



## **QUALIFICATIONS WALES**

### **PRIORITY QUALIFICATIONS LIST AND FORWARD LOOK**

This document contains the Priority Qualifications List, which is jointly prepared by Qualifications Wales and Welsh Government. It also contains Qualifications Wales' Forward Look.

The Priority Qualifications List is reviewed regularly and updated as necessary to include qualifications for which there are new approval criteria, and/or restrictions imposed (or under consideration for restriction) and to reflect the end of any priority approval periods. Those qualifications whose priority approval period end date has expired will be moved to the unrestricted qualifications with expired priority approval periods section of this document.

The Forward Look is also reviewed regularly by Qualifications Wales to ensure it continues to give awarding bodies notice of possible future priorities. The Forward Look is published below the Priority Qualifications List but is not part of it.

### **PRIORITY QUALIFICATIONS LIST**

Qualifications Wales and Welsh Ministers have prepared the Priority Qualifications List in exercise of their powers under section 13 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015 (duty to prepare list of priority qualifications).

Qualifications Wales may approve qualifications that have been designed to meet the needs of learners in Wales. The Priority Qualifications List is a list of the qualifications for which Qualifications Wales has published approval criteria, or for which qualifications are under consideration of restriction and in respect of which it must, under section 18 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015, consider any applications for approval from appropriately recognised awarding bodies. Qualifications on this list will only be approved if they meet the published approval criteria. Approved status is not an indicator of the relative importance of a qualification.

Qualifications Wales will consider for approval qualifications that are not on the Priority Qualifications List if there are published approval criteria. However the approval of qualifications that are on the Priority Qualifications List will be of higher priority.



Qualifications Wales may also designate qualifications. Both approved and designated qualifications are provided by recognised awarding bodies and are eligible for use on publicly-funded programmes of training and education for learners under the age of 19. Designated qualifications are not necessarily unique to Wales and are usually available to learners in other countries of the UK. Qualifications Wales will work with recognised bodies in relation to applications for the designation of qualifications not on the Priority Qualifications List.

Qualifications Wales has published the [Priority Qualifications List policy](#), which provides more detail of how the Priority Qualifications List is managed.

### **Restricted priority qualifications**

Qualifications Wales may apply a restriction to limit the number of forms of a qualification that may be approved at any time. This section contains two parts. Part 1 relates to those qualifications where Qualifications Wales has an intention to restrict. Representations in response to the notification to restrict will be considered before any determination to restrict is published. Determinations to restrict are indicated in Part 2.

#### ***Part 1 - Intentions to restrict***

There are no pending intentions to restrict that have not yet been determined

#### ***Part 2 - Determinations to restrict***

Qualifications Wales has restricted the following descriptions of qualifications to **one form each**:

##### Building Services and Construction

Foundation qualification in Building Services

Foundation qualification in Construction

Progression qualification in Building Services

Progression qualification in Construction

Apprenticeship qualification in Building Services



## Apprenticeship qualification in Construction

### Health and Social Care, and Childcare

GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare (single award)

GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare (double award)<sup>1</sup>

Level 2 Health and Social Care: Core

Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Core

Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts

Level 2 Health and Social Care: Practice (Adults)

Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory

Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice

GCE A level and AS in Health and Social Care, and Childcare<sup>2</sup>

Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts

Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory

Level 3 Health and Social Care: Practice (Adults)

Level 3 Health and Social Care: Practice (Children and Young People)

Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice

Level 4 Preparing for Leadership and Management in Health and Social Care

Level 4 Preparing for Leadership and Management of Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development

Level 5 Leadership and Management of Health and Social Care: Practice

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<sup>1</sup> The GCSE single and double award were previously identified as Level 1/2: Introduction to Health, Social Care and Child Care - Principles and Contexts

<sup>2</sup> the A level, L3 Diploma in Health and Social Care, and Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory qualifications together replace the two Level 3 knowledge qualifications identified in the previous List as "Principles, Theories and Contexts"



Level 5 Leadership and Management of Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice

Level 4 Health and Social Care with specialism

Level 4 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development with specialism

### **Unrestricted qualifications with expired priority approval periods**

The priority approval periods for the following qualifications have expired. These qualifications continue to have current approval criteria and may be considered for approval.

#### **GCSEs**

Geography  
French  
German  
Spanish  
Music  
Science suite  
Drama  
Physical Education  
History  
Food and Nutrition  
Religious Studies  
Art and Design  
Business  
Computer Science  
Design and Technology  
Media Studies  
Welsh (second language)

#### **AS and A levels**

Welsh (second language)  
Drama  
Music  
Physical Education  
Geography  
French  
German  
Spanish  
Religious Studies  
Design and Technology  
Further Mathematics  
Government and Politics  
Law  
Mathematics  
Media Studies

The qualifications listed on the Priority Qualifications List were jointly agreed by the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Qualifications Wales and published on **5 July 2018**.



## FORWARD LOOK

The Forward Look describes the qualifications that Qualifications Wales is considering for inclusion on the Priority Qualifications List in the future. The Forward Look enables Qualifications Wales to give awarding bodies notice of future priorities and to enable the development of appropriate approval criteria by Qualifications Wales.

The inclusion of qualifications or descriptions of qualifications in the Forward Look is not a guarantee that they will be included in a future Priority Qualifications List. Similarly, a qualification or description of qualification may be included in a future Priority Qualifications List without first appearing on the Forward Look.

The regulation of vocational qualifications is an important element of Qualifications Wales' work. In order to make the regulation of vocational qualifications more manageable and effective, we are adopting a sectoral approach to the review of qualifications. The next sectors in the programme of reviews are Information and Communications Technology (due for publication at the end of 2018) and Engineering, Advanced Manufacturing and Energy (commencing Autumn 2018). One of the outcomes of these reviews may be the inclusion of Information and Communications Technology (or related subjects) and/or Engineering, Advanced Manufacturing and Energy qualifications on the Priority Qualifications List in the future.

This list is not exhaustive and further subjects may be added.

### **We are considering listing, once approval criteria has been developed:**

- One or more GCSEs in the Built Environment
- One or more GCE A levels in the Built Environment