

Evaluation of the ChangeMakers Programme 2013-2017

1 ABOUT CHANGEMAKERS

The Welsh Government fund the British Council to deliver the International Education Programme. ChangeMakers is a project funded by the British Council as part of this programme. It is delivered by organisations who want to make the world a more sustainable and fair place.

Each year, there was funding available to work with young people across Wales. In years 2-5 there was also funding for delivering teacher training. This report focuses on the work with young people but includes information about the teacher training where it links with the impact on young people. The organisations delivering the programme varied each year. All organisations aim to raise awareness of sustainability and global citizenship issues. They use conferences, workshops and focus groups to help young learners become ChangeMakers in their communities.

The ChangeMakers events give young people and their teachers a chance to come together and work with other schools in their area. People are able to learn through games, presentations, videos and group work. They learn how they can make a difference, and plan the actions they would like to take when the conference is over. In years 3-5 they also started to deliver those actions.

“I was really shy when I was asked to do ChangeMakers, I couldn’t talk in front of people at all. It has given me so much more confidence, talking about the clothes and explaining it to the younger pupils”

Year 12 ChangeMaker, Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni

A big part of ChangeMakers is empowering young people to take the lead. In years 2-5, teachers were trained on how to support young learners to carry out positive action. In years 3-5, the schools that signed up to the programme pledged to commit time and resources to helping the ChangeMakers achieve their goals.

ChangeMakers has helped many young people to educate their peers about unfair trade, food insecurity and global poverty. They have spoken at assemblies, organised events, contacted the media and visited local primary schools to talk to younger pupils.

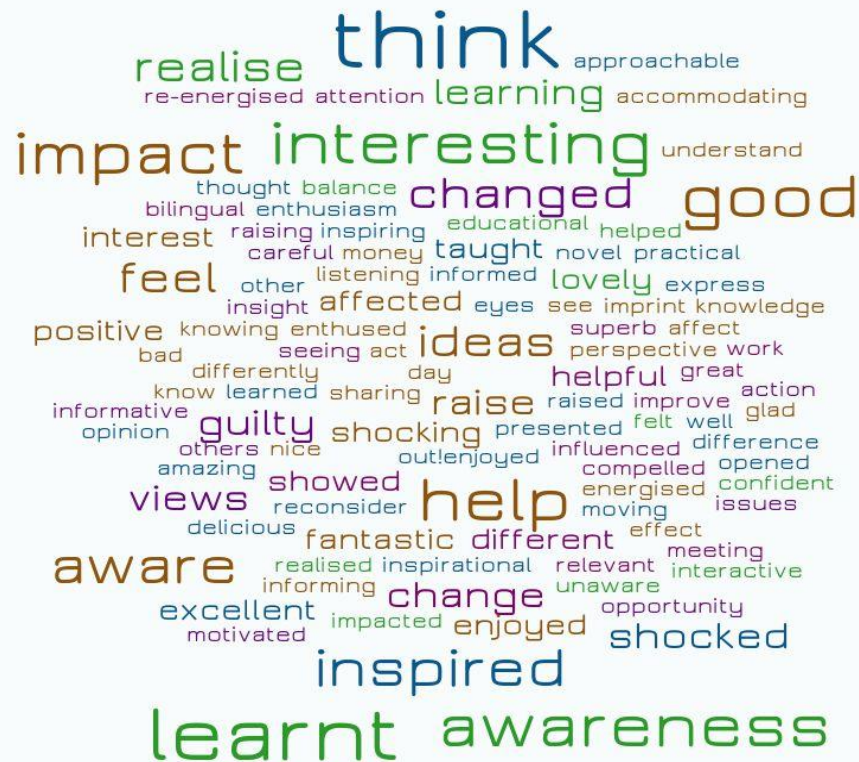
The teachers taking part have said how useful the resources are, and, in years 4 and 5, how well it linked with the new Welsh Bacalaureate qualification. They have also been able to start using world citizenship themes when teaching literacy and numeracy.

The ChangeMakers programme works by cascading knowledge and skills from one group to another. By training young people to become the ChangeMakers, the organisations involved are able to educate many more people than they would otherwise reach. Imagine waterfalls cascading down and sending out ripples far and wide.



