

# LLAWLYFR LLWYBRAU DYSGU CA4



2024-2026

## KS4 LEARNING PATHWAY HANDBOOK



# Introduction

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg

**BRO MYRDDIN**

Welsh Comprehensive School



Croesyceiliog  
Caerfyrddin / Carmarthen SA32 8DN  
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Pennaeth / Headteacher: Dr Llinos Jones

**Dear Parents**

I am pleased to present this options booklet for your attention. I trust that it will help you and your child in choosing suitable courses for the next two years. This is an exciting and important time of your child as they move from year 9 to year 10.

It is a time of intense thinking and decision making. It is of course important that you discuss your options fully with your child. It would also be worthwhile for your child to discuss with the subject teachers before reaching their final decision.

You will have the opportunity to discuss your child's current performance at the Year 9 parents' evening which is to be held face to face between 4:00 and 6:30 on Thursday, 1st of February and the options evening will be held between 5:00 and 7:00 on Tuesday, March 5th, 2024. If you would like to chat further, Mrs Gwenan Morgans, Head of Year 9 will be ready to



**Good luck with your decisions.**

**Dr Llinos Jones  
Headteacher**



# What are GCSEs?

## General Certificate of Secondary Education

The G.C.S.E. is a single system of examinations with a single scale of grades from A\* to G. The examinations not only test your memory and ability to present facts, but also test your understanding, practical skills and your ability to apply your knowledge.

## What is Entry Pathways?

The **Entry Pathways** course of the W.J.E.C. is designed to prepare pupils for the world of work. It is suited to those who do not perform well in examinations. Some 80% of assessment is based on class work, projects, practical tests and oral work.

## Options

For the 2023-2025 academic year all pupils will study the following compulsory subjects to the levels recommended by their subject teachers:

- Welsh
- English
- Mathematics
- Double Science
- Welsh Baccalaureate

In addition, all pupils will select three option subjects, one from each of the option blocks, which they will study throughout Years 10 and 11. It is important that pupils choose wisely in Year 9, as it may not be possible to make changes once they enter Year 10.

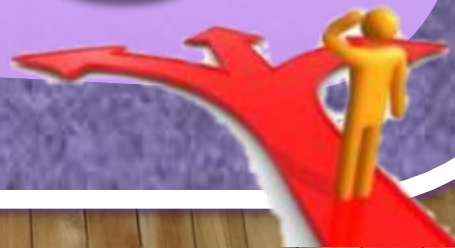
Every pupil also follows non-examination courses in Physical Education, and Personal and Social Education, which includes lessons on Health and Sex Education, Careers and Work Experience. (Parents with a valid reason can make a written request to the Headteacher, asking her permission to withdraw their child from Sex Education lessons.)

In addition, in their subject and PSE lessons, pupils will be given the opportunity to develop their thinking skills and their ability to work with others and improve their own learning.



# Our language

Welsh is the official language of the school for both extra-curricular activities and for the vast majority of lessons. The school is proud of its Welsh ethos and is anxious to ensure that this is maintained for each new cohort of pupils. It is compulsory for pupils to speak Welsh around the school, during extra-curricular activities and in those lessons taught through the medium of Welsh. Parents are requested to aid the school by encouraging their children to speak Welsh, to respect the school's Welsh ethos and to promote this on every occasion.



# Personal and Social Education / Careers

During years 10 and 11, pupils follow a statutory course in PSE and careers. The course involves sections of work on social issues such as:

**i) Alcohol and Drugs;**

**ii) Respect and Relationships**

**(which includes a section on Sex Education).**

The pupils are prepared for external examinations by introducing units of work on revision skills and organisation of work. Each pupil then receives a print out listing the types of occupations suitable for them, having taken into account their interests and ability in different subject areas. In addition the pupils carry out work on:

**i) The World of Work:**



At the end of Year 10, a 2 day World of Work Conference is held which runs concurrently with the (compulsory) week of work experience.

It is intended to use the first day of the Conference to prepare pupils for their work experience placement - for instance, the employer's expectations, pupil's behaviour and Health and Safety requirements, as well as providing the pupils with an insight into the different types of work situations.

The second day of the conference will follow the pupils' placements. This will provide the pupils with an opportunity to report back in groups. There will also be an opportunity for them to discuss the variety of jobs they encountered within their different work situations

The above experiences are valuable and are ones which the majority of pupils really enjoy. Great care is taken when placing pupils. Several departments within the school make use of the experience gained by pupils in order to develop oral and folio work when preparing for the GCSE examinations



# Agriculture

BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN

AGRICULTURE

## Why should I study this subject?

If you are interested in a career in the agriculture and country side industries then this would be a suitable course for you. It provides you with the opportunity to develop initial skills as well as developing an understanding and knowledge of how to work safely on a farm or country estate. This course is offered in partnership with Coleg Sir Gar and will be taught by experts in the subject. The course is worth the equivalent of two GCSEs. You do not need any prior knowledge before undertaking this course.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

No. You will be taught in a mixed ability class.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

No.

## What is the content of the course?

This course will offer you the opportunity to develop a range of skills and knowledge. You will have to study 3 units of work. These units will enable you to develop your skills in the following:

- ❖ Land Based Machinery Operations
- ❖ Practical Land Based Skills
- ❖ Farm Animal Production

During the course you will be given the opportunity to develop your practical skills at a local farm as well as studying in the classroom.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

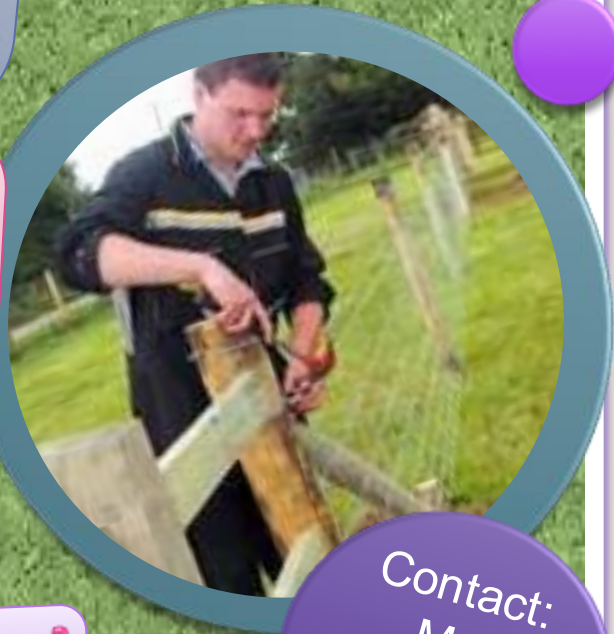
You will be expected to submit a portfolio of work which will include evidence of assignments, practical tests and observations which you will complete either in the classroom or on a local farm.

edexcel

## Where can I get more information?

You may speak to Mrs Eirlys Thomas.

