



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

The new post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate: recording and measuring outcomes



Guidance

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The new post-16 Welsh BaccaLaureate: recording and measuring outcomes

Audience	Further education institutions, local authorities, regional consortia; schools with sixth forms.
Overview	This guidance sets out our proposed approach to measuring post-16 Welsh BaccaLaureate outcomes, and the requirements for data recording to support this approach.
Action required	None – for information only
Further information	Enquiries about this document should be directed to: Bethan Milton Further Education and Apprenticeships Division Skills, Higher Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate Welsh Government Tŷ'r Afon Bedwas Road Bedwas CF83 8WT Tel: 01443 663905 e-mail: post16quality@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Additional copies	This document can be accessed from the Welsh Government's website at www.gov.wales/educationandskills

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Introduction

1. The new Welsh BaccaLaureate programmes will be introduced in September 2015. As part of the implementation of the Review of Qualifications for 14-19 year olds, Welsh Government is committed to securing universal adoption of the Welsh BaccaLaureate; and to establishing a consistent set of performance measures for post-16 learning in Wales, including achievement of the Welsh BaccaLaureate and its component parts.
2. These measures will require that learning programmes, activities and outcomes are recorded accurately and consistently across all post-16 providers. This document sets out our proposed approach to measuring post-16 Welsh BaccaLaureate outcomes, and the requirements for data recording to support this approach.

Universal adoption of the Welsh Baccalaureate

3. Schools and colleges have been given targets for the adoption of the Welsh Baccalaureate (apart from some agreed exclusions):

2015/16	Maintain 2014/15 percentage or 30%, whichever is the higher
2016/17	Maintain 2014/15 percentage or 50%, whichever is the higher
2017/18	Maintain 2014/15 percentage or 70%, whichever is the higher
2018/19	90%
2019/20	100%

4. In each case, the percentages are of the whole full time cohort for the year, minus exempt categories. The categories identified to date apply to a greater extent in FEIs than in schools:
- Learners on Entry Level courses;
 - Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD);
 - Learners on Access courses (including the Foundation Arts one year course);
 - Learners on full-time ESOL course; and
 - Learners on a Level 3 Enhanced Engineering programme.
5. In addition, some one year Level 3 qualifications may be exempt from these targets. FE institutions have identified a number of one year courses that they would like to be exempt from the targets, but it had been agreed that all courses will be included in year one and that they will be reviewed once data is available.
6. The targets for the adoption of the Welsh Baccalaureate (apart from the agreed exclusions) are not targets in the way that institutions are used to. If the targets are not met, there will be no reclaim of funding, but the planning team will pick this up as part of their ongoing discussions with institutions regarding what they are doing to ensure that the targets are met the following years whilst working towards universal adoption within the specified timescale.

Qualification structure for the post-16 Welsh Bacallaureate

7. There are three Welsh Bacallaureate programmes available at post-16:
- Post-16 Foundation Welsh Bacallaureate (Level 1) one year programme
 - Post-16 National Welsh Bacallaureate (Level 2) one year programme
 - Post-16 Advanced Welsh Bacallaureate (Level 3) two year programme
8. To achieve the post-16 Welsh Bacallaureate learners must achieve the Skills Challenge Certificate at the relevant level together with specified supporting qualifications:

Foundation (Level 1)	National (Level 2)	Advanced (Level 3)
Skills Challenge Certificate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Project • Enterprise and Employability Challenge • Global Citizenship Challenge • Community Challenge 		
Two GCSEs at grades A*-G: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English language or Welsh language; • Maths/ Maths - Numeracy. or Essential Skills Wales Level 1 qualifications	Two GCSEs at grades A*-C ¹ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English language or Welsh language; • Maths/Maths - Numeracy. 	
A maximum of four Level 1 qualifications with a total of at least 300 guided learning hours.	A maximum of four Level 2 qualifications with a total of at least 300 guided learning hours.	Two A-Levels at grade A*-E, or equivalent Level 3 vocational qualifications totalling at least 600 guided learning hours.

9. Further information can be found in the [programme specifications](#) published by the WJEC.
10. The diagram below illustrates the structure and outcomes of the post-16 programmes:

¹ Essential Skills Wales (ESW) Level 2 Communications and Application of Number and Essential Skills (ES) Level 2 Communication and Application of Number accepted until academic year 2017/18.

