

**Bulletin 3****School Performance Reporting****24/05/17**

The Welsh Government updates Local Authorities and Consortia on school performance reporting issues via this bulletin. Through this channel we will be keeping you informed on decisions impacting on performance reporting policies and providing clarification on any complex issues. Please share this information with your schools as relevant.

1 Awarding Year/Reporting Year – values of qualifications

We understand that there has been some confusion around Key Stage 4 performance measures, particularly where the values of qualifications have changed in terms of contributing towards measures. In order to ensure that no-one is disadvantaged, Welsh Government will honour those values that were attached to a qualification in the year that it was awarded to a learner, and not the values attached to the reporting year.

Where a GCSE equivalence has been reduced for 2017, due to the change in parameters for Guided Learning Hours (GLH) determining the equivalence, an award that was attained in an earlier year by a current year 11 learner will carry the historic value for the purpose of calculating measures. All other awards in the same qualifications that were attained in the 2017 reporting year will carry the updated, reduced value.

Essential Skills Wales/Wider Key Skills qualifications will still count for a year 11 cohort where they were attained by a learner in an earlier year, but no longer hold any value for KS4 measures if awarded in the 2017 reporting year or later. Early entries will continue to count once the learner is in the year 11 cohort being measured, even where the certification end date has since passed.

Changes to the composition of performance measures will still be implemented in the reporting year for all learners and qualifications; the revised Capped Points Score (the 'Capped 9') and the 40% cap on total volume of non-GCSEs counting in *threshold* measures will still be implemented from 2017.

2 Literacy and numeracy requirements in performance measures

The literacy and numeracy specific components of measures still require the new specification versions only of English or Welsh language (not English or Welsh literature), Mathematics – Numeracy and Mathematics in the 2017 reporting year and in future years, regardless of the year in which the award was attained.

3 New Mathematics GCSEs in performance measures

All year 11 learners will be included in the calculation of performance measures for the new Mathematics and Mathematics - Numeracy GCSEs from 2017, in the same way that all learners are included in the cohort for English.

4 Calculation of ‘Capped 9’ in school systems

Welsh Government is not yet able to provide a specification regarding calculation of the revised Capped Point Score (‘Capped 9’). There is no expectation for school software suppliers to build this functionality into their systems and this is not a fault of the supplier.

5 New discount codes for GCSE Mathematics

The discount codes for the new GCSE Mathematics and Mathematics – Numeracy have been assigned and QiW has been updated with the relevant codes below:

- 2391 Mathematics
- 2392 Mathematics – Numeracy

6 FEWBES policy

Pupils arriving from England with a 9-1 GCSE in English or Mathematics at the start of Year 11 will be expected to also complete the new Welsh specification GCSEs in English/Welsh and Mathematics and Mathematics - Numeracy. However, if they arrive part way through Year 11, they can be classed as FEWBES and be disaggregated from school performance measures.

7 Target Setting requirements for the three academic years beginning September 2017

a) Key Stage 2 & 3

Schools are required to set prescribed targets for pupils achieving Level 4 or above and level 5 respectively, for Key Stage 2 and 3 in English, Welsh, Mathematics and Science.

b) Key Stage 4

For 2017 onwards schools will be required to continue to set prescribed targets for achievement against the Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh and Mathematics (Level 2 inclusive), as well as the Level 1 Threshold. Schools are no longer required to set KS4 targets in respect of the Core Subject Indicator or leavers without qualifications.

Schools are still required to set a minimum of three local targets for each of Key Stages 2, 3 and 4 that reflect priorities identified through self evaluation, consideration of core data sets and other comparative information. The targets should also reflect national priorities as they apply in relation to individual schools.

We are in the process of considering implications from the reform of curriculum and assessment arrangements. Until this process has been completed, we will continue with the current target setting requirements.

Welsh Government will continue to provide Level 2 inclusive and Level 1 threshold data (in addition to any new data measures), until such time that there has been a full transition to new measures.

8 End of Foundation Phase and Key Stage Teacher Assessments

Concerns have been raised on the current assessment system whereby schools can report that a child is working in a National Curriculum year group which is lower than their chronological age to exclude their results from end of Phase/Stage National Data Collections.

Headteachers, where it is in the best interest of the child, may use their professional judgement to place a child in a national curriculum year group differing from their chronological age. Such circumstances may include pupils who have had spells in hospital or pupils who temporarily have severe emotional problems (perhaps because of a family crisis).

However, statutory assessment arrangements set out that learners must receive a teacher assessment result once in each phase/key stage. Statutory guidance further clarifies that learners who are moving to the next key stage programmes of study in the following

year are regarded as being in the final year of the relevant key stage or phase and therefore must be assessed through teacher assessment and their results included in the National Data collection.

Officials from Welsh Government's Statistical Directorate are aware of the issue and will be monitoring National Data Collection returns against the Pupil Level Annual School Census collections to ensure they are consistent. Any anomalies in the data will be flagged and investigated fully.

9 Changes to GLH on QiW

Awarding Organisations have been working with regulators, Qualifications Wales, as part of a data cleansing exercise to update the guided learning hours on QiW where appropriate. This will only reduce performance points and thresholds for very few qualifications. However, these changes will only come into practice for qualifications awarded in 2018-19 and so the current performance information will remain unchanged until this time.

A list of the qualifications that will see an increase/decrease in performance measure values due to awarding organisation updates to GLH can be found in the annex in this bulletin. Note that where a qualification has increased its guided learning hours, the associated increase in performance measure values has taken immediate effect and is reflected on QiW (see qiw.wales).

10 QiW – the online database of all approved/designated qualifications in Wales

Welsh Government has worked in partnership with Qualifications Wales to include associated performance measurement information for qualifications held in QiW and have both undertaken various data cleansing exercises in order to improve its functionality. Please refer to QiW for all information on performance measures to be sure of receiving the correct performance information for Wales, as published by the Welsh Government. All qualifications approved/designated for delivery in Wales appear on QiW and will contribute towards performance measures subject to the same conditions.

Please email us at ims@wales.qsi.gov.uk with any queries on school performance reporting.

Annex – Qualifications with changes to their Guided Learning Hours:

The following qualifications have seen an increase/decrease in their Guided Learning Hours (GLH):

Qualification Number	Qualification Title	Previous GLH	New GLH
500/3476/5	City & Guilds Level 3 Certificate in ICT Systems and Principles	160	95
500/4992/6	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Award in Business Administration	60	50
500/5525/2	Pearson BTEC Entry Level Award in Business Administration (Entry 3)	60	50
500/7339/4	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Award in Retail Knowledge	67	30
500/9150/5	Pearson BTEC Level 3 Diploma in IT	775	720
501/0075/0	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Applied Science	110	130
501/0193/6	Pearson BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles	627	438
501/0248/5	Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Competence	680	528
501/0277/1	City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in ICT Systems and Principles for IT Professionals	452	315
501/1585/6	City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in ICT Systems Support	514	489
600/7354/8	Cskills Awards Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Interior Systems (Construction)	180	134
600/8697/X	SFEDI Awards Level 3 Diploma In Manufacturing and Production	420	390
601/2115/4	Agored Cymru Level 2 Certificate in Personal and Social Education	137	146
601/3630/3	City & Guilds Level 1 Extended Award in Employability Skills	74	49
601/3641/8	City & Guilds Entry Level Certificate in Employability Skills (Entry 3)	121	93
601/3643/1	City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Employability Skills	113	77