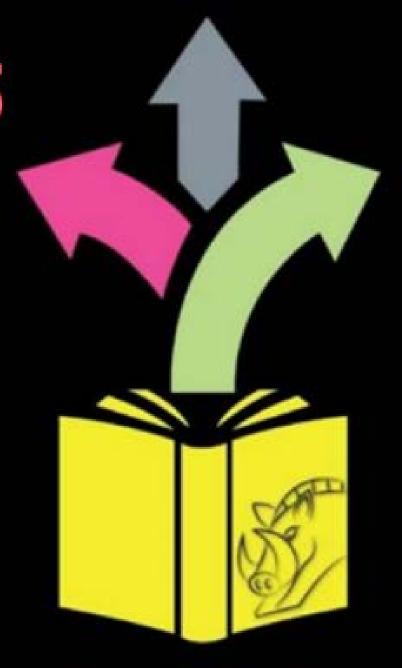


CA4 Gwybodaeth Llwybrau KS4 Pathways Information

2024-25





# **Year 9 Learning Pathways**

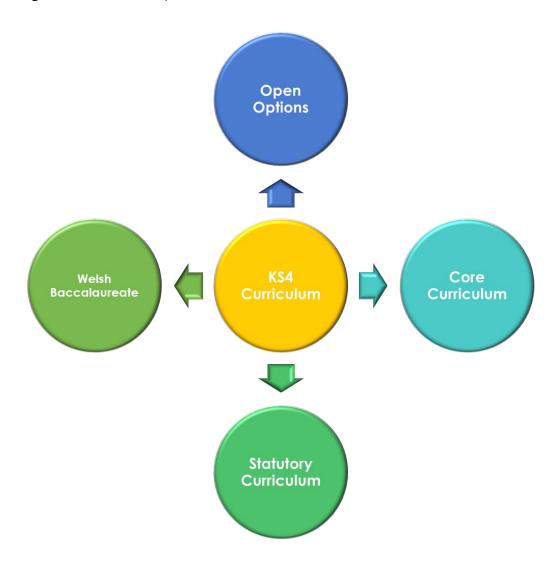
At the beginning of year 10, pupils will start two year examination courses which will lead to GCSE examinations, National Level 1/2 awards and the Entry Level Certificates.

All courses offered in this two year period must conform to agreed criteria and be approved by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority (SCAA).

There still remains some freedom of choice with regard to courses of study. The subjects chosen for these courses will be important for each individual pupil's educational development. The choices made should reflect an interest in a subject, a need for a subject for future pathways or a confidence that the qualification obtained will help future choices.

This booklet is intended to provide details of the courses offered at Ysgol Dyffryn Aman this year, and to help assist in making appropriate decisions in choosing a sensible pathway.

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum is split into 4 sections:





## What is a GCSE?

GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) is a 2 year course which leads to an award certified by an Examination Board, in all cases the WJEC (Welsh Joint Education Authority).

Courses often have 2 tiers:

**Higher** - which accounts for grades A\* to C **Foundation** - which ranges from C to G.

In the case of Mathematics, there are now 3 tiers:

Higher Intermediate Foundation

Some GCSE courses involve controlled assessments which are school based assessments. These can equate to 60% of the course and tend to be utilised in the more vocational / practical GCSE's.

### What is a Level 2 Course?

Level 2 courses are vocational subjects offered through a variety of differing Examination Boards, in most cases they are BTEC courses.

The courses are more structured and focus on a more specific pathway. They have an equivalence to a GCSE. The grading is different, but the Pass, Merit or Distinction equate to a C grade or higher. The main difference in terms of this course is that a higher percentage of the assessment is school based, looking at portfolio work or practical exercises. These courses have excellent routes established in the sixth form and the nature of a vocational course also allows specific interests to be developed.



# Core Curriculum

This is a compulsory curriculum for **All** pupils. The expectation is that a minimum of 5 GCSE's are taken and that the majority will be achieved at grade C or higher. Pupils who are capable of taking the literature and additional science subjects could achieve a total of up to 9 GCSE's from the core alone. Any student wishing to take Advanced Level in school or at a local College will be expected to achieve C grades in Maths and either English or Welsh First Language. Approximately half of the timetable is allocated to the Core Curriculum.

## **Mathematics**

Mathematics is an essential part of everyday life. It is therefore important to gain the basic mathematical skills in order to be a useful member of society. The purpose of the Mathematics course is to develop mathematical knowledge and skills to encourage confidence and enjoyment in the subject. This will allow pupils to communicate clearly and concisely using mathematical language and notation.

Mathematics GCSE does not involve course-work.

There are three tiers;
Higher Tier covers A\*- D grades
Intermediate Tier covers B - E grades
Foundation Tier covers D - G grades.

For all three tiers there is a non-calculator exam and a calculator exam. There are opportunities to take the external GCSE exams in June and November of each year. There is also an opportunity for the more abled (MAT) pupils in the year to study Additional Mathematics, this work is similar to the first module of A level Mathematics. For exceptional pupils there is the opportunity to sit the first module of A level Mathematics.

Pupils will also sit another GCSE called Numeracy. This is a separate GCSE qualification and the questions are mathematical but are in "real-life" contexts.

The three tiers here follow the same structure as mathematics. For all three tiers there is a non-calculator exam and a calculator exam.

There are two possible schemes of study:-

Those opting for the GCSE will follow the WJEC courses in Mathematics and Numeracy; resulting in GCSE grades for those who have reached the necessary standard. Those following the Entry Level course should qualify for certification in Mathematics at Pass or Merit level.



## Science

We live in an increasing technological and scientific society in which an understanding of science is important for all.

There are a range of courses available in Key Stage 4, all of which are full GCSEs.

**Triple science** is an excellent choice for those pupils who enjoy science and intend to follow a science route in the future. Each individual science will receive a separate grade which is based on exams in year 10 and 11 and a practical exam (10%). Pupils will have up to 5 lessons of each science on their timetables, taught by specialists and pupils can expect frequent updates about their progress through class tests.

Science is a compulsory subject at key stage 4 so if the pupils do not choose triple science they will be guided towards the best alternative based on their year 9 assessments.

For many pupils the best course will be a **double science course**. This course has a 10% practical assessment and 90% is assessed through theory papers at the end of both year 10 and 11. Pupils will study biology, chemistry and physics with specialist teachers and the overall qualification will be awarded as two full GCSE grades - an average of their performance across the three sciences.

As an alternative to this course, the **applied science GCSE course** has a higher component of practical assessment with 30% from the practical task and the practical exam and 70% from theory papers at the end of both Year 10 and 11. Pupils will study this course in science sets with specialist biology, chemistry and physics teachers. The applied course is equivalent to a single GCSE qualification.

### Welsh

There are two programmes of study - Welsh and Welsh Second Language.

**Welsh** is studied by those pupils whose first language is Welsh, where the language of the home is Welsh, or pupils who have received their education through the medium of Welsh.

The purpose of the Welsh course is to develop oral, reading and writing skills. It aims at developing the pupils' oracy in group and class discussions. They are introduced to varied reading materials of past and contemporary writers, and they are encouraged to write creatively, factually and critically.

A minority of first language pupils will also be following a literature course, and will study poetry, novels and stories. The viewing of dramatic productions, films etc are also an important part of this course.

**Welsh Second Language** is studied by those pupils whose home language is not Welsh and who have not received their education through the medium of Welsh.

Another purpose of the Welsh Second Language Course is to develop oral, reading and writing skills. It aims at developing pupils' oracy individually, and in group and class discussions.

They are introduced to a wide variety of reading materials and are encouraged to write creatively, factually and critically.



# **English**

The aim of the English Course is to achieve a clear understanding of what is heard or read and to promote good expression in speech and writing.

At KS4 the skills and techniques already developed at KS3 will be consolidated and extended. The aim is to acquire a general competence in the use of language and achieve GCSE grades that demonstrate pupils' true potential.

Language competence grows through an interaction of reading, writing, listening and speaking and all pupils must involve themselves in all four activities if they are to achieve a good result at the end of Key Stage 4. Some pupils who pursue the GCSE Course will also have the opportunity to study English Literature, if they show the necessary interest and aptitude. English Language is 80% external examination based with the remaining 20% achieved by means of Speaking and Listening assessment.

English Literature is 75% external examination weighted with 25% of final grade contributed through controlled assessments completed in the classroom.



# **Statutory Curriculum**

Statutory Curriculum is a compulsory curriculum which will involve 3 lessons a fortnight.