2 THE IMPACT OF THE CONFERENCES

The ChangeMakers Conferences have had a profound impact on the people who came along. The word cloud below shows the pupils' reaction to the conference held in Year 3. In Year 4 learners built confidence and created positive relationships between peers and different age groups of learners. In Year 5, participants felt more empowered to make a change following the ChangeMakers programme and developed a much clearer understanding of and empathy with asylum seekers and refugees.

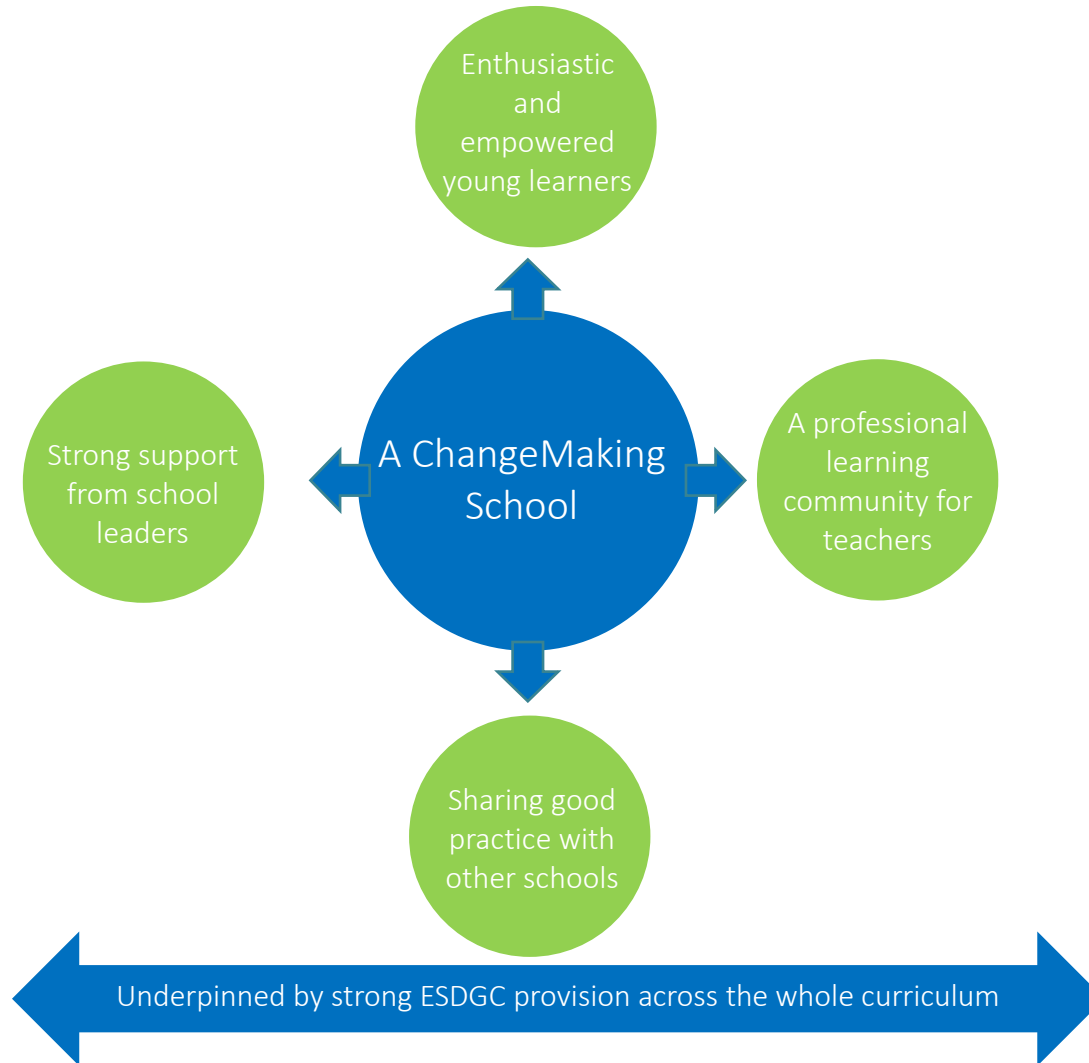


This word cloud shows what their teachers got out of it in year 4:



3 WHAT MAKES CHANGEMAKERS A SUCCESS?

Case studies with successful ChangeMaker schools have shown us that the most important factor is a good team:

