

APPROVAL CRITERIA FOR GCSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE, AND CHILDCARE



APRIL 2018

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This is a **Regulatory Document** under **Condition B7** of the *Standard Conditions of Recognition*¹: *Compliance with Regulatory Documents*.

¹ <http://qualificationswales.org/english/publications/standard-conditions-of-recognition/>

Introduction

This document sets out the approval criteria for the GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare qualification. These have been developed through stakeholder engagement. They include the requirements that an awarding body must meet when developing the specification and assessment materials for the qualification.

The approval criteria in this document will come into effect from April 2018.

In March 2017, Qualifications Wales published a determination to restrict a new suite of qualifications in Health and Social Care and Childcare² for teaching on publicly funded programmes of learning in Wales. This suite includes the GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare qualification. All of the qualifications in the suite will be restricted to just one form for a period of five years from 1 September 2019. This means that only one awarding body may award each qualification. Following a fair and transparent procurement process that took place between January 2017 and August 2017, Qualifications Wales has contracted with a consortium of City & Guilds of London Institute and WJEC to develop and deliver all of the qualifications in the suite.

Qualifications Wales will only approve a qualification that meets all of the requirements set out in this document together with those set out in the *GCSE Qualification Approval Criteria*³ and *Standard Conditions of Recognition*⁴ and the *concession contract awarded*. In developing qualifications to meet these requirements awarding bodies must have regard to *Fair Access by Design*⁵.

Where the requirements of the Subject Approval Criteria set out in this document differ from those prescribed in the *GCSE Qualifications Approval Criteria* and the *Standard Conditions of Recognition*, the requirements in this document will take precedence.

The rationale required within this document is in addition to the rationale required in the *GCSE Qualifications Approval Criteria*.

This qualification will be available for first teaching from September 2019 with the first opportunity for full accreditation in summer 2021.

² <http://qualificationswales.org/media/2535/230517-determination-to-restrict-hsc-final-e.pdf>

³ <http://qualificationswales.org/media/1929/gcse-combined.pdf>

⁴ <http://qualificationswales.org/english/publications/standard-conditions-of-recognition/>

⁵ <http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/150727-fair-access-by-design-en.pdf>

Qualification structure

1. The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must offer learners the option of either a single or double award qualification.
2. Depending on whether a learner has undertaken a single or double award qualification, the qualification title appearing on certificates should either be:
 - 2.1. GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare;
 - Or,
 - 2.2. GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare (Double Award)

Subject aims and objectives

3. The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must enable learners to:
 - 3.1. develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary issues in a range of health and social care, and childcare contexts;
 - 3.2. actively engage in the study of health and social care, and childcare to develop as effective and independent learners, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds;
 - 3.3. appreciate a range of perspectives on the impacts of health and social care, and childcare services on wider society;
 - 3.4. consider how health and social care, and childcare practice should be ethical and support a sustainable health and care system;
 - 3.5. develop and apply skills relevant to health and social care, and childcare including using and interpreting data.
 - 3.6. develop an awareness of career pathways available within the health and social care, and childcare sector.

Subject content

4. The content of the GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must reflect the subject aims and objectives.

Knowledge and understanding

5. The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare single and double award must require learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

5.1. Human growth, development and well-being

The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must require learners to study the growth, development and well-being of the individual throughout their life, including:

- 5.1.1. human development across the life cycle;
- 5.1.2. developmental milestones between 0 – 19 years of age and how children learn;
- 5.1.3. interdependence between good physical health and good mental health;
- 5.1.4. social, emotional and intellectual health including growth mind-set, mindfulness and resilience;
- 5.1.5. the importance of active participation, on development and well-being;
- 5.1.6. early intervention and prevention to promote and support growth, development and well-being;

5.2. Promoting and maintaining health and well-being

The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must require learners to study the promotion and maintenance of health and well-being, including:

- 5.2.1. national legislative frameworks that promote and support health and well-being;
- 5.2.2. the range of services and types of provision that are available to promote and maintain health and well-being throughout the life cycle;
- 5.2.3. public health and health promotion across the life cycle;
- 5.2.4. influences on good health and well-being across the life cycle;
- 5.2.5. risks to health and well-being

6. The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare double award must require learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

6.1. **Health and social care and childcare in the 21st century**

The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must require learners to study health, social care and childcare in the 21st century, including:

- 6.1.1. equality, diversity and inclusion, including Welsh language and culture;
- 6.1.2. safeguarding;
- 6.1.3. contemporary issues in health and social care;
- 6.1.4. supporting a sustainable health and care system;
- 6.1.5. holistic health, development and well-being including early intervention and prevention and person / child centred approaches;
- 6.1.6. the importance of citizen led services, co-production and voice and control on health and social care and childcare in the 21st century.

6.2. **Promoting and supporting health and well-being to achieve positive outcomes**

The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must require learners to study promoting and supporting health and well-being to achieve positive outcomes, including:

- 6.2.1. how public health, social care, childcare and Health Service has improved the health and well-being of the nation;
- 6.2.2. how types of care can meet individual needs and support individuals to achieve positive outcomes;
- 6.2.3. the impact of health and social care, and childcare on wider society;
- 6.2.4. supporting self-identity, self-worth, sense of security and resilience across the life cycle;
- 6.2.5. the benefit of engagement in meaningful and creative activities.

Required Rationale: on submitting the GCSE specification the awarding body will be required to provide rationale regarding the breadth and depth of content assessed in each unit.

Skills

7. The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must require learners to demonstrate the ability to:
 - 7.1. communicate information and knowledge appropriately according to the audience;
 - 7.2. consider and evaluate approaches to health and social care, and childcare provision and how these impact on health and wellbeing;
 - 7.3. research and present information in a systematic way using appropriate terminology.

Required Rationale: on submitting the GCSE specification the awarding body will be required to provide rationale of how the subject content will support learners to develop the skills in paragraph 7.

Assessment objectives

8. The assessment of the knowledge, understanding, and skills required in the specification must target the following assessment objectives in line with the indicated weightings:

Objective	Requirements	Weighting
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of health and social care, and childcare concepts, values and issues.	Minimum 30%
AO2	Apply knowledge and understanding of health and social care, and childcare concepts, values and issues in a variety of relevant contexts.	Minimum 40%
AO3	Analyse and evaluate health and social care, and childcare concepts, values and issues, making reasoned judgements and drawing conclusions.	Minimum 25%

Scheme of assessment

9. The GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare specification must balance assessment objectives across the different assessments within the qualification.
10. GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare will have 40% assessment by examination(s).
11. The assessment by examination(s) does not need to be limited to only the summer series of examinations.
12. GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare will have 60% of assessment weighting allocated to non-examination assessment.
13. The non-examination assessment must be designed and set to be taken under conditions specified by the awarding organisation, including, in particular, conditions which ensure that the evidence generated by each learner can be authenticated.
14. GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare must not be tiered.
15. GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare must be unitised.

Required Rationale: on submitting the GCSE specification the awarding body must provide a rationale for:

- *how the approach to non-examination assessment will ensure the validity, reliability and manageability of assessment;*
- *any decision to offer the assessment by examination(s) in any other examination series other than the summer series;*
- *the approach to awarding the single and double award.*

**Further
information**

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