



Ysgol Uwchradd

Llanidloes

High School

Sixth Form Prospectus 2022



a guide to our learning pathways



Why choose Llanidloes?

CONSISTENTLY EXCELLENT EXAM RESULTS

This has to be number one! Each year our students consistently achieve excellent exam results. Our subject results in 2019 (the last externally graded results) include:

- Biology 14% A* grades
- English 57% A*-A grades
- Geography 88% A*-B grades
- Health and Social Care 100% A*-C grades
- History 55% A*-A grades
- ICT 100% Dist/Dist* grades
- Maths 20% A* grades
- Psychology 66% A*-B grades
- Tourism 50% A* grades
- Welsh Bac 84% A*-B grades

In fact, in 2019, 1 in 7 students achieved 3 or more A* or A grades and nearly 1 in 3 students achieved 2 or more A* or A grades

SUCCESS IN GETTING INTO FIRST CHOICE UNIVERSITIES AND ONTO COMPETITIVE COURSES

Each year everyone, or nearly everyone, gets into their first choice university. We are experienced in supporting students in their university applications. All students are given extensive support with their personal statements and interviews. We have links with several universities who also come to give talks and mock interviews as well as our residential trip to a university each year.

We offer tailored support with applications for competitive courses such as medicine and veterinary medicine - 100% of our students applying for medicine and veterinary medicine succeeded in recent years.

One of The Times top 10 schools in Wales for A-levels results

1 in 7 students achieved 3 or more A* or A grades in 2019

Nearly 1 in 3 students achieved 2 or more A* or A grades in 2019

Each year 100% or nearly 100% of our students gain places in their first choice university

100% success for medicine and veterinary medicine places in recent years

Why choose Llanidloes?

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

With Gold DofE and trips abroad there many ways that students can gain varied experiences. We have many external speakers who visit to talk to students: lecturers giving specialised talks, residential trips to universities, people from gap year organisations, through to support with student finance.

POSTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

There are many opportunities to take on roles of responsibility: working with younger students such as through Paired Reading or Peer Mentoring; organising clubs and activities; and of course becoming a Prefect, Head Girl, Head Boy or one of their Deputies.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Students are encouraged to organise work experience in Year 12 in order to consolidate their career choices and strengthen job and university applications. We also encourage students to undertake regular, on-going work experience when linked to their career, such as in schools and hospitals, and we have a extensive database of employers with whom students have previously had successful placements.

CURRICULUM CHOICE

We offer a broad range of subjects including the Russell Group 'facilitating' subjects and some new subjects each year! We also work in collaboration with other schools in the area to offer an even more extensive choice. The timetable is constructed to allow travel to other schools and to NPTC without missing any lessons in other option blocks at Llanidloes. Travel happens twice a week and is free, organised by Powys County Council.



Why choose Llanidloes?

WELSH EXAM SYSTEM

Unlike in England, students benefit from advantages of the Welsh exam system:

- Modular system with exams at the end of Year 12 as well as Year 13, unlike the linear system in England where all exams are at the end of Year 13. Welsh students are, therefore, under less pressure at the end of their courses.
- Exams sat in Year 12 can be re-sat in Year 13 to improve poorer marks or to improve further good exams results in order to improve the chances of gaining an A*!
- 4 subjects can be started in Year 12 and one subjects 'dropped' at the end of the year and students still attain an AS as students carry on with 3 A-levels. This also means those who are only in Sixth Form for one year gain AS qualifications when they leave.

DIFFERENT FROM YEAR 11

There are many privileges as a member of the Sixth Form:

- having chosen to study their subject teachers treat students differently from Year 11
- a well equipped Sixth Form block with common rooms for socialising (and making important cups of tea)
- a dedicated study room, as well as the use of rooms such as the library for doing work and studying all day and even after school
- free laptops for students' use while in Sixth Form
- heavily subsidised gym membership at the adjacent sports centre

EXCELLENT SUPPORT

We know our students well and try to meet each student's needs individually, in a caring and supportive environment. Students keep in touch and return to help current students and others have support from us with their university applications years after leaving!



RUSSELL GROUP'S 'INFORMED CHOICES'

Please read the attached summary document of The Russell Group's 'Informed Choices' which gives guidance on subject choices for the most competitive universities and courses.

The Russell Group are:
Birmingham
Bristol
Cambridge
Cardiff
Durham
Edinburgh
Exeter
Glasgow
Imperial College London
King's College London
Leeds
Liverpool
LSE
Manchester
Newcastle
Nottingham
Oxford
Queen Mary University of London
Queen's University Belfast
Sheffield
Southampton
UCL
University of Warwick
York

The list of 'facilitating subjects' are:

Biology
Chemistry
Maths
Physics
Geography
History
Languages

Choosing subjects to study

A concern for some students is their choice of subjects to study. It is an important decision and students should consider the following:

- You should choose subjects that are of interest to you and you enjoy, as you will spend 4 hours each week in lessons in school for EACH subject and you should be doing around the same number of hours outside lessons too.
- You should think carefully about your own strengths such as whether you work well independently, or is coursework your forte. This will be an important factor in your success in each subject.
- It is advisable to seek advice from teaching staff, the 'Careers Wales' advisor, family members and current Sixth Form students. They may be able to advise you on how the subject offers from GCSE or if it's a new subject, perhaps taught at a different institution, they may be able to offer invaluable insight. However, do not choose a subject simply because your friends are doing it, or choose not to do it because they aren't!
- If you have a career in mind it is crucial that you research the subject you should choose. Some University courses have very specific requirements such as medicine, veterinary science, dentistry or law. You should seek the advice of Mrs Jerman (Head of Sixth Form), Dr Creasey (Assistant Head of Sixth Form), Careers Advisor, or teaching staff of specific subjects linked to these careers. www.ucas.com is a valuable source of information under the 'course search' section in particular, and will provide links to individual University websites.
- It may be unwise to choose more than one 'new' subject which you have not studied before, or too many coursework-heavy subjects.

AS LEVELS AND A-LEVELS

The Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS) is the first half of an A level course. It can be studied in Year 12 and the A2 part (to complete an A-level) in Year 13. The AS qualification consists of 2 or 3 modules (units of study) and will be worth 40% of an A level. Subjects can also be studied at AS level in Year 13. It is anticipated that the vast majority of students will study four AS level subjects or their equivalent in Year 12. One advantage of the modular system is that modules can be re-sat to improve marks, which can reduce the stress and pressure felt by students.

The challenge of the Sixth Form

During the next two years students will face new academic and personal challenges. We will help them to meet these challenges.

ACADEMIC WORK

Students will have timetabled lessons for around 18 or 19 out of the 25 lessons each week. The remaining time is used for private study, developing discussion skills and sport.

Student progress will be monitored by subject staff and there is an opportunity to discuss problems each day with tutors. There are also opportunities for students to discuss their progress in the individual interviews with their 'Bac' mentors and form tutors.

In addition to the Parents' Evening in October and reports in February, contact is made in December and March and whenever it is felt necessary and parents are encouraged to do likewise. Sixth formers appreciate the need for this system of supervision although they may not always welcome it!

MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

A concern for some parents is how their son/daughter is progressing! We regularly assess students and monitor their progress closely, contacting parents when appropriate.

October - Monitor progress of students in all subjects

October – Parents' Evening

December – mocks and tests given to students

Late December – interim report

February – annual reports to parents

March – interim report

May/June – external exams in all subjects

Being part of the Sixth Form

PRIVILEGES

Sixth Form students have much more freedom and experience privileges, including optional uniform, use of a dedicated Sixth Form block, unsupervised study time, bringing a car to school, leaving school premises during the day, no queuing in the canteen, use of common rooms and study room.

With this freedom comes responsibility and we expect our Sixth Formers to be 'role models' for younger students and for high standards to be upheld - respect, courtesy, punctuality, attendance, general behaviour – and if individuals are not mature enough to do this then privileges will be withheld.

SCHOOL SERVICE

The Sixth Form is a very important part of the school community, and it is important that sixth form students take an active role in the life of the school. With this ideal in mind, members of year 12 assist with a variety of tasks including:

- ◇ supporting students in the lower school in their lessons
- ◇ helping out with events, such as Open Evenings & Sports Day
- ◇ helping to organise events with Primary schools, such as sports & drama
- ◇ performing lunchtime duties e.g. running clubs or helping in the library

These activities help to give younger children a positive view of sixth form, enhance the status of sixth formers as important members of the school community and are an important consideration when deciding upon Prefects in Year 13. As such, we expect everyone in year 12 to become involved in school service, and award Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates in recognition of their efforts.

HEAD GIRL, BOY, THEIR DEPUTIES, AND PREFECTS

During Year 12, all students are encouraged to participate in activities to count towards their 'school service' and 'Community Challenge' for the Welsh 'Bac'. At the end of Year 12, students submit their school service records which are considered along with their attendance, staff recommendations, and their academic records; 20 or so students are then invited to become Prefects.

In the September of Year 13, students and staff nominate students for the roles of Head Girl and Boy from the list of Prefects.

We feel that by having students who hold these roles, Sixth Formers are provided with opportunities to develop skills needed in adult life as well as continue to be excellent role models for younger pupils.

Joining Year 12—the application process

APPLICATION

Initially, prospective students are asked to complete an ‘initial choice’ form and return this to school so that the best possible option blocks can be formed. At a later date, they will be asked to apply formally by filling in an application form online. The website www.powyslearningpathways.wales/ is available for information about all courses available in North Powys but a new website is on the way for applications!

Our options blocks are initially in draft form on the website as we try to accommodate students’ choices as much as possible. All those who have completed an ‘initial choice’ form will be informed when the option blocks are finalised.



Llwybrau Dysgu
Powys
Learning Pathways

ENTRANCE POLICY

In line with the 14-19 Learning Pathways, entry into the Sixth Form is determined on an individual basis, however, it is generally agreed that a C (or B in some subjects) grade at GCSE in a subject to be followed at A-level is a **minimum** for future success. Applicants are likely to be invited for an informal interview, to confirm their choices.

GCSE RESULTS

On the day that your GCSE results are released, Mrs Jerman, the Head of Sixth Form, and Dr Creasey, Assistant Head of Sixth Form, will be present in Llanidloes High School. You will be asked to see them to confirm your choices, but staff are also available on the induction days for further discussion.

INDUCTION

The first days of the Autumn term gives you as a new year 12 student the opportunity to make final decisions on the courses you wish to follow. There are a wide range of possible course combinations available. You will need to discuss and agree with your teachers the courses you are going to study. Your sixth form tutors & the careers officer will be available to give you guidance. It is also a time to find out more about Sixth Form life and to meet other Year 12 and 13 students through many different activities. It may be appropriate to also organise some induction activities before the summer holidays, especially for ‘new’ subjects’ which students will not have studied before.

University Applications

SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

We offer support for students applying to university—with choosing courses, drafting their personal statement, preparing for interviews, applying for student finance applying for scholarships and bursaries. In addition, we have an annual residential visit to a university, have visiting speakers from various universities and different employment sectors.

UCAS POINTS

All the post 16 qualifications carry a number of points depending on levels and grades achieved by the individual student. The arrangement for awarding points is shown below.