Contact:  
Mrs  
Eirlys  
Thomas



# Art & Design

## Why should I study this subject?

If you are creative and enjoy making and looking at art then it could be for you. The marks for the course are split 60% coursework and 40% examined. It's a good option therefore if you don't like working under the usual exam conditions. Art is fun, but it also involves a lot of hard work, most people find that their art coursework requires more time than they expected. You will need to work consistently on your coursework throughout the year, if you tend to leave things to the last minute then you could be in trouble..

## What is the content of the course?

The coursework unit includes a wide variety of subject areas. You can choose to study **Art and Design** in general or you may want to specialize in one of the following areas:

**Graphics, Textiles and Fashion, Film and Photography, 3D Design or Fine Arts.**

You will set the theme and this should allow you to think and respond creatively e.g. Relationships, Conflict, Change, Destruction, Time.

This will involve carrying out work in sketchbooks and finished pieces of work,

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

The coursework is worth 60% of the total mark and therefore it's of importance that you work consistently throughout the two years in order to attain a good grade in order to build upon with the external exam. All coursework is marked and assessed by your teacher and then externally moderated by the WJEC.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

Everyone will sit the same paper.

## Where can I get more information?

The department's Facebook page @yggbmcelf and WJEC website has a gallery of images available to view for ideas of exemplar material.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

All classes are of mixed ability in this subject and lessons are taught to the strengths of the individual.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

For the external examination you will choose one question only from the paper and follow the same processes as the portfolio but under exam time restrictions and conditions.

All of your exam work will be completed in school during 8 weeks and a final 10 hour exam (2 days in school).

All exam work is marked and assessed by your teacher and the externally moderated by the WJEC.



Contact:  
Mr  
Wyn  
Mainwaring

# Business Studies

## Why should I study this subject?

This is a subject which will prepare you for the world of work and make you aware of current issues which affect businesses and our economy. You will be given the opportunity to visit local businesses and also the opportunity to compete in Enterprise competitions.

## What is the content of the course?

The main aim of the course is to broaden your understanding of the way in which businesses operate in a dynamic, changing and competitive environment. You will study 6 units – Business activity, Influences on business, Business operations, Finance, Marketing, Human resources

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

There is no coursework or controlled task in the 2017 syllabus.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

There is only 1 tier and all questions cater for the full range of ability to enable you to achieve grade A\* - G



## Where can I get more information?

If you would like more information about the course you can come and discuss with the Head of Business Studies or visit the following website: [www.cbac.co.uk](http://www.cbac.co.uk)

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

The Business Studies Department does not set pupils and you will be taught in a mixed ability class.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

At the end of the course there are 2 examinations.

### Unit 1: Business World

Written examination : 2 hours, 100 marks.

A mix of short answer and structured questions based on stimulus material covering all of the syllabus content.

### Unit 2: Business Perceptions

Written examination : 1 hour 30 minutes, 60 marks.

Data response questions covering all of the content.



Contact:  
Mrs  
Melanie  
Rees



# Design & Technology: **CONSTRUCTION LEVEL 2**

## **Why should I study this subject?**

If you are interested in a course which prepares you for work in the construction industry – this is the course for you. The construction industry employs over 2.5 million workers in the U.K. You will require self motivation and numeracy, communication and problem solving skills, as well as technical skills and understanding in order to succeed. You can use the qualification as evidence for a university application or a learning pathway to a range of vocational qualifications in construction.

## **Will I be taught in a particular set?**

The classes are mixed ability

## **What is the content of the course?**

This course is an opportunity for you to learn about the construction industry by studying the following units:

- Practical processes used in the Construction Industry.
- Methods used in planning construction projects.
- Health and safety in the workplace.



## **Will I need to complete coursework or exams?**

You will be assessed through internal coursework. There will be an exam at the end of year 10.

## **Where can I get more information?**

If you would like more information you can discuss the option with your Construction teacher, or the Head of Department.

Contact:  
Mr  
Steffan  
Davies



# Design & Technology: Product Design

## Why should I study this subject?

This qualification in Design and Technology offers a unique opportunity in the curriculum for learners to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems. Learners will be ready to participate in an increasingly technological world by developing a range of communication skills, including oral skills, graphical, ICT and modelling. The course is suitable for pupils who are interested in a career in Art and Design, Science, or Engineering.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

The classes are mixed ability

## What is the content of the course?

The course will develop an appropriate range and depth of knowledge, understanding and skills in design and technology. Students will plan and manufacture innovative products that reflect developments in society. The course is based on practical activities which include disassembling products design, evaluation and production. Students have the opportunity to develop an understanding of materials and components and learn how to use a variety of hand tools, machinery, equipment and software including computer-aided design and production. The use of ICT systems for investigating and solving problems is required. Students will need to use ICT systems to process text, analyse data, generate images / 2D and 3D models for digital manipulation.



## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

Students will need to complete a design and make task under controlled conditions at school. This task is worth 50% of the final mark of the course. Detailed information on the requirements of each task will be made available to prepare for the task ahead and used in the assessment. Learners are expected to complete a high quality design and make task based on the brief they have chosen. They will be expected to produce the following:-

- A design brief that was developed in response to one of the contextual challenges set by WJEC
- A product/prototype (or prototypes) based on the final design brief.
- Additional evidence will be required, including a design folio to enable learners to be assessed.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

You will sit a written paper worth 50% of the GCSE award. The exam will give you an opportunity to demonstrate knowledge of the following:

- Developing, planning and communicating ideas
- Product analysis
- Sustainability and legislative issues
- Other Designers / Practitioners
- Commercial Manufacturing Practices
- Materials and Components
- Tools and Equipment
- ICT CAD and CAM
- Systems and Processes

## Which examination tier will I sit?

The paper has one tier on the paper. Questions are graded so that all grades (A\*-F) are available to candidates.

Contact:  
Mr  
Robyn  
Davies

## Where can I get more information?

If you would like more information you can discuss the option with your Technology teacher, the Head of Department, or visit the following website: [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)



# Digital Technology (ICT)

## Why should I study this subject?

Digital Technology and ICT skills are essential in everyday life, whether at home, school or in your own time. If you intend on specialising in the field in graphics, development, animation, games, web authoring, communication, or problem solving then Digital Technology has an increased role to play. The course allows you to achieve favourable and sought-after digital skills that will best prepare you for future employment, in any sector.