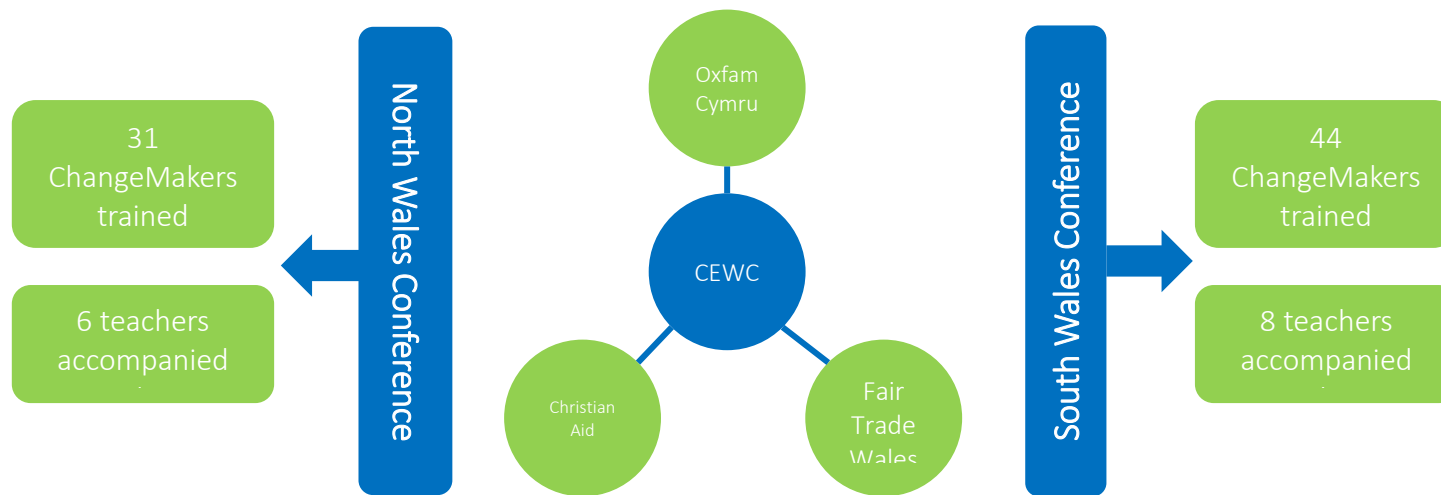


4 HOW THE PROGRAMME EVOLVED OVER TIME

Year 1 2012-13

Global Food Security

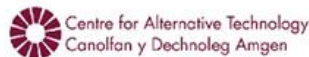
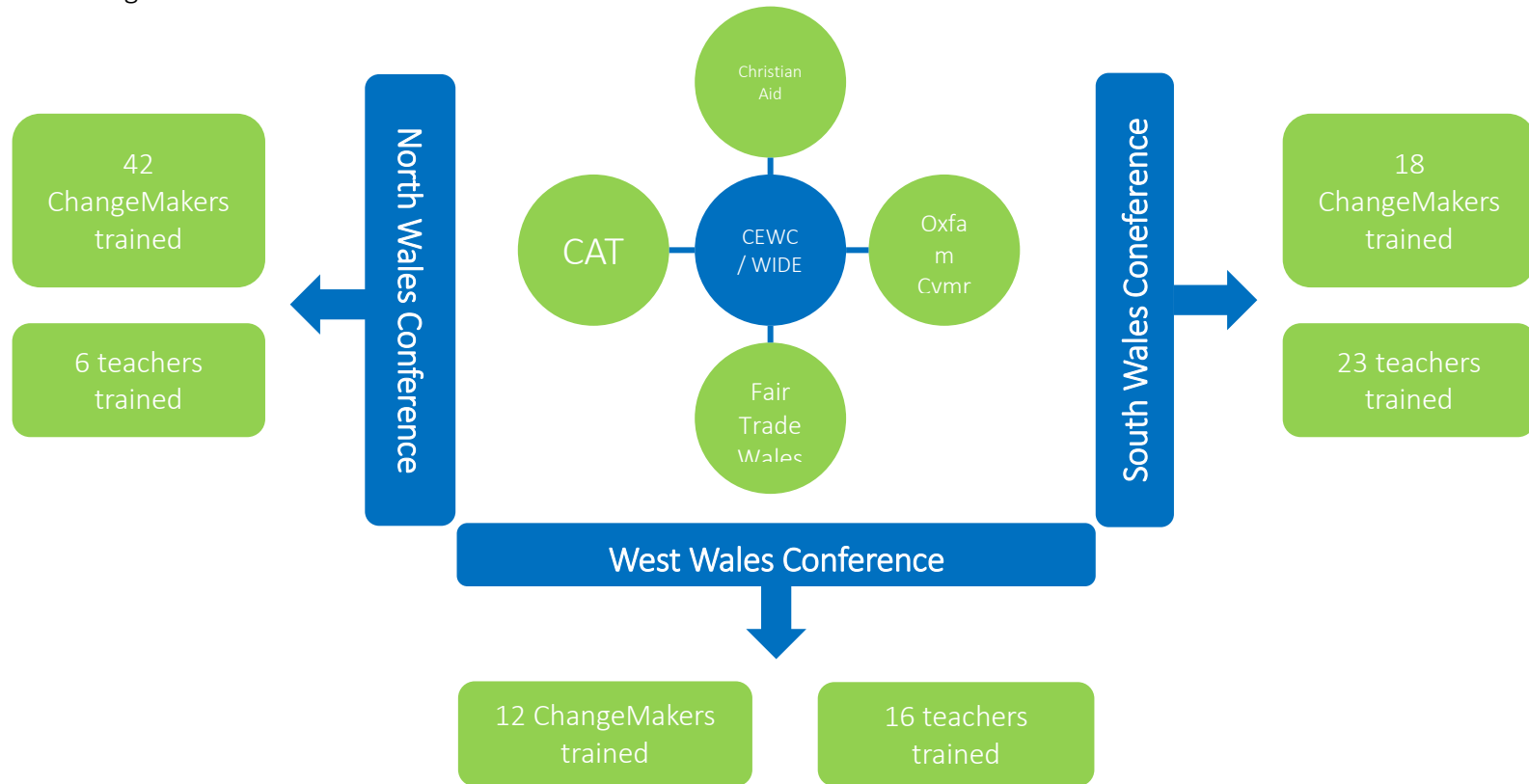
Funded to deliver ChangeMaker conferences in 2 regions. Not funded to deliver teacher training



Year 2 2013-14

Mobile Phones and Conflict Minerals

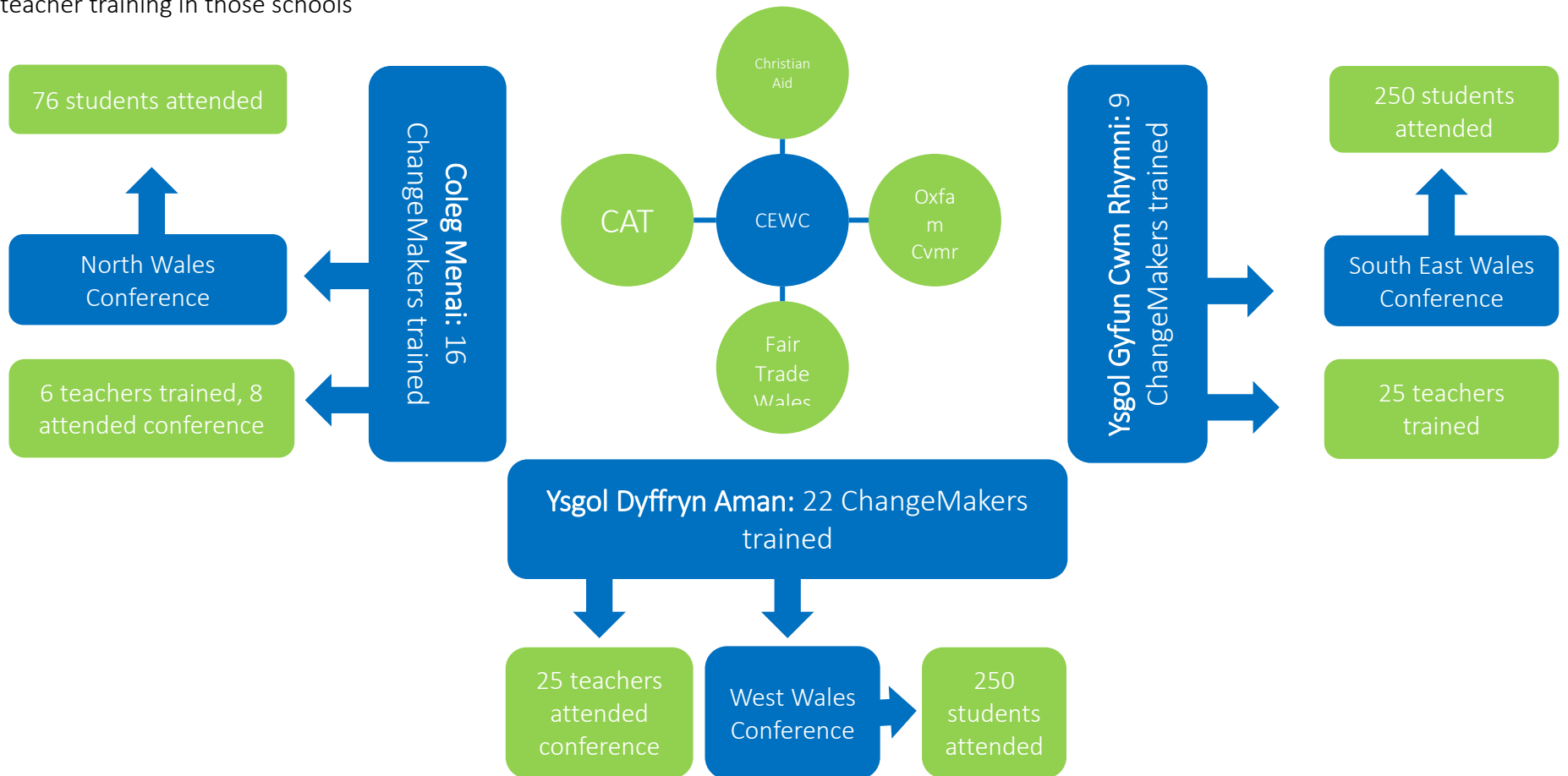
Funded to deliver ChangeMaker conferences in 3 regions including teacher training



Year 3 2015-15

Global Clothing Industry

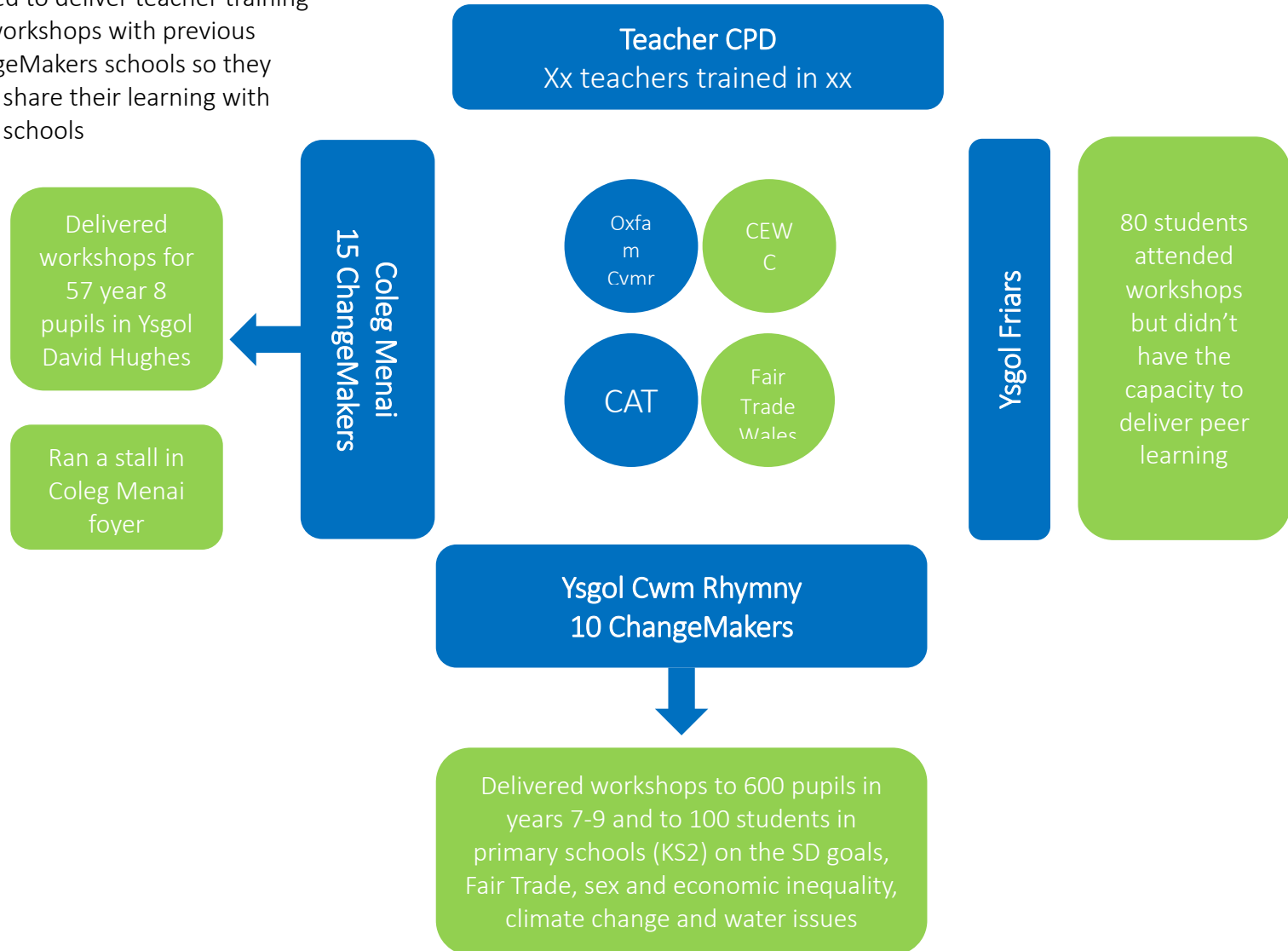
Funded to deliver ChangeMaker workshops in 3 schools with teacher training in those schools



Year 4 2015-16

Sustainable Development Goals

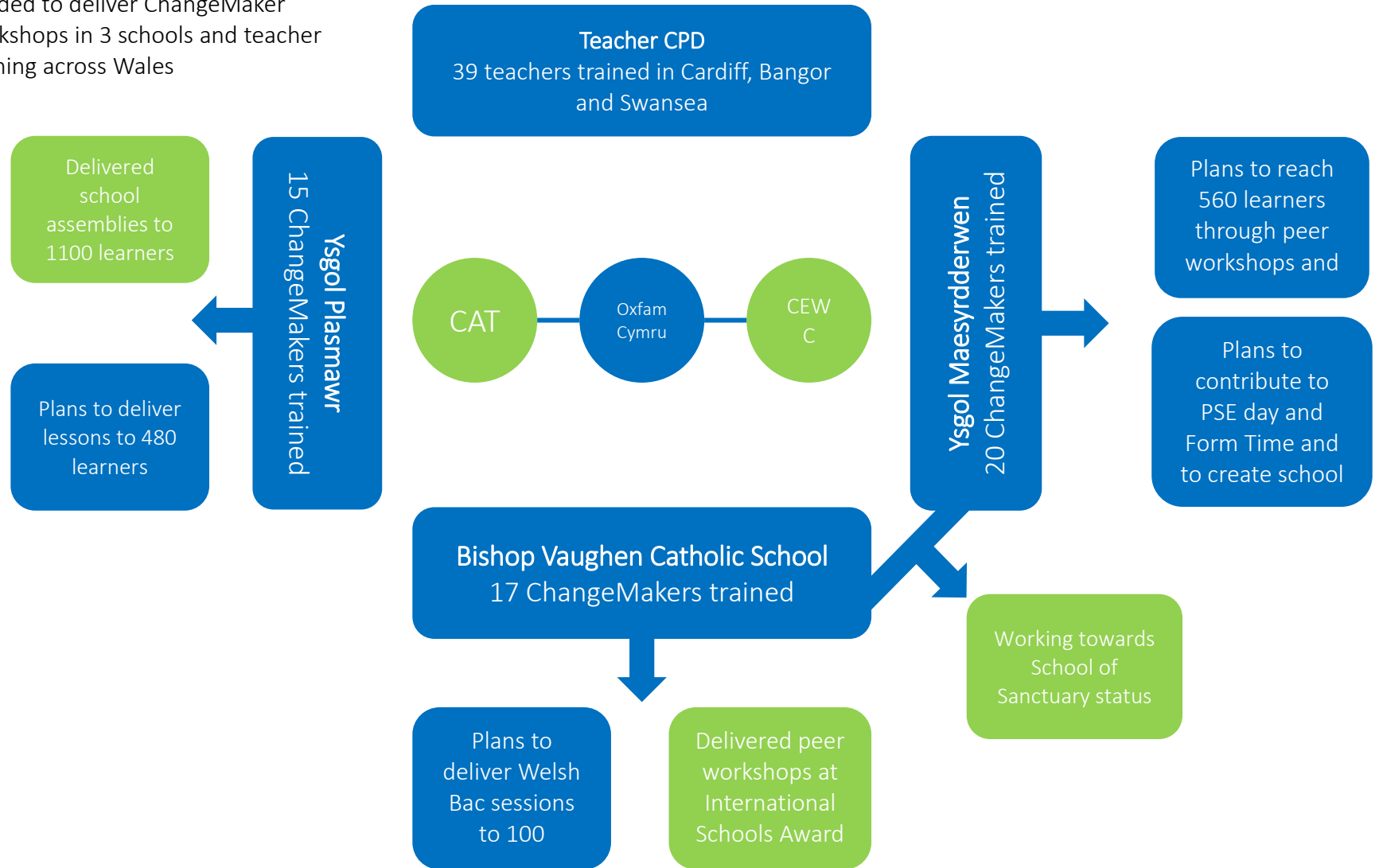
Funded to deliver teacher training and workshops with previous ChangeMakers schools so they could share their learning with other schools