Grade	AS level	A level	Welsh Bac	BTEC/OCR National
A*	n/a	56	56	Distinction*
A	24	48	48	Distinction
B	20	40	40	
C	16	32	32	Merit
D	12	24	24	
E	8	16	16	Pass

Points are also available for other qualifications such as:

Graded examination in music performance e.g. ABRSM

	Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6
Distinction	30	16	12
Merit	24	12	10
Pass	18	10	6

Destinations

Here are a sample of recent leavers and their destinations and courses:

Animal Science	Aberystwyth University	Zoology	Aberystwyth University
Law	Magdalen College, Oxford University	Master of Chiropractic	University of Glamorgan, Cardiff and Pontypridd
Medicine	Cardiff University	Business Studies	City University, London
Medicine	Cardiff University	Veterinary Science	Liverpool University
Journalism	Cardiff University	Law	Aberystwyth University
Police Sciences	University of Glamorgan, Cardiff and Pontypridd	Creative Technology	University of Glamorgan, Cardiff and Pontypridd
Civil Engineering	Swansea University	Geography	Swansea University
International Politics	Aberystwyth University	Sports Science	Swansea University
Law	Cardiff University	Law	Bristol University
Forensic Science	University of West of England, Bristol	English with Creative Writing	Bangor University
Education (Science KS2/3)	Edge Hill University	Architecture	Leeds Metropolitan University
Sports Science	Northumbria University	English Literature	Cardiff University
History	Oxford University	Radiography and Oncology	Sheffield Hallam University
History and Politics	Leicester	Marine Biology	Plymouth
French and Arabic	The University of Exeter	Psychology	Cardiff University
Mathematics	University of Bath	Archaeology	The University of Reading
Neuroscience	Cardiff University	History and Philosophy	Reading
Environmental Earth Science	Aberystwyth University	Sports Education	The University of Gloucestershire
Veterinary Science	Pembroke College, Cambridge University	Radiotherapy and Oncology	Cardiff University
Physics	Aberystwyth University	Veterinary Science	Edinburgh
Animal Science	Nottingham University	Dentistry	Cardiff University
Economics	Birmingham University	Fashion Journalism	University of the Creative
Music	St. John's College, Cambridge	Environmental Geoscience	Bristol University
Geoscience	St. Andrew's University	Medicine	Leicester University
Primary Education	Trinity University College, Carmarthen	Medicine	Gonville and Caius, Cambridge University
Media and Communication	University of Central England, Birmingham	History	St. John's, Cambridge University
Music	Manchester University	Biology	Durham University

Others are doing activities such as: Travelling in New Zealand and Australia, Year in Industry, Foundation Year in Art, Employment and /or training.

a day in the life of

lanidloes sixth form



Maths

1

First lesson I have maths. It's great being in such new classes, you'll never be with the same people and it's fun to mix with new friends each lesson. Classes tend to be smaller for A level which means that teachers respond in a more friendly manner to each student, and with two teachers for most subjects the topics we cover feel a lot more varied. I have pure maths today but I'm also doing statistics. The work is definitely a step up, but it's a lot more interesting because of it.



&

2

History

It's turned out to be one of my favourite lessons. Because the teachers are more friendly at sixth form, the classes are able to have lots of active discussions - we are not just learning about history we are able to give our views, too. Due to the small size of the class our lessons are not rigid and we can always spend longer on topics we find interesting.



Break time!



This is when we catch up in one of the two common rooms. Because we will be in different classes to the ones you were in lower school, you will get to know people really well. We've all made friends with people we didn't talk to in year 11, and everyone just seems to get along! The kitchen is very popular as it which is used thoroughly and sends an aroma of pizza and coffee through the rooms.

3

Physics

Free lesson

(I mean study period)

Generally, these are used to relax and take your mind off work... no they're supposed to be used for working in the study room or catching up on work that has been missed. If you haven't got work to do, you can listen to music, chat or play games along with having the odd cuppa and microwaveable pizza.



&

4

Next it's physics for me - loads more experiments than at GCSE which makes the ideas come alive, instead of just taking notes. The lessons go way faster than a GCSE due to the fun and amusement of the tasks and experiments. Physics complements further maths really well because there is an element of mechanics calculations in both.

Lunch time!

This is the time everyone looks forward to so they can dig into their lunchboxes, head to town or to the canteen. The freedom of having a wider choice of food is extremely popular with most people heading to the chippy or using the microwave to cook a pizza. The common room is full of people chatting and socialising, talking about the day or even reflecting on their work in the previous lessons.

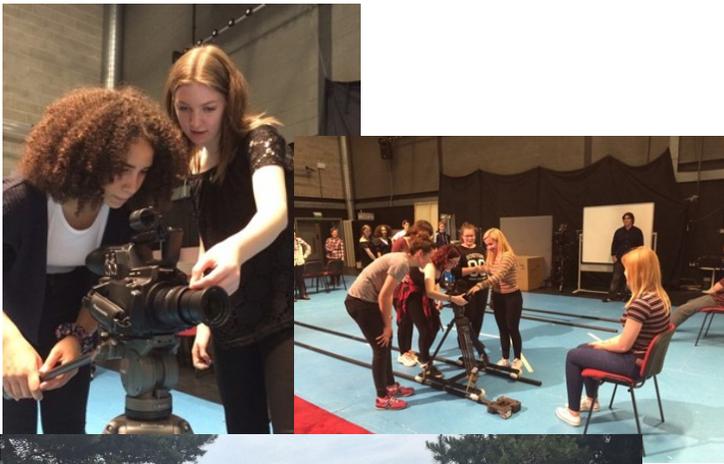


5

Biology

Last lesson of the day is biology. Developed further from GCSE we cover much finer detail and find out the truth behind what we've previously learnt. More interesting because the class is smaller and again we have done more experiments. All experiments are fun and can make the lesson go very quickly which is an advantage at the end of the day!





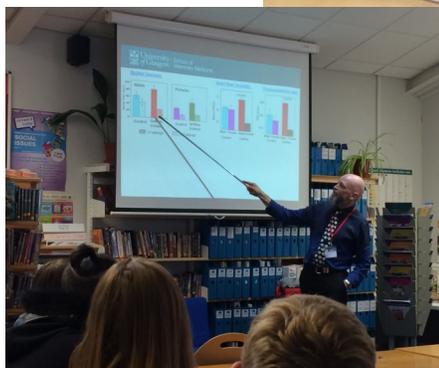
Relaxing in the Sixth Form block!



Residential trip to Aberystwyth University



Working hard in the



Learning from visiting speakers



Visiting the National Library of Wales



A medical workshop with visiting paediatricians



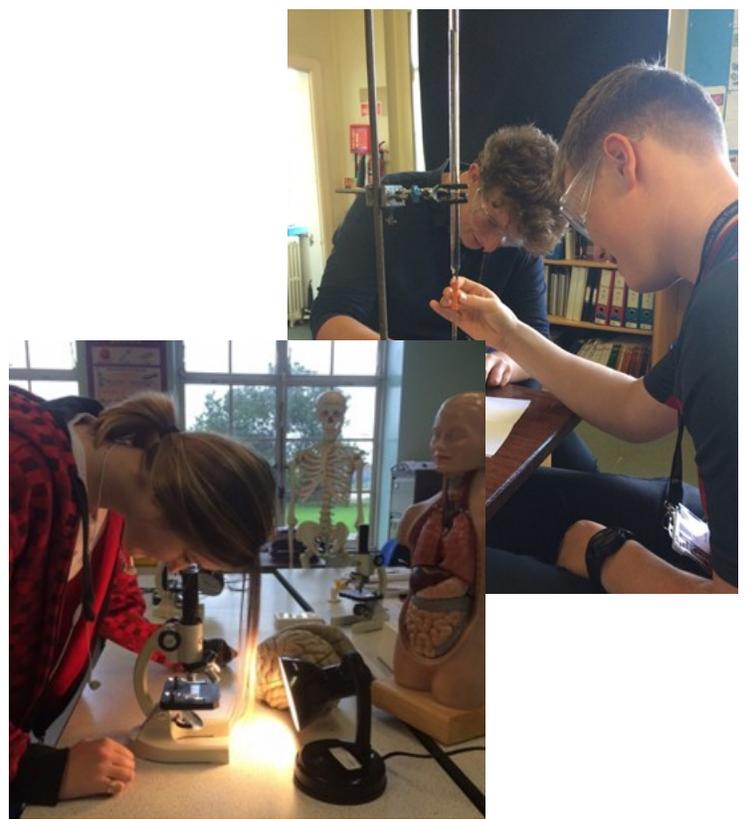
Getting involved in local politics at election time



Raising money for 'Children In Need'



All the hard work is worth it by results day!



More interesting and challenging work and subjects

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

“The DofE Award is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity with potentially life-changing opportunities and we fully encourage you to accept this challenge!” (Amey- Construction)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award (DofE) is the world’s leading achievement award for young people and is highly prestigious and sought after. The award helps build key ‘soft skills’ among its participants such as communication, leadership and motivation and is designed to recognise all of the great things students get up to away from classes. As a Sixth Form we are incredibly excited to be offering such a programme and are among the few in the county to do so, underlining our commitment to all our students. The award itself is coveted by employers, higher apprenticeships providers and universities alike for the fact it demonstrates a student’s wider abilities and commitment. Many organisations and employers go so far as to say that a Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Award is the equivalent of an A at A Level.

THE PROGRAMME:

The Gold Award for DofE has five sections which can be completed simultaneously. They are:

Physical – improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness activities (6 or 12 months).

Volunteering – undertaking service to individual or the community (12 months).

Skills – developing practical and social skills and personal interests. (6 or 12 months)

Expedition – planning, training for and completion of an adventurous journey in the UK or abroad.

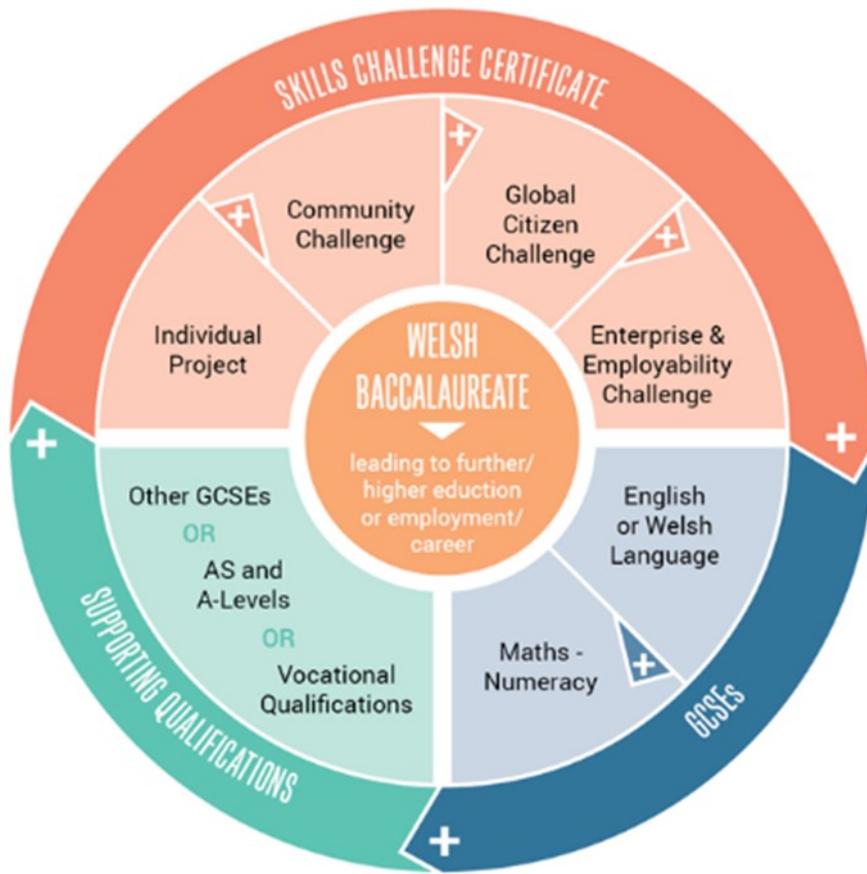
Residential- This is a new element of the award in addition to Silver and Bronze. It requires participants to undertake a 5 day, 4 night residential with people you don’t know- there is a huge list of opportunities at: <https://doferesidential.com/>

See Mr A Morel / Mr J Jones Duke of Edinburgh Supervisors and Leads for Bronze, Silver and Gold Award levels.



Ollie Wood, studied zoology at Swansea University, and is one of around 9,000 people who made it to the gold level per year. “Some boys at school dropped out along the way. So it made us stand out from the rest,” he says. “When I got my A-level results, I didn’t have what Swansea asked for. But they contacted me and said they wanted me to do the course as I had shown so much passion for the subject through my DofE activities.”

Welsh Bac—Skills Challenge Certificate



COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

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

- Individual Project (50%)
- Enterprise and Employability Challenge (20%)
- Global Citizenship Challenge (15%)
- Community Challenge (15%)

The Supporting Qualifications include two mandatory GCSEs of English Language or Welsh Language together with Mathematics-Numeracy at grades A*-C. Students require two A levels grade A*- E, or equivalent level 3 qualifications.

“There were times when, I admit, I hated it, but when it came to applying to uni it took the pressure off as although I was aiming to get the grades without it, I knew I could depend on it if needed. I didn’t need it but perhaps I did better because it took the pressure off.”

The Welsh Baccalaureate aims to enable students to develop and demonstrate an understanding of and proficiency in essential and employability skills. These are the skills that employers and next-stage educators value and which students need for learning, work and life.