## Will I need to complete coursework/controlled tasks?

### U2: Digital Practices (40%)

There will be an option to create a game or an animation. Learners must organise and analyse data whilst be able to make clear decisions and predictions to plan, prepare and produce an effective solution.

### U3: Comm. In the Digital World (20%)

Learners must develop digital assets for social media marketing of a provided brand or company., researching the target demographic and providing an effective strategy for digital marketing.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

There is one 1.5-hour examination, worth 40% of the qualification. This unit will be an on-screen examination sat at the end of Year 11, Focusing on digital systems, structure and requirements of data, the effects on organisations and security considerations.

## Where can I get more information?

For more information, see Mr Christopher Lacey or visit the WJEC website and choose GCSE Digital Technology.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

There will be no sets. All pupils will be doing the same work and entered for the same tier in the examinations.

## What is the content of the course?

There are three units in the course. One theoretical units (U1) worth 40% and two practical units (U2 and U3) worth 60%.

**U1: The Digital World (40%)**  
1.5 hour, on-screen examination.

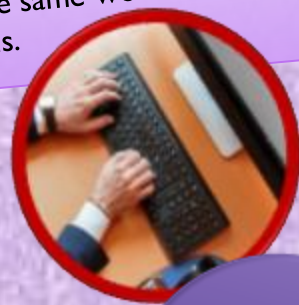
**U2: Digital Practices (40%)**  
45 hour, non-examination assessment (NEA).

**U3: Communication in the Digital World (20%)**  
1.5 hour, non-examination assessment (NEA).



## Which examination tier will I sit?

There is only one tier in which everyone will study the same work and sit the same examinations.



Contact:  
Mr  
Christopher  
Lacey

# Drama

## Why should I study this subject?

You can study Drama as a GCSE option in year 10, and also as an A.S and A level option in the Drama and Theatre Studies course. Through studying Drama, every individual has the opportunity to enhance dramatic skills whilst creating, performing and evaluating. It's a valuable way to develop self-confidence and language skills.

We believe in learning through enjoyment. You will be offered a feast of extra-curricular activities. You will have opportunities to perform in musicals, plays, evenings of entertainment and to compete in the National Urdd Eisteddfod. Workshops and trips to the theatre are arranged, as are visits from touring companies, actors and specialists in the field.

**Come and join the fun..**

## What is the content of the course?

### **UNIT ONE - Devised Theatre (40%)**

You will devise a practical performance based on a theme, linked with a practitioner or genre. A written evaluation will be completed after the performance.

### **UNIT TWO – Performing Theatre (20%)**

External Assessment - You will be assessed on your acting in a scene from a published play.

### **UNIT THREE - Written Examination (40%)**

You will analyse **one** set text "Bryniau Glas Aatgofion" – Dennis Potter as an actor, designer and director.

You will write an evaluation of a live Theatre performance.

## Where can I get more information?

You're welcome to talk to your teacher and see various pieces of course work. You can visit the school's website and look at the Drama Department's latest activities or view the official site via the following link: [www.cbac.co.uk](http://www.cbac.co.uk)

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

Your classmates will be of mixed ability. Two classes (depending on numbers) taught by Mrs Lowri Davies.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

You will have two practical examinations in year 11, one internally marked and the other assessed by a recognized examiner from the examination board.

There will be a written examination at the end of the year based on a set play.



Contact:  
Mrs  
Lowri  
Davies



# BTEC Level 1 and 2: Engineering

## Why should I study this subject?

This Engineering qualification offers students an opportunity in the curriculum to learn real engineering skills by completing a number of challenging tasks using metals when making products. It will prepare learners to take part in engineering or technological work and to be confident in using the workshop equipment safely and successfully. The course is very suitable for pupils who are interested in a career in Design, Science, or Engineering.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

The classes are mixed ability

## What is the content of the course?

The course develops an appropriate range and depth of knowledge, understanding and skills in engineering. You will study health and safety and how to work safely in an industrial environment. The course is based on practical activities that include the construction of a number of items using different engineering skills. Pupils will need to learn how to work to very accurate tolerances and use measurement tools to evaluate their work. You will learn how to use a variety of hand tools and machinery. Students will need to demonstrate the ability to read technical drawings and understand information from different sources. Keep a portfolio of work to show and record their results.



## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

Students will need to complete a design and make task under controlled conditions at school. This task is worth 50% of the final mark of the course. Detailed information on the requirements of each task will be made available to prepare for the task ahead and used in the assessment. Learners are expected to complete a high quality design and make task based on the brief they have chosen. They will be expected to produce the following:-

- A design brief that was developed in response to one of the contextual challenges set by WJEC
- A product/prototype (or prototypes) based on the final design brief.
- Additional evidence will be required, including a design folio to enable learners to be assessed.

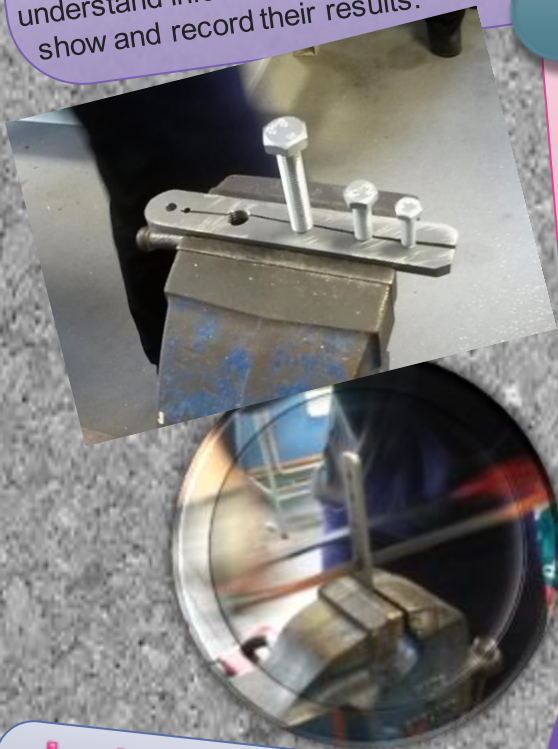
Contact:  
Mr  
Robyn  
Davies

## Where can I get more information?

If you would like more information you can discuss the option with your Engineering teacher, the Head of Department, or visit the following website: <http://eal.org.uk/>

## Is there an exam in this subject?

There is no formal final examination. All work is assessed in the workshop



# English(Language)

## Why should I study this subject?

English is a compulsory subject in KS4 and every pupil in year 11 is expected to gain a qualification in the subject. Employers, universities and colleges usually expect candidates to achieve a grade C.



