



THE SKILLS CHALLENGE CERTIFICATE AND THE WELSH BACCALAUREATE

Administration Handbook 2023 - 2024

SEPTEMBER 2023

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Please note: this document is subject to change. It is advisable to check the electronic version available on the WJEC website for the latest information.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 About this document

The Administration Handbook provides WJEC centres in Wales with the essential information for operating the administration of the Welsh BaccaLaureate and Skills Challenge Certificate for 2023/24. It applies to the following qualifications:

National/Foundation Welsh BaccaLaureate
Advanced Welsh BaccaLaureate

Please be aware that the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate and the Advanced Welsh BaccaLaureate will be awarded for the final time in summer 2024.

The Welsh BaccaLaureate is based on a Skills Challenge Certificate alongside other supporting qualifications.

The Skills Challenge Certificate consists of four components.

- Individual Project
- Enterprise and Employability Challenge
- Global Citizenship Challenge
- Community Challenge

Candidates must complete the Individual Project plus any two of the three Challenge components.

The combined outcomes of the three components will determine the outcome of the Skills Challenge Certificate, and candidates must achieve 3 components to be awarded the Skills Challenge Certificate. This alongside the required supporting qualifications (which are specific to each level of the Welsh BaccaLaureate) will determine the outcome of the overarching Welsh BaccaLaureate.

The Administration Handbook **must** be used with the following publications:






- The qualification specification(s) for the specific Welsh BaccaLaureate qualification(s) being delivered;
- WJEC Instructions for conducting Controlled Assessments;
- The Teacher Handbooks for the specific Welsh BaccaLaureate qualification(s) being delivered;
- [WJEC Entry Procedures and Coding Information.](#)

The qualification specification, the Centre Code of Practice and the Teacher Handbooks can be found on the relevant qualification page on www.wjec.co.uk

The Entry Procedures and Coding Information document can be found under [Entries](#) in the [Administration](#) section of the website.

1.2 Contacts

For any enquiries about operational matters referred to in this document please contact the Welsh Baccalaureate Operations team below:

For general administrative enquiries please contact: 02922 404250 or wbq@wjec.co.uk		
Laura Hughes	Customer Support – Senior Administrative Officer (Skills and Pathways)	 029 2026 5001  laura.hughes@wjec.co.uk
Helen Hibbert	Customer Support – Welsh Baccalaureate Administrator	 02920265186  helen.hibbert@wjec.co.uk
Aggregation enquiries after release of results		 wbq@wjec.co.uk

2. REGISTRATION

2.1 Registration requirements

All candidates embarking on the Welsh BaccaLaureate from September 2023 **must** be registered with WJEC by October 31st, 2023.

Centres will be required to register individual candidates' personal details:

- Candidate number;
- Candidate name;
- Unique Candidate Identifier (UCI);
- Unique Learner Number (ULN); *(For National/Foundation see below)*
- Gender;
- Date of birth;
- Qualification they will be registering for.

Centres **must** use the **Unique Learner Number** (ULN) in all EDI files submitted that may be used for aggregation of the Welsh BaccaLaureate.

ULN National/Foundation

The ULN is a 10-digit number designed to enable a lifelong record of achievement. The Welsh Government facilitates the allocation of ULNs for all pupils aged 14 and over in maintained schools in Wales.

Candidates registering for National/Foundation for the first time will not have access to a ULN at the time of registration. Centres **must** attach the ULN to the entry of a Challenge at the first opportunity that the ULN becomes available.

Registrations **must** be submitted in either of the following formats:

- Electronic Data interchange (EDI);
- WJEC Secure Website.

Information regarding this process can be found in the Entry Procedures and Coding document which can be downloaded from <http://www.wjec.co.uk/exam-officers/entries/>

2.2 Registration codes

QAN	Qualification	Code English medium	Code Welsh medium
601/4918/8	WJEC National/Foundation Welsh Baccalaureate	9009Q0	9009C0
601/4921/8	WJEC Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate	9003Q0	9003C0

2.3 Registration base data

Base data can be downloaded from the WJEC website at:

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/administration/entries/basedata/>

WJEC examination series and board codes required for base data are:

Examination Level	Series	Series Code	Board Code
Welsh Baccalaureate Registration	Registrations September 2023	9W	41

2.4 Registration dates and fees

Registration dates and fees can be found in the WJEC Entry fees document available on the Administration page of the [WJEC website](#), a link to the document is provided here:

https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/administration/entries/#tab_0

Registrations **must** be made at the start of the course (e.g. in year 1 of a 2 year course).

A late fee and **very late fee** will be applied where centres do not register candidates by the published registration deadlines.

Registrations must be in place before entries can be accepted.

No registrations will be received after July 31 for each academic year.

No refunds on registrations can be given.

2.5 Registrations when a candidate moves centres during a course

Where a candidate has an existing registration made by another centre, the new centre does not need to make a new registration. The new centre will be able to make entries on the candidate's behalf.