This grouping of subjects include The Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate, Religious Studies and Games.

Throughout these lessons, pupils will gain the opportunity to develop wider skills and will also gain an understanding of the importance of participation, communication and presentation.

# **Statutory Religious Studies**

Religious Studies provides opportunities for students to follow a course that is coherent and that balances knowledge of core beliefs, teachings and practices of at least two religions, with an understanding of how they can be applied to philosophical and ethical themes.

**Part A:** Two specified core beliefs/teachings and the two specified practices of Christianity and Judaism (afterlife, environmental responsibility, euthanasia, quality of life, evolution, sanctity of life, abortion, soul).

**Part B:** Two philosophical themes from the perspective of Christianity and Judaism (good/evil, morality, forgiveness, pacifism, free will, conscience, justice). A consideration of non-religious beliefs, such as those held by Humanists and Atheists are also studied.

# **Statutory Physical Education and Games**

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) - During Key Stage 4, pupils will receive two hour lessons per fortnight.

They will be encouraged and guided to plan their participation in physical activities in order to pursue a healthy and enjoyable lifestyle, and will be introduced to a range of activities that they could be involved in as young adults.

Mixed groups will rotate on a half term basis to cover the following modules:

**YEAR 10**: Badminton, Basketball, Aerobics, Swimming, Weight Training, Athletics, Tennis, Rounders, Netball, Rugby, Fitness.

YEAR 11: Dance, Volleyball, Gymnastics/Trampolining, Hockey, Netball, Rugby, Fitness.

The School will also provide the opportunity for inter-school competition in all major games and activities with training/coaching taking place during lunch times/after school.



# **Work Experience**

Work Experience is also an integral part of the P.S.E. (Personal, Social Health Education) programme and the Welsh Baccalaureate.

Careers lessons give valuable support when "job choices" are made, and for the briefing prior to the commencement of the experience.

Assessments and evaluation of the placement are also undertaken during debriefing sessions, and are included in the pupils' Progress File.

### **Health Studies**

Pupils will receive a tailored programme of Health Studies during the academic year and a number of themes will be discussed e.g. alcohol, drugs, smoking, solvent abuse, relationships, parenthood and independent living. Guest speakers will also visit the School to hold workshops.

### **REACH**

REACH lessons are about experience and developing life skills. We want pupils at Ysgol Dyffryn Aman to develop Resilience, Enterprise, Ambition, Capability and Healthy lifestyles.

There are 6 main elements:

- Health & Well Being
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics)
- Project Based Learning
- Careers
- Personal & Social Education
- Welsh Baccalaureate

Click the following link to see the **REACH website** for more information.



# National Welsh Baccalaureate

To achieve the National Welsh Baccalaureate learners must complete the National Skills Challenge Certificate. They also need to achieve:

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

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

- \*GCSE English Language or GCSE Welsh First Language at grade A\* G
- \*GCSE Numeracy Numeracy at grade A\* G
- \*A minimum of three further GCSEs grade A\*- G, of which two may be equivalent qualifications.

The Skills Challenge Certificate is timetabled for up to 2 hours per fortnight along with particular challenges completed in skill weeks throughout the two year GCSE course. The Skills Challenge Certificate itself is an essential qualification for moving to study A-Levels at school or college. Aside from this, the skills challenge, if successfully achieved, counts as an additional GCSE.

Skills Challenge	Certificate Components	Internal Assessment	External Moderation
Individual Project - 50%	* Planning and Organisation * Critical Thinking and Problem Solving * Digital Literacy	7	7
Enterprise and Employability Challenge - 25%	* Creativity and Innovation * Personal Effectiveness * Digital Literacy	<b>√</b>	√
Global Citizenship Challenge - 25%	* Critical Thinking and Problem Solving * Creativity and Innovation	<b>V</b>	√ 



# **Skills Challenge Certificate**

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn

The Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate is a compulsory course for all learners at that is based around a series of challenges designed to develop personal skills that will be use study and the world of work.

The challenges that learners will undertake; include a global citizenship challenge that will give them the opportunity to understand more about important world issues (such as climate change, sustainability and child poverty) and what they can do to raise awareness of these issues. Learners will also have the chance to develop their business and enterprise skills by looking at coming up with innovative ideas to develop the Swansea Bay and learning requires to take them to the market.

One of the key components of the Skills Challenge Certificate is the Individual Project in which all learners will choose a topic to research and produce a written project that will enable them to develop the skills of referencing, researching and critical analysis.

The Skills Challenge Certificate is based around independent work and skills acquisition through these challenges. The skills of enterprise, critical thinking, self-reflection and developing independent, creative learners, that are critical to the new curriculum, are inherent to the Welsh Baccalaureate.

#### How will I be assessed?

There are no exams as part of the Skills Challenge Certificate meaning it is 100% based on controlled challenges and the individual project (coursework).

A considerable amount of independent work is expected and learners will have deadlines to which they will need to adhere.

Challenges themselves will be conducted in challenge weeks and learners will have lessons to teach them the skills required for the completion of the individual project.



#### **Progression Route:**

The skills that learners will develop as part of the Skills Challenge Certificate are ones that are demanded by many employers and are essential to future study in higher and further education as well as preparing learners for lifelong learning:

- The ability to research secondary and primary data safely and to analyse critically material that is researched;
- Enterprise and employability skills including business strategy, marketing, careers skills and interviews;
- Understanding our place in the world and being able to look at an issue from a number of perspectives;
- The ability to read, assimilate and analyse a wide range of source material;
- Independent work requiring prioritising and maturity to meet deadlines;
- The use of statistics, number skills, data interpretation;

The skills developed will prepare learners for a substantial number of career routes, including:

- Business running and ownership
- Professional careers such as medicine, law, teaching and criminology
- Public service roles including the police force, social work, health and social work

#### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

To discuss the qualification further, please feel free to contact Miss Celyn Thomas, Welsh Baccalaureate Coordinator, or visit our departmental website at:

https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/welshbacc-yda/home



# **Open Options**

Pupils may then choose 3 additional subjects – one from each of three option groups.

The subjects have been categorised into three routes:

**Yellow route** - traditional GCSE subjects which are assessed via examination at the end of year 11.

**Green route** - which are GCSE subjects assessed with up to 60% controlled assessment set in school. The remaining 40% will be examined at the end of year 10 / 11.

**Blue route** - Vocational subjects where the majority of the course is assessed by internal assessment. These are level 2 qualifications which equate to a GCSE.

Pupils must choose one subject which is either in the Yellow or Green route GCSE courses. In certain circumstances we will allow individuals to follow three options in the Blue route.

The advice is that those pupils choosing the yellow route would have talked through their decision with the Humanities / Modern Languages Teacher.

Courses should be chosen based on three criteria:

#### Are you interested in the subject

Is it is of value in a future career or educational pathway

#### What is likely to be achieved in terms of a realistic grade

Generally pupils should choose two subjects where they are confident they will achieve a C grade or higher from GCSE or a pass grade from a Vocational course. They should not choose more than two Vocational subjects, unless they are advised otherwise.

The purpose of the subjects that are on offer in the Options, is to extend the breadth of understanding and knowledge of pupils and to help inform them and help define future pathways.



**Subject:** Art & Design / Photography



**QAN code:** 601/8251/9

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

Art & Design/ Photography fosters a wide skill set including creativity and imagination, along with broadening the mind and feeding the soul. Creativity is one of the most sought-after traits by employers today as it leads to innovative thinking so that people can think out-of-the-box and come up with new ideas and solutions.



These courses also encourage independence and resourcefulness, improve hand-eye coordination and foster time management.

#### How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Portfolio 60% of qualification: 120 marks

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment 40% of qualification: 80 marks -The Externally Set Assignment consists of two parts:

Part 1: Preparatory study period (12 weeks)

Part 2: 10 hour period of sustained focus work.



#### **Progression Route:**

A Level Art / Photography in sixth form.

Jobs related to Art include:

Teacher – primary/ secondary

Creative director of a magazine/web page

Artist – painter, sculptor

Photographer

Game Designer

Graphic Designer

Art Therapist

Art Director

Art Agent/Business Manager

Commercial Artist

Animator

Illustrator

#### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

WJEC website - <a href="https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/art-and-design">https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/art-and-design</a>

Mrs Carrie Jones - Head of Department. Room 714



Subject: Business QAN code: C00/1155/5

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn

Business helps to develop many important skills, such as numeracy, literacy, ICT, problem solving, information collecting, as well as analytical, evaluative and social skills.

