**Review of SWAC validation rules**

The errors and queries triggered have been reviewed with LAs and corrected where necessary. As this is the first census, some errors and queries which were triggered have been accepted, either due to changes required to the validation rules or, in certain cases, with the intention to report back to LAs and schools on errors where it was not possible to collect and complete the required data in time for the 2020 census.

A list of the most common errors and queries are listed below:

* Rule 13036 - Qualified teacher with teacher number missing. Mainly where individuals were not in school to provide teacher number. Running cross-DEWi validations may confirm number.
* Rule 13038 - Teacher number should be 7 digits. Missing leading zeroes which are populated on upload. Where 8 digit teacher numbers were provided cross-DEWi validations may confirm number.
* Rules 13057 - QTS date is missing / 13058 - QTS route is missing. Validation rules were not triggering correctly initially and some schools missed the data item. Schools will be expected to complete information for next census.
* Rule 13065 - QTS is missing for a teacher. Validation rules were not triggering correctly initially. Schools could not confirm with individual. Will need to be completed for next collection.
* Rule 13067 - Teaching / working through the medium of Welsh is missing. Schools could not confirm with individual. Will need to be completed for next collection (could add not assessed as per Welsh ability item).
* Rules 13069 / 13070 / 13071 – validate teaching / working through Welsh against Welsh ability or Medium of school. Rules validated for each workforce member regardless of role and Welsh ability rule set at ‘Intermediate’. Rules to be amended to look at specific roles and change level of ability to advanced or above.
* Rule 13073 – Primary role is missing. This is mainly for individuals who are recorded as ‘SC – SENCo’ which is included as an additional role in the code set. Where an individual is employed solely as a SENCo a main role of ‘OS – Other support staff’ must also be selected.
* Rule 13077 – No curriculum record has been provided for member of staff. Mainly for individuals on long-term absence (e.g. maternity). New data item suggested to be added to identify these so they are not included in validation.
* Rule 13078 – No curriculum record expected for workforce member. TAs / support staff with a timetable. Rule to be deleted.
* Rule 13091 / 13092 / 13093 / 13094 – Lesson medium of curriculum information. Need to review validations by Medium type of school.
* Rule 13136 - at least one workforce member record in schools return should show a role of SEN Co-ordinator. In most cases due to sharing of SENCo across schools. Will be included in reporting to LAs / schools and corrected for next year where necessary.

All validation rules are being reviewed based on the feedback and comments received to ensure their relevance and to minimise the number of errors and queries triggered against school returns.