



YMCA Wales Community College

Press Release 27/02/07

YMCA College proves small is beautiful with record breaking inspection result

The smallest further education provider in Wales is celebrating this month following a record breaking Estyn inspection result.

YMCA Wales Community College was awarded grade 1 results across all seven key areas in its adult community-based learning inspection – the highest achievement possible.

An Estyn team led by HM Inspector Mererid Wyn Williams assessed the College across seven inspection areas including learner support, achievement rates, teaching and assessment. A verdict of 'good with outstanding features' was returned in all areas. This result is unprecedented in the adult community-based learning sector in Wales.

The inspection forms part of a six-year (2004-2010) national programme that will scrutinise all post-16 education providers in Wales. The programme aims to raise standards in education and supply learners with more information about the quality of adult community-based learning providers.

'We are delighted with the outcome' said Head of College Margaret Jones, 'The College thanks all staff, tutors and partner organisations for their hard work and dedication in achieving this exceptional result'.

In accordance with the inspection team's recommendations, The College aims to extend its provision in order that more learners from across Wales can benefit from the learning opportunities it has to offer.

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Editors Notes

- YMCA Wales Community College is a further education institution that provides community-based learning for people wishing to re-engage with education.
- The key goal of the College is to enable all students to live more fulfilled lives while contributing to the life of their community.
- The College operates with a full time staff of just five members.
- Almost 3500 learners attended courses with College during the 2005-2006 academic year.
- All courses are held at venues in the community and are delivered by local tutors. This provides a comfortable, familiar learning environment which appeals to everyone from school leavers to retired people looking to learn new skills.
- Estyn is the office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales.