



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

---

**WRITTEN ASSEMBLY QUESTION  
FOR ANSWER BY  
THE CABINET SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION  
ON 22 NOVEMBER 2017**

---

Supplementary information provided on 28 November 2017 in support of WAQ75134.

**Mark Reckless (South Wales East):** How are pupils selected to take part in the Seren Network in the Pembrokeshire-Carmarthenshire Hub Area? (WAQ75134)

Since the response was originally provided it has been possible to obtain information on the selection process operated in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire.

A common points system entry criteria has been agreed for each theme pathway within the Seren programme (using the St David's honours programme points) based on A\* - 3 points; A - 2 points; and B - 1 point. Total points needed for each pathway was agreed as follows (including the Welsh Baccalaureate):

Science Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) = 20 points including A/A\* in a Science or Mathematical subject.

Humanities and Business = 16 points including A / A\* in English, Welsh 1st Language or mathematical subject.

Creative and Physical Activities = individual merit based on the following criteria:

- At least Grade 8 for Musicians
- Enthusiasm in specific subject e.g. through school or outside activities
- Portfolio of evidence
- Teacher reference

These details are summarised in the update to the original table.

	<b>HUB</b>	<b>Selection Criteria for 2016/17 cohort – YEAR 12 ONLY</b>
1	Flintshire-Wrexham	5A*'s plus pupils according to circumstances
2	Denbigh-Conway	5A*'s plus pupils according to circumstances, or average point score of 7.5
3	Gwynedd-Mon	GCSE results – 7A*/A with a minimum of 4A*
4	Ceredigion	<p>Pupils with 5 grades B or better will have access to the network. Pupils will have grade A or A* at GCSE in the subjects they wish to study at 'A' level or similar subjects where pupils did not study an 'A' level subject at GCSE. In addition, headteachers can nominate additional pupils where GCSE results were disappointing.</p> <p>Should a pupil appeal they can make an application to join the network to their Headteacher, and the can make a further appeal to the headteacher's forum.</p>
5	Powys/Bridgend/NPT	Regionally agreed measure of 20 points derived from A*=3, A=2 and B=1 so looking for x6A* plus to register
6	Swansea	7A's at GCSE or better
7	Vale of Glamorgan	7 A's or 5A*
8	Carmarthenshire - Pembrokeshire	Points based system derived from GCSE grades A*=3, A=2 and B=1. 20 points required for STEM programme and 16 points for Humanities/Business. A more discretionary / portfolio based approach for those on Creative/Physical programme (including Grade 8 Music where relevant).
9	RCT-Merthyr	Minimum of four A* grades at GCSE, plus those deemed to have special circumstances; schools able to recommend students to the Hub as the academic year progressed
10	Cardiff	Minimum 5A*'s including Maths and English or Welsh

11	EAS	<p>6 A* at GCSE – as a starting point for a guaranteed entry. Then look at subject specific strengths and a minimum of 5A*/A</p> <p>Learners are nominated and then asked complete application form to explain reasons for wanting to be on the Seren programme. There are learners on the Seren programme from every school and college – this has been consistent since inception of the programme Our core purpose is to have fair and inclusive access to Seren Desire by the Hub to widen access to other pupils (when there is restricted Seren funds). This is done in the following way;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to programme kept fluid throughout the year.</li> <li>• Any learners who drop out of the Seren programme can be replaced within selection criteria boundaries.</li> <li>• Any other learners who are exceptional or who have a passion for a subject (who are not funded through Seren budget) can access subject specific masterclasses.</li> </ul>
----	-----	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------