

Glossary

Term	Description
5 year principle	If the new OED is within 5 years of the start date, amendment can be requested and no further supporting evidence is required. If the OED is more than 5 years from the start date, evidence must be supplied against the designation criteria.
A level	Advanced level qualification
A2	Second year A level. Combines with AS to gain full A level qualification
Age Range	These are the age ranges for which the qualification is approved or designated, and therefore eligible for funding. More than one age range can be applicable.
Amendment	Awarding bodies can request an amendment (change) to the qualification data held on QiW.
Approval	Qualifications designed for Wales and linked to qualifications on the Priority Qualification List with approval criteria.
Approved Qualifications	Approved qualifications may only be awarded in Wales and will have satisfied robust approval criteria that ensure they are designed to meet the needs of learners in the country.
AS	Advanced Subsidiary – first year of A level (or free standing qualification)
Assessment Methods	The methods of assessment specified in the qualification specification e.g. portfolio of evidence, controlled assessment. Multiple assessment methods can be selected.
Awarding Body (AB)/ Awarding Organisation (AO)	An awarding body is an organisation that issues an educational award often following formal assessment. (formerly known as Exam Board)
Centre	An organisation accountable to an awarding body for assessment arrangements leading to the award of credit or qualifications.
Certification End Date	A qualification has ended after this date. No learners will be awarded the qualification and no school or college will receive public funding to teach it after this date.

Condition D7	<p>Condition D7 – Management of the change in the status of qualifications or withdrawal of qualifications</p> <p>D7.1 For the purposes of this condition, an awarding body changes the status of a qualification or withdraws a qualification at the point in time</p> <p>(a) it ceases to register learners for the qualification;</p> <p>(b) it ceases to deliver or award that qualification to learners;</p> <p>(c) (where a qualification is Approved) its approval in respect of that qualification expires;</p> <p>(d) (where a qualification is Approved) it surrenders its approval in respect of that qualification;</p> <p>(e) (where a qualification is Approved) it has its approval withdrawn by</p> <p>(f) (where a qualification is Designated) transitional arrangements may be implemented where withdrawal of approval or revocation of designation is made on the basis that the qualification concerned has become a restricted priority qualification;</p> <p>(g) (where a qualification is Designated) it has its designation revoked by Qualifications Wales with respect of that qualification;</p> <p>(h) it surrenders its recognition in respect of that qualification, or</p> <p>(i) it has its recognition withdrawn by Qualifications Wales in respect of</p> <p>D7.2 Where an awarding body intends to, otherwise believes it to be likely that it will, or is obliged to, change the status or withdraw a qualification, it must take all reasonable steps to protect the interests of learners in relation to that qualification.</p> <p>D7.3 An awarding body must give to Qualifications Wales reasonable notice of its anticipated change of status or withdrawal of an Approved or Designated qualification, and must do so prior to the time at which it provides that information to any learners, centres, or purchasers of qualifications.</p> <p>D7.4 Where an awarding body intends to change a status or withdraw, or is obliged to change a status or withdraw, an Approved or Designated qualification, it must:</p> <p>(a) promptly prepare, maintain, and comply with a written plan, which must specify how the interests of learners in relation to that qualification will be protected, and</p> <p>(b) provide clear and accurate information about the withdrawal to learners, centres, and purchasers of qualifications who are likely to be affected by the withdrawal.</p> <p>D7.5 An awarding body must ensure that any plan which it prepares complies with any requirements which Qualifications Wales has communicated to it in writing.</p> <p>D7.6 For the purposes of this condition, a change in status is, for Approved qualifications, defined as a qualification which is no longer Approved by Qualifications Wales and, for Designated qualifications, defined as a qualification which is no longer Designated by Qualifications Wales.</p>	
Core Subject Indicator (CSI)	This consists of GCSEs in English or Welsh First Language and Mathematics and Science, all at grade A* to C. A list of individual GCSES which count towards the CSI is available on the <u>Examination Results page of the Welsh Government’s website.</u>	
Credit	Credit relates to the funding a school or college may receive for teaching the qualification.	
Curriculum Planning	Curriculum planning is the decision-making process about the content and the organisation of learning for which the centre is responsible. <i>For queries regarding Curriculum Planning and Pre/Post 16 choice please contact <u>14-19@gov.wales</u></i>	
DAQW	Database of approved qualifications in Wales. This is the database previously developed by Welsh Government. This data was migrated to the QiW database in April 2016.	

