



# Options 9



## Ebbw Fawr Learning Community Cymuned Ddysgu Ebwy Fawr



Year 9 Options Booklet 2016/17

*Explore the options and make the right choices*

Dear Parent

This booklet aims to describe the elements of the curriculum which students who are currently in Year 9 will undertake in September 2016

A large part of the curriculum is compulsory for all students but there is also an element of choice which means that students can shape their own learning programme in Key Stage 4 according to their interests, future education and career aspirations. The procedure for selecting option subjects is explained in these pages; please spend some time reading this information to help your son/daughter make the best choices for them.

Whatever courses students eventually follow, the staff, with the help of parents, will encourage each individual to achieve his or her best with academic excellence and suitable progression into further education being the ultimate aim.

I hope you find this booklet informative and assisting in helping you to make the right choices for your child.

Yours sincerely

*S. Graydon*

Saul Graydon  
Acting Headteacher

# Making the Right Choice

Your child is now at the point where they are able to make decisions about the courses and qualifications they want to take in Years 10 and 11. This stage of education is known as Key Stage 4.

Your child will have more options than you did at their age. The Key Stage 4 curriculum now offers more choice, allowing them to follow their strengths and interests.

The main aim is for them to choose a broad and balanced range of courses that keep their options open.

## Thinking ahead

The Year 9 choices are just the first of the decisions your child will make. There will be more choices in Year 11 and beyond, and you will also find information about these in this guide. The courses your child chooses to do in Years 10 and 11 could have a real bearing on their future plans.

## Help is at hand

This booklet will provide you with information about the courses available in Years 10 and 11. The careers education that your child is getting at school is already helping them develop the knowledge and skills to make sound choices, and Year 9 tutors, subject teachers and other staff will offer their support as well.

### Your support is valuable

As a parent or carer your influence and support is an important part of the decision-making process. This guide provides you with information and tips to help your teenager make the right choices now and in the future.



# Year 9 Choosing Courses



In Years 10 and 11, there is now a wider range of choices in both the qualifications your child can take and the places where they can learn.

## **Most pupils take a core group of subjects:**

English  
Mathematics and Numeracy  
Science  
Religious Studies  
Welsh  
Welsh Baccalaureate  
Physical Education

Your child will be offered a range of courses to choose from that are suitable to their ability level. The types of subject are broadly divided into two.

## ***General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)***

The GCSE is the well-established qualification that is still taken by the majority of students in Key Stage 4. GCSE two-year courses are available in familiar subjects such as Geography and French, but there are also subjects that offer a more practical approach at GCSE.

## **Work related courses**

In addition to GCSEs there may be the opportunity to get work-related qualifications through courses such as BTEC , NVQ or V-Cert. This could involve spending part of the week with an employer, at college or with a training provider.

## **Levels of qualification**

The qualifications your teenager can take are graded at different levels. The National Qualifications Framework (NQF) explains this. Qualifications are graded from Entry Level to Levels 1 to 8.

# The National Qualifications Framework

The National Qualifications Framework shows how the main types of qualifications relate to each other and encourage opportunities for lifelong learning. It will help you to see how the range of opportunities and pathways open to your teenager, in school and beyond, fit together.

Qualifications in the national framework are arranged in levels from certificates of achievement at Entry Level to degrees and professional qualifications at Level 8. The higher the level, the greater is the depth of knowledge, skills and understanding that has to be demonstrated for the qualification to be gained.

The qualifications involve guided learning, usually through a school, college, higher education institution or open learning organisation. Courses leading to different qualifications vary in content, learning styles and methods of assessment. Some qualifications, such as NVQs, are based on the ability to do the job and demonstrate competence in the workplace.

With up-to-date information and guidance from form tutors, subject teachers, careers teachers and advisers, young people can plot a route through the framework and move across qualification types as well as from one level to another, in order to achieve their goals.

Qualification Level	Level indicators	Examples of qualifications at this level
<b>Entry Level</b>	Builds a basic level of knowledge, understanding and skills.	Entry 1, Entry 2 and Entry 3, in a range of areas including National Curriculum subjects, life skills, basic skills, and skills for working life.
<b>Level 1</b>	Basic knowledge, understanding and skills, and the ability to apply learning to activities that relate to everyday situations.	All GCSE grades D-G, ASDAN Level 1 certificates, basic and key skills, Vocationally Related Qualification (VRQ) Level 1 for example: OCR Nationals, BTEC Introductory, National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 1.
<b>Level 2</b>	Building knowledge and/or skills in relation to subject or sector areas; gaining ability to apply learning to a varied range of tasks.	All GCSE grades A*-C, basic and key skills, VRQ Level 2 for example: City & Guilds Progression Awards, NVQ Level 2, BTEC first graded examinations in Dance, Speech and Drama.
<b>Level 3</b>	Learning at this level involves obtaining in-depth knowledge, understanding and skills, and a higher level of application. Appropriate for people who want to go to university, or to further training or employment.	All GCE/VCE AS and A levels, Advanced Extension Awards, key skills, VRQ Level 3 for example: Foundation Diploma in Art and Design, NVQ Level 3, music grades 6, 7 and 8.
<b>Level 4-8</b>	Specialist learning involving high level of knowledge in specific occupational role or study. Appropriate for people working or wishing to progress to specialised technical and professional roles, and/or managing and developing others.	Certificates and Diplomas of Higher Education, Bachelor's degrees, postgraduate qualifications, professional qualifications, Foundation degrees, Higher National Certificates and Diplomas, key skills Levels 4, NVQ Levels 4 and 5, teaching qualifications stages 1, 2 and 3.

# How can you help?

Your support is valuable in giving your child the confidence to choose the right courses.

Choices should be based on your child's interests and abilities and not on what their friends are doing and whether they think a subject may be an easy option.

***Getting as much information as possible about the courses available is a good start.***

To help your child make sound decisions, encourage them to consider:

**Which subjects they enjoy and are good at.**

This is a good place to start as your child is more likely to succeed if they enjoy the subject and have ability in it.

**Something new**

Could new subjects give a fresh challenge? Do these new subjects match their interests and abilities and could they perhaps be useful in a possible future career?

**How they like to learn**

How your child likes to learn is important when thinking about what courses suit them best. Coursework varies with different subjects and can include essays, fieldwork reports, art work, making things and investigations.

**Assessment**

Does your child do well in exams or does coursework suit them better? The mix of coursework and final exams in GCSEs varies from subject to subject, whereas work-related qualifications, such as nationally recognised National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) & BTEC are largely coursework, but still have some exams.

**What are their interests?**

Does your child like writing projects, helping people, being outdoors or designing and making something? Looking at their interests will help with choosing courses and could point to a possible future career.

**Do they have a career in mind?**

If your child has an idea of the sort of career they would like to do at 16+ or later, encourage them to find out about the courses and qualifications that would be helpful. Some jobs require specific qualifications at GCSE level and beyond.

**The important thing is to keep options open by choosing a broad and balanced range of subjects.**

Susan got involved in helping her daughter Rachel choose her courses for Key Stage 4

“When thinking about which options to choose it's really difficult to know which will be most helpful in three to five years' time! How does a 14 year old know for sure which career they'll want to follow?”

“So to keep her options open we looked at picking a cross section of subjects that Rachel is interested in and is good at.”

“I also encouraged her to pick a subject to do just for herself. As she really enjoys music, she's included this in her choices, even though she isn't currently thinking of a career in music.”

## **Careers Guidance**

One of the support structures that exists within school is the Careers Advice Service. The Careers Advisor is available to give impartial guidance to students, helping them take the next step in their academic career. She will discuss with them the skills and abilities they possess, the subjects they enjoy and any current ideas and aspirations students may have towards the world of work. She will help them to structure their thoughts and give advice about subject choices and the combinations of subjects that may help them follow their chosen pathway.

## **Careers Appointments**

Miss Louise Blewitt is Ebbw Fawr Learning Communities Careers Advisor and she will be available to speak to parents and students at the parents evening. In addition Miss Blewitt will be attending PSHE sessions and will be available for drop in sessions.



# Learning Pathways Model 2016-2018

One of Ebbw Fawr Learning Community's aims is to develop a curriculum programme that is tailored to meet the individual needs and talents of its students within Key Stage 4. A pathway is a chosen route through the KS4 curriculum that will have links with Post-16 education or with partner providers.

