

# Welsh Language Policy

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# 1. Introduction

BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, is a charity with a Royal Charter, as well as being an Awarding Organisation (AO) and a registered Apprenticeship End Point Assessment Organisation for a range of digital IT apprenticeships. We are also the awarding body for BCS Professional Certification, digital skills qualifications, and the regulatory body for Chartered IT Professional (CITP) and Register for IT Technicians (RITTech) registration. Our purpose is to set and maintain standards of professional competence, conduct and ethical practice within the IT industry.

BCS is responsible for managing the development, delivery, maintenance and withdrawal of regulated qualifications in alignment with all regulatory requirements. As an awarding body regulated by Qualifications Wales, the <u>Standard Conditions of Recognition</u> D9.3 requires AOs to:

## Publication of Welsh-medium qualifications policy statement

D9.3 An awarding body must publish, maintain, and comply with a policy statement which specifies whether or not it makes available, or proposes to make available qualifications in Welsh.

This policy is publicly accessible in order to be open, transparent, accurate and clear to users of BCS qualifications. It outlines BCS' decision on whether to make qualifications available in Welsh, explaining the basis on which the decision has been made. This policy has been informed by the principles and guidance set out by Qualification Wales.

# 2. Policy Statement

BCS acknowledges the importance of language diversity and cultural inclusivity. As part of our commitment to providing fair and accessible learning opportunities, we strive to meet the linguistic needs of our learners wherever possible. However, due to current limitations and practical considerations, we are currently **not offering qualifications through the medium of Welsh**.

The following considerations have informed the decision not to offer qualifications in Welsh:

#### 1. Regulatory requirements

Regulations that govern the qualifications we offer frequently include specific requirements and standards established outside of Wales. In certain instances, offering qualifications in Welsh would necessitate additional approval and compliance measures that present logistical and practical challenges at present.

## 2. Market demand

While BCS values the importance of Welsh-medium education, the level of demand for qualifications available in Welsh varies across regions and sectors. Demand from employers, training providers, educational institutions and other stakeholders, whose needs and expectations help shape our qualification offering, has also informed the decision.

## 3. Resource availability

Offering qualifications in multiple languages requires substantial resources, including skilled staff, curriculum development and assessment materials. Due to current resource limitations, BCS has prioritised offering qualifications in languages with greater demand and wider accessibility.

# 3. Review and Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis in line with departmental quality standards and regulatory criteria. Additional reviews will be conducted periodically to assess organisational capacity and to evaluate the evolving needs and demands of learners. Customer feedback, insights from internal monitoring, updates to our practices, actions from awarding bodies or other relevant external agencies, and changes in legislation will also be taken into consideration. We welcome input from all stakeholders, including Welsh-medium and bilingual centres, as we seek to continuously enhance our qualification offerings.



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