Neringa Siupieniene •
Natalia Siwy • Veronica
Smirnova • Jessica
Smith • Faye Smith
• Cara Smith • Jake
Smith • Thomas Smith
• Brianna Smith •
Celyn Sollis • Lewis
Somerscale • Jack
Somerset • Adam
Souter • Sofia Speak
• Curtis Spencer •
Leila Spree • Phoebe
Stannett • Pippa
Kimberley Steans
Kyle Steele • Ellis
Storey • Johnny Stout
• Michael Stratton •
Suma • Logan Sweet
Szokalska • Keeley
Taylor • Luke Taylor •
Thomas • Abi Thomas •
Thomas • David Thomas
Thorp • Michael Till
Traylor • Sam Tromans •
Umar • Maria Varzari • Peter
Vennard • Leo Verdi • Chloe Vickers • Evan Vince • Charlie Vincent
• Kyle Walker • Dominic Walker • Benjamin Walton • Abby Ward •
Liam Warren • Jack Warrender • Abbie Watkins • Austin Watson-
Jones • Keiran Webster • Oliver Weldon • Charlie White •
Nia Whiteman • Connie Whitfield • Adeesha Wickramaratne
• Annalise Wilden • Jamey Wildsmith • Taylor Wilkins
• Jake Wilkinson • Laura Williams • Kristian
Williams • Richell Williams Smith • Luke Wilson •
Leoni Wilson • Leah Wood • Finley Woodward
• David Woolgar • Ethan Woolstencroft •
Jay Wright • Mark Wright • Harrison
Yeomans • Dillon Young •
Valeriia Yudina