Please contact wbq@wjec.co.uk with the candidate's name, UCI and date of birth to confirm the existing registration, and any previous components the candidate has been entered for.

3. ENTRIES AND FEES

Please be aware that the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate and the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate will be awarded for the final time in summer 2024.

The Individual Project plus any two of the Challenges **must** be entered separately. The Welsh Baccalaureate cash-in and the Skills Challenge Certificate cash-in **must** be entered simultaneously in order for the entry to be accepted – neither cash-in can be entered as a standalone qualification, in the first instance, (please see section 3.6 for more information).

Entries may be submitted in either of the following formats:

- Electronic Data Interchange (EDI);
- WJEC Secure Website.

Further information regarding the entry process can be found in the WJEC document Entry Procedures and Coding available from <http://www.wjec.co.uk/exam-officers/entries/>

3.1 Entry base data

Base data can be downloaded from the WJEC website at:

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/administration/entries/basedata/>

WJEC examination series and board codes required for base data are:

Examination Type	Series	Series Code	Board Code
Welsh Baccalaureate	January 2024	1W	41
Welsh Baccalaureate	June 2024	6W	41

3.2 National/Foundation & Advanced

Entries for the Challenges can be submitted either for the January or June Series during the two years of the course. Individual Project entries **must** be submitted during the second year of the course in either the January or June series.

Cash-in entry codes **must** be applied in order for aggregation to occur and an overall grade for the Skills Challenge Certificate and the Welsh Baccalaureate to be awarded. This will only be available for the June series when the candidate has previously achieved or been entered for all components and will be completing the supporting qualifications.

Why do we have three cash-in routes?

Following changes in summer 2022, the Skills Challenge Certificates will be awarded based on a candidate's performance in three components completed. The Individual Project will contribute 50% to the overall grade and the two Challenges selected will contribute 25% each.

The changes introduced three different routes or pathways to achieve the Skills Challenge Certificates. These will be entered against different Cash-in codes depending on the chosen route. The three routes will ensure that only the Individual Project and two Challenges are entered, instead of the – previous Individual Project and three Challenges entered.

Therefore, you must enter for the Individual Project and two Challenges only and the one cash-in that corresponds with the Challenges chosen, as outlined in the tables below

	National/Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate Cash in code		Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate Cash in code	
	English	Welsh	English	Welsh
Route A*	90S9 PA	90S9 LA	90S3 PA	90S3 LA
Route B**	90S9 PB	90S9 LB	90S3 PB	90S3 LB
Route C***	90S9 PC	90S9 LC	90S3 PC	90S3 LC

Route A* Individual Project, Enterprise & Employability and Global Citizenship

Route B** Individual Project, Enterprise & Employability and Community

Route C*** Individual Project, Global Citizenship and Community

The cash in code for the qualifications remains unchanged:

National/Foundation Cash in		Advanced Cash in code	
English	Welsh	English	Welsh
9009 Q0	9009 C0	9003 Q0	9003C0

3.3 Entry dates and fees

Entry dates and fees are published in September and can be found on the WJEC website in the document WJEC Entry fees 2023-24 available here:

https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/administration/entries/#tab_0

Dates are also included on the Skills Challenge Certificate and Welsh Baccalaureate Key Dates Wall Chart available here:

https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/administration/key-dates-and-timetables/#tab_3

3.4 Re-sits

Candidates will have one re-sit opportunity for each assessed component i.e. the Challenges and the Individual Project.

Candidates who choose to re-sit a component must sit a different assessment from their originally assessed work. This means:

- they cannot improve on work that has already been previously submitted for assessment.
- the title of the work must be different from that which has been previously submitted.

Failure to meet these requirements could constitute malpractice and as such would be dealt with by WJEC Compliance.

Re-sit rules

Candidates are allowed one re-sit per component with the higher of the marks counting towards the grade of the qualification. Should candidates wish to enter any components for a third time, no results from components taken previously may be used in aggregating the new grade. Therefore, all components in the qualification must be taken again.

3.5 Cash-in re-sit

At a candidate's first cash-in opportunity both the Skills Challenge Certificate and the overarching Welsh Baccalaureate cash-in must be entered simultaneously. Candidates who are awarded the Skills Challenge Certificate but do not meet the supporting qualifications criteria to be awarded can then be re-entered for Welsh Baccalaureate cash-in only in the next available series. This will ensure that, providing the required evidence has been received, aggregation will take place and any further supporting qualifications that have been attained will be taken into consideration.

3.6 Work of a candidate who transfers centres during a course

Any component result that has been previously awarded by WJEC will transfer with the candidate. However, in some cases a candidate may move centres after a component has been started but not completed or, has been fully completed but not submitted to WJEC.

