



## 6 students from Coleg Elidyr win the UK Young Enterprise Team Programme 2018

In September 2017, six students from Coleg Elidyr enrolled on the national Young Enterprise Programme and established a business they called 'Bubble & Fizz'. The group have fully engaged with the spirit of the programme and despite the significant challenges they face have gone on to compete against non-disabled peers in a range of competitions and with extraordinary success. Within the college timetable, the company create, make and sell a range of soaps and bathbombs.





**DOUGLAS**



**MAX**

**BEN**



**CATRYN**



**ELIN**



**ALISON**

# Meet The Team

To create unique handmade products,  
which seek to indulge your senses and relax your soul





## Christmas Trade Fair 2017 IKEA Cardiff

This event constituted the group's first outing where alongside non-disabled peers from Welsh Schools and Colleges, the group displayed and sold their products. At the end of what was a very busy and successful day, the group were awarded two out of the three awards given that day. They were for **'Best Brand'** and **'Best Stand'**.



## Regional Team Programme Competition (Mid Glamorgan & West Wales)

Following their success at the Christmas Fair, the group had a busy build up to Christmas making and selling their increasingly popular product. Then, at the Regional Mid Glamorgan & West Wales Young Enterprise event at the University of South Wales, Newport in 2018 they reaped a further three accolades. The group were confirmed as Mid Glamorgan and West Wales Team of the Year as well winning an IT & Social Media Award and Social & Environmental Impact Award.





# Regional Wales Finals

While still busily making and selling their products, the next step was the Wales Young Enterprise programme Finals event hosted by Cardiff University in June where the further awards of Best Team Report and Wales Team of the Year were notched up.

## National Team of the Year Competition

On to the UK finals where the Team reaped National Team of the Year 2018 and on July 6th attended an Awards ceremony in London. In addition to Team of the Year they will also collect prizes for:

- Best Logo - 1st place**
- Best Trade Stand - 1st place**
- Best Presentation - 3rd place**
- Best Advertisement - 2nd place**

Meanwhile, the business has continued to grow with 5 local and one English retailer now regular stockists. They also offer a Wedding Favour line of products and have successfully secured a number of orders now to make bespoke wedding favours.



Marketing Manager Max working on their entry for Best Advertisement



# Ethics

All Bubble and Fizz products are vegan and not tested on animals. All recipes have been carefully developed and meet all European safety guidelines. Moreover, the success of the group has meant they have been able to provide real-world work experience opportunities for other college students. They have also donated some of their profits to good causes including Dementia Awareness following a workshop they delivered in a Care home in Merthyr Tydfil. The group have also donated money to Tenovus Cancer Care. They also made and donated wedding favours through a charity called 'Wish for a Wedding' for a terminally ill bride.



**Young Enterprise Social & Environmental Impact Award 2018**



**Providing real-world work experience for others**

# Sir John Moore's Special Achievement Award

Further icing on an already highly decorated cake came with the news that one of the group, Douglas had been awarded the Sir John Moore Award for having made the most progress within the Young Enterprise Programme.

Douglas is a cheerful young man who needs encouragement to interact with those around him. Douglas has autism, severe learning disabilities, anxieties and obsessive compulsive disorder. Douglas finds it extremely difficult to manage unfamiliar places and situations. He finds crowds of people and noisy environments difficult to manage.

To manage the challenges he faces, Douglas has a range of self-management behaviours that include hand flapping, jumping, pacing and repetitive vocalisations. Douglas communicates using spoken words and short phrases. He enjoys learning new skills and is particularly good at numeracy. He can follow verbal instructions containing five key word and can engage in an activity for a duration of approximately 30 minutes.

Douglas is an integral member of the Bubble & Fizz Team and is recognised by all members as having been an exemplary Financial Director. He played

a key role in working out how much our soaps cost to produce and how much profit we make. Using a calculator, he worked out some very tricky sums to show the costs.

Douglas has overcome some very difficult barriers whilst participating in this programme and has gained in confidence and self-esteem. Douglas has high anxiety tendencies especially working in large crowds and public speaking. The opportunities that the Young Enterprise scheme has offered Douglas have been central to a significant growth in his confidence and wider life skills.

Despite the anxiety associated with uncertainty and crowds, Douglas proved that with careful planning and appropriate staff support that he could cope with challenges including attending Ikea Cardiff in December to help sell soaps & Bath Bombs. This was a huge achievement as it was extremely busy, but he coped and used his self-regulatory techniques to help himself with the crowds, noise and new environment.



**Douglas takes centre stage when Team Bubble And Fizz collect their National Team of The Year Award in London**



**Sir John Moore Special  
Achievement Award Wales -  
Douglas Jackson**

Douglas has matured and grown whilst participating and has understood his role as Finance Director. When information has been explained in simple sentences he has shown his ability to complete his duties. He has kept records of money spent, money raised and took on a key role with selling shares in the company, selling all £500 worth to staff, writing the certificates, collecting the money from the share holders and always communicating politely.

Douglas initially found it difficult to be part of a working team. However, the purposeful and meaningful tasks required of him proved an invaluable hook to support his engagement. With gentle persuasion from staff Douglas has learnt to work effectively with the whole team. With this in place Douglas has improved his social skills, personal skills and has become a key person to speak in front of an audience presenting our company ideas and values for our presentations at Young Enterprise events.

Douglas has embraced the challenges both within college and out in the wider community when selling Bubble and Fizz products. By attending events associated with Bubble and Fizz he has become more accustomed to large crowds and noisy environments He has learnt to manage anxieties and knows when he needs time out. He is now far more able to self-advocate and find a quiet area where there is greater space to move around more freely.

Staff are students are incredibly proud of Douglas and his learning journey which has significantly been enhanced by the opportunities made available to students through our engagement with the Young Enterprise programme.



Visit the company website for more information <https://www.bubble-fizz.co.uk/>  
and facebook @bubbleandfizzwales