## The Key Aims of the Pathway Model

1. To ensure appropriate challenge for all students.
2. To match learner needs to the most appropriate curriculum area/provider.
3. To identify opportunities for a range of work related learning activities.
4. To develop flexibility within the option system.

## THE PATHWAYS

### Pathway 1 Students will study:

Double Award Science (They will have an option to take Triple Award Science), Mathematics, Numeracy, English, Personal and Social Education, Physical Education (Core), Full Course Religious Studies, Full Course Welsh and the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification . In addition to this they will have 3 option choices.

### Pathway 2 Students will study:

Double Award Science, Maths, Numeracy, English, Personal and Social Education, Physical Education (Core), Full Course Religious Studies, Full Course Welsh and the Welsh Baccalaureate. In addition to this they must choose 3 option subjects.

### Pathway 3 Students will study:

Double Award Science, Maths, English, Personal and Social Education, Physical Education (Core), Short Course Religious Studies, GCSE/NVQ Welsh and the Welsh Baccalaureate. In addition to this they must choose either a BTEC qualification or Vocational qualification and 2 additional option subjects.

### Pathway 4 Students will study:

Double Award Science, Maths, English, Physical Education (Core), Personal and Social Education, and a tailored curriculum consisting of 3 choices, over two years.

## Pathway Selection Process

The placement of students within the relevant pathway has been done through prior attainment data, monitoring of students progress and consultation with Team Leaders and the Pastoral Team Leaders.



# CORE SUBJECTS

## GCSE ENGLISH

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#### **English GCSE:**

There are two English courses which students follow at Ebbw Fawr at GCSE. They are English Language and English Literature.

#### **GCSE English Language:**

English Language looks at the three main components within English, they are Reading, Writing and Oracy. Students will prepare for examinations that test their ability to read and write a variety of fiction and non-fiction pieces. They will also be required to present a range of spoken pieces.

#### **GCSE English Literature:**

For this GCSE, students are given the opportunity to look at a wide range of different works of literature in preparation for exams that take place in the end of year 10 and 11. They will study poetry, novels, plays and works from Shakespeare.

#### **What sort of skill do I need?**

English tests a wide variety of skills, which will be developed during the course. A great deal of these skills will have already been developed during the time spent in English lessons from when you started school to now. As previously mentioned, the main areas that we look at in English and English Literature focus on your reading and writing ability.

#### **Where do I get further information?**

From the English department in school.

#### **Is there anything else I need to know?**

English is a compulsory subject and is universally regarded as one of the most important subjects that you will study at GCSE. If you wish to go on to further and higher education, a GCSE in English is usually expected by colleges and universities.

#### **How is a qualification in English viewed by employers?**

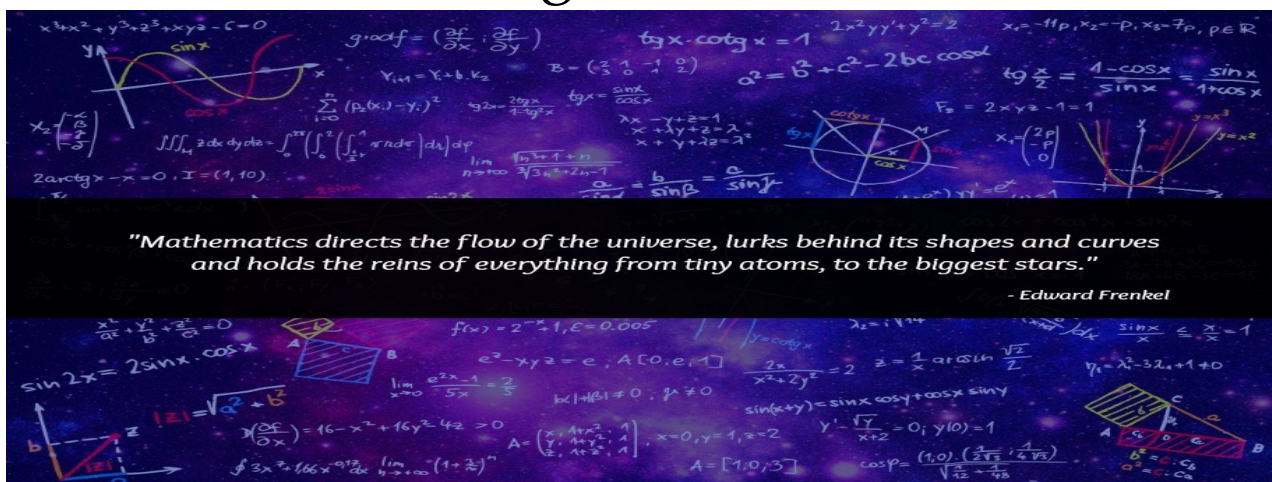
Alongside maths, English skills are viewed most highly by employers. English can be used as a tool in all aspects of work. In many different work situations and most employers would be keen for their work force to be as literate as possible.

**Contact: Mrs G Phillips (Subject Leader)**

# MATHEMATICS

## GCSE Mathematics

## TGAU Mathemateg



All of the mathematics courses which you follow at Ebbw Fawr aim to prepare you for two GCSE's: Numeracy and Mathematics.

### GCSE Numeracy

This builds upon the numeracy which you have studied in key stage 3 (procedural and reasoning). It will provide you with the skills that you need in everyday life, in the world of work and for your other school subjects.

### GCSE Mathematics

This includes all of the content of Numeracy GCSE but will also provide you with additional skills that you needed for science, technology and A level mathematics.

Higher	Grades Available	A*,A,B,C,D
Intermediate	Grades Available	B,C,D,E
Foundation	Grades Available	D,E,F,G

You must obtain a grade within these ranges - no grade will be awarded outside them. Each tier covers Numbers, Measure, Algebra, Shape and Handling Data. You will be entered for the tier which matches your ability.

### What sort of skill do I need?

Problem-solving, presentation and result checking are important as well as coming to grips with mathematical principles. The broader aspects of maths will not be

ignored - applying maths to everyday situations and understanding the part it plays in the work around you. You will be expected to recognise when new situations can be best presented mathematically and to decide which methods are best suited to solve problems.

### Where do I get further information?

From the mathematics department in school.

### Is there anything else I need to know?

In the exams you will be expected to:

- Recall, use and apply maths in many situations using your problem-solving skills clearly and logically:
- Use tables, graphs and diagrams:
- Understand measurement using appropriate instruments (including calculators) accurately:
- Recognise and express patterns in maths.

### How is a qualification in mathematics viewed by employers?

Alongside English, mathematical skills are viewed most highly by employers. Mathematics can be used as a tool to solve problems. In many different work situations and most employers would be keen for their work force to be as numerate as possible.

**Contact: Mr E James (Subject Leader)**

## SCIENCE

### Gwyddoniaeth



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

Science is a compulsory subject and helps provide us with a better understanding of the world around us. It is important in many aspects of our daily lives, both at work and at home. This subject will also help you understand the scientific issues that are increasingly reported in the media.

There are two possible courses. The Science Department staff will provide help and guidance if required.

**Triple Award Science:** All three sciences (Biology, Chemistry, and Physics) are studied over two years leading to three GCSEs. This award is suitable for students seeking to study Science at a higher level and have aspirations for a career in Science. This option is only available to students who gain a L6+ in final assessment in year 9. Assessment is through a combination of linear exams in May and June in Y10 and Y11, and 3 pieces of controlled assessment work.

**Double Award Science:** Core Science in Year 10 and Additional Science in Year 11, leading to two GCSEs. This award is suitable for all students, and provides you with the knowledge to study Science beyond GCSE level. Assessment is through a combination of linear exams in May and June of year 10 and year 11, including 2 pieces of controlled assessment work over the 2 years.

**Contact: Mrs N Peters or Mr L Jones**

## GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### TGAU Addysg Grefyddol

**‘Our vision is to widen the horizons of our students, to enable them to value and understand peoples’ diversity, past and culture, to increase their awareness and understanding of their own community and the wider global community.’**



Exam Board: WJEC: Specification B  
Grade Range for each paper: A\* - G  
Assessment: 2 Papers – (No Coursework)

Would it surprise you to learn that more students now take Religious Studies at GCSE and A Level than at any other time in the past? Recruitment teams have been told that: “when employing staff look out for students of Religious Studies – they are usually very solid, reliable, thinking people who are likely to have good logical skills and also be very people orientated”. Religious Studies will teach you the life skills of critical thinking, evaluation, cultural understanding and empathy.