Business is far greater than simply its parts. All young people are stakeholders in society and as each individual enters the world of work, continues onto further education or even chooses to run their own business, all will take up their role in the global community. All will have the right to vote within a few years' time. Social and environmental issues already affect them, as does the government's provision of services. Thus, in dealing with these issues, Business is a hugely important, relevant and useful course to young people.

The 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?

100% exam; No coursework.

#### Paper 1: Business World

Written examination: 2 hours - 62.5% of qualification; 100 Marks

[A mix of short answer and structured questions based on stimulus material covering all of the specification content]

#### **Paper 2: Business Perceptions**

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes - 37.5% of qualification; 60 Marks

[Data response questions covering all of the specification content]



#### **Progression Route:**

This specification builds on subject content which is typically taught at key stage 3 and provides a suitable foundation for the study of Business at either BTEC Level 3, AS or A level. In addition, the specification provides a coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study for learners who do not progress to further study in this subject.

#### Careers using Business Studies:

Advertising media buyer, Aromatherapist, Arts administrator, Baker, Bank manager, Banking customer service adviser, Barber, Beauty therapist, Business adviser, Business and financial project manager, Computer-aided design technician, Digital marketing officer, Driving instructor, Education administrator, Estate agent, Events Planner, Franchise owner, GP, HR manager, Hypnotherapist, Logistics manager, Marketing executive, Personal shopper, Proofreader, PR officer, Retail buyer, Retail manager, Sales assistant, School teacher, Tax inspector, Television/film producer, Theatrical producer, Wedding planner

Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/business/r-business-gcse-2017/

https://www.ucas.com/job-subjects/business-studies

See Mrs Ffion M Davies Room 413 for further information.



Subject: Creative Craft: Cookery QAN code: 601/3361/2/COO

**Exam Board: NCFE** 

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn

This qualification aims to:

- extend and further develop learners' skills of cookery
- use raw materials, tools and equipment in a safe and competent manner
- extend learners' knowledge and understanding of the cookery process
- develop an understanding of health and safety considerations in the cookery envir
- evaluate own work, develop ideas and learning through the cookery process
- provide a basis for progression onto further study.

#### How will I be assessed?

Pupils are required to complete a portfolio of work that is internally moderated and externally assessed. This portfolio makes up 100% of the final grade.

There is no examination as part of this course.

#### **Progression Route:**

An understanding of food and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles which include the catering industry, food product development and health, fitness and dietetics. There are many job opportunities in the food industry or apprenticeships can be applied for. The qualification is beneficial for practical college courses as it provides the pupil with skills that can be used in the catering industry.

#### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

The NCFE website has a wealth of information including the course specification and Mrs Evans in 711 can show you examples of past projects. It is also a good idea to speak to current year 10 pupils to find out what they like about this course.



Subject: Drama



QAN code: C00/0791/5

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The WJEC Drama course is an exciting, inspiring and practical course. It is a course that promotes involvement as a performer and a designer. Additionally, it provides opportunities for you to attend live theatre performances and to develop skills as an informed and thoughtful audience member. By studying this subject, you will have the opportunity to develop your dramatic skills by creating, performing and evaluating. In addition, the course offers the opportunity for you to develop self-confidence and linguistic skills

#### How will I be assessed?

#### **Unit 1** - Devised Theatre (40%)

This unit gives you the opportunity to create and perform a piece of devised theatre, linked to a genre or a theatre practitioner. The performance will also be based on one of the stimuli provided by the WJEC. You will work in groups of between two and five actors. During the devising process, you will be expected to produce a portfolio of supporting evidence which will demonstrate the research, creation and development of your ideas. Following the final performance, you will write an evaluation under supervised conditions. You will have 1 hour 30 minutes to complete the evaluation, and you may have access to two sides of A4 in bullet point notes. This unit will be assessed during the Autumn term of year 11, and will be internally marked and externally moderated.

#### **Unit 2** - Performing Drama (20%)

You will be assessed on your acting in a scene from a published play, in groups of between 2-4 pupils. Whilst preparing for this unit, you will have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how to interpret a text for performance and to realise artistic intentions. The exam will be held during the Spring term of year 11, and will be marked by a visiting examiner.

**Unit 3** - Interpreting Theatre (40%) During the course, you will study one set play called 'Two Faces' by Manon Stefan Ros. Section A of the exam paper will ask you to analyse the play from the viewpoint of an actor, director and a set designer. Section B will ask you to write a Theatre Review of one live theatre production seen during the course. You will sit the written paper during May / June of year 11.



#### **Progression Route:**

- Actor
- Theatre Director
- Teacher
- Career in the media
- Public Relations

Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/drama/r-drama-gcse-from-2016/gcse-drama-spec-from-2016-e.pdf

For further information please speak to Mrs Fiona Elias



Subject: Metal Engineering QAN code: Level 2: 610/0089/8

**EAL Level 2 Diploma in Practical Engineering** 

**Exam Board:** EAL

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

To undertake the Level 2 Diploma in Practical Engineering (Metal) we would ask that any potential candidate has an interest in engineering and enjoys practical engineering tasks. They must be interested in developing skills and knowledge, whether that is to embark on a career within engineering through a subsequent apprenticeship or within other sectors where those skills and knowledge are transferable.

The course is predominantly practical based around metal working activities and the candidates are expected to manually manufacture a number of different metal tools and artefacts to a given standard to receive the qualification. The methods of manufacture differ between tasks and require specific skills that the candidate will learn as they progress on the course.

We do ask for candidates to have a good attendance, as the course is entirely workshop based and a poor attendance will not produce enough work to fulfil the course requirements.

#### How will I be assessed?

The candidate is continually assessed as they carry out the practical elements and therefore, there is no requirement to sit a final exam; although, they are expected to complete a portfolio logging information which includes how the candidate plans out and executes a given task and answer questions based on the subsequent knowledge required. This is used as extra evidence to prove they have acquired the appropriate level of skill and knowledge to achieve the qualification.

#### **Progression Route:**

Pupils who pass the course would expect to progress onto the EAL Level 3 Diploma in Engineering and Technology course in the sixth form or apply for relevant apprenticeships in the same field. The qualification is beneficial for practically based college courses as it provides the pupil with skills that can be applied in different areas.



Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Please speak to Mr Mark Thomas available in room 707.

https://eal.org.uk/quals-finder/qualifications/2753



Subject: Woodwork Engineering QAN code: Level 2: 610/0089/8

**EAL Level 2 Diploma in Practical Engineering** 

Exam Board: EAL

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

To undertake Level 2 Diploma in Practical Engineering (Wood) we would ask that any potential candidate has an interest in woodwork and enjoys practical workshop tasks.

The course is predominantly practical based around woodworking activities and the training typically includes manufacturing wooden components to accurate tolerances and assembling wooden structures, as well as 2D Computer Aided Drawing. The methods of manufacture differ between tasks and require specific skills that the candidate will learn as they progress on the course.

We do ask for candidates to have a good attendance as the course is entirely workshop based and a poor attendance will not produce enough work to fulfil the course requirements.

The level 2 qualification is equivalent to 2 GCSEs A to C.

#### You will gain specialist skills in the following options:

- Using wood to manufacture components: you will learn to use marking out tools along with woodworking tools and equipment to manufacture components to accurate tolerances.
- Assembling wooden structures: you will learn skills necessary to produce simple and complex structures using a variety of joints and various mechanical fastening devices, tools and techniques. You will be able to carry out visual and functional checks to confirm that the finished assembly meets the required standard.
- Creating 2D engineering drawings using a computer system: you will learn to correctly set up and use computer systems to create 2D engineering drawings to national and international standards.

#### How will I be assessed?

The candidate is continually assessed as they carry out the practical elements and therefore, there is no requirement to sit a final exam; although, they are expected to complete a portfolio logging information which includes how the candidate plans out and executes a given task. This is used as extra evidence to prove they have acquired the appropriate level of skill and knowledge to achieve the qualification.



#### **Progression Route:**

Pupils who pass the course would expect to progress onto the EAL Level 3 Diploma in Engineering and Technology course in the sixth form or apply for relevant apprenticeships in the same field. The qualification is beneficial for practically based college courses as it provides the pupil with skills that can be applied in different areas.



Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

For further information please speak to Mr Damian Jones who is usually available in room 709 or Mr Nathan Goddard available in room 706.

https://eal.org.uk/quals-finder/qualifications/2753



**Subject:** Product Design - GCSE Online Specification

QAN code: C00/1166/7

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

Our GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

In **Year 10** you will concentrate on developing your design and making skills through completing lots of mini projects based on real design problems. You will learn and develop skills on professional industry standard computer programs such as Autodesk Inventor, Adobe Creative Suite and Techsoft 2D Design. You will learn how to use specialist equipment such as the Laser cutter, 3D Printer, Banner Printer, Vacuum Former, Milling Machine and Heat Press. All this while also having access to the workshops.

In **Year 11** you will be given a design brief or a problem to solve over a 35 hour design, make and evaluate task (the Non-Exam assessment) which is 50% of the qualification. You will have one lesson of theory a fortnight, two preparation lessons to collect data/research for your project and two lessons where you will complete pages of your Non-Exam assessment.

Transferable skills gained by studying Design & Technology subjects: using initiative, being organised, good communication, being innovative, good teamwork and being analytical.







#### How will I be assessed?

#### **KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING**

Unit 1: Design and Technology in the 21st Century Written examination: 2 hours 50% of qualification

#### **SKILLS**

Unit 2: Design and make task Non-exam assessment: approx. 35 hours 50% of qualification

#### **Progression Route:**

If you are considering a career in any of the following: engineering, manufacturing, construction, design, catering, hospitality, electronics, robotics, dietician, nutrition, health, education, pneumatic, hydraulic, environmental, architecture (amongst others) you should consider studying a Design and Technology subject to keep your options open at A Level.

In Year 12 you can choose A Level Product Design which is a two year course; this is similar to the GCSE but at a higher level and topics are covered in more detail.

If you want to pursue a career in Product Design after the A Level, then the most appropriate route is university to study either a BA (Hons) Product Design course which is the creative side of product design; or BSc (Hons) Product Design which is the technical side of product design. There are other courses available such as Transport Design, Furniture Design, Product Design Engineering, Product Design and Innovation; and we have had pupils who have studied the A Level and gone onto Architecture, Engineering and CAD courses.

#### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

For further information please speak to Mr Damian Jones available in room 709.

https://www.data.org.uk/for-education/secondary/options-2020/



**Subject:** Art Fashion & Textiles - WJEC website - https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/art-and-design

**QAN code:** 601/8251/9

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

This course is suitable if you are interested in designing, experimenting with design ideas and have an interest in fashion, textiles, fabrics and decoration. Students undertaking this subject will explore practical and relevant critical and contextual sources such as the work of historical and contemporary textile designers and makers, as well as the different purposes, intentions and functions of textile design as appropriate to their own work. There are close links between constructed, embellished, printed, sewn and dyed methods of textile design and with fashion design and installed textiles. Interdisciplinary opportunities might be explored as well as developing a specialisation in one area.

Students should demonstrate the ability to work creatively with processes and techniques appropriate to the chosen areas of study. Textile Design encompasses a very broad range of materials, techniques and processes, including recyclable materials and a growing number of interdisciplinary approaches. The range is increasing as new materials and technologies emerge, for example, in the field of 'intelligent textiles'.

In **Year 10** you will gradually build on your practical and design skills through doing a series of textiles based workshops based on a theme for example weaving, surface printing (block, screen or digital), pattern making, pattern cutting, embroidery (machine or hand), knitting, batik, soft sculpture, appliqué and collage, 3D shibori, fabric manipulation, embellisher, felt making. Confidence will be gained when using sewing machines and they will learn how to include pattern and embellishment to fabric.

In **Year 11**, you will have the subject knowledge and skills from year 10 to design and make textiles items of your choice as part of your coursework project. This is your chance to show your creativity and artistic flair whilst making high quality pieces.





#### How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Portfolio 60% of qualification: 120 marks

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment 40% of qualification: 80 marks -The Externally Set Assignment consists of two parts:

Part 1: Preparatory study period (12 weeks)

Part 2: 10 hour period of sustained focus work.

#### **Progression Route:**

Following this course can lead to careers in fashion design, retailing, journalism, advertising and buying, interior design, footwear designer, milliner, surface pattern designer, textile designer, textile buyer, fashion designer, fashion forecaster, knitwear designer, fashion journalist, colour consultant, theatrical costume designer, fashion illustrator, pattern-cutter and designer-maker. It also supports careers needing manual dexterity including dentistry and medicine.

The fashion industry is vast: it contributes around £32bn to the UK economy and supports some 797,000 jobs.

You could become a designer for men's or women's wear. Many graduates work in the retail fashion industry, as buyers, merchandisers or managers. Some have portfolio careers, working for a range of clients. Setting up a fashion label is also an option.

Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

For further information please speak to Mrs Olwen Madge available in room 710



Subject: Design and Technology Fashion & Textiles QAN code: C00/1166/7

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

This course is suitable if you are interested in designing, experimenting with design ideas and have an interest in fashion, textiles, fabrics and decoration. Enthusiasm, an openness to new ideas and a willingness to learn are essential to success in this subject. Although a talent for art can be useful, it is not absolutely necessary as high grades can be achieved without drawing ability.

Design & technology will prepare you to participate confidently and successfully in our increasingly technological world. You will gain awareness and learn from the wider influences on design & technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. You will get to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical skills. You will learn core technical and designing and making principles including a broad range of design processes, material techniques and equipment. You will then study specialist principles in textiles in greater depth. This exciting and hands-on course gives the opportunity to design and create innovative products in both fashion and interior design. It enables you to experience a wider range of textile techniques in the production of clothing, furnishings, decorative items and accessories. The course will also consider issues related to the environment, moral and social aspects of fashion.

**In Year 10** you will gradually build on your practical and design skills through doing a series of small projects and textiles workshops. You will learn how clothing is made and construction methods, important factors when choosing materials and components and the techniques used to add colour, pattern and embellishment to fabric.

Confidence will be gained when using sewing machines and you will learn how ICT and CAD/CAM is used to mirror industrial practice. You will be taught about the impact the textiles industry has on the environment and how clothes are manufactured globally.

**In Year 11**, you will have the subject knowledge and skills to design and make a product of your choice as part of your coursework project. This is your chance to show your creativity and artistic flair whilst making high quality products aimed at your target market.





#### How will I be assessed?

There is a non-exam assessment (NEA - Approximately 35 hours) which is one project making up 50% of the final grade. It will be a substantial project covering the four key assessment criteria.

There will be a 2 hour written examination at the end of Year 11 worth 50% of the final mark. The assessment of this project is worth 50% of the GCSE.

#### **Progression Route:**

Following this course can lead to careers in fashion design, retailing, journalism, advertising and buying, theatre costume and interior design. It also supports careers needing manual dexterity including dentistry and medicine.

The fashion industry is vast: it contributes around £32bn to the UK economy and supports some 797,000 jobs.

Forging a career in fashion and textiles is tough, but there are options out there. You could become a designer for men's or women's wear, a stylist, illustrator, in-house designer, journalist or teacher. Many graduates work in the retail fashion industry, as buyers, merchandisers or managers. Some have portfolio careers, working for a range of clients. Setting up a fashion label is also an option.

Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

For further information please speak to Mrs Olwen Madge available in room 710



**Subject:** Retail Business

QAN code:

Level 1/2 Vocational Award (Technical Award)

603/7021/X

Exam Board: WJEC

### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The Technical Award is designed for learners between 14-16 and focuses on applied learning i.e. acquiring and applying knowledge, skills and understanding through purposeful tasks set in specific business context.

#### Unit 1 - The business of retail

You will:

- Explore the dynamic and competitive nature of the retail industry
- Gain knowledge and understanding of different types of retail business and retail activity, as well as the impact of external factors on the industry

#### Unit 2 - Customer service for retail business

You will:

- Develop your knowledge and understanding of the principles of customer service for retail business
- investigate the customer service experience across a retail organisation of your choice

#### Unit 3 - Merchandising and marketing of retail products

You will:

- Be introduced to the importance of visual merchandising and marketing retail products, and how businesses use these to achieve business aims
- Design visual merchandising installations and promotional materials.

In all 3 units you will consider retailing in physical stores and online retailing.

#### How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through a mixture of exams and project work.

Unit 1 will be assessed through an exam, which is worth 40% of your qualification. (1hr 30mins)

Unit 2 will involve project work, where you will investigate the customer service of a selected retail business. (worth 30% of qualification - takes 6 hrs to complete)

Unit 3 - design visual merchandise and marketing materials in response to a given brief. (completed over 8 hrs and worth 30% of qualification)



#### **Progression Route:**

Retail Business will give you good IT knowledge, great analytical skills, and excellent problem-solving skills. Specific retail business careers include (for example):

- Customer service representative
- E-commerce web developer
- Logistics
- Marketing assistant
- Retail buyer

Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/level-1-2-vocational-award-in-retail-business/#tab keydocuments

For further information see Mrs Ffion M Davies Room 413



work.

