

**STEP AHEAD WITH LANGUAGES**

**Event: Launch of *Step Ahead with Languages***

**Where: Stand 63-65 (WJEC/CILT Cymru), Eisteddfod yr Urdd**

**When: 11 am, Friday 31 May 2013**

**Contact: Ellie Jones, Project Manager – Routes into Languages Cymru**

***Brand new languages resource will help young people to
STEP AHEAD in their desired careers***

Today, Routes into Languages Cymru will launch an innovative resource that will inform young people how their language skills will help them to succeed in various fields of employment. With jobs ranging from Au Pair to Engineering, Business & Retail to Teaching, each of the 22 career case studies highlights the key skills required, ideas for gaining experience, motivation from professionals working in the field and signposts to more information. They also focus on how language skills could both directly and indirectly help to progress.

*“We are very excited to launch this resource”* said Ellie Jones, Routes Cymru Project Manager*.” We work closely with Careers Wales and regularly support their careers fairs across the country. At these events we meet many young people who just don’t realise that being able to offer another language to an employer might be that something special that secures the job. We hope that Step Ahead with Languages will help young people to see that languages are relevant in all kinds of diverse roles as well as teaching, translating and interpreting.”*

*Step Ahead with Languages* will be launched by Routes into Languages Cymru at the National Urdd Eisteddfod. The launch event will encourage visitors to talk about their career aspirations and there will be language professionals on hand to offer advice. The team will also be joined by John Evans, a translator at the European Commission as well as Einir Mai Dafydd and Rachel Solomon who are both bilingual presenters of S4C’s Cyw.

Following the event, *Step Ahead with Languages*, will be given to all secondary schools and FE colleges in Wales and will also be available to download from the Routes into Languages Cymru website.

**ENDS**

**Press enquiries** to: Ellie Jones, Routes Cymru Project Manager, email: ellie.jones@ciltcymru.org.uk, tel: 07855 388016

**Interviews** with Ceri James, Director of Routes Cymru are available on request from Ellie Jones.

**Routes into Languages Cymru website**: [www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/cymru](http://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/cymru)
**Event webpage:** [www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/cymru/event/](http://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/cymru/event/)

**Notes for editors:**

1. The Routes into Languages programme was developed by three organisations working in partnership: the University Council of Modern Languages (UCML), the HE Academy Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies (LLAS) and CILT, the National Centre for Languages. The Routes into Languages programme is coordinated by a team at the University of Southampton, directed by Professor Michael Kelly. <http://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/>
2. Routes into Languages Cymru is funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW).
3. Led by CILT Cymru in partnership with 10 universities across Wales, the specific aim of the Routes into Languages Cymru project is to increase the take up of languages from school to university. It encourages young people to have a positive attitude towards their language learning and promotes languages as an essential skill.
4. CILT Cymru is funded by the Welsh Government and is managed by WJEC.