Where work has been fully completed, marked and declarations signed but not submitted to WJEC the following applies:

- Either the 'completing' centre or the 'new' centre may choose to enter work on behalf of the candidate, **at their discretion**.
- Where work is entered by the 'completing' centre, the centre should:
 - put the entry in as normal, in the next available series,
 - ensure the work is available for moderation (should it be called).
 - Arrange with the candidate for them to pick up their results from the centre when they are released.
- Where the work is entered by the 'new' centre, the 'new' centre may make an entry on behalf of the candidate providing:
 - The work has been transferred from the 'completing' centre to the 'new' centre via the Exams Officers.
 - They are satisfied the work has been completed under the correct controlled conditions.
 - The work has been assessed to the correct standard and has been subject to an internal standardisation process.
 - The work has been kept securely between completion and submission.

Where work has been started but not fully completed the following applies:

- The 'new' centre may choose to accept the previous work and allow the candidate to complete it, **at their discretion**, providing:
 - The work has been transferred from the previous centre to the 'new' centre via the Exams Officers.
 - The work has been kept securely between sessions.
 - They are satisfied any work started has been subject to the correct controlled conditions and meets their centre standards.

It is down to an individual centre's policy whether they accept and submit previous work or request that the candidate completes new work in line with their internal standards.

The Head of centre in the entering centre must be satisfied that the work has been conducted, maintained securely and marked in accordance with WJEC's Instructions for Conducting Controlled Assessments.

4. AGGREGATION INFORMATION

To achieve the overarching Welsh Bacculaureate candidates must achieve the Skills Challenge Certificate together with specified supporting qualifications.

In order to find evidence of this WJEC requests information from other Awarding Organisations regarding entry data and prior achievements to match to Welsh Bacculaureate candidates.

Once information has been supplied by other Awarding Organisations this is matched with candidates entered in the current series.

To find information to support this WJEC will contact centres in 2 stages:

- 1) An initial enquiry in the Spring term to ascertain Awarding Organisation information (Form AOI1)
- 2) A further enquiry in the Summer term regarding any data that cannot be matched (Form AOI2)

4.1 Form AOI1

This will let WJEC know which Awarding Organisations we need to collect data from. We will only need to know which AOs a centre is sitting Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 vocational qualifications within the forthcoming series.

4.2 Form AOI2

There may be occasions where we cannot match data for a specific candidate. This could be for several reasons; a centre move, a change of name, a missing entry, or the historical data does not meet the current level of entry, etc. In these circumstances WJEC will contact the centre and request provision of evidence of prior achievement (literacy and numeracy) or the current entry information for the forthcoming series.

Form AOI2 Acceptable Evidence	
<p>Evidence to support prior achievement must be official documentation from the awarding organisation responsible and should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate's name, date of birth, UCI, • The awarding organisation name and logo; • The full name of the qualification; • The result achieved; • The date awarded. <p>Examples: a candidate certificate, a screen shot from AO portal showing candidate information</p>	<p>Evidence to support current entry information must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate's name, date of birth, UCI, • The awarding organisation name, • The full name of the qualification; • and or/the QAN.
<p>A scanned print out from a candidate's Personal Learning Record (PLR) from the gov. Learning Records Service, as evidence of achievement, providing it contains the relevant information.</p>	<p>WJEC will accept a scanned print out from a centre's MIS system providing it contains the relevant information.</p>
<p>Evidence can be scanned and emailed to wbq@wjec.co.uk but must be clear and legible.</p> <p>WJEC reserve the right to reject evidence if it does not meet all the criteria listed.</p>	

5. E-SUBMISSION

All candidate work must be submitted electronically for moderation using Surpass.

These Components are as follows:

January & June 2024

90S9U1/N1 National/Foundation Individual Project

90S9U2/N2 National/Foundation Enterprise and Employability

90S9U3/N3 National/Foundation Global Citizenship

90S9U4/N4 National/Foundation Community Challenge

90S3U1/N1 Advanced Individual Project

90S3U2/N2 Advanced Enterprise and Employability

90S3U3/N3 Advanced Global Citizenship

90S3U4/N4 Advanced Community Challenge

The work must be uploaded by the deadline dates as listed on page 17 of this document.

General guidance to the e-submission process, including FAQs can be found on the on the E-Submission page of the Administration section of www.wjec.co.uk

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/teachers/e-submission/>

6. MODERATION

Centre marks will be externally moderated by WJEC to ensure that standards are applied accurately and consistently within and across centres.

6.1 Secure storage of Internally Assessed work

The Challenges of the Skills Challenge Certificate must be completed under controlled assessment conditions. These controls are specifically indicated in the Managing Assessment table in the relevant Teacher Handbook for each level found on the subject webpage:

National/Foundation: [Welsh Baccalaureate National/Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate \(wjec.co.uk\)](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

Advanced: [Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate \(wjec.co.uk\)](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

Please note, that it is the responsibility of the centre to ensure that all assessment material (including student work) is stored securely within the centre, usually in a locked cupboard and in accordance with JCQ requirements. The materials and work must be stored securely throughout the assessment period and until the deadline for post results services has passed. Work produced over several sessions must be collected at the end of each session and stored securely. Work produced electronically must be saved securely to ensure it cannot be accessed or amended between sessions. Work stored on memory sticks must also be collected in after each session and kept securely.