Subject: French and German

QAN code: French C00/0792/5

German C00/0796/7

**Exam Board: WJEC** 

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

As citizens of the European community, all pupils should seriously consider continuing with a Modern Foreign Language to GCSE. A foreign language is an asset for an increasingly wide range of university courses from Engineering to Law and for many Business and Tourism qualifications, as well as being a desirable skill in the world of

The course content will broadly cover three themes:

- Identity and Culture
- Wales and the World
- Current Studies and Future Employment



#### How will I be assessed?

Throughout the two year course, we focus on the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. All four skills are equally weighted, worth 25% each of the final GCSE mark. Exams will be held in each of the four skills at the end of the two year course and exams are provided for both foundation and higher tier. The examinations are as follows:

Unit 1: Speaking
Oral test: 7-9 minutes (Foundation tier)
10-12 minutes (Higher tier)
25% of qualification
60 marks; 100 UMS

Unit 3: Reading
Written examination:1 hour (Foundation tier)
1 hour 15 minutes (Higher tier)
25% of qualification
60 marks; 100 UMS

Unit 2: Listening
Written examination: 35 minutes (Foundation tier)
45 minutes (Higher tier)
25% of qualification
45 marks; 100 UMS

Unit 4: Writing
Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes (Foundation tier)
1 hour 30 minutes (Higher tier)

#### **Progression Route:**

Both French and German can be studied at A Level at YDA

#### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

All staff in the MFL department are experienced GCSE teachers therefore please feel free to speak to any of our French or German teachers at school.

If you would like more information about the course, this can be found on:



#### French:

https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/mflitmyda/gcse-tgau/french

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/french/r-french-gcse-from-2016/wjec-gcse-french-spec-from-2016-e.pdf

#### German:

https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/mflitmyda/gcse-tgau/german

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/german/r-german-gcse-from-2016/wjec-gcse-german-spec-from-2016-e.pdf



Subject: Food & Nutrition QAN code: C00/0779/4

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The GCSE in Food and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages learners to cook and enables them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition and allows them to acquire knowledge in order to be able to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously now and in later life.



#### How will I be assessed?

GCSE Food and Nutrition is a linear specification where all assessments must be taken in the final academic year of the award.

40% Exam vs. 60 % NEA (Non-examination assessments)

**Unit 1** - Principles of Food and Nutrition - Written Paper 1½ hours

**Unit 2** - Food and Nutrition in Action - Two non-examination Assessments. Two briefs will be provided to allow pupils to have a choice. Both NEAs will be carried out in year 11.

**Assessment 1 (10hrs) -** The Food Investigation Assessment (20% of the qualification)

**Assessment 2 (15hrs) -** The Food Preparation Assessment (40% of the qualification)

#### **Progression Route:**

GCSE Food & Nutrition provides a suitable foundation for the study of Food Science and Nutrition at Level 3. An understanding of food and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles which include the catering industry, food product development and health, fitness and dietetics.

#### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

The WJEC website has a wealth of information including the course specification and past paper examples. Mrs Roach in 702 can show you the textbook that they use and examples of past projects. It is also a good idea to speak to current year 10 and 11 pupils to find out what they like about this course.



Subject: Geography



**QAN Code:** 

Exam Board: WJEC

Department Website - https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/daearyddiaethdyffrynaman/home

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The GCSE course offers exciting opportunities for all potential geographers. The course will combine elements of physical, human and environmental geography. It will show the relevance of geography to all aspects of life and will give all candidates the opportunity to develop key skills including, communication, application of number, ICT and working with others.

Geographers are sought after by employers because they possess a wide range of skills and are familiar with the changes and developments occurring in the world.

All Geography students are given the opportunity to complete fieldwork in an interesting environment, which will give them a chance to learn more about the world in which they live.

#### How will I be assessed?

#### **Unit 1 – Exam 40%**

Landscapes and physical processes- rivers and coastline of Wales and the Wider World. Rural Urban links- global cities, population structures and the local area.

Tectonic Landscapes – earthquakes and volcanic activity.

#### **Unit 2 – Exam 40%**

Weather, climate and ecosystems-global climates and contrasting world biomes

Global inequality- Levels of development and resource inequality

Environmental Challenges- the impact of consumerism on the environment

#### Unit 3 - Fieldwork Assessment 20%

#### **Progression Route:**

A suitable foundation for going on to study geography at A level, with a wide range of communication, ICT and numeracy skills developed through a range of activities.



### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mrs. C Campbell (Head of Geography), Mrs. B Thomas, Mr. C Davies and Mrs T Rosser-Shrewsbury (Teachers of Geography)



Subject: Hospitality & Catering QAN code: C00/1157/4

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The Level 2 Award in Hospitality and Catering has been designed to support learners in schools who want to learn about this vocational sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further study.

This course provides learners with the opportunity to develop a range of specialist and general skills that would support their progression to employment. Employment in hospitality and catering can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists working for supermarket chains. All of these roles require further education and training either through apprenticeships or further and higher education.

#### How will I be assessed?

The course is split into two units:

**Unit 01** - The Hospitality and Catering Industry

This is assessed with a 90 minute online exam and is worth 40% of the final grade.

**Unit 02** - The Hospitality and Catering Industry in Action

This is a controlled assessment and is worth 60% of the final grade.



#### **Progression Route:**

The Level 2 Award in Hospitality and Catering provides a suitable foundation for the study of Food Science and Nutrition at Level 3. An understanding of food and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles which include the catering industry, food product development and health, fitness and dietetics.

#### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

The WJEC website has a wealth of information including the course specification and past paper examples. Mrs Evans/Miss Wilson-Flower in 703 can show you the text books that are used and examples of past projects. It is also a good idea to speak to current year 10 and 11 pupils to find out what they like about this course.



**Subject:** History



QAN code: C00/1152/0

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The WJEC GCSE in History encourages learners to:

- Develop an interest and enthusiasm for history and an understanding of its value and significance.
- Extend knowledge and understanding of specific historical events (including Welsh history and the Welsh perspective in History.
- Acquire an understanding of different identities, (including their own) and an appreciation of social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity.
- Improve as effective, independent and resilient learners and as critical and reflective thinkers through a process of historical enquiry.
- Develop an appreciation of how and why different interpretations have been constructed about the past.
- Organise and communicate historical knowledge and understanding in different ways, arguing a case and reaching substantiated judgements.

The History specification provides a broad and coherent course of study, ensuring the study of:

- History on different timescales.
- History in varying geographical contexts including local, Welsh, British and the wider world.
- History across three historical eras.

#### How will I be assessed?

**Unit 1**: Study in Depth – Wales and the wider perspective.

Written examination: 1 hour 25% of qualification

'Depression, War and Recovery, 1930-1951.'

**Unit 2**: Study in Depth – History with a European/world focus.

Written examination: 1 hour 25% of Qualification

'Germany in Transition, 1919-1939.'

**Unit 3**: Thematic study – from a broad historical perspective.

Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes 30% of Qualification (Examined at the end of Year 10)

'Changes in Crime and Punishment, c. 1500 to the present day.'



Unit 4: Working as an historian.

Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) 20% of Qualification

## **Progression Route:**

Historians have strong analytical and communication skills which can be put to good use in almost all careers and are well-respected by colleges and universities.

#### These skills include:

- good oral and written communication
- ability to be open-minded and put together a logical argument
- critical thinking
- objectivity
- gathering, investigating and assessing material
- condensing or expanding facts, ideas and arguments
- using different types of sources to cross-reference
- basing conclusions on independent research
- organising material in a logical and coherent way

## Jobs related to History include:

- Law
- Teaching
- Journalism
- Archaeology
- Marketing
- Television and radio
- Local and national government
- Management consultancies
- Archivist
- Museum curator
- Conservation officer/historic buildings inspector

## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Speak to your History teacher and/or Ms Teague in 407 for further information.



Subject:	BTEC Sport	QAN code:

**Exam Board:** Pearson

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

BTEC Sport is an alternative Sport related course which is equivalent to 1 GCSE.

