

Qualified for the future



Consultation questions

How to respond

Before you answer these consultation questions, please make sure you are familiar with our consultation document, *Qualified for the future*. You can read it on our [website](#).

We encourage you to respond to this consultation using the [online survey](#).

If you need to submit your responses using this document, please send to:

Arad Research at post@arad.wales or 8 Columbus Walk, Brigantine Place, Cardiff, CF10 4SD.

We have completed an Integrated Impact Assessment¹ on each of the proposals in our consultation document, which you can also find on our [website](#).

If you have any questions about the consultation itself, please contact reform@qualificationswales.org. This consultation will close at 5pm on Friday 7 February 2020. We will not consider any responses submitted after the consultation has closed.

If a question is not relevant to you, or you are unsure about how to respond, please skip that question and move onto the next one.

Where possible, please do not include any personal data that could identify an individual in your responses to our questions.

Important information

Arad Research will collect all responses to this consultation and may share those responses with us, in full, to support our work in this area.

Arad Research will analyse the responses and provide us with a summary report. Where appropriate, this report will identify trends in responses and relate these to respondent characteristics. We will publish this report on our website, alongside a commentary outlining our decisions.

All personal data collected will be retained in accordance with the UK Data Protection Act (2018) and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). It will be used to help us shape the future qualification offer for 16-year-old learners in Wales, to support the new curriculum. We have published a privacy notice on our [website](#).

¹ This is comprised of a Regulatory Impact Assessment, Welsh Language Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment.

About you

To help us consider the responses to this consultation, please tell us in what capacity you are responding.

1. Which of the following best describes you?*

(Please select the option that best describes the capacity in which you are responding to this consultation).

- Learner
- Education professional
- Parent/carer
- Member of the public
- Local authority or regional education consortia
- Employer or representative body
- Teaching Union
- Awarding body
- Other (please state) _____
- Prefer not to say

2. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please state the name of the organisation in the box below.

The summary report provided by Arad Research will not identify any individuals or organisations. However, as we are a public body, all the written material we hold, including any correspondence you send to us, may be considered for release following a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This could include publishing your or your organisation's name alongside your response.

The law allows us to withhold information under some circumstances. If we receive a request for the information that you have provided in your response to this consultation, we will take account of any requests for confidentiality, but we cannot guarantee that it can be maintained in all circumstances.

3. Do you wish any part of your response to remain confidential?

- Yes
- No

If you selected 'yes', please state clearly what information you would like to be kept confidential and explain your reasons why.

Guiding principles to help shape the qualification offer

In section 5 of the consultation document, we outline a set of guiding principles that we propose applying when deciding which qualifications taken at 16 are eligible for public funding.

4. Qualifications Wales should take steps to ensure that publicly funded qualifications taken at 16 relate to, and support, the new curriculum for Wales.

To what extent do you agree with this proposal?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Partly agree and partly disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

Please explain your answer in the space below.

(In your response you may want to consider a) The benefits and challenges for you or your organisation and b) Any specific circumstances when this principle should not be applied).

5. Qualifications Wales should require awarding bodies to make all publicly funded qualifications taken at 16 available in both Welsh and English.

To what extent do you agree with this proposal?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Partly agree and partly disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

Please explain your answer in the space below.

(In your response you may want to consider a) The benefits and challenges for you or your organisation and b) Any specific circumstances when this principle should not be applied).

6. Qualifications Wales should more closely manage the range of publicly funded qualifications that centres can offer to 16-year-olds to make sure it is equitable and coherent.

To what extent do you agree with this proposal?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Partly agree and partly disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

Please explain your answer in the space below.

(In your response you may want to consider a) The benefits and challenges for you or your organisation and b) Any specific circumstances when this principle should not be applied).

7. Are there any other principles you think we should consider when deciding which qualifications to make eligible for public funding for 16-year-olds in Wales?

Please explain your answer in the space below.

GCSEs fit for the future

In section 6 of the consultation document, we outline our proposal to retain the GCSE name while redesigning them so that they meet our vision for qualifications and support the aims and purposes of the new curriculum.

8. On balance, we think that the GCSE name should be retained for the redesigned qualifications that will form a central part of the qualification offer for 16-year-olds in Wales.

To what extent do you agree with this proposal?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Partly agree and partly disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

Please explain your answer in the space below.

9. Do you have any specific suggestions for how GCSE qualifications could change to meet our vision and to support the aims and purposes of the new curriculum?

Please explain your answer in the space below.

A qualification to assess wider skills

In section 7 of the consultation document, we outline our proposal to retain a specific qualification that supports the development and assessment of the wider skills (as defined in the new curriculum). These are: creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, planning and organising, and personal effectiveness.

10. On balance, we think that a specific qualification that supports the development and assessment of the wider skills (as defined in the new curriculum) should be part of the qualification offer for 16-year-olds in Wales.

To what extent do you agree with this proposal?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Partly agree and partly disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

Please explain your answer in the space below.

11. Do you have any specific suggestions for how the Skills Challenge Certificate at key stage 4 could change to meet our vision and support the aims and purposes of the new curriculum?

Please explain your answer in the space below.

Impact assessments

In our Integrated Impact Assessment, we have set out the regulatory impacts we anticipate from these proposals.

When responding to the following questions, please make it clear which proposal(s) you are referring to.

**12a. Are there any further regulatory impacts that may arise from any of our proposals?
If so, please explain your answer in the space below.**

12b. Are there any additional steps we could take to reduce the regulatory impact of any of our proposals? If so, please explain your answer in the space below.

**12c. Do you have any other comments on the regulatory impact of these proposals?
If so, please explain your answer in the space below.**

In our Integrated Impact Assessment, we have considered the potential impacts on the Welsh Language and Equalities.

When responding to the following questions, please make it clear which proposal(s) you are referring to.

13a. Would any of our proposals result in any other positive or negative impacts (intended or unintended) on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language?

- Positive impact
- No impact
- Negative impact
- Unsure

Please explain your answer in the space below.

13b. Would any of our proposals result in any other positive or negative impacts (intended or unintended) in relation to treating the Welsh Language no less favourably than the English Language?

- Positive impact
- No impact
- Negative impact
- Unsure

Please explain your answer in the space below.

13c. Would any of our proposals result in any other positive or negative impacts (intended or unintended) for individuals or groups who share protected characteristics outlined within the Equality Act 2010?

- Positive impact
- No impact
- Negative impact
- Unsure

Please explain your answer in the space below.

14. If you have anything else you would like to say about the information outlined in this consultation document, please use the space below.

We may wish to contact you to discuss your response further. If you are happy for us to do so, please provide your contact details below.

Name:

Email:

Phone number:

If you would like to find out more about our work on qualifications for the new curriculum, including our future consultations, you can sign up to our newsletter, [‘The Slate’](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#).