Failure to comply will constitute malpractice and can result in work being ineligible for assessment. Any cases of malpractice must be reported to WJEC's Compliance Team and will be investigated fully.

6.2 Submitting Internal Assessment Marks

Once entries have been submitted and processed by WJEC, centres **must** log on to WJEC's [secure website](#) and click the 'internal assessment mark input' (IAMIS) button. A web page will be available for each component for which the centre has entries; this will be pre-populated with candidate names and numbers. Centres will need to insert the **marks and assessor initials** for all candidates in the spaces provided. Further information and support will be available on the various mark-input screens.

Submission of outcomes – by submitting outcomes to WJEC you are declaring that:

- All internal moderation has taken place;
- All marks submitted are genuine and correct;
- All candidate work is complete and available for external moderation.

Amending marks after submission – Once marks have been submitted via IAMIS they cannot be amended by the centre. If it is noticed that an incorrect mark has been submitted, centres must complete and submit the request form. The request form can be found on the Internal assessment mark/outcomes input page on the secure website. Please note that we will contact you for further information if required. If we do not contact you then your request for mark amendment will be actioned. WJEC monitors centres requesting amendments to candidates' marks. In certain circumstances, the Head of Centre may be contacted and asked to provide additional information.

WJEC reserve the right to request to view any work related to a request to amend marks.

Amending marks after issuing of results – if a teacher notices that an incorrect mark has been submitted after the issuing of results, the Head of Centre **must** send a written request to the address below for the mark to be amended, clearly outlining the circumstances. The actual work (or copy) together with a completed signed and dated internal mark sheet **must** accompany this written request. This information will be referred to the subject officer. After consideration of the evidence the mark may be altered, or the request may be refused. All requests to alter centre submitted marks **must** be received by **9th April** (January series) and **19th September** (June series).

wbq@wjec.co.uk

WJEC monitors amendments to centre submitted marks and may undertake additional checks.

6.3 Moderation Sample

The size of the sample will be based on the number of candidates entered, which will give a minimum sample size, and then on the number of assessors; with at least three candidates selected from each assessor. The sample will cover the range of marks awarded, including the top and bottom mark of the centre. Samples will automatically be selected and viewed via IAMIS and must be uploaded to Surpass by the specified date.

National/Foundation and Advanced

<i>Total number of candidates</i>	<i>Minimum sample size</i>
1 – 10	All
11 - 100	10
101 - 200	15
201 - 500	25
501 - 999	50

Individual Candidates - work selected in the sample **must** be available for moderation. If a candidate's work is not available, then the mark will be recorded as 0.

Entries made after submission of marks – centres should not make entries after the sample has been made available. If entries are made WJEC reserves the right to request the work to be sent to the moderator in addition to the original sample. Work that is not forwarded to the moderator when requested will be recorded as a 0.

Authentication - Candidates **must** be made aware that they are responsible for ensuring that the work submitted for assessment is their own. The JCQ document, Information for Candidates – Controlled Assessments, available on the JCQ website (www.jcq.org.uk), provides instructions and guidance.

6.4 Required Documentation

National/Foundation and Advanced

The Candidate Assessment booklet – must be completed and submitted alongside candidate work. The booklet contains the assessment sheet, candidate and assessor declaration, and the assessment time sheet for National/Foundation level. The booklet can be found on the [secure website](#) in Resources>Non- Examination Assessment Tasks. A Candidate Assessment booklet must be completed for all candidates in the cohort (not only those included in the moderation sample). Electronic typed signatures are acceptable.

*** Work received without this completed documentation will be recorded as a fail.**

6.5 Internal Moderation

The sample is intended to be **representative** of the marking standard at the centre. It is essential that a process of internal moderation takes place **prior** to the final submission of the marks to WJEC. Suitable methods of achieving this will depend on the individual centre's organisation. One person **must** take responsibility for the final moderation procedure within a centre. **A sample of each assessor's candidates must be reassessed by the lead assessor.**

6.6 External Moderation

The WJEC moderator will consider the sample that has been submitted. Should a query arise WJEC may request a further sample to be provided.

In most circumstances where WJEC requests to see more work the following protocols will be implemented:

- WJEC administration staff will contact the Examinations Officer at the centre to verbally confirm that more work has been requested by the moderator.
- WJEC will request that work be with the moderator within five working days from the initial request and will specify a date.
- WJEC will follow up with an email to the Examinations Officer to confirm the request.

Please note, WJEC staff will not enter into discussion with anyone other than the Examinations Officer and cannot discuss the reason that further work has been requested.