Designation	Way of enabling qualifications that are not subject to approval process to be eligible for public funding.
Designation Matters	The list used by QW when reviewing a qualification for designation. These can be found in the user guidance document.
Designated Qualifications	Regulated qualifications that are designated as eligible for Qualifications use on publicly funded programmes of learning for learners under the age of 19, as defined under section 29 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015.
Domain	All qualifications at levels 1, 2 and 3 have been grouped into five domains. The domains are based on the Sector/Subject Category Area (SSC Area) and are as follows: A Maths, Science and Technology B Business, Administration and the Law C Services to People D Creative Arts, Media, Culture and Language E Humanities and Social Sciences & Preparation for Life/Work Post-16 learners (i.e. learners older than compulsory school age) are offered a choice of 30 subjects of which three must be vocational. The offer must include a variety of subjects and cover one choice from domain A and choices from at least two other domains.
e-Assessment	The end to end electronic processes where ICT is used for the presentation of assessment activity and the recording of responses. This includes the end to end assessment process from the perspective of learners, tutors, learning establishments, awarding organisations, regulators and the general public.
Entry Level	Applies to learners not ready for GCSE
End User	Person or groups of people who might utilise the QiW database.
EQF Level	This is the comparison to the European Qualification Framework. It is automatically generated from the Qualification Level field.
Evidence of demand	This is used to support the application for designation of a qualification. There should be evidence of demand for the qualification from an identified cohort in Wales. This can be presented in the form of a letter and should include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full title of the qualification • Age range applicable to the centre

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential number of candidates • Brief explanation as to why there are interested in offering the qualification.
Evidence of professional support	<p>This is used to support the application for designation of a qualification. There should be evidence that the qualification is relevant in a Welsh context (for example references to Welsh legislation and policies). Relevant professional bodies are those from within the qualification sector or sub sector. Support is not required from professional bodies for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work/life skills • Introductory qualifications/Entry level qualifications.
For inclusion in Apprenticeship frameworks?	An indicator as to whether the qualification is to be included within apprenticeship frameworks. The following website will be used to reference this: www.afo.sscalliance.org/frameworks-library
Further designation	Way of further enabling qualifications that aren't subject to approval process to be eligible for public funding.
GCE AS/A level	General Certificate of Education AS/A level
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
General/Vocational	Every maintained secondary school in Wales will offer Key Stage 4 pupils a choice of 25 subjects. Three of these subjects must be vocational, so every qualification is classified as general or vocational. Post-16 learners (i.e. learners older than compulsory school age) are also offered a choice of 30 subjects. Five of these subjects must be vocational and five must be general.
GQ	General Qualification
Grading Scale	This is the scale for how the qualification is to be graded. For example: Pass, Merit and Distinction.
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	The guided learning hours for a qualification are a notional measure of the substance of a qualification i.e. the amount of time necessary to learn it effectively. It includes: an estimate of the time that might be allocated to direct teaching or instruction (such as time spent in the classroom) other structured learning time, such as directed assignments (for example, projects carried out in the learner's own supported individual study and practice (such as revision lessons in school) and assessments on the job. It excludes any private study that the learner chooses to do.
HE	Higher Education

IVET/CVET	IVET = Initial Vocational Education and Training also known as Introductory Vocational Qualifications suitable for all ages and abilities (these qualifications types are available to pre 16 learners) CVET = Continued Vocational Education and Training also known as Occupational Competence Vocational Qualifications are for those over the age of 16 (these qualifications are not available to pre 16 learners).
Language	This is the assessment language medium that the qualification is made available through e.g. English and Welsh or Welsh only
Learning Provider	A school, college, training centre, or workplace offering educational opportunities
Live	The qualification detail held on QiW is classed as 'Live' until 6 months before the OED where awarding bodies are then required to request further extension otherwise it will be archived on the system.
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
Ofqual	Office of Qualifications and Examination Regulation. The organisation that regulates qualifications, exams and test in England
Operational End Date	No new learners can register/enter for a qualification after this date. However, existing candidates are allowed to complete the qualification until the Certification End Date and allows time for the qualification to be certified. The time between the Operational End Date and the Certification End Date is called the Certification Period.
Other Regulated Qualifications	Qualifications which are regulated by Qualifications Wales but are not approved/designated and therefore are not eligible for public funding in Wales and do not appear on QiW.
Pathway	A route of courses taken by a student to gain entry to a higher course or towards a final qualification.
Priority Qualification List (PQL)	A list which identifies qualifications for priority approval. All qualifications must be approved or designated by Qualifications Wales before the subjects can receive funding for teaching in schools and colleges.

Purpose	The qualification purpose conveys information on what a qualification is primarily designed to do rather than what it may be used for e.g. "Prepare for further learning or training and/or develop knowledge and/or skills in a subject area"
Professional Body	A body or group involved in the same profession, formed usually to maintain standards and represent the profession in discussions with other bodies, professionals or organisations.
QAN	Qualification Reference – a unique reference number for a qualification; also called the QAN code or qualification accreditation number.
QCF	The QCF is the architecture that helps us define learning - how difficult it is, and how much time and effort it takes. It can be used to make sense of the thousands of qualifications needed to service all the different skills, occupations and companies that need a skilled workforce. Using rules of combination, the QCF can build qualifications from credit based units so that no learning is lost and learners can transfer their learning around the system
QCF Qualifications	Every unit and qualification has a credit and unit level. One credit represents 10 notional hours of learning. Levels indicate difficulty and vary from Entry 1 to Level 8. There are 3 types of qualification Award:1-12 credits; Certificates:13-36 Credits; Diplomas:-36 credits or more
QiW	Qualifications in Wales is a comprehensive source of information on approved and designated qualifications awarded in Wales. It is a functional system for searching for qualifications. QiW contains all up-to-date data to enable centres to make their curriculum choices for the academic year.
Qualification	An award made by an awarding body to demonstrate a learner's achievement of competence.
Qualification Level	This shows the level of attainment a qualification represents. Level 1 is equivalent to a grade D-G at GCSE, Level 2 is equivalent to a grade A*-C at GCSE and Level 3 is equivalent to an A level. The set of levels used in Wales is part of the Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales. The Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales (CQFW) has been aligned with the European Qualifications Framework (EQF). This means that the level of a qualification gained in Wales can be compared to a

