



Ein cyf/Our ref: OAQ53963

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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Dear David

In Plenary on 5 June I undertook to write to you with further information in relation to the Health and Well-being AoLE and the guidance which will support our new curriculum.

The 'Food—a fact of life' draft guidelines which you referred to in the Plenary session have been produced by the British Nutrition Foundation (BNF) and Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB). The voluntary guidelines are for producers and users of school education resources about food as part of their joint 'Food - a fact of life' (FFL) programme and were subject to a recent consultation which closed on 19 March.

The Welsh Government recognises the importance of these issues and schools are able to address them through the school curriculum. Schools have the flexibility to select appropriate resources as contexts for learning. It is the responsibility of schools to plan and deliver a broad, balanced programme to meet the needs of their learners.

The new curriculum for Wales is based on four purposes that articulate what we want our young people to be at 16 and will support all learning and teaching to build towards all learners realising these four purposes:

- ambitious and capable;
- enterprising and creative;
- ethical and informed; and
- healthy and confident.

The new Curriculum contain six Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLE). Each AoLE is organised through "What Matters" statements which sum up the most important knowledge skills and experiences in that AoLE. One of these is Health and Well-being, which will encompass issues such as healthy eating and cooking. There are also strong links with the Science and Technology AoLE.

The Health and Well-being AoLE includes a what matters statement on physical health and well-being. The proposed guidance for this AoLE includes learning about making and enjoying foods and meals which form part of a healthy diet and to develop the skills to plan and prepare a range of foods. In addition, other what matters support learners to make

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynir 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 responding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

positive decisions to support their health and well-being and engage critically with social influences such as advertising which may encourage behaviours harmful to their health.

The new curriculum is based on progression of learning through a continuum for 3 to 16 year olds. In the early years, for example, an exploration of food types, tastes and textures is introduced alongside starting to understand what is needed to sustain life. The new curriculum then builds towards an expectation that learners are able to apply a range of techniques to prepare nutritious, balanced meals by combining tastes using affordable ingredients.

The pioneer schools developing the Health and Well-being AoLE within the new curriculum have considered a range of evidence from experts and other key stakeholders which has informed their thinking on the development of the AoLE in relation to food.

The draft Curriculum for Wales 2022 guidance that I published for feedback on 30 April are intended to provide a national framework which settings and schools can build on to develop their own curricula. They are not intended to be comprehensive or exhaustive syllabi or a guide for organising timetables.

The Curriculum for Wales 2022 guidance sets out:

- what schools should take into account in designing their curriculum; and
- the broad expectations for learners for each area of learning and experience at each progression point.

We will be creating a clear legislative framework to underpin the new curriculum. It will offer much greater flexibility about what to teach and how it is taught within in clear national expectations for scope and progression.

Over the summer term, we are seeking the views of the whole education profession in Wales as well as those of children and young people, parents and a range of wider stakeholders on the draft curriculum which has been published for feedback. Practitioners will be refining the AoLE guidance documents based on this feedback. The refined curriculum will then be made available in January 2020 for use in September 2022.

Yours sincerely



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Minister for Education