

Entry Pathways

Wales Impact Forum

4th October 2018

L&W LEARNING AND
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Forum for Adult Learning **NI** ECORYS 

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Scotland's Learning Partnership



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
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EAAL – Entry Pathways Strand (WP2)

- Provides the ‘basic skills’ focus to the work of evidencing the impact of adult learning across the UK nations.
- Complements other strands looking at ‘progression’ e.g. in-work.
- Draws on L&W’s Citizens’ Curriculum basic / life skills approach, previously presented at England Impact Forum.
- In the European context, links to the Upskilling Pathways initiative of the European Commission.

Upskilling Pathways



How it works:

- Effective outreach
- Guidance
- Support measures

Source: *European Commission*

Wales – Policy Context

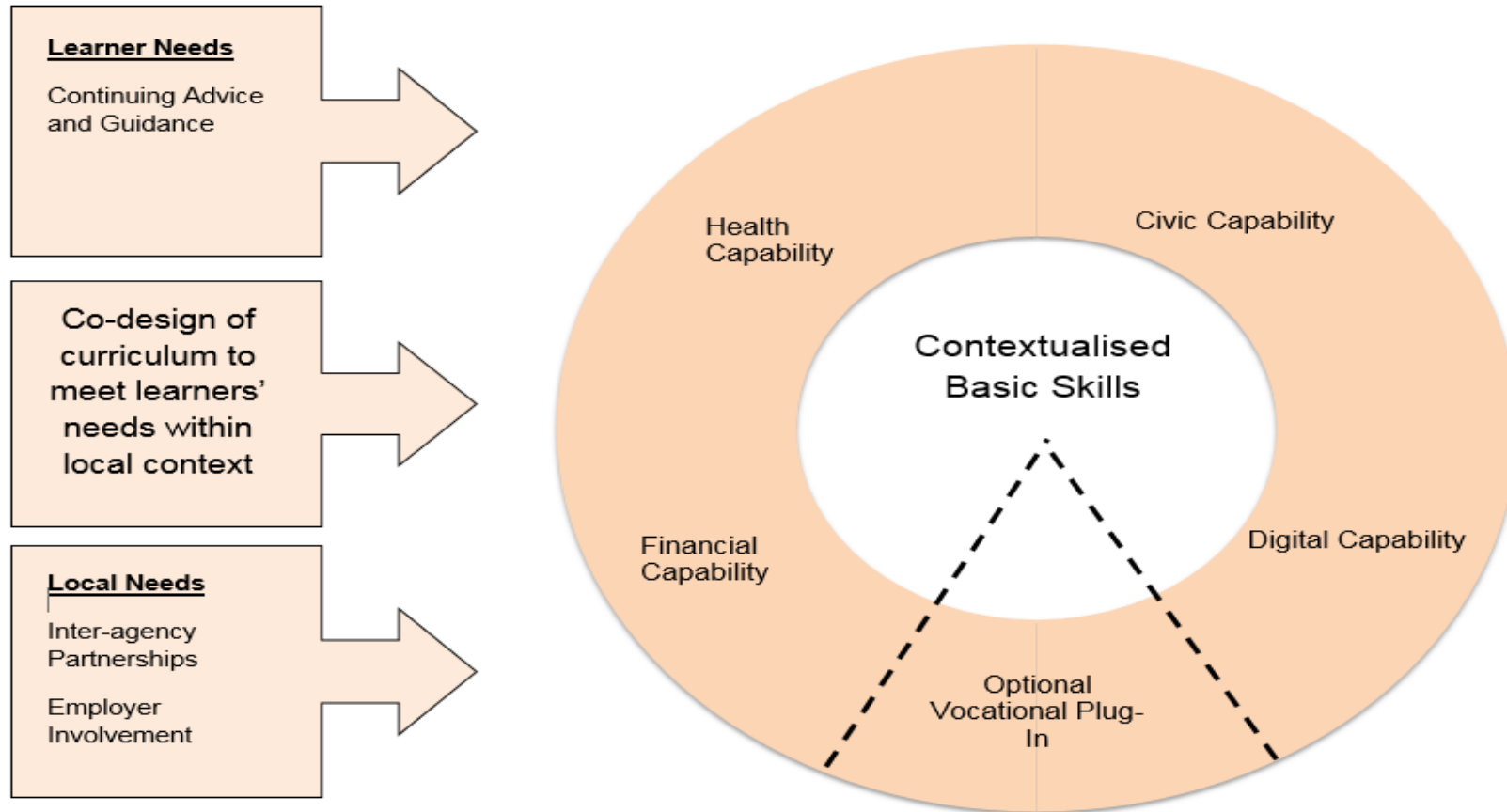
- Learners at entry level, across all settings, are down from 90,000 a year in 2011/12 to less than 60,000 in 2016/17.
- A 70 per cent cut in funding for part-time provision in FE has further reduced opportunities for progression for adult learners.
- Considerable evidence of earnings premium and productivity gains through improving English and maths skills (OECD).
- Technical reforms e.g. introduction of Essential Skills Wales (2010) - but a need to revitalise practice and create new forms of delivery to engage people and meet local needs?