The seven essential and employability skills are:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Digital Literacy
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Planning and Organisation
- Creativity and Innovation
- Personal Effectiveness

Welsh Bac—university offers

RECENT UNIVERSITY OFFERS RECEIVED BY OUR STUDENTS INCLUDE:

Law at Coventry *BBB or B in Welsh Bac and BB in other subjects*

Anthropology at Exeter *AAB or A in Welsh Bac and AB in other subjects*

Evolutionary Anthropology at Liverpool *ABB or A in Welsh Bac and AB in other subjects*

Veterinary Medicine at Nottingham *AAB or A in Welsh Bac and AB in other subjects*

Philosophy at Cardiff *ABB or A in Welsh Bac and BB in other subjects*

Computer Science at Birmingham *AAA or A in Welsh Bac and AA*

“Without the Welsh Bac I would not have got in to uni.”

“Now that I’m at uni I really appreciate how the Welsh Bac developed my skills and feel better prepared than my friends from elsewhere who didn’t do it.”

Law at Aberystwyth *120 UCAS points including the relevant points for Welsh Bac grade achieved*

Fashion Design at Birmingham *112 UCAS points including the relevant points for Welsh Bac grade achieved*

History and Media at Aberystwyth *120 UCAS points including the relevant points for Welsh Bac grade achieved*

Geography and Maths at Keele *ABC or BBB from A-levels or Welsh Bac*

Archaeology at Bristol *ABB or AB and B in Welsh Bac*

Egyptology at Liverpool *ABB or A in Welsh Bac and BB in other subjects*

Human Geography and Planning at Cardiff *AA and A in Welsh Bac*

Town and Regional Planning at Liverpool *AB and B in Welsh Bac*

Geology at Cardiff *A in Welsh Bac and BB in other subjects*

Pharmacology at Bristol *AA and B in Welsh Bac*

Physics at Bristol *AA and A in Welsh Bac*

Physics at Manchester *A*A*A or A*A* and A in Welsh Bac*

Neuroscience with Pharmacology at Nottingham *A in Welsh Bac and AB*

Applied Psychology at University of South Wales *AC and C in Welsh Bac*

Sociology at Birmingham City *112 UCAS points including the relevant points for Welsh Bac grade achieved*

“My unis really like the fact that I had already demonstrated my interest in my subject through my Individual Project. I was showing skills that students from England couldn’t demonstrate.”

“I didn’t always appreciate how useful the Bac would be! However, looking back I can see how it improved my skills – presentations, communication, working in teams and more generally, organising myself and acting on feedback.”

“Because everyone in a class has chosen to be there, everyone wants to learn.”

“The teachers are more open and friendly, and you can approach them for help with your work at any time.”

“Sixth Form gives you the responsibility to be your own person while the structure allows you to grow and reach your maximum potential.”

“Although hard work, Sixth Form is fun and rewarding.”

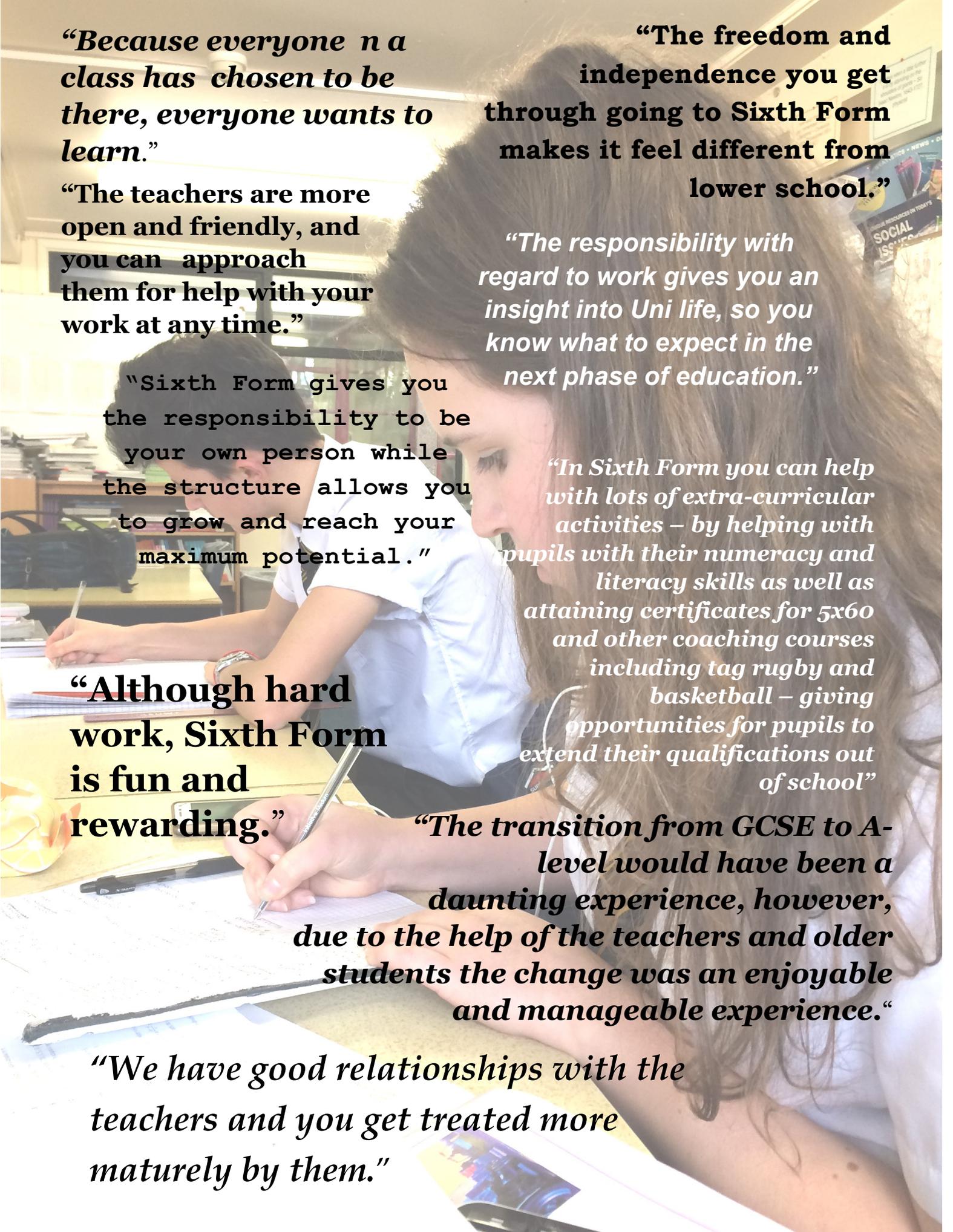
“We have good relationships with the teachers and you get treated more maturely by them.”

“The freedom and independence you get through going to Sixth Form makes it feel different from lower school.”

“The responsibility with regard to work gives you an insight into Uni life, so you know what to expect in the next phase of education.”

“In Sixth Form you can help with lots of extra-curricular activities – by helping with pupils with their numeracy and literacy skills as well as attaining certificates for 5x60 and other coaching courses including tag rugby and basketball – giving opportunities for pupils to extend their qualifications out of school”

“The transition from GCSE to A-level would have been a daunting experience, however, due to the help of the teachers and older students the change was an enjoyable and manageable experience.”



Art and Design



“Be ready to be inspired and find even more freedom than at GCSE.”

“Art at A Level is both interesting and inspiring. As an A Level Art student you are able to study areas of art that you as an individual are interested in, as well as furthering your own skills and techniques.”

ASSESSMENT

The AS and A2 courses will consist of 3 units in total - both internally assessed and externally moderated.

Building on knowledge, understanding and skills from GCSE (but does not depend on it) promoting personal exploration and experimentation. It is recommended that candidates have attained communication and literacy skills at GCSE Grade C in English.

Four assessment objectives:- AO1 – Contextual Understanding; AO2 – Creative Making; AO3 – Reflective Recording; AO4 – Personal Presentation

AS Unit 1: Personal Creative Enquiry (40% of A level), internally assessed, externally moderated.

A2 Unit 2: Personal Investigation includes written element of 1000 words(36% of A level), internally assessed, externally moderated.

A2 Unit 3: Externally Set Assignment (24% of A level) - 15 hours, internally assessed, externally moderated.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Art at KS5 will be a challenging and satisfying experience for the self-motivated student who enjoys expressing personal ideas and feelings in a visual way.

Visiting art galleries, attending workshops and keeping a sketchbook are integral to the course and encourage a personal response.

The course will be partly teacher led with discussion and agreed “directed time” leading to independent learning and continual assessment. Support will be given according to the individual needs of the student and may involve attending ‘catch up’ time.

The Fine Art Endorsement specialisms are:-

Art, Craft and Design, Fine Art , Photography and Critical & Contextual Studies.

See [Miss Smith](#) for more information.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Art can be a relaxing, creative subject to complement almost any other subject. It’s an excellent subject choice for any creative careers and our students have gone on to illustration, special effects, architecture, fashion and many subjects which may seem unrelated.



Biology

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Biology provides a wide breadth of knowledge which touches on many varied aspects of a range of topics. These include: physiology, biochemistry, microbiology and the interdependence of living things in ecology, social issues including human influence on the environment and the ethical considerations of genetics, botany and zoology.

The study of Biology therefore encourages an appreciation of these issues and their implications as well as providing an insight into the living world.

During the course students will develop their practical skills in microscopy, biochemistry, microbiology and physiology.

“I am really enjoying learning more about what we did at GCSE but in more detail, just what I need for my career in medicine.”

“The teachers’ subject knowledge is excellent—things are covered in such detail.”

CAREER PROGRESSION

Biology is recommended or necessary for any healthcare degree such as physiotherapy, osteopathy, nursing or midwifery as well as courses such as sports therapy, environmental work, ecology, and pharmacy. Biology is crucial for medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine.

GOES WELL WITH

Biology goes particularly well with PE, Geography and Psychology, as well as the other sciences and maths. The overlap between Biology and Chemistry means students do find it helpful but not necessary to study both subjects.

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1—basic biochemistry and cell organisation - assessed by a 1 hour 30 minutes written exam paper (20% of the A-level)

How chemical elements are joined together to form Biological compounds
Cell structure and organisation
Cell membranes and transport
Enzyme activity and application
Nucleic acids and genetics
Genetic information passed on to daughter cells

AS Unit 2—biodiversity and physiology of body systems - assessed by a 1 hour 30 minutes written exam paper (20% of the A-level)

Evolution
Adaptations for Gas exchange
Adaptations for Transport
Adaptations for nutrition

A2 Unit 3—energy, homeostasis and the environment - assessed by a 2 hour written examination (25 % of A-level)

Importance of ATP and the biochemistry of respiration

The biochemistry of photosynthesis
Microbiology
Factors controlling population size and ecosystems
Human impact on the environment
Homeostasis and the kidney
The nervous system

A2 Unit 4—variation, inheritance and options— assessed by a 2 hour written examination (25 % of A-level)

Sexual reproduction in humans
Sexual reproduction in plants

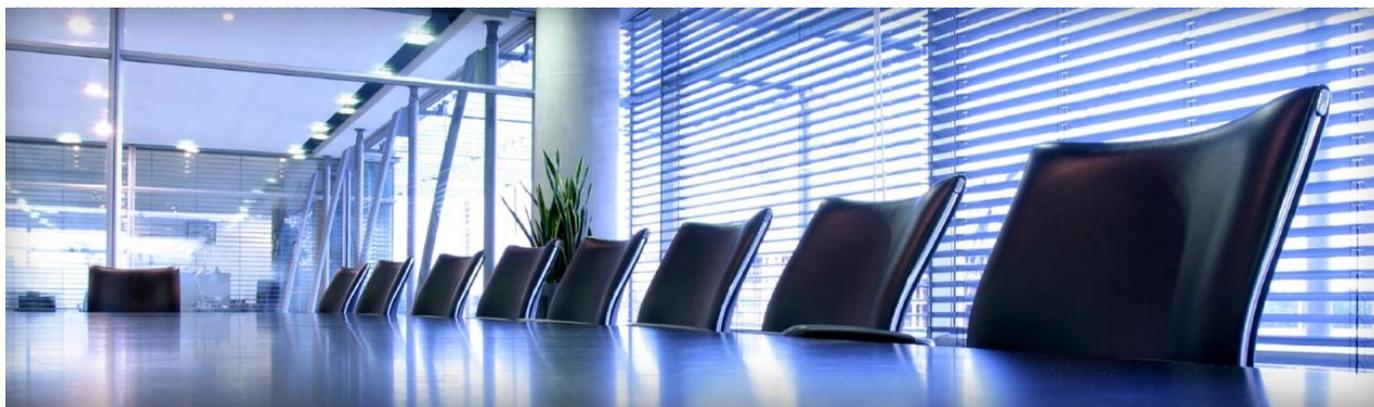
Inheritance
Variation and evolution
Applications of reproductions and genetics

Choice of one option from three:
Immunology and Disease
Human Musculoskeletal Anatomy
Neurobiology and Behaviour

A2 Unit 5—Practical Examination—10% of the written examination

See Ms Harrison for more information

Business



“Business can open up a lot of doors for you in the future as a wide range of different aspects of business are covered.”

