



NEWSLETTER

EASTER 2025

WELCOME TO GISDA'S EASTER 2025 NEWSLETTER!

We are eager to share the latest news and events from GISDA. Since the beginning of the year, it has been a period full of exciting developments, and in this newsletter, we will highlight some of the ways GISDA continues to make a real difference in the lives of young people in Gwynedd.

As always, we are proud of the work we do to support young people and help them build a bright future.

GISDA TURNS 40! This year, we're marking 40 years of making a difference in the lives of young people in Gwynedd.

For four decades, GISDA has been dedicated to supporting and providing opportunities for young people, equipping them with the skills, resources, and chances they need to build a bright future.

Throughout the year, we'll be hosting events to celebrate our young people and our services, raise awareness, and fundraise.

GISDA 40 2025 EVENTS

01.05.2025

CYMANFA GANU

23.05.2025

40KM WALK

10.07.2025

YOUNG PEOPLES
SERVICES
CONFERENCE

17.10.2025

SLEEP OUT

TBC

CONCERT - PONTIO



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GISDA

NEW HUB IN PWLLHELI



We're proud to announce that we've purchased Caxton House in Pwllheli and are transforming it into a Hub with accommodation for young people aged 16–25.

The Hub will include:



- Accommodation for up to 4 young people
- An office and 2 meeting rooms
- A fully equipped kitchen for cooking and learning life skills
- A creative space for artistic expression
- A welcoming environment where young people can relax and grow

The Hub will provide a safe and supportive space for young people to access resources, develop skills, and build connections.

More information about the official opening will be available soon.



Wedi ei ariannu gan
Llywodraeth y DU

More Than a Roof: Transforming Places, Changing Lives

Thanks to Centrepont x Nationwide grant, GISDA has supported young people experiencing homelessness by helping them create spaces they can truly call home.

Through this grant, 37 rooms have been upgraded—complete with comfortable furniture, décor, and essentials that turn accommodation into safe, welcoming, and personal spaces. Because while having a place to live is vital, having a place to belong is what truly makes a difference.

"This programme has enabled young people to express their personality and style to make their room a home. We are extremely grateful to Centrepont for including Gisda in this program."

— Sharon Thomas, GISDA



Voice : Affordable Transport

The campaign for affordable transport has seen a major success with the introduction of £1 bus fares for young people under 21 in Wales!

The Transport Campaign was formed out of the Young Peoples passion for tackling the cost of travel and its impact on young people's lives. Since the Board was established in August 2021, transport has remained a key concern—many young people rely on public transport to get to college, work, appointments, or to visit family and friends. Travel costs can be especially high for vulnerable young people who depend on financial support.

While we know there's still more to be done, this is a huge step in the right direction. A massive thank you to everyone involved, including Siân Gwenllïan for her support.

This achievement proves just how powerful youth-led campaigns can be—and why platforms like the Youth Board are so vital!



Over the past few weeks, GISDACTIF has been collaborating with Richard from Academi Cyfleon to run a series of unique photography workshops—blending walking with creativity!

These sessions offer a chance to enjoy the outdoors while learning new photography skills in a relaxed, inspiring environment.

The first trip took us to Cwm Idwal, followed by a session around Llyn Padarn. The response from the young people was fantastic, and they're already looking forward to the next walk at Rhaeadr Fawr (Aber Falls).

These workshops are a great way to connect with nature, cultivate a creative eye, and relax in good company.



Celebrating Young People

In January, we were delighted to celebrate the achievements of pupils from schools across Gwynedd and Anglesey at the Celtic Hotel! It was fantastic to see these young people being recognised for their accomplishments and efforts.

We are incredibly proud of our partnership with the education departments of Gwynedd and Anglesey, working together to support young people who are at risk of disengaging from school. Collaborations like this are key to ensuring that every individual has the best opportunities to develop life skills, build confidence, and create a positive future for themselves.

The project supported pupils from seven different schools, helping them complete over 150 Agored Cymru accreditations, and earn a full qualification in 'Independent Living Skills.'

By completing the programme, essential skills were learned, such as cooking, budgeting, following instructions, numeracy, teamwork, creativity, managing mental health, and much more.

This experience was not only an opportunity to gain qualifications but also to build confidence and increase self-worth.

It was fantastic to have Councillor Dewi Jones, Cabinet Member for Education in Gwynedd, present the certificates to the pupils. It was an honour to see each student receive their certificate and have the chance to celebrate their achievements!