## What is the content of the course?

Whilst studying the course you will given every opportunity to develop your speaking and listening, reading and writing skills by analysing how language is used. You will also be expected to develop your written skills through the close examination of literary and factual texts through clear, accurate expression. Additionally you will also have many opportunities to contribute to speaking and listening tasks.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

At the end of the course there are 2 exams of 2 hour each which account for 80% of the total mark. The first exam assesses your ability to analyse the language and structure used in a fictional text while the second exam assesses your ability to read, express your opinion and present information.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will be expected to complete two speaking and listening controlled assessments in school worth 20% of the total marks.

You will receive details beforehand of the demands of the tasks and you will be thoroughly prepared by your English teacher for the assessments. Additionally, you will be allowed to create a plan of your ideas

## Which examination tier will I sit?

The English Language course will be non tier.

## Where can I get more information?

If you want further information about the course speak to your English teacher, the Head of Department or visit the following website: [www.cbac.co.uk](http://www.cbac.co.uk)



Contact:  
Mrs  
Llinos M  
Jones

# English(Literature)

## Why should I study this subject?

The majority of pupils in year 11 are given the opportunity to sit English Literature GCSE where you will experience and analyse a wide range of literary texts written across the centuries.

## What is the content of the course?

Whilst studying the course you will be given every opportunity to develop your reading and writing skills by analysing how language is used in a range of literary texts. You will also be expected to develop your empathy skills through the close examination of novels, poetry and drama.



## Is there an exam in this subject?

There are 2 exams of 2 hours each which account for 75% of the total mark. Unit 1 assesses your ability to analyse a 20<sup>th</sup> century novel and your response to poetry while unit 2 assesses your analysis of a classic novel and a 20<sup>th</sup> century drama.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will be expected to complete two controlled assessments in school worth 25% of the total marks. You will receive details beforehand of the demands of the task and you will be thoroughly prepared by your English teacher for the assessment. Additionally, you will be allowed to create a plan of your ideas and use it in the assessment.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

After careful consideration of the standard of your work and your commitment to the subject, your teacher will decide which tier exam you will sit.

## Where can I get more information?

If you want further information about the course speak to your English teacher, the Head of Department or visit the following website: [www.cbac.co.uk](http://www.cbac.co.uk)



Contact:  
Mrs  
Llinos M  
Jones

## Why should I study this subject?

This subject provides an opportunity for you to expand your practical skills as well as your information and knowledge about the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. The subject content is suitable if you want to have a broad knowledge of food and nutrition and is the basis for the study of A Level subjects similar to Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition. If you do not wish to move on to further education this course is useful for everyday life. It is also valuable preparation if you want a career within the catering sector.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

All pupils will study the same subject content and sit the same exam at the end of the course; therefore there is no setting within the subject.

## What is the content of the course?

The course provides the knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to cook. It is a practical subject and on average you will be expected to cook once a week. The course requires that you demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- Food ingredients / Principles of nutrition
- Diet and good health / Food Science
- Where food comes from
- Cooking and food preparation

## Is there an exam in this subject?

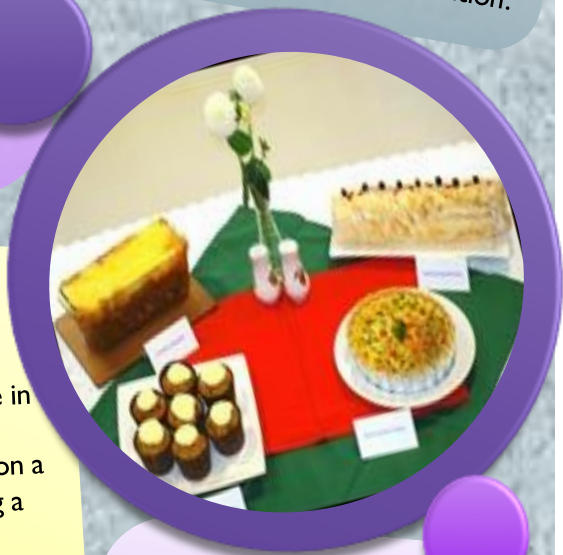
At the end of the course there will be a 1½ hour examination. This paper will assess your knowledge of all the areas mentioned above which are connected to food and nutrition.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will have to complete 2 controlled assessment tasks; one in Year 10 and one in Year 11.

Assessment 1: Scientific task, which includes writing a report on a practical experiment e.g. the use of raising agents while baking a cake. The task is worth 20% of your final mark.

Assessment 2: Practical task, which includes creating 3 dishes for specific requirements e.g. suitable for an International Week. This task is worth 40% of your final mark.



## Which examination tier will I sit?

There is only one tier to the paper. All questions on the paper will be compulsory and they will target all grades from A\* to G.

Contact:  
Mrs  
Non  
Knott

## Where can I get more information?

More information about the subject is available from Mrs Non Knott or visit the GCSE Food and Nutrition page on the following website – [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)



# French

## Why should I study this subject?

Studying French at GCSE is a wise and informed decision for many reasons:

- It is a very useful skill;
- employers are demanding better language skills;
- It enables students to study abroad as a part of their degree;
- It provides students with many new and exciting experiences.;
- It offers an invaluable insight into other cultures and traditions.

## What is the content of the course?

During the course we study a broad variety of themes: entertainment and leisure, health and fitness, food and drink, holidays and celebrations, the environment, work experience, talking about yourself and relationships, technology and social media, social matters, school life and cultural events in French speaking countries.

## Did you know?

- Other European countries are now following a 1+2 policy. This entails studying your first language and at least two others.
- A language GCSE is a prerequisite for some university courses.
- All primary pupils in England study at least one foreign language.
- In England the study of a foreign language is an integral part of the Bac.



## How is the course assessed?

There are four components to the final assessment:

**Unit 1: Speaking - 25%** There is one oral test; a role play; a discussion of an image on a card; a conversation. The test will last between 10-12 minutes at the higher level and between 7-9 minutes at the foundation level. The test will be undertaken with the subject teacher.

**Unit 2: Listening - 25%** A final examination at the end of year 11 - There are two tiers: higher and foundation.

**Unit 3: Reading - 25%** A final examination at the end of year 11 - There are two tiers: higher and foundation.

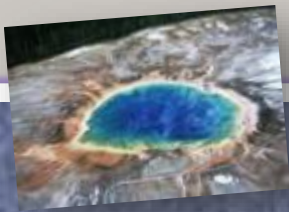
**Unit 4: Writing - 25%** A final examination at the end of year 11 - There are two tiers: foundation and higher.