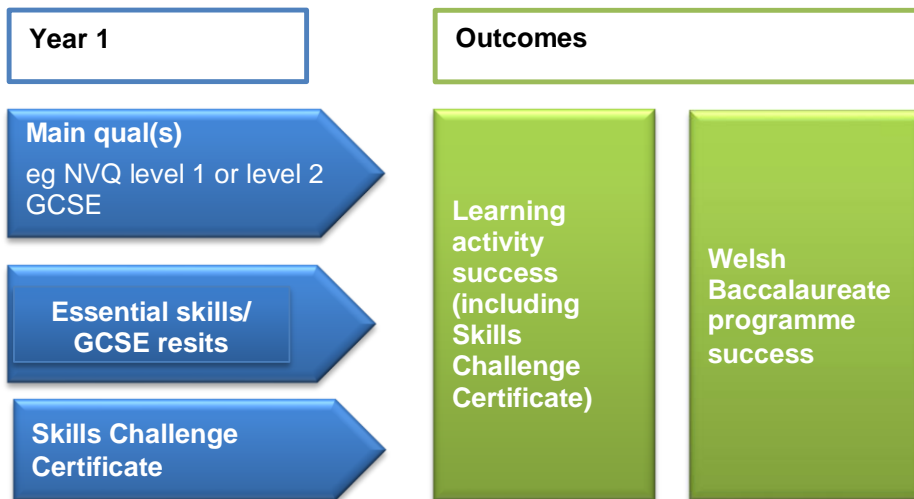


Fig 1: Post-16 Foundation or National

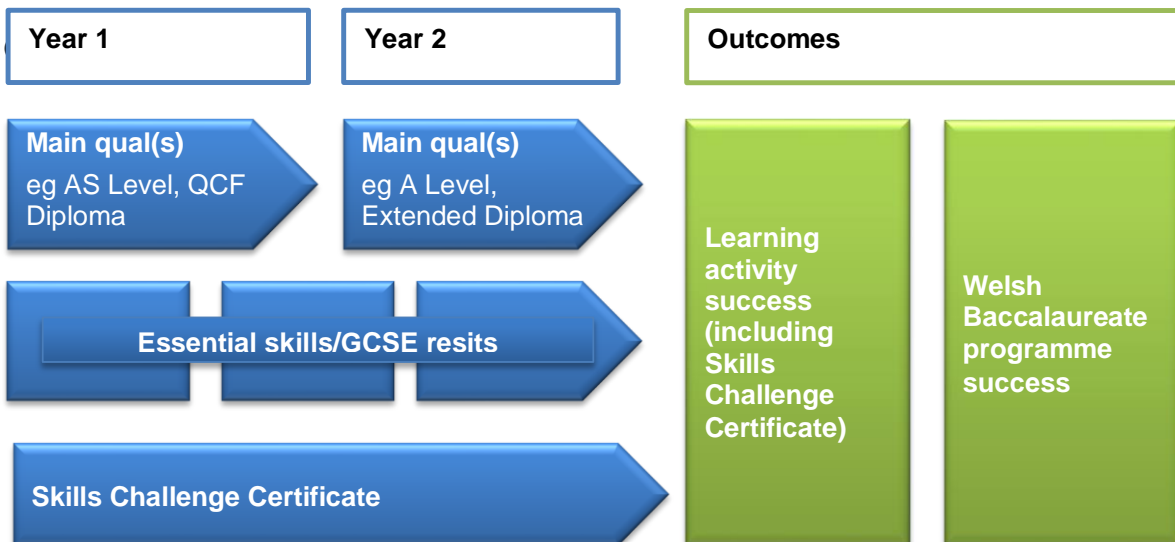


Fig 2: Post-16 Advanced

Data recording requirements for post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate

11. Both schools and FE institutions record data on learners and what qualifications they are undertaking on their own management information systems (MIS). For schools this is uploaded to the Welsh Government via DEWi as part of the post-16 data collection once a year (in October). For FE institutions it is submitted to the Welsh Government via the Lifelong Learning Wales Record (LLWR) on a rolling basis throughout the year.
12. In order to monitor both participation rates and outcomes, it is vital that schools and colleges record post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate programmes and activities accurately. **This means that the Skills Challenge Certificate must be recorded at the beginning of the learning programme for all learners who are enrolled on the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate.**
13. The overarching QAN code for the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate should be used for the Level 1 and Level 2 one year programmes and for the Level 3 programmes in Year 2 of the programmes (see paragraph 21 below).
14. The targets set out in paragraph 3 will be based on the numbers enrolled on the Skills Challenge Certificate per centre. Therefore they must be recorded as separate learning activities²:
 - Year 1 of 2-year programmes: Learning Activity record to be attached to Year 1 Learning Programme
 - Year 2 of 2-year programmes: New Learning Activity record to be attached to the Year 2 Learning Programme
15. We will measure completion and attainment of the certificate over two years (for the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate), so that we have an accurate picture of learners who dropped out after the first year (or at any point before completion).
16. Schools and colleges must also record all other learning activities delivered under the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate, including GCSE resits, so that outcomes can be monitored on a consistent basis. We anticipate that learners enrolling on the Advanced programme will either have already achieved the GCSE A*-C requirements, or be expected to achieve them during their programme.
17. Worked examples of how the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate should be recorded by schools on the post-16 collection and FE institutions on LLWR can be found in the annexes:
 - **Annex A** shows an example for academic programmes
 - **Annex B** shows an example for vocational programmes

² On LLWR, DfES will define a generic code for the Year 1 Skills certificate to be attached to the Year 1 Learning Programme. A new Skills Certificate Learning Activity with the QAN code to be attached to the Year 2 Learning Programme.

