

# COURSES & OPTIONS 2026



**Ysgol Uwchradd Prestatyn High School**

Cyfnod Allweddol 4  
Key Stage 4

### **Non-formal Learning**

Organised programmes leading to accreditation but normally outside the national qualification framework. Duke of Edinburgh's Award and similar awards, Millennium Volunteers, First Aid or Food Hygiene certificates.

### **Formal Learning**

Organised learning opportunities leading to approved qualifications. Approved qualifications such as: GCSEs, BTECs, AS & A Level, Welsh Baccalaureate.

### **Compulsory Subjects & The Learning Core**

English, Numeracy, Science and Welsh Baccalaureate are compulsory for all. Organised learning opportunities leading to approved qualifications.

Drama

# Booklet Contents

## **The School Library**

Research and help with your options.

## **Non-formal & Informal Activities**

Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Buddies and

Millennium Volunteers.

## **Subject Information**

Business and Management, Creative Arts & Culture, Humanities and Languages, Learning Core, Mathematics, Science & Technology and Services to People.

## **14-19 Learning Pathways Compulsory Subjects and the Learning Core**

The Options Menu

- General Courses
- Experiential Courses
- Collaborative & Additional Courses

Guidance on Courses

Careers Guidance

Examinations Policy

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## 14 – 19 LEARNING PATHWAYS AT PRESTATYN HIGH SCHOOL KEY STAGE 4 (14-16 YEARS)

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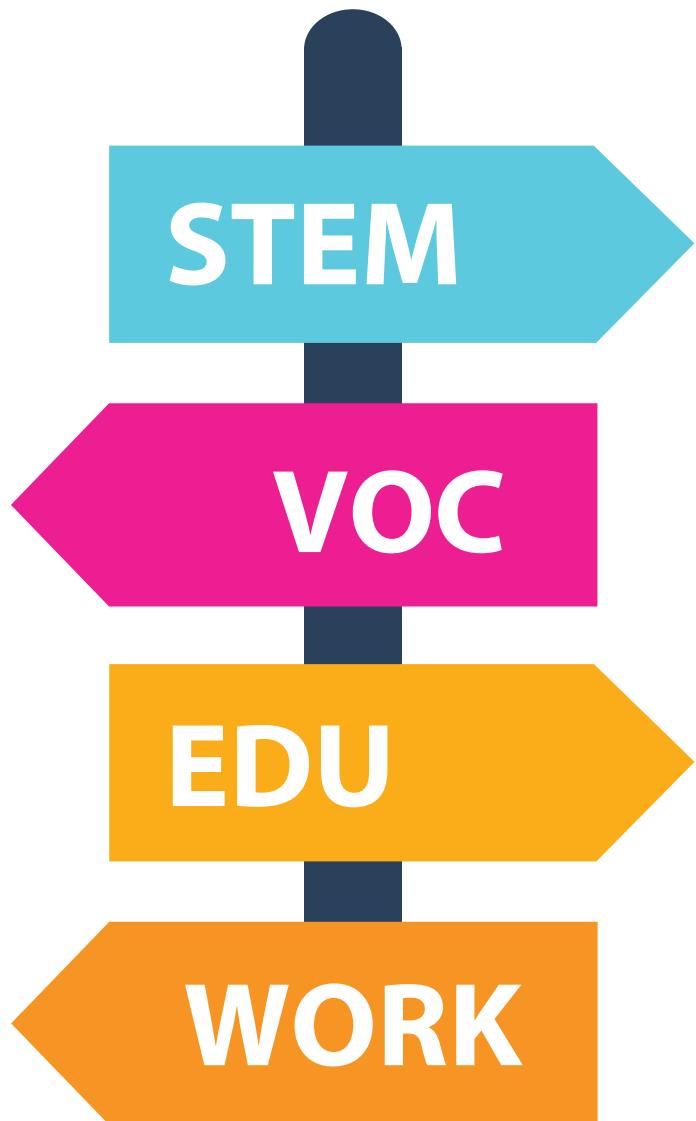
14-19 Learning Pathways provides a framework by which learners can follow a National Curriculum which provides some choice for learners and is designed to meet their individual needs. At Key Stage 4 (Years 9 to 11) there is greater flexibility for students, though some subjects and experiences remain compulsory for all. In making their choices, students will select from a range of courses and should aim to develop their interests and strengths, taking full advantage of all the advice available to them from a wide range of sources.

English, Maths, Numeracy, Science and Welsh Baccalaureate are compulsory for all. All students will study Double Award Science, counting for two GCSEs.

Those with the necessary skills and aptitude will also have the opportunity to study English Literature as well as English Language at GCSE.

Physical Education, Religious Studies and Welsh must be taken by everyone. At Prestatyn High School, Religious Studies is taught as part of the Learning Core entitlement which includes aspects of Personal, Social and Moral Education. The skills, knowledge and experiences outlined in the Learning Core must be made accessible to all students. The means by which students achieve this will vary depending on the pathway chosen.

**The school will work with students and parents to ensure that the individual pathway chosen is the most suitable for each student and that the legal requirement of access to the Learning Core is met, in all cases, by maximising the effectiveness of curriculum time.**



“ A Learning Pathway should promote inclusion by providing opportunities for all learners to have access to a broad and balanced range of experiences. This will enable all learners to develop the skills they need for life and work.

**Source: Learning Pathways 14-19 Guidance**

#### **The Options Menu**

In addition to the study of the compulsory subjects and the Learning Core, students will also study three other courses from the options menu. The qualification they achieve at the end of the three year course will vary and this is shown above each course description.

##### **General Courses/Subjects**

All the GCSE courses offered at Prestatyn High School are in this group. Depending on their progress, nearly all students should expect to achieve a Level 2 qualification (GCSE grades A\*-C) in Year 11 or in some cases a Level 1 qualification (GCSE grade D to G).

##### **Experiential or Vocational Courses / Subjects**

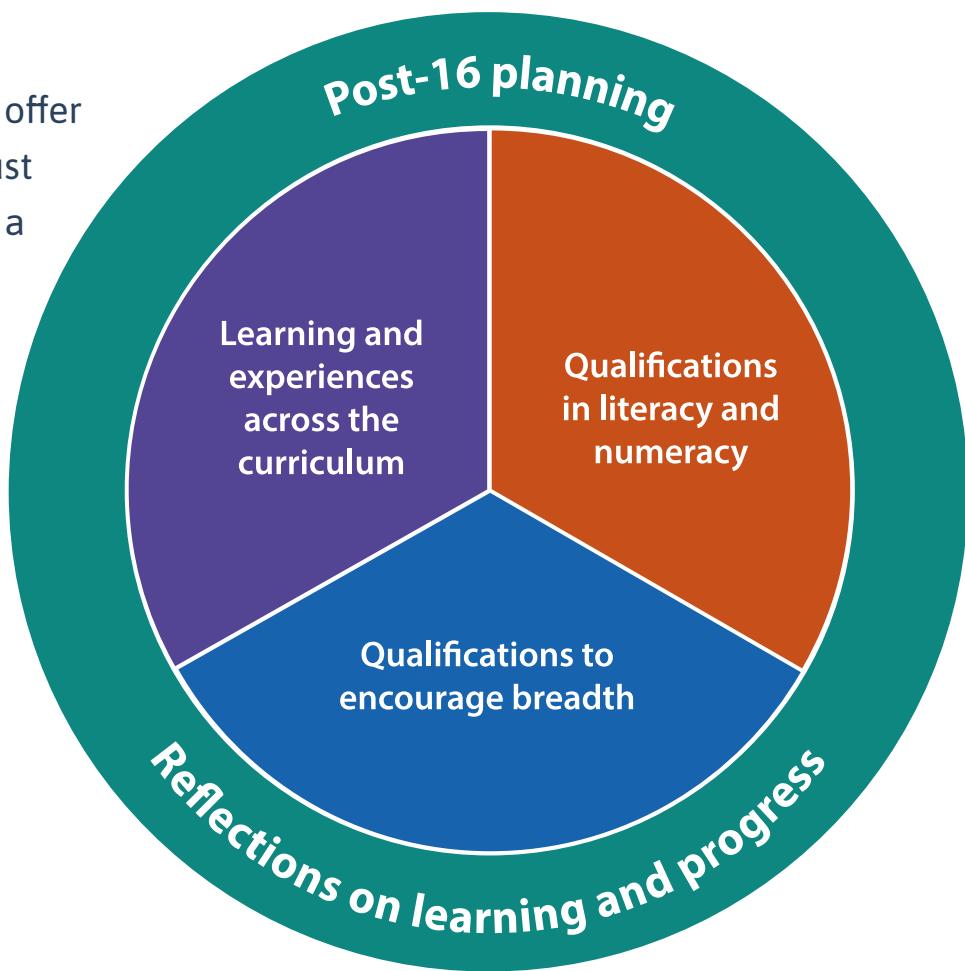
All other courses offered are in this group and are also aimed at a Level 2 qualification for the great majority of students at the end of Year 11. A small number of students who do not achieve Level 2 in Year 11 will be awarded a Level 1 accreditation which they can build on post-16.

**In all cases, acceptance on these courses is subject to approval by the school and interview with providers.**

# The 14 to 16 Learner Entitlement

The key components of 14 to 16 learning under Curriculum for Wales

A school's curriculum offer in years 10 and 11 must provide learners with a broad and balanced profile of learning and experiences designed with reference to the four components of the 14 to 16 Learner Entitlement.