ASSESSMENT

The course is all exam based – there is no coursework submission.

At AS there are 2 written papers

Unit 1 – Business Opportunities - Assessed externally in a 1 hour 15 minute examination. (15% of the A-level)

This covers topics such as enterprise, business plans, market research and business finance.

Unit 2 – Business Functions—Assessed externally in a 2 hour exam (25% of the A-level) which covers all of the AS content.

This covers marketing, human resources and management.

In Year 13 there are two written papers in addition to the units above:

Unit 3 – Business Analysis & Strategy - Assessed externally in a 2 hour 15 minute exam (30% of the A-level)

This covers topics such as data analysis, sales forecasting, investment appraisal and analysing financial performance.

Unit 4 – Business in a Changing World - Assessed externally in a 2 hour 15 minute exam (30% of the A-level) which covers all of the course

This covers international trade, business ethics, the EU and globalisation.

CAREER PROGRESSION

The course is a good stepping stone for accessing higher education courses in Economics, Business Administration, Finance and Accounting and Business Management.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This specification introduces students to the dynamic business environment and the importance of entrepreneurial activity in creating business opportunities and sustaining business growth. Students will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of essential skills required for higher education and employment. The GCE AS/ A level can be studied regardless of whether or not GCSE Business has been studied.

GOES WELL WITH

Business gives a greater understanding of the world and works well with many subjects—it works particularly well with Geography and Tourism but can also work well with subjects like Art and D&T depending on your aspirations.

See [Mr A Thomas](#) for more information.

Chemistry



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Chemistry is a study of the substances found on earth, in living things and used by humans. It helps us understand how these substances behave and seeks to develop improvements. It links scientific evidence with theory and encourages logical thinking. A good chemist requires the ability to use abstract concepts, some mathematical skills and a good memory for detail.

See [Mr Young](#) for more information

“Experienced teachers, lots of support and exciting experiments. Challenging, enjoyable and rewarding”

ASSESSMENT

AS – 2 modules

AS Unit 1 – The language of Chemistry, Structure of matter and Simple reactions assessed by a 1 ½ hour written exam (20% of the A-level)

Formulae and equations, Atoms, Chemical Calculations, Chemical equilibrium, Bonding, Solid Structures, Periodic Table

AS Unit 2 – Energy, Rate and Chemistry of Carbon Atoms assessed by a 1 ½ hour written exam (20% of the A-level)

Thermochemistry, Rates of Reaction, Wider impact of Chemistry, Organic compounds, Hydrocarbons, Halogenoalkanes, Alcohols and Carboxylic Acids, Instrumental analysis.

There will be no practical assessment carried out in AS Chemistry.

A2 – 3 modules

A2 Unit 3 – Physical & Inorganic Chemistry assessed by a 1 ¾ hour written exam (25% of the A-level)

Redox and standard electrode potentials, Redox reactions, p-block chemistry, d-block transition metals chemistry, Chemical kinetics, Enthalpy changes for solids and solutions, Entropy and feasibility of reactions, Equilibrium constants and acid-base equilibria.

A2 Unit 4 – Organic Chemistry & Analysis assessed by a 1 ¾ hour written exam (25% of the A-level)

Stereoisomerism, Aromaticity, Alcohols and phenols, Aldehydes and Ketones, Carboxylic acids, Amines, Amino Acids Organic Synthesis and analysis.

A2 Unit 5 – Practical Assessment assessed by a 3 hour experiment and 1 hour written paper (10% of the A-level)

One piece of experimental assessment (5%) and a written exam paper (5%) which will be taken in the summer term.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Chemistry fits in well with Physics, Biology, Geography and Maths. It is useful for the scientific careers including medical and environmental. The majority of chemists have careers outside the subject as their thinking abilities are respected in many commercial and managerial jobs. The subject is crucial for medicine.

Classical Civilisation

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Classical Civilisation focuses on the civilisations of Greece and Rome, and is a wide ranging subject involving the study of literature, art, artefacts, archaeological sites, and the ancient historical context.

You don't need to know any languages, all the texts are in translation, and it doesn't matter if you haven't studied the Greeks and Romans since primary school; all you need is an interest in the Ancient World and its cultures.

From women in the Ancient World, to the study of religious beliefs and ancient ideas about war, Classical Civilisation involves interesting discussions about things that are still important today : ... people grappled with exactly the same issues that we do: life, death, gods, sex, love, family, children, education, the nature of the world, our origins and development, the past, money, health, status, other cultures, friendship, power, patriotism, politics, law, crime, justice,



ASSESSMENT

Classical Civilisation may be taken at AS Level. This comprises of two units, each worth 50 % of the overall mark. The student must undertake a study of either Homer's Iliad or Odyssey, and one from either Greek Theatre or Imperial

The World of the Hero—2 hour 20 minute written exam paper (40% of A-level)

This consists of an in-depth study of either Homer's Iliad or Odyssey and Virgil's Aeneid

This component is solely focused on the study of literature in translation.

Culture and the Arts - 1 hour 45 minute written exam paper (40% of A-level)

One of the following will be studied:

- ◇ Greek Theatre
- ◇ Imperial Theatre
- ◇ Invention of the Barbarian
- ◇ Greek Art

This involves the study of visual and material culture in combination with the study of literature in translation.

Beliefs and Ideas—1 hour 45 minutes written exam paper (30% of the A-level)

One of the following will be studied:

- ◇ Greek Religion
- ◇ Love and Relationships
- ◇ Politics of the Late Republic
- ◇ Democracy and the Athenians

The involves classical thought, in combination with the study of literature in translation or visual / material culture

CAREER PROGRESSION

The rigour of the course will be excellent preparation for many courses and careers but will be an excellent preparation for any degree in classics or history.

GOES WELL WITH

The course complements history and English, in particular, but can be studied in combination with almost any subject.

See [Mr Craig](#) for further information.

Criminology-Applied Certificate/Diploma



ASSESSMENT

This is an Applied General qualification. This means it is designed primarily to support students progressing to university. It has been designed to offer exciting and interesting experiences that focus learning for 16-19 year-old students through applied learning, i.e. through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts linked to the criminal justice system. The qualification would support students' progression from any study at Level 2, particularly GCSEs in History and Humanities. An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and sociology and psychology

Unit 1—Changing Awareness of Crime—Internally assessed (25% of the whole Diploma) The purpose of this unit is for students to plan campaigns for change relating to crime.

Unit 2—Criminological Theories—externally assessed—90 minute exam (25% of the whole Diploma) This unit covers topics such as criminal behaviour and deviance and the social construction of criminality

Unit 3—Crime Scene to Courtroom —Internally assessed (25% of the whole Diploma) Through this unit, students will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases.

Unit 4—Crime and Punishment—externally assessed—90 minute exam (25% of the whole Diploma) This unit covers law making , the criminal

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Not all types of crime are alike. What different types of crime take place in our society? What kinds of crime exist about which we know very little, or which are simply not reported to the police and the media? How do we explain people's reluctance to come forward about crimes of which they have been the victim? Some crimes which seem inoffensive, such as counterfeiting of designer goods, have actually been linked to the funding of more serious crime such as terrorism and people trafficking; so why do people turn a 'blind eye' to these 'mild' crimes? What methods have governments and other agencies used to raise social awareness of these crimes?

See [Mr Craig](#) for more information.

CAREER PROGRESSION

This course can support access to higher education degree courses, such as degrees in Criminology, Law and Psychology.

D&T—Product Design

COURSE DESCRIPTION

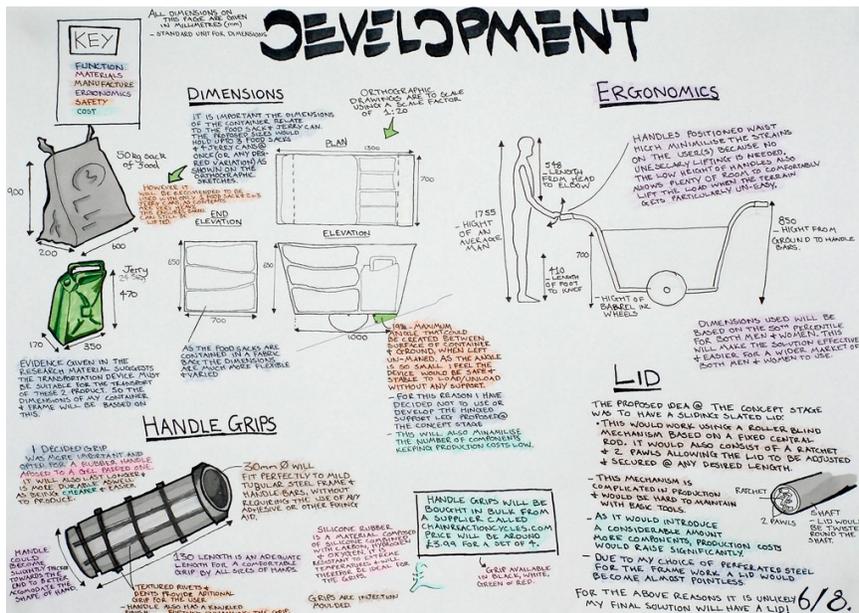
The Course encourages creative and innovative expression; enables you to become more aware of Industrial and Commercial practice and also of sustainability and environmental issues; and gives you an insight into the broader issues related to Design and Technology and Product Design

Through Product Design you will fully investigate a number of contexts in order to identify opportunities to develop a new product. You are able to choose the contexts that best suit your personal area of interest, whether that may be Graphics, Resistant Materials, Systems and Control or Textiles.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Engineering, Architecture, Graphic Design, Product Design, Web Design, Fashion, Interior Design, Project Management, Research and Development, Brand Design, Computer Games Design.

See [Dr Palfrey](#) for more information.



“If you can imagine it, you can make it—or just about!”

Are you interested in Design? Then AS/A Level Product Design is the next step, although you do not have to have studied D&T at GCSE before starting your AS.

ASSESSMENT

AS and A-level each consist of two units; a theory exam and a design and make task. The coursework aspects will allow you to fully engage your design and make abilities within your chosen area. The course will allow you to integrate your knowledge and understanding within designing and making. You will be involved in manufacturing innovative, high quality products which are appropriate for their intended purpose.

AS Level

DT1: 2 hour written paper (20% of A Level)

DT2: Design and make task which will satisfy the AS assessment criteria (approximately 40 Hours) (20% of A Level)

A Level

DT3: 2½ hour written paper (30% of A Level)

DT4: Design and Make Project – you will undertake a single substantial project (approximately 60 Hours). (30% of A Level)

The design and make project requires you to demonstrate the integration of designing and making skills with your knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Drama

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS/A level Drama and Theatre is an exciting and inspiring course which prepares learners for further study in Higher Education. This highly practical specification provides learners with the opportunity to work as either performers and/or designers on three different performances.

The specification provides a practical and challenging course of study which encourages learners to develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre.

Learners will also develop an understanding of the place of relevant theoretical research in informing the processes and practices involved in creating theatre and the place of practical exploration in informing theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre.

You will have the opportunity learn and develop a range of transferable skills and practise applying these to new situations. These include analytical, problem-solving, organisation and time-management skills. You will also be able work collaboratively to generate, develop and communicate ideas, all of which will develop your emotional intelligence. Your practical skills will be refined and will demonstrate creativity, reflection and resilience, as well as developing confidence and strong presentation skills. Your written skills, both analytical and creative, as well as your ability to self-reflect, will be developed through a range of tasks. Studying Drama and Theatre will give you opportunities for higher order thinking, by considering ideas which go beyond language. This is great brain-training which will help you in other areas too. Through studying Drama and Theatre, you will be equipped with the skills to succeed in your next steps.

