



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

To:
Secondary School Headteachers
Regional Education Consortium Managing Directors
Directors of Education

Cc:
Regional 14-19 Co-ordinators
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector

6 February 2019

Dear Colleagues

Interim Key Stage 4 Performance Measures – Further Detail

I am writing to you to provide further information regarding the interim Key Stage 4 performance measurement arrangements announced by the Minister for Education in [May 2018](#).

This information set out in the School Performance Reporting Bulletin 6 will clarify the detail underpinning the interim measures: how they will be calculated, the qualifications that can feed into their calculation and which pupils will be counted. In it, we also set out the context of these changes, our expectations of how attainment information should be used and what schools need to consider when making decisions about their curriculum offer. The associated reporting arrangements of the interim measures are still being finalised. In late spring we will be issuing comprehensive guidance on aspects such as what data will be provided to schools, specific expectations of how schools should look at outcomes for different groups of learners, and including how analysis of 'thirds' will work.

The interim measures are very much transitional arrangements as we journey towards the new Evaluation and Improvement arrangements. The Minister will be making a statement in February which will include a high level timeline for that work.

I would also like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to our consultation on proposed changes to statutory school target setting requirements. The consultation can be accessed [here](#) and closes on 8 March. We look forward to hearing your views.

Although attainment against the Level 2 inclusive and Level 1 measures will no longer be published from 2019, the requirement for schools to set targets for Key Stage 4 pupils against these measures have remained in legislation for the 2018-2019 academic year. Therefore, in order to assist schools with monitoring progress against targets set for Level 2 inclusive and Level 1 attainment, in autumn 2019 we will provide schools with Level 2 inclusive and Level 1 attainment data in addition to the interim measures data. Two versions will be provided for the Level 2 inclusive measure: one with and one without Welsh or English Literature qualifications being able to contribute towards the literacy component.

Please share this contextual and technical information on the interim KS4 measures with your colleagues in consortia, local authorities and schools as appropriate. If you have any queries about the contents of this letter then please email us at ims@gov.wales.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "Steve Vincent". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' and 'V'.

Steve Vincent
Deputy Director
School Effectiveness