#### **What Will I Study?**

You will study Christianity and Hinduism and the topics studied include: Relationships; Is it Fair? (Prejudice, Discrimination & Equality); Looking for Meaning; Our World; War and Peace; Medical Ethics (IVF, Abortion & Euthanasia); Religious Expression (Pilgrimage); Authority, Religion and State (Capital Punishment) You will examine what these two religions teach about the different issues and more importantly, you will have an opportunity to put forward your own point of view. From your knowledge of both these religious traditions, you will gain a better understanding of world events. You will also develop a tolerance towards others that will be a key skill for the rest of your life. You will be taught by departmental specialists in the study of religion and in addition the Subject

Leader, Mrs Lane is an Assistant Examiner for the WJEC Examination Board. The Department makes great use of ICT, power-point and interactive learning. Teacher-led class discussion/debate is also a key feature of the course. Revision and raise a grade sessions are offered prior to examinations and by sitting Paper One in Year 10 you are able to spread the work-load over two years. Students find this extremely helpful.

#### **Careers and Employment**

**Careers where it is important or useful to have knowledge of what really matters to people:** Health Care, Nursing, Doctor, Teaching, Child Care, Medicine, Psychologist, Social & Probation Service, Customer Services and Air Stewards.

#### **Careers which make good use of the research, investigatory and report writing techniques learned in studying religion:**

Lawyer, Police Force, Forensic Science, Psychology, Public Services, Probation Service, Ministry of Defense and Management.

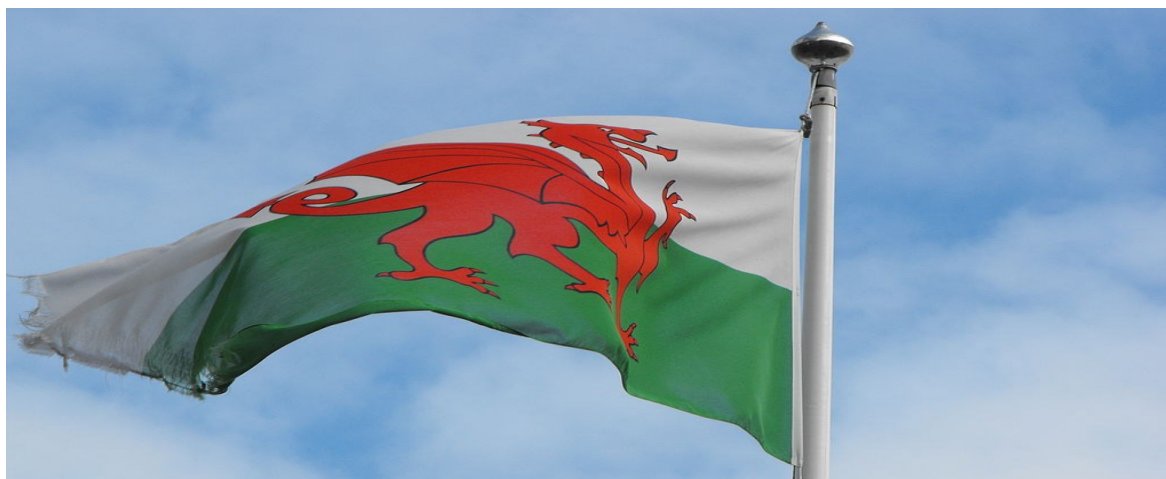
#### **Careers where you need specific knowledge of religions:**

Teaching, Social & Probation Service, Medicine, Archaeology, Museum Work, Fine Art, Conservation/Natural History, Architecture, Youth Work and Ministry of Defense.

**Contact: Mrs C Lane (Subject Leader)**

## GCSE Welsh

### TGAU Cymraeg



#### **What you don't already realise...**

You actually don't realise how good you are in Welsh. When you were in Primary School, you started learning Welsh when you were 3 years of age. You arrived in year 7 having already acquired a good standard of competency. Since year 7, you have been constantly building on your language skills and during year 9 you have been learning topics from the GCSE Syllabus. Do the themes "Bwyta'n iach", "Ysmygu", Yfed alcohol" ring any bells? These are GCSE topics and these will be of use to you during the course. Do you see how much you've done already?

#### **Past Results**

The Welsh Department take pride in their students who all do well. Staff know the course well and has good experience in examination techniques. We also have high expectations of you and we will not relent until you reach your potential. It is true that not everybody will achieve an A\*, but we'll give it a good try. Last year, the Department achieved 100% A\*-C, with two thirds of students achieving A\*-A

#### **The Course**

##### **Blwyddyn 10 – Year 10**

- Myself and My World Holidays
- Sports
- Fashion/Shopping
- Celebrities from Wales

- The World of Films
- Pop Music
- The Area
- Welsh Culture
- Wales
- A Special Occasion

##### ***Blwyddyn 11 – Year 11***

- Leisure Time
- Alcohol / Drugs and Smoking
- The Environment
- Keeping Healthy
- The Weekend
- The Media - Technology
- Celebrating
- School Experiences

#### **Assessment**

##### ***Year 10***

May - Unit 1 - 1 Hour Reading and Writing Examination (25%)

May - Unit 2 - Coursework (25%)

##### ***Year 11***

April - Unit 3 - Oral Examination – Discussion with a partner (25%)

June - Unit 4 - 1 Hour Reading and Writing Examination (25%)

At the end of the four Units a Full Course GCSE will be awarded.

**Contact: Mr C McLean (Subject Leader)**

## WELSH BACCALAUREATE

### Bagloriaeth Cymru

WJEC is pleased to offer the new Welsh Baccalaureate at National and Foundation levels, an exciting new qualification at Ebbw Fawr Learning Community. The new revised and more rigorous Welsh Baccalaureate is based on a Skills Challenge Certificate and Supporting Qualifications. The primary aim is to promote essential skills for employment and to provide opportunities through three Challenges and an Individual Project.

The Welsh Baccalaureate is a compulsory qualification studied throughout Key Stage 4 and is a graded GCSE that you will need when you leave school. It will give you Essential and Employability Skills that you will need for the future, whether it is applying for a position in college; university; looking for a job or an apprenticeship, or simply becoming a more confident person that is more aware of what is going on in the world around you.

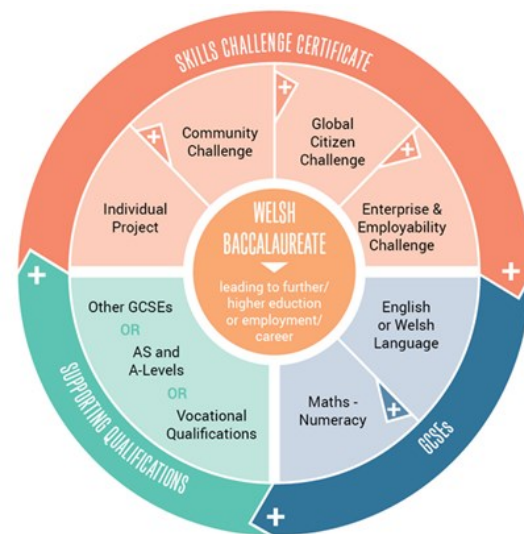
As part of this programme of study you will be working on some really exciting “real life” projects, these are just a few:

- Supporting a local community based organisation or business developing a new service or product and help them improve.
- Gain valuable work experience and develop really important skills that you will need in the future
- Learn how to run a small business and work as part of a team to develop a new product to pitch to entrepreneurs.
- Learning about important issues that are affecting our everyday lives such as pollution, poverty, politics, relationships etc
- Working on an individual project on something you are interested in or feel strongly about.

We have introduced grading to strengthen the qualification and properly reward students who achieve high standards.

The Welsh Baccalaureate will have a clear focus on the following skills:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Digital literacy
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Planning and organisation
- Creativity and innovation
- Personal effectiveness



Learners will develop and use these skills, and the skills will be assessed, by completing an individual project and three ‘challenges’.

- Global citizenship challenge
- Enterprise and employability challenge
- Community challenge

#### Why should I study the Welsh Baccalaureate?

The Welsh Baccalaureate is already widely respected and accepted by universities across the UK as an entry qualification. It has been designed to help 14 to 19 year-olds to develop the skills they will need for college, university, employment and life.

