

**Policy Forum for Wales keynote seminar:  
The future of vocational and skills qualifications at 14-16 in Wales**

*Timing: Morning, Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025*

**\*\*\*Taking Place Online\*\*\***



**FFORWM  
POLISIÂU CYMRU  
POLICY FORUM  
FOR WALES**

*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*  
**Delyth Jones**, Assistant Director, Qualification Development, General Qualifications, WJEC  
**Will Beuchen**, Head Boy, Cowbridge Comprehensive School  
**Louise Mumford**, Learning and Development Manager, Ogi  
Senior representative, school  
Senior representative, local authority  
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  
**Chris Parry**, Headteacher, Lewis School Pengam  
**Mary van den Heuvel**, Senior Policy Officer, National Education Union  
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*  
**Yana Williams**, Chief Executive, Coleg Cambria  
Senior representative, employer  
Senior representative, higher education  
Senior representative, careers guidance  
Senior representative, school  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 **Priorities for implementation of the 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