

## Deputy Minister sees the building blocks of success at G2G Communities CIC LEGO® education innovation studio



An educational studio based in one of the highest areas of deprivation in Wales that uses LEGO® to help adult learners and job-seekers develop their skills in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) welcomed Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology, Ken Skates on the 1st May.

The LEGO® Education Innovation Studio based in the Bee and Station Business Centre Rhyl was set up by community interest company, G2G Communities CIC, which has provided training and education for more than 2,500 people in Denbighshire/Conwy and Wrexham since 2011.

It is the first community-based studio of its kind in the UK.

Founded by Bill and Moira Lockett, G2G Communities CIC aims to make STEM subjects fun and exciting whilst also addressing the current shortfall of some 40,000 engineers in the UK every year.



This innovative and engaging way of learning is designed to encourage individuals to continue their education and training and progress into further learning or work.

G2G Communities CIC is working in partnership with LEGO®, Agored, Learndirect and the British Computer Society to develop accredited courses in science, technology and maths through the innovative use of LEGO®.

The courses will be some of the first in the UK to use LEGO® as a central resource.

It is hoped that adult learners who shine at the science and maths aspects will progress onto specific courses at Glyndŵr/Bangor University - the beginning of a pathway into careers in areas like engineering.



Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology, Ken Skates said: “If we don’t act now to address the skills shortage in STEM careers, the Welsh economy will lose out.

“That’s why the Welsh Government is doing everything it can to encourage learners to take up these subjects. “G2G Communities CIC are helping to lead the way by making learning fun, interesting and accessible. “The LEGO® Education Innovation Studio has not only helped learners to develop their skills but also their self-confidence and self-belief.

“Bill, Moira and the team at G2G have all worked extremely hard to make the studio a reality. They should be proud of what they have achieved.”

Director of Programmes at WCVA, Phil Fiander, commented: “We know that this type of innovation and flexible approach to learning is effective in meeting people’s differing circumstances, interests and abilities. “G2G is an excellent example of a local organisation in touch with local needs and changing people’s lives as a result.”

G2G Communities CIC has received funding from WCVA, Welsh Government and Cyfenter funding through Menter Môn.

Visit the website: [www.g2gcommunities.org](http://www.g2gcommunities.org)



Moirá Lockitt, Director of G2G Communities CIC, said: “Without the grant from Cyfenter we would not have been able to afford the equipment, staff or rental for the new LEGO® Education Innovation Studio. The project has stimulated a great deal of interest from schools, employers, DWP/Job Centre Plus and other key players and due to the positive press and publicity the new centre has attracted from across North Wales we hope to attract more funding to take the LEGO® resources mobile into Wrexham, Flintshire, Conwy, Denbighshire and Gwynedd.