Passing the National Welsh Baccalaureate, learners will be gaining a qualification that is the equivalent to a GCSE and graded in the same way (A\*- C).

## WELSH BACCALAUREATE

### Bagloriaeth Cymru

“The Welsh Baccalaureate does present a real opportunity to sit at the core of the Welsh qualifications systems, something that inspires learners to improve their employability skills, be better prepared for life in general and to fulfil their potential.”

**Scott Waddington**  
Chief Executive, DS Brain

Not all universities and colleges use tariff points in their entry requirements, instead they describe their requirements in terms of qualifications, subjects and grades. Universities and colleges are independent organisations and set their own entry requirements.

#### What do learners need to do to get the Welsh Baccalaureate

Learners will need to successfully complete an individual project and three challenges to pass the Welsh Baccalaureate.

Learners will also need to show that they have literacy and numeracy skills by gaining GCSE English Language and GCSE

Mathematics—Numeracy.

The will also need enough supporting qualifications for example, GCSEs, AS qualifications, A levels, vocational qualifications (see the WJEC website: [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk) for specific requirements for each level).

“From our perspective, we expect students who come to Oxford to be independent thinkers, highly motivated for the subjects that they they’re planning to study, and also be prepared to be flexible. I truly believe that the new qualifications from Wales, especially the refocused and strengthened Welsh Baccalaureate, will help develop students in that direction.”

**Dr Samina Khan**  
Acting Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach, Oxford University

#### When do young people study the Welsh Baccalaureate?

The Welsh Baccalaureate has qualifications at three levels - designed for 14 to 19-year-olds.

Title of qualification	Level	Grades available	Age of learners	Equivalent qualification
Foundation Welsh Baccalaureate	Level 1	Pass* and Pass	14 to 16 and post-16	One GCSE
National Welsh Baccalaureate	Level 2	A*, A, B and C	14 to 16 and post-16	One GCSE

If you would like further information please contact Mr J Hillier - [jhillier@ebbwfawr.co.uk](mailto:jhillier@ebbwfawr.co.uk)



# OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

## GCSE ART AND DESIGN UNENDORSED

### TGAU Dylunio a Chelf



#### Why Study GCSE Art and Design Unendorsed?

This course is designed to promote learning across a variety of experiences and through various processes, tools, techniques, materials and resources to generate different kinds of Art and Design 2D and 3D outcomes.

This course offers flexibility in content and approach and the opportunity to explore and create work associated with areas of study from at least two titles listed below:

- Fine art
- Graphic communication
- Textile design
- Three-dimensional design
- Photography
- Critical and contextual studies

Students may explore overlapping areas and/or combinations of disciplines within any of the above titles.

Successful completion of the course enables students to progress to a higher level of study, for example A level.

Career levels are vast, and we have had many students achieve great success in the chosen Art and Design careers.

#### How the course is assessed:

Unit	AO1 Weighting % Marks	AO2 Weighting % Marks	AO3 Weighting % Marks	AO4 Weighting % Marks
Unit 1: Portfolio 60% of GCSE 120 marks	15% 30 marks	15% 30 marks	15% 30 marks	15% 30 marks
Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment 40% of GCSE 80 marks	10% 20 marks	10% 20 marks	10% 20 marks	10% 20 marks
<b>Total Weighting</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Total Marks (200)</b>	<b>50 marks</b>	<b>50 marks</b>	<b>50 marks</b>	<b>50 marks</b>

#### Career opportunities:

Here are a few of the possible career opportunities:

- Graphic Designer
- Illustrator
- Animator
- Digital Special Effects
- Make up Artist
- Fine Artist
- Photographer
- Interior Designer
- Product Designer
- Gallery Curator
- Fashion Designer
- Stage/Set/Theatre Designer
- Art Critic
- Film Maker
- Jewellery Designer
- Web Designer

**Contact: Mrs S Keohane (Subject Leader)  
Miss S Slater (Art Teacher)**

## GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES

### TGAU Astudiaethau Busnes



#### What is Business Studies?

Business Studies is a fun, lively and interesting course, which looks at real life businesses and issues in a range of perspectives.

Put simply, Business Studies is about the real world and for this reason, you will experience the real world. Employers of the future are going to want employees who can make a difference; they are going to want employees who are equipped with the skills, knowledge and understanding to get the job done. Business Studies will teach you all of these skills through the studying of Economics, Law, Information Technology, Accounting, Sociology and Psychology.

#### GCSE Business Studies

- Aimed at students who prefer to take exams at the end of the course rather than work on portfolio work.
- Exam is seen as more important than Controlled Assessment: one exam 75% and one 25% controlled assessment.
- The course is traditional.

- Single Award - students receive one GCSE at the end of the course: Grades A\* - G.

The course consists of a number of different units including:

1. External environment of the organisation.
2. Business structure and organisation.
3. Business behaviour.
4. People in Business.
5. Aiding and controlling business activity.

**Contact: Mrs M Thomas (Subject Leader)**

## GCSE CHILD DEVELOPMENT

### TGAU Datblygiad Plentyn



#### Why Study Child Development?

Child Development provides students with the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of the physical, intellectual, emotional and social development and care of children from conception to the age of five.

Child Development qualifications provide a sound basis for further study at 16+ on academic courses such as:

- ◆ A/AS Home Economics
- ◆ CACHE Level 1 Award in Caring for Children
- ◆ CACHE Level 2 & 3 Diplomas in Childcare and Education
- ◆ Foundation Degree in Childhood Studies
- ◆ NCFE Courses for Classroom Support Assistants

Child Development qualifications could lead to satisfactory and worth while careers in the social, health or education sectors e.g. Classroom Assistants, Support Teaching, Learning Assistants and nursing.

#### Course Topics:

The content of the course is divided into six core areas which are fully integrated:

1. Family and Child
2. Food and Health
3. Pregnancy

4. Physical Development
5. Intellectual Development
6. Social and Emotional Development

#### Assessment:

There are three assessment units over the two year course, 60% of the final mark can be achieved before taking the theory examination.

#### Unit 1: Written Examination (40%)

This is a 1½ hour paper taken at the end of the course. The paper is externally set and marked.

#### Units 2 & 3: Controlled Assessments

The coursework provides students with a variety of experiences through structured independent work. The assessment tasks encourage students to use all six key skills along with imaginative thinking and creative skills.

#### Unit 2: Child Study (30%)

One task set by WJEC to be completed in 15 hours during Year 10, internally assessed.

#### Unit 3: Child Focused Task (30%)

One task set by WJEC to be completed in 15 hours in Year 11, internally assessed.

Contact: Mrs C John

## GCSE COMPUTING SCIENCE

### TGAU Gwyddoniaeth Gyfrifiadurol



#### **What is Computing Science?**

The course gives learners a real in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Learners will no doubt already be familiar with the use of computers and other related technologies from their everyday lives. However, this course will give them an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including advanced computer programming and architecture which many learners find absorbing.

#### **Who is it for?**

The course provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment within the field of Computer Science. The increasing importance of information technologies means there is a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area. It is also very suited to those students who wish to develop their critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills. Career paths include Engineering, Financial and Resource Management, Science and Medicine.

#### **What will I do?**

##### **Unit 1 (45%)**

Understanding computer science

##### **Unit 2 (30%)**

Solving problems using computers

##### **Unit 3 (25%)**

Developing computer solutions

#### **What will I get?**

A GCSE in Computer Science (A\* to G).

#### **How will I be assessed?**

You will sit a 1 hour 30 minute examination paper based on the content of Unit 1. Unit 2 is a 2 hour external assessment. Unit 3 is a 15 hour controlled assessment.

#### **Key Facts**

- A challenging but rewarding qualification
- Three units
- 1 hour 30 minute examination paper
- GCSE (A\* to G)
- Aimed at those who seek professional career paths which include Computing, Science, Engineering, Finance and Medicine
- Will compliment other ICT qualifications

**Contact: Mr J Mineur (Subject Leader)**

## GCSE RESISTANT MATERIALS

### TGAU Defnydd Gwrthwynebol

#### Why Study Resistant Materials?

The course aims to develop the students' understanding and ability in the use of traditional and modern manufacturing methods to produce high quality products for a specific end user. The students will develop product analysis skills, look at the work of two prominent designers and some design History issues, the manufacturing world, its implications on society and manufacturing process – Materials and Components and CAD/CAM. This GCSE is relevant to the student who wishes to continue with further education in a design / engineering field or those who wish to pursue the manufacturing or construction trade occupations.