It is a vocational course that teaches students the knowledge required to pursue a career in sport. Pupils will develop the skills for a range of sport-related pathways from sports coaching to understanding about health and training. Supporting over 450,000 jobs in the UK, sport is a £20bn industry. This fast-growing sector now ranks among the top 15 mainstream activities in the economy. The huge amounts of money in UK sport means that there are more jobs to pursue than ever before. For example, supporting top athletes as sports scientists, sports psychologists, strength and conditioning coaches, sports therapists or coaches. Alternatively, you may opt to pursue a career in teaching or working within the health sector. Your BTEC Sport course will prepare you for whatever your chosen next step is and will provide extensive careers guidance to support you. To sum up, opportunities in sport today are exciting and vast.

#### How will I be assessed?

There are 4 units to be completed over the 2 years. You will not be assessed on how well you perform in sport.

Unit	Title	Assessment
1 (25%)	Fitness for Sport & Exercise	External online typed examination
2 (25%)	Practical Performance in Sport	Photo & video evidence of you completing 2 sports & typed assignments
5 (25%)	Training for Personal Fitness	Photo evidence of you completing a 6 week training programme & typed assignments
6 (25%)	Leading Sports Activities	Coaching pupils in a sport of your choice, typed assignments & an individual video interview

#### N.B

- You must be aware that you will be required to coach groups of pupils for assessment.
- An interest and experience in a variety of sports is needed to follow the course.
- The majority of the course is classroom based working independently on typed assignments with a small element of practical sport.





## **Progression Route:**

Progress onto either A Level PE or the BTEC Sport level 3 at year 12 (equivalent to an A Level) and then you may choose to continue your studies at university and study a sports or coaching degree, thus enabling you to work at the cutting edge of elite sport.

If continuing your studies at sixth form and then university is not the right pathway, you may choose to enter the leisure industry and undertake employment or further training.

## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mr Phil Bowen (Head of PE Department), Mrs Gemma Slater and Mrs Lynne Llewelyn (Btec Sport Level 2 Teachers)



**Subject:** Physical Education



**QAN Code:** 

Exam Board: WJEC

## Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

If you love playing sports, have bundles of energy and enjoy learning about movement then studying PE at GCSE, A-level and beyond could be a good career move for you.

Physical education lends itself to a range of careers in sports and fitness as well as other industries that you may not have considered before. For example, did you know that many nutritionists, physical therapists and chiropractors have a degree in PE? Some careers that you could consider doing with PE include:

Sports science

PE teacher

**Physiotherapist** 

Professional sportsperson

Sports coach/consultant •

Personal Trainer

#### How will I be assessed?

#### **Practical requirement**

There will be three practical components and pupils will be required to demonstrate three activities well, (2 team sports and 1 individual

or 2 individual sports and 1 team game). In these areas the pupils will





evaluate self and others' performance and the health and safety aspects. There is a fourth area which will also be required by each pupil, a Personal Fitness Programme (PFP) over 8-10 weeks fitted in to their main activity. A range of practical activities will be studied and advice will be given on the best options for the candidate. Value of practical work is 50% of the final mark.

## Theory requirement

The theoretical component is achieved through an external written examination. This covers the theory of physical fitness and its application to general health and is worth 50% of the final grade. This section is concerned with anatomical and physiological considerations which are relevant to the understanding and analysis of physical exercise, sport injuries, health and safety and diet and nutrition on the body. The Contemporary, Sociological and Historical aspects of Physical Education and Sport.

**N.B.** All candidates should have a high level of ability in **at least one team game** and two other sports to a good standard.



Commitment to school practices in chosen activities.

## **Progression Route:**

This can lead you onto studying A' level physical education or Level 3 Btec Sport in Yr 12, or it can enable you to gain access onto many sporting college vocational courses.

What jobs in sports can I do? Link:

https://successatschool.org/advicedetails/615/What-Jobs-in-Sport-Can-I-Do%3F

Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mr Phil Bowen (Head of Department), Mr Tom Hancock (PE Teacher)



**Subject:** GCSE In Digital Technology **QAN code:** C00/4040/5

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The WJEC GCSE qualification in Digital Technology is a broad-based qualification that allows learners to build on the digital skills, knowledge and understanding that is used both in their school and everyday lives. The qualification will allow learners to develop their understanding of the range of digital technology systems that are used in our connected and globalised society. It will also allow learners to explore the ever-evolving nature of digital technology systems and how these systems can be used productively, creatively and safely.

The subject content and assessment requirements are designed to ensure learners develop an appropriate breadth and depth of knowledge, understanding and skills in digital technology.

Unit 1 The digital World

- digital technology systems
- the value of digital technology
- perspectives on digital technology.

#### Unit 2 Digital practices

- interrogating spreadsheet data
- data-informed digital products.

#### Unit 3 Communicating in the digital world

- social media and online marketing communications
- creating digital assets and planning digital communications.

## How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 The digital World On-screen examination 40% of qualification

Unit 2 Digital practices Non-exam assessment: 45 hours 40% of qualification

Unit 3 Communicating in the digital world Non-exam assessment: 15 hours 20% of qualification

## **Progression Route:**

The qualification is designed for learners who wish to begin their journey towards a career that utilises digital technologies or to progress onto advanced level programmes of learning involving digital technologies.



## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mrs J Sullivan – 803 (Head of Department)

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/digital-technology-gcse/#tab\_overview



Subject: GCSE In Computer Science QAN code: C00/1157/9

Exam Board: WJEC

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

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, is essential to learners.

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. This specification has been designed to free centres to concentrate on innovative delivery of the course by having a streamlined, uncomplicated, futureproof structure, with realistic technological requirements.

This specification promotes the integrated study of computer science. It will enable learners to develop a broad range of skills in the areas of programming, system development, computer architecture, data, communication and applications. The subject content for GCSE Computer Science will be assessed across three units. Whist there is a degree of overlap between the content in Unit 1 and Unit 2, the context in which this content is assessed differs. In Unit 1, content is assessed in a theoretical way, whereas in Unit 2 it is assessed through its use within programs and algorithms. The non-exam assessment (NEA) is designed to assess a candidate's ability to apply the knowledge and understanding gained from Units 1 and 2. Candidates will be presented with a given scenario describing the requirements for a computer based solution. All work carried out for Unit 3 should be under teacher supervision, with no access to the Internet or email.

#### How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Understanding Computer Science Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 100 marks

Unit 2: Computational Thinking and Programming On-screen examination: 2 hours 30% of the qualification 60 marks

Unit 3: Software Development Non-exam assessment: 20 hours 20% of qualification 80 marks



## **Progression Route:**

Computers are widely used in all aspects of business, industry, government, education, leisure and the home. In this increasingly technological age, a study of computer science, and particularly how computers are used in the solution of a variety of problems, is not only valuable to the learners themselves but also essential to the future wellbeing of the country.

Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mrs J Sullivan – 803 (Head of Department)

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/computer-science-gcse/#tab\_overview



Subject: Digital Design

- IT User Skills Level 2 Extended Certificate

**QAN code:** 501/0435/4

**Exam Board:** The Ingots (TLM)

## Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

This is a great vocational ICT qualification which offers a wide range of coursework units that can meet the needs of many different learners.

You will learn how to use digital technology tools efficiently to support your development; whether it is at school, at home or at work. This qualification will provide a basis for any other higher level qualification in the digital technology domain and is especially designed to underpin transition to higher level digital technology based qualifications at level 3.

The overarching aim is to enable learners to support their learning in all subjects using IT tools that are freely and legally available from the internet. Anyone that is interested in improving their productivity in other subject learning or at work will benefit from this course.

We have selected a range of units that are engaging for the pupils but also cover important curriculum areas; which encompass both **2D graphic design** & **3D Computer Aided Design** (CAD), **3D printing** and presentation / **website design**.

#### How will I be assessed?

The Level 2 IT qualification consists of a mandatory unit and an overall requirement of 25 credits in total. All units are coursework based.

The internally assessed, externally moderated coursework for all qualifications is pass/fail but by submitting the evidence for external moderation, feedback can be given to the teacher on areas to improve for resubmission.

## **Progression Route:**

This qualification will provide a basis for any other higher level qualification in the digital technology domain and is especially designed to underpin transition to higher level digital technology based qualifications at level 3 both in the user and practitioner sectors.

#### Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

For further information please speak to Mr Damian Jones available in room 709.

https://tlm.org.uk/qualifications2/it-user-skills/level-2/



Subject: GCSE Health & Social Care and Childcare



**QAN Code:** C00/3685/2

Exam Board: WJEC

## Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

By studying this course it will encourage you to understand how we develop as people throughout the life stages and also broaden your knowledge of the health, social care and early years services that are available within the local area. It will help prepare those of you who would like to pursue a career within the profession.

