

Entry 1 - Level 2

Skills for Life and Skills for Work

Teaching from September 2027

Quick Guide



Please note that all information included in our Quick Guides is subject to approval from Qualifications Wales.

Made for Wales.
Ready for the world.

Empowering learners, supporting teachers

As Wales' largest awarding body, we have over 75 years of experience in delivering trusted, high-quality qualifications that support learners, educators, and employers across Wales.

We provide a wide range of bilingual qualifications that are accessible, engaging, and designed to meet the needs of today's learners.

Our qualifications are backed by expert subject teams, high quality resources, and responsive, specialist support. Our work is guided and shaped through close collaboration with schools, colleges, regional consortia, sector experts and Qualifications Wales.

As the only awarding body offering qualifications in every suite of the 14-16 National Qualifications offer, we are proud to play a key role in supporting the Welsh Government's ambition to make education in Wales a source of national pride, and we remain committed to helping every learner achieve their potential and progress with confidence.





About the Skills Suite

The Skills for Life and Work qualifications empower learners through a flexible, unitised programme that supports personal growth, practical development, and future readiness.

Rooted in real-world contexts, they provide engaging, hands-on learning that builds confidence and essential life and work skills.

The units available within the qualifications will allow learners to continue their learning within the Six Areas of Learning and Experience, as well as the mandatory elements of the Curriculum for Wales.

Who are these qualifications for?

These qualifications are designed for learners who will thrive within a flexible, unitised structure that recognises progress at every stage.

The Skills for Life and Work units will suit those who are encouraged by steady development, and looking to reduce assessment pressure, as well as learners with varying strengths across different areas of learning.

Inclusive and accessible, the Skills for Life and Work qualifications support all learners from Entry Level 1 through to Level 2.



Skills for Life Units

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art and Crafts• Basic First Aid• British Sign Language• Community Participation• Democracy In Action• Digital Film and Media• Equality, Diversity and Inclusion• Ethical Choices• Everyday Law• Exercise For All• Faith and Belief in the Community• Financial Literacy• Food Planning and Preparation• Healthy Lifestyle• Healthy Relationships• Home Management and Maintenance• International Language - Communicating Personal Information - Spoken	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International Language - Communicating Personal Information - Written• International Language - Social Activities - Spoken• International Language - Social Activities - Written• Looking After Others• Mental Health and Wellbeing• Music, Dance and Drama• Online Safety• Personal Safety• Practical Gardening• Science and Technology in Everyday Life• Skills in the Natural Environment• Sustainability In Action• Teamwork• Understanding Self and Others• Values for Life
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Skills for Work Units

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applying for Jobs• Building a Growth Mindset• Business Finance• Career Creativity• Customer Service• Enterprise Venture• Exploring Career Pathways• Fairness and Inclusion in the Workplace• International Language - Education and Employment - Spoken• International Language - Education and Employment - Written	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interview and Confidence Techniques• Jobs of the Future• Overcoming Barriers• Personal Development Planning• Rights and Responsibilities in the Workplace• Sustainable Economic Development• Understanding the Changing Labour Market• Using IT in the Workplace• Wellbeing and Work• Work Experience• Working in Wales
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Qualification Structure

The Skills for Life and Work qualifications are structured to support flexible delivery and progression.

Each qualification is made up by combining units listed in the section above that are either 10 or 20 guided learning hours (GLH) in size.

The overall size of the qualification awarded to a learner depends on the total GLH for the number of units they have completed.

- Award - 60 GLH
- Certificate - 120 GLH
- Diploma - 240 GLH

Summary of Assessment

Focus	Qualification Size	Evidence	Levels of Achievement
Non-Examination Assessment. Internally Assessed, and Externally Quality Assured	Award - 60 GLH Certificate - 120 GLH Diploma - 240 GLH	Portfolio Based	Entry Level Level 1 Level 2

“The Skills Suite is an amazing new qualification that offers a wide range of exciting units that individually target the development of skills that learners need for their future.

If you are currently delivering the Skills Challenge Certificate, the Skills Suite will be a natural replacement with our Regional Support Team on hand to advise you.”

Emma Vincent

Regional Support
Team Leader



Need more support?

Our Regional Representative Sophie Dobbs is available to support your centre to deliver these exciting new qualifications:

“ I work closely with schools and colleges across Wales, helping them understand the new Wave 3 qualifications that are coming as part of National 14-16 Qualifications reform in September 2027.

I'm here to support centres at every stage of the journey — from early conversations and planning, right through to delivery.

Before starting at WJEC I spent 17 years in secondary education. Having that experience, and a clear understanding of the practical challenges senior leaders face around staffing, timetabling, resources and budgets, means I'm well placed to support centres strategically and practically through the Wave 3 transition.”

Get in touch with Sophie:

wave3@wjec.co.uk



The final wave of new National 14-16 Qualifications for Wales is almost here, with first teaching beginning September 2027.

We're building upon everything we've learned from co-creating our Made-for-Wales GCSEs, engaging with over 100 centres and 60+ employers to develop an inclusive, broad and balanced range of new qualifications that will enable different ways of learning and skills development.

Discover a range of inclusive new qualifications with WJEC, Wales' most established exam board:

- **Personal Project**
- **Skills Suite (Skills for Life and Skills for Work)**
- **Foundation (General and Work Related)**
- **VCSE (Vocational Certificate of Secondary Education)**

Learn more: www.wjec.co.uk/wave3



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