#### Course Topics:

The two year course focuses on: Product Design/working with Wood, Metal, Plastic, Energy, Structures, Systems, Mechanisms, Graphics and CAD/CAM.

#### You will learn how to:

- Understand the needs of a customer and design products to meet these needs.
- Research information from a range of sources to aid in understanding problems and solving them.
- Use a range of manufacturing methods and equipment both traditional and modern to manufacture high quality outcomes efficiently and safely.
- Be critical of information, methods and products in order to improve outcomes and products.
- Use a range of ICT equipment and skills to design and manufacture outcomes.

#### Course Content:

The course is studied over a two year period; Year 10 will be modular, whereby you will undertake many small design and make tasks which you can relate to a theme or interest of your choice. These projects will develop your designing and making skills which you will use in Year 11



for your final assessed piece of work.

#### Assessment:

You will be assessed in Year 11 on the basis of your Controlled Assessment Task, this is a 30 hour major project (60%). You will be required to design and make the product – An A3 design portfolio which will be no longer than 15 pages. The exam board will set the task. Also, 1 written examination (40%) testing your knowledge of the subject.

#### Examination:

The course will require you to sit 1 design paper with 5 questions on it. This will be 40% of your overall grade. The examination will be:

- 
- 2 hours long
- Contain 2 sections
- Will be subject area specific
- One tier each question will cover grades A\* - G

**Contact: Mr A Griffiths (Subject Leader)**

# DRAMA

## GCSE DRAMA

### TGAU Drama

#### Why Study Drama?

You will be taken on a theatrical journey that involves experimenting, researching, creating and performing covering a wide range of genres and techniques. This is an opportunity for you as actors to perform your own devised theatre work, and for the technicians among you. You can further develop your technical skills including; lighting, sound and sound management. GCSE Drama does not just develop a person's appreciation and understanding of the subject, but it also develops a person's social and communication skills needed in the wider world.

- Devised Thematic work
- Acting
- Theatre in education
- Improvisation
- Physical Theatre
- Sound
- Stage Management
- Set design
- Costume
- Make-up
- Props
- Masks
- Puppets
- Lighting

#### You will learn how to:

- Communicate and work collaboratively
- Plan by selecting and interpreting appropriate genres, styles and conventions
- Develop your appraisal skills through evaluation, analysis and reflection

#### Assessment:

GCSE Drama is divided into three components:

- 60% Non Exam Assessment: - 2 practical's
- 40% - Written Examination

#### Coursework:

You will choose 2 of the course topics. One topic will be assessed in Year 10.

The second will be assessed in Year 11 by an external moderator.

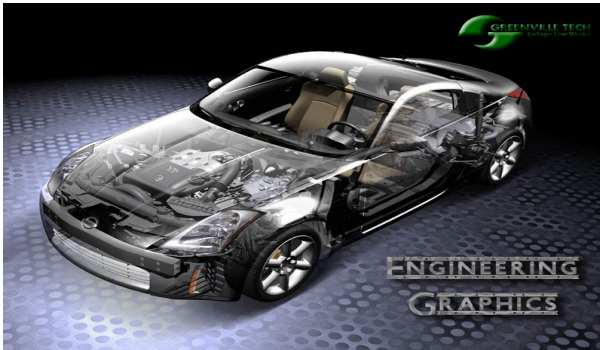
**Contact: Mrs R Hodson (Subject Leader)**



In Drama I can Be Myself—and be someone else at the same time. Nothing else lets me do this! GCSE Drama Student.

## BTEC LEVEL 2 FIRST CERTIFICATE IN ENGINEERING

### BTEC Tystysgrif Gyntaf lefel 2 Peirianwaith



#### Why Study Engineering?

Engineering is a vital element in the manufacture of anything. There are many forms of engineering, but all require good technical knowledge about the materials and process of manufacture. This course aims to extend the work carried out in the year 9 vocational option, continuing to use ICT to produce evidence to show that they can prepare for manufacturing procedures and use workshop equipment safely. The use of Computer Aided Design will enhance the learners ability to communicate designs to others and produce accurate information about a product prior to manufacturing. This will also allow the pupil to prepare for further courses in college and university.

#### Course Topics:

The course focuses on: Health and Safety, Computer Aided Design (CAD), marking out materials ready for production and mathematics for engineering technicians.

#### You will learn how to:

- Use ICT to produce 3D Simulations, Orthographic and Isometric Engineering drawings.
- Work using all relevant aspects of Health and Safety.
- Using Technical Engineering terms

and techniques ready for production.

- Use Mathematical principals commonly used in Engineering.

#### Course Content:

The course is completed through 5 units through which students have to produce evidence to show they have the necessary skills to pass. The assessment criteria are specific and elements will need to be passed during strict deadlines. In year 9, students who started the course were able to explore the use of CAD and the need to work safely in a workshop environment. Year 10 will allow the students to extend this by showing that they can handle materials safely, mark out design accurately, and use the technical vocabulary of Engineering that will allow them to move onto other more specific forms of Engineering.

#### Assessment:

Coursework consists of units which are split into assignments. Learners need to complete each task within each assignment to complete the unit. Units carry specific assessment criteria and each unit can be completed with a Pass, Merit or Distinction, depending upon the amount of evidence produced.

**Contact Mr S Booton**



## GCSE FASHION & TEXTILES

### TGAU Ffasiwn a Thecstiliau

#### Do you have a passion for Fashion and Design?

Are you creative and innovative? Do you enjoy solving design problems and creating ideas?

If so, you may want to consider studying for a GCSE in Fashion/Textile Design.

Textiles is a practical subject and Candidates develop knowledge and understanding of textiles through practical activities.

#### Course Topics

- Fashion Trends and Influences - describe and illustrate current fashion trends in relation to clothing, the family and textile items within the home.
- Identify and explain the influences which affect fashion— e.g. economic factors, designers, icons, personal image, mass-media, cultural factors, leisure and periods of history.
- Fashion Designers—research and study past and present fashion designers, e.g. Chanel, Yves Saint Laurent, Vivienne Westwood, Julien McDonald, Mary Quant.
- Fashion Research use relevant data/information regarding fashion predictions, styles, fabrics and designs.
- Construction Techniques—use a range of construction processes which can be used to construct textile items/clothing, e.g. hand/machine stitching, seams, fastenings, disposal of fullness, collars, sleeves, hems, pockets and facings.
- Design in the Home- appreciate the importance of design in relation to the home, recognise and analyse how colour, room shape, style features, cultures and trends influence design in the home.



#### Assessment

Unit 1: Principles of Textiles and Fashion (40%)

Written Paper: 1½ hours

Unit 2: Textiles and Fashion Practical Tasks (60%)

Controlled Assessment (practical making task)

#### Possible Careers/education

- Fashion/Textiles further education/ degree BA (Hons), BTEC Level 3, HND
- Fashion Designer
- Fashion Buyer/Merchandiser
- Interior Design
- Fashion Marketing/PR
- Stylist
- Retail Management
- Textile Designer
- Visual Merchandiser

**Contact: Mrs N Owen (Subject Leader)**

## GCSE FOOD AND NUTRITION

### TGAU Bwyd a Maeth



#### Why Study Food and Nutrition?

If you want to develop skills and knowledge of the Catering Industry, widen your creativeness and imagination, then GCSE Food and Nutrition is for you. There are a number of reasons for choosing GCSE Food and Nutrition:

- It's a practical subject which is accessible to all students.
- It meets Government initiatives for more vocational courses.
- A range of life skills are learnt by students in a fun way.
- It forms strong links between home, school and industry.
- The course is well structured.
- Well motivated students can achieve excellent grades.

#### Course Topics:

The course consists of six main areas:

- Food commodities
- Principles of nutrition
- Diet and good health
- The science of food
- Where food comes from
- Cooking and food preparation

#### You will learn how to:

- demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills by planning, preparing and cooking a variety of food commodities whilst using different cooking techniques and equipment.
- develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties and

chemical characteristics of food as well as a sound knowledge of the nutritional content of food and drinks

- understand relationships between diet, nutrition and health,
- understand the economic, environmental, ethical and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes, diet and health choices
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and microbiological food safety considerations.
- understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions

#### Assessment:

There are two mandatory components within this qualification:

#### Unit 1: Principles of Food and Nutrition

Written examination: 40% of qualification. The examination paper is 1 hour 30 minutes and contains two sections both containing compulsory questions.

