

Changes to Key Stage 4 school performance reporting measures 2016–2018



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

For more information e-mail: ims@wales.gsi.gov.uk

2016

- Change to **Year 11 based cohort** from existing 15-year-old based cohort.
- Maximum of two GCSE equivalence value applied to any **individual** non-GCSE qualification (i.e. maximum equivalent of 40% of a threshold measure) in **all** performance measure calculations.

2017

- **Core Subject Indicator** no longer reported.
- **Changes to the Capped Points Score:**
 - increased from eight to nine GCSEs or equivalent volume of qualifications
 - the introduction of subject specific attainment requirements:
 1. English/Welsh
 2. Mathematics – numeracy
 3. Mathematics
 4. 2 x Science.
- **Only the new reformed qualifications for English/Welsh, mathematics – numeracy and mathematics** count towards these subject specific requirements of measures (**literature qualifications** no longer count). Either of the new mathematics GCSEs can satisfy the Level 2 inclusive numeracy requirements.
- Maximum of two GCSE equivalence for the **total** contribution value of non-GCSE qualifications in the threshold measures (i.e. maximum equivalent of 40% of a threshold measure). This limit is not applied to the Capped Points Score.
- **Essential Skills Wales and Wider Key Skills** no longer hold a contribution value in Key Stage 4 measures and are approved for Post-16 delivery only.
- Qualifications of **60 up to 119 (inclusive) guided learning hours** allocated a 0.5 GCSE equivalence.
- **Reformed Welsh Baccalaureate qualification** awarded for the first time.

2018

- **Welsh Baccalaureate measures** replace threshold measures.
- For science, only **GCSE qualifications** count towards subject specific requirements of the Capped Points Score; non-GCSE science qualifications no longer count towards science components but can count towards a learner's 'other 4' best qualifications.

No single measure is emphasised at a school level. The Capped Points Score will hold similar status to the Level 2 inclusive and the Welsh Baccalaureate measures. A suite of measures should be used to consider schools' performance from different angles. Which measures to use will depend on the particular questions being asked.