Qualifications Wales update

We published our decisions on the range of GCSEs and other related made-for-Wales qualification that should be available to 14-16 year olds to support the new curriculum in October 2021.

Our focus now is on extensive collaboration with stakeholders, working coconstructively to reimagine those GCSEs and reshape the wider 14-16 offer in Wales.

We have established a subject-level working group (SLWG) for each GCSE that we will be creating. The role of the SLWGs is to shape proposals for the high-level aims, content and assessment for each new qualification. Each SLWG includes a mix of practitioners, subject specialists, assessment experts, and WJEC representatives. The SLWG for International Languages met for the first time in November 2021. During this meeting, we reviewed the current GCSEs (i.e. French, German and Spanish) in terms of strengths and areas for improvement and considered the opportunities that developing new qualifications in international languages offer.

We have also established AoLE Networks which will help inform the thinking of the SLWGs. We will be asking these AoLE networks for their views and feedback to help shape and refine ideas for the aims, content and assessment of the qualifications for International Languages The first AoLE network for the Languages, Literacy and Communications (LLC) AoLE met for this first time in December 2021.

This work will deliver proposals for each qualification by summer 2022 for further consultation in late 2022 / early 2023. New qualifications will start to be introduced for fist teaching from September 2025.