#### Unit 2: Food and Nutrition in Action

Non-examination assessment: 60% of qualification. As part of Unit 2, assessment 1 and assessment 2 will be moderated by WJEC.

**Contact: Mrs C John**

## GCSE FRENCH

### TGAU Ffrangeg

#### Why study French?

French is the first or second language in more than 40 countries and is spoken by over 125 million people around the world. Knowledge of a second language is essential in over 60 occupations. There are many opportunities with airlines, import-export companies and other international business. You could also become a French teacher, an interpreter, a translator or work in tourism, business services, banking, sales and manufacturing. Job applicants who are proficient in two languages will be at a distinct advantage in the world of work. With future investment in the local area, knowledge of a Modern Foreign language will have a positive impact on job prospects.

#### Course Topics:

Students study the French Course over two years. The topics covered during key stage 4 include, Everyday Activities, Personal and Social Life, The World around us, The World of Work and The International World.

#### You will learn how to:

- Understand and use French effectively for the purpose of practical communication
- Form a sound basis for skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work or holidays
- Develop positive attitudes to foreign language learning and gain an insight into French culture
- Develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

#### Assessment:

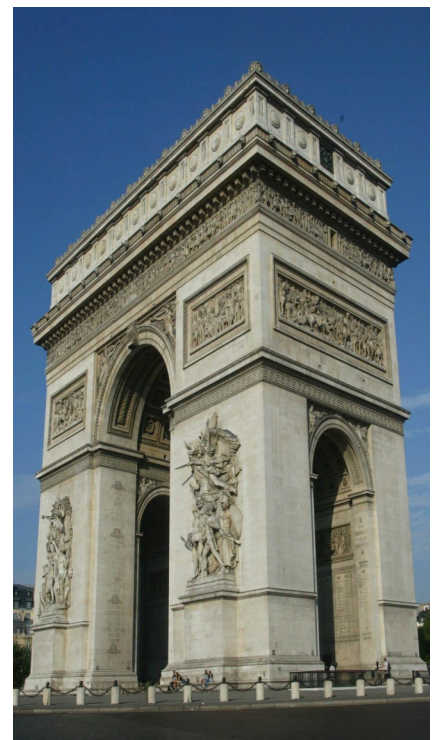
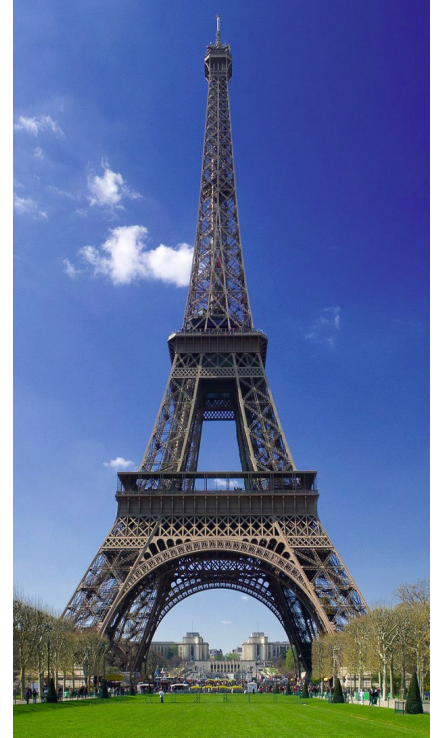
During Year 11 students complete a school based controlled speaking assessment.

**Unit 1:** Speaking (25%) - One Role Play, One Photo Card Discussion, One Conversation

**Unit 2:** Listening (25%) - Listening comprehension tasks with non-verbal and written responses.

**Unit 3:** Reading (25%) - Reading tasks with non-verbal and written responses, including one translation task from French into English.

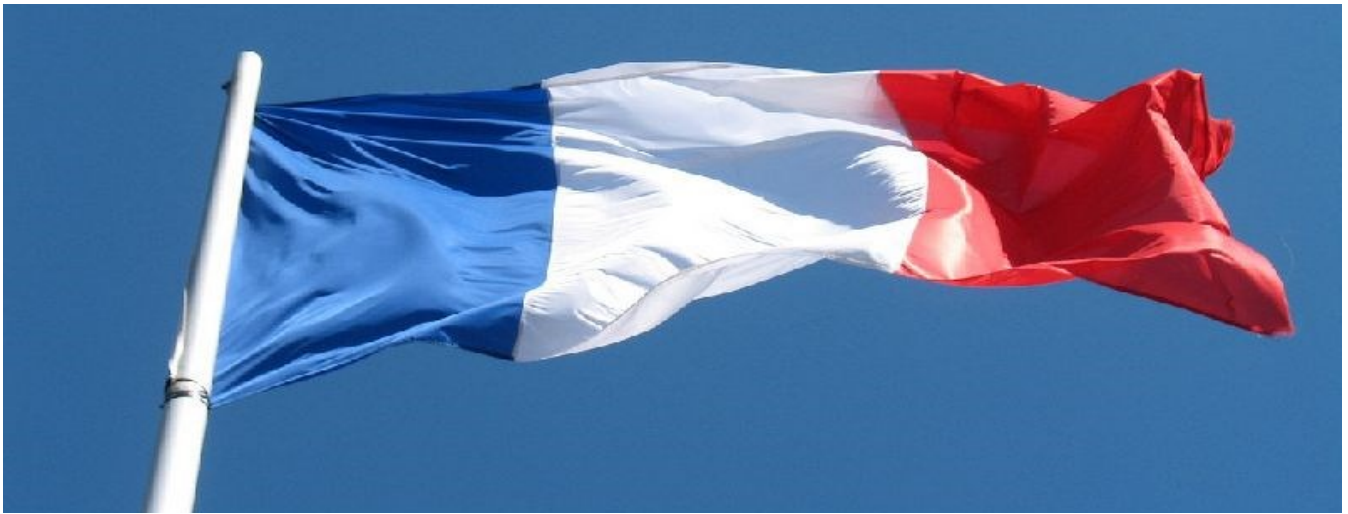
**Unit 4:** Writing (25%) - Writing task including one translation task from English into French.



**Contact: Mr D Pisacane or Mrs A Champs**

## NVQ LEVEL 2 FRENCH (BUSINESS)

### NVQ Lefel 2 Ffrangeg (Busnes)



#### What is an NVQ?

An NVQ is a work-based qualification providing language skills needed for work.

#### What are the Benefits?

- No exams or coursework
- Business visits e.g. to TATA Steel, Capital Law, Big Pit and Cassidian Systems.
- Develop ICT skills
- Develop Business knowledge
- Opportunity to do work experience
- Combine language skills with your other subjects.

You will design and create business projects, such as making business cards and make a marketing presentation to launch a new product. You will go on at least one visit to a real company, gain valuable business experience and find out how members of staff engage with international clients. The course is portfolio-based, giving you the chance to demonstrate your ability and to see your achievements as you progress through the course. The fact that there are no exams or memory tests has been described by previous students as motivational.

#### Qualification: Level 2 Certificate in Business Language Competence

**You** pass the qualification by demonstrating that you have met all language standards at least once in your portfolio. The standard can be found at: <http://www.cilt.org/standards.html>. Level 2 in all four skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening) = equivalent to B grade at GCSE

#### Reference Materials:

You will build a portfolio of work which will be assessed – when completing tasks for your evidence you will be able to use all the reference materials you might use if you were using languages at work.

- Dictionaries
- Online resources
- Verb tables
- Textbooks
- Classwork books & notes

You may listen to listening exercises as many times as you wish.

#### ICT:

You will be encouraged to use ICT in your portfolio. For example, producing your own CV or creating a business presentation, and put any electronic work onto a CD to include in your portfolio.

**Contact: Mr D Pisacane or Mrs A Champs**

## GCSE GEOGRAPHY

### TGAU Daearyddiaeth



#### Why study Geography

Geography is not only up to date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current problems boil down to Geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them. Global warming, sustainable food production, natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, the spread of disease, the reasons for migration and the future of energy resources are just some of the great challenges facing the next generation of geographers.

