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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welsh Government
Consultation Document

CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS FRAMEWORKS

Revised ABC steps

Date of issue: 21 May 2021
Action required: Responses by 16 July 2021

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.
This document is also available in Welsh.

Cross-curricular Skills Frameworks

Overview

Updated versions of the cross-curricular skills frameworks, the [National Literacy and Numeracy Framework](#) (LNF) and the [Digital Competence Framework](#) (DCF) were published, as supporting guidance, alongside the Curriculum for Wales Framework on 28 January 2020.

At the time of publication, no changes had been made to the component of the Frameworks that references the Routes for Learning skills and the ABC Steps. The Welsh Government committed to reviewing and revising this aspect of the Frameworks following publication of an updated [Routes for Learning Routemap](#).

This feedback phase welcomes your views on the revised ABC Steps within the Frameworks.

The draft revised ABC Steps have been developed by practitioners from across Wales through a process of co-construction. This feedback phase forms part of the co-construction process. It provides an opportunity for all practitioners and other stakeholders to offer input that will support the further development of the ABC Steps.

This feedback phase will end on 16 July, after which all responses will be considered and analysed independently as well as by practitioners in the working group. The ABC Steps will then be refined in response to the feedback and will form part of an update to the Curriculum for Wales Framework in autumn 2021.

How to respond

Responses to this consultation should be e-mailed/posted to the address below to arrive by 16 July at the latest.

Further information and related documents

Large print, Braille and alternative language versions of this document are available on request.

The published Curriculum for Wales guidance is available at <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales>

An easy read version is available at <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/a-new-curriculum-in-wales-easy-read/>

A children, young people and families guide is available at

<https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/a-new-curriculum-in-wales-a-guide-for-children-young-people-and-families/>

The consultation documents can be accessed from the Welsh Government's website at gov.wales/consultations

Contact details

For further information:

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Curriculum and Assessment Division
The Education Directorate
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

e-mail: Mailbox: curriculumforwales@gov.wales



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General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Welsh Government will be data controller for any personal data you provide as part of your response to the consultation. Welsh Ministers have statutory powers they will rely on to process this personal data which will enable them to make informed decisions about how they exercise their public functions. Any response you send us will be seen in full by Welsh Government staff dealing with the issues which this consultation is about or planning future consultations. Where the Welsh Government undertakes further analysis of consultation responses then this work may be commissioned to be carried out by an accredited third party (e.g. a research organisation or a consultancy company). Any such work will only be undertaken under contract. Welsh Government's standard terms and conditions for such contracts set out strict requirements for the processing and safekeeping of personal data.

In order to show that the consultation was carried out properly, the Welsh Government intends to publish a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish responses in full. Normally, the name and address (or part of the address) of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. If you do not want your name or address published, please tell us this in writing when you send your response. We will then redact them before publishing.

You should also be aware of our responsibilities under Freedom of Information legislation

If your details are published as part of the consultation response then these published reports will be retained indefinitely. Any of your data held otherwise by Welsh Government will be kept for no more than three years.

Your rights

Under the data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data held about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection.

For further details about the information the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you want to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer:
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

e-mail: Data.ProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

The contact details for the Information Commissioner's Office are:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 545 745 or
0303 123 1113

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

Introduction

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All your feedback will be gratefully received but we specifically welcome views on whether:

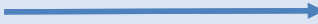
- the statements represent progression along a continuum
- the statements within a step are consistent and accurate
- there are any gaps in terms of developmental progress.

Background - Cross-curricular skills and the Frameworks

Literacy, numeracy and digital competence are [mandatory cross-curricular skills](#) within the Curriculum for Wales Framework. They are the essential building blocks that underpin all learning and enable learners to access the breadth of the curriculum.

How literacy, numeracy and digital competence are developed in and across the curriculum will be decided at a local level to fit with individual schools' approaches. To support schools and practitioners in providing opportunities to develop and apply these skills the LNF and DCF (the Frameworks) continue to be available as supporting non-statutory guidance.

The Frameworks are for all learners and have been designed to include a set of skills for all children in Wales. The Frameworks have been developed with reference to the [Routes for Learning Routemap](#), where they reflect important early precursors to literacy, numeracy and digital competence. The subsequent columns, the ABC Steps, describe the progression learners may take as they consolidate and apply their skills towards Progression Step 1 and beyond.

Routes to ...				Progression Step 1	Progression Step 2	Progression Step 3	Progression Step 4	Progression Step 5
RfL <i>routemap</i>	A Steps	B Steps	C Steps					
								

The ABC steps are principally used by educational practitioners in supporting the education of learners who have additional learning needs.

Revised ABC Steps

The ABC Steps within the Frameworks have been revised to align with the Curriculum for Wales Framework. They build on prior learning within the updated [Routes for Learning Routemap](#), aiming to show developmental progression from the latter Routes for Learning milestones towards Progressing Step 1.

To reflect the spirit of the Curriculum for Wales Framework the ABC steps statements are now expressed from the point of view of the learner. You will also notice repetition throughout, which is intentional to emphasise the need for learners to benefit from consolidation and generalise their learning across a range of contexts.

In revising the ABC Steps the [draft Enabling Pathways guidance](#) has also been considered. Practitioners working with learners with additional learning needs will benefit from using the Enabling Pathways guidance alongside the ABC Steps.

[Revised ABC steps: Literacy](#)

[Revised ABC steps: Numeracy](#)

[Revised ABC steps: Digital Competence](#)