ASSESSMENT

This highly practical specification provides you with the opportunity to work as either performers and/or designers. You will collaborate in devising your own piece of theatre and perform in a performance from a text. You will also perform in a reinterpretation of a text performance which is a combination of selected text and original ideas. You will explore a range of texts and view a variety of live theatre productions. The WJEC GCE AS/A Level Drama and Theatre specification has four units:

AS Unit 1: Theatre Workshop 24%	Teacher assessed, and externally moderated
AS Unit 2: Text in Theatre 16%	Externally assessed examination
A2 Unit 3: Text in Action 36%	Externally assessed by a visiting examiner
A2 Unit 4: Text in Performance 24%	Externally assessed examination



CAREER PROGRESSION

The World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report predicts creativity, innovation and ideation will be key skills for the workforce of the future. When business leaders across the world were surveyed, they voted Creativity as the most important workplace capability to help their businesses survive and grow. This means that the study of creative subjects, like Drama, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people to give you the chance to succeed – whatever your ambitions!

GOES WELL WITH

Drama complements many subjects but perhaps English and History, in particular.

See [Ms Knight](#) for more information.

Economics

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This specification provides students with a coherent combination of microeconomic and macroeconomic content that will develop an understanding of economic concepts and theories through a critical consideration of current economic issues, problems and institutions that affect everyday life. The specification prepares students who wish to progress to undergraduate level study.

Students will have the opportunity to apply economic concepts and theories using a wide range of contexts and to appreciate their value and limitations in explaining realworld phenomena. Students will develop an appreciation of the complex and interrelated nature of economics and analytical and quantitative skills in selecting, interpreting and using appropriate data from a range of sources.

Students will have the opportunity to develop an awareness of contemporary economic issues relevant to the Welsh economy and a broad understanding of the recent economic history of Wales using publically accessible information.

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1 Introduction to Economic Principles—written exam—1 hour 15 mins (15% of the A-level)

AS Unit 2 Economics in Action—written exam - 2 hours—(25% of the A-level)

Microeconomics including: scarcity and choice; demand and supply in product markets; demand and supply in labour markets; resource allocation; and market failure.

Macroeconomics including: macroeconomic theory; macroeconomic objectives; policy instruments; and international trade.

A2 Unit 3 Exploring Economic Behaviour—written exam - 2 hours—(30% of the A-level)

A2 Unit 4 Evaluating Economic Models and Policies—written exam - 2 hours 30 minutes —(30% of the A-level)

Microeconomics are developed from AS and further study includes costs, revenues and profits; and market structures

Macroeconomics are developed from AS and further study includes macroeconomic theory; macroeconomic objectives; and policy instruments.

Global economics including: international trade; and non-UK economies; economic development.



*New
for
2021*

CAREER PROGRESSION

This specification provides a suitable foundation for the study of economics or a related area through a range of higher education courses.

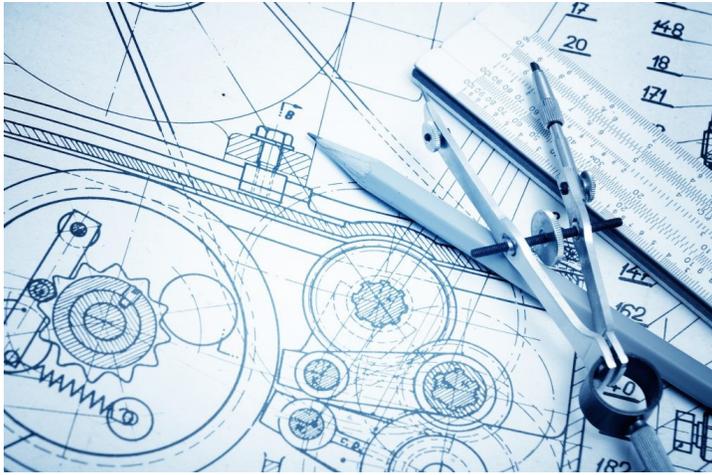
GOES WELL WITH

There is a natural overlap with business, politics and geography, however, economics can be studied with a wide range of subjects.

See [Mr A Thomas](#) for further information.

BTEC Engineering

(Certificate / Extended Certificate)



ASSESSMENT

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been involved and consulted in order to confirm that the content is also appropriate and consistent with current practice for learners who may choose to enter employment directly in the engineering sector. Everyone taking this qualification will study two mandatory units covering the following content areas:

- mathematics for engineering
- engineering principles
- mechanical principles
- engineering processes.

For the Certificate:

Unit 1 Engineering principles (33% of the Extended Certificate)

Externally assessed

Unit 2 Delivery of Engineering Processes Safely as a Team (17% of the Extended Certificate)

For the Extended Certificate: - completion of the two units above and:

Unit 3 Engineering Product Design and Manufacture (33% of the Diploma) Externally assessed

Unit 4 Optional module (17% of the Diploma) Here there is a choice of several modules including:

- Computer Aided Design in Engineering

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Engineering is intended to be an Applied General qualification for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the engineering sector.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Students will have a broad appreciation of work in the engineering sector allowing for progression into further education, employment or training. Higher education courses include degrees in engineering.

GOES WELL WITH

D&T and Physics lessons will be covering some aspects of this course. Maths will also be advantageous for HE degrees in the field of engineering.

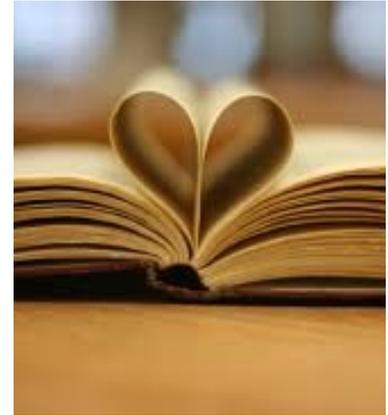
See [Mr Moses / Mr Ealey-Fitzgerald/ Dr Palfrey](#) for more information.

English language and literature

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of the course is to develop an enjoyment and express an appreciation of English Language and Literature. Candidates will develop an awareness of a range of spoken and written texts from different times including six substantial texts drawn from pre-1914 poetry, Shakespeare, prose, modern drama, and non-literary texts. Candidates are required to study three texts at AS level and a further four texts at A level.

To study at this level, candidates must be interested in English Language, and interested in reading English Literature, including wider reading. They must be able to produce accurate written work and have proficient word-processing skills.



“English Lang/Lit improves not only our English skills but communication skills in general. It helps us become more confident and creative readers, writers and speakers.”

ASSESSMENT

AS (2 Units) - examined at the end of Year 12, can be re-sat in year 13

Unit 1 – 20% 2 hour written paper – closed book – Comparative Analysis and Creative Writing

Section A: Comparative analysis of poetry and unseen text

A selection of poems will be taken from the WJEC English Language and Literature Pre-1914 Poetry Anthology.

Section B: Creative writing and commentary

Unit 2 – 20% 2 hour written examination – open book - Drama and Non-literary Text Study

Section A: Prose Study and Creative Reading ~ Post 1900 drama

Either Tennessee Williams: A Streetcar Named Desire; Peter Shaffer: Amadeus; Tom Stoppard: Shakespeare in Love; Edward Albee: Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Or Diane Samuels: Kindertransport.

Section B: Non-literary text study – Either Truman Capote: In Cold Blood; David Eggers: A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius; Robert Minhinnick: Watching The Fire-Eater; George Orwell: Down and Out in Paris and London or Andrea Ashworth: Once in a House on Fire

A2 (3 Units) Examined at the end of Year 13

A2 Unit 3 20% 2 hour written examination – closed book – Shakespeare –

Either Antony and Cleopatra, King Lear, Much Ado About Nothing, Othello or The Tempest Section A: Shakespeare extract & Section B: Shakespeare essay

A2 Unit 4 20% 2 hour written examination – open book - Unseen Texts and Prose Study

Section A: Unseen texts

Section B: Prose study - Either Margaret Atwood: The Handmaid’s Tale; Jane Austen: Emma, Charles Dickens: Great Expectations; Thomas Hardy: Tess of the D’Urbervilles; Alice Walker: The Color Purple

A2 Unit 5 20% Non-examination assessment (2500-3500 words) – Critical and Creative Genre Study

Section A: Genre study (1500-2000 words) & Section B: Related creative writing (1000-1500 words)

CAREER PROGRESSION

The course constitutes an excellent preparation for careers in law, public relations, journalism, media, the civil service, teaching, editing, proof reading, librarianship, social work, market research, scientific study, and of, course writing.

GOES WELL WITH

The course complements Drama, Welsh, History, RE, Philosophy or any Modern Language. It is an excellent preparation for language, creative writing and English Literature degree courses.

See [Miss Williams](#) for further information.

Financial Studies—Certificate/Diploma



COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Certificate in financial studies (CeFS, equivalent to an AS level) covers the core disciplines of the financial capability. Students are encouraged to become responsible borrowers and sensible savers, and to appreciate the need for financial planning throughout their life.

The Diploma in Financial Studies (equivalent to a full A level) qualification is designed to enhance students' knowledge and skills gained in the Certificate in Financial Studies (CeFS), by applying them to the wider financial environment. In each year, students study 2 units' worth of content.

ASSESSMENT

For each unit, there are 3 exam sessions throughout the year.

CeFS Year 12

Each of the 2 units consist of a 35 mark (45 min) multiple choice question (MCQ) and a Case study (1h 45 min; 65 marks).

The units cover:

- ◇ the value and purposes of money, the concept of the personal life cycle and the impact of external influences as well as an individual's financial needs through the various stages of the personal life cycle
- ◇ the features of different types of financial services product and the role of key stakeholders in financial services provision
- ◇ the characteristics of financial products for managing money and how to manage finance in the short term and the impact of poor decision-making and unforeseen circumstances
- ◇ the impact of legislation and regulations on earnings and the key features of income tax and National Insurance

DipFS Year 13

In addition to the CeFS units, students sit 2 more exams for each of the units taken in this year. Each unit consists of a 35 mark MCQ (1 hour) and a Case study (2 hours).

The units cover:

- ◇ the importance of financial sustainability for individuals and the measures in place to support an individual's sustainability;
- ◇ the need to monitor personal budgets and adapt plans in response to changes in circumstances
- ◇ the personal implications of debt and borrowing solutions for individuals in different circumstances and from different cultures.
- ◇ the impact of global events, developments and ethical considerations upon the financial services industry
- ◇ how financial services providers work
- ◇ the influences of external factors upon financial services providers and the impact on the products and services they provide.

CAREER PROGRESSION

This course will give an insight into careers in accounting, finance and business as well as improving personal knowledge of the financial world.

GOES WELL WITH

The course complements Maths and Business but it is not necessary to study either to access this course.

See [Dr Creasey](#) for further information.

French

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The WJEC AS and A level in French provides an engaging and exciting opportunity for students to build on their previous study of French. Through social, intellectual and cultural themes students will be able to develop their linguistic knowledge and cultural understanding of the countries or communities where the language is spoken. An opportunity to study literature and film will allow students to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and increase their cultural awareness as part of an integrated approach to language learning. A strong focus is placed on building students' confidence and fluency in spoken French using relevant and topical themes. The requirement to research an area of personal interest related to the country or countries where the language of study is spoken aims to enhance students' cultural appreciation and enable them to gain a greater awareness of intercultural differences.



“In our changing world it is becoming more & more important to have a wide range of skills & gaining at least an AS in a foreign language is a very useful extra for students studying other aspects like Science, Business or Law.”

ASSESSMENT

2 unit (AS) course:

AS Unit 1 Non-examination assessment: Speaking (12% of the A-level)

Arguing a point of view based on a written stimulus card
Discussion based on a second stimulus card

AS Unit 2 Listening, reading, translation and critical response in writing (written exam) (28% of the A-level)

3 unit (A2) course: (the above plus 3 further units):

A2 Unit 3 Non-examination assessment: Speaking (18% of the A-level)

Presentation of independent research project
Discussion on the content of the independent research project

A2 Unit 4 Listening, reading and translation (written exam) (30% of the A-level)

A2 Unit 5 Critical and analytical response in writing (closed-book written exam) (12% of the A-level)

One essay question based on the study of one literary work

CAREER PROGRESSION

Languages are highly regarded by employers and universities but combine well with business and many other subjects.

GOES WELL WITH

French combines well with many subjects but Business degrees often offer the subject in combination with a language.

See [Mrs H Lewis](#) for further information.