Choosing Geography at school can open the doors to a university degree, either specifically in Geography or by combining Geography with other A Levels to gain a place on a degree programme in another subject. An A Level in Geography is recognised for its academic 'robustness' and, most importantly, it also helps young people into the world of work. We know this is true because so many employers prize the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide, be it in knowing how the world works, planning research and report writing, working in a team, using new technologies and communication skills - and much more. You will find geographers working in a wide range of jobs.

#### Career opportunities:

• Navy/Army/RAF	• Police Officer
• Civil Engineer	• Aid Worker
• Accountant	• Charity Officer
• Insurance	• Leisure Centre Management
• Civil servant	• Civil Servant for DFID
• Transport & Logistics Manager	• Quantity Surveyor
• Retail Management	• Diplomat
• Management Consultant	• British Council
• Commercial Sale Manager	• Travel Agent
• Lawyer	• TV Researcher
• Economic Adviser and Analyst	• Eco Tour Guide
• Buyer	• Bankers
	• Location Manager

#### Assessment:

Unit 1 Changing Human and Physical Landscapes: Examination = 40%

Unit 2 Environmental and Development Issues: Examination = 40%

Unit 3 Fieldwork: Controlled Assessments 20%

**Contact: Mr C Walters (Subject Leader)**

# GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

## GCSE GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION ENDORSED TGAU GRAFFIG CYFATHREBU



### Why GCSE Graphic Communication Endorsed?

This qualification is defined as the process of creating primarily visual material to convey information, ideas and emotions through the use of graphic elements such as colour, icons, images, typography and photographs. Students are required to demonstrate knowledge and skills in the following areas of study:

- Advertising
- Communication graphics
- Design for print
- Illustration
- Interactive design (including web, app and game)
- Multi-media—Photoshop
- Package design
- Signage
- Typography

This is an excellent qualification for those students wishing to **focus** upon the **creative graphic design** elements of Art and Design.

Successful completion of the course enables students to progress to a higher level of study, for example A level.



### How the course is assessed

Unit	AO1 Weighting % Marks	AO2 Weighting % Marks	AO3 Weighting % Marks	AO4 Weighting % Marks
Unit 1: Portfolio 60% of GCSE 120 marks	15% 30 marks	15% 30 marks	15% 30 marks	15% 30 marks
Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment 40% of GCSE 80 marks	10% 20 marks	10% 20 marks	10% 20 marks	10% 20 marks
<b>Total Weighting</b> <b>Total Marks (200)</b>	<b>25%</b> <b>50 marks</b>	<b>25%</b> <b>50 marks</b>	<b>25%</b> <b>50 marks</b>	<b>25%</b> <b>50 marks</b>

### Career opportunities:

Here are a few of the possible career opportunities:

- Graphic Designer
- Illustrator
- Animator
- Digital Special Effects
- Interior Designer
- Product Designers
- Stage/Set/Theatre Designer
- Film Maker
- Web Designer



**Contact: Mrs S Keohane (Subject Leader)  
Mrs H O'Neill (Art Teacher)**

## BTEC LEVEL 2 FIRST CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

### BTEC Tystysgrif Gyntaf lefel 2 Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol



This course is designed to provide specialist work related qualifications in a wide range of sectors, including Nursing, Midwifery, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Learning Support Assistant. The course has been developed to provide preparation for employment or as a preparation for further education such as Level 3 BTEC and A Level Health and Social Care both of which are offered in the learning zone.

#### **Course Topics**

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1/2 First Award in Health and Social Care consists of 2 mandatory (ones you must do) units and optional units that provide a combined total of 30 credits.

#### **Units**

- Human Lifespan Development (exam)
- Health & Social Care Values
- Promoting Health & Well Being
- The Impact of Nutrition on health & Well Being

#### **You will learn how to:**

- Investigate ways of promoting effective communication.
- Examine barriers to effective communication.
- Explore diversity and equality in society.
- Examine factors that influence human growth and development.
- Explore the care values needed in this sector

#### **Assessment:**

75% Coursework.  
25% examination

**Contact: Mrs N Owen (Subject Leader)**

# HISTORY

## GCSE HISTORY

### TGAU Hanes

#### Why study History?

If you want to develop analytical skills to enhance further career prospects then this is the subject for you. History provides an opportunity to learn about your past and its influence on the present and the future. Qualifications in History can lead to career opportunities in a wide field - journalism, the police force, accountancy, TV and the media, tourism, the law. Key skills learnt through History can be applied to all sorts of other situations demonstrating that you are able to communicate clearly and have the ability to express yourself verbally, and on paper.

#### Course Topics

- **Unit 1 - Germany in Transition, 1919 - 1945:** A study in depth.
- **Unit 2 - Depression, War and Recovery in Wales and England, 1929-51:** A study in depth.
- **The Development of the USA, 1930-2000:** An outline study
- **An investigation into an issue of historical debate or issue:** A controlled internal assessment set by the exam board each year.

#### You will learn how to:

- interpret and evaluate pieces of information (sources)
- to communicate and apply knowledge
- how to describe and analyse the key features of the period studied
- use critical thinking and problem solving

You will have the opportunity to study photographs, films, videos, interactive power point presentations, newspapers and written sources.

#### Coursework:

One controlled assessment which makes up 25% of the final mark.

#### Examination:

Three written papers examination papers, each examination is 1 hour duration and worth 25% each.

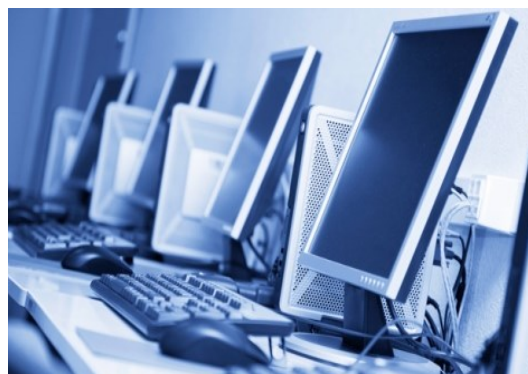
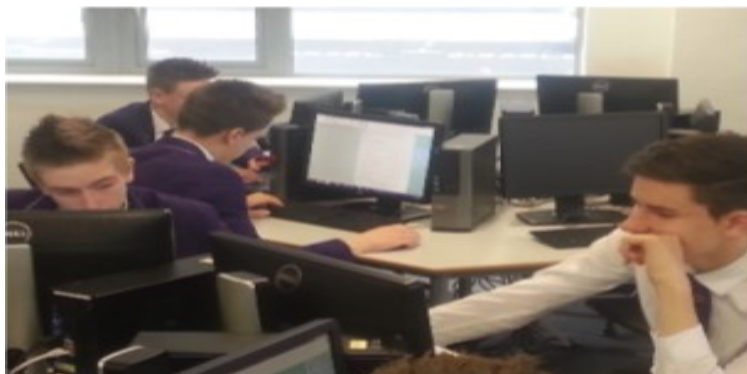
**Contact: Mr D Harrett (Subject Leader)**





## GCSE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

### TGAU Technoleg Gwybodaeth A Chyfathrebu



#### **What is ICT?**

The GCSE ICT qualification offers students a unique opportunity to identify and solve real problems by designing information and communication systems in a wide range of contexts relating to their personal interests. Recent exciting additions to the course include animation, video editing and web page authoring ensuring ICT remains an essential life skill for all young adults in the 21st Century.

#### **Who is it for?**

The course provides excellent preparation for A-Level ICT study and employment within a wide range of occupations. The increasing importance of information technologies means there is a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area. Career paths include Computing, Finance and Accounting, Office Administration, Web Designers, Engineering and many more.

#### **What will I do?**

**Unit 1 (20%)** Understanding ICT

**Unit 2 (30%)** Solving problems with ICT

**Unit 3 (20%)** ICT in organisations

**Unit 4 (30%)** Developing multimedia ICT solutions

#### **What will I get?**

A GCSE in Information and Communication Technology (A\* to G).

#### **How will I be assessed?**

You will sit two one hour 30 minute examination papers based on the content of Unit 1 and 3. Units 2 and 4 are controlled assessments.

#### **Key Facts:**

- A challenging but rewarding qualification:
- Four units
- 2 x 1 hour 30 minute examination papers
- 2 x Controlled Assessment
- GCSE (A\* to G)
- Aimed at those who wish to study A-Level ICT or follow a wide range of career paths.
- Will compliment other ICT qualifications

**Contact: Mr J Mineur (Subject Leader)**

## GCSE MUSIC

### TGAU Cerddoriaeth



#### Why Study Music?

Music is all around us. It influences our moods and emotions and stimulates and excites us in many ways. Following this GCSE course will develop your understanding of how music is created through three areas of study. During the course you will learn how to **compose** and develop skills in **performing** and **appraising** music. GCSE Music teaches you to learn independently and how to work as a team. Many students further their study at AS and A level and even beyond that.

