



By email

16 December 2020

To all Centres offering, or intending to offer, Construction and Building Services Engineering qualifications in Wales from September 2021.

This letter outlines the transitional arrangements for learners and centres during the introduction of the new Construction and Building Services Engineering (CBE) qualifications in Wales.

In considering the transitional arrangements we acknowledge the considerable challenges and disruption that continue to be caused to both the education sector and the construction and building services sectors by COVID-19.

As part of our review of the most appropriate arrangements we have held in-depth discussions with learning providers, sector bodies and the awarding body Consortium, to better understand what will be the best journey for those who started learning and training in further education (FE) or work-based learning prior to September 2021. **For those entering learning and training from September 2021, it is our expectation that they will begin study towards the newly introduced qualifications.** More information regarding these qualifications can be found on the [Skills for Wales](https://www.skillsforwales.gov.uk/) website.

Through engagement with stakeholders we have identified seven profiles of learners who will be part-way through their journey in September 2021. These are:

1. FE learners who have completed a broad level 1 qualification in summer 2021, such as level 1 construction skills;

Qualifications Wales

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Imperial Park,
Newport
NP10 8AR
☎ 01633 373 222



www.qualificationswales.org

Cymwysterau Cymru

Adeilad Q2, Lôn Pencarn
Parc Imperial,
Casnewydd
NP10 8AR
☎ 01633 373 222

2. FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 1 qualification in summer 2021 who remain in full-time further education;
3. FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 1 qualification in summer 2021 who enter an apprenticeship;
4. FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 2 qualification in summer 2021 who enter an apprenticeship;
5. FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 2 qualification in summer 2021 who remain in full-time further education;
6. FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 3 qualification in summer 2021; and
7. Apprentices who complete a level 2 apprenticeship in summer 2021 and who wish to progress onto a level 3 apprenticeship.

To support these different learners and apprentices we will continue to allow the designation (**until 31 May 2022**) of the following qualification descriptions alongside the new suite of CBE qualifications being developed:

- Level 2 FE CBE trade-specific qualifications
- Level 3 FE CBE trade-specific qualifications

While we will allow for the extension of designation, awarding bodies will need to request this. If you wish to deliver these qualifications in your centre for academic year 2021/22 please contact your respective awarding body to request they make these available to you. Further detail around each profile and the required/suggested progression/transition route is outlined in table A.

We would like to remind you that while these transitional arrangements will be in place for September 2021, learners and apprentices from September 2022, irrespective of where they are within their journey, will be required to take the new qualifications being introduced by City & Guilds and EAL, providing the trade in which they are learning/training is covered by the new qualifications. We strongly advise centres to consider this alongside the guidance in table A to ensure that the most appropriate route for learners and apprentices is identified. In most cases this would be for the learner or apprentice to begin the new qualifications from September 2021, wherever possible.

At this time City & Guilds and EAL are considering what Recognition of Prior Attainment (RPA) can be in place for learners moving between legacy (pre-2021) qualifications and the new qualifications being introduced.

We will be hosting virtual Q&A sessions at 4pm on [11 January](#) and [18 January](#) to answer any questions or queries you may have about these arrangements. For a

more general introduction to the new qualifications we are hosting a webinar at 2pm on 26 January.

We appreciate the difficulties that the sector faces over the coming months and have listened to your concerns. We believe these arrangements to be the best way forward to support centres and learners in these continuing unprecedented times. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Philip Blaker', is positioned above the typed name and title.

Philip Blaker
Chief Executive

Table A**Profiles of Transitional Learners**

	Profile	Guidance on progression in September 2021
1	FE learners who have completed a broad level 1 qualification in summer 2021, such as level 1 construction skills, who remain in full-time further education.	These learners should progress onto the new Foundation in Construction and Building Services Engineering (Level 2) qualification.
2	FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 1 qualification in summer 2021 who remain in full-time further education.	These learners would have the opportunity to progress onto the new Foundation in Construction and Building Services Engineering (Level 2) or one of the Progression (Level 2) qualifications. While we encourage centres to progress learners onto the new qualifications, we are allowing for the extension of designation of the current level 2 FE trade-specific qualifications until 31 May 2022.
3	FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 1 qualification in summer 2021 who enter an apprenticeship.	These learners would begin the new Construction Level 3 or Building Services Engineering (Level 3) qualifications.
4	FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 2 qualification in summer 2021 who enter an apprenticeship.	These learners would begin the new Construction Level 3 or Building Services Engineering (Level 3) qualifications.
5	FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 2 qualification in summer 2021 who remain in full-time further education.	These learners would have the opportunity to undertake one of the new Progression (Level 2) qualifications. For these learners we are also allowing for the extension of designation of the current level 3 FE trade-specific qualifications until 31 May 2022.
6	FE learners who will have completed a trade-specific level 3 qualification in summer 2021 and who wish to progress onto a level 3 apprenticeship	These learners would begin the new Construction Level 3 or Building Services Engineering (Level 3) qualifications.
7	Apprentices who complete a level 2 apprenticeship in summer 2021 and who wish to progress onto a level 3 apprenticeship	These learners would begin the new Construction Level 3 or Building Services Engineering (Level 3) qualifications.

**Please note in several the cases in the table above City & Guilds and EAL are considering what Recognition of Prior Attainment (RPA) can be in place for learners moving between pre-2021 qualifications and the new qualifications being introduced.*