

# Concise Minutes – Children, Young People and Education Committee

Meeting Venue:

Video Conference via Zoom

Meeting date: Tuesday, 23 June 2020

Meeting time: 13.32 – 17.28

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/6343>

## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Lynne Neagle MS (Chair) Dawn Bowden MS Joyce Watson MS (In place of Hefin David MS) Suzy Davies MS Janet Finch-Saunders MS Helen Mary Jones MS (In place of Siân Gwenllïan MS) Russell George MS
Witnesses:	Professor Medwin Hughes, Vice-Chancellor – University of Wales Trinity Saint David and of the University of Wales Kieron Rees, Head of External Affairs and Policy – Universities Wales Professor Elizabeth Treasure, Vice-Chancellor – Aberystwyth University Professor Paul Boyle, Vice-Chancellor – Swansea University Dr David Blaney, Chief Executive – HEFCW Dr Rachel Bowen, Director of Policy and Public Affairs –



	<p>ColegauCymru</p> <p>Dr Andrew Cornish, Principal and Chief Executive – Coleg Sir Gar and Coleg Ceredigion</p> <p>Philip Blaker, Chief Executive – Qualifications Wales</p> <p>Denver Davies, Head of Monitoring and Compliance – Qualifications Wales</p> <p>Joe Atkinson, Press and Public Affairs Consultant – NUS Wales</p> <p>Jim Dickinson, Associate Editor – WONKHE</p> <p>Dr Myfanwy Davies, Council Governor appointed by Academic Staff – Bangor University</p> <p>Dan Beard, UNISON Higher Education executive member and chair of UNISON Cymru Wales</p>
Committee Staff:	<p>Tanwen Summers (Second Clerk)</p> <p>Sarah Bartlett (Deputy Clerk)</p> <p>Sian Thomas (Researcher)</p>

## 1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the virtual meeting of the Children, Young People and Education Committee.

1.2 In accordance with Standing Order 34.19, the Chair stated that she had determined that the public were excluded from the Committee’s meeting in order to protect public health.

1.3 The Chair stated that if for any reason she dropped out of the meeting, the Committee agreed that Dawn Bowden MS would become Temporary Chair in accordance with Standing Order 17.22.

1.4 The Chair noted apologies from Hefin David MS and Siân Gwenllian MS. The Chair welcomed Joyce Watson MS and Helen Mary Jones MS as substitutes.

1.5 The Chair also welcomed Russell George MS to the meeting in his capacity as Chair of the Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee, given the Committee's interest in skills, research and innovation.

## **2 COVID-19: Evidence session on the impact of COVID-19 on higher and further education with higher education representatives**

2.1 The Committee heard evidence from the University of Wales Trinity Saint David and of the University of Wales, Universities Wales, Aberystwyth University, Swansea University and Higher Education Funding Council for Wales.

## **3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for item 4**

3.1 The motion was agreed.

## **4 COVID-19: Consideration of evidence**

4.1 The Committee considered the evidence it heard in the previous session.

## **5 COVID-19: Evidence session on the impact of COVID-19 on higher and further education with further education representatives**

5.1 The Committee heard evidence from ColegauCymru / CollegesWales, Coleg Sir Gar and Coleg Ceredigion and Qualifications Wales.

## **6 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for item 7**

6.1 The motion was agreed.

## **7 COVID-19: Consideration of evidence**

7.1 The Committee considered the evidence it heard in the previous session.

## **8 COVID-19: Evidence session on the impact of COVID-19 on higher and further education: staff and student voices**

8.1 The Committee heard evidence from NUS Wales, WONKHE, Bangor University and UNISON Cymru Wales.

## **9 Papers to note**

9.1 The papers were noted.

## **10 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public for the remainder of the meeting**

10.1 The motion was agreed.

## **11 COVID-19: Consideration of evidence**

11.1 The Committee considered the evidence it heard in the previous session.

## **12 Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill – consideration of approach**

12.1 The Committee considered its approach to the Bill.

12.2 Members agreed the timetable in principle, subject to the availability of meeting slots.

12.3 The Committee noted that it was expecting a high volume of responses to the consultation given the interest in this Bill. It further noted that it would keep the Business Committee and Welsh Government updated should the high volume of responses, or the current emergency operating arrangements, cause any difficulties in terms of the proposed timetable.