

London Mathematical Society

Response to OFQUAL Consultation on New A Level Regulatory Requirements

Information pages

About you

Are the views expressed in this consultation your personal view or an official response from the organisation you represent? (tick one only)*

- Personal views
- Official response from an organisation/group (complete the type of responding organisation)

If you ticked 'personal views', are you a ... (tick one only)

- Student
- Parent/carer
- Teacher (but not responding on behalf of a school)
- Educational specialist (retired teacher, examiner, assessment expert, subject expert, governor) please state capacity
- General public (interested in education but no direct link) – please state capacity

If you ticked 'official response from an organisation or group', please respond accordingly.

Type of responding organisation (tick one only)*

- Awarding organisation
- Government department/agency or organisation
- Local authority
- University or higher education institute
- Employer
- School/college (please complete the next question)
- Other representative group/interest group (please skip to type of representative group/interest group)

School/college type

- Academy and/or free school
- Comprehensive
- State selective
- Independent/private

Type of representative group/interest group

- Group of awarding organisations
- Union
- Business representative group
- Equality organisation/group
- Subject associations/learned societies
- School or teacher representative group

Other representative/interest group (please state what)

Nation*

- England
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- Other EU country (please state which)
- Non-EU country (please state which)

*Denotes mandatory fields

65. To what extent do you agree that our proposed requirements for an assessment strategy are appropriate?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree [see comments below]
- Don't know/no opinion

Question types

66. To what extent do you agree that we should require exam boards to include in their exams questions that provide opportunities for students to gain marks by demonstrating their ability to:

- a) integrate and apply their knowledge, understanding and skills across different aspects of the subjects;
- b) construct a response which develops a sustained line of reasoning, is coherent, relevant, comprehensive and logically structured?

- Strongly agree [See comments below]
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no opinion

67. Do you have any further comments relating to this section?

64: The assessment strategy should be built into the criteria, it should not be something to be developed by individual examination boards.

65: It is not clear how subject expertise will be used, and used in a transparent way, to construct, review and monitor assessment strategies. This must be built into the procedure.

66: In Mathematics and Further Mathematics proof and problem-solving should also be required

Section 5: AS qualifications

68. To what extent do you agree that where AS content is identified within the A level content it should be used as the basis for developing the new AS qualification in the same subject?

- Strongly agree [See comments below]
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no opinion

69. To what extent do you agree that where no AS content is prescribed, we should require the content to be drawn from the A level content in the same subject?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree

- (!) Strongly disagree [See comments below]
- () Don't know/no opinion

70. To what extent do you agree that AS qualifications should be assessed at a level of demand appropriate to the knowledge, skills and understanding to be reasonably expected of someone who had completed the first half of the A level course of study?

- () Strongly agree
- (!) Agree [See comments below, our agreement is qualified]
- () Disagree
- () Strongly disagree
- () Don't know/no opinion

Teaching AS students with A level students

71. To what extent do you agree that our regulations should not prevent qualifications from being designed so that AS is taught alongside A level students?

Condition 6.19 seems obviously necessary, to the point of tautology.

How our proposals fit within our regulatory framework

75. To what extent do you agree that A level and AS qualifications should be subject to an accreditation condition?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no opinion

76. To what extent do you agree that the accreditation criterion we should apply when we decide whether or not to accredit A level and AS qualifications should be as follows:

The awarding organisation must demonstrate to Ofqual's satisfaction that it is capable of complying, on an ongoing basis, with all of the General Conditions of Recognition that apply in respect of the qualification for which it is seeking accreditation, including all relevant Qualification Level Conditions and Subject Level Conditions.

Strongly agree [but see comments below]

Follow up/information sharing

We use quotes from responses to highlight views expressed in the consultation document. It is hel0 TD(s)Tj4fTD(o)Tj

Additional information

How did you find out about this consultation?

- Ofqual's newsletters or website
- Media/press
- Internet search
- Department for Education (newsletter or website) Awarding organisations / exam boards
- Subject associations / learned societies
- Schools / headteacher / local authority s
(fhor o

Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation

Spring Place

Coventry Business Park

Street Coventry CV5 6UB

2nd Floor

Glendinning House Herald Avenue

Belfast BT1 6DN

6 Murray

Telephone

0300 303 3344

Textphone

0300 303 3345

Helpline

0300 303 3346