Geography

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The AS and A level in Geography encourages students to apply geographical knowledge, theory and skills to the world around them. In turn this will enable students to develop a critical understanding of the world's people, places and environments in the 21st Century. Students should be able to develop both knowledge and understanding of contemporary geographical concepts together with transferable skills that will enable them to progress to higher education and a range of employment opportunities.

“Teachers are very helpful and dedicated.”

CAREER PROGRESSION

Geography can be studied in its own right at university. However, some of our students have gone on to study planning, ocean sciences, and earth sciences.

GOES WELL WITH

Geography complements many subjects but perhaps Biology, Tourism and Business, in particular.

See [Mr Williams](#) and [Mrs Harrop](#) for more information.

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1 - Changing Landscapes—2 hour written paper (24% of the A-level)

Section A: glaciated landscapes to include climate change, glacier movement, weathering, erosion and human activity.

Section B: tectonic processes and hazards; volcanoes, processes, hazards and their impacts; earthquakes, processes, hazards and their impacts

Unit 2 - Changing Places—1 hour 30 minutes written paper (16% of the A-level)

This unit includes: Changes over time in the economic characteristics of places; rural and urban management and the challenges of continuity and change. This unit also includes a fieldwork investigation in physical and human geography

A2 Unit 3—Global Systems and Global Governance 2 hour written examination (24% of the A-level)

This unit includes:

Section A: the water and carbon cycles, catchment hydrology, carbon stores in different biomes.

Section B: Globalisation, migration and a shrinking world; international economic migration and refugee movements, global governance of the Earth's ocean, Managing marine environments and ocean pollution

A2 Unit 4—Contemporary Themes in Geography 2 hour written examination (16% of the A-level)

Section : develops tectonic hazards from Unit 1

Section B: a choice of two from four themes

A2 Unit 5: Independent Investigation Non-exam assessment: 3000 – 4000 words 20% of the A-level

Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts (Level 3 Certificate)



ASSESSMENT

The Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts qualifications enable learners to develop and demonstrate their knowledge, skills and understanding within the context of health and social care services. In particular learners will be able to demonstrate that they:

- understand the principles and values which underpin health and social care practice and apply them to a range of health and social care contexts
- understand and reflect on the ways in which individuals' unique needs can be identified and responded to
- understand ways in which effective, person-centred practice and well-being within health and social care can be promoted and supported
- analyse, interpret and evaluate theories in health and social care and reflect on how they could influence practice

Unit 1: Principles of care and safe practice within outcome focused person-centred care. Non-examination assessment 25% of qualification

Unit 2: Factors affecting individuals' growth and development across the lifespan, and how this impacts on outcomes, care and support needs. External assessment 50% of qualification

Unit 3: Promoting the rights of individuals across the lifespan. Non-examination assessment 25% of qualification

This is a 2 year course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What can Level 3 Certificate in Health & Social Care do for you? Work-related learning, giving students an edge and opening the door to higher education or employment in the healthcare or social care sectors.

This qualification gives you the opportunity to showcase your skills and apply your knowledge in an appropriate, work-related context and provides evidence of what you can do when you apply to enter higher education or employment.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Workers in Health and Social care are in demand with an estimated 2.2 million extra health and social care workers needing to be trained in the next 5 years.

Clear progression routes into higher education or employment: such as a BSc. in Health and Social Care, BSc. in Nursing, or direct entry-level employment, training or apprenticeships. Transferable skills development such as communication, research and analysis. Links with childcare and education courses.

GOES WELL WITH

Biology, PE and Psychology but works well with many subjects

See [Mrs Davies](#) for more information.



History

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Those who pursue the course will develop specific skills. Besides increasing their understanding of the Modern World, they will learn to argue cogently, communicate effectively, develop the ability to analyse and synthesise both ideas and information and to reach logical conclusions. It is not a course requirement that students should have undertaken History at GCSE. In fact, in recent years, we have had a number of students achieve very well at A Level history, despite not taking it at GCSE.

“The teaching is inspirational, and opens our minds to the mysteries of the past.”

CAREER PROGRESSION

History students have entered a wide range of professions. They include teaching, nursing, health administration and policing through to Law, accountancy, banking, personnel management and marketing.

GOES WELL WITH

History complements Politics, Geography and English in particular but works well with almost any subject.

See [Mr Jones](#) and [Mr Morel](#) for more information.

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1— Period Study—assessed by a 1 hour 30 minutes written exam (20% of the A-level) at the end of Year 12

AS Unit 2 — Depth Study—assessed by a 1 hour 30 minutes written exam (20% of the A-level) at the end of Year 12

The first course will be a period study of Europe from c1890 – 1990. This charts the changing international relations between European nations from the Berlin Congress to the Cold War. Specific topics such as the rise of National Socialism (Nazi-ism) in Germany, Fascism in Italy and Communism in Russia and life under these new ideologies are amongst the most fascinating elements of the course.

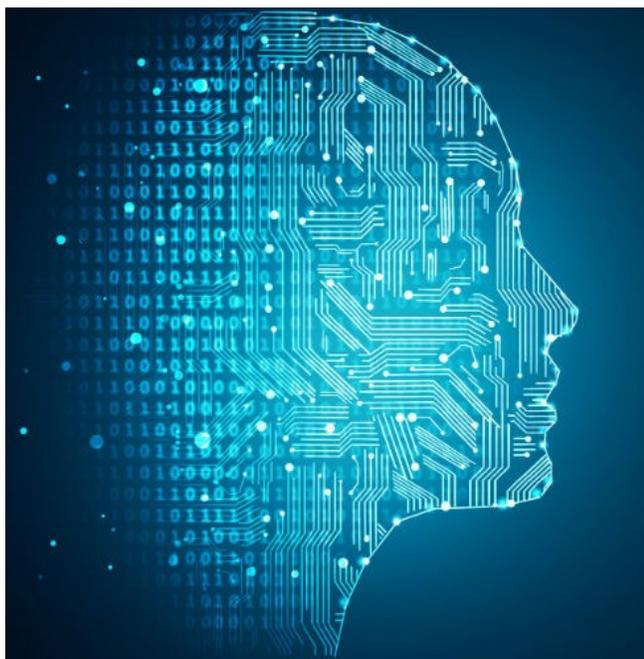
A2 Unit 3— Breadth Study—assessed by a 1 hour 45 minutes written exam (20% of the A-level) at the end of Year 13

A2 Unit 4 — Depth Study—assessed by a 1 hour 45 minutes written exam (20% of the A-level) at the end of Year 13

Moving on to A2 we take an in depth look at race relations and foreign policy in the USA 1900-2000. The second is an in-depth study of the Civil War, c1637 – 1658. This course explores the causes of the war, the nature of the conflict and its huge impact in shaping the evolution of Britain as a democracy.

A2 Unit 5—Historical Interpretations—non-examination assessment 3000-4000 words (20% of the A-level)

IT—Cambridge Technical Cert / Diploma



“There’s flexibility to adapt the work of the various units to your own career path.”

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Cambridge Technicals are vocational qualifications for students aged 16+. They’re designed with the workplace in mind and provide a high-quality alternative to A Levels, with a great range of subjects to choose from. Vocational education is not just about results, it’s about educating people in the knowledge and skills required for employment and for the community as a whole. It’s also about developing the behaviours and attributes needed to progress and succeed in education and in work.

ASSESSMENT

All units are assessed by coursework - there are no exams.

There are two qualifications on offer – the Technical Certificate, which is an AS level equivalent, and the Technical Introductory Diploma, which is an A level equivalent.

Students will take two mandatory units to achieve either qualification, and then one more from the 41 optional units on offer to complete the Certificate, or four more from the optional units to complete the Introductory Diploma. The mandatory units are as follows: Communications and Employability Skills for IT and Information Systems of IT and Global Information Systems, both of which are externally assessed coursework tasks.

Optional Pathways

Students may choose from 41 optional units. There are specialist pathways in office and business related IT, photography and animation, web and app design, game development and coding, future technology and smart phone analysis.

The course is a vocational one and this means that there is a good deal of research into the IT systems and technology used in the world of work, together with opportunities to undertake practical tasks.

The course has a high success rate in terms of attaining the very highest grades, which are Distinction and Distinction*. For the past three years 100% of students achieved the highest grades. It is also a facilitating subject in that it helps increase skills and knowledge in all other subjects.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Achievement of this qualification can support progression to go on and study relevant IT degrees in a Higher Education institution such as, Computing and IT, Computing Science, Software Developments, Software Engineering, ICT and Computer Networks or Business Information Systems

GOES WELL WITH

This is a subject which will work well with almost any combination of subjects.

See [Mr Craig](#) for more information.

Law

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS and A level Law enable students to develop an understanding of both public and private law within the law of Wales and England, and develop skills which will prepare them for further undergraduate study and future careers. The specification enables students to develop their ability to analyse both legal rules and principles and factual issues. It enables students to construct persuasive legal arguments and to evaluate the strength of such arguments. It also enables students to develop the ability to think critically about the role of law in society.



ASSESSMENT

Throughout the course students are required to develop competence in using legal skills in their study of the nature of law, legal issues and the Welsh and English legal systems, and the private and public areas of substantive law

AS Unit 1: The Nature of Law and the Welsh and English Legal Systems assessed by a written examination of 1 hour 45 minutes (25% of the A-level)

Section A focuses on the nature of law and the various methods of law making in the Welsh and English legal systems. This unit includes: delegated legislation, statutory interpretation, Judicial Precedent. Section B focuses on key features of the criminal justice system and civil justice system within the Welsh and English legal systems, including legal personnel, criminal process, and legal funding.

AS Unit 2: The Law of Tort assessed by a written examination of 1 hour 30 minutes (15% of the A-level)

This unit covers: the rules and theory of the law of tort, liability in negligence for injury to people and damage to property, occupiers' liability, and remedies such as damages.

A2 Unit 3: The Practice of Substantive Law assessed by a written examination of 1 hour 45 minutes (30% of the A-level)

This unit covers: the rules and theory of human rights law, rules and theory of criminal law, and rules and theory of the law of contract.

A2 Unit 4: Substantive Law Perspectives assessed by a written examination of 2 hours (30% of the A-level)

One essay question from two different sections, selected from: Human Rights Law, Law of Contract Criminal Law

CAREER PROGRESSION

The A level specification requires students to study the dynamics of legal decision making that will equip them with the skills necessary to study law at higher education. It is also a good basis for studying history and business in the future.

GOES WELL WITH

The course complements history, business and English, in particular, but can be studied in combination with almost any subject.

See [Mrs Harrop](#) for further information.

Marine Science



New specification for 2021

ASSESSMENT

iAS Year 12

AS Unit 1 is a 1 hour 45 minute structured question exam. (25% of the A-level)

AS Unit 2 is 1h 45min on Data handling and investigative questions (25% of the A-level)

The units cover:

- ◇ Water
- ◇ Earth Processes
- ◇ Interactions in marine ecosystems
- ◇ Classification and biodiversity
- ◇ Examples of Marine Ecosystems
- ◇ Practical Skills

iA2 Year 13

A2 Unit 3 is a 1 hour 45 minute structured question and free response exam. (25% of the A-level)

A2 Unit 4 is 1h 45min on Data handling and investigative skills exam (25% of the A-level)

At iA2 level Marine Science students will study:

- ◇ Physiology of marine organisms
- ◇ Energy
- ◇ Fisheries for the future
- ◇ Human Impacts on Marine Ecosystems
- ◇ Practical Skills

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Cambridge International AS and A Level Marine Science provides a coherent and stimulating introduction to the science of the marine environment. The content of the iAS part of the course concentrates on the scientific study of the sea and its ecosystems, while the International A Level part of the course concentrates on human activities that depend on the sea and have an impact on it.

