

KS4 Learning Pathways Booklet



2024



St. Joseph's RC High School
Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant



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On 14th March 2024, a link to a Google Form will be sent to each pupil.

The deadline for submission of this form will be Monday 15th April 2024.

PLEASE NOTE: Pupils can only make their final pathways choices by submitting this Google Form.

School Mission Statement

We use the key phrase 'Serving God Through Learning Together' to remind us of our mission.

As a Catholic School we are conscious of our need to love and serve God in all that we do. Our daily work is our prayer. As a school we emphasise learning as the paramount experience. All of us are learning as we move through life. Our experiences as a community are shared; we work together for the benefit of all.

AS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY WE HAVE THREE BROAD AIMS.

1

To teach the Roman Catholic faith and to provide a formation for each child that will allow that child to realise his/her full potential in all aspects of moral and spiritual development.

- By providing a sound factual knowledge of the Roman Catholic Faith, primarily but not exclusively, through an appropriate programme of Religious Education.
- By offering formal opportunities for faith development e.g. through celebrations of the Mass and through assemblies.
- Through informal opportunities for development e.g. retreats, missions and other liturgical celebrations.
- By emphasising Gospel values in all relationships within the school community.
- By exploring Gospel values in all areas of the curriculum.
- By enabling children to understand the moral consequences of their actions so that they develop a sense of self-discipline and concern for others, for instance through the Schools' Code of Conduct.
- By involving parents, whenever possible, in all aspects of school life.

2

To provide a balanced educational programme appropriate to the needs of each child, recognising the uniqueness of each child, while at the same time providing equality of opportunity for all.

- By providing a curriculum which is broad, balanced and relevant for all our children and suitable guidance at each stage of their school career.
- By ensuring that no child is discriminated against or disadvantaged on the basis of race, gender or ability.
- By teaching strategies and relationships which affirm the child and promote self-esteem.
- To have high expectations of all students.

3

To provide a social education enabling all students to play an important role in the life of the community.

- Through a programme of personal and social education.
- By emphasising Christian responsibility through charities and community service.
- Through a range of extra-curricular activities.
- By providing opportunities within school for the development of life skills, for instance, through the School Council.



FOREWORD RHAGAIR

At St Joseph's RC High School in Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4) our curriculum is well balanced and includes a large range of academic and vocational courses to suit every pupil's needs and aspirations. All pupils study English Language and English Literature; mathematics and numeracy; science; religious education; Welsh as a second language and a number of optional courses.

Now that your child is half way through Year 9 they have important decisions to make about the optional courses available to them from next September when they will have the opportunity to focus on those subjects, which they have demonstrated a high degree of interest in.

While your child will have made their choices by the end of the spring term, it is crucial that they continue to display the necessary dedication and effort in those subjects they may not be following beyond Year 9. After all, they have worked hard and deserve to finish the year with great success.

In our pursuit to challenge all of our pupils to be the best they can possibly be we know that the school's partnership with parents and carers is key to achieving success and happiness for your child. We therefore thank you for your continued support and look forward to celebrating their successes with you as they journey through Key Stage 4.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jarrett".

Mrs J Jarrett
Headteacher

This booklet is designed to provide you with clear information about the learning pathways available to students in Years 10 and 11.

We ask parents, carers and students to study the pathways booklet very carefully so that informed decisions are made. These decisions should also consider the information in the Year 9 reports, so that your child looks honestly at their strengths. It is vital that the subjects they choose will interest them and enable them to succeed. Working in partnership with you, we will provide the appropriate learning pathway for your child.

Thank you for your continued support of your child's education.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Morgan".

Mrs J Morgan
Deputy Headteacher



User Guide

CHOOSING YOUR LEARNING PATHWAY

Dewis eich Llwybr Dysgu

During the first three years at St Joseph's RC High School, all students follow a common curriculum. Before entering Year 10, students can for the first time, shape their own individual learning pathway.

Your Learning Pathway will include:

- The compulsory core subjects - English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education, Welsh and the Welsh Baccalaureate National / Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate
- Statutory lessons in Physical Education and PSE as part of WBQ
- Subjects that will suit and extend your abilities
- Subjects you require for the future
- A broad and balanced range of subjects

REMEMBER

All subjects chosen must be studied for two years...

MAKING A CHOICE

Gwneud Dewis

Ask yourself these questions before you make your choice:

“What am I good at?”

“What subjects do I like?”

“How do I like my work to be assessed?”

“What do I need to prepare me for the future?”

“What are my aspirations?”

Study the booklet carefully

Talk to your form tutor, subject teachers, Head of Year and careers advisor.

Don't keep your questions to yourself, always ASK!

HOW SHOULD I DECIDE? Sut Dylwn i Ddewis?

CORRECT REASONS TO CHOOSE YOUR PATHWAYS OPTIONS

I WANT TO STUDY THE SUBJECT AT A LEVEL

I ENJOY THE SUBJECT AND LOOK FORWARD TO STUDYING IT IN MORE DEPTH

I AM GOOD AT THE SUBJECT

I AM CONFIDENT I CAN ACHIEVE IN THE SUBJECT

THE SUBJECT WILL HELP ME IN MY FUTURE CAREER

WRONG REASONS TO CHOOSE YOUR PATHWAYS OPTIONS

MY FRIENDS ARE TAKING THE SUBJECT

I LIKE THE TEACHER WHO TEACHES ME

I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO DO!

One of the most important things you can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: attend school every day!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS	
Attendance	Lessons missed in a year
100%	None
95%	50
80%	190
70%	285



ADVICE FROM STUDENTS

Cyngor o fyfyrwyr

How did you make your Pathways choices for KS4?

“I considered all the subjects I enjoyed at Key Stage 3 and whether they applied to the career path I wanted to take.”

“I had some ideas about what I might want to do in the future, career paths I may consider and then chose based on that.”

“I asked for advice from older pupils who have already been through this process. Choose people you trust and ask as many people as you can to get a range of views.”

“I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do in the future so I chose what I was good at and tried to choose a range of subjects I enjoyed to give myself as many choices as possible later on.”

Was the potential of choosing new subjects scary?

“It was a little scary but I had the support of my teachers, friends and family to help me make my decision.”

What were the most important factors in making your final KS4 subject choices?

“Important factors were it had to be subjects I genuinely had an interest in and whether they would benefit me with my future.”

ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

Cyngor i fyfyrwyr

To achieve a grade which reflects your ability, it is crucial that you remember:

Full attendance is a basic requirement for all courses (100%), any attendance that falls below 97% is a serious concern.

Undertaking homework regularly and conscientiously will improve your chances of success

Meeting all deadlines on time is essential

Always seek advice from subject teacher/ form tutor if you have any problems

To demonstrate personal discipline, determination and resilience.

“Pick something you enjoy!!”

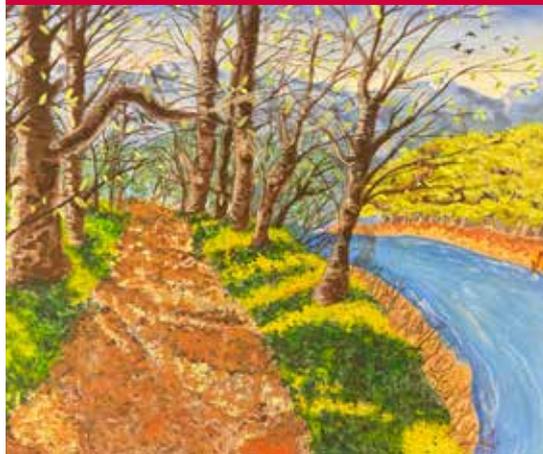
GCSE Courses

**ART
Celf**

Course Title: Art, Craft and Design

Examination Board: WJEC

Qualification: GCSE



COURSE OUTLINE

The WJEC Specification course is over two years, during which you will complete one unit and an exam.

UNIT 1: PORTFOLIO (worth 60%)

You will be given the theme 'IDENTITY' and you can develop the theme through religion/family/personal event/nationality/traditions/self image/hobbies.

Your sketchbook should demonstrate different processes developed from different starting points and the final pieces will demonstrate your knowledge, understanding and skills based on various workshops.

You will be given the opportunity to experiment with a wide range of medias and processes e.g. painting, drawing, printing, mixed media, sculpture, glass, ICT, movies.

EXAM: Theme TBC (worth 40%)

The controlled test is set by the exam board and consists of two stages - preparation and examination. Preparation starts with choosing a question from the exam paper followed by 8 weeks research and experimentation leading to a 10 hour exam. During the 10 hours, under exam conditions, you will produce your final piece.

HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

There are four Assessment Objectives, each worth 25%

- AO1 - Critical Understanding
- AO2 - Creative Marketing
- AO3 - Reflective Recording
- AO4 - Personal Presentation

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

Career prospects for the Artist / Designer / Craftworker are broad and varied. These are some of the careers which make use of Art Education:

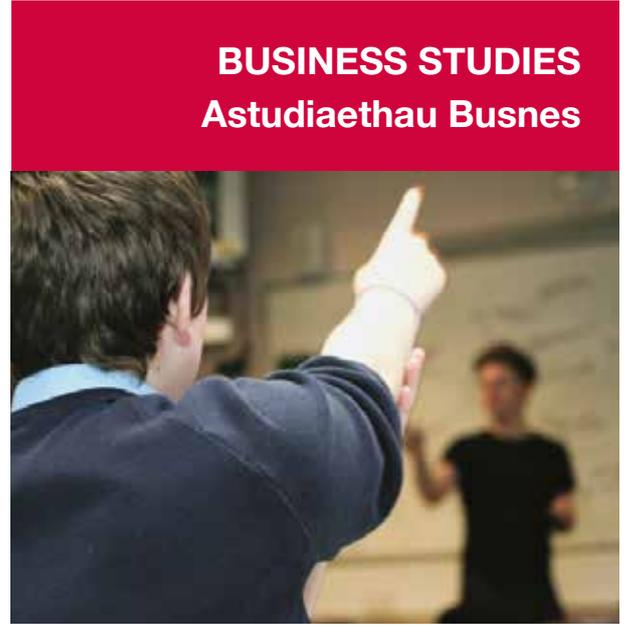
Advertising, Animation, Architecture, Graphics, Cosmetics, Fashion, Film & TV, Journalist, Photography, Painter, Sculptor, Teacher

Art at GCSE is an exciting but time consuming course giving you an opportunity to develop your creative skills and learn new techniques - for further information please see the school website and click on Art Department and Media Gallery.

