

### Inspire! Tutor Awards Guidance document Closing date for entries: 16 January 2026

Behind successful adult learners, there are inspirational tutors and mentors.

















## About the Inspire! Tutor Awards:

The Welsh language Guidance document is available here.

The annual Inspire! Tutor Awards celebrate the valuable work of tutors and mentors in supporting lifelong learning across Wales.

They recognise the outstanding effort and commitment made by tutors and mentors to help adult learners pursue their goals, because behind successful adult learners there are inspirational mentors and tutors.

We are inviting nominations on behalf of outstanding individuals whose commitment, knowledge and teaching skills have given adults the confidence and drive to engage with learning and transform their lives.

## The awards presentation will take place on 17 March 2026 at the Senedd.

The Inspire! Tutor Awards is a partnership involving Learning and Work Institute, Welsh Government, Universities Wales, NTFW, Colleges Wales, and the Adult Learning Wales Partnership.

## What makes a good nomination:

We are looking for exceptional **tutors and mentors** in their field, who are able to demonstrate their transformative and lasting impact on the lives of others, to go beyond the call of duty in their role to support adult learners in their educational journey, career pathways, and overall wellbeing.

Nominations should demonstrate achievements in **at least two** of the following areas:

- Developing the curriculum, creating new resources and materials.
- Overcoming personal circumstances and / or working in challenging circumstances.

- Contributing to widening access and building pathways to learning opportunities.
- Inspiring learners to progress onto other courses or opportunities to learn, or transition into employment.
- Creating new partnerships or pathways into learning.
- Developing innovative ways of supporting, teaching, breaking down barriers, or mentoring learners.

#### **Evidence of impact:**

Your statements should demonstrate how the tutor/mentor has made an impact on the lives of their students.

We encourage nominations from learners, and welcome statements of support as part of the entry. Please note, any entry made by a <u>learner</u> for the Tutor Awards **must** be endorsed by a senior manager or professional referee who knows the nominee.

#### You could focus on:

- Progression, attainment, and achievement.
- Evidence of impact on the health and wellbeing of learners.
- Describing how learners have used the skills they have developed to contribute to family/community life/civic society/the workplace or to transforming their own lives.
- Additional testimonials from students, learners, and colleagues.
- Supporting information / pictures / letter about the tutor are also welcomed, please send them to us by email.

# We are looking for tutors and mentors across the tertiary sector in Wales:

- Higher Education
- Further Education
- Workplace Setting
- Community Education
- Welsh for Adults
- School or other setting

Read / watch the stories of our past tutor award winners.

## Please review the entry guidelines and nomination process before submitting:

- Entries are free and open to tutors and mentors living and working in Wales.
- You can nominate a tutor or mentor if you are a learner, a provider or employer, work colleague, another tutor, a learner or a member of the community.
- A nominee can be re-nominated if they have achieved further success since their previous nomination.
- If you are a learner, community member you must obtain a statement of support for your nominee from someone who knows them in a professional capacity.
- All nominees must be aware that they are being nominated and should be willing to share their stories with the media.
- All those nominated will receive a certificate of achievement. This will be sent to the person identified on the form. Please ensure that the spelling of the nominee's name is correct. This

name will appear on the certificate.

 Your application will be judged on the information you provide on the nomination form, so please make sure you address the areas highlighted in the guidance.

## Closing date for entries:

### Friday 16th January 2026

If you need any assistance with your nomination form, please contact: inspire@learningandwork.org.uk

## How does the selection process work?

- An independent panel of judges will assist with the selection of award winners.
- All award winners will be notified by Learning and Work Institute week commencing 20th February 2026. Learning and Work Institute will email you if there are any changes to the awards timeline.

## How to submit your nomination:

Please email your completed nomination form and supporting information to: inspire@learningandwork.org.uk.

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