A huge thank you to the Common Prosperity Fund for the crucial funding that made this project possible. This support has enabled us to provide valuable learning opportunities for young people, equipping them with essential skills for the future. As an organisation, we are incredibly proud of these young people.



Liverpool Trip

A group of young people, along with GISDA staff, had an amazing time in Liverpool! The trip was filled with exciting and cultural experiences, giving the group the opportunity to explore some of the city's most thrilling attractions.



During the trip, the group visited the World Museum, Gravity X, the British Music Experience, and the Liverpool Museum. Everyone enjoyed the activities, learning about history, science, music, and the incredible development Liverpool has experienced over the years.

The trip was a great opportunity for the young people to expand their knowledge and create valuable memories. We are incredibly proud that everyone enjoyed the experience and had the chance to learn about different fields. A huge thank you to Taith for funding the trip and making it all possible.

This trip will certainly be a memory that the group will cherish for years to come!

Visit from Poland

It was a pleasure to welcome Equality Factory from Łódź, Poland, to GISDA. This charity promotes the rights and equality of LGBTQ+ individuals. In the summer of 2024, young people and staff from GISDA visited Łódź as part of the project, so it was wonderful to welcome them to Wales and strengthen the connections between our two countries.

During their visit, they received a presentation on the work of GISDA and a session on our LGBTQ+ project, with a visit to the Caernarfon club to meet young people. We also shared information about our Housing Support project, guiding them on a tour of our hostel and flats, offering a glimpse into how we provide safe and supportive accommodation for young people in need. During the tour, they had the opportunity to meet some of the young people we support and hear their stories.

A big thank you to Taith for creating opportunities for us to welcome people to Wales, share good practice, and celebrate our culture!



'Fel Merch' Project - Urdd

This year, ten members of the Urdd were chosen to go on a humanitarian trip to India with the charity Her Future Coalition.

The trip was an opportunity for the members to support vulnerable children and girls, as well as share the Welsh language and culture through the Urdd's 'Chwarae yn Gymraeg' initiative.



One of the ten who travelled to India was Keira, a young person supported by GISDA.

Keira shared that the trip was an unforgettable experience for her and helped her feel closer to her Welsh language roots. "It was an amazing cultural experience," Keira said.



COFFI GISDA

We are proud to share our new coffee bags! We've been working with Coffi Dre for the past few months to design the 'Coffi GISDA' bag.

Coffi Dre was inspired by the sights of Caernarfon, and we've kept this theme by creating 'Y Maes' bags, as that's the view from our office, the flats for young people, and our café. A huge thank you to Ffion Pritchard, our Lead Artist here at GISDA, for the beautiful design of 'Y Maes'.



£9 EACH



CONTACT FOR A BAG:-
michael.allman@gisda.co.uk



Caffi GISDA and Hub renovations

The renovation work at Caffi GISDA and the Hub for young people is almost complete, and we hope the doors will open in the coming months.

The Hub will provide a safe and supportive space for young people to access resources, develop skills, and build connections.

Keep your eyes peeled for the official opening date!

HWB Bangor

We now have a new location for our Hub in Bangor! The new Hub is situated behind the main Bangor Bus Station, at the old Caffi Hafan. This new space will provide even more opportunities for young people to access resources, develop their skills, and build connections in a welcoming environment.

**LGBTQ+ Club -
Wednesdays**

**Drop ins -
Thursdays**





HOW TO SUPPORT GISDA :

GIVE



'GIVE AS YOU LIVE'

Raise funds for GISDA with your everyday shopping —at no extra cost! Simply scan the QR code to learn more and find out how you can support GISDA while you shop.



JustGiving

DONATE THROUGH 'TEXT'

TEXT: Text **GISDA** to **70085** with the amount (e.g. **GISDA10** to **70085** to give £10

Just Giving page : www.justgiving.com/gisda

OTHER WAYS TO HELP

Volunteer: We welcome volunteers to help run our programs and events. Your support makes a huge difference!

Fundraising: Organize a fundraising event or challenge yourself with a personal fundraising goal. Every little bit helps!

Spread the Word: Tell your friends and family about GISDA and the vital work we do. The more people who know, the greater the impact we can have!

Follow Us on Social Media: Stay up to date with our latest news, events, and opportunities by following us on social media.