England – Policy Context

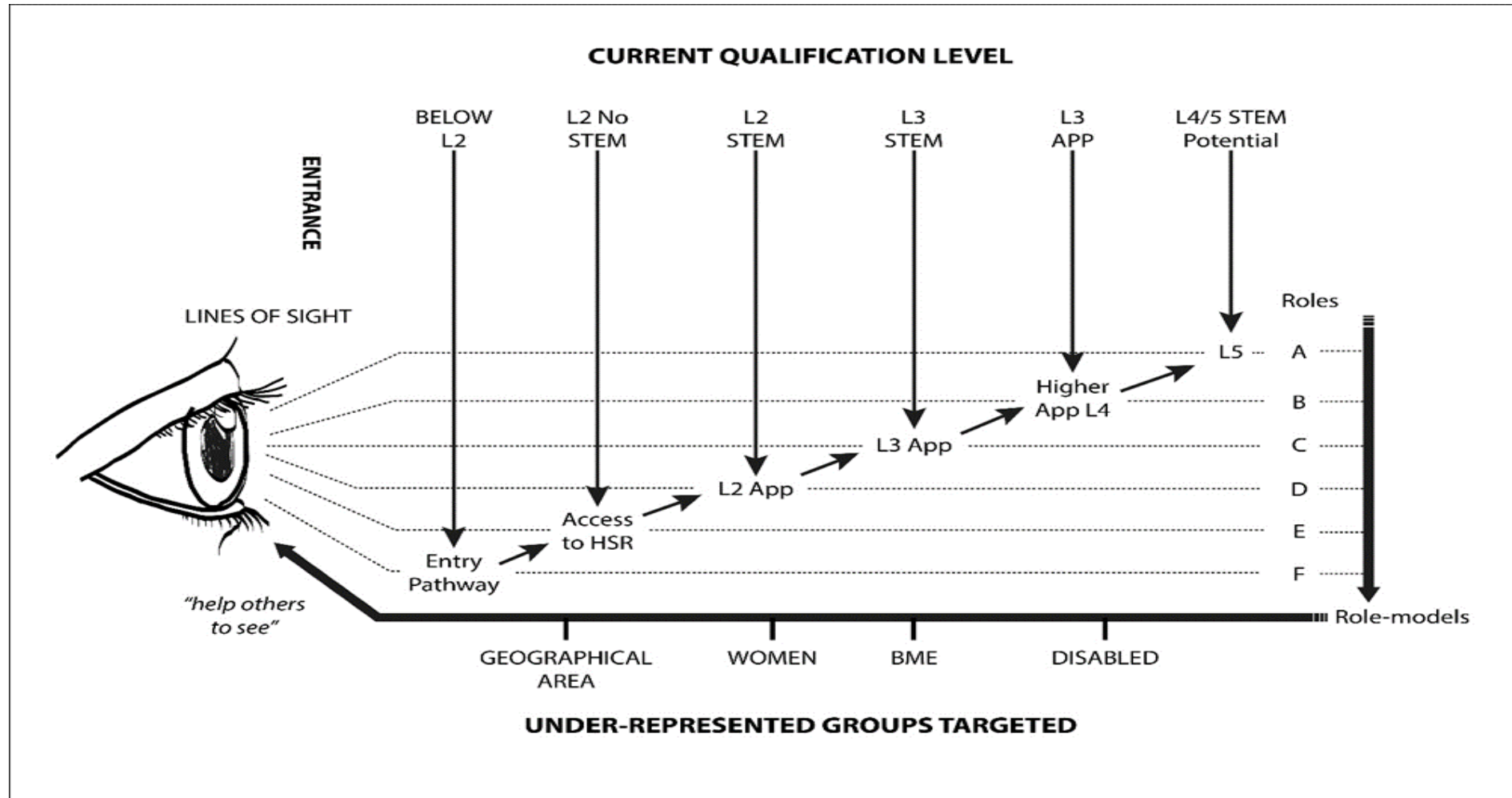
- 9m adults could benefit from improving basic English and/or maths skills (OECD)
- Participation in 19+ basic skills learning has fallen by around 20% since 2012.
- Considerable evidence of earnings premium and productivity gains through improving English and maths skills (OECD).
- Technical reforms are taking place, but a need to revitalise practice and create new forms of delivery to engage people and meet local needs.

