

**Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg**

**Children, Young People  
and Education Committee**

Ian Morgan  
Chief Executive  
WJEC

**Senedd Cymru**

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**Welsh Parliament**

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20 October 2025

**Re: Implementation of Education Reforms**

Dear Ian,

As you are aware over the Sixth Senedd we have been monitoring the implementation of two major education Acts passed in the last Senedd; the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018. Each year the Committee has carried out a check-in, which has involved formal evidence sessions as well as visiting schools in Wales to understand how these reforms are being implemented in practice.

During the Autumn term the Committee is carrying out its fourth and final check-in. As part of this work, we have heard some concerns about the new 'Made for Wales' Music GCSE now being taught from this academic year for first awarding in 2027.

We understand that school staff have been told by the WJEC that the first time learners currently studying towards this GCSE would see a paper in exam format would be when they sit it in June 2027. While practice papers would be available they would be on paper not electronic, as the exam will be. This would mean learners accessing their actual exam using software and hardware they have never used before.

For learners who currently use Chromebooks they will also be using an unknown operating system on a laptop. For some, this could be the first time they have ever used a laptop that is not a Chromebook, which could cause issues. It is also unclear who will be providing the equipment for the exam. If this is down to individual schools, this could cause inconsistencies in the quality of the equipment.

The Committee would be grateful if you can provide some clarification on these important issues. We would appreciate a response by 28 November.



**Senedd Cymru  
Welsh Parliament**

We look forward to receiving your response

We have copied in Qualifications Wales and the Cabinet Secretary for Education for their information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Buffy Williams', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval shape.

Buffy Williams MS

Chair

Children, Young People and Education Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English

Cc: Philip Blaker, Chief Executive, Qualifications Wales

Lynne Neagle MS, Cabinet Secretary for Education