In certain circumstances WJEC will visit the centre to view any further requested work.

WJEC reserves the right to request more work or make a visit to a centre at short notice or without prior notification.

6.7 Feedback

Feedback regarding moderation is provided on publication of results, through a moderator's report, available on IAMIS. The moderator's report will provide feedback on:

- (i) the efficiency of the centre's administration;
- (ii) the accuracy of the centre's assessments against the criteria and in relation to the agreed standard for each learning outcome of the component;
- (iii) whether the centre's marks have been adjusted and detail of the reasons.

6.8 Moderation dates

January 2024

National/Foundation

January 2024	
IAMIS available from	1 December
Deadline for submission of work	22 December

Advanced

January 2024	
IAMIS available from	8 December
Deadline for submission of work	12 January

June 2024

National/Foundation

June 2024	
IAMIS available from	25 April
Deadline for submission of work	10 May

Advanced

June 2024	
IAMIS available from	10 May
Deadline for submission of work	24 May

7. RESULTS

7.1 Results

Results are issued via the secure website and by EDI file, and takes place on the following dates:

January series	
National/Foundation	5 March
Advanced	5 March

June series	
National/Foundation	22 August
Advanced	15 August

7.2 Aggregation enquiries

Centres can enquire about the **aggregation** of candidates' results from the day of results until 19th September (June Series).

Aggregation includes missing supporting qualifications.

In order to minimise post results aggregation enquiries, it is essential that centres provide WJEC with accurate information and meet deadlines especially in candidate identification and data e.g. accurate and consistent name, UCI to identify candidate across all qualifications.

Please note aggregation enquiries will be dealt with in chronological order of receipt. **Aggregation queries must be sent to the wbq@wjec.co.uk email address.**

Acceptable Evidence - Evidence to support aggregation enquiries should be:		
Official documentation from the awarding organisation responsible and should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The candidate name and date of birth• The awarding organisation name and logo;• The full name of the qualification;• The result achieved;• The date awarded. Examples: a certificate, a screenshot from the AO's portal/ website showing candidate achievement etc.	OR	A scanned print out from a candidate's Personal Learning Record (PLR) from the gov. Learning Records Service, as evidence of achievement, providing it contains the relevant information.
Evidence can be scanned and emailed to wbq@wjec.co.uk but must be clear and legible.		
A statement of results produced from a centre's own MIS is inadmissible and will not be accepted as evidence.		
WJEC reserve the right to reject evidence if it does not meet the criteria listed.		

7.3 Post-results review of moderation

This is a review of the original moderation to ensure that the assessment criteria have been fairly, reliably and consistently applied. Please note that if your centre's marks have been accepted without change by WJEC this service is not available.

When applying for a post-results review of moderation, the following should be taken into account:

- The application should be submitted to WJEC through the normal method.
- Candidate consent is not required.
- For the January series requests **must** be received by 9th April; for the summer series, the request **must** be received by the awarding organisation by 19th September.
- The deadline for completion is within 35 calendar days of the moderator receiving the original sample of work from the centre.
- Review of moderation will be undertaken on the original sample of candidates' work.
- Review of moderation may include feedback similar to that provided following the original moderation.
- If centre marks are reinstated, feedback will not be provided.
- Review of moderation cannot be undertaken upon the work of an individual candidate or the work of candidates not in the original sample.

Review of moderation can only be undertaken for the series in which the request is received.

Work that has been uploaded to Surpass will already be available to the moderator and will be accessed as appropriate.

Work submitted for review of moderation **must**:

- be the original work submitted for moderation;

Please visit <http://www.wjec.co.uk/exam-officers/post-results-service/> for further information including the costs associated with this service.

7.4 Certificates

Certificates are issued to centres in the autumn term after the publication of results. Certificates will not be issued before the end of the post-results services deadline of 19th September. The last date that certificates will be issued is 7th November.

8. SUPPORTING QUALIFICATIONS

8.1 Supporting qualification requirements

Please note it is the centre's responsibility to ensure a course of study meets the criteria listed below before embarking on the qualification. It is recommended that centres check the qualification at the beginning of the course to ensure that candidates are able to meet the requirements at cash-in.

Full qualifications are required to meet the criteria; unit achievement cannot be used.

Qualification criteria can be checked by using the Qualifications in Wales database <https://www.qiw.wales/qualifications/search?lang=en>

All qualifications must be regulated by Qualifications Wales or OFQUAL.

