

Agile Nation

The Ascent Programme for Women

Agile Nation Ascent is a complete programme of training and support designed to help women unlock their full career potential.

The programme helps to develop team leading and management skills, allows women to gain a recognised qualification, increase confidence and provides valuable networking opportunities.

Women who have taken part in Ascent explain the difference it has made:



Melissa Burns

"I jumped at the opportunity to take part in Agile Nation's Ascent programme."

After years of teaching aerobics at Pontardawe Leisure Centre in Swansea, Melissa Burns from Clydach decided she wanted a new challenge and to develop her managerial skills. Ascent offered Melissa the chance to do this and has led to a promotion and her dream career.



Michelle Willis

"I benefited so much from the course that I sent three more of my staff on the Ascent programme which noticeably developed their confidence."

Michelle Willis from Conwy runs the domiciliary care agency Carelink Homecare Services Ltd.

Eager to develop her managerial skills, Michelle enrolled on Ascent and became really involved in the programme, applying the learning back in the workplace, and even sending other staff members on the course.



Cheyanne Staley

"I returned to learning at the age of 50, which proves it is never too late to improve your career prospects and job satisfaction."

Cheyanne Staley from Blaina was working as a Health and Safety Representative in a manufacturing company when she made the decision to return to learning through Ascent.

The Ascent programme helped Cheyanne develop her skills so that she was able to do her job more effectively and she went on to win a Workplace Learner of the Year Award.

Across the Convergence area of Wales, Chwarae Teg's European Social Fund and Welsh Government funded Agile Nation project is making a difference through its programmes developed specifically for women and employers.

Visit

www.agilenation.co.uk
to read more about the women and businesses that have already benefitted from Agile Nation.

The Evolve Programme for Business

The Evolve programme offers small and medium sized businesses the opportunity to develop and implement best practice diversity strategies, in a way that can improve the success of the business for little or no financial outlay.

Businesses that have taken part in Evolve explain the difference it has made:



Pia

www.pia.co.uk

Sharon Williams, Managing Director

"We now have 20% of our staff working flexibly, including part-time hours or a condensed week."

Cwmbran-based printing company, Pia, translates documents for the visually impaired for a diverse client base.

Through Evolve, Pia developed a remote working policy which maximised remote working opportunities for members of staff, resulting in a more motivated and efficient workforce.



Newydd Housing Association
www.newydd.co.uk

Olwen Thomas, Human Resources Manager

"Newydd Housing Association spent a year working with Agile Nation and during that time we received so much support on good practice as well as practical help in reviewing our policies and procedures."

Keen to obtain support in reviewing their existing Human Resources policies and procedures, Newydd engaged with Agile Nation's Evolve programme.

They now have a full set of up-to-date Human Resources policies and procedures including the tools to monitor progress and development effectively.



Anheddau Cyf
www.anheddau.co.uk

Janetta Toleman Jones, Chief Executive Officer

"The whole organisation is on board with every aspect of the Agile Nation project."

North Wales social care provider, Anheddau Cyf, found out about Agile Nation's Evolve programme through professional networking.

The Evolve programme helped Anheddau set up a diversity steering group. Through working together on this project, Anheddau identified 20 women to go through the Ascent programme.