

## **Griffiths grabs**apprentice accolade





"We wanted to do something different to address the lack of bright, young people entering our industry. I'm pleased to say that Apprentice+ and our work in schools is having a positive impact"

Huw Llywelyn, director - Alun Griffiths

More than 70 young people have progressed through Griffiths' Apprentice+ programme so far, and 75% of those have remained in full-time employment with the company.

Griffiths have now been awarded the Inspiring Change in Education award at the 2019 CECA Inspiring Change Awards. This award recognises companies that have developed initiatives to boost job opportunities through engagement with the wider community and providing access to training and employment.

Griffiths was praised for developing its Apprentice+
Programme, which aims to increase the number of young people entering the construction industry through apprenticeships, as well as helping to address the skills gap currently faced across the industry. As part of the programme, the company engaged with more than 2,000 primary school pupils and 3,000 secondary school pupils.

As well as the Apprentice+ programme, Griffiths is also strengthening its links in the local community. Earlier this year, working with Business in the Community and Careers Wales, it established a relationship with Greenfield Academy; a special school located in Merthyr Tydfil.

The partnership allows Griffiths to help the school with STEM activities and career events, and in return the school supports Griffiths' education programme and provides advice on how to be more inclusive across the business

Huw Llywelyn, director -Griffiths, said: "The programme is providing young people with degree-equivalent qualifications without the financial burden of full-time higher education. We're immensely proud to win this award."



