

**Addendum to the document 'Design Principles for the Welsh Baccalaureate – November 2014  
Applicable for courses commencing teaching September 2015'.**

Page	Original text:	Amended to:
Page after the cover	<p>Qualifications and Regulation Division Department for Education and Skills Welsh Government Ty'r Afon Bedwas Road Bedwas Caerphilly CF83 8WT Tel: 01443 663869 e-mail: Wbq-cbc@wales.gsi.gov.uk</p>	<p>Qualifications Wales Q2 Building Pencarn Lane Imperial Park Coedkernew Newport NP10 8AR Tel: 0333 077 2701 e-mail: enquiries@qualificationswales.org</p>
Page 4	<p>Essential Skills Wales and Wider Key Skills will no longer be required.</p>	<p>Essential Skills Wales and Wider Key Skills will no longer be required. However, learners on the Welsh Baccalaureate Foundation (Post-16) and Welsh Baccalaureate National (Post-16) <b>only</b> may complete Essential Application of Number Skills (EAoNS) and Essential Communication Skills (ECommS) instead of GCSEs in English Language / Welsh Language and Mathematics / Mathematics - Numeracy.</p>
Page 4	<p>For literacy and numeracy, assessment will be through the new GCSEs in English Language, Welsh Language and Mathematics – Numeracy at Key Stage 4. Post-16, literacy and numeracy will be assessed through these GCSEs</p>	<p>For literacy and numeracy, at Key Stage 4, assessment will be through the new GCSEs in English Language or Welsh Language and Mathematics – Numeracy or Mathematics. Post-16, literacy and numeracy will be assessed through these GCSEs or Essential Application of Number Skills (EAoNS) and Essential Communication Skills (ECommS).</p>

<p>Page 5</p>	<p>Supporting qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCSE English Language or GCSE Welsh Language</li> <li>• GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy</li> <li>• A minimum of three further GCSEs. At Key Stage 4 up to two of these may be equivalent<sup>1</sup> qualifications; at post-16 all may be equivalent.</li> </ul>	<p>Supporting qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCSE English Language or GCSE Welsh Language</li> <li>• GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy or GCSE Mathematics. However, learners on the Welsh Baccalaureate Foundation (Post-16) and Welsh Baccalaureate National (Post-16) <b>only</b> may complete Essential Application of Number Skills (EAoNS) and Essential Communication Skills (EComms) instead of GCSEs in English Language or Welsh Language and Mathematics or Mathematics - Numeracy</li> <li>• Three further GCSEs. At Key Stage 4 up to two of these may be equivalent<sup>1</sup> qualifications; at Post-16 all may be equivalent.</li> </ul>
<p>Page 5 Foot-note</p>	<p>Equivalent qualifications are at the appropriate level and of the appropriate size. Supporting qualifications must be of a size equivalent to half, one or two GCSEs, and will be rounded down to the appropriate equivalence if they fall between these sizes.</p>	<p>Equivalent qualifications are at the appropriate level and of the appropriate size. Supporting qualifications must be of a size equivalent to at least one GCSE (at least 120 GLH). Where larger qualifications are used (e.g. two GCSE equivalent (at least 240 GLH)), its value will be rounded down to the appropriate equivalence if the qualification falls between sizes.</p>
<p>Page 6</p>	<p>Learners not achieving all the requirements for a National Welsh Bac but achieving the requirements of the Foundation Welsh Bac, will be awarded the Foundation Welsh Bac.</p>	<p>For Key Stage 4 learners taking the Welsh Baccalaureate National / Foundation Key Stage 4, those not achieving all the requirements of a National Welsh Baccalaureate but achieving the requirements of the Foundation Welsh Baccalaureate, will be awarded the Foundation Welsh Baccalaureate.</p>