## Where can I get more information?

If you would like further information you can ask your teacher, the head of department or visit the following website: [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

Contact:  
Mrs  
Claire  
Russell

WJEC  
CBAC



# Geography

## Why should I study this subject?

Geography is relevant to your life – it is the study of the world around us, in Wales, Europe and the World. You will study environmental and social issues in a variety of places. You will study a wide range of themes, as noted in the course content, and a great emphasis is placed on developing your skills such as problem solving and working independently. An emphasis is placed on you developing a mature understanding of contemporary issues so that you appreciate the need for sustainable development and are aware of the viewpoints of other people.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

You will be taught in mixed ability groups.

Contact:  
Mr  
Alun  
Thomas

## What is the content of the course?

You will have the opportunity to a variety of human and physical themes. The unit titles are:

- ❖ Unit 1: Changing Physical and Human Landscapes
- ❖ Unit 2: Environmental and Development Issues
- ❖ Unit 3: Fieldwork Enquiry

You will develop your understanding of the themes by investigating various key questions.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will have to complete 1 non-examination assessment in school that's worth 20% of your final grade. You will be given instruction sheets in advance regarding the requirements of the task and your teacher will prepare you for the assessment. The assessment will be based on fieldwork.



## Which examination tier will I sit?

Geography does not set any examination tiers.

## Where can I get more information?

If you require further information you can talk to your Geography teacher or visit the following website:

<http://www.wjec.co.uk/>

## Is there an exam in this subject?

At the end of Year 11 you will sit a 1½ hour exam on Unit 1 that's worth 40% of your final grade, and a 1½ hour exam on Unit 2 that's also worth 40% of your final grade.



# Hairdressing and Beauty

## Why should I study this subject?

The main purpose of the qualification is to enable learners to develop hair and beauty skills, techniques and knowledge, which will prepare learners to progress to the next level of vocational learning. All the units in this qualification directly prepare learners for further study in the hair and beauty sector. All units in this qualification have been designed as a foundation for further study both in the hair and beauty sector. Learners will develop knowledge of the hair and beauty sector to allow progression into either hairdressing or beauty therapy. This course is offered in partnership with Coleg Sir Gar and will be taught by experts in the subject.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

You will be taught in a mixed ability group.

## What is the content of the course?

**Mandatory unit-** Create an image based on a theme.

**Optional units (minimum of 3 units) which could include** basic nail art, basic skin care, basic blow dry and finishing hair, shampoo and treat hair, basic plait and twist hair, basic manicure, working in the hair and beauty industries, colour hair using semi-permanent colour.



## Course details?

The course will be taught at another campus. Examining Board - VTCT  
Qualification - Level 2  
Extended Award in Hair and Beauty skills (VRQ)

## Where can I get more information?

You can talk to Mrs Eirlys Thomas

Cyswllt:  
Mrs  
Eirlys  
Thomas

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

To successfully achieve this qualification, learners will complete a range of practical assessments alongside assignments for each unit taken. On occasions, there will be homework set.



# Health & Social Care

## Why should I study this subject?

The course is interesting and you will study aspects of your health, your rights and how different health and social care organisations work. Health and Social Care is also a broad based subject that can open doors to lots of different careers in the future.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

You will be taught in a mixed ability group.

## What is the content of the course?

You will study two units of work:

- Human growth, development and well-being.
  - Promoting and maintaining health and well-being.
- Emphasis is placed on the ability to work independently and in a structured manner so as to be able to meet deadlines and cope with the expected volume of coursework. You will also be expected to carry out intensive research, by reading about the subject and watching relevant current affairs programmes.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will be expected to produce two Portfolios of assessment evidence for one of the units that you will study and these will make up 60% of your final mark.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

All pupils will sit the same tier of examination as there is no choice in the subject.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

One of the units will be assessed by external examination.

## Where can I get more information?

You can research the course on the WJEC website ([www.healthandcarelearning.wales](http://www.healthandcarelearning.wales)) or speak to Mrs Eirlys Thomas.

**Contact:**  
Mrs  
Tracy  
Jenkins

City & Guilds

wjec  
cbac

# History



## Why should I study this subject?

'I study history because I am interested in the future.' (Nelson Mandela)

- The lessons are lively and fun.
- Colleges and universities place great value in History as a subject.
- You will enjoy studying about the past – people from the past were just as clever, stupid and interesting as they are today!

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

We do not set in the History department.

## What is the content of the course?

The History Department follows the WJEC course that focuses predominantly on modern history. There is a strong emphasis on historical knowledge and understanding, as well as an opportunity to develop key skills such as source analysis and interpretation. Here are the units of study:

**Unit 1:** Britain 1930-1951, **Unit 2:** America 1910-1929,

**Unit 3:** Crime and Punishment c.1500 – present day,

**Unit 4:** Coursework on a key historical figure e.g. JFK, Martin Luther King, Owain Glyndwr or Nelson Mandela.



## Is there an exam in this subject?

Two, 1 hour examinations will be sat at the end of Year 10 and a 1 hour examination will be sat at the end of year 11. These examinations will account for 80% of the final grade.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will need to complete 2 controlled assessment tasks, which is worth 20% of the final grade. Your teacher will guide you through the required work and assist you with the preparation work in class.



## Which examination tier will I sit?

In History GCSE, there is only one tier, graded A\*-E.

## Where can I get more information?

If you want any further information about studying History for GCSE please speak to your History teacher or the Head of Department, Mrs Bethan Hubbard. Further information is also available from the WJEC website – [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)



Contact:  
Mr  
Gareth  
Jones

# Mathematics

## What is the content of the course?

GCSE Mathematics is a compulsory subject.

The GCSE will build on and progress from the levels of mathematics expected at the end of KS3.

The GCSE specification in Mathematics should enable learners to:

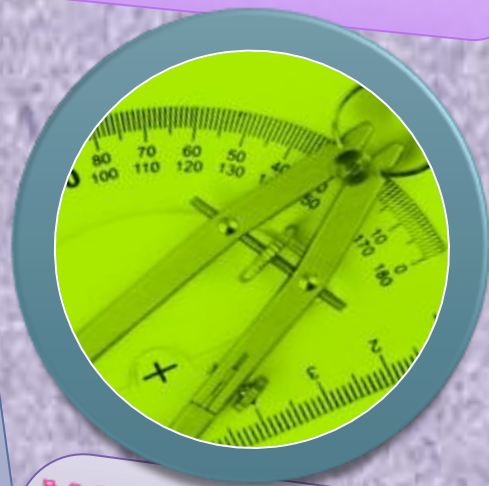
- make connections between different areas of mathematics
- select and apply mathematical methods in both mathematical and real-world contexts
- reason mathematically, construct arguments and simple proofs, and make logical deductions and inferences
- develop and refine strategies for solving a range of mathematical and real world problems
- interpret mathematical results and draw and justify conclusions that are relevant to the context



## Assessment

There are 3 tiers of entry for this qualification:

Higher Tier:	Grades A* – C
Intermediate Tier:	Grades B – E
Foundation Tier:	Grades D – G



## Where can I get more information?

If you want more information you can have a discussion with your mathematics teacher, the Head of Department or visit the following website [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

## Is there an exam in this subject?

Unit 1: Non-calculator written examination 50% of qualification.