Year 5 2016-17

Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Funded to deliver ChangeMaker workshops in 3 schools and teacher training across Wales



Case study: Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymini



ChangeMakers Evaluation

May 2015

THE IMPACT OF CHANGEMAKERS

Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni is a large secondary school situated just north of Blackwood in the south Wales Valleys. Pupils are taught through the medium of Welsh.

They have participated in the ChangeMakers programme since Y2. The work is led by Lisa Williams, who is the school's Senior Pedagogy Leader. Lisa encourages her year 12 Welsh Bacculaureate students to participate in the programme, and they sign up on a voluntary basis.

In Y3, the ChangeMakers were recruited from pupils studying for Economics, Geography, Textiles and the Welsh Bacculaureate.

The pupils at Cwm Rhymni had the opportunity to take part in focus groups to plan a conference for other young learners to attend. These ChangeMakers were supported and trained by staff from Christian Aid.

The ChangeMakers learnt how to organise an event, and the types of positive action that have the greatest impact. They learnt how to work well as a team, how to share responsibility, and think critically about the most effective ways to engage with their peers.

The ChangeMakers organised a huge conference, with a packed schedule of engaging activities and learning opportunities for their peers. The event drew an incredible 250 young learners.

The ChangeMakers also developed and delivered workshops with year 7 pupils from their school. The year 7 pupils took part in a roleplay activity about life in a sweatshop, with



"We signed up for ChangeMakers because it fitted so well with the work we were already doing with the Global Learning Programme in Wales. Our school is a lead school for the GLP and we wanted to bring our pupils in on that, to help them spread the word too"

Lisa Williams, Senior Pedagogy Leader

one pupil at a sewing machine, another being the overseer and a third asking the group questions and providing background information.

Pupils at the school also held a competition to design a Fair-Trade T Shirt. Once the competition was over the T-Shirts were sent as gifts to pupils at Cwm Rhymni's partner school in Ghana.

Once the conference had been delivered, the ChangeMakers took their resources out and starting working with younger pupils in their school and in the local primary schools. They have reached over 600 of their younger peers, and over 100 pupils from local primaries.

The ChangeMakers programme has supported teachers too. Staff at Cwm Rhymni have the chance to participate in an ESDGC Professional Learning Community co-ordinated by the school.

They used the teacher training part of ChangeMakers to ensure all the staff had a good understanding of supporting the young ChangeMakers in their planned activities. All the staff in the school, including Teaching Assistants and managerial staff, have had training on the role ESDGC can play in supporting literacy and numeracy.



WHAT IT MEANS TO THE YOUNG CHANGE-MAKERS

“ChangeMakers has helped me become so much more confident. Before, I was too shy to speak in front of people. But the workshops have helped me be less nervous of speaking to people”

“I like how we're helping younger children learn to act sustainably. I hope that they'll grow up and act differently, and make the world a better place”

“It's really good how we have been able to talk to adults too, especially the teachers. I would never have believed I could go to a conference and be up on stage, but doing this project has shown me I can”

“ChangeMakers has had such a positive impact on the pupils taking part. I've seen them blossom and gain so many skills. And I have really enjoyed the CPD events, as have my colleagues. It has been a springboard to so much action by our pupils, which is exactly what we hope to encourage in our school”

Lisa Williams