

Kirsty Williams AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg
Minister for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-783
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/06256/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Assembly Member for Aberconwy
Chair - Petitions committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff
CF99 1NA
Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

6 June 2019

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 30 May 2019 regarding the petition relating to ensuring equality for Welsh Medium schools; as you note in your letter we have corresponded previously on this matter.

Regulatory decisions in Wales, including arrangements for the approval and designation of qualifications are a matter for the independent regulator, Qualifications Wales. However, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that developing an approach that secures equal availability of Welsh and English medium provision has been central to planning for the new curriculum from the outset.

Qualifications Wales will continue to work with awarding bodies to encourage them to offer Welsh medium and bilingual provision and they make grants available to awarding bodies to help them to meet the cost of offering bilingual qualifications. They will also continue to ensure that all new approved qualifications developed for Wales are made available bilingually.

Qualifications Wales has begun the process of engaging with stakeholders across Wales to discuss how qualifications will need to evolve to meet the challenges of the new curriculum by offering a coherent, flexible and bilingual choice to learners. They will be speaking with as many different groups as possible including young people, parents, schools, employers, colleges, universities, and a range of other organisations before consulting on proposals for the future range of qualifications.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

We are working with Qualifications Wales, local authorities/schools, regional consortia and educational bodies to increase the number of students studying through the medium of Welsh in order to meet our target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams', is centered on a light grey rectangular background.

Kirsty Williams AC/AM

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