# WRITTEN STATEMENT

# BY

# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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| **TITLE**  | **Qualifications Wales Review of the Skills Challenge Certificate and its place within the Welsh Baccalaureate**  |
| **DATE**  | **24 April 2018** |
| **BY** | **Kirsty Williams, Cabinet Secretary for Education**  |

The independent regulator, Qualifications Wales, today presented us with the outcome of their review clear of the Skills Challenge Certificate (SCC) and its place within the Welsh Baccalaureate.

I welcome this report which recognises the many strengths of the Skills Challenge Certificate and Welsh Baccalaureate. It is particularly pleasing to see the strength of support for the SCC amongst teachers, employers and students – this endorses our view that the qualification is delivering when it comes to teaching skills needed to succeed in the workplace.

I am committed to the Welsh Baccalaureate, as is the Welsh Government. Our challenge now is to build on these strengths, reduce complexity and consolidate the status of these qualifications amongst learners, teachers, universities and employers. This means improving the way we communicate the many benefits of this qualification. I am also looking at what measures can be taken in terms of future funding for post-16 delivery of the Welsh Bacc.

I expect all young people who are able to take the SCC element of the Welsh Bacc to study this part of the qualification. From this year, the Welsh Bacc will be a published performance measure for Key Stage 4 and we are also developing measures for post-16.

I note the actions Qualifications Wales will be taking and will soon be setting out my response on how we take forward the report’s recommendations.

[http://www.qualificationswales.org/english/news/welsh-bacc-report-2018/](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.qualificationswales.org%2Fenglish%2Fnews%2Fwelsh-bacc-report-2018%2F&data=02%7C01%7CKevin.Griffiths%40gov.wales%7C3ea76bfc803f4636c64708d5a95e74dc%7Ca2cc36c592804ae78887d06dab89216b%7C0%7C0%7C636601145550241665&sdata=pZTRjnwZumIDfwMjFdke8qpL0rtMYOK5IujqYQ4%2FerY%3D&reserved=0)