

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

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 27th March 2025

Taking Place Online



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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
- 9.30 **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
Richard Harry, Executive Director, Qualifications and Assessment, WJEC
Senior representative, school
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, local authority
Student representative
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 **Priorities for regulation and standards**
Senior representative, regulatory body
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 11.00 **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, Principal, Cardiff and Vale College
Senior representative, teaching union
Senior representative, school
Senior representative, employer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Supporting progression and raising awareness of new qualifications**
assessing progression pathways | promoting awareness among students, parents and employers | achieving regional equity
Senior representative, employer
Senior representative, further education
Senior representative, higher education
Senior representative, careers guidance
Senior representative, school
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Priorities for implementation of the new qualifications, and supporting education, progression and employment in Wales**
Senior representative, policy
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