## Guidance on courses

Great care should be taken in making decisions about subjects in the options menu. Guidance and further information can be obtained from the members of staff indicated in the subject course descriptions in this booklet, Learning Coaches and from Careers Wales. An introduction to the options process will take place at the

Key Stage 4 Options Information Evening on Thursday 29th January. Students should then consider their choices carefully, taking into consideration their performance throughout Year 9 and other factors such as likes and dislikes, strengths and challenges. A practice copy of the option form is included on the last page of this booklet. This practice option form should be used to help you make your decisions before you complete your final choices in school.

This will enable you and your parents/guardians to be involved in this process.

**Please make sure your choices are made by the end of registration on Friday 6th February.**

## Careers guidance

From Year 9, students receive on-going careers advice through the careers adviser in school as well as via Careers Wales online. Throughout Year 11, careers advice is again made available through pastoral sessions. Students are encouraged to speak to their Learning Coach or Head of Learning in order to arrange a careers interview. Careers Wales are available in the library every Tuesday between 3-5pm for pupils and parents by prior appointment through the main reception.

There is a comprehensive careers section within the school library and all pupils are encouraged to take the opportunity to obtain information and knowledge from this source.

Please contact **Mrs. Larter** for further details.

## Further Information:

### Contact Your Careers Advisor

School Account Executive (Careers Adviser)  
Supports your child in their career planning to help them make informed decisions. You'll also see our Careers Advisers at school parent evenings and school events.

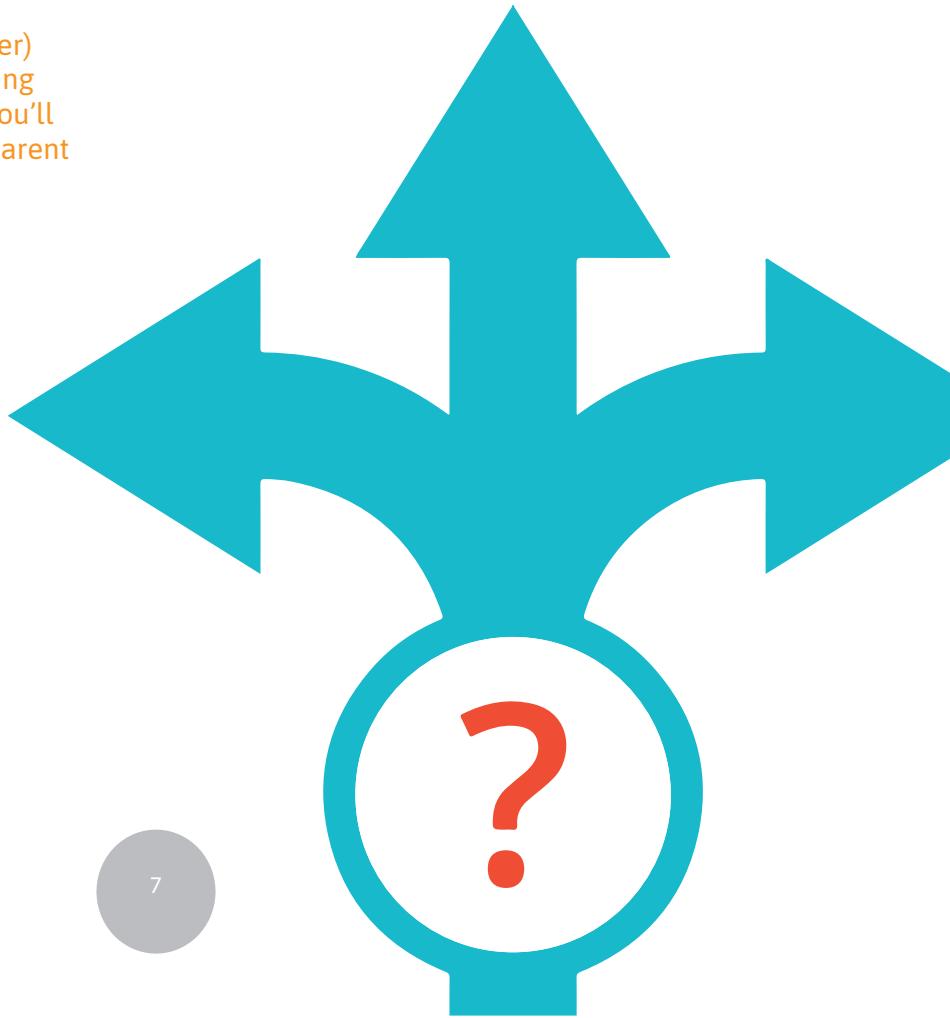
[www.careerswales.gov.wales/](http://www.careerswales.gov.wales/)



## Examinations policy

Some of the courses are accredited by means of continuous controlled assessments rather than external examinations. Where examinations apply, all students who complete the courses will be entered for relevant examinations. In a small number of instances, students may be withdrawn or not entered for an examination. Reasons for withdrawal include poor attendance, lack of controlled assessment or other issues at the discretion of the school.

The information in this brochure is correct at the time of publishing, but may be subject to change owing to the need to maximise the effectiveness of curriculum time, the viability of group sizes, staffing or other timetabling restrictions.



# Glossary

## Core Curriculum

The compulsory parts of Year 9 to 11 curriculum which all learners follow.

## Optional Curriculum

A range of non-compulsory courses. Learners will be able to select up to three of these courses at the start of Year 10.

## GCSE

The General Certificate of Secondary Education. Pass grades range from A\*-G, with A\*-C usually regarded as the grades required to entry to higher education.

## BTEC

Business and Technology Education Council. These courses are part of the optional curriculum.

## Coursework or controlled assessment

Most GCSE and BTEC courses include compulsory coursework or controlled assessments which count towards the final grade in that subject. Failure to produce this work may result in a learner not being entered for the exam in that subject.

## Exam boards

Most examinations taken at Prestatyn High School are conducted through the following exam consortia: AQA, Edexcel, Pearson and WJEC.

## Ten frequently asked questions about Year 9 options

### 1. Do I have completely free choice over my options?

The school will look carefully at your choices and talk with you and your parents if we believe you have selected subjects that are not appropriate for you.

### 2. Will I get my choices?

Probably. The majority of learners will, but some subjects may not run if there are insufficient numbers; others may get too full (which is why you must put your choices in order of preference).

### 3. Are there combinations of subjects that are not allowed?

No. You may select the subject that interest you.

### 4. Will I have the same teachers as this year?

Probably not. The timetable is very different in Year 10. Do not pick a subject just because you like/dislike your current teacher.

### 5. Will I be in the same classes as my best friends next year?

Not necessarily. Do not pick a subject just because your friend has.

### 6. I enjoy PE/Music but I am not actually very good at them. Should I select these subjects?

No. Some courses demand a degree of "natural talent" and you will struggle if you do not have it.

### 7. How should I choose the subject I should study in KS4?

Use this curriculum booklet, options evening and talk to your teachers to find out about the subjects you are interested in.

### 8. Will I have subjects chosen for me if I miss the deadline for completing my options?

No, but be aware that learners that who complete their options will get priority and you may miss out on any subjects that may already be full.

### 9. Will I be able to change my mind after the completing my options?

Possibly, but be aware it may be difficult to reorganise your options later in the year once the timetable has been created.

### 10. Should I assume that if I hear nothing directly, I have got my options?

Yes, assume no news is good news. We will talk to you and your parents if there are any issues. You will not get final confirmation of your choices until well into the summer term.

# Subject Index

## Creative Arts & Culture

Art, Craft & Design  
Dance  
Drama  
Music

Pages 10-13

## Humanities & Languages

English Literature  
French  
Spanish  
Geography  
History

Pages 14-23

## The Learning Core

PE - (compulsory)  
Religious Studies - (compulsory)  
Welsh Baccalaureate - (compulsory)

Pages 24-26

## Mathematics Science & Technology

Animal Care  
Digital Technology  
Computer Science  
Maths & Numeracy  
Product Design  
Science - (GCSE-compulsory)  
Science - ( Triple)

Pages 27-35

## Vocational and Services to People

Business  
Business Studies  
Health and Social Care, and Childcare  
Hospitality  
Physical Education  
Public Services  
Travel & Tourism

Pages 36-44

**All courses run subject to numbers, if only a few pupils choose them in the pre-options survey they may not be offered in the final subject choices.**

**Subject:** Art, Craft & Design **Subject Leader:** Miss C Jones

**Head of Department:** Mrs H Bennett

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Examination Board:** WJEC

### Course Content:

The main aim of the course is for pupils to develop an understanding and knowledge of Art, Craft and Design. They develop a wide range of skills and the ability to express themselves. The programme of study should contribute to their future development including further and/or higher education and life beyond school.

**Unit 1:** Portfolio

**Unit 2:** Externally set exam:

- **fine art** – drawing and painting, sculpture, print making and installation;
- **graphic design** – visual communication, advertising, package design, computer graphics, illustration, letter form;
- **three dimensional design** – ceramics, jewellery, product and functional design, theatre design.
- **textiles** – woven, knitted, embroidered, printed and fashion design, constructed, embellished, sewn and dyed;
- **photography** – lens-based media, video, digital and film;
- **critical and contextual studies** – Arts and Design history, theory, personal investigation;

### How you will learn:

Studying Art and Design provides entry to an unprecedented range of specialisms, skills- both traditional and digital – and careers. You will develop your knowledge and understanding of art and design functions. Develop a wide range of processes and techniques to develop different kinds of evidence.

### How you will be assessed:

Unit 1 – 60% of the qualification  
Unit 2 40% of the qualification.