For further information please contact:
Miss S Morris - Head of Art

painting mixed media sculpture animation

Course Title: Business Studies GCSE
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE



BUSINESS STUDIES

Astudiaethau Busnes

COURSE OUTLINE

This GCSE specification introduces learners to the business world, empowering them to develop as commercially minded and enterprising individuals. Learners will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills, enabling them to use business information critically, to develop arguments, to make justified decisions and to prepare them for further study and career pathways.

The focus of the course is to introduce and nurture an enthusiasm for studying business in a range of contexts. Learners will appreciate how businesses operate in a dynamic and competitive environment and develop an understanding of the interdependent nature of business functions from a local to a global perspective.

The course content is presented in six clear and distinct topic areas:

- Business activity
- Influences on business
- Business operations
- Finance
- Marketing
- Human resources

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The subject content for GCSE Business will be assessed across two examination papers. Both units assess content from all six topic areas, so learners will be required to draw together knowledge, skills and understanding from across the subject content in each assessment.

UNIT 1: BUSINESS WORLD UNIT

Written examination: 2 hours
62.5% of qualification
Total marks: 100

UNIT 2: BUSINESS PERCEPTIONS

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes
37.5% of qualification
Total marks: 60

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

This qualification allows a natural progression onto the AS Business Studies course and further study onto a Business/Economics degree. It also provides a route to employment into the many diverse areas of business including roles in specialist areas such as marketing, finance, customer service or human resources in a large organisation or a more generic approach in small local businesses.

Links with industry: Lloyds give marketing presentations/talks. Visits from entrepreneurs.

For further information please contact:
Miss V Hill – Head of Business, Law and Economics

COMPUTER SCIENCE
Gwyddoniaeth Cyfrifiadurol

Course Title: GCSE Computer Science
 Examination Board: WJEC
 Qualification: GCSE



Unit	Assessment Type	% of overall grade	Overview
1 Understanding Computer Science	Written examination (1 Hour 45 minutes)	50%	This unit investigates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardware • Logical Operations • Communication • Data Representation and Data Types • Operating Systems • Principles of Programming • Software Engineering • Program Construction • Security and Data Management • Impacts of Digital Technology of Wider Society
2 Computational Thinking and Programming	On-screen examination (2 Hours)	30%	This unit investigates problem solving, algorithms and programming constructs, programming languages, data structures and data types and security and authentication.
3 Software Development	Non-Examination assessment (20 Hours)	20%	This unit requires learners to produce a programmed solution to a problem. They must <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse the problem • Design a solution to the problem • Develop a final programmed solution • Test the solution • Suggest further development of the solution. Throughout the production of the solution learners are required to produce a refinement log that evidences the development of the solution.

Course Title: GCSE Computer Science
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE

COMPUTER SCIENCE Gwyddoniaeth Cyfrifiadurol



COURSE OUTLINE

Computers are widely used in all aspects of business, industry, government, education, leisure and the home. In this technological age, a study of computer science, and particularly how computers are used in the solution of a variety of problems.

Computer science integrates well with subjects across the curriculum. It demands both logical discipline and imaginative creativity in the selection and design of algorithms and the writing, testing and debugging of programs; it relies on an understanding of the rules of language at a fundamental level; it encourages an awareness of the management and organisation of computer systems; it extends learners' horizons beyond the school or college environment in the appreciation of the effects of computer science on society and individuals.

The WJEC GCSE in Computer Science has been designed to give an understanding of the fundamental concepts of computer science and a broad scope of study opportunities. We encourage learners to:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including; abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation
- Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs to do so
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- Understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society
- Apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Computer Science is an academically challenging subject. In order to deal with the complexities of the course, in particular Boolean logic, developing algorithms, programming and arithmetic with alternative number systems you must be progressing well towards at least Level 7 in ICT and Mathematics in Year 9.

QUALITIES REQUIRED TO BE A SUCCESSFUL COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENT

Students must:

- have good literacy and numeracy skills
- be prepared to tackle difficult and technically challenging problems
- be prepared to invest time and effort to develop computing skills outside of lessons
- be prepared to study and research topics independently to develop understanding
- be resourceful and focus on solutions rather than problems

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

The course provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of computer science and IT. The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area. Students who've taken a GCSE in Computing and who then progress to study the subject at A Level, university or as an apprenticeship will have an advantage over their colleagues who are picking up the subject at these levels.

For further information please contact Mr Driscoll or email rdriscoll@sjhs.newport.sch.uk

DRAMA

Drama



COURSE OUTLINE

DRAMA COURSEWORK

Unit 1: Devising Theatre

- Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre based on either the work of a theatre practitioner or a genre in response to a stimulus set by WJEC.
- Learners complete a written evaluation of the devised performance under formal supervision
- Learners will be assessed on either acting or design
- Learners work in groups of between two and five performers.
- Up to four additional learners, each working on a different design skill, may work with each performing group.

Unit 2: Performing Theatre

- Learners participate in a performance based on two 10 minute extracts from a performance text of their own choice.
- Learners will be assessed on either acting or design
- Learners work in groups of between two and four performers.
- Up to two additional learners, each working on a different design skill, may work with each performing group.

Unit 3: Interpreting Theatre

SECTION A: SET TEXT

A series of questions on one set text explored as an actor, designer and director from a choice of five:

Course Title: Drama
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE

- A Midsummer Night's Dream (1595)
Playwright: William Shakespeare
- The Glass Menagerie (1944)
Playwright: Tennessee Williams
- Blue Remembered Hills (1979)
Playwright: Dennis Potter
- Face (1999) Playwright: Benjamin Zephaniah
- Lionboy (2013) Playwright: Zizou Corder (adapted by Marcelo Dos Santos)
- Resting Restless (2014) Playwright: Bethan Marlow
- Tuesday (2020) Playwright: Alison Carr

SECTION B: LIVE THEATRE REVIEW

One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Unit 1

40% of qualification, 60marks. Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated.

Unit 2

20% of qualification, 60 marks. Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Unit 3

40% of qualification, 60 marks
Written examination of 1hr 30mins

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

Lots of students choose to stay and continue their studies in school on the AS Drama & Theatre studies course.

However, once you have completed the course there are lots of opportunities for you to join similar courses e.g.

- AS Drama & Theatre studies
- BTEC National Award in Performing Arts (Acting)
- BTEC National Certificate in Performing Arts (Acting)
- BTEC National Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)
- 14-19 Diploma in Creative Media (Level 3)

Career Opportunities

Actor, Drama Teacher, Director, Producer, Presenter
Police Force and all communication based industries

For further information please contact:
Mrs P Baxter or Miss B Doyle



ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE

Saesneg Iaith a Llenyddiaeth Saesneg



Course Title: English
 Examination Board: WJEC
 Qualification: GCSE (Level 2)



YEAR 10 2024-2025

Autumn	Poetry Controlled Assessment Unit 1 'Of Mice and Men' and unseen poetry preparation
Spring	English Literature Unit 1 examination Unit 2 'Heroes' and 'An Inspector Calls' preparation
Summer	Unit 2 English Literature revision English Literature Unit 2 examination English Language skills

COURSE OUTLINE

Students studying English at St Joseph's are offered 2 GCSE qualifications: English Language and English Literature. We hope to enter everyone for both GCSEs and we expect a major commitment from every candidate.

English is taught over 7 hours per fortnight.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Linear assessment (2 exams and Speaking and Listening)

ENGLISH LITERATURE

3 units (2 exams and 1 Controlled Assessment)

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Formal assessment takes place at various times throughout Year 10 and 11.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

2 external exams (80%)

2 speaking and listening assessments (20%)

ENGLISH LITERATURE

2 external exams (75%)

1 controlled assessment (25%)

YEAR 11 2025-2026

Autumn	Unit 1 English Language Group Discussion Unit 1 English Language Individual presentation
Spring	Unit 2 and 3 English Language Section B skills Unit 2 and 3 English Language Section A skills
Summer	Unit 2 English Language examination Unit 3 English Language examination

CAREER AND PROGRESSION

All employers regard GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature as a sign that you can communicate effectively. English is vital for entry into many careers and all Higher Education institutions.

For further information please contact:

Miss A Watts - Head of English

Course Title: Geography
 Examination Board: WJEC
 Qualification: GCSE

GEOGRAPHY Daearyddiaeth



COURSE OUTLINE

Geography is split into two major sections. Changing Physical and Human Landscapes and Environmental and Development Issues.

