

Devolution in Wales



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Critically explore an historical event that has significantly had an impact on the education of language in Wales.

History of Devolution in Wales.

- 940 Welsh laws are brought together as one code under Hywel Dda.
- 1400 Owain Glyndwr's revolt starts.
- 1881 The passing of the Sunday Closing Act
- 1886 Cymru Fydd ('young Wales') established.
- Established to promote the objectives of the Liberal Party in Wales.

(www.senedd.wales)



History of Devolution in Wales.

- Cymru Fydd's attempt at administrative devolution in Wales coincided with the creation of the Welsh Board for Education in 1907
- 1951 Post of Minister of State for Wales created.
- 1964 Welsh Office established.
- 1979 First proposals for a Welsh Assembly turned down in a referendum.
- 1997 Wales votes in favour of creating a National Assembly for Wales.



(www.iwa.wales)

(www.senedd.wales)

History of Devolution in Wales

- 1999 First elections held.
- 2007 Government of Wales Act 2006 comes into force.
- 2011 and 2014 Wales votes in favour of giving the National Assembly further law-making powers.
- 2017 - The Wales Act 2017 is passed.
- 2020 The Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 becomes law and the Assembly changes its name to Senedd Cymru.



www.southwalesargus.co.uk



(www.senedd.wales)

Welsh Language



- The teaching of Welsh is compulsory in Wales' state schools up to the age of 16.
- Campaigners believe that every child should leave school fluent in the language.
- There is a decrease of older children continuing their education in the medium of Welsh.
- In some parts of Wales, Welsh is spoken more widely.
- Evans, G (2015) interviewed a professor who states “a change of direction is urgently required before it is too late”.
- A campaign to have the road signs bilingual was successful, however, not in Welsh first.

[\(18.5.2020\)](https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/education/ (18.5.2020))

Education in Wales since Devolution.

- Education and training is largely a devolved topic.
- Welsh ministers regulate almost all areas of education in Wales.
- Regulate the education workforce, the National Curriculum.
- The system of qualifications and school examinations.
- However, Local authorities have a range of responsibilities in relation to education, under the guidance of Welsh Ministers.
- The Welsh Government has developed a new framework for children and young people ages 0 – 25 with Additional Learning Needs.



Education in Wales since Devolution.

- “There has been a number of National Assembly Acts and measures relating to education and training and devolution has led to divergence between the education systems in Wales and England”. (www.law.gov.wales 2016)
- Education in Wales has been “in recession since devolution”.
- New figures suggested an alarming link between funding and pupil attainment.
(www.walesonline.co.uk March 2013)



(<https://ichef.bbci.co.uk/news>)

NHS in Wales.

- The creation of the NHS in 1948 established largely the same organisational forms and common policies across the whole of the UK
- Access to the NHS free at the point of delivery (except for the subsequent introduction of prescription charges).
- Typically via a general practitioner (GP), who acts as a link to specialist services.
- After devolution, Wales abolished prescription charges.
- Wales NHS adopted its own referral to treatment times.
- GP payments are calculated differently.



(www.gponline.com)

www.wales.nhs.uk

(www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk Aug 2020)



Financial and Economic Matters

- Welsh Government is responsible for setting its own taxes.
- Business.
- Council Tax.
- Income Tax variations.
- Able to implement new taxes and charges.



(www.litr.org.uk)



(www.seneddhome.com)

Trade and Industry and Employment.

- In 2012, the Welsh Government tried to balance investment between social and economic infrastructure.



- A goal of 96% of Welsh homes and businesses had access to high-speed broadband. The target was narrowly missed.



- The Welsh Development Agency legacy (WDA)
- Wales' historically high levels of long-term and youth unemployment.

(<https://stateofwales.com> 2018)

Diolch yn Fawr for listening to my presentation.



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