### Additional information / skills:

The study of Art, Craft & Design gives a useful background for a very wide range of careers. The skills of researching, planning, designing, problem solving, communicating and evaluating your ideas can be applied to many career pathways and lifelong learning. Students following this course may be required to provide some materials such as sketchbooks themselves.

### Job ideas using Art, Craft & Design:

Fine art- Graphic Design-  
Sculpture- Interior Design  
– Fashion Designer- 3d animation – photography-  
Architect- Games Design –  
illustration- Theatre Design  
– Art Curator.

For further information see:  
**Miss C Jones**



**Subject: Dance** **Subject Leader: Mrs L Macgillivray**

**Head of Department: Mrs H Bennett**

**Qualification: BTEC First Award in Dance**

**Exam Board: EDEXCEL**

### **Course Content:**

If you have a love for dancing and performance, BTEC Dance is the course for you! Practical dance lessons are at the heart of the BTEC and students will learn a minimum of 3-4 styles of dance throughout the course. They will be taught dances and throughout the duration of the course, will understand how to choreograph dance. Students will develop their own individual showcase, prepare for a performance and perform regularly. No previous experience of dance is required to take the course, but an enjoyment of performance is needed.

### **How you will learn:**

Students, throughout the duration of the course, will learn different styles of dance (e.g. hip hop, contemporary, ballet etc.); understand how to choreograph a dance, and learn about different dance companies and choreographers. All lessons are practical and will include a warm up, practical learning of a style and how to perform to an audience. The course takes place in our dance studio with purpose built mirrors. Students will perform regularly to one another, so as to help build confidence, and all students are assessed formally in the annual dance show.

### **How you will be assessed:**

#### **Unit 1: Individual Showcase**

This unit is assessed externally through a set practical task of two dances with the stimulus set by the exam board and a controlled written examination.

#### **Unit 2: Preparation,**

#### **Performance and Production**

Internally assessed unit that is sent away to the exam board for external verification. The dance will be performed in the

school production as a practice looking at performance skills on the stage. You will also need to keep a structure log book of the progress

#### **Unit 4: Dance Skills**

Internally assessed unit where you will perform two contrasting styles of dance in the annual school dance show alongside a log book to record your progress.

### **Additional information / skills:**

Students will have many opportunities for extra-curricular including taking part in the school musical, the annual dance show, will work with outside dancer companies and choreographers and will watch live dance. Students with extensive experience have always benefited hugely from taking the course, often going onto dancing professionally or taking the skills into a different career path. Students are required to wear leggings/ jogging pants and a change of top to the lessons, and can wear dance gear if they have it. We do not expect students to buy specialist clothes/ costumes/shoes for the course.

### **Job ideas using Dance:**

This course will provide students with an excellent foundation for higher level dance/ performing arts courses in the sixth form which could lead to careers in Musical Theatre, dance companies, pantomime, Local/National Theatre or dance teaching, which many past pupils from Prestatyn High have moved onto. Knowing how to teach dance is an additional skill that could help in primary school teaching or working with young people or in the community.

**For further information see:**

**Mrs L Macgillivray**

**Subject: Drama** **Subject Leader: Miss E Southall**

**Head of Department: Mrs H Bennett**

**Qualification: GCSE**

**Exam Board: WJEC**

### **Course Content:**

GCSE Drama is all about understanding what it is like to put yourself in someone else's shoes. You will learn many different drama techniques. You will have the opportunity to create your own work as well as look at plays written by other people. The course is in three parts:

- use drama to express feelings and ideas about a range of issues;
- look at a play to see how playwrights express their ideas about a theme or topic, and explore ways of making the play work on stage;
- performance - you will have the choice of being involved in the performance of a play from a script or one you create yourself.

### **How you will learn:**

- work creatively and supportively with groups of varying sizes showing imagination and understanding;
- adopt, sustain and develop a variety of roles with imagination and depth;
- demonstrate a creative use of language, movement and space;
- use drama form to explore issues;
- discuss and evaluate the work, its meaning and form;
- pupils will participate in teacher led workshops exploring the three units. Pupils will create a detailed portfolio of work to support their teacher assessed marks.

### **How you will be assessed:**

#### **Unit 1: Devising Theatre - 30%**

Based on a theme, linked with a practitioner or genre. Candidates may choose either acting or a theatre design skill. Teachers record the work on DVD/Video. Internally assessed and externally moderated with task two.

Devised performance: 5-14 minutes

Supporting Evidence: 750-900 words

Evaluation: 1 hour 30 minutes

#### **Unit 2: Performing Theatre (20%) External Assessment**

Candidates will be assessed on either their acting or a theatre design skill, in a scene from a published play. Candidates to work in groups of between 2 to 5 members. No more than two additional design candidates per group, each working on a different skill.

Externally assessed by a visiting examiner in April/May. Two extracts from the same text combined: 5-12 minute performance.

#### **Unit 3: Interpreting Theatre (40%)**

Online exam.

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to analyse one set text as an actor, designer and director and a live theatre review.

**For further information see:  
Miss E Southall**

## Subject: Music

**Head of Department:** Mrs H Bennett

**Qualification:** GCSE **Examination Board:** WJEC

**Course Content:** The WJEC GCSE Music qualification will support you to:

- develop performance skills
- develop creative skills
- understand musical forms, styles and genres
- appreciate how to communicate musically
- explore music created and performed by others to help develop your own talents
- reflect on, evaluate and refine your work
- explore diversity, identity and culture

Students will be required to reach around Grade 3 standard on an instrument or voice by the end of the course.

**To enable them to do this, peripatetic instrumental / vocal lessons are offered in school for FREE to GCSE Music students.**



### How you will learn:

- listening to and appraising music from a wide range of genres;
- performing as a class or small group;
- specialist instrumental/voice lessons;
- strategies for developing and refining ideas for compositions;
- use of computer software / multi-track recording techniques to write/record compositions;
- preparing for concerts both in school and within the community;
- going to concerts;

### How you will be assessed:

**Unit 1 – Performing 32.5%**

**Unit 2 – Composing 32.5%**

**Unit 3 – Appraising 35%**

### Additional information / skills:

The music course gives Exploring: you will have the opportunity to explore various styles and genres of music linked to different cultures in Wales and the world and understand how they have been created to produce the intended effect. Responding and reflecting: you will be able to evaluate and refine your work through reflection and feedback from others, to

create a successful finished product Creating: you will create your own original music in a style of your choosing, and a piece to meet a brief specified by WJEC using the techniques you have explored and reflected upon.

### Job ideas using Music:

Classical/rock performer, professional singer, musician in the armed forces, conductor, sound engineer, music therapist, classroom teacher, peripatetic instrumental/voice teacher, music librarian, broadcasting, publishing, record business, advertising, agent, arts promotion, choreographer, composer/song-writer, cruise-ship entertainer, DJ, film music editor, music instrument maker, musician, music journalist, radio producer, music retailer.

For further information see:  
**Mrs H Bennett**

**Subject:** Cymraeg/Welsh 2nd Language - (COMPULSORY)

**Head of Department:** Mrs S Bennett

**Qualification:** GCSE    **Examination Board:** WJEC

### Course Content:

Do you want to be able to understand and use Welsh, the language of Wales, confidently and spontaneously? Do you want to develop a valuable skill and use Welsh in further study, in the workplace and in your communities? Do you want to be a part of the government's aim and be one of the million Welsh speakers by 2050? This is a qualification that can foster your curiosity, develop your language learning skills and strategies, and open doors to further study and future jobs.

### How you will learn:

You will study three broad themes of 'cynefin', identity and culture and within these themes you will learn:

- about the value of the Welsh language socially and in the world of work
- about its use in Wales and around the world
- how to understand and use Cymraeg with others in a spontaneous and confident way
- how to develop skills for work and life
- how to respond creatively to literature.

### How you will be assessed:

There will be two written examinations:

Unit 3 - 1 hour 30 minutes; 100 marks; 25% of qualification.

Unit 4-1 hour 30 minutes; 100 marks; 25% of qualification.

There will be a variety of reading tasks with non-verbal and written responses in both units along with descriptive, persuasive, poetic writing and express opinions tasks (Unit 3) and creative writing tasks (Unit 4).

In Unit 3, translanguaging and translating tasks will be assessed in each series. In Unit 4, one set text (from the two poems and two short stories) will be assessed in each series. You will be told before the exam (Unit 4) which set text will be used in each series.

### NON-EXAMINATION ASSESSMENT

There will be two non-examination assessments:

Unit 1 - one oral assessment for pairs (6-8 minutes)/ group of three (8-10 minutes); 50 marks; 25% of qualification.

Unit 2 - one oral assessment for pairs (6-8 minutes)/ group of three (8-10 minutes); 50 marks; 25% of qualification.

### Additional information/ skills:

Jobs advertised in Wales often require the ability to speak Welsh as essential or desirable. If you have a GCSE Core Cymraeg qualification and if the other candidates applying for the post do not have this qualification, you have a head start.

The ability to speak Welsh is important and advantageous in all areas including education, health and care, the government, media and entertainment, sport, law, marketing and much more. You can even get a job in Patagonia in South America if you can speak Welsh!

For further information see:  
**Mrs S Bennett**



**CYM**

### Subject: English Language and Literature (Single Award)

**Head of Department:** Mrs P Povey

**Subject Leaders:** Mrs P Povey, Mrs Miotti & Mrs Davies

**Qualification:** GCSE Examination Board: WJEC

#### Course Content:

##### Unit 1 CONTEXT AND

**MEANING** in Unit 1, you will study a range of poetry from the WJEC anthology, engaging with the concept of Context and Meaning.