The emphasis throughout is on the understanding of concepts and the application of ideas to new contexts, as well as on the acquisition of knowledge. The course will foster creative thinking and problem-solving skills, which are transferable to any

CAREER PROGRESSION

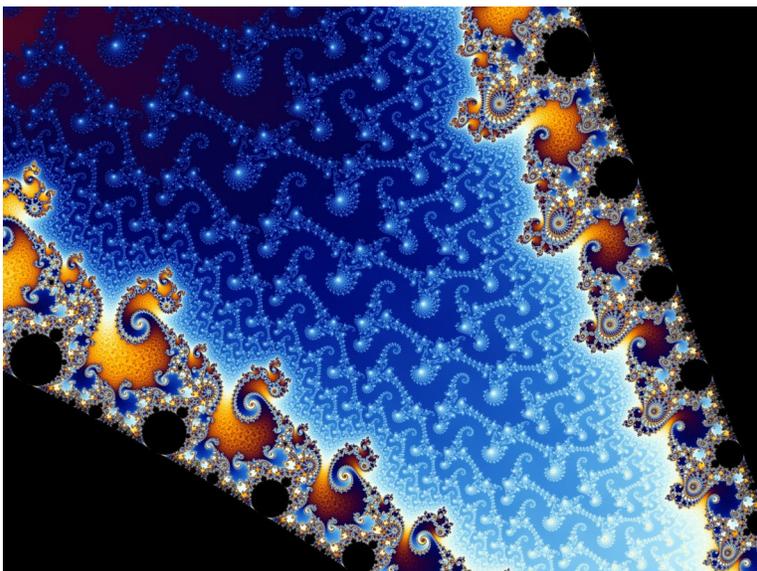
This course is excellent preparation for Oceanography, Environmental Science, Shipping, Fisheries and Tourism.

GOES WELL WITH

The course complements Biology and Geography with overlapping aspects.

See [Dr Creasey](#) for further information.

Mathematics and Further Maths



COURSE DESCRIPTION

The AS and A-level maths course builds on the work covered at GCSE, developing students' algebra, trigonometry, geometry and problem-solving. The Pure maths course then introduces students to new topics such as calculus.

The Applied part of the course covers more statistics and probability and introduces students to mechanics.

“Be prepared to work hard but the teachers are there to support you at every stage and are willing to give you extra help when you need it.”

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1: Pure Mathematics assessed by a 2 hours 30 minute written examination (25% of A-level qualification) at the end of Year 12

This unit includes algebra, geometry, proof, trigonometry, sequences and series, differentiation and integration.

AS Unit 2: Applied Mathematics assessed by a 1 hour 45 minute written examination (15% of A-level qualification) at the end of Year 12

The paper will comprise two sections:

Section A: Statistics (40 marks) including statistical distributions and hypothesis testing

Section B: Mechanics (35 marks) including kinematic and forces

A2 Unit 3: Pure Mathematics assessed by a 2 hours 30 minute written examination (35% of A-level qualification) at the end of Year 13

This unit develops further the topics covered in Unit 1 and additionally looks at numerical methods

A2 Unit 4: Applied Mathematics assessed by a 1 hour 45 minute written examination (25% of A-level qualification) at the end of Year 12

The paper will comprise two sections:

Section A: Statistics (40 marks)

Section B: Differential Equations, Numerical Methods and Mechanics (40 marks)

Further Maths is available at AS level spread over two years. It consists of 3 units of equal weighting - Pure maths (including complex numbers and matrices), Statistics (including pdfs, cdfs and statistical test such as Chi-squared and Correlation Coefficient) and Mechanics (including Work, Energy and Power and Circular Motion). Some universities require AS Further Maths for their undergraduate Maths degrees. 37

CAREER PROGRESSION

The analytical and problem solving skills developed by A-level maths are highly regarded and sought-after even in subjects not directly related to Maths. However, many progress into Engineering, medicine, Computer Science, Accounting

GOES WELL WITH

Maths goes well with many subjects but especially chemistry and physics.

It is possible to do A-level maths if you did Intermediate tier at GCSE with good B grades.

See [Dr Creasey](#) or [Mrs Jerman](#) for more information.

Media Studies

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students wishing to study Media Studies at AS level need not necessarily have studied it at GCSE. Students must have an interest in studying media audiences and organisation, analysing texts to a sophisticated level, and be prepared to undertake practical coursework projects independently, involving research, design and evaluation. Good ICT skills are essential.



“Media Studies can prepare you for so many careers—I am going into Real Estate due to all I have learnt about promotion and perception.”

ASSESSMENT

AS-level

AS Unit 1 Investigating the Media Written exam 2 hours 30 mins (24% of A-level)

This unit assesses knowledge and understanding of media language, representation, media industries and audiences. The exam consists of three sections.

Section A: Selling Images - Advertising and Marketing

Section B: News in the Online Age

Section C: Film Industries – from Wales to Hollywood

AS Unit 2: Creating a Media Production Non-exam assessment (16% of A-level)

A media production, including individual research and planning, created in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC, and applying knowledge and understanding of key concepts

An individual reflective analysis of the production.

A-level

4 unit (AL) course: Units 1 and 2 above & also:

A2 Unit 3: Media in the Global Age Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes (36% of A-level)

This unit assesses knowledge and understanding of media language, representation, media industries and audiences. The exam consists of three sections.

Section A: Television in the Global Age

Section B: Magazines – Mainstream and Alternative Media

Section C: Media in the Digital Age – Video Games

A2 Unit 4: Creating a Cross-Media Production Non-exam assessment (24% of A-level)

A cross-media production, including individual investigative research and development, created in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC, and applying knowledge and understanding of key concepts and digital convergence

GOES WELL WITH

Study of subjects such as Art, I.T., and English would all reinforce and develop some of the skills necessary for the course, which provides an ideal basis for further study of the Arts. See [Mr Craig](#) for more information.

Music

COURSE DESCRIPTION

WJEC A Level Music is a wide ranging, challenging and engaging course for those who enjoy performing, composing and analysing music. The course aims to encourage you to engage actively with performing and composing and to develop your knowledge and understanding of a wide range of musical styles, genres as well as developing your analysis and critical thinking and your creativity and imagination.



Performing to grade 5 standard or above is a course requirement (although you do not have to have taken the exam). A GCSE in Music with a grade B or above, or a grade 5 theory pass or above, are an advantage, but are not course requirements.

ASSESSMENT

There are three modules at AS and three at A Level.

Unit 1 (AS) and 4 (A) – Performing

You will focus on developing your accuracy, expression and interpretation through your individual instrumental lessons. Performance at grade 5 or above is necessary to take the course. Assessment is through recitals, externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Unit 2 (AS) and 5 (A) – Composing

You will focus on developing your musical ideas within the stylistic parameters of different genres and eras. One composition each year must be in response to a brief set by WJEC. Assessment is through portfolio submission, externally assessed by WJEC.

Unit 3 (AS) and 6 (A) – Appraising

You will learn about the stylistic features of several different musical styles, focusing particularly on a selection of set works each year. You will be required to analyse music aurally through focused listening questions. Essay questions that require you to refer to a score feature in both years, so an ability to read music fluently is an advantage. Assessment is through examination.

CAREER PROGRESSION

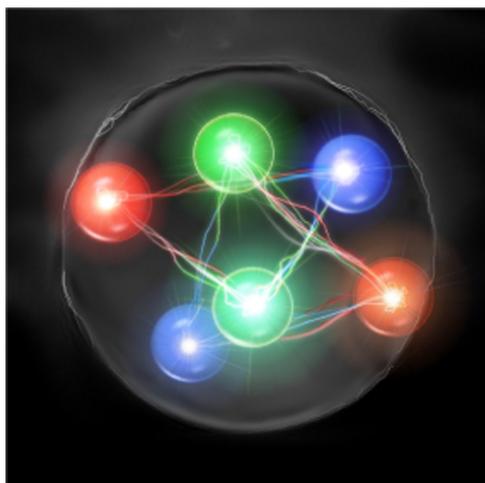
An A Level in Music can lead to studying Music at a University (more academic) or a Conservatoire (more practical). These courses can in turn lead to careers in performance, composing, editing, radio and television presenting, arts administration, teaching, events management, and many others. Of course, you don't have to want a career in Music to take the A Level course. Universities respect the Music A Level because it requires you to be proficient in so many skills. So, if you are a keen musician, enjoying performing and composing, and you have a high standard of literacy skills, why not spend some of your time on a subject that you love?

GOES WELL WITH

Music goes well with Humanities or Arts subjects such as History or English, or with Sciences such as Physics and Mathematics.

See [Mrs H Powell](#) for more information

Physics



“I can't think of a better subject to study at A-Level to better prepare you for the challenges of studying at University.”

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1 - Motion, Energy and Matter: Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes (20% of the A-level) This covers: Basic physics, Kinematics, Dynamics, Energy concepts, Solids under stress, Using radiation to investigate stars, and Particles and nuclear structure.

AS Unit 2 - Electricity and Light: Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes (20% of the A-level) This covers: Conduction of electricity, Resistance; D.C. circuits; The nature of waves, Wave properties, Refraction of light, Photons, and Lasers.

A2 Unit 3 - Oscillations and Nuclei: Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes (25% of the A-level) This unit covers: Circular motion; Vibrations; Kinetic theory; Thermal physics; Nuclear decay; and Nuclear energy.

A2 Unit 4 - Fields and Options: Written examination: 2 hours (25% of the A-level) This unit covers: Capacitance; Electrostatic and gravitational fields of force; Orbits and the wider universe; Magnetic fields; Electromagnetic induction. There is also a choice of one option out of four: Alternating Currents, Medical Physics, The Physics of Sports; or Energy and the Environment

A2 Unit 5 Practical Examination (10% of the A-level)

See [Mr Ealey-Fitzgerald](#) for further details.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Physics is a demanding subject conceptually, and teaches the ability to use theories to analyse new situations. The physics course provides a good understanding of basic principles at AS Level, & at A Level offers study into some of the more diverse developments of Physics, in fields like Medical and Sports Physics. A/AS Level Physics students will spend time reading around the subject, and coming into the laboratory to carry out experiments in their own time. Homework forms an important part of the A/AS Level course.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Anyone considering an engineering, technology or science-based career should consider studying Physics at least at AS Level. Many Physics graduates eventually move into the fields of banking and finance, using the analytical skills and mathematical modelling techniques.

GOES WELL WITH

The study of Maths at A/AS Level is not compulsory for Physics although can be useful. Physics also combines well with Chemistry, Biology and Geography in offering a good base for science based degree courses, and with Design & Technology for Engineering based courses.



Physical Education

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS and A-level Physical Education builds upon the programmes of study in Key Stage 4. The theory and practice are integrated with the emphasis being on the development of student's physical competence in different contexts.

This specification enables students to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding that underpin and enhance performance. It will help to ensure that they develop the key skills and methods with which to evaluate critically contemporary key influences that have a significant impact on their own and others participation in physical activity.

“Lots more theory than at GCSE but I’ve really enjoyed studying topics in more depth.”

CAREER PROGRESSION

Apart from the more obvious career paths of Sports, PE, coaching, Sports Development, Sports Journalism, and Sports Therapy, PE can be accepted as an alternative to Biology for access to courses such as Physiotherapy or Osteopathy

GOES WELL WITH

PE complements Biology and Psychology with elements of both in the subject. However, our pupils choose PE in combination with a wide range of subjects

See [Miss Davies / Mr Davies](#) for more

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1: Exploring physical education Written examination: 1½ hours (24% of the A-level)

This unit covers: exercise physiology, performance analysis and training; sports psychology; skill acquisition; and sport and society. It includes topics such as: the musculo-skeletal system; fatigue and the recovery process; diet and nutrition and performance; personality; motivation; and social differentiation within sport.

AS Unit 2: Improving personal performance in physical education Non-exam assessment (16% of the A-level)

To assess

- practical performance in one activity as a player/performer
- practical performance as a coach or official
- Personal Performance Profile

A2 Unit 3: Evaluating physical education Written examination: 2 hours (36% of the A-level)

This unit builds on the content of Unit 1 to include topics such as biomechanical principles, aggression, group dynamics and leadership, ethics and deviance within sport, and sport and the mass media.

A2 Unit 4: Refining personal performance in physical education Non-exam assessment (24% of the A-level)

To assess

- practical performance in one activity as a player/performer, coach or official
- Investigative Research

Politics



“Really interesting to study at this point in time with so much going on politically.”

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1: Government in Wales and the United Kingdom Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes (20% of the A-level)

AS Unit 2: Living and participating in a democracy Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes (20% of the A-level)

Students will discover more about the nitty gritty of our political system and how devolution fits within the wider perspective of UK politics. Furthermore, an in-depth study of living and participating in a democracy will be taken: how we define citizenship; voter’s behaviour; and the role of political parties.