Unit 2: Calculator allowed written examination 50% of qualification.

Higher: 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks)

Intermediate: 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks)

Foundation: 1 hour 30 minutes (65 marks)

Contact:  
Mrs  
Luned  
Davies

# Mathematics: Numeracy

## What is the content of the course?

**GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy** will build on and progress from the levels of numeracy expected at the end of Key Stage 3 and will assess the mathematics that learners will need in their everyday lives, in the world of work, and in other general curriculum areas.

This specification will encourage learners to be inspired, moved and challenged by following a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It will help learners to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards Mathematics and to recognise it's importance and relevance to their everyday lives and to society.

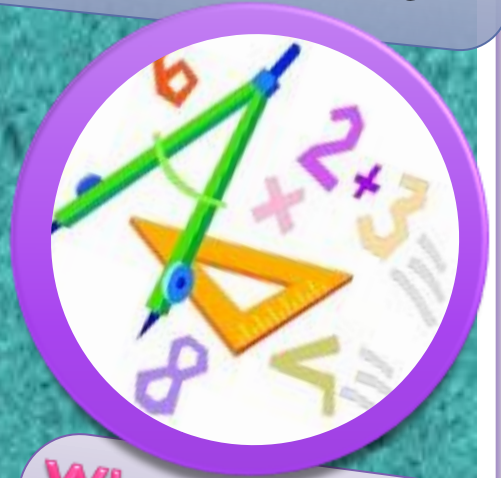
It will prepare learners to make decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices. Solving problems in the real world and the problem-solving cycle will feature within the specification as well as the more numerical aspects of Mathematics.

There will also be opportunities for learners to make informed decisions about the use of technology, the management of money and the use of statistics.

## Assessment

There are 3 tiers of entry for this qualification:

Higher Tier:	Grades A* – C
Intermediate Tier:	Grades B – E
Foundation Tier:	Grades D – G



## Where can I get more information?

If you want more information you can have a discussion with your mathematics teacher, the Head of Department or visit the following website [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

Contact:  
Mrs  
Luned  
Davies

## Is there an exam in this subject?

Unit 1: Non-calculator written examination 50% of qualification.

Unit 2: Calculator allowed written examination 50% of qualification.

Higher: 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks)

Intermediate: 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks)

Foundation: 1 hour 30 minutes (65 marks)



# Motor Vehicle Engineering

Level 2 Diploma in Vehicle Inspection

## Why should I study this subject?

This knowledge and skills qualification (VRQ) is primarily designed to meet the needs of the young apprentice. It suits school years 10 and 11 who wish to progress into the automotive industry in a variety of different areas sales, service, vehicle parts. This course is offered in partnership with Coleg Sir Gar and will be taught by experts in the subject.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

No. You will be taught in a mixed ability class.

## What is the content of the course?

It provides learners with the opportunity to study both the theory and practical aspects of a range of routine vehicle inspection, fitting and maintenance procedures:

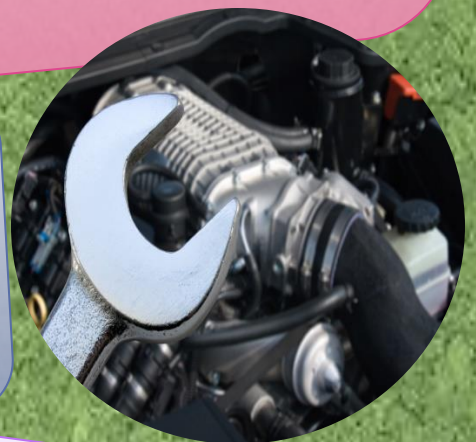
- Routine light vehicle maintenance, including engine systems.
- Inspecting, repairing and replacing light vehicle: standard and high performance tyres.
- Carrying out light vehicle four-wheel alignment.
- Inspecting and replacing light vehicle: exhaust components, suspension dampers & springs, vehicle batteries and braking systems & components.
- Learners also gain a broad knowledge and understanding of health and safety in the workplace, agreeing customer vehicle needs and other skills associated with working in a garage.

The course will be taught at another campus

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

The assessment is made up of two components:

- Practical tasks
- Online testing



Cyswllt:  
Mrs  
Eirlys  
Thomas

## Where can I get more information?

You may speak to Mrs Eirlys Thomas.



# Music

## Why should I study this subject?

Music is an optional subject in Key Stage 4, and is suitable for students who are committed to singing or playing an instrument, and who enjoy listening to a wide variety of music, and composing, and possibly enjoy a combination of the above

## What is the content of the course?

By studying this course you will have the opportunity to develop your performing, composition and appraisal skills. You will prepare for a group performance and possibly an individual performance. The performing element is worth 35% of the final mark. You will also have an opportunity to develop your compositional skills for the course work folio, and you will be listening to a wide variety of music which will prepare you for the appraisal examination.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will need to complete two compositions, connected to the areas of study. You will also need to complete a written appraisal and a log of the composition process. These tasks will be worth 35% of the final mark of the course. You will be using the computer programme 'Sibelius' to compose, notate and save your work whilst composing.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

There is one common examination paper for all pupils.

## Where can I get more information?

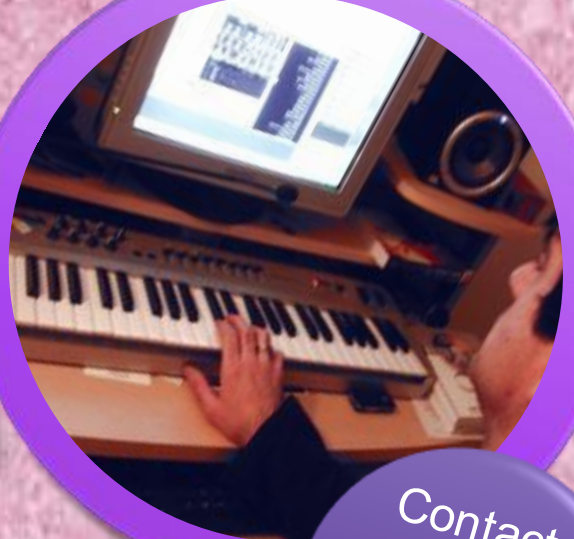
For further information, you can discuss the matter with your Music teacher, with the Head of Department or visit the following web page: [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

The Music Department does not set the pupils, they will be taught as a mixed ability group. All pupils will study the same course content, but you will have a choice regarding the performing element and the composition tasks. There is one common examination for all pupils.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

At the end of the examination, you will have one appraisal (listening) examination lasting approx 1 hour. This exam will be worth 30% of the final mark for the course.