You will also learn about the following key topics:

- Human development across the life cycle.
- Physical, social, emotional and intellectual health (self-concept, mindfulness),
- The importance of active participation and early intervention.
- How preventative methods can help avoid ill health.



#### How will I be assessed?

The Health and Social Care and Childcare GCSE is divided into two units.

Unit 1: Human Growth, Development and Well-being

This unit is a written examination taken at the end of year 10, it is worth 40% of the qualification.

**Unit 2:** Promoting and maintaining Health and well-being (approximately 25 hours)

This unit is a non-exam assessment, which is worth 60% of the qualification. It comprises of two assessments set by the WJEC:

**Non-exam Assessment 1**: Service provision investigation.

You will have to research the local and national services an individual uses to help meet their needs and investigate the job roles of two key professionals they would be in contact with.

Non-exam Assessment 2: The Health and Promotion Activity



You will research and investigate a chosen topic to base your health activity on, for example, healthy eating. You will plan and carry out a health promotion activity.

## **Progression Route:**

This GCSE will lead onto higher level Health and Social Care which in turn will lead to excellent career pathways from working with children in early years to nursing and social work. Health and Social Care and Childcare is a large sector with a variety of jobs including:

Nurse
 Health visitor
 Social worker
 Teacher

Physiotherapist
 Optician
 Dentist
 Doctor

## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

The WJEC website

https://www.healthandcarelearning.wales/qualifications/gcse-health-and-social-care-and-child dcare-single-and-double-award/ provides a detailed overview of the course structure with excellent resources that support the specification.

Mrs Lisa Vowles and Miss Rachel James are available to explain the course in more detail and to answer any questions.

We also offer the course to be delivered through the medium of Welsh - TGAU lechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol, a Gofal Plant.



Subject: Music



**QAN Code:** 

Exam Board: WJEC

## Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The GCSE Music course is divided into three categories:

## Listening, Performing and Composing

Music at GCSE level caters for pupils of all abilities and aims to encompass a wide variety of interests, covering music of all styles and periods, right up to present-day pop music. 70% of the course can be completed during the lessons which leaves just one written exam to be completed during the summer term in Yr 11.

This written exam is entirely based on musical excerpts played on a CD.

These excerpts will be based on four areas of study including:



- 1. Musical Forms and Devices
- 2. Music for Ensembles
- 3.Film Music
- 4.Popular Music

Apple Mac's are used extensively to help students produce high quality compositions (coursework).

Pupils need to be proficient on a musical instrument or voice, and the set standard to play or sing to at least grade 3 standard.

#### How will I be assessed?

Listening= 30%- Written Examination-1 hour-Summer Yr 11

Performing=35%-Assessed during Music lessons (4-6 minutes)

Composing=35%- 2 contrasting pieces -3-6 minutes (Coursework)



## **Progression Route:**

The GCSE Music course develops the following skills:

Communication, planning, knowledge, information technology, problem solving, performance, confidence, working with others and time management.

Jobs related to Music include:

- Music teacher-Primary/Secondary/Private
- Music Producer
- Music Therapist
- Musician
- Community arts worker
- Event manager
- Sound designer



Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mrs. M Owen (Head of Department) and Mrs C Wozencroft (Teacher of Music)



**Subject:** Prince's Trust Certificate in Personal Development and Employability Skills

**QAN Code:** 600/8035/8

**Exam Board:** The Prince's Trust

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The Prince's Trust Achieve programme is an exciting addition to the curriculum. With flexible delivery methods and well-resourced curriculum content, the programme is ideally suited to meet the needs and interests of young people, building confidence, self-esteem and core skills to prepare them for life beyond school. There are a number of curriculum models and qualification units that allow learners the opportunity to develop important life skills. Learners will have the opportunity to:

- Develop their own personal growth and engagement in, and through, learning
- Engage in learning that is relevant to them and supports the development of personal skills and attributes that are essential for working and employment
- Prepare themselves for progression into further education programmes, apprenticeships or other work based learning
- Develop their English and mathematical skills

#### How will I be assessed?

Learners will build portfolios of evidence which will be internally assessed and externally verified. These portfolios are supported by the application of skills through evidence of capability including photographs and video clips. There are no external examinations or assessments.

The Princes Trust qualification gives learners the opportunity to take part in practical based tasks and encourages activities that promote learning outside of the classroom. Pupils will regularly participate in workshops, external visits and STEM activities that promote key skills. These are often delivered through external education based agencies who offer exciting, engaging and fun sessions for our learners.





## **Progression Route:**

This qualification provides a platform for learners to progress onto further education opportunities and/or employment, including further education programmes, apprenticeships or other work based learning as they develop personal development and employability skills.

Some of the skills you will gain studying this course which are well sought after by employers include:

- Ability to communicate and listen well
- Team Player
- Resilience
- Responsibility
- Time management
- Engagement
- Motivation
- Self-discipline
- Self-reflection
- Problem Solving
- Confidence



## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

For further information please speak to Mrs Leah Evans (Prince's Trust Coordinator).

Alternatively, you can visit the Princes Trust website following the link below:

https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/princes-trust/home



Subject: Religious Studies



**QAN code:** 

Exam Board: WJEC

## Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

Religious studies provides an exciting opportunity for learners to follow a course that balances knowledge of core beliefs, teachings and practices of at least two religions, with an understanding of how they can be applied to philosophical and ethical themes.

#### Year 10

Unit 1 - Religious and Philosophical themes

Christianity and Judaism

Part A - Life and Death

Part B - Good and Evil



#### Year 11

Unit 2 - Religion and Ethical Themes

Christianity and Judaism

Part A - Relationships

Part B - Human Rights



GCSE Religious Studies examines the beliefs and practices in the Christian and Jewish tradition as well as philosophical and ethical studies in the modern world. It provides opportunities for learners to understand more about the world, and the religious challenges it faces and their place within it.

## How will I be assessed?

## 100% examination

- In Year 10 you will be assessed on Unit 1 50%
- In Year 11 you be assessed on Unit 2 50%



## **Progression Route:**

The skills you will gain by studying Religious Studies are well-respected by colleges, universities and highly sought after in many jobs

- Research, analysis and presentation skills
- Critical thinking skills and the ability to interpret information, formulate questions and solve problems
- Organisational and time management skills
- Teamwork and communication skills
- Writing skills, including accurate referencing and the ability to construct a reasoned argument
- Empathy and the ability to understand people and take on board others' views
- The ability to work methodically and accurately
- Independence of mind and the ability to think for yourself.

Jobs related to Religious Studies include:

- Social Worker
- Police officer
- Probation officer
- Teacher
- Law
- Archivist.
- Charity fundraiser.
- Counsellor.
- Civil Service administrator.
- Community development worker.
- Editorial assistant.
- Newspaper journalist.

## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

You can speak to your RE subject teacher or see Mrs Mahoney in room 417.

Have a look at the WJEC Religious Studies website to find out more information about the topics you will study.



Subject:	Triple Science	

Exam Board: WJEC

## Why Study this Course? What will I Learn

The triple science course is taught as 3 full GCSE's. Students will have up to 5 lessons of each science on their timetables, taught by specialist teachers in science laboratories. Each of the three courses has a specification designed to equip students for further study in science and for future scientific, engineering and medical careers.

In biology for example, students will study genetics and how this relates to an understanding of some diseases. The principles of forces and how they are applied to engineering are studied in physics, while in chemistry the pupils will look at the uses of nanotechnology and smart materials in the modern world.

#### How will I be assessed?

45% from the exam at the end of year 10, 45% from the exam at the end of year 11 and 10% from a mid-course practical exam.

There will be frequent class tests through the course tracking progress across each of the topics studied.

#### **Progression Route:**

Triple science provides a strong foundation for study in any of the courses we offer in the sixth form - A levels in biology, chemistry, physics and geology and the level 3 course in medical science. It will also provide and entry point to courses and careers including:

- Medicine
- Nursing
- Dentistry
- Pharmacy
- Civil engineering
- Electrical engineering
- Geotechnical engineering
- Veterinary science
- Climate science



## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Please speak to your science teachers for advice on choosing triple science. For advice on individual courses contacts are: Mr Richard Finney (Biology), Mr Colin Davies (Chemistry) and Mr James Thomas (Physics)

You can see resources for the science courses here:

https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/sciencedepttrial1/home-learning/year-11-courses



## **College Courses**

A new development over the last few years has been the sharing of courses within the Dinefwr Consortium. Courses offered are based at Ammanford College, Gelli Aur and Graig Campus.

