

# **Responding to the *Developing New GCSEs, AS and A Levels for First Teaching in 2017 – Part 3***

## **Your details**

To evaluate responses properly, we need to know who is responding to the consultation and in what capacity. We will therefore only consider your response if you complete the following information section.

We will publish our evaluation of responses. Please note that we may publish all or part of your response unless you tell us (in your answer to the confidentiality question) that you want us to treat your response as confidential. If you tell us you wish your response to be treated as confidential, we will not include your details in any published list of respondents, although we may quote from your response anonymously.

Please answer all questions marked with a star\*

**Name\***

Lesley Davies

**Position\***

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**Would you like us to treat your response as confidential?\***

If you answer yes, we will not include your details in any list of people or organisations that responded to the consultation.

Yes  No

**Is this a personal response or an official response on behalf of your organisation?\***

Personal response (please answer the question “If you ticked ‘Personal response’...”)

Official response (please answer the question “If you ticked ‘Official response’...”)

**\*If you ticked “Personal response”, which of the following are you?**

Student

Parent or carer

Teacher (but responding in a personal capacity)

Other, including general public (please state below)

**\*If you ticked “Official response from an organisation/group”, please respond accordingly:**

**Type of responding organisation\***

Awarding organisation

Local authority

School or college (please answer the question below)

Academy chain

Private training provider

University or other higher education institution

Employer

Other representative or interest group (please answer the question below)

**School or college type**

Comprehensive or non-selective academy

State selective or selective academy

Independent

Special school

Further education college

Sixth form college

Other (please state below)

**Type of representative group or interest group**

- Group of awarding organisations
- Union
- Employer or business representative group
- Subject association or learned society
- Equality organisation or group
- School, college or teacher representative group
- Other (please state below)

**Nation\***

- England
- Wales
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Other EU country: \_\_\_\_\_
- Non-EU country: \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you find out about this consultation?**

- Our newsletter or another one of our communications
- Our website
- Internet search
- Other

**May we contact you for further information?**

- Yes     No

# Consultation questions

## AS and A level geology

Pearson does not offer these qualifications. Therefore we do not feel best placed to offer comments on the assessment arrangements for these qualifications.

**Question 1: To what extent do you agree or disagree that AS and A levels in geology should continue to assess practical skills?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

**Question 2: To what extent do you agree or disagree that exams for AS and A levels in geology should include questions that assess students' knowledge and understanding of practical work?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

**Question 3: To what extent do you agree or disagree that grades for AS qualifications in geology should be based on exam marks only?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

**Question 4: To what extent do you agree or disagree that grades for A levels in geology should be based on exam marks only?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

**Question 5: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the results of practical skills assessments for A levels in geology should be reported separately on certificates and not count towards the final grade?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

**Question 6: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed assessment objectives are appropriate for AS and A levels in geology?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

**Question 7: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed weightings of the assessment objectives are appropriate for AS qualifications in geology?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

**Question 8: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed weightings of the assessment objectives are appropriate for A levels in geology?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

**Question 9: Do you have any further comments relating to the assessment of this subject?<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that any comments relating to the subject content should be directed to the Department for Education.

## GCSE physical education (short-course)

**Question 10: To what extent do you agree or disagree that, for short-course GCSEs in physical education, 60 per cent of the available marks should be allocated to exams, and 40 per cent to non-exam assessment?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

No comment.

**Question 11: To what extent do you agree or disagree that short-course GCSEs in physical education should not be tiered?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

No comment.

**Question 12: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed assessment objectives are appropriate for short-course GCSEs in physical education?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

No comment.

**Question 13: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed weightings of the assessment objectives are appropriate for short-course GCSEs in physical education?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

No comment.

**Question 14: Do you have any further comments relating to the assessment of this subject?<sup>2</sup>**

None, we fully agree with the proposal.

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<sup>2</sup> Please note that any comments relating to the subject content should be directed to the Department for Education.



## AS and A level politics

**Question 15: To what extent do you agree or disagree that AS qualifications in politics should be assessed entirely by exams?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

No comment.

**Question 16: To what extent do you agree or disagree that A levels in politics should be assessed entirely by exams?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

No comment.

**Question 17: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed assessment objectives are appropriate for AS and A levels in politics?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

We would recommend that the wording to AO1 is amended slightly by replacing 'relevant' to 'political' and removing 'political' from 'political concepts as this word is no longer needed if the first change is made. The AO will now read 'Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues'.

The assessment objective for AO2 can be interpreted in different ways depending on whether this AO is linked to AO1 or AO3, or standalone as a separate AO.

If AO2 is meant to be assessed with AO3 for students to analyse and evaluate this information then we recommend that AO2 should be changed to 'Comprehend and interpret information and data relating to political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues'. Alternatively, it could be "Analyse and evaluate information and data with reference to political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which could be assessed alongside AO1 for underpinning knowledge and understanding.

The wording of AO3 currently suggests that more than one 'area of politics studied' must be assessed in a question targeting this assessment objective in order to allow students to identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences. This would be a demanding requirement of students and there would be limited opportunity to assess this within the current subject content. We recommend that AO3 is changed to 'Analyse and evaluate, in relation to the areas of politics studied, to explore and make substantiated judgements about political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues'.

**Question 18: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed weightings of the assessment objectives are appropriate for AS qualifications in politics?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

No comment.

**Question 19: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed weightings of the assessment objectives are appropriate for A levels in politics?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please give reasons for your answer:

We agree with the proposed weightings but we would like to review these in light of the issues raised in Question 17 and during the development of the technical interpretations where we feel clarification is needed

**Question 20: Do you have any further comments relating to the assessment of this subject?<sup>3</sup>**

Please give reasons for your answer:

No comment.

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<sup>3</sup> Please note that any comments relating to the subject content should be directed to the Department for Education.

## **Equality analysis**

**Question 21: We have identified a number of ways the proposed requirements for reformed GCSEs, AS and A levels may impact (positively or negatively) on persons who share a protected characteristic. Are there any other potential impacts we have not identified? If so, what are they?**

No

**Question 22: Are there any additional steps we could take to mitigate any negative impact resulting from these proposals on persons who share a protected characteristic? If so, please comment on the additional steps we could take to mitigate negative impacts.**

No

**Question 23: Have you any other comments on the impacts of the proposals on persons who share a protected characteristic?**

No

## Accessibility of our consultations

**We want to write clearly, directly and put the reader first. Overall, do you think we have got this right in this consultation?\***

Yes  No

**Do you have any comments or suggestions about the style of writing?**

No comment.

**Do you have any special requirements to enable you to read our consultations? (For example screen reader, large text, and so on)\***

Yes  No

**Which of the following do you currently use to access our consultation documents? (Select all that apply)\***

- Screen reader / text-to-speech software
- Braille reader
- Screen magnifier
- Speech to text software
- Motor assistance (blow-suck tube, mouth stick, etc.)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Which of the following document formats would you prefer to use when reading our consultations? (Select all that apply)\***

- A standard PDF
- Accessible web pages
- Large type PDF (16 point text)
- Large-type word document (16 point text)
- eBook (Kindle, iBooks or similar format)
- Braille document
- Spoken document
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**How many of our consultations have you read in the last 12 months?\***

More than 5