##### Unit 2 BELONGING

in Unit 2, you will study a prose text, engaging with the concept of Belonging and themes of community, cynefin and citizenship.

##### Unit 3 INFLUENCE AND

**POWER** in Unit 3, you will study a range of non-fiction texts, engaging with the Influence and Power of writers, and how writers and speakers exert power and attempt to influence others.

##### Unit 4a MOTIVATIONS

in Unit 4a, you will have a choice to study a play or a prose text, engaging with the concept of Motivations of writers and characters, exploring reasons for attitudes, behaviours and beliefs.

#### How you will learn:

- **Communication Skills** – expressing yourself through clear and creative use of language
- **Reading Skills** – reading, listening to and researching a range of texts, analysing meaning and scrutinising reliability
- **Contextual Analysis Skills** – engaging with the significance of purpose, audience, and contexts of speaking, reading and writing
- **Literacy Skills** – developing and applying an understanding of grammar and uses of vocabulary

#### How you will be assessed:

Units 1 and 4a are examined units, together worth 60% of your qualification. Each exam lasts 90 minutes and will consist of low-tariff extract-based questions, an extended essay response and a piece of creative fiction or non-fiction writing. Units 2 and 3 are non-examined assessments, together worth 40% of your qualification. Each unit will consist of two tasks, one that will assess your written response to the relevant text(s) and one that will assess your oracy skills.

#### Additional information / skills:

GCSE English Language and Literature is a core subject and as such helps to develop a wide range of skills for your future.

#### Job ideas using English Language:

GCSE English Language and Literature is designed to equip you with a rich variety of skills for your future in education and the workplace. It is a widely valued qualification that provides a strong foundation for further study of literature, language, and a wide range of other academic subjects at A level and beyond. It can open the door to an array of career paths such as law, journalism, media production, advertising, marketing, teaching, politics, public relations, and publishing.

For further information, talk to your **class teacher**.



## Subject: English Language and Literature (Double Award)

**Head of Department:** Mrs P Povey

**Subject Leaders:** Mrs P Povey, Mrs Miotti & Mrs Davies

**Qualification:** GCSE **Examination Board:** WJEC

### Course Content:

#### Unit 1 CONTEXT AND MEANING

in Unit 1, you will study a range of poetry from the WJEC anthology, engaging with the concept of Context and Meaning.

**Unit 2 BELONGING** in Unit 2, you will study a prose text, engaging with the concept of Belonging and themes of community, cynefin and citizenship. Unit

**Unit 3 INFLUENCE AND POWER** in Unit 3, you will study a range of non-fiction texts, engaging with the Influence and Power of writers, and how writers and speakers exert power and attempt to influence others.

**Unit 4b MOTIVATIONS** in Unit 4b, you will have a choice to study a play or a prose text, engaging with the concept of Motivations of writers and characters, exploring reasons for attitudes, behaviours and beliefs.

**Unit 5 CONTINUITY AND CHANGE** in Unit 5, you will study a Shakespeare play and pre-20th LC poetry. You will consider the concept of Continuity and Change, and how attitudes, ideas and language have changed over time.

**Unit 6 CONNECTIONS** in Unit 6, you will study non-fiction texts, focusing on the concept of Connections. You will explore links between different texts, relating texts to time, place, language, and relationships.

### How you will learn:

- **Communication Skills** – expressing yourself through clear and creative use of language
- **Reading Skills** – reading, listening to and researching a range of texts, analysing meaning and scrutinising reliability
- **Contextual Analysis Skills** – engaging with the significance of purpose, audience, and contexts of speaking, reading and writing
- **Literacy Skills** – developing and applying an understanding of grammar and uses of vocabulary

### How you will be assessed:

Units 1, 4b and 6 are examined units, together worth 60% of your qualification. Each exam lasts 90 minutes and will consist of low-tariff extract-based questions,

an extended essay response and a piece of creative fiction or non-fiction writing. Units 2, 3 and 5 are non-examined assessments, together worth 40% of your qualification. Each unit will consist of two tasks, one that will assess your written response to the relevant text(s) and one that will assess your oracy skills.

### Additional information:

GCSE English Language and Literature is a core subject and as such helps to develop a wide range of skills for your future.

### Career ideas using English Literature:

GCSE English Language and Literature is a widely valued qualification that provides a strong foundation for further study of literature, language, and a wide range of other academic subjects at A level and beyond. It can open the door to an array of career paths such as law, journalism, media production, advertising, marketing, teaching, politics, public relations, and publishing.

For further information, talk to your **class teacher**.

**Subject:** French/Spanish

**Head of Department:** Mrs V Vick

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Examination Board:** WJEC

**Course Content:**

Develop skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

Explore three broad themes:

- Language for leisure and wellbeing
- Language for travel
- Language for study and work
- Build knowledge of grammar, sound-spelling patterns, and high-frequency vocabulary.
- Engage in real-life contexts: cafés, shops, transport, health, leisure, and home settings.

**How you will learn:**

- Interactive lessons with role plays, presentations, and conversations.
- Practice listening and reading through authentic materials.
- Use past, present, and future tenses to communicate ideas and opinions.
- Study a Spanish/French/German work (e.g., short story, film script, novel) and write about it.

**How you will be assessed:**

**Unit 1:** Oracy (Speaking) – 7-10 min test, 10 min prep, 30% of qualification.

Role play, prepared presentation, and unprepared discussion.

**Unit 2:** Reading & Writing – NEA 1 hour, 15%.

Respond to written Spanish/French/German and write about a studied work.

**Unit 3:** Listening – 45 min - 20%. Understand and respond to spoken Spanish/French/German in various formats.

**Unit 4:** Writing – 1 hour 30 - 35%

Extended written tasks and translation. Each skill tested at the end of Year 11.

**Job ideas using languages:**

- International business and trade.
- Travel and tourism.
- Translation and interpreting.
- Journalism and media /web designer
- Teaching and education.
- Careers abroad or in diplomacy.
- Engineering
- Researcher
- International sports

For further information see:  
**Mrs V Vick**





## Subject: Geography

Head of Department: Mrs K Skeffington

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: WJEC

### Course Content:

Geography is the study of places and the relationships between people and their environments. Geographers explore the physical properties and the earth's surface and the human societies spread across it. What can be more important for our future? GCSE

Geography supports learners to:

- become independent, balanced and sympathetic geographers with a detailed understanding of spatial relationships and the changing world
- appreciate the complex, pluralistic and diverse nature of societies and their interactions with diverse and dynamic physical landscapes.

### How you will learn:

- understand and investigate physical and human landscapes, and a context for the causes and consequences of physical and human inter-relationships and interdependence which characterise our modern world
- question, use and analyse maps, images, and geographical information systems
- formulate research questions, and to collect, manipulate and present data so they can evaluate

and think critically about problems and issues

- learn outdoors, through fieldwork and the outdoor classroom, and to experience and reflect on the wonder of the natural world in a variety of physical, human and historical environments.

### How you will be assessed:

**Unit 1: Our Physical and Human World** Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 30% of qualification. You will study: drainage basins and rivers, changing coastlines, migration and settlement change.

**Unit 2: Developing Fieldwork Skills** Non-examination assessment based on a fieldwork visit: 7 hours (not including the time it takes to undertake the fieldwork) 25% of qualification.

**Unit 3: Our Dynamic and Diverse World** Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 30% of qualification. You will study: the geography of inequality, weather, wild weather, continual climate change and managing global cities.

**Unit 4: Sustainable Solutions** Non-examination assessment: 6 hours (3 hours for research and 3 hours to respond to

tasks) a decision-making exercise based on a resource provided by the WJEC. 15% of qualification.

### Additional information:

Geography is always in the news. You will develop skills to interpret, analyse and evaluate information to make decisions about issues and problems that affect people and the environment; make a concise report; handle data; think scientifically by collecting and recording evidence from a range of sources including fieldwork; ask questions and find answers; make decisions about an issue; analyse material; manage themselves; solve problems.

### Job ideas using Geography:

Geography graduates are among the most employable, possibly because they possess the transferable skills employers are looking for. This may be because the subject is a combination of the facts of science and the understanding of the arts. Career destinations include Environment Agency, emergency planning, meteorologist, teaching or lecturing, work in the financial and retail sector, other professions including media.

For further information see:  
**Mrs Skeffington, Mr Roberts**

## Subject: History

**Head of Department:** Mr G Bennett

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Examination Board:** WJEC

### Course Content:

The new history course will require students to study an in-depth unit on Welsh history. A second unit will cover European and world history, assessed as an NEA. Unit 3 will cover an element of world history. Unit 4 will be a Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) on changes in society within Great Britain.

### How you will learn:

- analysing and evaluating
- different historical interpretations;
- using historical evidence to help you find out about the past;
- considering the contribution made to society by key individuals;
- using a range of materials such as ICT, written and visual sources, artefacts and music;
- own independent research.

### How you will be assessed:

Units 1 and 3 will be assessed as written examinations. Both exams are for one hour. Units 2 and 4 will be classroom based NEAs.

### Additional information / skills:

The study of History will help you to consider and appreciate the experience and perspective of others, the ability to identify, respond to and influence social, moral and political challenges and situations.

### Job ideas using History:

Antique trade, archaeologist, archive work, author, barrister, heritage work, museum work, history teacher, journalist, librarian, security service (MI5 & MI6), solicitor, tour guide.