- **Annex C** shows an example of a learners that decides not to continue after the first year
18. In some cases learners may partially complete the Skills Challenge Certificate, as they do not complete all four components (Individual Project, Enterprise and Employability Challenge, Global Citizenship Challenge and Community Challenge). In this case, colleges can record partial attainment on LLWR, and the learner's achievements should be certified and recognised. There will be one cash-in code when the centre wishes to aggregate the positive achievement of a learner.
 19. We will be able to measure and monitor partial attainment on this basis. However, our measure for success in the Skills Challenge Certificate will be based on full attainment.
 20. The whole post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate framework must also be recorded as a separate learning activity (in the second year for the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate), so that achievement of the entire programme can be monitored.
 21. The QAN codes for the different components of the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate are as follows:

Level	Description	QAN Code
Foundation (Level 1)	WJEC Foundation Welsh Baccalaureate	601/4920/6
	WJEC Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate	601/4941/3
National (Level 2)	WJEC National Welsh Baccalaureate	601/4919/X
	WJEC National Skills Challenge Certificate	601/4916/4
Advanced (Level 3)	WJEC Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate	601/4921/8
	WJEC Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate	601/4917/6

22. The QAN codes for the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate and Skills Challenge Certificate, are different than those used for the pre-16 qualification.
23. The following learning activity codes should be used by schools in the post-16 collection (each October):

Level	Description	Code
Foundation (Level 1)	WJEC Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate	4900011E
National (Level 2)	WJEC National Skills Challenge Certificate	4900012E
Advanced (Level 3)	WJEC Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate	4900013E
Core	Welsh Baccalaureate Core Element ³	4900010E

³ For learners undertaking either the foundation, national, or advanced Welsh Baccalaureate in 2015/16, schools should use the Welsh Baccalaureate Core Element learning activity code.

Reporting on outcomes for the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate

24. The development of measures for the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate forms part of our project on [consistent performance measures](#) for post-16 learning. It supports the implementation of recommendations from the [Review of Qualifications for 14- to 19-year olds](#) and the post-16 planning and funding system, by:
 - Encouraging universal adoption of the Welsh Baccalaureate
 - Measuring graded outcomes of the Skills Challenge Certificate
 - Measuring the achievement of GCSE grades A*-C in English/Welsh language and Numeracy, for those who have not already achieved these
 - Measuring the outcomes for learners across the two-year Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate, taking account of early drop-out and failure to progress from year 1 to year 2
25. Rather than being based purely on examination entry, the consistent measures will be based on 'success', that is, they will reflect the entire cohort of learners, factoring in completion as well as attainment.
26. As the new Welsh Baccalaureate becomes established, we will build up baseline data in order to set benchmarks for:
 - Skills Challenge Certificate overall success rates and grades
 - post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate overall programme success
 - the attainment of GCSE A*-C grades in English/Welsh and Maths, for those enrolled on these activities in sixth form/college
27. These outcomes will eventually be published at all-Wales and individual school/college level⁴. Provisional publication of outcome measures for the first cohort of Welsh Baccalaureate Foundation and National learners will take place in early 2017 at an all-Wales level initially. Outcomes for the Advanced Baccalaureate can only be measured over a two-year cohort, therefore baseline data will not be available until late 2017/early 2018 (based on the 2016/17 academic year).
28. We will review the policy around publication at institutional level at the end of the first year of delivery of the new Welsh Baccalaureate Foundation and National programmes. Any decision will require Ministerial approval.
29. In the interim, post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate participation will be monitored from autumn 2015.

⁴ Individual learning outcomes for the Skills Challenge Certificate and main qualification will be published at institutional level, but for the first year, the achievement of the overall Welsh Baccalaureate will only be published at an all-Wales level.

30. We intend that data on outcomes, and indeed on the component learning activities, will be sourced from the Learning Records Service by the time we start to measure the outcomes of the new Welsh Baccalaureate.

Further information

31. Any queries or comments on this guidance should be directed to post16quality@wales.gsi.gov.uk. We will update and expand the guidance in response to feedback.

