

Curriculum for Wales Requirements (draft – will be updated by Sept 21)

Schools must design, adopt and implement a curriculum that:

- enables learners to develop in the way described in the [four purposes](#)
- is broad and balanced
- is suitable for learners of differing ages, abilities and aptitudes
- provides for appropriate progression for learners and includes a range of provision to ensure this

A school curriculum must:

- contain the six areas of learning and experience
- encompass the statements of what matters (as set out in the statements of what matters code)
- reflect the principles of progression set out in the progression code
- include the mandatory curriculum elements
- encompass the mandatory cross-curricular skills

In addition to the above, we are proposing the age specific requirements below.

For learners up to age 7:

- the headteacher will have the discretion to decide that English does not form part of the school's curriculum in order to enable learners to gain fluency in Welsh
- all schools must set out in their published summary of their curriculum their approach to teaching English and Welsh up to age 7

For learners aged 14 to 16, a school must design a curriculum so that, in addition to the mandatory curriculum elements and mandatory cross-curricular skills, it provides:

- choice for learners in the other learning they will undertake, but in such a way that ensures all learners still undertake some learning in each Area
- include other elements which the school requires all learners (or some groups of learners) to undertake

Additionally:

- the Welsh Ministers may make regulations which specify additional requirements a curriculum must meet for the 14 to 16 age range in relation to:
 - courses of study and/or other learning
 - a minimum number of courses of study that a learner are entitled to undertake

Additional requirements

Schools must publish a summary of their adopted curriculum and keep their curriculum under review.

The headteacher must implement their school's adopted curriculum in a way which:

- enables learners to progress in the way described in the [four purposes](#)
- is suitable for learners of different ages, abilities and aptitudes
- offers appropriate progression for those learners

The governing body must exercise its functions with a view to ensuring the curriculum is implemented in that way.

Schools must ensure their curriculum is supported by assessment arrangements which assess the:

- progress made by learners in relation to the relevant curriculum
- next steps in learners' progression and the learning and teaching needed to make that progress

Welsh Ministers will also make regulations in relation to the following key processes needed for effective learner progression.

- Ensuring a shared understanding of progression.
- Communicating and engaging with parents and carers.
- Transition along the 3 to 16 continuum.

Schools will be required to have regard to guidance issued as part of the Framework when designing, adopting and implementing their curriculum and assessment arrangements.