Contact:  
Mr  
Berian  
Lewis



# Physical Education

## Why should I study this subject?

This is opportunity for you to follow a practical course which asks for you to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations in order to improve your own , and others', performance. This course could lead you into careers in sport as a performer, coach, referee or analyst or the human biology aspect is good background for careers in, e.g, physiotherapy or medicine..

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

The Physical Education Department does not set. However, as well as the full GCSE course WJEC do offer the option of the 'short' GCSE course which is equal to half a GCSE. Everyone will start the full course, and a decision is usually made by Christmas in year 11 as to which course is more suitable depending on each pupils ability and needs.

## What is the content of the course?

As you study these courses you will be given the opportunity to perform as a player as well as use your theoretical knowledge to evaluate, plan and refine tactics and techniques. You will also measure levels of fitness and create fitness programmes to improve your own and others' fitness levels. You will also be expected to develop your communication, discussion and leadership skills as you work with others to improve performance.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

There is one 2 hour examination in to assess Unit 1 of the GCSE course which provides 50% of the total marks. The questions are compulsory and will assess your knowledge of contemporary issues in sport, health and well-being as well as your knowledge of physical, psychological and tactical/technical factors which influences performance, health and well-being.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

For Unit 2 There will be an assessment of three practical elements at GCSE You will be expected to perform in one individual activity, one team activity and one other of your choice. In addition to this you will be expected to create a Personal fitness programme and follow a 12 week training plan in relation to your main activity. This section is worth 50% of the course.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

Everybody will follow the same course at the same level.



## Where can I get more information?

If you want more information you can discuss this with your Physical Education teachers or follow the link to the appropriate web pages at [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

Contact:  
Mr  
John  
Norgrove



# Religious Studies

## Why should I study this subject?

- ❖ Many employers have a high regard for GCSE Religious Studies.
- ❖ It prepares you to work and deal with people of different cultures and beliefs.
- ❖ It encourages you to listen to other people's viewpoints and discuss different moral issues.
- ❖ It opens your mind and broadens horizons.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

No.

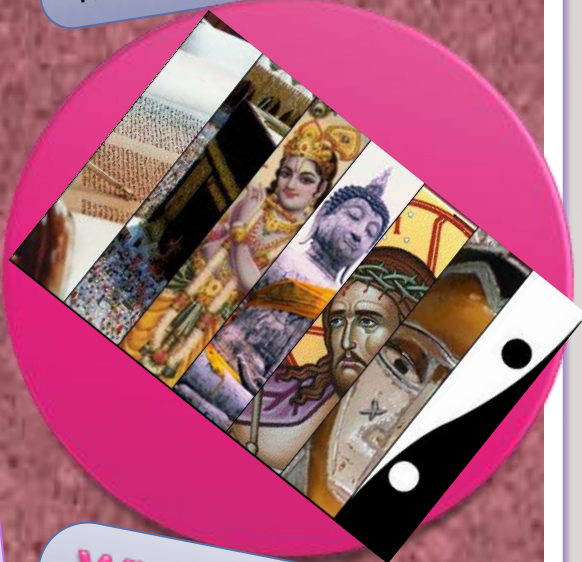
## What is the content of the course?

In Year 10 **Unit 1: Religion and Philosophical Themes:** Exploring Life and Death and issues about Good and Evil.

In Year 11 **Unit 2: Religion and Ethical Themes:** Relationships and Human Rights.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

There is just the one tier.



## Is there an exam in this subject?

Yes. End of Year 10 written examination: 2 hours 50%.  
Also end of Year 11 written examination: 2 hours 50%  
Qualification : Full GCSE

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

No coursework.  
No controlled tasks.

Contact:  
Mrs  
Gwenan  
Morgans

## Where can I get more information?

Ask the teachers of the RE Department for more information or you will find more on the WJEC .

WJEC  
CBAC

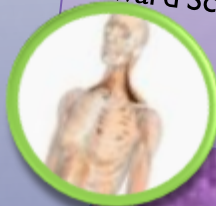
# Science

Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics

## Why should I study this subject?

Science is compulsory for every one in years 10 and 11. The course is designed so that you develop an appreciation of the world around you and also the work that scientists do. In Biology, Chemistry and Physics, you will study the ways in which science affects you as an individual and also how it affects society as a whole.

You will have the opportunity to make scientific measurements during investigations and as a result you will develop your ability to evaluate scientific information. You will also develop your language and mathematical skills.



## Will I be taught in a particular set?

The Department will place you into suitable sets, and you will study Double Award Science

## Is there an exam in this subject?

By following the Science GCSE course you will sit 3 external examinations at the end of Year 10 and another 3 in Year 11. Each exam is 75 minutes and contribute 90% in total towards the final grade.

## What is the content of the course?

Everyone GCSE will study units in Biology, Chemistry and Physics in Year 10 which are assessed through external examinations at the end of year 10.

Then further units in Biology, Chemistry and Physics will be completed in Year 11 which lead to a second GCSE.



## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will be expected to complete a controlled assessment in Year 11. The task contributes 10% towards the final grade.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

This is decided, along with advice from the departments, after you have tried questions from each of the tiers.

## Where can I get more information?

You will have more information from your teachers in the Science lessons but you are welcome to speak to any Science teacher for more details.



Contact:  
Mr G Thomas  
Mr T Hayes  
Miss C Pritchard



# Spanish

## Why should I study this subject?

Studying Spanish at GCSE is a wise and informed decision for many reasons:

- It is a very useful skill;
- employers are demanding better language skills;
- It enables students to study abroad as a part of their degree;
- It provides students with many new and exciting experiences.;
- It offers an invaluable insight into other cultures and traditions.



## What is the content of the course?

During the course we study a broad variety of themes: During the course we study a broad variety of themes: entertainment and leisure, health and fitness, food and drink, holidays and celebrations, the environment, work experience, talking about yourself and relationships, technology and social media, social matters, school life and cultural events in Spanish speaking countries.



## Did you know?

Other European countries are now following a 1+2 policy. This entails studying your first language and at least two others.

- A language GCSE is a prerequisite for some university courses.
- All primary pupils in England study at least one foreign language.
- In England the study of a foreign language is an integral part of the Bac.