Unit 1 Changing Physical and Human Landscapes
 40%, 1hr 30 min examination

- Section A Core Themes
 - Landscapes and Physical Process
 - Rural and Urban Links
- Section B Coastal Hazards and their Management

Unit 2 Environmental and Development Issues
 40%, 1hr 30 min examination

- Section A Core Themes
 - Weather, Climate and Ecosystems
 - Development and Resource Issues
- Section B Environmental Challenges

The course will help students to:

- Read maps, atlases, diagrams and use ICT
- Develop decision making skills (a valuable tool all employers want)
- Gain knowledge of the world and understand current events
- Appreciate different cultures and attitudes
- Work independently and as a team to solve problems
- Become aware of physical and human environments

Field Work

- A field visit to the Afon Llwyd
- A field visit to Friar's Walk

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- 80% of the course will be examined externally via Units 1 and 2
- Students will complete one non-exam assessment, accounting for 20% of their final GCSE grade. This will require pupils to write a written report, to include evidence of their understanding of the enquiry process and their ability to process, present data and complete extended writing. The report must be written in response to specific questions set by WJEC.
- This is a linear qualification therefore both units will be sat during the summer term of Year 11.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

Geography students are the most employable people when going onto study it at university. This is because they possess the skills that employers look for.

Geography will help you to be more aware of the everyday life and problems of the people who live around you, in other parts of the UK, and across the world. Geography is a highly topical subject, ever changing as world events unfold and you get to be at the forefront of these changes. Geography will make you a better, more aware citizen, developing empathy for other people. You will become experts at evaluating solutions to the issues Geographers face. Geography combines very well with other subjects because it develops skills from across the curriculum. Not only would you become an expert Geographer, but you'd develop your critical thinking skills, your mathematical skills, your analysis skills and your ability to provide clear, well thought-out arguments.

Geography helps open doors to jobs that you want to do, and you can see a selection of those jobs below:

ART + DESIGN TECHNOLOGY: Advertising, architecture, cartography, landscape design

SCIENCE: Agriculture, environmental health, estate management, nature conservations

HISTORY: Archaeology, law, libraries, museums, publishing

MODERN LANGUAGES: Business, bilingual secretary, overseas marketing, leisure and tourism

MATHS: Civil engineering, meteorology, mining, navigation, photography

VARIOUS SUBJECTS: Leisure services, sport & recreation management, social & youth work, surveying, transport services, banks, building societies, business, civil service, secretary/PA, policy, army, health service

For further information please contact:
 Mr B Frost - Head of Geography

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE AND CHILDCARE

Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol, a Gofal Plant



Course Title: Health and Social Care and Childcare

Examination Board: WJEC

Qualification: GCSE



COURSE OUTLINE

The course is designed for the student who enjoys active learning. GCSE Health and Social Care and Childcare provides opportunities for a wide range of activities and increases awareness of Human development, health and well being from conception to later adulthood. Students will be provided with opportunities to develop their understanding of influences on human growth, development, behaviour and well-being. They will gain an understanding of the social, physical, emotional and cultural needs of people who use care and support services, and recognise that each individual has a unique blend of abilities and needs.

Students are encouraged to develop their organisational and investigative skills and will be encouraged to become independent learners who can make informed decisions.

The syllabus seeks to encourage an understanding of the provision of holistic care locally and at national level. It closely examines what contributes to the health and well being of a range of individuals and identifies the contributory factors to healthy living.

Students will be provided with opportunities to develop their understanding of human growth, development, health, and well-being. They will gain an understanding of the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social needs of people who use care and support services; recognising that everyone has a unique blend of abilities and needs.

EXAMPLES OF TOPICS ON THE COURSE INCLUDE:

- Human growth, development and wellbeing
- Promoting and maintaining health and wellbeing.

- Health and Social care, and childcare in the 21st century
- Promoting and supporting health and well-being to achieve positive outcomes

HOW WILL THE COURSE BE ASSESSED?

Assessment will be by examination, which is worth 40% of the qualification and the completion of non-exam assessment, which is worth 60% of the qualification.

The non-exam assessment [NEA] is composed of two tasks set by WJEC. They involve research without direct supervision but must be completed under supervision in approximately 25 hours. Task 1 is allocated 10 hours and Task 2, 15 hours.

All components / units cater for the full range of ability and allow access to grades A* - G for the subject.

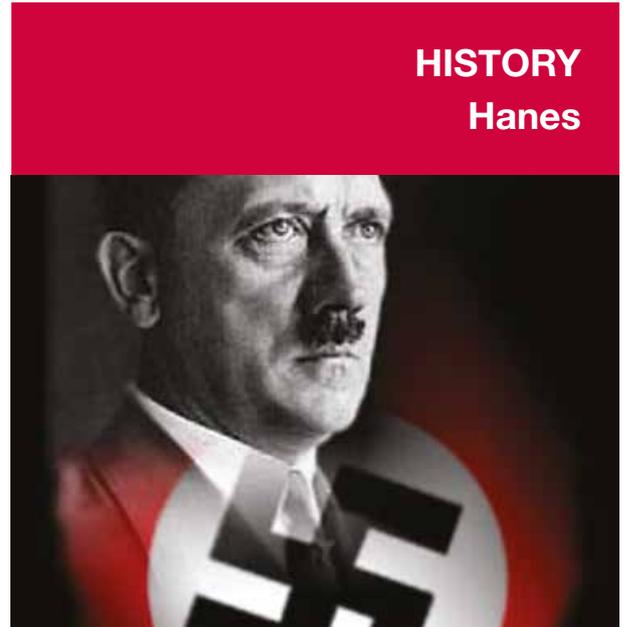
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

The course is particularly suitable for the person who is possibly considering a career in the caring profession, particularly caring services, social work, teaching, classroom assistant, care assistants, nursery assistant, nursing, nanny and midwifery.

The course is also a good foundation to an apprenticeship in the profession. Opportunities are provided for students to demonstrate a whole range of skills including all the essential skills.

For further information please contact:
Miss J Davies - Head of Technology
Email: Jdavies1@sjhs.newport.sch.uk

Course Title: History
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE



COURSE OUTLINE

The GCSE has four modules which are studied over two years.

1. DEPRESSION, WAR AND RECOVERY. BRITAIN 1930-51

This course covers popular entertainment and sport during the Depression, Nazi Germany, World War Two, Evacuation and the birth of the NHS.

2. THE USA, A NATION OF CONTRAST, 1910-29 This unit covers the rise of the gangster, the birth of the Hollywood film star and the treatment of black Americans.

3. CHANGES IN CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, 1500 TO PRESENT DAY

This unit covers crimes such as smuggling and terrorism. We will also look at Jack the Ripper and the abolition of the death penalty.

4. NON-EXAMINED ASSESSMENT

Here we examine the rise of Adolf Hitler and life in Nazi Germany.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNITS 1 & 2: 1 hour examinations (25% GCSE grade)

UNIT 3: 1 hour 15 minute examination (30% GCSE grade)
NEA is class based and worth 20% of the GCSE.

History is a useful, and often necessary subject for a lot of careers and not just the obvious ones. Conservation work, environmental work, town planning, building restoration

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

COMMON QUESTIONS ASKED:

“But will it be any use to me when I’m older?”

Apart from being very interesting history is extremely useful. Employers who see that you have a qualification in history know certain things about you. They know that you have taken on certain key skills which, learned through history, can be applied to all sorts of situations.

They know that you can understand how people tick, what motivates them, what they think and feel; you are able to gather and read different kinds of information and can check it for bias and propaganda; you can read maps, graphs and other diagrams; you are able to communicate clearly and have learned to express yourself verbally and on paper.

“But I don’t want to teach!”

History is a useful, and often necessary subject for a lot of careers and not just the obvious ones. Conservation work, environmental work, town planning, building restoration and tourism all require some knowledge of history. History is also a good qualification for budding journalists, secretaries, accountants, TV researchers, police and lawyers. More and more employers and universities are demanding that applicants have studied a true academic subject, history is an obvious choice

For further information please contact:
Mr A Doughton - Head of History

MATHEMATICS
Mathemateg

Course Title: Mathematics
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE

	GCSE MATHEMATICS - NUMERACY	GCSE MATHEMATICS	
Content	Number, Measure and Statistics plus some aspects of Algebra, Geometry and Probability	All the content of Mathematics Numeracy	Additional Algebra, Geometry and Probability
Assessment Focus	The application of the above content in context	-	The application of the above content in context
		Procedural skills in situations that are context-free or involve minimal context for <u>all</u> content.	

COURSE OUTLINE

The Welsh Government has introduced from 2017 two new mathematics GCSEs, one covering numeracy and the other covering aspects of mathematical techniques.

GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy will build on and progress from the levels of numeracy expected at the end of Key Stage 3 through the Literacy and Numeracy Framework and will assess the mathematics that learners will need in their everyday lives, in the world of work, and in other general curriculum areas. It will have an emphasis on those aspects of mathematics which are of most relevance to learners functioning as informed twenty-first century citizens. 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.

The GCSE specification in Mathematics – Numeracy will enable learners to:

- develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical and statistical methods, techniques and concepts required for everyday life, in the world of work, and in other general curriculum areas

- select and apply appropriate mathematics and statistics in everyday situations and contexts from the real world - use mathematics to represent, analyse and interpret information - acquire and use strategies for problem solving and modelling in context
- understand that models may need refining and that there may be more than one way to solve a problem - interpret mathematical results and draw and justify conclusions that are relevant to the context - communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms.

GCSE Mathematics will extend to aspects of mathematics needed for progression to scientific, technical or further mathematical study. It will enable learners to appreciate the coherence, creativity, elegance and power of mathematics. It will prepare learners to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices. It will have an emphasis on those aspects of mathematics required for progression into mathematics or mathematically-related disciplines or employment routes.

The table above summarises the way in which the mathematical content will be divided across the two mathematics GCSEs (GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy and GCSE Mathematics).



HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The assessment of GCSE Mathematics and Numeracy will be tiered as follows:

Higher	A* A B C
Intermediate	B C D E
Foundation	D E F G

GCSE grades are based upon performance in two final exams for **each** GCSE, each exam is worth 50% and is differentiated by non-calculator and calculator skills. In each paper the assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used to justify answers and reasons. The first examination for this new specification was in November 2016. This linear specification allows for a holistic approach to teaching and learning, giving teachers flexibility to teach topics in any order and to combine different topic areas. There will be no coursework elements to either GCSEs.

There is a possibility for pupils to sit early entry at the end of November during Year 11. This will be at the discretion of the Mathematics department.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

Mathematics is a basic skill that everyone needs to be confident with. Colleges, universities and employers will all be interested in how good you are at maths. Therefore, when thinking of a future career and your job prospects, it is very important that you achieve as high a grade as possible in this core subject.

Looking further ahead – Maths in the Sixth Form. To get on to the very popular AS and A Level Maths course, you will need to have studied at Higher Tier throughout Year 10 and Year 11 and ideally to have achieved a grade A or better at a higher tier. Maths at A Level is challenging and enjoyable. It builds on many topics studied at GCSE level, as well as looking at topics that will be new to you. An A level in maths is highly regarded by universities and employers alike and will put you in a strong position for the future.

USEFUL WEB LINKS:

Examinations:
www.wjec.co.uk

Revision and Practice:
www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise
www.bbc.co.uk/gcsebitesize

www.mathsnet.net/gcse

For further information please contact
Mrs E Chamberlain - Head of Mathematics

MEDIA STUDIES

Astudiaethau Cyfryngau



Course Title: Media Studies

Examination Board: WJEC

Qualification: GCSE



Media in the 21st Century dominates our lives and the media we consume is the basis for the understanding of the world in which we live. The media plays a central role in contemporary society and culture. It can shape our perceptions of the world through the representations, viewpoints and messages they offer. In addition, the media provides us with ways to communicate, with forms of cultural expression and enables us to participate in key aspects of society. The economic importance of the media is unquestionable. The media industries employ large numbers of people worldwide and operate as commercial industries on a global scale. The global nature of the contemporary media, coupled with ongoing technological developments and more opportunities to interact with the media, suggest that their centrality in contemporary life can and will only increase. Students who are interested in developing critical and analytical skills and have an interest in ethical, social and cultural issues will be suited to this course.

COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSESSMENTS

Unit 1 exam is worth 30% and focuses on Advertising, Video Games, Newspapers and the Music Industry

Unit 2 exam is worth 30% and focuses on Wales on Television and the contemporary Hollywood film industry.

Unit 3 coursework is worth 40%. For their coursework, pupils will research, plan and create a media production followed by a reflective analysis of their production.

Pupils will explore how each industry is formed with a focus on key media texts. Through these texts, pupils will analyse how gender and events are constructed and consider audience positioning and response.

The course is designed to allow students the opportunity to explore a range of text types and comment in detail about the impact these have on an audience. Over the two years, students will explore: the video game, advertising, music, newspaper, video games, television and film industries. Students will consider the impact of online media and social media on audiences and their impact on different industries.

The coursework elements of the course require a good creative level of ICT skill, a high standard of written accuracy and the ability to work independently. Students should be able to communicate well with others, solve problems and use excellent research skills to plan and produce a DVD cover and film poster for a new film or an opening sequence for a new film in a genre of their choice.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Media is continually evolving and as such the opportunities within the industry continue to expand. With GCSE Media Studies, pupils develop a wide range of key skills which will help them in the future.

Some career opportunities include:

- Journalism
- Media production, including: camera operator; sound control; lighting operator; Runner; producer; director
- Media post-production (editing)
- Advertising and marketing
- Video Game production
- Event organiser
- Social Media Manager
- Web Content Manager
- Programme/Film Researcher
- Public Relations
- Teaching
- Law

For further information please contact:
Mrs S Webster - Head of Media Studies

Course Title: Music
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE



MUSIC Cerddoriaeth

COURSE OUTLINE

Music GCSE is designed for all students who have enjoyed Music at KS3 and would like to study it at a higher level. Students who study music have a keen interest in the subject, and enjoy the mix of practical Performing, Composing and Listening activities. It is an ideal course for students who currently learn an instrument, or have some form of instrumental tuition in or outside of school. You will develop all the necessary Performing, Composing and Listening skills over the two years of the course.

The course is split into four Areas of Study:

- Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices
- Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble
- Area of study 3: Film Music
- Area of study 4: Popular Music

These four AoS are key to the music course, and are embedded in your Composing, Performing and Listening activities. You will learn about the Musical features and characteristics, the history and the important composers and performers of each Area of Study.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT 1: PERFORMING

35% of qualification.

Total duration of performances: 4-6 minutes

Section A: Performing (30%)

A minimum of two pieces, one of which must be an ensemble performance of at least one minute duration. The other piece(s) may be either solo and/or ensemble. One of the pieces performed must link to an area of study of the learner's choice.

Section B: Programme Note (5%)

A programme note for one of the pieces chosen for performance, linked to an area of study.

UNIT 2: COMPOSING

35% of qualification.

Total duration of compositions: 3-6 minutes

Section A: Composing (30%)

Two compositions, one of which must be in response to a brief set by WJEC.

Learners will choose one brief from a choice of four, each one linked to a different area of study. The briefs will be released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken. The second composition is a free composition for which learners set their own brief.

Section B: Evaluating (5%)

An evaluation of the piece composed in response to a brief set by WJEC.

UNIT 3: APPRAISING

30% of qualification. Written examination: 1 hour

Eight questions in total, two on each of the four areas of study - Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

A natural progression for a successful GCSE Music candidate is to move on to study Music, Performing Arts or Music Technology at A Level. However, GCSE Music on its own is widely recognised for its skills and academic requirements by employers, and careers in the field of music are many and diverse. Here is a small selection: performing (pop/rock, classical, musical theatre), composing (pop/rock/dance, song writing, classical), education and teaching, concert management, music publishing, music therapy, music technology and sound recording, musical engineering and music retail.

For further information please contact:
Miss B Doyle - Head of Music

PHYSICAL EDUCATION Ymarfer Corff



Course Title: Physical Education
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE



COURSE OUTLINE

The course is made up of two units including 50% practical (one fitness activity with log book and at least one team game to be assessed, officiating and leadership is NO longer an option) and 50% written exam with video paper included.

ASSESSMENT OF PRACTICAL PERFORMANCE

Candidates must be assessed in activities listed below which have been approved by the Welsh Government. Candidates can be assessed at intervals throughout the course. The final marks submitted should be a true reflection of the candidates' level of performance.

For the team sports/activities candidates should demonstrate the application of skills/techniques/strategies appropriate to the position/activity in demanding situations i.e. in small sided and full sided games in **competitive** contexts.

For individual sports/activities candidates should demonstrate the application of skills/techniques/strategies appropriate to the activity in demanding pressure situations.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL EDUCATION
50% of qualification, 2hr written examination

Learners will be assessed through a range of short and extended questions. The questions will be based on audiovisual stimuli and other sources.

UNIT 2: THE ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

50% of qualification, non-exam assessment

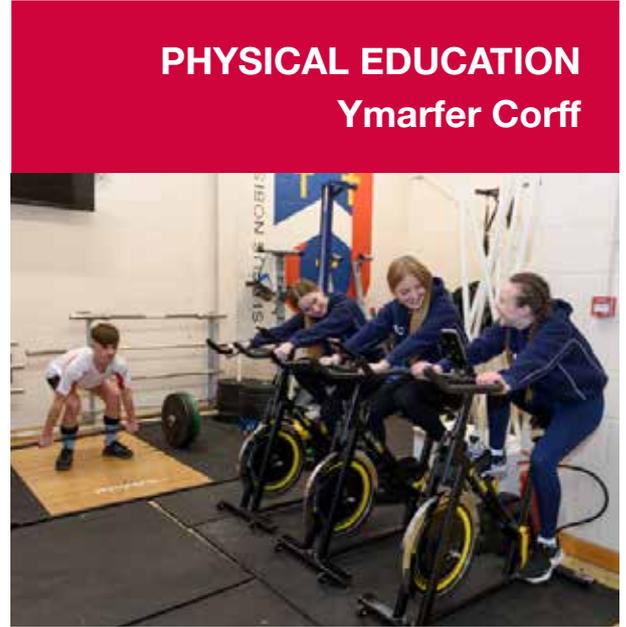
- One major activity to include the personal fitness programme - 22%.
- Two minor activities 28%

Learners will be assessed in three different activities in the role of performer in at least **one individual sport, one team sport and one other**.

One activity will be a major activity which will have a Personal Fitness Programme linked to the activity.

“We are great believers in not only refining the performer but we also want the students to understand how they can develop as performers within a variety of officiating and coaching opportunities.”

Course Title: Physical Education
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE



PHYSICAL EDUCATION Ymarfer Corff

APPROVED ACTIVITIES

Team activities:

Association Football, Baseball, Cricket, Hockey, Lacrosse, Netball, Rowing, Rounders, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Rugby League, Rugby Sevens, Rugby Union, Synchronised Swimming, Volleyball.

Activities which can be undertaken as a team or individual:

Badminton, Dance, Mountain Walking, Rock Climbing, Sailing, Sculling, Table Tennis, Tennis

Individual Activities

Amateur Boxing, Athletics (including cross country), Canoeing, Cycling, Diving, Equestrian, Golf, Gymnastics, Judo, Kayaking, Mountain Biking, Skiing, Snowboarding, Squash, Swimming, Taekwondo, Trampolining

Specialist Team Activities

Blind Cricket, Goalball, Table Cricket, Powerchair Football, Wheelchair Basketball, Wheelchair Rugby

Specialist Activities as an team or individual

Polybat

Specialist Individual Activities

Boccia

The performances must be internally assessed by the teacher using the assessment grids provided by WJEC. The performances are externally moderated by a visiting moderator. Candidates can offer off-site activities for assessment.