For further information see your **History teacher**





**Subject: PE - COMPULSORY**

**Head of Department: Mr C D Evans**

**Qualification: National Curriculum KS4**

**Examination Board: N/A**

**Course Content:**

All pupils in Yr 10 and 11 must follow the PE National Curriculum, and take part in PE on a regular basis.

Pupils are able to choose from three differing activities every half term. Pupils must take activities, from Games, Fitness, Adventurous and Creative strands. Pupils will have one lesson per week. There will also be an opportunity to develop leadership skills.

**How you will learn:**

As well as improving skills, techniques and tactics from Key Stage 3, pupils are expected to develop their knowledge of health and well-being. An active lifestyle is promoted, and pupils are encouraged to try a range of new activities. Pupils should develop personal and social skills through taking part.

**How you will be assessed:**

Although there is no formal assessment, pupils will be graded on their level of effort and their record of participation.

Pupils following the exam courses can use this time to refine skills.

**Additional information / skills:**

Areas of experience will include weight training, circuit training, aerobics and toning, competitive team games, climbing, athletics and racquet sports.

For further information see:

**Mr C D Evans**



## Subject: Religious Studies - COMPULSORY

Head of Department: Miss K Garside

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: WJEC

### Course Content:

This course explores the relevance of religious beliefs, values and traditions. The GCSE course will explore Christianity and Hinduism, and will include units on religion, philosophy and ethics, including:

Relationships – Why get married?

Is it OK to use contraception?

What causes divorce? What is the Big Bang theory?

Life and Death – Is there an afterlife?

Is it ever right to take a life? Good and evil – What causes suffering?

What are the aims of punishment?

Human Rights – Why do they matter?

The work of Martin Luther King.

### How you will learn:

In lessons you will experience a variety of learning opportunities including:

- Thinking skills - Decision making exercises
- Class debates
- Circle time
- Active learning, re-enacting marriage ceremonies
- Internet research, virtual tours of places of worship and pilgrimage
- Group work to produce displays on topics such as suffering in the news
- Religion in the media, exploring religious themes in the Simpsons, soap operas and movies.

### How you will be assessed:

RS will be assessed by a mixture of controlled assessment and examination. The exam will make up 50% of the qualification and CA will make up the other 50%.

### Additional information / skills:

Students will develop knowledge and understanding of religious and non religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism.

The course provides opportunities for students to learn and understand more about the world and how religion affects society, enabling them to become thoughtful and engaged citizens.

Religious studies is NOT about making you 'religious' – it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious, social, moral, political and cultural issues.

### Job ideas using Religious Studies:

The course will give a good grounding for many careers that require an understanding of other cultures, and an insight into ethical and moral issues. These include medicine, social work, the police, health service professionals, lawyers, teachers, management training, customer services, journalism.

For further information see:  
See Miss Garside

**Subject:** Welsh Baccalaureate  
**The Skills Challenge (COMPULSORY)**  
**Head of Department:** Mr S Steeves  
**Qualification:** GCSE

**Course Content:**

WJEC Welsh Baccalaureate National Qualification The WJEC Welsh Baccalaureate is an engaging and skills-based qualification designed to prepare students for future academic and career opportunities. Throughout this course, students will develop essential life skills, critical thinking, and the ability to work independently and collaboratively. The qualification is structured around three distinct units: Enterprise and Employability Unit (Year 10) In this unit, students explore the fundamentals of building a career and running a business. They develop practical skills such as writing CVs, crafting letters of application, and preparing for future job opportunities. Additionally, students are encouraged to think creatively by designing their own business ideas, learning how to plan, strategise, and assess the basics of launching and managing a successful enterprise. Global Citizenship Unit (Year 10) This unit focuses on broadening students' understanding of the world around them, emphasising global issues and their impact on society.

Students examine topics such as sustainability, human rights, and cultural diversity, fostering a sense of responsibility and awareness as active global citizens. Individual Project (Year 11) In the final year, students undertake an independent research project on a topic of their choice. This unit developed throughout the course, such as research, analysis, and presentation, culminating in a meaningful and reflective piece of work.

**Future Career Opportunities:**

Business and Entrepreneurship: Business Manager, Project Manager Education and Social Services: Social Worker, Teacher Creative industries: Event Planner, Content creator. Global and Public Affairs: Human Rights Advocate Technology and Innovation: Data Analyst, Digital Marketing.

For further information see:  
**Mr S Steeves**

**How you will learn:**

Research and writing. Creative thinking and promotion. Group presentation. Critical thinking.

**How you will be assessed:**

Students are assessed through their coursework. There is no exam.

**Additional information:**

Through this qualification, students will not only gain valuable skills for their future careers and education but also grow as individuals who are ready to contribute positively to their local and global communities.

### Subject: Animal Care

**Subject Leaders:** Amber Spicer / Emma Lloyd-Walker

**Head of Department:** Mrs M Morecombe

**Qualification:** L1 and L2 Technical award Animal Care (BTEC)

**Examination Board:** Edexcel

#### Course Content:

The technical award is a hands-on course for anyone wishing to work in the animal care sector. You will get first-hand experience of looking after our animals in the Animal Care department. You must be willing to handle and restrain animals, clean faeces, change bedding and other tasks related to animal care. You will apply what you learn in theory lessons to practical lessons and develop key employability skills such as team work, communication, research skills. Component 1: **Animal Handling.** You will be taught how to handle the different animals in animal care and how to restrain them safely. Component 2: **Animal housing and accommodation:** You will assess the suitability of different types of accommodation and carryout practical tasks relating to each type of accommodation.

Component 3: Animal Health and Wellbeing: You will learn all about the different diseases animals can get and how to carryout different daily and weekly health checks.

#### How you will learn:

You will be required to carry out independent research into animals within the animal care centre.

#### How you will be assessed:

Component 1 Animal handling. 3 internal assessments marked externally. Component 2: Animal housing and accommodation. 4 externally assessments. Component 3: Animal disease and Welfare. 2 hour exam.

#### Additional information / skills:

You will apply what you learn in theory lessons to practical lessons and develop key employability skills such as team work, communication, research skills.

#### Future Career Opportunities:

- Veterinary nurse/assistant/vet
- Agriculture
- Boarding kennels and catteries
- RSPCA and other such organisations
- Further education
- Animal technician
- Dog trainer
- Zoo keeper/Zoologist
- Aquariums

If you have any further questions please see **Mrs Lloyd-Walker, Miss Spicer or Miss Strong**



### Subject: Digital Technology (ICT)

Head of Department: Miss R Haydock

Qualification: GCSE

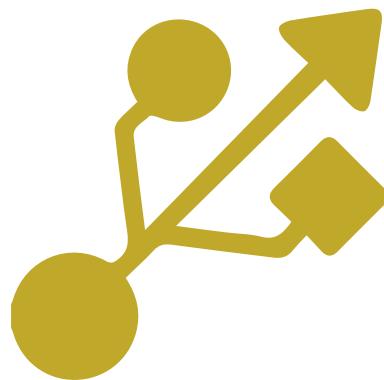
Examination Board: WJEC

#### Course Content:

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

#### How you will learn:

- you will be taught to use several software packages through interactive and engaging lessons. You already possess many of the skills required through computer use at home and in school;
- theory lessons will be delivered using a variety of resources to ensure maximum interest and understanding.



#### How you will be assessed:

**Coursework** - Two Non-exam assessments (NEAs) over the two years. Unit 2 involves the use of spreadsheets, webpage, animation or game creation; it is worth 40% of the qualification. Unit 3 focuses on marketing digital assets using social media and is worth 20% of the qualification

**Examinations** - Unit 1 'The digital world' an on-screen examination worth 40% of the qualification covering content related to digital technology systems, the value of digital technology and perspectives on digital technology.

#### Additional information / skills:

This qualification replaces the GCSE ICT course and incorporates skills that were taught in the previous qualification with updated digital technology skills that are used every day in this digital era. Many of the skills that you already possess will help you be successful on this course and virtually every skilled job involves the use of digital technologies in some way; this course will give you a recognised qualification in this area.

#### Job ideas using ICT:

The qualification is designed for learners who wish to begin their journey towards a career that utilises digital technologies such as animation, graphic design, web design, sales, marketing, systems analyst or software developer to name but a few. It will also help learners who wish to progress onto advanced level programmes of learning involving digital technologies.

For further information see: **Miss R Haydock**  
or any member of the **ICT Department**

## Subject: Computer Science

Head of Department: Miss R Haydock

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: WJEC

### Course Content:

A WJEC GCSE in Computer science will help you to make the most of the power of computers, from understanding how they work, to using programming skills to create your own applications and solutions to problems in the world around you.

### How you will learn:

Unit 1: Understanding Computer Science - This unit helps you to build your understanding of practical aspects of computing such as hardware, software, systems, networks and communication, whilst developing your ability to plan, manage and deliver computer-based solutions for everyday needs and problems.

Unit 2: Computer Programming - This unit gives you the opportunity to develop your programming skills, before using them to create a solution to a real-world problem.

### How you will be assessed:

Unit 1: Understanding Computer Science  
Assessed by on-screen examination  
Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of qualification 80 marks

Unit 2: Computer Programming  
Assessed by on-screen examination based on a pre-released brief Duration: 2 hours 50% of qualification 80 marks

### WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

GCSE Computer Science will help you to: Understand and apply principles and concepts of computer science

- Develop your practical programming skills
- Develop skills in computational thinking
- Analyse problems in order to develop and
- implement strategies to solve them
- Develop your project management skills
- Improve your logical and mathematical thinking skills
- Improve your collaboration and teamworking skills
- Understand the social, professional, ethical, environmental and legal dimensions of computer-based.