A2 Unit 3: Political concepts and theories Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes (30% of the A-level)

A2 Unit 4: Government and politics of the USA Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes (30% of the A-level)

Students will engage in discussion and debates on various political ideologies such as liberalism and conservatism. These make fascinating comparisons to ideologies such as Socialism and Nationalist. Moreover, the American Political landscape will be analysed to introduce students to three themes in USA government and politics: democracy in America; governance; and participation. Students will analyse critically the ideas and institutions that underpin the American political system.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Politics has never been so interesting. The issue of Brexit and the global response to climate change has shifted the political landscape and changed people’s political views across the country. This course provides a fascinating insight in to the politics and the UK and the USA. Government and Politics is an exciting option for those students entering post16 education. Students will need to have a high standard of literacy to engage in the topics, reading and discussions, however, we do not require any specific GCSE courses to have been studied.

CAREER PROGRESSION

While the subject will give an excellent insight into employment in the political field or the study of politics, it is also excellent preparation for a degree in Law or History.

GOES WELL WITH

History naturally complements Politics, however, an understanding of politics is essential for scientists and humanities students alike.

See [Mr J Jones / Mr A Morel](#) for further information.

Psychology



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Psychology is the science of mind and behaviour and the course provides an introduction to the nature of psychology and psychological enquiry.

The content is stimulating, relevant, up-to-date and accessible to a wide range of students, ensuring both breadth and depth to the study of psychology.

The course requires a high standard of literacy to engage in the topics, reading and discussions, and a good understanding of statistics and biology.

“The course has developed my independent study skills so that I am prepared for university.”

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1 – Psychology: past to present – 1 hour 30 minutes written examination 20% of the A-level

This unit covers five psychological approaches (biological, psychodynamic, behaviourist, cognitive and positive) and classic pieces of research. The unit will cover the assumptions and therapies relating to each of the five approaches, and will cover the methodology, procedures, findings, conclusions and ethical issues and social implications relating to classic pieces of evidence.

AS Unit 2 – Psychology: Using Psychological Concepts – 1 hour 30 minutes written examination 20% of the qualification

The explorations of five contemporary debates provide an opportunity for independent research into areas that psychology has influenced. Both sides of the debate should be considered from a psychological perspective (including the ethical, social and economic implications as well as the consideration of social and cultural diversity). The second part focuses on psychological research (including the work of social and developmental psychologists), from the initial planning stages through to the final stage of analysis and evaluation.

A2 Unit 3 – Psychology: implications in the real world – 2 hour 30 minutes written examination 40% of the qualification Having learnt about the various psychological approaches in Unit 1, students are expected to apply this knowledge and understanding to human / animal behaviours. Students should be able to explain and draw conclusions about the possible causes of these behaviours and understand that psychology then has the potential to impact on society as a whole by developing methods of modifying behaviour. In addition, students should explore five controversies that continue to pose challenges for psychology.

A2 Unit 4 – Applied Research Methods: 1 hour 30 minutes written examination 20% of the qualification. This includes questions based on investigative activities carried out prior to the assessment. The second aspect of this component is for students to apply their knowledge and understanding of research methods to novel research scenarios, making judgements on the details of psychological research.

See [Mrs Jerman](#) for more information.

GOES WELL WITH

With some overlap, Psychology complements Biology and PE in particular but students study it in combination with many subjects.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Although it is not necessary to study A-level Psychology to progress to a degree in the subject, it gives a good insight. Pupils have gone on to study clinical psychology and work in consumer psychology.

Spanish

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The WJEC AS and A level in Spanish provides an engaging and exciting opportunity for students to build on their previous study of Spanish. Through social, intellectual and cultural themes students will be able to develop their linguistic knowledge and cultural understanding of the countries or communities where the language is spoken. An opportunity to study literature and film will allow students to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and increase their cultural awareness as part of an integrated approach to language learning. A strong focus is placed on building students' confidence and fluency in spoken Spanish using relevant and topical themes.



New for 2021

ASSESSMENT

AS Unit 1: Speaking: 12-15 minutes (plus additional 15 minutes preparation time) 12% of A-level

AS Unit 2: Listening, reading, translation and critical response in writing Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 28% of A-level

A2 Unit 3: Speaking: 11-12 minutes 18% of A-level

A2 Unit 4: Listening, reading and translation Written examination: 2 hours 30% of A-level

A2 Unit 5: Critical and analytical response in writing (closed-book) Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 12% of qualification

Area of interest (i) Social issues and trends	Area of interest (ii) Political, intellectual and artistic culture
<p>Theme 1: (AS) Being a young person in Spanish-speaking society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family structures, traditional and modern values, friendships / relationships Youth trends, issues and personal identity Educational and employment opportunities 	<p>Theme 2: (AS) Understanding the Spanish-speaking world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional culture and heritage in Spain, Spanish-speaking countries and communities Literature, art, film and music in the Spanish-speaking world
<p>Theme 3: (A level) Diversity and difference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration and integration Cultural identity and marginalisation Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference Discrimination and diversity 	<p>Theme 4: (A level) The Two Spains: 1936 onwards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> El franquismo – origins, development and consequences Post-Civil War Spain – historical and political repercussions The Spanish Civil War and the transition to democracy (represented in the arts, cinema, literature, art and photography) Spain – coming to terms with the past? "Recuperación de la memoria histórica"

CAREER PROGRESSION

Languages are highly regarded by employers and universities but combine well with business and many other subjects

See [Mme Rocher-Jones](#) for more information

Sports Coaching (BTEC) Extended Certificate



ASSESSMENT

This career focussed qualification with industry endorsement and accreditation enables learners to develop underpinning knowledge and technical skills and to gain experience in the following mandatory units.

Unit A: Career in the Sports and Active leisure industry - Assessed through coursework project

This mandatory unit contributes to a quarter of the overall qualification. Learners will develop an understanding of careers in the sport and active leisure industry. They will gain the skills, knowledge and behaviours needed for employment in the industry.

Unit B: Health, Wellbeing and Sport - Assessed through coursework project

This mandatory unit contributes to a quarter of the overall qualification. Learners will explore the importance of physical activity and wellbeing for different types of participants and suggest ways to improve their physical and mental health status.

Unit C1: Developing Coaching Skills - Assessed through coursework project

This mandatory unit contributes to a half of the overall qualification. Learners will develop their coaching knowledge and skills to help improve others' performance skills, techniques and tactics across a range of sports.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What can BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Sport do for you? Work-related learning, giving students an edge and opening the door to higher education or employment in sport sectors.

This qualification gives you the opportunity to showcase your skills and apply your knowledge in an appropriate, work-related context and provides evidence of what you can do when you apply to enter higher education or employment.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Clear progression routes: such as BSc in Sport, Physical Education and Coaching Science. Also supports progression into direct entry level roles such as physical activity leader or fitness/leisure assistant. Transferable skills development such as communication, team working and leadership skills.

See [Mr Adam Price](#) for more information.

Tourism—Certificate / Diploma



“I am really enjoying Tourism and it will assist with my career in Event Management.”

ASSESSMENT

For the Certificate:

Unit 1 The United Kingdom Tourism Product – assessed by an examination of 90 minutes (25% of the Diploma) This unit covers: types of tourists; UK tourism destinations; employment options within the UK tourism industry ; and the management of UK tourism destinations

Unit 2 Worldwide Tourism Destinations – a controlled assessment carried out in school(25% of the Diploma) This unit gives an understanding of: the motivation for travel ; the range and appeal of worldwide tourism destinations; and planning marketing campaigns for tourism destinations .

For the Diploma: - completion of the two units above and:

Unit 3 The Dynamic Tourism Industry - assessed by an examination of 90 minutes (25% of the Diploma) This unit gives an understand of: the range of external pressures and changing customer needs and expectations ; recent developments in transport and technology within the global tourism industry ; how increased environmental awareness has affected the global tourism industry ; and current issues facing the tourism industry

Unit 4 Event and Itinerary Planning - a controlled assessment carried out in school (25% of the Diploma) This unit gives an understanding of the process of planning tourism events and the nature of UK inbound and domestic tourism. Pupils will also be able to develop itineraries for UK tours.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Why do people want to travel to tourism destinations? What factors contribute to the appeal of a destination? Why does a destination appeal to some tourist types more than others?

This new WJEC qualification is for students who wish to develop knowledge and understanding and practical application skills in tourism. Pupils can follow the course for one year and gain a level 3 Certificate (equivalent to an AS Level). If they then wish they can continue into year 13 and gain a full Diploma (equivalent to a full A-level).

CAREER PROGRESSION

The qualification has been designed to support access to Higher Education undergraduate degree courses such as:

- Tourism Management
- Marketing
- Business
- International Tourism
- Event Management

GOES WELL WITH

There is considerable overlap with Human Geography and Business.

See [Mrs Harrop](#) for more information.

Welsh (Second Language) / Cymraeg

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The AS and A Level in Welsh Second Language encourages pupils to study Welsh with interest, enjoyment and enthusiasm. The course will enable them to write creatively and factually for a range of purpose and analyse familiar and unfamiliar texts independently. They will be able to listen and respond to the opinions of others when expressing a point of view, as well as express an independent opinion, based on knowledge and understanding of literary and factual texts. The ability to play an appropriate role in a bilingual society at the beginning of the twenty-first century is paramount. In addition, the AS and A level Specification for Welsh Second Language should encourage pupils to provide a suitable foundation which will enable candidates to pursue further studies of the language in the future.



“The strong media studies element helped me appreciate Welsh in a modern and traditional concept. It is an excellent preparation for a career in the media, in TV and in radio.”

ASSESSMENT

3 unit (AS) course:

AS Unit 1— Oral Exam – discussion of a film and Welsh media (15% of the A-level)

AS Unit 2—Non-examination assessment – Three extended pieces of writing (10% of the A-level)

AS Unit 3— Written Paper: The Use of Language and Poetry—2 Hrs—written paper (15% of the A-level)

This unit covers:

- Use of Language exercises
- Modern Poetry

Exams will take place in May and June either year.

6 unit (AL) course: Units 1 to 3 above & also;

A2 Unit 4 Oral Exam – discussion of a Welsh Play (25% of the A-level)

A2 Unit 5 Written Paper: The Welsh Language in Society and Translanguaging—2 hour written paper (15% of the A-level)

This unit includes

- Questions based on a prescribed text
- A written response in Welsh to an English article

A2 Unit 6 Written Paper: The Use of Language and the Short Story—2 hour written paper (20% of the A-level)

This unit consists of:

- Linguistic exercises
- Short story, synoptic assessment

CAREER PROGRESSION

With the majority of the world being at least bilingual it can only be an advantage to learn another language

GOES WELL WITH

The course complements English, in particular, but can be studied in combination with almost any subject.

See [Miss Crawford](#) for further information.

Cymraeg Iaith Gyntaf/Welsh (First Lang)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The AS and A Level in Welsh (First Language) encourages pupils to study the language and literature of Wales with interest, enjoyment and enthusiasm. The in depth study of the language enables pupils to communicate correctly and fluently both orally and in writing, within a whole range of situations and contexts. Both the AS and A Level Welsh course should encourage pupils to make connections between various aspects of the subject and provide a suitable foundation to allow candidates to continue to study the language in the future. It is an ideal qualification and foundation for many occupations, including education, politics and law, as well as many others.



“The Welsh A-level course, although challenging and difficult at times, has proven to be one of the most interesting out of all my courses. The opportunity to study media aspects and the literature of the Welsh language has broadened my knowledge of our heritage and improved the standard of my spoken and written language.”

ASSESSMENT

3 unit (AS) course:

AS Unit 1 The Film, the Play and Oracy – discussion of a film and a play (15% of the A-level)

AS Unit 2 Non-examination assessment – two extended pieces of writing (10% of the A-level)

AS Unit 3 The use of Language and Poetry assessed by a 2 hour written exam (15% of the A-level)

This part includes:

Use of Language exercises

Twentieth and Twenty First Century Poetry

Exams will take place in May and June either year.

6 unit (AL) course: Units 1 to 3 above & also;

A2 Unit 4 The Novel and Oracy – discussion of a novel and other texts (20% of the A-level)

A2 Unit 5 Medieval Prose and Early and Medieval Poetry assessed by a 2 hour written exam (20% of the A-level)

This unit covers:

Rhyddiaith yr Oesoedd Canol

Yr Hengerdd a'r Cywyddau

A2 Unit 6 Appreciation of Literature and Welsh Language in context assessed by a 2 hour written exam (20% of the A-level)

This unit includes:

Appreciation of poetry

Extended writing, synoptic assessment

CAREER PROGRESSION

With the majority of the world being at least bilingual it can only be an advantage to learn another language

GOES WELL WITH

The course complements English, in particular, but can be studied in combination with almost any subject.

See [Miss Crawford](#) for further information.