Off-site activities are those that do not take place at the school/college campus and where it would be difficult to moderate "live" on moderation day. Appropriate DVD/digital evidence must be available for the performance of all off-site activities. All activities must be assessed by teachers and mark sheets signed by teachers.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

Teaching, Sports Coaching, Professional Athlete, Fitness Instructor, Physiotherapist, Sports Massage, Personal Trainer.

For further information please contact:
M G O'Driscoll - Head of PE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Addysg Grefyddol



COURSE OUTLINE

Religious Studies is a core subject and is taken by all pupils in this Catholic School. The course will enable learners to gain knowledge and understanding of two religions: Catholic Christianity and Judaism. The course takes a distinctive issues-based approach to the study of Catholic Christianity. It integrates a 75% study of Catholic Christianity, with a 25% study of Judaism.

Unit 1 is entitled Foundational Catholic Theology and Judaism and Unit 2 is entitled Applied Catholic Theology and Judaism. The thematic material serves as the entry point for the study of Catholic Christianity in each of the two components. The thematic study part of each component will also require learners to contrast Catholic responses to philosophical and ethical question with answers given by other Christian denominations and answers given by those subscribing to non-religious world views. Units 1 and 3 will be studied in all Catholic schools.

UNIT 1 : RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHICAL THEMES
(first exam series - 2018)

Written examination : 2 hours (50%of the qualification).

PART A: All candidates will study the two specified core beliefs/ teachings and the two specified practices of Catholic Christianity.

All candidates will study a further two specified beliefs/ teachings and two specified practices from the Jewish perspective only.

PART B: All candidates will study the two philosophical themes below from the perspective of Catholic Christianity and Judaism:

- Life and Death
- Good and Evil

Course Title: Religious Education

Examination Board: WJEC

Qualification: GCSE

Non-religious beliefs will also be considered, such as those held by Humanists and Atheists.

UNIT 3: CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY AND ETHICAL THEMES

Written examination: 2 hours (50% of qualification)

Part A: Candidates will study the four specified core beliefs/ teachings and the four specified practices of Catholic Christianity.

Part B: Candidates will study the two ethical themes below from the perspective of Catholic Christianity only.

- Relationships
- Human Rights

The Qualification of Units 1 and 3 is called GCSE Religious Studies (Catholic Theology & Judaism)

WHY FOLLOW A RELIGIOUS STUDIES COURSE?

Religious Education is, of course central to the purpose of a Catholic school and all young people need to develop spiritually and morally. As a result, although Religious Studies leads to national qualifications it is also much more than an academic course. Religion is primarily a lived experience and as such all pupils in Years 10 and 11 will be offered the opportunity to participate in residential week-end retreats. These will be times of sharing and prayer where the young people can develop their own path and understanding which will enable them to integrate their everyday lives and study and help them develop into mature Christian adults.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

Although the main aim of the course is to provide a formation for each student that will enable them to reach their full potential in all aspects of moral and spiritual development, it is generally recognised that RE is acceptable for a wide range of career links. Former students have used a qualification in RE, both at GCSE and Advanced Level, to go on to take up careers in:

- The Financial Services
- Management
- Law
- Tourism
- Administration
- Social Work
- The Civic Service
- Health Service Work
- Teaching

For further information please contact: Mrs K Burke - Head of RE

Course Title: Sociology
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE

SOCIOLOGY Cymdeithaseg



COURSE OUTLINE

Paper one explores key concepts of cultural transition such as the process of socialisation, (how one learns their culture), debates over the acquisition of identity, the role of the agents of socialisation like the family, mass media, peer groups and education. Learners will especially look at the family and education in detail. For example, they will study family diversity and different family forms, social changes and sociological theories of the role of the family. Additionally, learners will be required to study the sociological theories of the role of education, processes inside schools, patterns of educational attainment and factors affecting educational attainment.

Paper two explores concepts such as social stratification, poverty as a social issue, different forms of power and authority, factors which may influence access to life chances, equality/inequality in relation to class, gender, ethnicity, age, disability and sexuality. Learners will also be required to study crime and deviance. This will include the social construction of crime and deviance, social control, patterns of criminal and deviant behaviour, sociological theories of criminal behaviour and data about crime.

In addition, both papers will cover sociological research methods. Here, learners will be required to look at the usefulness of sociological methods, sampling processes, and practical issues affecting research, ethical considerations as well as the interpretation of data.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are two 1 hour 45 minutes exams that constitute 50% each, both at the end of Year 11.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

There are a wide variety of Sociology and Social Science courses in further education and higher education. Sociology lends itself well with most other subjects. Sociology students go into a variety of careers, for example, health and social welfare, the media, teaching, sales and marketing, administration, the police force, public relations and financial services.

It is a successful department and students usually agree that 'everyone should do it'. This course provides an excellent introduction to many post 16 courses, in particular AS/A Level Sociology.

For further information please contact:
Ms L Winterflood - Head of Sociology

DOUBLE SCIENCE, and TRIPLE SCIENCE

Gwyddoniaeth – Dwbl, Dwbl
Cymhwysol, Gwyddoniaeth Triphlyg

Course Title: Double Science GCSEs, Applied Double Science GCSEs and Triple Science GCSEs

Qualifications: Double Science – 2 GCSEs

Applied Double Science – 2 GCSEs

Triple Sciences – 3 GCSEs

DOUBLE SCIENCE GCSEs **COURSE OUTLINE**

The new course is designed to:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of the material, physical and living worlds.
- Develop their understanding of the nature of science and its applications and the interrelationships between science and society.
- Develop and apply their knowledge and understanding of the scientific process through hypotheses, theories and concepts.
- Develop their awareness of risk and the ability to assess potential risk in the context of potential benefits
- Develop and apply their observational, practical, enquiry and problem-solving skills and understanding in laboratory, field and other learning environments
- Develop their ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions
- Develop their skills in communication, mathematics and the use of technology in scientific contexts.

YEAR 10: COURSE CONTENT

BIOLOGY: CELLS, ORGAN SYSTEMS AND ECOSYSTEMS

- Cells and movement across membranes
- Respiration and the respiratory system
- Digestion and the digestive system
- The circulatory system
- Plants and photosynthesis
- Ecosystems, cycles and human impact on the environment

CHEMISTRY: CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, REACTIONS AND ESSENTIAL RESOURCES

- The nature of substances and chemical reactions
- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Water
- The ever-changing Earth
- Rate of chemical change

PHYSICS: ELECTRICITY, ENERGY AND WAVES

- Electric circuits

- Generating electricity
- Making use of energy
- Domestic electricity
- Features of waves

YEAR 11: COURSE CONTENT

BIOLOGY: VARIATION, HOMEOSTASIS AND MICROORGANISMS

- Classification and Biodiversity
- Cell division and stem cells
- DNA and inheritance
- Variation and evolution
- Response and regulation
- Disease, defense and treatment

CHEMISTRY: CHEMICAL BONDING, APPLICATION OF CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

- Bonding, structure and properties
- Acids, bases and salts
- Metals and their extraction
- Chemical reactions and energy
- Crude oil, fuels and organic chemistry

PHYSICS: FORCES, SPACE AND RADIOACTIVITY

- Distance, speed and acceleration
- Newton's laws
- Work and energy
- Stars and planets
- Types of radiation
- Half-life

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

This course is being delivered in a modular structure. Candidates will sit an external examination paper that is one and a quarter hours long in each of the three sciences at the end of Year 10 in May/June. Candidates will sit a further three external examination papers in each of the three sciences in May/June of Year 11. Candidates will also sit an externally set practical exam in the Spring term of Year 11. All of the marks from these examinations will contribute towards the two GCSE grades which are awarded at the end of Year 11.

TRIPLE SCIENCES GCSEs **COURSE OUTLINE**

The following topics are in addition to the topics taught in Double Award Science.

YEAR 10 COURSE CONTENT

BIOLOGY: CELLS, ORGAN SYSTEMS AND ECOSYSTEMS

- Cells and movement across membranes
- Respiration and the respiratory system
- Digestion and the digestive system
- The circulatory system
- Plants and photosynthesis
- Ecosystems, cycles and human impact on the environment

CHEMISTRY: CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, REACTIONS AND ESSENTIAL RESOURCES

- The nature of substances and chemical reactions
- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Water
- The ever-changing Earth
- Rate of chemical change
- Limestone

PHYSICS: ELECTRICITY, ENERGY AND WAVES

- The total internal reflection of waves
- Seismic waves
- Kinetic theory
- Electromagnetism

YEAR 11 COURSE CONTENT

BIOLOGY:

- Classification and Biodiversity
- Cell division and stem cells
- DNA and inheritance
- Variation and evolution
- Response and regulation
- Disease, defense and treatment
- Kidney and homeostasis
- Micro-organisms and their applications

CHEMISTRY: CHEMICAL BONDING, APPLICATION OF CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

- Bonding, structure and properties
- Acids, bases and salts
- Metals and their extraction
- Chemical reactions and energy
- Crude oil, fuels and organic chemistry
- Reversible reactions, industrial process and important chemicals