### Job ideas using ICT:

Software or games developer, network administrator, development engineer, technical consultant and systems analyst. Did you know that Computer Science graduates now get more offers of employment than any other degree?

For further information see:  
Miss R Haydock or any member of the ICT



### Subject: Maths & Numeracy - (COMPULSORY)

Head of Department: Miss E B Morley

Qualification: GCSE

Examination Board: WJEC

#### Course Content:

In GCSE Mathematics & Numeracy, you will build on the knowledge and understanding you have of topics within number, algebra, geometry, and data. You will be taught the key financial aspects of everyday adult life, such as dealing with payslips, bills, and savings. A good understanding of the content of this qualification is the perfect platform to those hoping to follow a STEM career.

#### How pupils will learn:

The course has 3 units:

**Unit 1: Financial Mathematics and Other Applications of Numeracy**  
In this unit you will learn life lessons that will help you become a financially well-informed adult. Think about terms or acronyms you may have heard about like 'National Insurance', 'VAT' or 'AER' – these will become familiar to you. Financial opportunities and pitfalls will be addressed, and you will learn how to read important documents like payslips, bills and bank statements. All sorts of other real-world contexts will also be taught and assessed, making this unit relevant and interesting.

#### How you will be assessed:

##### Unit 2: Non-calculator

You will explore concepts where you won't need your calculator in this unit. You will deepen your understanding of probability and explore new ideas within algebra and geometry, like quadratic graphs and circle theorems.

##### Unit 3: Calculator-allowed

This unit has the biggest weighting of all three units, and you can have your calculator by your side. There is lots of data handling and statistics in this unit as well as new geometry concepts such as Pythagoras' Theorem and Trigonometry.

#### Additional information/ skills:

You will develop an understanding of the different areas of mathematics and how they relate to each other.

- You will extend your range of mathematical skills and techniques and be able to use and apply them to a range of real-life contexts.
- You will gain a strong foundation in financial mathematics to prepare you for life and work.

#### Job ideas using Maths:

A GCSE in Mathematics and Numeracy can lead to a variety of career paths.

These include jobs such as: financial analyst, computer programmer, medical scientist, actuary, software developer, economist, data or research analyst, accountant, teacher.

For further information see:  
**Miss E Morley**



**Subject: Product Design** **Subject Leader: Miss C Williams**

**Head of Department: Miss J Heggs**

**Qualification: GCSE**

### Course content:

Product Design offers an opportunity for students to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems in a wide range of contexts relating to their personal interests. Product Design develops candidates' interdisciplinary skills, all six of the key skills, and their capacity for imaginative, innovative thinking, creativity and independence.

### How will you be assessed:

**Unit 1: Product Design**  
Online examination (30%)  
Paper: 1 hour 30 mins

**Unit 2: Controlled Assessment**  
Task (70%) Controlled Assessment Design and make Task

### Job ideas using Product Design:

Electrician, gas fitter, technician, maintenance engineer, telecommunications engineer, health and safety officer, engineer, product designer, architect, virtual reality and a surveyor

For further information see:  
**Miss C Williams**

### How will you learn:

**Year 10** - Students will undertake a range of practical exercises developing their confidence using equipment in a workshop environment. This will be backed up with theory work to support their exam Preparation. The main NEA task will start in April of Year 10 once the briefs are released by the exam board.

**Year 11** - Students will continue to work on their NEA for the majority of year 11. Students will have picked a brief and complete a 35-hour design and make task based around their chosen theme. This will also be backed up with theory work to support their exam preparation.



**Subject: GCSE The Sciences (Double Award)**

**Head of Department: Mrs M Morecombe**

**Qualification: Qualification: GCSE The Sciences Double Award (equivalent to 2 GCSEs) Examination Board: WJEC**

### **Course Content:**

The Sciences Double award is compulsory for all students. It is a single course taken over two years but is worth 2 GCSEs.

The course consists of 7 units of work; 2 for Biology, 2 for Chemistry, 2 for Physics and one scientific enquiry skills unit. Each Y10 unit is worth 14.3% of the final qualification. Each Y11 unit is worth 15.7%. Each subject will be taught by specialist teachers. Practical skills will be taught along side the theory. Examinations at the end of Year 10 and more at the end of Year 11 give you the marks needed for your final GCSE grades.

### **Topics covered**

Basis of life, chemical substances & how they behave, forces, notionb & the the universe, continuity of life, chemical bonding, ractions & resources, waves, electricity & energy.

### **How you will learn:**

You have already started the GCSE work in Year 9, so you have a pretty good idea of how the lessons are structured. As well as being

expected to make your own notes in an exercise book, you will be provided with worksheets, practical task sheets & practice questions. You will carry out experiments and participate in demonstrations.

### **How you will be assessed:**

Examinations of 1hr 15mins length in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics will be undertaken at the end of Year 10 and together account for 42.9% of the final grade. Another 47.1% will be assessed by three more examinations which will be taken at the end of Year 11 and the remaining 10% of the marks will be assessed by the scientific enquiry unit in Year 11.

Examination papers will be taken at either Foundation or Higher tier, depending upon which is the most suitable.

Your progress will be tracked throughout the course by regular tests.

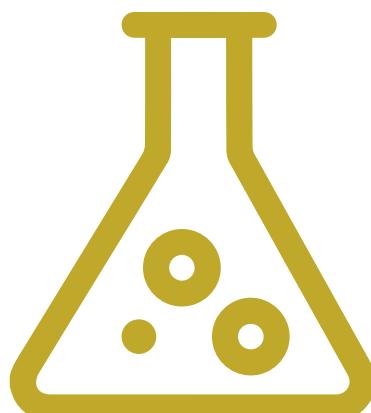
### **Additional information:**

Science at Higher GCSE prepares you to go on to any of our post 16 A level courses. A higher-grade pass at GCSE, higher or foundation,prepares you to go on to the BTEC level 3 Applied Science .

### **Jobs using Science:**

Science is a core subject and all students in Wales are required to study for 2 GCSEs at Key Stage 4. This is because scientific skills are useful in all jobs and careers.

For further information see:  
**Any Science teacher**



**Subject:** GCSE Science (Triple Award)

**Head of Department:** Mrs M Morecombe

**Qualification:** Qualification: GCSE Triple Award Science (equivalent to 3 GCSEs) **Examination Board:** WJEC

### Course Content:

Science is compulsory at GCSE but students will be selected for this Science course and this will be one of their options, leaving them only with two choices for other GCSEs.

The course consists of two units of work and one practical assessment for each of the three Sciences, Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Each subject will be taught by specialist teachers. Practical skills will be taught along side the theory.

Written examinations will be taken at the end of Year 10 and Year 11. In addition to this there will be three practical assessments, usually taken in Year 11.

Topics covered will include: cells, organ systems, ecosystems, homeostasis, micro-organisms, chemical substances, reactions, essential resources, chemical bonding, application of chemical reactions, organic chemistry, electricity, energy, waves, forces, space and reactivity.

### How you will learn:

You will have already started GCSE work in each of the three Sciences in Year 9. You will learn through a mixture of theory and practical lessons. Students will carry out specified practical tasks and have some experiments demonstrated to them.

### How you will be assessed:

Unit 1 for each science is a written paper, 105 minutes in length, which will be undertaken at the end of Year 10. This is 45% of the grade for each individual Science. Unit 2, which is taken at the end of Year 11, is another written paper 105 minutes in length. This is also 45% of the grade for each individual science. The remaining 10% for each science will be assessed through a practical assessment.

Your progress will be tracked throughout the course by regular tests.

**Additional information:**  
Science at GCSE will prepare students for post 16 courses (A levels in Biology, Chemistry & Physics and BTEC level 3 applied Science).

### Additional information:

A revision guide will be made available for you to purchase to support your learning.

Science at Higher GCSE prepares you to go on to any of our post 16 A level courses. A higher grade pass at GCSE, higher or foundation prepares you to go on to the BTEC level 3 Applied Science.

### Jobs using Science:

This course in particular will prepare those students who are intending to study medicine, dentistry and veterinary science at university or those who wish to study pure sciences.

For further information see:  
**Any science teacher**



### Subject: Business Studies

Head of Department: Miss Heggs

Qualification: BTEC

Examination Board: Pearson

#### Course Content:

This qualification provides an engaging, practical and relevant introduction to the world of business. It encourages you to explore the range of business types and understand the factors that influence success through analysing business models. It enables you to develop, enhance and apply your research, practical, communication and technical skills through creating and presenting a business plan for a realistic business startup in your local area. You will study finance and analyse key financial statements (for example, income statements and statements of financial position), reviewing their importance in the successful financial management of a business.

#### How you will be assessed:

- Coursework 75%;
- Examination 25%;

**Unit 1: Introduction to Business** - This unit introduces you to the language and terminology used in business. You will explore different types of business ownership and how they relate to the size and scale of a business. You will also explore how the type

of ownership impacts on the responsibilities of the owners of a business. By combining all this with looking at different types of business model, you will begin to understand how diverse the world of business is.

**Unit 2: Finance for Business** – The unit will help to develop your understanding on the costs involved in business and how businesses make a profit. This will lead you to develop your understanding on how businesses plan for success. Finally, you will explore how businesses measure success and identify areas for improvement.

