

QWRO131223



To Responsible Officers

13 December 2023

cymwysterau.cymru

qualifications.wales

Dear Colleague,

Changes to the Standard Conditions of Recognition

In May 2023, Ofqual and the Department for Education (DfE) launched a joint consultation on future resilience arrangements for schools and colleges. Following the consultation exercise, Ofqual have decided to introduce long-term arrangements to ensure resilience in the qualifications system in the unlikely event that the cancellation of whole exam series is required. Ofqual are introducing a new Condition to their General Conditions of Recognition.

We have taken the decision to align with the changes being made in England.

To that end, we are adding a new condition C2.6 to Section C of the [Standard Conditions of Recognition](#). Section C relates to awarding bodies' relationships with third parties, centres, and publishers. Condition 2 deals specifically with arrangements with centres.

The new condition will come into effect immediately.

The new condition reads as follows:

C2.6 An awarding body must:

(a) in respect of any Approved GCSE qualification or GCE qualification which it makes available, take all reasonable steps promptly to ensure that:

(i) the attention of each Centre with which it has an agreement is drawn to the document published by Qualifications Wales, and updated from time to time, entitled '[Guidance on contingency assessment arrangements for approved GCSEs, AS and A levels](#)', and

Qualifications Wales

Q2 Building, Pencarn Lane
Imperial Park,
Newport
NP10 8AR
☎ 01633 373 222



Cymwysterau Cymru

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

(ii) each such Centre is notified of any updates to that document, and

(b) in respect of any other qualification which it makes available:

(i) consider whether it is appropriate for a Centre to gather evidence during the academic year of the level of attainment of each Learner so as to support resilience in awarding that qualification should normal assessments for it be disrupted; and

(ii) where it does consider such evidence gathering to be appropriate, provide guidance to the Centre in relation to that evidence.

If you would like any further information, please contact the Regulatory Policy Team at policy@qualificationswales.org.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Richards', written in a cursive style.

Jo Richards

Executive Director for Regulation