## How is the course assessed?

There are four components to the final assessment:  
**Unit 1: Speaking - 25%** There is one oral test; a role play; a discussion of an image on a card; a conversation. The test will last between 10-12 minutes at the higher level and between 7-9 minutes at the foundation level. The test will be undertaken with the subject teacher.

**Unit 2: Listening - 25%** A final examination at the end of year 11- There are two tiers: higher and foundation.

**Unit 3: Reading - 25%** A final examination at the end of year 11- There are two tiers: higher and foundation.

**Unit 4: Writing - 25%** A final examination at the end of year 11- There are two tiers: foundation and higher.

## Where can I get more information?

If you want more information you can discuss this with your Spanish teacher, department head or follow the link to the appropriate web pages at [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

Contact:  
Miss  
Claire  
Russell

# Triple Science

## Why should I study this subject?

In pursuing a Triple Science course there's a chance for you to be inspired and challenged by following a broad, coherent, practical and worthwhile subject. You will experience how science works, be encouraged to link science and every day life and make informed decisions about further study and career choices.



## What is the content of the course?

**Biology 1:** Respiration, digestion and circulatory systems in humans. Plants and photosynthesis.

**Biology 2:** Cell division and stem cells, DNA and inheritance. Disease, defense and treatment.

**Chemistry 1:** Atomic structure, chemical reactions and the ever-changing Earth

**Chemistry 2:** Bonding and chemical reactions, metals and their extraction. Crude oil and fuels.

**Physics 1:** Circuits, domestic electricity and waves.

**Physics 2:** Newton's laws, stars, planets and nuclear energy.



## Is there an exam in this subject?

Yes at the end of Year 10 (Biology 1, Chemistry 1 and Physics 1) and Year 11 (Biology 2, Chemistry 2 and Physics 2)

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

There is one controlled assessment task in each of the three subjects and is worth 10% of the total mark for each. (To be completed in Year 11)

## Which examination tier will I sit?

There are two tiers: Higher (A\* - D) or Foundation (C - E)

Contact:  
Miss  
Catrin  
Pritchard

## Where can I get more information?

Mr Gari Thomas (Physics), Mr Tim Hayes (Biology)  
Miss Catrin Pritchard (Chemistry) or any other  
member of staff in the science department.



# Tourism

## Why should I study this subject?

Leisure and Tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in the world, employing over two million people. The subject offers the opportunity to learn about finance, advertising and managing organisations in the industry as you undertake an in-depth study of a number of world wide Tourism destinations. Gaining a qualification in this subject can lead to work in many different fields such as a ski instructor, a holiday rep abroad a hotel manager and many more.

## What is the content of the course?

You will study three units of work:  
Unit 1 – Customer Experience  
Unit 2 – The Business of Tourism  
Unit 3 - Developing UK Tourist Destinations

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will be expected to produce a Portfolio of assessment evidence for two of the units that you will study such as Oakwood Theme Park or Cardiff and this will make up 75% of your final mark.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

The Tourism examination is one tier.

Contact:  
Miss  
Nia  
Williams



## Will I be taught in a particular set?

You will be taught in a mixed ability group.

## Is there an exam in this subject?

Unit 2 is an external examination (1hour 30 min)



## Where can I get more information?

You can research the course on the WJEC website ([www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk))

# Welsh (Language)


## Why should I study this subject?

Welsh is a core subject and achieving a C grade or above would be a great asset when choosing higher education courses as well as a career. This course will give you an opportunity to further extend and develop your oral, reading and writing skills so that you can use Welsh effectively and confidently in a range of situations and on a variety of subjects.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

Pupils are divided into two bands.

## What is the content of the course?

During the course you will develop oral, reading and writing skills. The Welsh course will concentrate on how to respond to different reading materials, creative writing and .

## Is there an exam in this subject?



You will sit two written examinations at the end of your Language course, worth 35% each. You will be expected to gather information from various reading materials, to write creatively and to correct grammar. You will also give a presentation and take part in a group discussion voicing your opinion on a particular subject, worth 30%.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

There won't be any Welsh Language course work.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

The Welsh Language course will be non-tier.

## Where can I get more information?

For further information speak to your Welsh teacher or Head of Department. You can also visit the following website: [www.cbac.co.uk](http://www.cbac.co.uk)



Contact:  
Mrs  
Helen  
Evans



# Welsh Literature

## Why should I study this subject?

This is an opportunity for you to achieve another qualification. The Literature course will also give you an opportunity to enjoy and respond to a range of literary material.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

Pupils are divided into two bands.

## What is the content of the course?

The Literature course involves studying a novel, poetry and film.

## Is there an exam in this subject?



There are 2 Literature examinations, worth 25% each, concentrating on your knowledge of the novel and poetry that you studied. You will also have an oral examination discussing a film, worth 25%.

## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

Your teacher will guide you through 2 pieces of Literature coursework worth 25%. This involves a creative task based on a play and writing a critique based on a collection of short stories.

## Which examination tier will I sit?

Your work during KS3 and first term in Year 10 as well as your potential in the subject will decide which Literature tier you will sit.

## Where can I get more information?

For further information speak to your Welsh teacher or Head of Department. You can also visit the following website: [www.cbac.co.uk](http://www.cbac.co.uk)

Contact:  
Mrs  
Helen  
Evans



# Welsh Bacallaureate

## Why should I study this subject?

Everyone must study the Welsh Bacallaureate. It is compulsory.

## Will I be taught in a particular set?

No



## Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

You will be working in groups and by yourself over a period of two years to complete the challenges. The majority of the work will be completed in the classroom. The teachers will teach you the necessary skills so that you can complete the challenges.

## What is the content of the course?

The Welsh Bacallaureate is based on a Skills Challenge Certificate alongside Supporting Qualifications. The requirements of both the Skills Challenge Certificate and Supporting Qualifications must be met in order to achieve the overarching Welsh Bacallaureate.

The Skills Challenge Certificate consists of four components which are followed by all learners:

- Individual Project – individual research project;
- Enterprise and Employability Challenge – create a business or a product;
- Global Citizenship Challenge – learn about world matters;
- Community Challenge – a community project



## Which examination tier will I sit?

The combined outcomes of the four components will determine whether the Skills Challenge Certificate is awarded at National or Foundation level



## Is there an exam in this subject?

No.

## Where can I get more information?

[http://www.cbac.co.uk/qualifications/welsh-bacallaureate/welsh-bacc-from-2015/?language\\_id=2](http://www.cbac.co.uk/qualifications/welsh-bacallaureate/welsh-bacc-from-2015/?language_id=2)

Contact:  
Miss Elin Jones

**YSGOL GYFUN GYMRAEG BRO  
MYRDDIN – 2024  
[WWW.YGGBM.ORG](http://WWW.YGGBM.ORG)**

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