



Changing lives through learning

# Welsh-Medium Qualifications Policy

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## Version History

Version	Date	Section(s)	Change(s) made
1.0	09/24	All	New Policy
1.1	03/25	4	Reference to translation of 14-16 qualification with Qualification Wales.

## Purpose

The following policy aims to ensure that Open Awards fulfils the expectation of providing assessments and assessment materials in the Welsh Language and regulated by Qualification Wales.

## Scope

This document is applicable for the following Open Awards products and associated services:

Qualification Wales



## Regulatory Authorities

The relevant regulatory authority is Qualification Wales.

Every attempt has been made to ensure that the provisions of this document are consistent with the requirements of the regulatory authorities. Where the requirements of a regulatory authority change, or where inadvertently these procedures conflict with those of the regulatory authority, the latter shall apply. Where the requirements of the regulatory authority are amended and require changes to this document such changes will be made as soon as practicable and Open Awards will inform providers accordingly.

## Audience

This document is for use by the following:

- All staff at Open Awards approved providers.
- Learners registered on Open Awards qualifications and units at an approved provider.
- Private learners registered on Open Awards qualifications and units.
- Open Awards staff and Trustees.

## Definitions

<b>Welsh-Medium</b>	Majority of learning is taught through the medium (language) of Welsh approved providers.
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## Policy

1. Open Awards provides qualifications to learners across the England and Wales and may, for some qualifications regulated by Qualification Wales, be able to provide the option of assessment in Welsh. When reviewing whether we can provide specific qualifications and assessments in Welsh, we will consider (this list is not exhaustive, as there may be other considerations): (i) the extent to which similar qualifications from other awarding bodies are already available in Welsh; (ii) the scale of demand for assessment in Welsh. Where Open Awards offers qualifications under 14-16 National Qualifications of Qualification Wales, these qualifications will be made available in the Welsh Language.
2. Where appropriate, Open Awards will, develop Welsh language materials to support the delivery of Open Awards Welsh. Where Open Awards determines that qualifications will be offered in the Welsh medium, we will
  - Provide through our website and Secure Portal bilingual documents such as qualification guides, unit specifications and policies.
  - Enable providers to select language of assessment at the point of registration.
  - Create processes and systems to enable assessment to be conducted through the medium of Welsh.
3. Employ Welsh speaking staff where required for the assessments of work produced in the Welsh language
  - Produce bilingual certificates to all learners registered on Open Awards Welsh-medium qualifications.
4. All essential support materials for learners will also be available in Welsh, where appropriate. This is likely to include sample assessment materials and any parts of the specification or other documents that learners are expected to read before attempting assessment. Specifications and examination academic qualifications in Welsh.
5. There may be occasions where Open Awards decide not to provide materials in the Welsh Language, where the qualification is regulated by Qualification Wales, when there is not the market demand to produce the relevant qualifications documents; and other associated documents in the Welsh Language. While we recognise the importance of Welsh-medium education, we recognise the demand for qualifications through the medium of Welsh may vary across different regions and sectors. Our decision is also influenced by the demand from employers, colleges, training providers, and other stakeholders, which helps guide our qualification offer.

## Responsibilities

6. To provide assessment and assessment materials in Welsh, where there is sufficient demand
  - To ensure staff are aware of this policy.
7. To promote Welsh-medium qualifications
  - To ensure standardisation takes place and assessments have the same level of challenge and demand irrespective of the language of assessment.
  - To provide bilingual certificates to learners
  - monitor the current and future demand for assessment of our qualifications in Welsh.
8. Identify any opportunities to improve access to our Welsh-language assessments, where required.

## Monitoring and Review

Open Awards will review this policy every two years as part of its review arrangements and amend as and when necessary. This could be in response to customer and learner/apprentice feedback, changes in practices, advice from regulatory authorities or external agencies or changes in legislation.

## Related documents

- Provider Recognition Agreement
- Provider Handbook
- Enquiries and Appeals Policy and Procedures
- Complaints Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Malpractice and Maladministration Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Sanctions Policy

## Regulatory Requirements

The Welsh-medium qualifications Policy is designed to fulfil the requirements of our Regulators, specifically:

Qualifications Wales General Conditions of Recognition

D9, D9.1, D9.2, D9.3, D9.4, D9.5, D9.6, D9.7, G2, G3, E6

<i>Originator:</i>	<i>Director of Service Delivery</i>
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