These courses are vocational and all lead to a level 1/2 qualification with a potential equivalent to GCSE grades A\* - C.

The courses do require travel by bus or in the case of Ammanford College walking down to the campus. The lessons are as a consequence offered within option block 2 and will be timetabled for Tuesday afternoons. This will result in pupils leaving school at 12:50 and returning by 3:50. A late bus is available for those who have missed their school bus.

A commitment to the course and its work requirements is essential, as is a good record of attendance. The college insists on a 90% minimum attendance record.

The courses available include:

Agriculture and Land Management Construction Motor Vehicle Hairdressing (Andrew Price)

For more details please ask to see Mr Chris Davies



Subject: Agriculture & Land Management

Level 2 Extended Certificate in Agriculture

(Equivalent to 1-2 GCSEs).

**QAN code:** 500/9932/2

Exam Board: Pearson

## Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

This qualification is suitable for learners who wish to gain an insight into agricultural and land management industries that fall within the environmental and land-based sector.

The qualification is aimed at pupils interested in plant and animal production and management of environments.

Pupils will study 3 units of work. The units of work are outlined in the Course Specification link above.

#### How will I be assessed?

Pupils are assessed by accumulating coursework evidence in each unit. Pupils will receive a pass, merit or distinction grade.

## **Progression Route:**

Pupils can continue studies of Level 3 Diploma in Environmental & Land-based studies in a Post 16 education setting.

## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mr Campbell is in charge of the options delivered outside school. If you need further information please make arrangements to discuss this option in more detail.



**Subject:** Construction - Coleg Sir Gar (Ammanford Campus)

**QAN code:** 601/0543/4

# Level 1/2 Award in Constructing the Built Environment (Equivalent to 1 GCSE).

**Exam Board: WJEC** 

## Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

This qualification is suitable for learners who wish to gain an insight into a number of construction related disciplines and subjects.

The trades that the learner will explore are Carpentry, Bricklaying and Plastering. It provides introductory practical skills together with essential theoretical knowledge and understanding to work safely, plan basic construction projects and complete work to a good standard in the Construction industry.

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

**Unit 1** – Safety and Security in Construction

Through this unit learners will gain knowledge and understanding in how to comply with various Health and Safety legal requirements for working in the Construction industry. Learners will also gain knowledge and understanding in how to plan for minimising risk to their own and others health and safety in Construction.

## Unit 2 - Practical Construction Skills

Through this unit learners will be able to interpret technical information to plan and review the refurbishment of buildings. The learner will use the appropriate practical skills in three trade disciplines to carry out the refurbishment tasks to a recognized standard.

## **Unit 3** - Planning Construction Projects

Through this synoptic unit, learners will bring together the knowledge of practical skills and safety requirements of construction processes gained in units one and two. This unit will also develop further their knowledge and understanding to be able to successfully plan a basic built environment project.

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

Learners will work in a mixed ability setting but will be interviewed prior to the start of the course to assess their interest and suitability for the course. Learners will be based in the new Vocational Skills Centre at Ammanford Campus Coleg Sir Gar where they will attend a weekly 2-3 hour session.



#### How will I be assessed?

There will be continuous practical assessment throughout the course. There will be written assessments for Units 2 and 3 and individual unit evidence will be recorded within a portfolio.

#### Is there an exam in this subject?

As well as coursework and controlled tasks, there will be a 1-hour external exam on Unit 1 Health and Safety.

#### Which examination tier will I sit?

WJEC Construction pathway level 1/2

## **Progression Route:**

The Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Constructing the Built Environment was developed in collaboration with CITB and is primarily designed for learners aged 14-16 who want to learn about the construction industry from the build perspective. It provides learners with a broad introduction to the different trades involved in the sector and the types of career opportunities available.

## Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) Wales

"CITB are delighted to have been able to work with WJEC to develop the Level 1 / 2 Construction Qualifications which are based on industry approved content and provide the opportunity to inspire the next generation of young people to consider Construction in its widest context as a career of choice."

- Gareth Williams, Qualifications and Careers Manager, CITB Wales



## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mr Campbell is in charge of the options delivered outside school. If you need further information please make arrangements to discuss this option in more detail.



**Subject:** Motor Vehicles Coleg Sir Gar (Pibwrlwyd Campus)

Level 2 Diploma in Vehicle Inspection (Equivalent to 1 GCSE)

**QAN code:** 501/1213/2

Exam Board: IMI

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

This knowledge and skills qualification (VRQ) is primarily designed to meet the needs of the young people. It suits school & college students who wish to join the automotive industry It provides learners with the opportunity to study both the theory and practical aspects of a range of routine vehicle inspection and maintenance procedures:

- Routine light vehicle maintenance, including engine systems.
- Inspecting, repairing and replacing light vehicle: standard tyres
- Inspecting and replacing light vehicle: exhaust components, suspension dampers & springs, and braking systems & components.
- Learners also gain a broad knowledge and understanding of health and safety in the workplace.

## Health & Safety in the Workshop

Through this unit learners will gain knowledge and understanding in how to comply with various Health and Safety legal requirements for working in the Motor Vehicle industry. Learners will also gain knowledge and understanding in how to plan for minimising risk to their own and others health and safety.

# G4K – Knowledge of Materials, Fabrication, Tools and Measuring Devices used in the Automotive Environment

Through this unit learners will be able to develop an understanding of the correct selection, care and use of key hand tools and measuring devices for modification, fabrication and repair in the automotive environment, the correct preparation and use of common automotive environment equipment, the correct selection and fabrication of materials used when modifying and repairing and the correct application of automotive engineering fabrication and fitting principles

## Routine light vehicle maintenance

Through this unit, learners will bring together the knowledge of practical skills and safety requirements to undertake Inspecting, repairing engine systems, Inspecting, repairing replacing light vehicle standard tyres Inspecting and replacing light vehicle exhaust components, suspension dampers & springs, and braking systems & components.

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

Learners will work in a mixed ability setting but will be interviewed prior to the start of the course to assess their interest and suitability for the course. Learners will visit Coleg Sir Gars Automotive



department based at Pibwrlwyd Campus in Carmarthen where they will attend a weekly 2 hour session.

## How will I be assessed? Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

There will be continuous practical assessment throughout the course. There will be online assessments throughout the course and individual unit evidence will be recorded within a portfolio.

#### Which examination tier will I sit?

IMI Level 2 Diploma in Vehicle Inspection

## **Progression Route:**

## Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mr Campbell is in charge of the options delivered outside school. If you need further information please make arrangements to discuss this option in more detail.

IMI Website Coleg Sir Gar Motor Vehicle Department



Subject:	Hairdressing	QAN code:
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**Exam Board:** VRQ Level 2 Certificate progressing onto the VRQ Level 2 Diploma.

#### Why Study this Course? What will I Learn?

The Andrew Price Hairdressing Academy delivers more than just a professional hairdressing qualification(s).

Through exceptional combinations of industry success, highly experienced trainers, a comprehensive working on-site salon to develop practical skills and a state of the art IT suite to develop theoretical skills, the Andrew Price Academy provides real, employable skills to enable students to grow within this chosen career.

The Academy was originally conceived to ensure the highest standards in hairdressing and customer service across the Andrew Price Group of Salons.

Now the Academy provides education solutions to a wide range of clients from apprentices to refresher courses for professionals and industry leaders such as Wella, who make use of our academy regularly for their training.

Passionate about hairdressing and learning, the Andrew Price Academy has been delivering the highest standard of hairdressing education for over 20 years and has developed a superb reputation within the industry.

In September 2012 the Academy formed a partnership with Ysgol Dyffryn Aman and the results have been outstanding. All pupils have achieved a VRQ Level 2 certificates in Hairdressing and many of the learners have continued to attend the Academy to study The VRQ Level 2 Diploma in Hairdressing.

In addition to practical experience The Academy believes in developing the whole individual. Individual image, in-depth knowledge and elevated communication skills are just as necessary as hairdressing skills, to make you highly employable and ensure a long and successful career in Hairdressing.

## How will I be assessed?

Most of the work will be assessed through coursework, however a percentage of the assessment will be conducted through a written examination.



Progression Route:
Hair & Beauty industry.
Where can I find out more information on the subject? What staff can I speak to?

Mr Campbell is in charge of the options delivered outside school. If you need further information please make arrangements to discuss this option in more detail.