

# Marine Renewable Energy Engagement User Guide

## Formal and Informal Education

This Guide contains information on how to inform and educate the community about marine renewable energy in Pembrokeshire.



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# Introduction

Education and lifelong learning play a big part in our community. Marine renewable energy projects offer a wide range of job opportunities in areas like engineering, sustainability, communication, business, and more. This makes marine renewable energy a great topic for all learners, no matter their age or setting. Learning about marine renewable energy helps young people understand how it affects their lives and the community, while also opening their eyes to the career opportunities it can bring.

In the Welsh Curriculum, schools are encouraged to connect with businesses, community groups, and local people to help students gain different perspectives and learn from real-life experiences. This toolkit gives teachers and tutors the resources they need to weave marine renewable energy into their lessons.

These resources can also be helpful for community and business leaders, youth workers, and non-formal groups like scouts, guides, U3A, drama groups, and more.

# In School...



*There are “four purposes” in the Welsh Curriculum that should be the starting point and aspiration for schools’ curriculum design. Ultimately, the aim of a school’s curriculum is to support its learners to become:*

## **Ambitious, Capable Learners**

Students can find out why the energy sector needs to change so that we can tackle climate change. They can form their opinion on the problems and think of their own ideas to solve them.

Students can find out what other people are doing to tackle climate change in their working lives.

## **Ethical Informed Citizens**

Pupils can find out what others in the community are doing to tackle climate change.

## **Entreprising Creative Contributors**

Build their skills in enterprise and creativity on a real world problem.

## **Healthy, Confident Individuals**

Teamwork, Confidence, and personal skills built at school, at home and hobbies are needed for jobs in the sector.

Building a career students like in a place they love will support their lifelong health and wellbeing.

# Questions To Consider



## For Everyone

- What do they know already about renewable energy?
- How does this fit with the group's other work or activities?
- Do any of the learners have additional needs I need to plan for?

## For Teachers and Tutors

- Are there any local marine renewable energy organisations and businesses for learners to find out about?
- How can I plan for progression in learners' understanding?
- Have I planned a variety of activities that will appeal to different learners?

## For Youth Workers and Group Leaders

- Have my group shown an interest in learning about this?
- How can I motivate learners to get involved in their free time?
- How could this link to opportunities for personal development?

## For Community or Business Representatives

- What are the key points I need to share with this group?
- Are there resources or activities available that would engage learners?
- Do I know the level of understanding and ability of the group?

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Is this really going to happen? What if jobs don't come to Pembrokeshire?**

The UK has made great progress in renewable energy, with offshore wind transforming communities on England's east coast. Now, marine technologies like floating offshore wind and tidal stream energy off Wales are key to meeting Net Zero targets, and it makes sense for the Government to back these developments.

Even if the jobs don't come directly to Pembrokeshire, the skills learners gain from studying renewable energy—such as engineering, sustainability, and communication—are highly transferable and relevant to many sectors locally and beyond.

## **How do we address community concern?**

National surveys consistently show strong public support for climate action, including increasing the use of renewable energy. In the UK, schools are required to teach the science behind climate change, and exposing students to different viewpoints helps them build critical thinking skills.

## **What about challenge from parents and guardians?**

Pembrokeshire's fossil fuel industry has provided well-paid jobs, so it's understandable that parents see it as a good option. The skills needed for marine renewable jobs, however, are highly transferable to other sectors like tourism, farming, and food production. Learning about marine renewable energy helps students build a strong, adaptable skill set for a wide range of future careers.

# Resources

- **STEM Ambassador:** Network of volunteers from industry who aim to provide sessions in schools linked to their work in Science Technology Engineering and Maths
- **Careers Wales:** Provide links between schools and employers including the renewable energy sector.
- **Professional Bodies:** Organisations such as the Institution of Civil Engineers, or Institution of Engineering and Technology have resources and support for schools.
- **Local and National Businesses:** These are often keen to engage with schools. Larger companies have information on their work and routes into employment.

This list isn't exhaustive and there could be many other influential people within education too!



# Engagement Activities



*The table below contains different events and activities to engage education with marine renewable energy.*

| Event  | Activity   |
|--|--|
| Workshops in schools, colleges, scout huts or cadet units        | interactive workshops led by experts with hands-on experiments and discussion  |
| Field trips to energy sites and relevant local businesses        | Organise visits to local companies involved in the industry. ask companies to host guided tours and Q&A sessions, and show real-world insight into the industry. |
| Science Fairs and competitions in schools and at regional events | Student project demonstrations and awards encourage creativity and deeper understanding.   |
| Career Advisor and teacher training                              | Invite guest speakers or host workshops with presentations and Q&As to engage careers advisors in local opportunities and pathways into marine renewables.       |

# Communication Channels



*The table below contains methods of communication about marine renewable energy for Education.*

| Channel                              | Description   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Club newsletters and noticeboards    | Post marine renewable energy-related events and activities in and around the area. Include MRE news, project highlights, and upcoming events. Regular updates keep the community informed and involved. |
| Formal Education Websites            | Host resources, event calendars, and educational materials. Centralised information hub for easy access.  |
| Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok | Share updates, educational content, event announcements, and case studies. Engage with the community through interactive posts and discussions. Get involved in viral trends.                           |
| Classrooms, lessons and workshops    | Host interactive sessions with toolkit materials on marine renewable energy. Invite local industry experts in to deliver sessions.  |



# Contact

For further information or to get in touch, please email the Marine Energy Engagement Plan Project Coordinator

[holly.skyrme@pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk](mailto:holly.skyrme@pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk)

visit our webpage at [www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/meep](http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/meep)