The Citizens' Curriculum

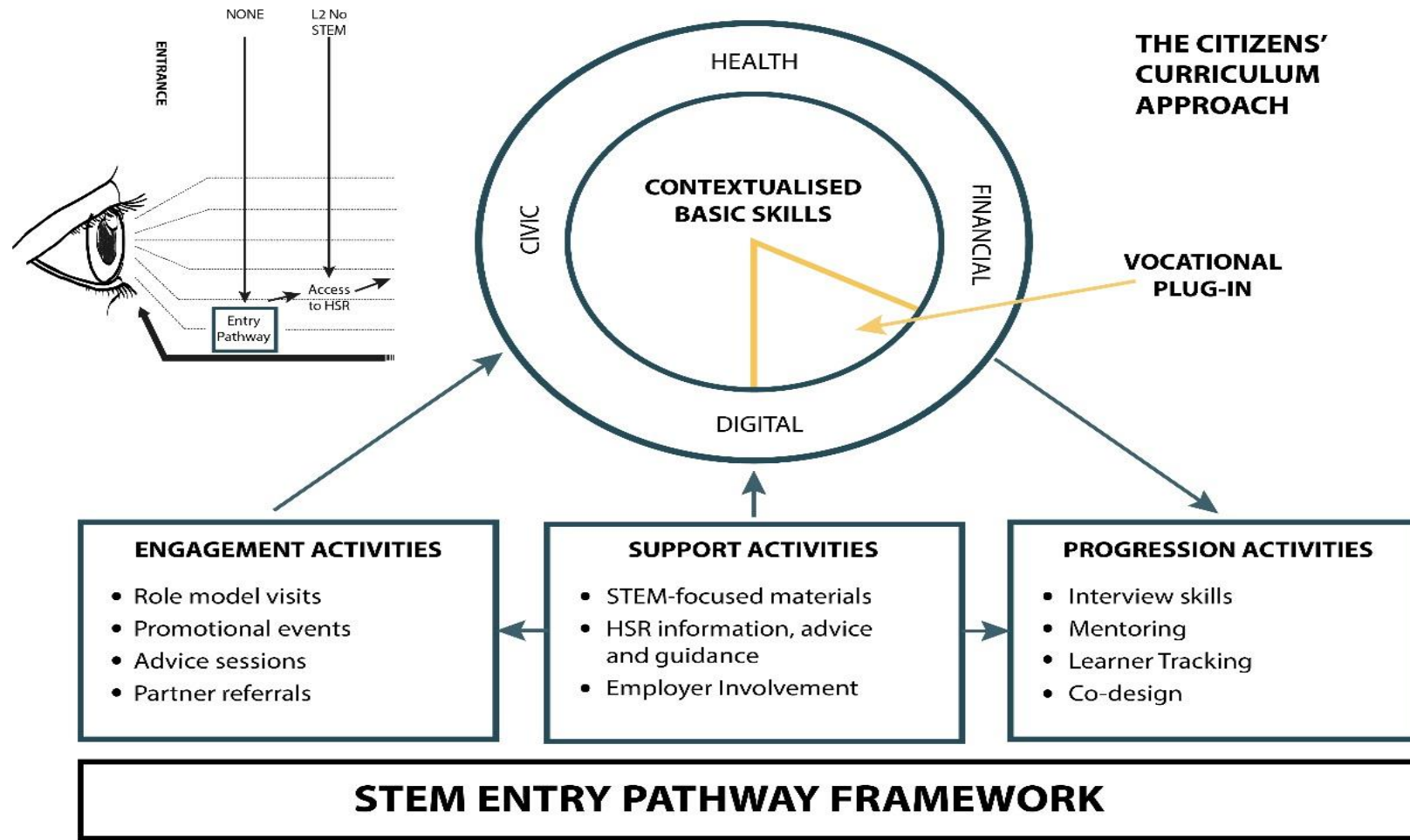
The Citizens' Curriculum Programme of Study



