

Kirsty Williams AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Lynne Neagle
Chair
Children, Young People and Education Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
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23rd January 2018

Dear Lynne

When I attended the Children, Young People and Education Committee in December, I indicated that I would provide details of the key checkpoint dates ahead of the release of the new curriculum in April 2019 in draft form for feedback purposes.

At each checkpoint:

- Each AoLE group shares their latest thinking with the Curriculum and Assessment Group (CAG). The role of CAG is to provide independent evidence, credible and confident challenge and support to the Pioneer Schools Network.
- The latest thinking of AoLE groups is also shared with the following expert groups for feedback. These groups provide assurance on the overarching quality of the development process:
 - Independent Advisory Group (chaired by Professor Graham Donaldson);
 - Foundation Phase expert panel;
 - National Digital and Learning Council; and
 - Literacy and Numeracy Panel.
- AoLE groups also share their proposals with experts for feedback on an AoLE and/or disciplinary basis
- An update is published following the Checkpoint.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The details of each Checkpoint are detailed below:

Checkpoint 1: CAG Meeting 5 & 6 June 2017

Each AoLE group provided a paper to CAG outlining:

- How the AoLE contributes to the four purposes;
- The scope and boundaries of the AoLE;
- How best to present the various components of the AoLE;
- An understanding of the presumed levels of specificity within the AoLE;

Outcome: CAG provided feedback and were content with the approach and progress and an executive summary of the AoLE reports was published and shared with the education sector.

Link to update: <http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/170707-new-curriculum-for-wales-story-so-far-en-v2.pdf>

Checkpoint 2: CAG Meeting 4 & 5 December 2017

Each AoLE group has developed the following:

- A statement defining 'what matters' in the context of the AoLE
- Initial titles for strands of 'what matters' – this includes a rationale regarding why the concept 'matters' to qualify the statement.
- A further developed 'what matters' key concept to provide an indication of the AoLE groups' thinking. This includes a short narrative of progression

Outcome: CAG provided feedback on the overall purpose and role of the 'what matters' statements to ensure consistency and coherence before the beginning of the work on progression underpinning these statements. It also provided each AoLE group with advice for refining and developing the 'what matters' statements and supporting narratives. An update on progress will be shared by the end of January.

Checkpoint 3: CAG Meeting 30 April & 1 May 2018

- Between January and April each AoLE will work with the CAMAU project to articulate progression frameworks in each of the AoLEs from 3-16. The CAMAU project (Glasgow University and [University of Wales, Trinity Saint David](#)) is providing academic support and international research to support the development of progression in each AoLE.
- **CAG will review progress.**

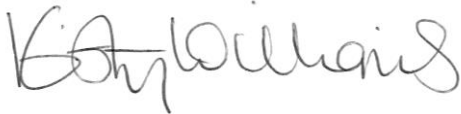
Checkpoint 4: CAG Meeting July (virtual meeting)

- Between April and July, Professional Learning pioneers (independent of the design process) will work with CAMAU to test the 'what matters' statements and the initial progression frameworks at their schools.
- With CAMAU, the curriculum pioneers will also further develop and refine the progression frameworks and develop draft achievement outcomes for progression reference points.
- **CAG will review progress.**

Checkpoint 5: CAG Meeting 13 & 14 November 2018

- Further meeting to review progress.

Yours sincerely

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

Kirsty Williams AC/AM

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Cabinet Secretary for Education