Level	Literacy and Numeracy	Other supporting qualifications
Advanced	GCSE English Lang or Welsh Lang (A*-C) and GCSE Mathematics (A*-C) or GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy (A*-C)	Two A Levels Grade A*-E or at most two equivalent L3 qualifications totalling at least 600 GLH. (At least one worth 600 or two worth at least 300, which can either be A Level or Vocational).
National/Foundation Foundation	GCSE English Lang or Welsh Lang (A*-G) and GCSE Mathematics (A*-G) or GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy (A*-G)	A Minimum of three further GCSEs grade A*-G, of which two may be equivalent with at least 240 GLH (120 GLH for one equivalent qualification)
National/Foundation National	GCSE English Lang or Welsh Lang (A*-C) and GCSE Mathematics (A*-C) or GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy (A*-C)	A Minimum of three further GCSEs grade A*-C, of which two may be equivalent with at least 240 GLH (120 GLH for one equivalent qualification)

N.B. The Literacy and Numeracy Qualifications can be completed during or prior to registration on the Welsh Baccalaureate but the supporting qualifications **must** be achieved during the time the candidate is registered.

8.2 Accepted Literacy and Numeracy supporting qualifications

In certain circumstances other literacy and numeracy qualifications can be accepted.

Please note the list below is not exhaustive and will be updated as we have confirmation. For any qualifications not listed please enquire by emailing wbq@wjec.co.uk

English Language and Maths qualifications achieved with GCSE 9 to 1 can be used to contribute towards the Literacy and Numeracy requirements of the Welsh Baccalaureate. Grades 9-4 are considered equivalent to A*-C for Advanced and National and National levels.

<https://ofqual.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/137/2018/01/Grading-2018-1.png>

Accepted Mathematics Qualifications	
QAN	Qualification
500/7914/1	WJEC Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Methods in Mathematics (Pilot) (This legacy qualification can still be accepted for candidates who have previously achieved it).
500/7915/3	WJEC Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Applications of Mathematics (Pilot) (This legacy qualification can still be accepted for candidates who have previously achieved it).
500/7929/3	WJEC Level 2 Certificate in Additional Mathematics
600/7777/3	OCR Level 1 Cambridge Certificate in Mathematics (QCF)
600/7778/5	OCR Level 2 Cambridge Certificate in Mathematics (QCF)
601/4606/0	OCR Level 1/2 GCSE (9-1) in Mathematics
500/7849/5	OCR Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Applications of Mathematics (Pilot)
500/7881/1	OCR Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)
500/7764/8	OCR Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Mathematics A
500/7923/2	OCR Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Mathematics B
500/9480/4	AQA Level 1/Level 2 Certificate in Use of Mathematics
600/2123/8	AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics
601/4608/4	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Mathematics
500/7931/1	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Applications of Mathematics
500/7856/2	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Mathematics
500/8495/1	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Mathematics B
500/7942/6	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Methods in Mathematics
500/7940/2	Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Applications of Mathematics (Pilot)
500/7949/9	Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)
500/7916/5	Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Mathematics A
500/7886/0	Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Mathematics B
600/0475/7	Pearson Level 1/Level 2 Certificate in Maths

Accepted English Qualifications	
QAN	Qualification
600/1358/8	WJEC Level 1/ Level 2 Certificate in English Language (This legacy qualification can still be accepted for candidates who have previously achieved it).
600/7782/7	OCR Level 1 Cambridge Certificate in English (QCF)
600/7783/9	OCR Level 2 Cambridge Certificate in English (QCF)
601/4575/4	OCR Level 1/2 GCSE (9-1) in English Language
601/3168/8	OCR Level 1/2 GCSE in English
601/3167/6	OCR Level 1/2 GCSE in English Language
500/7912/8	OCR Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in English
600/1999/2	AQA Level 1/2 Certificate in English Language
601/4292/3	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in English Language
500/7917/7	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in English
601/3159/7	AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in English
500/7909/8	Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in English
601/3157/3	Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in English

8.3 English and Maths qualifications achieved outside of the UK

Where qualifications have been achieved outside of the UK, centres are required to provide evidence that:

- i. the qualification is equivalent to the appropriate GCSE Grade/NQF Level to allow them to be contribute to the Welsh Baccalaureate in place of a GCSE in English Language/Welsh Language and/or Maths/Maths Numeracy. There are only a few qualifications which are an equivalent and acceptable level qualification for GCSE English.

English and Welsh as a second language are not eligible.

- ii. the qualification is sufficiently broad in content and size and does not concentrate on one element of the subject (for example a Maths qualification that only covers statistics would not be sufficient to replace the GCSE in Maths irrespective of the level).

However, if a learner has achieved an AS or A Level qualification in Maths or English Language this is acceptable as a supporting qualification.

In relation to point i:

- Please check the UK ENIC website: <https://enic.org.uk/Default.aspx>

Centres are reminded that assessment is available in English and/or Welsh. In all cases, the centre should ensure that the learner has sufficient English/Welsh language skills to enable them to complete the qualification.

9. GRADING AND REPORTING

9.1 National/Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate

The qualification can be awarded a Foundation or National grade. The National Skills Challenge Certificate is graded A* - C. For a National award, candidates must achieve the Individual Project plus any two Challenges, with a **minimum of 120 UMS marks combined from the three components**.

The Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate is graded Pass* or Pass. For a Foundation award, the candidate **must** achieve the Individual Project plus any two Challenges, with a minimum of 60 UMS marks combined from the three components. Results not attaining the minimum standard for the award will be reported as U (unclassified).

	National				Foundation		
Grade boundaries	A*	A	B	C	Pass*	Pass	U
Total UMS	270	240	180	120	90	60	0
%	90%	80%	60%	40%	30%	20%	0%

The Individual Project contributes 50% to the overall grade and the two Challenges selected would contribute 25% each.

Components

Component grades are aligned with grades for the Certificate: Level 2 Distinction aligns with grade A, Level 2 Merit with grade B, Level 2 Pass with grade C, and Level 1 Pass with Foundation Pass. For each component, the Level 2 Merit boundary will be set arithmetically at half the distance between the Level 2 Pass and Level 2 Distinction boundaries; all other grade boundaries will be set by moderator judgement.

Grade boundaries will be set in the following order:

Component	Weighting	Maximum raw marks	Maximum UMS mark	Level 2 Distinction	Level 2 Merit	Level 2 Pass	Level 1 Pass
Individual Project	50%	96	150	120	90	60	30
Enterprise and Employability	25%	36	75	60	45	30	15
Global Citizenship	25%	36	75	60	45	30	15
Community	25%	36	75	60	45	30	15

9.2 Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate

The overall grades for the Skills Challenge Certificate will be recorded as a grade on a scale A* to E. To be awarded a grade the candidate **must** achieve a pass in 3 of the components, the Individual Project plus any two of the Challenges. Results not attaining the minimum standard for the award will be reported as U (unclassified).

Grade boundaries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
Total UMS	270	240	210	180	150	120	0
%	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%	40%	0%

The Individual Project contributes 50% to the overall grade and the two Challenges selected would contribute 25% each.

Components

Component grades are aligned with grades for the Certificate: Distinction aligns with grade A, Merit with grade C, and Pass with grade E. For each component, the Merit boundary will be set arithmetically at half the distance between the Pass and Distinction boundaries; all other grade boundaries will be set by moderator judgement.

Grade boundaries will be set in the following order:

Component	Weighting	Maximum raw marks	Maximum UMS mark	Level 3 Distinction	Level 3 Merit	Level 3 Pass
Individual Project	50%	72	150	120	90	60
Enterprise and Employability	25%	45	75	60	45	30
Global Citizenship	25%	36	75	60	45	30
Community	25%	27	75	60	45	30

9.3 Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate and the UCAS tariff

For information on the Skills Challenge Certificate and the UCAS tariff please visit: <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator> and choose Welsh Baccalaureate - Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate (first teaching September 2015) from the dropdown options.

For information on an individual institution's policy regarding the Welsh Baccalaureate you are advised to contact their admissions department.

10. ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS & SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

The National/Foundation and Advanced specifications have been designed to offer fair access to all and to minimise the need to make access arrangements or reasonable adjustments for candidates who have particular requirements. It is expected that normally, individual candidates' abilities, interests and needs will have been appropriately catered for by centres through the choice of Challenge briefs and supporting qualifications.

10.1 Definitions

Access arrangements/reasonable adjustments are agreed before an assessment. They allow candidates/learners with special educational needs, disabilities or temporary injuries to:

- access the assessment;
- show what they know and can do without changing the demands of the assessment.

Special consideration - is a post assessment adjustment to a candidate's mark/ grade to reflect temporary illness, temporary injury or other indisposition at the time of the assessment. Special consideration may be given to eligible candidates who are:

- a) present for an assessment but are disadvantaged;
- b) absent from part of an assessment due to illness or other acceptable reason – this applies to the terminal series only.

10.2 Applying Access Arrangements to the Challenges and the Individual Project

All access arrangements **must** be applied for at the start of the course and be approved before assessments take place.

Access arrangements/reasonable adjustments may apply when a candidate undertakes an individual Challenge or the Individual Project in order to allow the candidates to demonstrate their ability while ensuring the demands of the assessment are not changed, however, it is expected that the chosen Challenge will have been picked to minimise the need for such arrangements to be applied.

Access arrangements/reasonable adjustments will only apply in teamwork Challenges where other members of the team are not able to take responsibility (for example please see possible scenario 2, section 10.6) and ensuring other team members are not given an unfair advantage.

10.3 Applying Special Consideration to the Individual Project

Special Consideration will only apply to the Individual Project.

To be eligible for Special Consideration:

- Candidates must have completed 2 of the 3 optional components, i.e. Enterprise and Employability, Global Citizenship, Community Challenge.
- Candidates must have completed 2 learning outcomes for the Individual Project.

The reason for the non-completion of the Individual Project must be acceptable (please see Section 2 of [JCQ Special Consideration guidance](#)).