Page 6	<p>Supporting qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCSE English Language or GCSE Welsh Language at grade A*-C</li> <li>• GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy at grade A*-C</li> <li>• Two A levels, or equivalent. This requirement must be met through the achievement of no more than three separate qualifications.</li> </ul>	<p>Supporting qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCSE English Language or GCSE Welsh Language at grade A* - C</li> <li>• GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy or GCSE Mathematics at grade A* - C</li> <li>• Two A levels, or equivalent. This requirement must be met through the achievement of no more than three separate qualifications.</li> </ul>
Page 9	50 per cent	50 percent
Pages 10-11	<p>At <b>National and Foundation</b> level at both KS4 and post-16, literacy and numeracy will be assessed through GCSEs in English Language or Welsh Language and Maths – Numeracy at the grades set out in the 'Overall structure' section on page 5.</p> <p>There will be transitional arrangements in the first two years of the new Welsh Baccalaureate, to allow acceptance at Post-16 of Essential Skills Wales Communication, Application of Number in place of GCSEs, in recognition of the fact that the learners will have studied the old GCSE specification to the age of 16.</p>	<p>At <b>National and Foundation</b> level at both Key Stage 4 and Post-16, literacy and numeracy will be assessed through GCSEs in English Language / Welsh Language and Mathematics / Mathematics – Numeracy at the grades set out in the 'Overall structure' section on page 5.</p> <p>Learners on the Welsh Baccalaureate Foundation (Post-16) and Welsh Baccalaureate National (Post-16) <b>only</b> may complete Essential Application of Number Skills (EAoNS) and Essential Communication Skills (EComms) instead of GCSEs in English Language / Welsh Language and Mathematics / Mathematics – Numeracy.</p>
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12	If a candidate resits, their grade for that Challenge or Project will be capped at Pass.	<p>With reference to candidates who register on a Welsh Bacallaureate from September 2016, their grade at resit for that Challenge or Project will be capped at Pass.</p> <p>This cap does not apply for learners who registered in 2015.</p>
Page 14	<p>The Welsh Bacallaureate will be awarded with the following grades:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation: Pass* and Pass</li> <li>• National: A*, A, B and C</li> <li>• Advanced: A*, A, B, C, D and E</li> </ul>	<p>The Welsh Bacallaureate overall is graded Pass or Fail.</p> <p>The Skills Challenge Certificate of the Welsh Bacallaureate will be graded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation: Pass*, Pass and Fail</li> <li>• National: A*, A, B, C and Fail</li> <li>• Advanced: A*, A, B, C, D, E and Fail</li> </ul>
Page 14	<p>The Challenges and Individual Project will also be graded. At National and Foundation levels the grades for the challenges will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation Pass, Pass, Merit Distinction.</li> </ul> <p>At Advanced level the grading for the challenges will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass, Merit, Distinction.</li> </ul>	<p>The Challenges and Individual Project will also be graded.</p> <p>At <b>Key Stage 4 National / Foundation</b> levels the grades for the Challenges / Individual Project will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fail, Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit and Level 2 Distinction.</li> </ul> <p>At <b>Foundation (Post 16)</b> level the grades for the Challenges / Individual Project will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fail, Level 1 Pass, Level 1 Merit.</li> </ul> <p>At <b>National (Post-16)</b> level the grades for the Challenges / Individual Project will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fail, Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit and Level 2 Distinction.</li> </ul> <p>At <b>Advanced</b> level the grading for the challenges will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fail, Level 3 Pass, Level 3 Merit and Level 3 Distinction.</li> </ul>

Page 15	The grades of the supporting qualifications will not impact on the overall grade of the Welsh Bacculaureate.	This statement is now removed.
Page 15	<p>Certificates will say one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundation Welsh Bacculaureate (Level 1)</li> <li>National Welsh Bacculaureate (Level 2)</li> <li>Foundation Welsh Bacculaureate Post-16 (Level 1)</li> <li>National Welsh Bacculaureate Post-16 (Level 2)</li> <li>Advanced Welsh Bacculaureate (Level 3)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Welsh Bacculaureate</b> - certificates will say one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation Welsh Bacculaureate (Level 1)</li> <li>• National Welsh Bacculaureate (Level 2)</li> <li>• Foundation Welsh Bacculaureate Post-16 (Level 1)</li> <li>• National Welsh Bacculaureate Post-16 (Level 2)</li> <li>• Advanced Welsh Bacculaureate (Level 3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills Challenge Certificate</b> - certificates will say one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation / National Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh Bacculaureate)</li> <li>• Foundation post-16 Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh Bacculaureate)</li> <li>• National post-16 Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh Bacculaureate)</li> <li>• Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh Bacculaureate).</li> </ul>