

07/06/2019

Letter to all centres

Dear colleague

From previous correspondence you will be familiar with the large-scale work that is taking place to reform health and social care, and childcare qualifications in Wales. All qualifications planned for first teaching from September 2019 have now been approved and are available to teach from this September.

These are:

WJEC Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare (Single Award)

WJEC Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare (Double Award)

City & Guilds Level 2 Health and Social Care: Core

WJEC Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Core

WJEC Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts

City & Guilds Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice

City & Guilds Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice

City & Guilds Level 2 Health and Social Care: Practice (Adults)

City & Guilds Level 3 Health and Social Care: Practice (Adults)

City & Guilds Level 3 Health and Social Care: Practice (Children and Young People)

WJEC Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning, and Development: Practice and Theory

These qualifications have been designed to be up to date with current practice, policy and legislation in Wales and to address the issues highlighted by our 2016 sector <u>review</u>. The

new qualifications are restricted priority qualifications as we informed you in our <u>letter</u> of January 2017. Their development by the Consortium of City & Guilds and WJEC, has been extensively supported by professionals in the NHS and in the social care sector and has included extensive engagement with schools, colleges, training providers, employers and Welsh Government in Wales.

We have been made aware that some centres may be considering registering learners, this summer, on existing level 2 and 3 health and social care and childcare qualifications, with a view to teaching those from September 2019. We strongly advise centres not to adopt this practice but to offer the new qualifications that have been developed specifically to meet the needs of learners in Wales¹. Centres should check on QiW to ensure that the qualifications they are planning to offer, to pre-19 learners or as part of apprenticeship frameworks, are available and eligible for public funding.

To be clear, we will **not** extend the designation of current qualifications, that we deem to be covering similar subject matter to the new qualifications, beyond 31 August 2019.

If you are currently offering or planning to offer health and social care or child care qualifications to learners from this September then you will need to become an approved centre for the new qualifications with the Consortium (even if you already registered with either, or both awarding bodies). If you have not yet applied for such approval, we urge you to start this process as soon as possible. Information about applying to be an approved centre can be found at https://www.healthandcarelearning.wales/centres-training-providers/

If you have any questions about the content of this letter, please contact development@qualificationswales.org.

Yours sincerely

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Philip Blaker

Chief Executive

¹ Other than the existing level 3 knowledge-based qualifications which will be replaced in September 2020.