

Kirsty Williams AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Your ref: P-05-925  
Our ref: KW/00128/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AM  
Chair  
National Assembly for Wales Petitions Committee  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales](mailto:SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales)

4 February 2020

Dear Janet

**Petition P-05-925 Don't leave Wales behind - teach menstrual wellbeing in schools**

Thank you for your letter dated 24 January in relation to the aforementioned Petition, which is being considered by the Committee.

The phase of co-construction for refining the new curriculum has concluded and I published the revised [Curriculum for Wales guidance](#) on 28 January. Feedback was provided from a wide range of sources, and informed the refinement work carried out in the autumn.

The Health and well-being Area of Learning and Experience includes a statement of what matters which includes personal care, hygiene and protection from infection. It is intended to support learners to develop positive, informed behaviours to allow them to care for and respect themselves. These behaviours support learners' sense of self-worth, their mental and emotional health and energy levels. The statements of what matters will be a mandatory part of a school's curriculum.

The guidance for this statement of what matters sets out that learners should develop an understanding of a variety of conditions that can affect their physical health and well-being. They should also learn how to respond and/or manage these, especially as learners grow. It is important that learners develop this understanding of and ability to respond to a range of conditions that can affect their lives and those of others. Developing an awareness and understanding of the health and well-being of others is also a key part of this Area and so this is learning that is relevant to all learners regardless of gender.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales)

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.

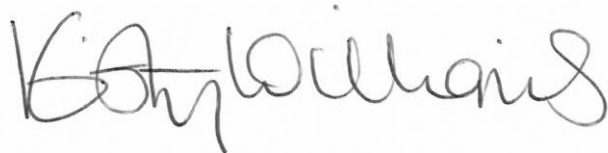
Our new curriculum guidance will allow all schools to begin the journey of designing their own curriculum that meets their own needs within a national approach that ensures consistency.

The Curriculum for Wales framework gives every school in Wales the opportunity to design their own curriculum. It encourages schools to build their own vision for their learners within the context of the Four Purposes and the learning defined at a national level.

Whilst the new curriculum guidance does not include a long list of individual topics, it does set out what schools should take into account in designing their curriculum and the broad expectations for learners. As I set out in my oral statement on January 28, as we look forward to implementation, officials will work with practitioners to identify priorities for the development of resources, to ensure a range of supporting material is available by 2022 to help practitioners develop their own curriculum.

The curriculum's implementation plan will be published after Easter and will provide a clear outline for implementation based on where schools should be focusing their efforts at different points up to 2022 and how they will be supported in doing this.

Yours sincerely

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

**Kirsty Williams AM**  
Minister for Education