To apply for special consideration centres must submit an application using **Form 10 – JCQ/SC**. This form is available on the JCQ website – <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration/forms/>

The form should be returned to Special Requirements, specialrequirements@wjec.co.uk . Additional evidence should be attached as appropriate.

10.4 Lost centre assessed work

If work (through no fault of the candidate) has either been lost within the examination centre and despite every effort it cannot be found, or it has been accidentally destroyed, the circumstances should be reported immediately to the awarding organisation using **Form 15 – JCQ/LCW**. This form is available on the JCQ website – <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/coursework/>

10.5 Exemptions

No exemptions can be made for any of the Challenges or the Individual Project.

10.6 Possible scenarios

1. If a team loses a member and becomes too small to fulfil requirements (a team **must** be between 3 – 6 members) the first option should be that the remaining team members join another group.

Any team member who has been unable to finish the Challenge **must**, on joining another group, bring any work they have done to the new group.

If joining another team is not an option due to the timing of the controlled assessment and/or the size of the groups (e.g. all groups have the maximum 6 members), they may complete the Challenge as an individual, providing they have shown/will show evidence of working with a team in another Challenge. **This will apply even to a Challenge where working in a group is compulsory.**

Please note: it is advisable that Challenges involving team work are not left until the end of the course.

2. A candidate who is part of a team has an agreed access arrangement/reasonable adjustment for a scribe and 25% extra time. However, as another member in the team/group can take minutes during meetings this access arrangement/reasonable adjustment is not needed.
3. A candidate is absent and unable to finish a Challenge or Individual Project due to an acceptable reason. There is no further opportunity for the candidate to complete the Challenge and it is the terminal assessment. The candidate has completed 50% of the Challenge or Individual Project; therefore, the centre applies for special consideration.

10.7 Further information

For further information regarding access arrangements please consult the JCQ document: *Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments* available from <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration/regulations-and-guidance>

For further information regarding Special Consideration please consult the JCQ document: *A guide to the special consideration process* available from <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration/regulations-and-guidance>

11. MALPRACTICE

Suspected incidents of candidate, centre or centre staff malpractice or maladministration **must** be reported to WJEC using the 'Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessment' policies and procedures.

For more information please visit: <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice>

12. GLOSSARY

Welsh Baccalaureate	This is the overarching framework which is made up from the Skills Challenge Certificate and supporting qualifications.
Skills Challenge Certificate	This is the qualification element of the Welsh Baccalaureate and consists of the Individual Project plus any two Challenges, the Enterprise and Employability Challenge, the Global Citizenship Challenge, and the Community Challenge.
Element	An element can refer to any part of the Welsh Baccalaureate – e.g. the Skills Challenge Certificate, the individual components, and the supporting qualifications.
Component	This refers specifically to the elements of the Skills Challenge Certificate i.e. the Individual Project, the Enterprise and Employability Challenge, the Global Citizenship Challenge, and the Community Challenge.
Supporting Qualifications	These are the qualifications which, when taken into account alongside the Skills Challenge Certificate, contribute towards the overall result for the Welsh Baccalaureate.
Moderation	Moderation is the process by which WJEC ensure consistency and accuracy in the awarding of candidate marks. There are 2 types of moderation – internal and external. Internal moderation is completed by a centre to ensure consistency throughout a cohort. External moderation is undertaken by WJEC by reviewing a sample of candidates from a centre to ensure the published criteria are being upheld across centres.
Aggregation	The process used to combine all elements in order to reach an overall result for the Welsh Baccalaureate.
E-submission	The process by which centres submit work electronically for moderation.
SURPASS	The platform WJEC uses for e-submission.
UMS	The Uniform Mark Scale, used by unitised specifications, to ensure accessibility and comparability across different series. The UMS is used so that candidates who achieve the same standard will have the same uniform mark, irrespective of when the component was taken.
IAMIS	The internal assessment mark input screen. The portal used to input candidate marks to WJEC and to view samples for moderation purposes. Available on the secure website.

13. APPENDICES

13.1 Individual Project Overlaps with Other Qualifications

The specification has been designed to allow maximum flexibility for centres, and for candidates to meet their individual interests. The subject content allows the opportunity to pursue integrated critical, practical or theoretical study within the context of an Individual Project. There can be some overlap in skills and/or subject content with other courses. However, the approach to, and the context of the skills and content in the specifications are distinctly different from those of other qualifications. The Individual Project is designed to extend and develop beyond a candidate's programme of study. If a candidate attempts to submit a piece of coursework for another qualification as a project, relies heavily on text books or chooses a topic central to one of their other courses of study, they will not be extending or developing beyond what they have already learned or will learn before the end of the course. We would recommend that candidate's use their studies as a springboard from which to launch their Individual Project into an area of particular interest to the candidate. If an Individual Project is deemed to be too similar in nature or content to a topic covered in one of their other courses of study this may be treated as malpractice.