	level in the EQF. This helps people and organisations to translate achievements between countries and work across the EU.
Qualification Specification	This is the specification for the qualification supplied by the awarding body and outlines the objectives and outcomes of the qualification. / A detailed statement defining the purpose, content, structure and assessment arrangements for a qualification
Qualification Sub-Level	This is to classify Entry level qualification onto level 1,2 or 3
Qualification Title	This allows the qualification to be easily identified in relation to the subject matter or content. The title must include the following: Name of awarding body, level of the qualification, type of qualification (where applicable) and a CONCISE indication of the content of the qualification. Please refer to Condition E2 of the General Conditions of Recognition. Please the terms NVQ and QCF must not be used in the title and must be removed from existing titles by December 2017
Qualification Type	This is the type of specification the qualification is written to meet e.g. GCSE, A level.
Qualifications Regulator	An organisation which monitors and maintains standards for external qualifications
Qualifications Wales	Regulator of all non-degree qualifications and the qualifications system in Wales
QW Approval/Designation Number	The unique number that each qualification submitted to QiW is allocated.
Refer back	A qualification may be referred back to an awarding body if there is insufficient evidence to enable QW to designate or if the fields on QiW have not been populated following the designation guidance.
Register of Regulated Qualifications, (The Register)	Is a list of Regulated Awarding Bodies and their Regulated Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
Regulated qualifications	All non-degree qualifications (whether approved, designated or other regulated) that are offered for award by an awarding body recognised by Qualifications Wales (unless either an awarding body has surrendered its recognition in respect of that qualification, or if an awarding body excluded that qualification from the scope of its recognition by notifying Welsh Government prior to 21 September 2015).

Restriction	Section 14 of the Act allows Qualifications Wales to restrict a qualification that is on the Priority Qualifications List ("the List"). ¹ Qualifications Wales may consider whether to apply a restriction to a qualification on the List. A restriction will limit the number of forms (or 'versions') of a qualification that may be approved at any time.
Review Type	This is the type of review the awarding body is submitting the qualification for: approval (the qualification should appear on the priority qualifications list PQL for approval qualifications) or designation (for qualifications to be used on publicly funded programmes of learning for learners under the age of 19 in Wales.)
Revocation	The removal of eligibility for funding by Qualifications Wales.
Sector Reviews	Sectoral Review is the key method by which QW are approaching the review and reform of vocational qualifications in Wales. The first sector being considered is Health and Social Care. The next sector was Construction, followed by IT.
Sector Subject Area	Sector subject areas are the series of categories based on industry sectors and academic subjects used to classify qualifications e.g. a qualification may come into the category Science and Mathematics or Health, Public Services and Care.
Start Date	This is the date from which the approved/designated qualification may be taught in Wales. Schools and colleges in Wales may only receive public funding to teach a qualification if it is approved/designated. This is set to the first day of the month.
Sub - Sector Subject Area	Sub sector areas are the second tier of categories based on industry sectors and academic subjects used to classify qualifications.
Submission details issued to:	Awarding bodies provide an email address for any notifications regarding a submission to be sent to.
Sub-Purpose	The sub-purpose conveys information on what a qualification is designed to do rather than what it may be used for
Suite	This refers to a group of qualifications within the same sector.

Supporting Documents	This is the evidence that awarding bodies provide to ensure qualifications meet the criteria for approval/designation. Evidence can be in the form of an email or formal letter; one to demonstrate demand in Wales and one to show professional support for the qualification.
Surrender	The decision by the awarding body to cease to be recognised for the award of a specific qualification or description of qualification, or for all recognised qualifications.
Standard Conditions of Recognition	All conditions to which an awarding body's recognition is subject (including standard conditions imposed under Schedule 3 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015).
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	Total Qualification Time is the number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could reasonably be expected to be required in order for a learner to achieve a qualification.
Validation Check	These are the formal checks on the data populated on the QiW form submitted by awarding bodies wishing to designate a qualification.
VQ	Vocational Qualification
Withdrawn	Removes qualification from the QiW database but allows it to remain regulated and offered in Wales but without funding.
Work Based Learning Providers	Work based learning can be provided by commercial and voluntary sector organisations under contract to the government departments and agencies, or through privately funded independent and in-company training schemes