**Unit 3: Enterprise in the Business World** - In this unit you will explore business enterprise ideas including the trends that affect them and the factors that influence their success. You will draw on knowledge gained throughout the other units to carry out research and assess the suitability of a business idea. You will use this to plan an enterprise idea for a realistic business start-up in your local area, based on your research.

#### Unit 4: Promoting a Brand

- Learners explore the importance of branding and promotion to business and elements of the promotional mix in order to develop and promote a brand for a business.

#### Job ideas using Business:

There are a range of job opportunities including retail buying, management, banking, management consultancy, chartered accountancy, marketing, advertising, investment banking, sales, personnel officer, teaching, local government, health service and the civil service.

For further information see:  
**Miss Heggs**

**Subject: Business**

**Head of Department: Miss Heggs**

**Qualification: GCSE**

**Examination Board: WJEC**

**Course Content:**

**Unit 1 INTRODUCTION TO THE BUSINESS**

WORLD – in this unit, you will study the fundamentals of business. You will explore the purpose of business activity and the nature of business enterprises, understanding the different types of business ownership and aims. Additionally, you will learn about markets and business sectors, and the importance of the consumer. You will calculate costs and revenue to make business decisions.

**Unit 2 KEY BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATIONS** - in this unit, you will undertake research on a chosen business in your locality and to use your research findings to produce a report.

**Unit 3 BUSINESS STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS –**

in this unit you will explore the key business functions of finance, marketing, human resources, and production. Additionally, you will study strategies for business growth and understand

how businesses are affected by political, legal, and economic external factors.

**Unit 4 BUSINESS CREATION-**

in this unit, you will develop enterprise skills. You will carry out primary and secondary market research to collect information for an entrepreneurial opportunity you have identified. You will produce a report that covers key aspects of your business proposal.

**How you will be assessed:**

Units 1 and 3 are assessed by written examinations containing both short and extended answers, with some based around business situations. Unit 2 and 4 are non-examined assessments where you will be given an assignment brief to complete. You will undertake research, analyse the data and provide judgements.

**Job ideas using Business:**

GCSE Business will prepare you for many careers in business and industry. These include in marketing and public relations, law, finance and accounting, human resource management, as well as manufacturing and production. An understanding of the principles of management is applicable to many roles in both the public and private sector and will be valuable for whatever career path you choose.

For further information see:  
**Miss Heggs**

\*level dependent on individual.



**Subject: Hospitality and Catering** **Subject Leader: Mrs J Jones**  
**Head of Department: Miss J Heggs**  
**Qualification: Technical Award (equivalent to GCSE) in Hospitality and Catering** **Examination Board: WJEC**

**Course Content:**

An amazing opportunity to achieve a higher grade (A\*-C) GCSE with the lessons being 50% practical cookery. The practical cookery lessons will focus on gaining skills in preparing, cooking and presenting dishes. Skills will be a focus of the course. The students will also learn about food hygiene and safety. The students will learn about the hospitality and catering industry and the different parts of it such as job roles, customer needs and legislations.



**How you will learn:**

Half the lessons will be 'practical-based' with cooking dishes and the other half will be theory based. This means you will usually cook once a week and do theory once a week.

and time management; finance; and customer service and communication. The course mirrors work related activities, helping the progression into further education, employment or training.

**How you will be assessed:**

By internally assessed coursework 60%, by externally assessed exam 40%. There are 2 units. The first unit studied is internally assessed coursework focusing on cooking skills, menu planning, nutritional needs and evaluating using a given scenario. The second unit studied is externally assessed with a 80 minute exam, which is all about the hospitality industry, how it works and health, safety and hygiene.

**Additional information/  
Skills:**

This course is suitable for all abilities. We pride ourselves on being passionate about our subject and teaching you skills that will be useful for life and transferable for all occasions. The skills you will learn include: food preparation and cooking skills; problem-solving and critical thinking; organisation, planning

**Future Career Opportunities:** Hospitality is one of the biggest employers locally and around the world. Having a qualification in Hospitality can make you extremely employable. Employment in hospitality and catering ranges from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers and food technologists working for supermarket chains. Employment in events ranges from crowd control, event sales and event branding to event management and organisation.

For further information please see **Mrs J Jones** or **Miss D Thornley**

in the Hospitality department.

**Subject: Health and Social Care & Childcare**

**Head of Department: Miss Heggs**

**Qualification: Health and Social Care & Childcare (Single award)**

**Examination Board: WJEC**

### **Course Content:**

Learn about health and social care, and childcare services consider the impact of these services on general health, well-being and children's development

Consider human rights and diversity, including black, Asian and minority ethnic perspectives, identity, culture and experiences.

### **How you will learn:**

**Unit 1 – Health and social care, and childcare in Wales in the 21st Century** In this unit you will develop knowledge and understanding of:

- the life cycle and the factors that affect growth and development
- the promotion and maintenance of health and wellbeing
- core principles and values, underpinned by legislation and service provision within a Welsh context.

**Unit 2 – Adult Health and Social Care** In this unit you will gain knowledge and understanding of:

- individual needs and key conditions and illnesses in adulthood
- how professionals work in adult health and social

care to achieve positive outcomes

- the role of health promotion in public health in Wales.

**Unit 3 – Childcare** In this unit you will gain knowledge and understanding of:

- life stages, expected milestones, and physical, intellectual, language, emotional, and social (PILES) development
- key conditions and illnesses amongst children
- how professionals work, including play and play work, to meet the needs of children in Wales to achieve positive outcomes

### **Additional information / Skills:**

**Unit 1 – Health and social care, and childcare in Wales in the 21st Century**  
Assessment Type: written examination 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification: 80 marks

The assessment will include questions requiring objective responses, short and extended answers, with some based around applied situations.

**Unit 2 – Adult Health and Social Care Assessment** Type: Non-exam assessment 12 hours

30% of qualification: 60 marks

For this assessment, you will be required to complete an assessment based on a choice of two case studies where you'll apply knowledge and understanding of adult health and social care.

**Unit 3 – Childcare Assessment**  
Type: Non-exam assessment 12 hours

30% of qualification: 60 marks

For this assessment, you will be required to complete an assessment based on a case study and an investigation where you'll apply knowledge and understanding of childcare.

### **Job ideas:**

Nursing, medical care, occupational therapy, social work, well-being, mental health, speech and language therapist, teaching, childcare and early years, and social care.

For further information see:  
**Miss Heggs**



## Subject: Public Services

Head of Department: Miss Heggs

Qualification: BTEC First Award in Public Services

Examination Board: Edexcel

### Course Content:

This course provides a basis to develop skills and experience that would be necessary for working in Public Services, such as: The Police, The Fire Service, The Army or The Prison Service.

You will look at:

- the role of the uniformed and nonuniformed
- Public Services;
- fitness responsibilities;
- communication;
- job roles and responsibilities;
- team work;
- career development, recruitment and selection.

### How you will learn:

You will study 4 units of work:

- the role and work of the public services;
- working skills in the public sector;
- employment in the public services;
- health, fitness and lifestyle for the public services.

### How you will be assessed:

Internal Assessment  
75% - Pass (grade C),  
Merit (grade B),  
Distinction (grade A) - equivalent to two GCSE  
grades A\* - C. External  
assessment-25%

### Additional information/ Skills:

This course is a good foundation for a Level 3 Public Service or AS level Business Studies course post 16.

### Future Career Opportunities:

Police, Ambulance, Fire, Army, Navy, RAF, Prison Service, Coast Guard, HM Revenue & Customs, Royal Marines.

For further information see:  
**Miss Heggs**



### Subject: Physical Education - Exam Foundation

**Head of Department: Mr C D Evans**

**Qualification: GCSE & Vocational**

**Examination Board: WJEC**

#### **Course Content:**

In Year 9, all pupils who choose this PE option will complete a 'foundation' year studying a variety of PE skills and principles. These will include practical units such as Fitness Tests and Training, Specific Sports and Leadership opportunities as well as classroom based theory lessons and written tasks/tests. At the end of the first year, pupils will then follow one of two different pathways – either GCSE PE or a Vocational Sport Course, both at Level 2.

#### **Course Content:**

The GCSE course is divided into two main sections. 50% of the overall mark is based around practical work. Pupils are assessed in 3 sporting activities. 50% of the mark is generated from theory based exam work. Topics for this section include Fitness, Anatomy, Sport in Society, Skill and Nutrition.

The Vocational Qualification is a variety of practical and theory work. Coursework modules include Sports Fitness, Sports Campaigning and Skill Development

#### **How you will learn:**

Pupils will have 4 extra PE lessons a fortnight. They will study the theory modules as well as completing practical work. Half of the lessons will be theory based during the course but many will have a practical element. Homework and tests occur regularly and a high level of effort is required in all aspects of the course.

#### **How you will be assessed:**

For the GCSE Course, pupils will be assessed in two main ways:•50% practical work – 3 sporting activities (school based/community based sports);•50% theory work – exam paper in Year 11.

For the Vocational Course, most of the assessment is coursework based as well as practical marking.

#### **Additional information / skills:**

It is strongly advisable that pupils taking these courses will have gained at least Level 6 at Key Stage 3. They must enjoy all aspects of practical sport and physical activity, including fitness training. Pupils choosing GCSE PE must ensure they have 3 strong practical sports, a good level of fitness and willingness commit to extra-curricular work. Both courses are important if you wish to take BTEC Sport Level 3 in the Sixth Form.

#### **Job ideas using Physical Education:**

PE and Sport can lead to; teaching and coaching, sports science, medicine, the armed forces, leisure and fitness, sports development, outdoor work.