The 'Line of Sight'



STEM Entry Pathway



Learning from Europe

Good practices

Good practices for developing life skills were defined as examples of teaching and learning approaches that contribute to the development of life skills. Examples of good practices can be educational programs, specially developed learning and teaching didactics or methods, curricula, methodological instruments, etc.

What's the innovation?

Special emphasis in the instrument was also placed on the description of innovative characteristics and the main benefits of good practice for learners, where the description is supported when possible by authentic quotations, photos, videos and products of adult learners. The potential of transferability and the universal character of good practice were also included in the instrument.

The LSE partnership collected cases of good practices, which are presented in more detail on the database below.

| Type | Title | Themes and relevant capabilities | Target group | Language |
|---------------|---|---|---|----------|
| Good practice | Project Learning for Young Adults (1999/2016) | Civic, personal and interpersonal | School dropouts, young adults | SL |
| Good practice | Learning for Successful Life (2003/2014) | Literacy, numeracy, digital | Vulnerable and marginalised groups, unemployed people | SL, EN |
| Good practice | Study circles (1993) | Personal and interpersonal, civic | Open to anyone | SL |
| Good practice | Citizens' Curriculum (2014-2017) | Literacy, numeracy, digital, health, civic, financial | Vulnerable and marginalised groups, unemployed people | EN |
| Good | Royal British Legions | | Ex-armed forces personnel | ... |

LIFE SKILLS

FOR EUROPE

Field:
Key competences, basic skills

Duration:
28.12.2016 – 27.12.2018

Project coordinator:
[Francesca Operti](#)

Project website:
eaea.org/project/life-skills-for-europe-lse/
#EUlifskills

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Some examples from the Life Skills for Europe project - www.eaea.org/project/life-skills-for-europe-lse/

- **Learning for Successful Life (Slovenia)**
- **The Second Chance Systematic Development of Functional Elementary Education of Adults (Serbia)**
- **Danish Language and Culture (Denmark)**

Entry Pathways - Summary

- **Personalised, and/or one-to-one approaches** and a flexible offer to tailor the approach
- **Employability focussed support** – going beyond ‘job search’ to include use of role models, visits etc.
- **Partnership working** – a wide range of local stakeholders, to ensure the programme supports local economic needs.
- **Location of programmes** – friendly and accessible.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the current picture in relation to entry pathways in Wales? What are the opportunities and challenges? *(For example, funding ...)*
2. What role could better developed entry pathways play in the adult learning landscape in Wales? Who might benefit, and how?
3. To what extent is the Citizens' Curriculum model useful as a framework for a vocational entry level pathway programme for adults?
4. What other examples of entry level vocational pathways (curriculum models, projects, pilots etc.) exist in Wales? What impact have they achieved?
5. Are there any other key elements of entry level vocational pathways that we have not covered?