

8 March 2017

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National Association for Able Children in Education



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National Association for Able Children in Education
Cymdeithas Genedlaethol i Blant Abi mewn Addysg



Press release March 2017

Llanfoist Fawr Students Show Prince William How to Embrace Challenge



It's not every day you get to watch the heir to the throne put up a tent while blindfolded, balance a ball on a piece of string, or build a tower out of marshmallows. But children at **Llanfoist Fawr Primary School** took all this in their stride, cheering on the Duke of Cambridge as he joined them in a series of team-building activities on St David's Day.

Llanfoist Fawr students are certainly accustomed to embracing new challenges. The school is working towards the **NACE Challenge Award**, a nationally and internationally recognised quality mark given to schools that have developed good provision for more able and talented learners, in the context of challenge for all. Of the 387 schools worldwide to receive the Challenge Award so far, 51 are in Wales, with many more Welsh schools working towards accreditation.



Prince William's visit to the Abergavenny school marked the launch of the SkillForce Prince William Award, an initiative to help children aged 6-14 develop independence, resilience and self-awareness. Having piloted the scheme at 37 schools, education charity SkillForce is now seeking to run the award at schools across England, Scotland and Wales from September 2017.



Highlighting the synergies between the Prince William Award and the NACE Challenge Award, head teacher Jon Murphy explained that the two frameworks “*really complement and enhance each other*”. He added that while attaining such awards helps to give the school confidence in its direction, the true rewards come from seeing the impact on students. “*The journey towards these awards is what changes children’s lives – and they really do change children’s lives.*”

Sue Riley, CEO of NACE, commented: “*Like the SkillForce Prince William Award, the NACE Challenge Award is focused on practical outcomes, leading to an impact on aspirations, attitudes and learning. Whilst focusing on the quality of provision for more able students, it does so in the context of challenge and high standards for all. Gaining the Challenge Award gives schools national recognition of the quality of more able school provision, but the journey to accreditation is equally important, and we look forward to continuing to support Llanfoist Fawr Primary School in that journey.*”

Image credit: SkillForce

Notes for editors: NACE is a not for profit organisation set up in 1983 specialising in working with schools and teachers to improve learning for Able, Gifted and Talented children (known as MAT – More Able and Talented children in Wales). It is recognised nationally and internationally as the UK’s leading independent organisation in the field of education for able learners.

NACE membership is made up of teachers and schools. Through this network NACE provides high-quality guidance, support and training to enable teachers to get the best from able learners in the everyday classroom, while helping all learners to flourish and achieve.

The NACE Challenge Award is a nationally recognised quality mark given to schools that have developed good provision for more able and talented learners. Over 10,000 schools have used the NACE Challenge Award Framework to review their provision for able pupils in a context of challenge and high standards for all; to plan improvements for provision; and to work towards gaining a prestigious award for their work with the more able.

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