#### Course Topics (Stranded Areas of Study):

- The European Classical Tradition - The development of the orchestra (1600-1899)
- Popular Music of the 20th and 21st Centuries - Film music and popular song
- World Music -Caribbean, India, Africa and South America

#### You will learn how to:

- Compose music from the 3 stranded areas.
- Perform music from the 3 stranded areas.
- Listen to and Appraise music from the 3 stranded areas.

#### Assessment and Coursework breakdown:

The examination covers the full range of grades from A\* - G.

**Unit 1:** Performing = 35%

**Unit 2:** Composing = 35%

**Unit 3:** Appraising = 30%

#### Careers:

There are many career opportunities available for musicians. Below is a list of the more popular jobs that musicians do on a day to day basis.

**Performing** in and with an Orchestra, The Royal Navy, The Army, The Welsh Guards, Musicals, Opera House, Ballet.

**Composing** for television, radio, films, festivals, important occasions and events, song writing.

**Other:** Teacher / Lecturer, Music Editor, Music Supervisor and Arranger (TV and/ or radio) Pop/Rock star, Music / Arts producer. Sound Engineer, Music Technology, Music Therapist, Music Management, Music Agent, D Jay, Entertainer, Musical Director, Music Librarian, Music Publisher, Repetiteur.

Music GCSE will also develop other skills including self discipline, motivation, communication, perseverance and creative development.

**Contact: Mrs L Maddy (Subject Leader)**

# MUSIC

## BTEC MUSIC AWARD, TECHNOLOGY PERFORMANCE

### Tystysgrif Gerddoriaeth BTEC, Perfformiad Technoleg



#### **Why study BTEC Music Technology Performance?**

The BTEC Award is a “hands on” practical and vocational qualification designed for students with a real enthusiasm and some ability in Music. It is an equivalent qualification to GCSE and will earn you the same UCAS points. It is an ideal qualification to gain a base for further training and employment within the music business. You will stretch your imagination, develop group skills, self confidence, self reliance and organisation skills. Studying music performance will give you the skills to continue to improve as a performer and gain an understanding of this ever growing Industry.

#### **Course Content**

**Unit 1: The Music Industry** - This unit will raise your awareness and provide you with knowledge of the structure of the music industry and its working practices. You will investigate music organisations to find out about the work they do and how they relate to and rely on one another. You will also be given the opportunity to find out about the people who work in these organisations, from performers to people who work in technical, production and administrative roles.

**Unit 2: Managing a Music Product** - The survival of the music industry depends on its ability to evolve and be innovative with

the products created. Live performance has always been a key part of the music industry, while online delivery of recorded music is now taking over from CD sales. This unit will enable you to manage the planning, delivery and promotion of a live concert, CD, or other music product. Your research will introduce you to the elements of industry practice.

#### **Unit 3: Introducing Music Performance -**

This unit will develop your chosen performance option. Performing skills for this unit can come from traditional performance skills for example preparing performance for instruments or voice or technology performance skills such as djaying, beatboxing and rapping.

**Unit 4: Sequencing using Music Technology but other options are available** - Digital technology is a huge part of the music that surrounds us in the 21st century. In this unit, you will be using sequencing software packages to create music in response to a realistic, music-industry-led brief. You will learn how to create music using a variety of sources, including loops and software instruments.

#### **Assessment**

Unit 1: External Assessment  
Unit 2-4: Internal Assessment

**Contact: Mrs L Maddy (Subject Leader)**

## GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### TGAU Addysg Gorfforol

#### Why Study Physical Education?

If you enjoy taking part in a variety of sports activities and you have an interest in the theoretical aspects of physical fitness you will enjoy GCSE Physical Education. The qualification will be useful for gaining entry to higher/further education establishments and for a variety of vocations.

#### Course Topics

- You will need to choose three practical areas over the two years:
  - one team sport
  - one individual sport
  - one of your choice
- We offer a variety of sports in school and you can also use sports which you take part in outside school.

#### You will learn how to...

- Plan, perform and evaluate in four practical activities of your choice.
- Evaluate physical fitness and understand theoretical aspects of fitness.

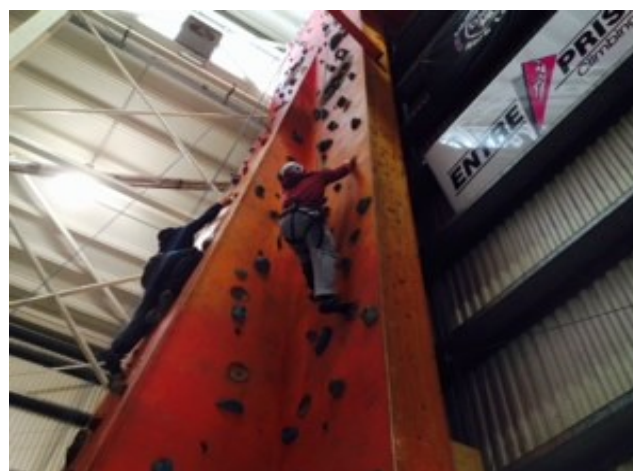
#### Assessment

- Written paper - 2 hours (50%)
- Four practical activities – two must be as a player and the other two can be as a player, leader or official (50%)

#### Examination

There is one written examination to test candidates knowledge and understanding of exercise and fitness, physical, psychological and technical factors that influence on performance and well-being.

**Contact: Mr M Harris (Subject Leader)**



## GCSE SPANISH

### TGAU Sbaeneg



#### Why study Spanish?

Spanish is the first or second language in more than 75 countries and is spoken by over 470 million people around the world. Knowledge of a second language is essential in over 60 occupations. There are many opportunities with airlines, import-export companies and other international business. You could also become a Spanish teacher, an interpreter, a translator or work in tourism, business services, banking, sales and manufacturing. Job applicants who are proficient in two languages will be at a distinct advantage in the world of work. This option is available to all students. Prior knowledge of Spanish is not essential. There are many similarities between French and Spanish, which will help when studying this subject. With future investment in the local area, knowledge of a Modern Foreign Language will have a positive impact on job prospects.

#### Course Topics:

Students study the Spanish Course over two years. The topics covered during key stage 4 include, Everyday Activities, Personal and Social Life, The World around us, The World of work and The International World.

#### You will learn how to:

- Understand and use Spanish effectively for the purpose of practical communication.
- Form a sound basis for skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work or holidays.
- Develop positive attitudes to foreign language learning and gain an insight into Spanish culture.
- Develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

#### Assessment:

During Year 11 students complete a school based controlled speaking assessment.

**Unit 1: Speaking (25%)** - One Role Play, One Photo Card Discussion, One Conversation

**Unit 2: Listening (25%)** - Listening comprehension tasks with non-verbal and written responses.

**Unit 3: Reading (25%)** - Reading tasks with non-verbal and written responses, including one translation task from Spanish into English.

**Unit 4: Writing (25%)** - Writing task including one translation task from English into Spanish.

**Contact: Mrs A Champs**

## NVQ Welsh

## NVQ Cymraeg



NVQ Welsh is a qualification which assesses competence in a work situation. The NVQ National Language Units are free-standing units which assess practical language skills in a real (or simulated-real) situation.

This course is designed for students who may find it difficult to access the Welsh GCSE course.

The design of the course will assess students' competency in two levels.

### Level 1

- Listening: Listen to simple language in familiar work contexts
- Speaking: Speak using simple language in familiar work contexts

- Reading: Read simple text on familiar work topics
- Writing: Write simple text on familiar work topics

### Level 2

- Listening: Listen to routine language in everyday work contexts
- Speaking: Speak using routine language in everyday work contexts
- Reading: Read routine text on everyday work topics

**Contact: Mr C McLean (Subject Leader)**

# Key Dates

Here are some key dates regarding the options choices;

1. Thursday 10th March: Parents and options evening
2. Thursday 24th March: Hand in date for option choice sheets.



## NOTE:

**Please return your option form to Student Services.**

**Late return of Option Choice Sheets will mean that you risk not being guaranteed your first choice subjects.**