

Policy Forum for Wales conference:
The future of vocational and skills qualifications at 14-16 in Wales
Timing: Morning, Thursday, 11th September 2025
*****Taking Place Online*****



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 9.05 **The future of vocational and skills qualifications at 14-16 in Wales**
Oliver Stacey, Senior Qualifications Manager, Qualifications Wales
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Designing effective and coherent qualifications for the future**
examining the structure of new qualifications / complementarity with GCSEs / accessibility, quality and standards / aligning qualifications with student and employer needs / the balance of academic and vocational education / supporting learner diversity / measuring effectiveness and impact
Richard Harry, Executive Director, Qualifications and Assessment, WJEC
Louise Mumford, Learning and Development Manager, Ogi
Senior representative, school
Senior representative, local authority
Student voice
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 10.30 Break
- 10.40 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 10.45 **Preparing to teach new qualifications and ensuring effective delivery**
developing teacher training / next steps for professional development / addressing resource and workload concerns / approaches for collaborative delivery / sustainable funding models / resource-sharing opportunities
Sharon James Evans, Principal, Cardiff and Vale College
Mary van den Heuvel, Senior Policy Officer, National Education Union
Chris Parry, Headteacher, Lewis School Pengam
Senior representative, employer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 **Supporting progression and raising awareness of new qualifications**
assessing progression pathways / promoting awareness among students, parents and employers / achieving regional equity
Sarah John, Director, ALS Training; and, Board Member, National Training Federation Wales
Paul Flanagan, Principal, Coleg Llandrillo
Senior representative, HE
Senior representative, careers guidance
Senior representative, school
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 **Priorities for implementation of new qualifications and supporting education, progression and employment in Wales**
Alex Ingram, Head, Qualifications and Assessment, Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Wales closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
Sean Cudmore, Policy Forum for Wales