DOUBLE SCIENCE, and TRIPLE SCIENCE

**Gwyddoniaeth – Dwbl, Dwbl
Cymhwysol, Gwyddoniaeth Triphlyg**



PHYSICS: FORCES, SPACE AND RADIOACTIVITY

- Further motion concepts
- The Universe
- Nuclear decay and nuclear energy

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Candidates will sit two external examination papers that are one and three quarter hours long each for each of the three sciences. For each science, there will be one examination at the end of Year 10 and one examination at the end of Year 11, both taken in May/June. Candidates will sit an externally assessed practical exam in each of the three sciences in the Spring term of Year 11. Students will gain a separate GCSE grade in each of the three Sciences.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AN PROGRESSION

Gaining a qualification in GCSE Science opens up a wide range of exciting opportunities in many varied areas. There is the opportunity to:

- Continue into the sixth form to study AS and A2 science subjects
- Continue into the sixth form to study a wide range of other A level and level 3 qualifications.
- Apply for employment in fields as diverse as engineering, construction, sport science, health and beauty

For further information please contact:
Mrs C Williams - Head of Science

APPLIED DOUBLE SCIENCE Gwyddoniaeth Cymhwysol



Course Title: Applied Science (Double Award)
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: 2 GCSE's



COURSE OUTLINE

This course aims to:

- Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of science and how they relate to each other.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of science and its applications.
- Develop interest in, and enthusiasm for science, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with science.
- Develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills.
- Develop understanding of the scientific process.
- Develop practical, problem solving, enquiry and scientific modelling skills and understanding in laboratory, and work-related contexts.
- Develop understanding of the relationships between data, evidence and explanations and their ability to evaluate scientific methods, evidence and conclusions.
- Develop understanding of how society makes decisions about scientific issues.
- Develop communication, mathematical and technological skills in scientific contexts.

YEAR 10 COURSE CONTENT

UNIT 1: ENERGY, RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Energy and Life : the cell, respiration, diet and digestion
- Modern living and energy : energy, generating electricity, making use of energy, heat transfer and electric circuits
- Obtaining resources from our planet: obtaining clean water, our planet and producing useful chemicals.

UNIT 2: SPACE, HEALTH AND LIFE

- Our Planet: our place in the universe, world of life and transfer and recycling of nutrients
- Protecting our environment
- Health, Fitness and sport: Human health, diagnosis and treatment, fighting disease and exercise.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Candidates will sit two external examination papers:

Unit 1 (1 hour 30 minutes) – a mix of short answer questions, structured questions, extended writing and data response questions with some set in a practical context. (22.5% of qualification).

Unit 2 (1 hour 30 minutes) – two sections, one section will be based upon a pre-released document about an area of the specification. The second section will be similar to unit 1 style questions. (22.5% of qualification).

APPLIED DOUBLE SCIENCE Gwyddoniaeth Cymhwysol



YEAR 11 COURSE CONTENT

UNIT 3: FOOD, MATERIALS AND PROCESSES

- Materials for purpose
- Food for the future: food production and processing
- Scientific detection
- Controlling processes: e.g. chemical reactions and nuclear reactions.

UNIT 4: TASK BASED ASSESSMENT

UNIT 5: PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Candidates will sit two external examination papers

Unit 3 (1 hour 30 minutes) – a mix of short answer questions, structured questions, extended writing and data response questions with some set in a practical context (22.5% of qualification).

Unit 4: A task based assessment which will be externally assessed by the examination board (20% of qualification).

Unit 5: A practical assessment that will be carried out in school, but marked by the examination board (10% of the qualification).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

Gaining a qualification in GCSE Applied Science opens up a range of vocationally based science courses. The emphasis would be on the use of scientific practices in the workplace. There are opportunities to:

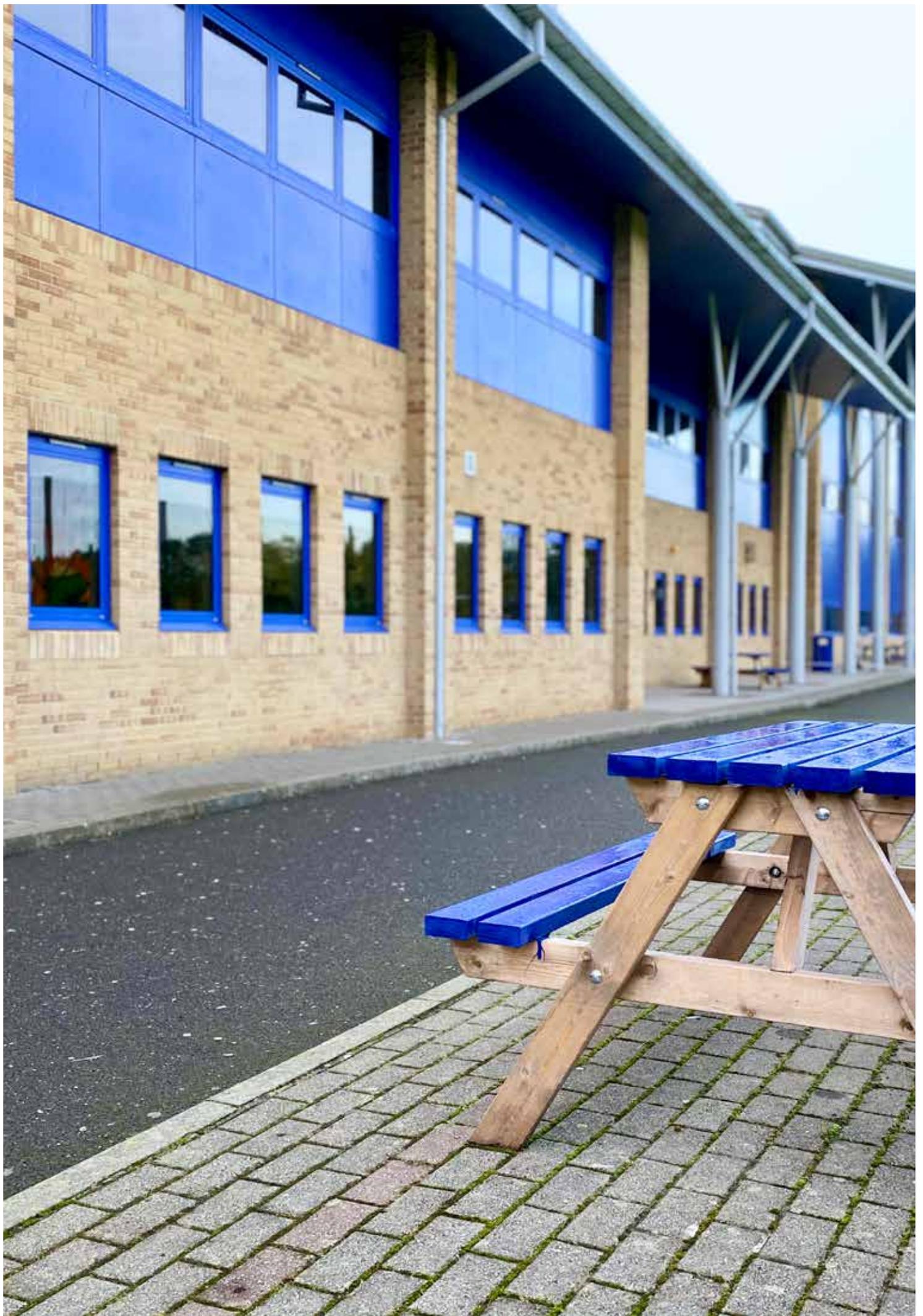
Continue into Sixth Form to study a range of A level and BTEC level 3 qualifications in applied science.

Apply for employment in areas such as technical and support science.

For further information please contact:
Dr M Matthews, Science Department

“The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science.”

Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)



Course Title: French
Examination Board: WJEC
Qualification: GCSE

FRENCH Frangeg



WHY STUDY LANGUAGES?

A great way to start getting to know and understand other people better is by learning their language. You will learn so much more about them – the music they enjoy listening to, the food they like to eat, their sport, culture and history. Talking to people in their own language is important because it makes them feel good and you will feel more welcome. Plus you will not have to rely on their speaking English. French will take you all around the world, employers and universities are looking for students with language qualifications. You can earn up to 50% more if you have language skills in your career.

COURSE CONTENT

We currently follow the WJEC course for GCSE

TOPICS STUDIED:

IDENTITY AND CULTURE

1. Youth Culture:
 - Self and relationships
 - Technology and Social Media
2. Lifestyle
 - Health and Fitness
 - Entertainment and Leisure
3. Customs and Traditions
 - Food and Drink
 - Festivals and Celebrations
4. The Wider World

WALES AND THE WORLD

1. Home and Locality
 - Local Areas of Interest
 - Transport

2. France and French Speaking Countries
 - Local and regional features and characteristics
 - Holidays and tourism
3. Global Sustainability
 - Environment
 - Social Issues

CURRENT AND FUTURE STUDY AND EMPLOYMENT

1. Current Study
 - School Life
 - School Studies
2. World of Work
 - Work Experience and Part-Time Jobs
 - Skills and Personal qualifications
3. Jobs and Future Plans
 - Applying for Work/Study
 - Career Plans

ASSESSMENT

Each skill is assessed in an examination at the end of Year 11 and carries equal weighting:

Listening:
25%

Reading:
25%

Writing:
25%

Speaking:
25%

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All pupils will be considered for French on an individual basis.

For further information please contact:
Mrs C Clements - Head of Modern Languages

PRODUCT DESIGN

Dylunio Cynnrych



COURSE OUTLINE

A course in Design offers a unique opportunity for learners to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems. Through Product Design, learners will be prepared to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world; and be aware of, and learn from, wider influences on design and technology, including historical, social/cultural, environmental and economic factors.

