



3 August 2022

Dear Responsible Officer

## Designation for Specific Purposes

As outlined in paragraphs 16 – 20 of our [Designation Policy](#), in accordance with subsection 30(6) of the Qualifications Wales Act, we have the power to designate qualifications for specific purposes, including by reference to the learners to whom the qualification is aimed.

We can also specify that a qualification is not designated for one or more specific purposes. For example, we might specify that a qualification is not designated for use in maintained schools but is designated for all other purposes.

To facilitate the application of these powers, we have made changes to the QiW database.

The previous age range 'tick boxes' have been replaced by a Learner Type grid which will allow you to request, and/or us to manage, different periods of designation, where appropriate, for different age ranges. It also provides a free text box where a 'specific purpose' may be entered alongside the relevant designation period for that specific purpose.

We have created new guidance for awarding bodies regarding designation and QiW, which includes examples of specific purposes. This guidance can be found [here](#).

Where there are different designation periods for different age ranges, or specific purposes, the qualification will be highlighted and listed as designated on QiW from the first date that it is designated or approved until the final Designation/Approval Certification End Date listed.

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For example, if a qualification is designated until 31/08/2024 for -16 age range but remains designated until 31/08/2025 for 16-18 age range, the qualification will remain highlighted and as a live designated qualification until 31/08/2025.

We will communicate to centres the importance of checking the designation end dates of the age ranges relevant to them.

We will automatically populate the new layout of end dates on QiW with the data currently held on QiW. There are no actions for awarding bodies to take at present; this letter is for information only.

If you have any queries about designation for specific purposes or the changes to QiW, please contact [recognitionandapproval@qualificationwales.org](mailto:recognitionandapproval@qualificationwales.org)

Yours sincerely



Delyth Jones

Head of Approval and Recognition