

Brief for AoLE Network participants

Background

Qualifications Wales is about to embark on the development of the minimum requirements for the next generation of made-for-Wales GCSEs to complement the new Curriculum. Awarding Bodies such as WJEC will then adhere to these minimum qualification requirements during the development of the qualification specifications and assessments.

We are taking a collaborative co-construction approach to the development of minimum qualification requirements for the next generation of GCSE qualifications. For each individual qualification this will involve creating dedicated subject working groups who will be responsible for generating recommendations for the aims and purposes of each qualification, as well as suggestions for the high-level content of the qualifications and ideas around how the qualifications could be assessed.

We will also be creating AoLE networks to consider the recommendations from each subject group within each AoLE. Our intention is that individuals or organisations with a keen interest or expertise in a particular area of the curriculum will be able to join the relevant AoLE network.

Role of the AoLE Network

We want to ensure that educational professionals and other key stakeholders with an interest in qualifications and new curriculum are at the centre of the development process. Therefore, we are inviting educational professionals to join Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLE) networks to help provide comment and feedback on the emerging ideas for qualifications within each AoLE coming from the subject level working groups. In addition to providing feedback on the proposals for individual qualifications the networks will also consider coherence between the proposals and recommendations across different GCSE qualifications within an AoLE.

www.qualificationswales.org



Time Commitment

The AoLE networks will be convened from October 2021 through to June 2022. The expectation is that every 2-3 weeks the subject level working groups will produce written outputs that will be circulated to the AoLE network members for comment. Documents will be circulated electronically and AoLE network members will have one week from receipt of documents to review and comment on them and return them to QW.

Ways of Working

It is anticipated that the majority of work will be conducted remotely. In addition to commenting on written documents, there will be opportunities to attend webinars and online meetings to discuss the proposals and ask questions. These activities, where possible will take place after 4pm to support those who have teaching and learning responsibilities.

Requirements

We are particularly interested in recruiting individuals or organisations to AoLE networks who:

- are responsible for delivering qualifications within the AoLE either in a school, college or higher education setting or who use the outcomes of GCSEs within the AoLE to make decisions around selection and progression.
- have strong subject knowledge and expertise in a subject (or subjects) within the AoLE
- represent employers or businesses which require qualifications contained within the AoLE
- have an interdisciplinary interest in the AoLE and in exploring the connections and links that exist between the different qualifications within the AoLE.

This is likely to involve (but not be limited to) curriculum leads in schools and colleges, representation from higher education institutions (from both the perspective of subjects and also initial teacher education), relevant employer/business groups, subject associations, learned bodies and inclusion and accessibility groups.

The expectation is that from October 2021 through to June 2022 every 2-3 weeks subject level working groups will be generating documents for review and feedback. We would want individuals on the AoLE networks to provide feedback and comment on at least 50% of the documents produced by the subject level working groups. It is important to note that there will be more than one subject level working group per AoLE and that some AoLE networks (e.g. science and technology) will have more subjects to consider than others (e.g. health and wellbeing).

Application Process

Please register your interest by clicking [here](#), stating your name, centre, area of interest and an email address by 3 November and we will be in touch.

Remuneration

There will be no financial remuneration for this work, although it will provide an exciting opportunity to help shape future qualifications. Additionally, it will provide participants with valuable insight into the qualifications' development process and experience in qualification design and assessment theory.

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