

The information below has been provided by Welsh Government colleagues in the curriculum review team via WASACRE's Welsh Government contact, David Sargent.

On 22nd October the Minister launched A Curriculum for Wales, a curriculum for life. This is the plan for taking forward Professor Graham Donaldson's recommendations set out in Successful Futures.

The plan sets out the steps and timetable for moving from the current national curriculum to the new Welsh curriculum over a six year period. The new curriculum will be developed with education professionals across Wales, with the aim of it being available to settings and schools by September 2018.

Welsh Government will be engaging with a range of stakeholders including parents/carers, children and young people in the development of a new curriculum which is inclusive, broad and balanced.

WG are establishing a Pioneer Schools network to lead on the design and development of the new curriculum and assessment arrangements. The Minister announced the names of the first tranche of our network of Pioneer Schools, on 5 November. Pioneer schools will be able to use their knowledge and expertise in developing and delivering high quality professional learning provision by working together as a national network to ensure that all practitioners across Wales have the skills in pedagogy and leadership to successfully deliver the new curriculum. The Pioneer Schools network will consist of some of our best schools and practitioners. Initially they will focus on the design and development of the digital competence framework, the new curriculum and the New Deal for the Education Workforce. Over time they will work together, and share practice and learning with the wider sector. The Pioneer schools focusing on the curriculum will be at the forefront of the design and the development of the new curriculum in consultation with partner schools, experts and other stakeholders.

WG are clear that all stakeholders should be able to be involved as appropriate in the development of the new curriculum and assessment arrangements. The approach will be highly collaborative and inclusive, as was the review itself. There will be a number of different ways that this can happen, some of which are still being firmed up. For instance, there will be several stakeholder groups dealing with specific aspects of implementation of Donaldson. Until each work stream has developed its own proposals and we have been able to carry out a stakeholder mapping exercise, we do not have a full picture of where there might still be any gaps. Therefore at present we are just inviting core members of the Strategic Stakeholder Group. WASACRE are represented on the Strategic Stakeholder Group which will meet for the first time on 3rd December.

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