The specification will enable learners to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise in order to develop as effective and independent learners. They will use their knowledge, skills and understanding to make design decisions in order to make a prototype and assess performance.

Learners will be provided with the opportunity to use ICT, CAD and CAM techniques and will use a range of software in order to produce outcomes. There will be opportunity for Literacy, Numeracy, Critical Thinking, and Problem solving, Planning, Creativity, Innovation and Personal effectiveness skills to be developed.

The curriculum is STEM based and provides the opportunity for students to learn in real – life situations. Activities provide hands – on and minds-on lessons for students and allows for the development of capabilities much beyond what was considered acceptable in the past.

Learners will design and make products and develop skills and knowledge generically linked to the subject as well as in their chosen endorsed area.

Course Title: Product Design

Examination Board: WJEC

Qualification: GCSE

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

1. Core knowledge and understanding
2. In-depth knowledge and understanding of Product Design
3. Core skills
4. In-depth skills of Product Design

PRODUCT DESIGN

This will focus on Materials including Wood, Metal and Plastic, modern and smart materials, properties and characteristics of materials, functional, aesthetics, environmental, social, cultural and ethical factors, processing methods, manufacturing production, digital competencies and surface finishes.

ASSESSMENT

UNIT 1: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Written examination: 2 hours (50% of qualification).

A mix of short answer structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge and understanding of Product Design

UNIT 2: DESIGN AND MAKE TASK

Non-exam assessment, approximately 35 hours (50% of qualification).

A design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by WJEC, assessing candidates' ability to:

- Identify, investigate, analyse and outline design possibilities
- Design and make prototypes and evaluate their fitness

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESSION

Product Designer, Graphic Designer, Construction, teaching, architecture, Information Technologist and Computer Science.

Maximum group size is 18.

For further information please contact:

Miss J Davies - Head of Technology

Email: Jdavies1@sjhs.newport.sch.uk



WELSH Second Language Cymraeg Ail Iaith

CYFLWYNIAD I'R CWRS / INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

The Welsh GCSE is changing from September 2017, which means that ALL Welsh second language pupils in Wales will be following one GCSE course. The aim of the course is to:

- Understand and use the Welsh language for a variety of purposes and audiences.
- Develop language learning skills and strategies in order to enable pupils to communicate and interact confidently and spontaneously in relevant situations and specified context.
- Develop language learning skills and strategies to enable pupils to develop their grasp of Welsh further.
- Develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in an integrated manner, emphasising listening and speaking skills.
- Use Welsh in further studies, in the workplace and in their communities.
- Develop curiosity about the Welsh language.

AMLINELLIAD O'R CWRS/COURSE OUTLINE

The course is based on 4 assessment units.

Unit 1 will be assessed in Year 10 and Units 2, 3 and 4 will be assessed in Year 11.

Students have to study the following 3 broad themes:

- Employment
- Wales and the World
- Youth.

ASESU/ASSESSMENT

UNIT 1: ORACY RESPONSE TO VISUAL MATERIAL

The examination is equivalent to 25% of the final subject grade (Speaking 10%, Listening 15%).

This is assessed with tasks set externally by the examination board in Year 10. These tasks will be completed in school under supervision.

Pupils will be required to speak in pairs or a group of three based on a visual clip provided by the exam board to stimulate discussion. The assessment will consist of the following 2 parts:

- Watch a visual clip (twice) and fill in a sheet while listening to the clip.
- Discussion between the pair/group of three on what was watched.

Course Title: Welsh for All (Second Language)

Teitl Y Cwrs: Cymraeg i Bawb (Ail Iaith)

Examination Board: WJEC

Bwrdd Arholi: CBAC

Qualification: GCSE

Cymhwyster a Enillir: TGAU

UNIT 2: COMMUNICATE WITH OTHERS

The examination is equivalent to 25% of the final subject grade (Speaking 20%, Listening 5%).

This is assessed with tasks set externally by the examination board in Year 11. These tasks will be completed in school under supervision on certain dates after Easter.

Pupils will be required to speak in pairs or a group of three based on topics chosen by the examination board.

UNIT 3: REPORT, SPECIFIC AND INSTRUCTIONAL

The examination is equivalent to 25% of the final subject grade (Reading 15%, Writing 10%).

This assessment is an external written examination (1 hour and 30 minute), which students will sit at the end of Year 11.

The examination will assess students' reading and writing skills with a number of written responses, one translation task from English to Welsh and a proofreading task.

UNIT 4: DESCRIPTIVE, CREATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE

The examination is the equivalent of 25% of the final subject grade (Reading 10%, Writing 15%).

This assessment is an external written examination (1 hour and 30 minutes), which students will sit at the end of Year 11.

The examination will assess students' reading and writing skills with a number of written responses.

LLWYBRAU YMESTYN/FURTHER PATHWAYS

There are a host of opportunities open to those who have a qualification in and/or knowledge of Welsh. Most public organisations and large private businesses have a Welsh Language Policy and there is an increasing demand for bilingual staff and for those with appropriate language skills.

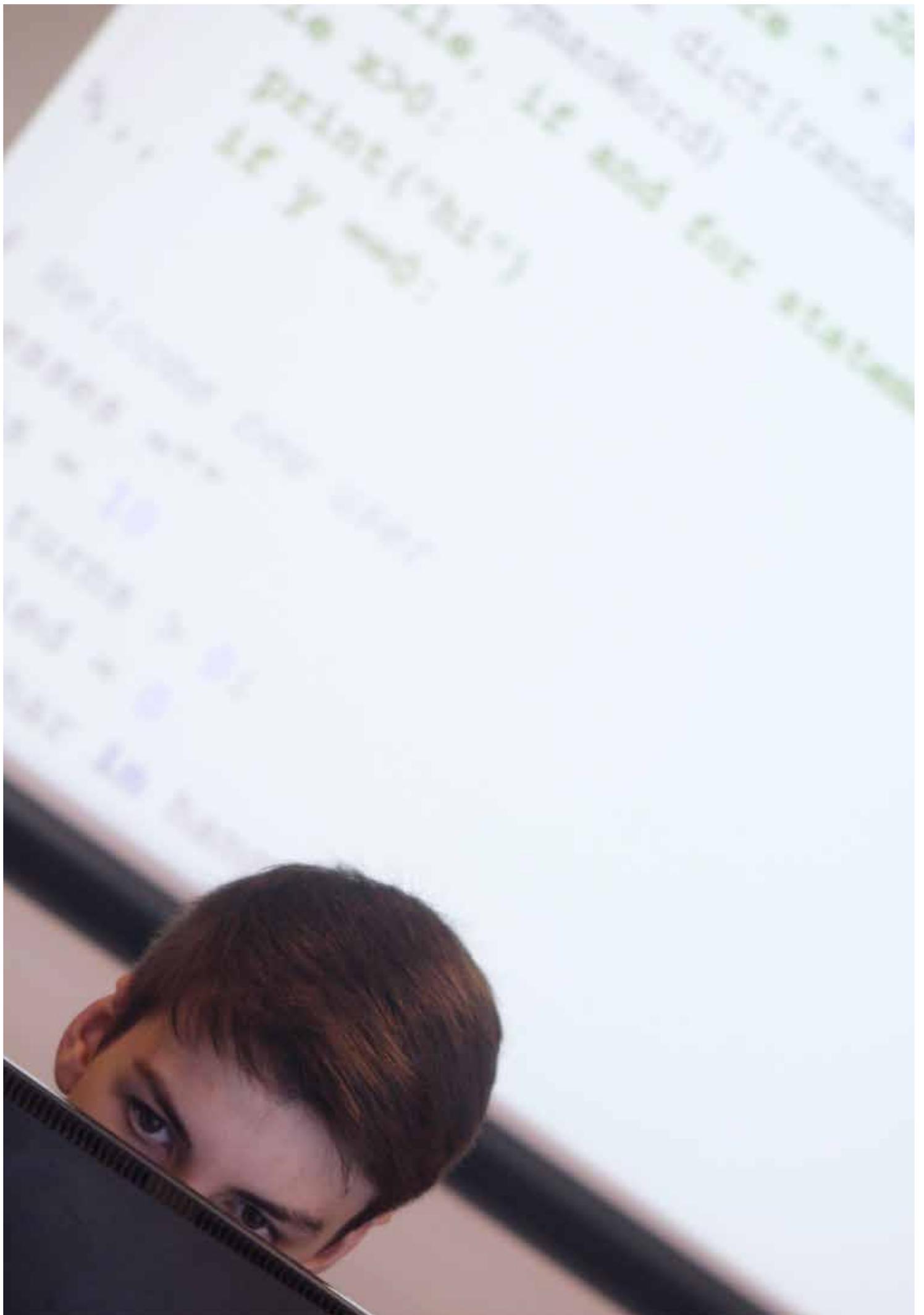
Students with knowledge of the Welsh language are much sought after in Wales particularly within the teaching profession, in the media, in politics nationally and in local government. The knowledge of a language is a tremendous asset in all walks of life as the skills associated with learning a language can be transferred.

Many subjects, including other languages, Business, Law, Drama, Theatre Studies, Music, History, Religious Education, Economics, Science and Maths combine well with Welsh at both AS/A Level and Degree Level.