Annex A: How to record the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate – academic programmes

In 2015/16 a learner is undertaking three AS-Levels (English Language, Geography and Psychology) with the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate. They are also resitting GCSE Maths. The learner drops AS-Level Geography in December 2015:

Post-16 collection (for schools)

Year	Programme	Learning Activity	Start Date	Expected End date	Completion status
1	0014D03B (3 AS-levels plus Welsh Baccalaureate)	Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate – 4900010E	01-09-2015	31-07-2017	1 - continuing the learning activity
		English Language AS-Level – 3200009E	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
		Geography AS-Level – 3200014E	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	3 - withdrawn from the learning activity
		Psychology AS-Level – 3200041E	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
		Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 1) – 4900013E	01-09-2015	31-07-2017	4 – transferred to a new learning activity (year 2)
		GCSE Mathematics – 3100019E	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
2	0023C03B (2 A-Levels plus Welsh Baccalaureate)	Welsh Baccalaureate – 4900010E	01-09-2015	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
		English Language A-Level – 3210009E	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
		Psychology A-Level – 3210041E	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
		Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 2) - 4900013E	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity

In 2015/16 a learner is undertaking three AS-Levels (English Language, Geography and Psychology) with the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate. They are also resitting GCSE Maths. The learner drops AS-Level Geography in December 2015:

LLWR (for FE Institutions)

Year	Programme (LP74)	Type of LP (LP17)	Learning Activity (LA06)	Start Date (LA09)	Expected End date (LA10)	Completion status (LA31)
1	0041C03B12 (3 AS-Levels plus Welsh Baccalaureate) includes extension codes to identify year 1 of 2	80	English Language AS-Level – 500/2932/0	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
			Geography AS-Level – 500/2789/X	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	3 - withdrawn from the learning activity
			Psychology AS-Level – 500/2914/9	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
			Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 1) – generic code - LDKKSKLC	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
			GCSE Mathematics - 600/6773/1	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
2	0023C03B22 (2 A-Levels plus Welsh Baccalaureate) includes extension codes to identify year 2 of 2	80	Welsh Baccalaureate – 601/4921/8	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
			English Language A-Level – 500/2905/8	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
			Psychology A-Level – 500/2611/2	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
			Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 2) – 601/4917/6	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity

Annex B: How to record the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate – vocational programmes

In 2015/16 a learner is undertaking a BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business with the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate. The learner continues on to do BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business in the second year:

Post-16 collection (for schools)

Year	Programme	Learning Activity	Start Date	Expected End date	Completion status
1	1502AE0B (Business Administration Level 3)	Welsh Baccalaureate – 4900010E	01-09-2015	31-07-2017	1 - continuing the learning activity
		BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business - 3780005E	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
		Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 1) - 4900013E	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	4 – transferred to a new learning activity (year 2)
2	1502AE0B (Business Administration Level 3)	Welsh Baccalaureate – 4900010E	01-09-2015	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
		BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business - 3680001E	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
		Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 2) - 4900013E	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity

In 2015/16 a learner is undertaking a BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business with the Advanced Welsh Bacculaureate. The learner continues on to do BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business in the second year:

LLWR (for FE Institutions)

Year	Programme (LP74)	Type of LP (LP17)	Learning Activity (LA06)	Start Date (LA09)	Expected End date (LA10)	Completion status (LA31)
1	1502A03B12 (Business Administration Level 3) includes extension codes to identify year 1 of 2	80	BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business - 500/6747/3	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
			Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 1) – generic code LDKKSKLC	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
2	1502A03B22 (Business Administration Level 3) includes extension codes to identify year 2 of 2	80	Welsh Bacculaureate – 601/4921/8	01-09-2015	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
			BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business - 500/6746/1	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity
			Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 2) – 601/4917/6	01-09-2016	31-07-2017	2 - completed the learning activity

Annex C: How to record the post-16 Welsh Baccalaureate – drop out after first year

In 2015/16 a learner is undertaking a BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business with the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate. The learner decides not to continue after the first year:

Post-16 collection (for schools)

Year	Programme	Learning Activity	Start Date	Expected End date	Completion status
1	1502AE0B (Business Administration Level 3)	Welsh Baccalaureate – 4900010E	01-09-2015	31-07-2017	3 – withdrawn from the learning activity
		BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business - 3780005E	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
		Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 1) - 4900013E	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity

LLWR (for FE Institutions)

Year	Programme (LP74)	Type of LP (LP17)	Learning Activity (LA06)	Start Date (LA09)	Expected End date (LA10)	Completion status (LA31)
1	1502A03B12 (Business Administration Level 3) includes extension codes to identify year 1 of 2	80	BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business - 500/6747/3	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity
			Skills Challenge Certificate (Year 1) – generic code LDKKSKLC	01-09-2015	31-07-2016	2 - completed the learning activity