**Students who have not participated regularly or brought kit at Key Stage 3 will not be accepted onto these courses.**

For further information see: **Mr C D Evans**



**Subject: Travel & Tourism**

**Head of Department: Miss Heggs**

**Qualification: BTEC L1/L2 First Award in Travel and Tourism**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Course Content:**

This course provides a basis to develop skills and experience that would be necessary for working in the travel and tourism industry.

The qualification provides an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of travel and tourism giving you the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. You will explore some of the key areas within the sector, including accommodation, tourism development and promotion, transport and visitor attractions.

**How you will learn:**

You will study the following three mandatory units, covering the underpinning knowledge and practical skills required to work in the industry:

- UK travel and tourism sector
- UK travel and tourism destinations
- the travel and tourism customer experience

**How you will be assessed:**

Internal Assessment 75% - Pass (grade C), Merit (grade B), Distinction (grade A) - equivalent to one GCSE grade A\* - C.  
External assessment-25%

**Additional information / Skills:**

This course is a good foundation for Level 3 Travel and Tourism

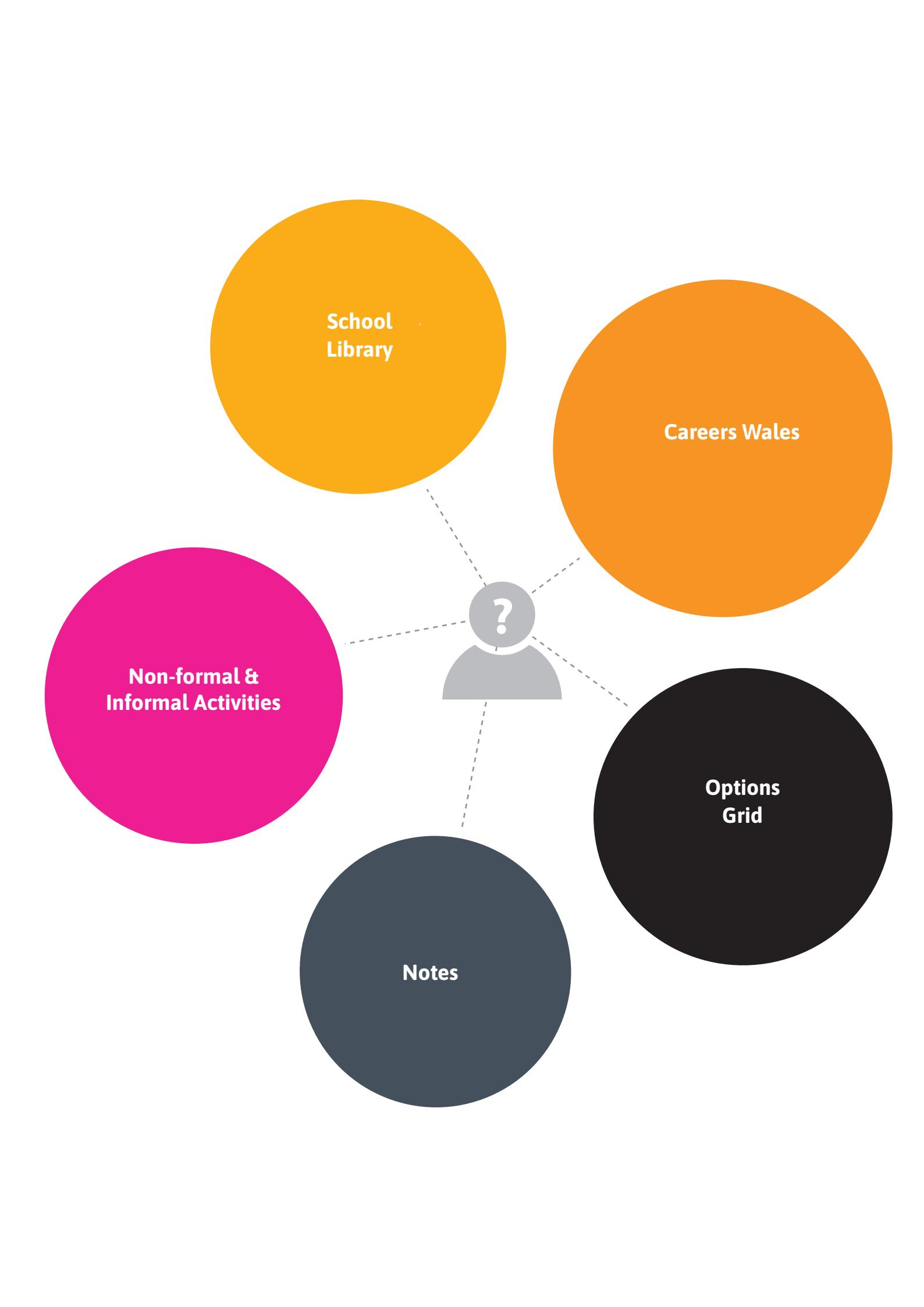
**Job ideas using Salon Services:**

Travel agencies, airlines, hospitality, travel representatives, hotel accommodation, event planning etc..

For further information see:

**Miss Heggs**





**School  
Library**

**Careers Wales**

**Non-formal &  
Informal Activities**

**Options  
Grid**

**Notes**

The school provides a variety of opportunities for students to participate in activities which will provide them with experiences that help develop them personally, giving them some of the skills outside the classroom environment essential for their future well-being and progression.

These opportunities range from one day events as part of the schools' PSE programme to more long term activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Millennium Volunteers.

Many students will also be members of clubs and societies outside school or may have a part time job or simply help in the family by baby-sitting.

All these activities and experiences help build the whole person and are essential skills for life and work, forming a part of each student's individual Learning Pathway.

## **The Duke of Edinburgh's Award**

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is open to pupils aged 14+. Pupils in Year 10 are able to participate in the Award Scheme, usually from bronze level. Some may be newcomers to the scheme, whilst others may have completed an award lower down the school or with any of the Voluntary Youth Organisations.

The Award isn't just another youth organisation to which young people belong. It

challenges all young people between the ages of 14 and 25 to serve others, acquire new skills, experience adventure and make new friends.

The scheme is not competitive and anyone with the necessary perseverance, enterprise and effort can gain an award, including those with some disability. Young people are encouraged to choose activities which suit their particular interests and talents and which are appropriate to the environment in which they live.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is highly valued in the world of work and is an asset to those who wish to continue into further and higher education.

**For further information see:  
Mr. S. Davies**

## **Buddies**

Many students in Year 10 have been nominated and trained as 'Buddies' to support and guide students in Key Stage 3, especially in Years 7 & 8. Following their training at the end of Year 9 based on Childline's CHIPS programme, their role is to make themselves available during some lunchtimes and break times to assist in the running of activities with staff and to be available to support and help younger students needing to talk or requiring specific support. The training undertaken includes listening skills, how

to support other students, basic sports leaders awards and an appreciation of when other pupils need to be directed to an adult member of the Support Team for additional help.

## **Millennium Volunteers**

The "Millennium Volunteer" Program, aimed at the 16 to 25 year age group, has been running since 1999 and the school has strong links with the local MV Co-ordinator through Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council. A great many young people throughout Wales have signed up to the program, which is now recognised by employers and the wider community throughout the whole of the UK.

However, a number of students are now involved in Years 10 and 11 on the "Young Volunteers in Denbighshire" programme, which is like the MV programme but caters for the under 16s, and again provides certificates for time spent volunteering, and prepares them for the MV programme when they reach 16 years of age.

On both programmes, students aim to complete up to 200 hours of volunteering in the community over a period of time. The experience helps students develop as a person, build on their CVs and ROA, and see other people's viewpoint, is challenging and sometimes lets them try things to see if they like them.

Many of you will be regular users of the library and will need little introduction to the services we offer. However, you will need to do more than simply borrow books for personal reading, so it is important that you are aware of all the facilities available.

The library is open from 8.00 a.m. through to 3.30 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays and 8.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on Fridays.

- you may borrow two books for two weeks. There are no fines for overdue books but if you keep books beyond the agreed date we will not allow you to borrow more materials until you have returned those overdue;
- all 8,000 items in the school library are catalogued on our computer database, which you can access from any computer in the school;
- 30 Desktop PCs are available to pupils for internet, word processing and desktop publishing;
- A Careers Wales Advisor, is also available for interview and advice on career choices. We have a special dedicated area to careers which has leaflets/books on different types of jobs that might interest you, plus other information on choices and careers;
- college and University prospectuses' are available in the library.

We have a full-time librarian available to help you with your enquiries and will gladly obtain further information from other sources such as the County Library, should you be unable to find what you are looking for in our school library.





Name

Tutor Group

Tick 5 subjects in the order that you want them. 1 is the one you want the most and 5 is the one you want the least. (You will only end up with 3 of them in Y10)

Subject	Priority			Reserve Subjects	
	1	2	3	4	5
Animal Care—BTEC					
Art—GCSE					
Business Studies—BTEC					
Business Studies—GCSE					
Child Development (Health and Social Care)—GCSE					
Computer Science—GCSE					
Dance—BTEC					
Digital Technology (ICT)—GCSE					
Drama—GCSE					
French—GCSE					
Geography—GCSE					
History—GCSE					
Hospitality and Catering—Level 2 Vocational Award					
Music—GCSE					
Product Design—GCSE					
PE—GCSE / BTEC					
Public Services—BTEC					
Spanish—GCSE					
Travel and Tourism—BTEC					
Triple Science—GCSE (P Band only)					

COURSES & OPTIONS  
2026