



By email

21 October 2021

Dear Responsible Officer,

Qualified for the Future: Wider Qualification Offer

The purpose of this letter is to offer you the valuable opportunity to share your views as we start to think about how we reshape the 14-16 qualification landscape in Wales.

The introduction of the new Curriculum for Wales marks a significant period of change for education. At the centre of these changes is a new and innovative curriculum for learners aged 3 to 16 in Wales. Through our *Qualified for the Future* programme, we are looking at how future qualifications can best support the new curriculum and help to realise its ambition.

Following our first *Qualified for the Future* consultation, we published our [decisions report](#) in June 2019. We agreed a set of guiding principles which will be applied to shape the future qualifications offer, as follows.

Qualifications for 16-year-olds should:

- 1. relate to, and support, the aims and purposes of the new curriculum for Wales;*
- 2. be available in Welsh and English; and*
- 3. contribute to a coherent and inclusive range that meets the needs of all learners.*

We also decided that main qualifications taken by learners aged 14-16 in Wales should continue to be called GCSEs, but with new aims, content and assessment.

Qualifications Wales

Q2 Building, Pencarn Lane
Imperial Park,
Newport
NP10 8AR
☎ 01633 373 222



Cymwysterau Cymru

Adeilad Q2, Lôn Pencarn
Parc Imperial,
Casnewydd
NP10 8AR
☎ 01633 373 222

We have published our decisions following our latest consultation, [The Right Choice for Wales](#), on the main range of GCSE subjects and made-for-Wales qualifications that will support the new Curriculum for Wales.

Alongside this new generation of GCSEs for Wales, we are also considering what other qualifications should be available as part of the whole 14-16 qualification offer to meet the above guiding principles.

Over the coming months, we will work with stakeholders to develop proposals for what the whole qualification offer should include. We will manage the transition to the new qualification offer through the designation processes outlined in our [designation policy](#).

We invite you to be part of the conversation to help reshape the qualifications offer for learners aged 14-16 in Wales. We want to hear your views on the features of a coherent and inclusive offer to support the aims and purposes of the new Curriculum for Wales.

You can get involved, in the first instance, by taking part in a one-hour online meeting. This will be a chance for us to give you more information about the work and for you to share your views. We ask that you nominate one or more named individuals to represent your organisation in these discussions. Ideally someone who is involved in business or qualification development role that can act as the key contact for future correspondence in relation to this work.

Please contact sadie.tomlins@qualificationswales.org to confirm your nominated contact name and email address by Monday 1st November 2021.

The Curriculum for Wales offers a valuable opportunity to reshape the wider offer of qualifications for learners in Wales. We look forward to working closely with you and your colleagues in the coming months to help make that happen.

Yours sincerely



Emyr George
Director of Qualifications Policy and Reform