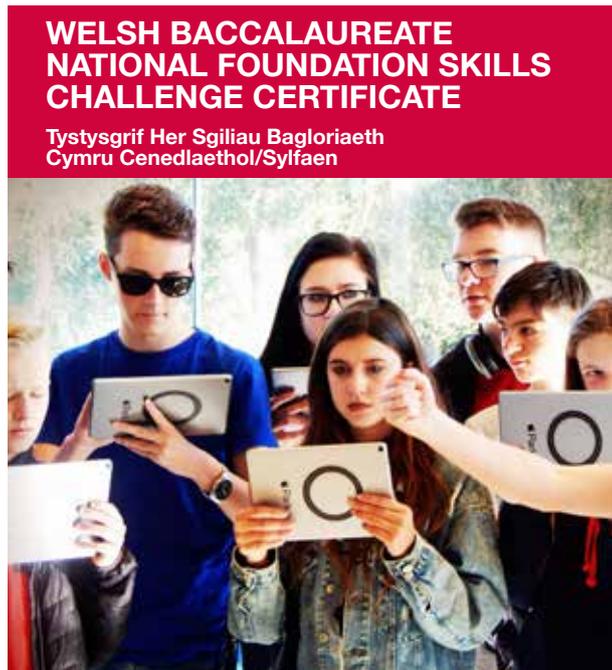
For further information please contact:

Mrs R Davies - Head of Welsh

Pennaeth Adran: Mrs R Davies



2024 KS4 Learning Pathways



Head of Department: Mrs R Price
Examination Board: WJEC



COURSE OUTLINE

WHY STUDY WBQ AT NATIONAL LEVEL?

The central focus of the National Welsh Baccalaureate is to provide a vehicle for Level 2 learners to consolidate and develop essential and employability skills within the context of their chosen Learning Programme.

The Welsh Baccalaureate will encourage the learner to value skills development as a key aspect of education and life-long learning. Offering a learning experience relevant to the needs and demands of the workplace will develop learners' confidence, drive and initiative, preparing them to enter, succeed and progress in the world of work. Through the Welsh Baccalaureate learners will raise their skills levels and confidence, enabling and empowering them to take their place as responsible and active citizens within a diverse society. Alongside and through the development of skills, the Welsh Baccalaureate provides learners with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of society, the community in which they live and an awareness of global issues, events and perspectives. Learners will be required to consider how the application of their learning may impact on individuals, employers, society and the environment.

STRUCTURE OF COURSE:

The Welsh Baccalaureate is based on a Skills Challenge Certificate, which is worth 1 GCSE alongside Supporting Qualifications. The requirements of both the Skills Challenge Certificate and Supporting Qualifications must be met in order to achieve the overarching Welsh

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

- Individual Project
- Enterprise and Employability Challenge
- Global Citizenship Challenge
- Community Challenge

The Supporting Qualifications include two mandatory GCSEs of English Language or Welsh Language together with Mathematics-Numeracy at grade A* - C. During the course a learner must achieve 3 other Level 2 qualifications, 2 of which can be vocational qualifications.

The focus of the Skills Challenge Certificate will be on the essential and employability skills young people need in their future lives and these skills will be developed and assessed through an Individual Project and three Challenges. The Skills Challenge Certificate has been designed to include learning and assessment which will enthuse, engage and motivate learners in the classroom, the workplace and the wider community. The qualification has been devised around the concept of a 'plan, do, and review' approach to learning where learners are introduced to a context for learning, plan activities, carry out activities, review outcomes and learning. Challenges are individually evidenced and assessed through a Candidate Portfolio.

Head of Department: Mrs R Price
Examination Board: WJEC

**WELSH BACCALAUREATE
NATIONAL FOUNDATION SKILLS
CHALLENGE CERTIFICATE**

Tystysgrif Her Sgiliau Bagloriaeth
Cymru Cenedlaethol/Sylfaen

Skills Challenge Certificate components	Weighting	Assessed Skills	Internal Assessment	External Moderation
Individual Project	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Organisation • Critical Thinking and Problem Solving • Digital Literacy 	Sept 2024 - Feb 2025	May 2025
Enterprise and Employability Challenge	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creativity and Innovation • Personal Effectiveness • Digital Literacy 	Sept 2024 - Dec 2025	Jan 2025
Global Citizenship Challenge	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Thinking and Problem Solving • Creativity and Innovation 	Spring Term 2024	May 2025
Community Challenge	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Organisation • Personal Effectiveness 	Summer Term 2024	May 2025

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS

As shown in the diagram, to achieve the Welsh Baccalaureate, learners will need to complete:

1. SKILLS CHALLENGE CERTIFICATE (worth 1 GCSE)

- Individual Project

This is an independent, research-based assignment on an individually selected subject. Learners demonstrate the knowledge and skills to produce a written investigation or an artefact/product supported by written research.

- Enterprise and Employability Challenge

For learners to develop enterprising skills and attributes and enhance employability.

- Global Citizenship Challenge

For learners to understand and respond appropriately to a global issue.

- Community Challenge

For learners to identify, develop and participate in opportunities that will benefit the community.

2. GCSE's

GCSE English Language or Welsh Language and GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy.

3. Supporting qualifications

For example, other GCSEs; A levels/AS qualifications; vocational qualifications (see www.wjec.co.uk for specific requirements for each level).

To achieve the National Welsh Baccalaureate learners must achieve the National Skills Challenge Certificate together with the following Supporting Qualifications:

- GCSE English Language or GCSE Welsh Language at grade A* - C;
- GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy at grade A* - C;
- A minimum of three further GCSEs grade A* - C, of which two may vocational qualifications.

For further information please contact:
Mrs R Price - Head of Skills



Vocational Courses

RETAIL BUSINESS

Busnes Manwerthu



COURSE OUTLINE

The Level 2 Award in Retail Business introduces learners to one of the most important employment sectors in the UK, exploring various aspects of retail business and investigating a range of retailers from large chains and department stores through to independent and virtual stores.

The Award is equivalent to 1 GCSE.

It is practical, work related course. Students learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands.

WHAT WILL I STUDY

The course is made up of three units that you will study over two years. Two of these are controlled assessment units and one of this is an external written exam.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED

UNIT 1 – EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The business of retail

Written examination: 1 hr 30 minutes, 40% of qualification

This unit introduces learners to the competitive and dynamic nature of the retail industry. Learners will gain knowledge and understanding of the different types of retail organisations that compete for customers and how these businesses are managed in order to achieve their aims and provide a continuous supply of products. Learners will also gain knowledge and understanding of the external environment in which retailers operate and the impact of external factors on their operations.

Course Title: Level 1/2 Award in Retail Business

Examination Board: WJEC

Qualification: Level 2 Award

Unit 1 Topics

- Introduction to retail business
- The retail business environment
- Using data and recommending solutions to retail business issues

UNIT 2 – CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT

Customer service for retail business.

Controlled assessment: 6 hrs, 30% of qualification

This unit introduces learners to the importance of customer service to retail organisations. Learners will gain knowledge and understanding of the principles of customer service and how retail organisations use these to give their customers a positive experience. Learners will develop research skills to gather data in order to investigate the quality of customer experience across different retail organisations, analysing and presenting findings. Learners will visit retail stores to carry out their research.

Unit 2 Topics

- Introduction to customer service
- Meeting customer expectations
- Investigate customer experiences in retail businesses

UNIT 3 - CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT

Merchandising and marketing retail products.

Controlled assessment: 8 hrs, 30% of qualification

This unit introduces learners to the importance of visual merchandising and marketing to retail organisations. Learners will gain knowledge and understanding of the purpose and principles of visual merchandising and the ways in which retail organisations use visual merchandising in their physical stores and online to attract customers and achieve their aims. Learners will have to design visual merchandising installations and explain how these installations will target customers and help achieve aims. Learners will also have the opportunity of visiting retail stores such as John Lewis and many more in St David's centre in Cardiff.

Unit 3 Topics

- Visual merchandising for retail business
- Marketing retail businesses and products

For further information please contact:
Miss L Hawkins – Teacher of Retail



BTEC SWEET



Course Title: BTEC SWEET

Examination Board:

Qualification: BTEC

WHY STUDY BTEC SWEET?

The BTEC SWEET qualification gives learner the opportunity to experience a different style of learning experience. The course aims to develop important life and employability skills whilst also supporting the learners gain valuable skills in wellbeing, confidence and resilience.

This qualification is equivalent to a GCSE Grade B.

COURSE CONTENT

TOPICS STUDIED

- Personal Identity - Understanding and developing our own Personal Identity.
- Managing Relationships - Understanding how to manage personal and social relationship.
- Healthy Living - Understanding how to live a healthy lifestyles and the dangers of when we don't.
- Moving Forward - Understanding and developing skills in planning, setting and working towards goals.
- Money Matters- Developing our understanding and skills in managing our own money.
- Global Citizenship - Exploring our role in political decision making, understanding our Human Rights.
- Community - Exploring Diversity in our community, Community Action, Practicing Leadership skills with others.
- Enterprise and Employability - Planning an Enterprise Activity, Preparation for work, Searching for a Job, Applying for a job.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED

SWEET is a fully accredited qualification and nationally recognised, with no examination. Pupils work is continually assessed throughout their learning journey. Pupil can be entered at Level 1 or Level 2 depending on the quality of work completed.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESS

The SWEET qualification links nicely with other qualification that pupils study here at St Joseph's. For examples WBQ, History, English, Mathematics.

PUPIL FEEDBACK:

“SWEET gave me the opportunity to develop skills in preparation for when I leave school.”

“My SWEET lessons are great, I'm achieving a Level 2 qualification but I don't need to worry about sitting an exam which means I can spend more time revision for my core subjects.”

For further information please contact:
Miss D Jones - Head of Inclusion

*“Gyda phob un
cam, cer ymlaen”*

*“With each
step, go forward”*

REMEMBER

On 14th March 2024 a link to a Google Form will be sent to you.

The deadline for submission of this form will be 15th April 2024.

PLEASE NOTE: Pupils can only make their final pathways choices by submitting this Google Form.

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Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant