



# LLISWERRY HIGH SCHOOL

Ysgol Uwchradd Llysweri



## KS4 Learning Pathways Booklet

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# Foreword Rhagair

Dear Parents, Carers and Learners,

Of course, the whole of a child's educational journey is very important, but there are some points at which key events take place which require careful thought and reflection. The Year 9 options process is one such time, as it is a commitment to learners' ongoing academic study leading to qualifications. It is also the first time learners will have had an opportunity to be selective about how their personal curriculum offer will look.

The options decisions learners (along with their families or carers of course) have to make are therefore very important. At Llswerry High School we have a broad and varied curriculum offer, which presents opportunities for all learners to progress along learning pathways that they can be successful on. There are important considerations to make, if they are to make the right choices. It is vital that learners heed the advice given.

For our part, we will do all we can to inform and support learners and parents/carers throughout this process - please do contact Mr Tyler as Head of Year 9 if you have any questions or concerns.

This is an exciting time for learners and one we want them to get right, so that they can move into Year 10 with a positive mindset and a successful and enjoyable programme of study ahead of them. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued engagement and support and I look forward to celebrating our learners' successes as they progress through Key Stage 4.

Best wishes



Neil Davies

Headteacher

# Choosing your learning pathway

## Dewis eich Llwybr Dysgu

For the first time you have the opportunity to shape your learning pathway for years 10 and 11. There are some choices that you will need to make and this booklet will guide you through the process. It will introduce you to new subjects alongside those you are already familiar with.

Your learning pathway will include:

- Compulsory core subjects – English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies, Welsh and the Skills Challenge Certificate
- Statutory lessons in Physical Education and Personal, Social and Health Education
- A broad and balanced range of other subjects that you choose to suit your abilities and that you need for your future

## Option courses

**One-year course:** These can be started at the beginning or end of Year 10 or 11. Learners in both year groups will share this option block and have 10 lessons per fortnight. The course is completed and a grade awarded at the end of one year.

**Two-year course:** Learners are allocated this course at the start of Year 10 and study this subject for two years with 5 lessons per fortnight. The course will be completed and a grade awarded at the end of Year 11.

**Details on how to submit your option choices can be found on page 30.**

# How should I decide?

## Sut Dylwn i Ddewis?

Think about the following questions:

What am I good at?

What subjects do I enjoy?

What are my aspirations?

How do I like my work to be assessed?

Study this booklet carefully as it contains the answers to the questions you may have. You can also watch again the subject videos on the Google Classroom. Don't forget you can also ask your form tutor, subject teachers, Head of Year and Head of Key Stage. You may wish to speak to the Careers Advisor – just let your Head of Year know if you would like an appointment.

The most important thing is to consider the following:

- ✓ **Do** gather as much information as you can about the subjects on offer in Years 10 and 11. Make an informed decision – even subjects you have already been studying may have significant differences in Key Stage 4 to Key Stage 3.
- ✓ **Do** consider the subjects you will enjoy and are good at, as these are the ones that are most likely to bring you future success
- ✗ **Do not** pick a subject because your friend has chosen it – this is a common mistake! This is about learning, not socialising and the two do not mix well in the classroom when it comes to achieving success with your qualifications.
- ✗ **Do not** pick a subject because you like the teacher currently teaching it – they may not be teaching it next year or may not be teaching it to your class next year. Remember – you are picking the subject, not the teacher.

# GCSE Subjects

Pynciau Craidd

# ART Celf

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

You will be involved in producing personal art work relating to a broad theme which is set as the starting point. You will study different artists/cultures and use a range of techniques, processes and media. You can work in 2D and 3D media, using clay, plaster, collage, painting and drawing medias, and develop your creative skills and ideas. You will be learning and practising drawing from observation to aid your research and ideas.

## How will I be assessed?

**Coursework:** A portfolio of work produced over the duration of the course which is 60% of the total mark.

**Examination:** 9 weeks preparation and ten hours practical exam over 2 days which is 40% of the total marks.

## What skills do I need?

A good Key Stage 3 level in Art, interest and a willingness to work hard to further develop your skills and ideas. You must be organised and be prepared to work at lunchtimes and/or at home.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

AS and 'A' level Art and Design in the Sixth Form.

BTEC higher levels at college.

Careers: Architecture, Fashion, Graphic Design, Theatre Design, Photography, Media and Film, Animation, Computer Games Design, Teaching, Make Up (Beauty and Theatre), Hair Design, subjects related to Design Technology.

See the Careers Board outside the Art rooms.

## How can I find out more?

Ask your teacher; Mrs R Morgan or Mrs K Morgan.

Ask current Year 10/11 students and 6<sup>th</sup> Form students who took GCSE Art.

Websites on Careers in Art, Cardiff Met, Coleg Gwent, Newport and UWIC Universities.

# DRAMA Drama

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

Drama is more than learning to act; it is essentially a life-skill. The subject allows for personal and social development, fosters creative and imaginative thought and helps to prepare you for adult life. It provides an opportunity for the individual to increase their confidence, in particular the ability to communicate verbally and non-verbally.

## How will I be assessed?

The course consists of a range of practical work, the study of selected plays and the consideration of the development of theatre and dramatic techniques. In addition, learners will visit theatres and view appropriate film and television plays, in order to develop an understanding and appreciation of performance.

**Practical work** 40% Acting: Devising Project / 20% Acting: Performing a text

**Written exam** 40% (Exam paper comprises of a set text: Interpreting Theatre + Theatre Review of a production)

## What skills do I need?

Learners must be willing to perform in front of others and learn lines. Learners should enjoy reading plays and participating in group activities.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

This course will allow progression onto the AS Level Performing Arts/Drama courses, with careers in drama schools, acting, teaching, stage management, drama therapy all possible.

## How can I find out more?

The WJEC website will give full course details – [www.wjec.org.uk](http://www.wjec.org.uk)  
Read the 'Stage' newspaper/magazine  
Contact Theatre companies  
Look at local productions/listings



# ELECTRONICS Electronig

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** Eduqas

## Course outline

Electronics is a practical based subject where the practical skills will be developed alongside the theory. The subject will be explored in a variety of contexts – home, school, leisure, community, business and industry. Pupils will study:

- Component 1 Discovering Electronics
- Component 2 Application of Electronics
- Component 3 Electronic System Project
- A project which will include designing, testing, building and writing a report to solve a chosen problem.

## How will I be assessed?

**Component 1:** Discovering Electronics  
Written examination, 1 hour 30 minutes, 40% of qualification  
**Component 2:** Application of Electronics  
Written examination, 1 hour 30 minutes, 40% of qualification  
**Component 3:** Extended system design and realisation task  
Non-exam assessment, 20% of qualification

## What skills do I need?

Learners should have good mathematical skills, be good at problem solving, enjoy working with others and have good ICT and communication skills.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

This course should interest learners who are intending to pursue a career in electronics or engineering as well as those who wish to further their careers in the sciences where they will meet many electronics systems.

This course will allow progression into Electronics, Engineering and Design Technology.

## How can I find out more?

Speak to Mr Tyler (Teacher of Electronics)

Visit the course website: [https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/electronics-gcse/#tab\\_overview](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/electronics-gcse/#tab_overview)

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE Saesneg Iaith

## Qualification Information: Compulsory subject

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

English is a compulsory subject and is fundamental to success in other subjects.

The course enables learners to:

- (i) develop their understanding of the spoken word and their capacity to participate effectively in a variety of speaking and listening activities, matching style and response to audience and purpose;
- (ii) develop their ability to read, understand, enjoy and respond to all types of text; recognise the ways in which writers achieve their effects; develop information retrieval strategies for the purposes of study;
- (iii) develop their ability to construct and convey meaning in written language using appropriate grammar and standard English (except in contexts where non-standard forms are needed for literary purposes), matching style to audience and purpose.

## How will I be assessed?

**Unit 1:** Speaking and Listening Assessment (20%) Individual presentation (10%)

Group discussion: Responding and interacting (10%)

**Unit 2 (40%): External Assessment (1hr exam)**

Reading (40 marks / 50%) Writing (40 marks / 50%)

**Unit 3 (40%): External Assessment (1hr exam)**

Reading (40 marks / 50%) Writing (40 marks / 50%)

## What skills do I need?

In lessons you will be reading a wide range of text including those from literature and the media and respond to them through discussion and writing. You will also produce your own texts: leaflets, letters, articles and stories. You will be able to explore the criteria for gaining marks before you do so. You will need to be willing to communicate in speech and writing, be interested in society and human responses and be able to analyse literary and media texts.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

After studying this course you could go on to study English at AS and 'A' level. If you don't wish to do this, English will still help you in all other subjects, particularly essay-based ones like History and with life practicalities, for example writing letters, completing forms, etc. Many college courses desire English and all universities require it for entry onto any course. English Language opens doors to careers in engineering, finance and medicine; however, your developed skillset will be particularly applicable to the fields of journalism, advertising/marketing, publishing, law and education.

## How can I find out more?

See Mr Nowaczyk and/or Miss Jones

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE Llenyddiaeth Saesneg

## Qualification Information: Compulsory subject

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

English Literature is the study of influential Literature texts and is fundamental to success in other subjects.

## How will I be assessed?

### **Unit 1 (35%): External Assessment (2hr exam)**

'Of Mice and Men' extract and choice of 2 essays (30 marks)

Poetry comparison (20 marks)

### **Unit 2 (40%): External Assessment (2hr exam)**

'An Inspector Calls' extract and choice of 2 essays (30 marks)

'Heroes' extract and choice of 2 essays. (30 marks)

### **Unit 3: Controlled Assessment (25%)**

Shakespeare (12.5%)

Poetry comparison (12.5%)

## What skills do I need?

The course enables pupils to develop an understanding of human responses to their world and to enhance the experience of reading for pleasure. During the lessons you will be reading and discussing novels, plays and poems, alone and in comparison, and developing understanding and analytical skills through writing sophisticated responses.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

After studying this course, you could go on to study English at AS and 'A' level. If you don't wish to do this, English will still help you in all other subjects, particularly essay-based ones like History and with life practicalities, for example writing letters, completing forms, etc. Many college courses desire English and all universities require it for entry onto any course. English Literature opens doors to careers in engineering, finance and medicine; however, your developed skillset will be particularly applicable to the fields of journalism, advertising/marketing, publishing, law and education.

## How can I find out more?

See Mr Nowaczyk and/or Miss Jones

# FOOD AND NUTRITION Bwyd a Maeth

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

The GCSE in Food and Nutrition offers an opportunity to further develop practical skills. You will develop your creative abilities and problem-solving skills, experiment with food investigations and develop your own recipes. You will learn the aspects of good hygiene and safety practices in practical lessons. The course develops an understanding of the food production in industry; the processes and equipment and calculating the nutritional information.

## How will I be assessed?

There are two controlled assessments and one examination.

### Unit 1

Written examination: 1.5 hours

40% of qualification

### NEA 1

Food investigation: approximately 10 hours

20% of qualification

### NEA 2

Food preparation: approximately 15 hours including a 3 hour practical

40% of qualification

## What skills do I need?

You need the ability to plan and be organised and have an enthusiasm for cooking.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

Catering courses can be followed at post 16 Education. The course is also suitable for a range of careers in the food industry such as Food Technologist and in the Hospitality and Catering sector.

## How can I find out more?

Please speak to Mrs Bradley in the Technology department or visit the WJEC website and search GCSE Food and Nutrition.

# FRENCH Ffrangeg

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

The study of a modern foreign language will broaden your horizons, develop cultural knowledge and understanding and foster transferable skills such as confidence, communication, problem solving and creativity. A GCSE in a modern foreign language will also provide you with a solid foundation for future language study.

The context for learning the language is organised under three broad themes:

- Identity and culture
- Wales and the World - areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

Each broad theme is divided into sub-themes including technology and social media, holidays and tourism and employment.

## How will I be assessed?

There are four assessments at GCSE which can be taken at either Foundation or Higher Tier. Each assessment is worth 25% of the qualification. A combination of tiers can be taken.

Unit 1 is an oral test with three tasks (role play, photo card discussion and a conversation).

Unit 2 is a listening exam (written) lasting 35 or 45 minutes, depending on the tier. The exam will involve responding to different types of spoken language including conversations, interviews and announcements. Some of the responses will be in the assessed language.

Unit 3 is a reading exam (written) lasting 1 hour or 1 hour 15 minutes depending on the tier. The exam will involve responding to different types of written language including advertisements, newspaper articles, emails and letters. There is also a short translation from the assessed language into English.

Unit 4 is a writing exam (written) lasting 1 hour 15 minutes (Foundation Tier) and 1 hour 30 minutes (Higher Tier). This will involve writing three pieces of text for Foundation Tier, for example completing a form, writing an email or a message and writing an article for a magazine. The fourth task will be a translation of sentences from English into French. At Higher Tier, the exam will involve two tasks such as writing an article for a magazine and a website. The third task will be a translation of a short passage from English into French.

## What skills do I need?

Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing

## Career Opportunities & Progression

Studying a modern foreign language can lead to many different careers that directly require the use of languages such as translating, interpreting and teaching, but can also open the door to an array of career paths such as journalism, international aid/ development work, marketing, sales and logistics.

## How can I find out more?

Please speak to Mrs Parish or Mr Godfrey

# GEOGRAPHY Daeryddiaeth

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

Learners study a wide range of topics. Physical Geography topics include tectonic hazards, rivers, coasts, climate change, weather and eco-systems. Human Geography topics include population, rural/urban studies and contrasting development across the world.

An important focus is the study of the connections between human and physical processes. Learners will be given the opportunity to develop their geographical skills through two fieldwork enquiries where we will go out of the classroom and investigate the real world.

## How will I be assessed?

**80% Exam** - There are two exam papers which take 1hr 30mins to complete and are each worth 40% of the overall grade.

**20% Non-Examination Assessment (NEA)** - This involves going out of school to develop geographical skills through two fieldwork enquiries. Learners will then write up their findings in a portfolio and take this into an NEA task.

## What skills do I need?

Geographers requires a wide range of skills including:

- Good written and verbal communication
- Numeracy skills
- Digital skills
- Effective problem solving
- Team work

## Career Opportunities & Progression

Geography helps learners develop a range of transferable skills applicable to many careers and for this reason the subject is attractive to a broad range of future employers. There is an obvious progression to AS Geography and Travel and Tourism Courses. Geography also bridges the arts and the sciences giving flexibility for higher education courses. Possible careers include teaching, armed forces, logistics, meteorologist, town planner, tourism officer to name but a few.

## How can I find out more?

If you require any further information on the course, please speak to Mrs Jones (Head of Geography), Mr Smith or Mr Jackson. There are also resources to look at on the WJEC website.

# HEALTH AND SOCIAL AND CHILDCARE

## Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol a Gofal Plant

### Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

### Course outline

The qualification enables learners to develop and demonstrate their knowledge, skills and understanding within the context of health and social care, and childcare. The following issues are included in the specification:

- human growth, development and well-being
- promoting and maintaining health and well-being
- health and social care, and childcare in the 21st century
- promoting and supporting health and well-being to achieve positive outcomes

### How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Human growth, development and well-being:

There will be a written examination in the summer which is worth 40% of your overall grade.

Unit 2: Promoting and maintaining health and well-being:

You will need to complete two non-examination assessment (NEA) tasks which are worth 60% of your overall grade.

Task 1: Service Provision

Task 2: Health Promotion

### What skills do I need?

Good communication and written skills.

### Career Opportunities & Progression

This specification provides a coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study for you even if you do not progress to further study in this subject. It provides a suitable foundation for the study of Health and Social Care and Childcare at AS or A level, in addition to providing a suitable foundation for a range of Level 2 or Level 3 qualifications within the Health and Social Care and Childcare suite. It will also help you make informed decisions about a wide range of career pathways. It has been designed to include contemporary issues in relation to the provision of an ethical and sustainable health and social care and childcare system in Wales, and to enable you to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities or continuing into related career choices.

### How can I find out more?

Speak to Mrs Parish or Mrs Clarke

# HISTORY Hanes

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

The subject content at GCSE enables you to investigate a broad and rich range of options drawn from different periods and diverse societies in the past. Learners can investigate, analyse and evaluate historical figures and events.

NEA (Non examined source work assessment completed in class) on Jack the Ripper

Unit 1 – Depression, War and Recovery in Wales and Britain

Unit 2 – The USA, a Nation of Contrasts 1910-29

Unit 3 – Medicine Through Time

## How will I be assessed?

**80% Exam** - There are three exam papers, one on each of the units outlined above.

**20% Non-Examination Assessment** - This involves looking at a variety of historical sources and analysing their content and validity. Historical skills are taught in class prior to completing the non – examined assessment.

## What skills do I need?

- Good writing and communication
- Ability to make judgements
- Commitment to independent study
- Source evaluation skills

## Career Opportunities & Progression

GCSE History provides a suitable foundation for the study of history or a wide range of other academic subjects at A level which in turn can lead to a variety of university degree courses. It provides crucial knowledge of the past as well as developing a broad range of transferable skills to help you understand your place in the world and find your path in the world of further education and work. Possible careers include law, accountancy, journalism, marketing, teaching, police, film making, politics, museum curator or archaeologist.

## How can I find out more?

If you require any further information on the course, please speak to Mrs Jones (Head of Humanities), Ms Lewis or Mrs Sillince. There are also resources to look at on the WJEC website.



# MATHEMATICS Mathemateg

## Qualification Information: Compulsory subject

**Course:** Mathematics and Numeracy

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

Students will follow a differentiated scheme of learning with a linear three tier point of examination entry:

Tier	Grades Available
Higher	A* - C
Intermediate	B - E
Foundation	D - G

All tiers offer opportunities to develop knowledge, skills and understanding of Mathematics and concepts including Number, Algebra, Geometry, Measures, Problem-Solving, Statistics and Probability. In addition, the questions in the separate GCSE Numeracy qualification will all be set in real-life situations.

These qualifications encourage students to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, mathematics and to recognise the importance of mathematics in their own lives and to society. The qualifications prepare students to make informed decisions about the use of technology, the management of money, further learning opportunities and career choices.

## How will I be assessed?

All learners work towards written externally assessed examinations consisting of two equally weighted papers for each qualification. Unit 1 is non-calculator and Unit 2 allows use of a calculator.

Learners will be entered for examinations in May/June at the tier that best meets their ability.

Learners may be entered at a different tier of entry for the GCSE Numeracy and GCSE Mathematics courses to ensure they achieve the best grade they are able to in each subject.

For some learners who find Numeracy challenging, we are able to offer an entry level qualification in Numeracy instead of GCSE. This consists of three written end of stage tests (in class) over the two years and one final written exam.

## What skills do I need?

Literacy – Reading, oracy and writing skills.

Numeracy - Number, algebra, geometry, measures, problem-solving, statistics and probability skills.

Digital – Producing and researching.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

In the sixth form we offer an A level Mathematics course which is desirable for almost any course you would wish to study at university. Careers in Mathematics include accountant, astronomer, financial trader, game designer, meteorologist, software engineer, software tester, sound engineer, statistician and primary or secondary school teacher.

## How can I find out more?

If you require more details speak to Mr. Maunder or Mrs. Morgan in the Mathematics Team.

# MUSIC Music

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

This course will give you an opportunity to pursue your enjoyment of music through a variety of activities while enabling you to gain a qualification in a practical yet academic subject that is highly regarded by employers. You will be rehearsing solo and ensemble performances, listening to and discussing a wide range of music from pop to film music and composing your own pieces using digital technology.

## How will I be assessed?

**Performance** (35%) – Two pieces, one ensemble, plus either a solo or another ensemble (30%). Programme note giving details of one of the performance pieces (5%).

**Composition** (35%) – Two compositions, one in response to a brief set by the Exam Board (30%). Evaluation of the piece composed to the brief (5%).

**Appraising** (30%) – A listening exam based on prepared and unprepared musical extracts set by the Exam Board.

The Performance and Composition work will be assessed by the subject teacher and moderated by the exam board during the Spring Term. The Appraising exam will take place in the Summer Term.

## What skills do I need?

You should have an interest in Music. Some experience in performance is helpful but not essential.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

Many people who take music do not necessarily go on to become professional musicians but find the wider skills studied in the course useful in future careers from law to medicine. Studies have also shown that those who study music also achieve more highly in other areas such as Numeracy and Literacy.

- Music – ‘A’ Level
- Performing Arts – ‘A’ Level
- Music/performance degrees
- Teaching

## How can I find out more?

If you require any further information on the course please speak to or email Mrs Maynard (Teacher in Charge of Music) [TCM@lliswerryhigh.org](mailto:TCM@lliswerryhigh.org) or visit the WJEC website

# PHOTOGRAPHY Ffotograffiaeth

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

It is a creative and interesting, broad based practical course that will enable you to study Photography and Digital Media. It is for those learners who have an interest and aptitude for capturing images and experimenting with photographic media and digital manipulation.

You will be involved in producing personal work related to a broad theme which is set as the starting point. You will use a range of techniques and processes to explore, document and experiment with images. This will develop your creative skills as a photographer.

## How will I be assessed?

**Coursework:** Portfolio produced over the duration of the course accounts for 60% of the total marks.  
**Examination:** 9 weeks preparation and ten hours practical exam accounts for 40% of the total marks.

## What skills do I need?

A good Key Stage 3 level in Art and Design and willingness to work hard to further develop skills. Be organised and be prepared to work at home. All equipment will be supplied.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

It will enable those who study the subject to take up careers related to, photography, film, video, media studies, marketing and advertising.

**AS and 'A' level:** Photography or Media Studies  
**BTEC:** Photography higher levels at College.  
**Careers:** - Photography, Media, Film, Video.

## How can I find out more?

Ask your DT/art teacher or Mr Apperley  
Website on Careers in Photography, Coleg Gwent, Newport University, University of South Wales

# PRODUCT DESIGN Dylunio Cynnrych

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

This GCSE in Design and Technology offers a unique opportunity in the curriculum for you to identify and solve real world problems by designing and making products. Through studying GCSE Product Design, you will be prepared to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world; and be aware of, and learn from, wider influences within the field of design.

## How will I be assessed?

Two controlled assessments.

### Unit 1 - Design and Technology in the 21st Century

Written examination: 2 hours

50% of qualification

### Unit 2: Design and make task

Non-exam assessment: approximately 35 hours

50% of qualification

## What skills do I need?

You need the ability to draw and some competence in making. Also, a knowledge of Computer Aided Design is preferable. However, you do not need to be particularly artistic, just enthusiastic to learn new skills and a determination to be the best you can.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

Further studies at A Level in Product Design and Fashion Design. Work within the design industry including architecture, industrial design, sports design and furniture design.

## How can I find out more?

Please speak to Mr Apperley in the technology department or visit the WJEC website and search for GCSE Design Technology.

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## Astudiaethau Crefyddol

### Qualification Information: Compulsory subject

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

### Course outline

The GCSE Religious Studies specification provides opportunities for learners to follow a course that is coherent and that balances knowledge of core beliefs, teachings and practices in the two religions of Christianity and Buddhism, with an understanding of how they can be applied to philosophical and ethical themes.

The specification will:

- develop learners' knowledge and understanding of religions and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism
- develop learners' knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, teachings, practices, and sources of wisdom and authority.
- develop learners' ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments.
- provide opportunities for learners to engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life
- challenge learners to reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learnt.
- provide learners with the opportunity to study Welsh perspectives, which arise naturally from the subject matter.

### How will I be assessed?

There is one 2-hour examination taken at the end of year 11.

### What skills do I need?

- A deep appreciation and understanding of the importance of religion, worship and belief in the development of the world we recognise today.
- Ability to use literacy skills to explore our rich religious traditions and inheritances.
- A capability to analyse religious texts, interpret them and discuss their meanings.

### Career Opportunities & Progression

Learners have moved on from GCSE RS to study at both A level and Degree level courses. Some of the more common jobs that people have gained after studying RS are:

Author, Charity Coordinator, Child & Youth Worker, Care Worker, Clergyperson, Community Developer, Diplomat, Entrepreneur, Historian, Human Rights Advocate, International Aid Worker, Journalist, Lawyer, Legal Aide, Media Correspondent, Nurse, Political Consultant, Researcher, Social Service Worker, Social Worker, Teacher and a Writer.

### How can I find out more?

Please don't hesitate to ask Mrs Clark or Mrs Fowler if you want to know more

# SCIENCE DOUBLE AWARD

## Gwyddoniaeth Dwbl

### Qualification Information: Compulsory subject

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

### Course outline

GCSE Science (Double Award) involves the study of all three sciences. This includes Chemistry, Biology and Physics and will result in **2 GCSE grades** at the end of Year 11. The course will develop your understanding of many areas of science and also develop your practical and problem-solving skills.

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is via 6 exams; 2 each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics, plus 10% for practical skills. Learners sit the 1st 3 exams at the end of Year 10 and the remaining 3 at the end of Year 11. Assessment of practical skills is carried out in Year 11 under controlled conditions and is externally marked by the exam board; this is 10% of the final mark.

Learners will follow a differentiated scheme of work with a linear two tier point of examination entry:

Tier	Grades Available
Higher	A*/A – E/E
Foundation	B/C – G/G

Learners will be entered for examinations in May/June at the tier that best meets their attainment.

### What skills do I need?

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Problem Solving

### Career Opportunities & Progression

Achieving a minimum of BB in Double Award Science can provide a route to Science A levels, such as Chemistry, Biology and Physics, however Triple Science is more suited to prepare adequately for this. Achieving CC in Double Award Science can provide a route to study BTEC level 3 Applied Science. This subject will also allow learners to access many Science based courses at college e.g. Hairdressing, Health & Social Care, Child Development, Agriculture & Animal Care, Engineering & Automotive, Applied Science, Sport & Exercise Science.

### How can I find out more?

Speak to Mrs Rafee (Leader of Learning Science)

Speak to Mrs Rafee (Leader of Learning Science)

- Visit the course page at: [https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/science-double-gcse-award/#tab\\_overview](https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/science-double-gcse-award/#tab_overview)

# SCIENCE TRIPLE AWARD

## Gwyddoniaeth Triphlyg

### Qualification Information

**Qualification:** GCSE  
**Exam Board:** WJEC

### Course outline

This is a fast paced, intensive course so a love of Science is essential! If you hope to study Science based A-Levels, you need to cover more material than the Double Science course contains. Triple Science follows on from Double Science and extend the basics so you have a wider understanding of Chemistry, Biology and Physics.

As with Double Science there will be practical sessions, written exercises and the opportunity to work on group presentations and take part in discussions. Topics include:

- Genes and how they make us different from one another
- How do we get our drinking water?
- How are cars designed to keep us safe?
- Smart Materials

### How will I be assessed?

10% of the mark is from an assessed practical exam. Learners need to use their results to draw a graph, write a conclusion and suggest improvements. The task is carried out and written up under controlled conditions in school.

The remaining 90% is assessed by 6 written papers (1hr45), 3 of which will be taken in June of Year 10 and 3 in Year 11.

In Triple Award Science the grade awarded for each science is **independent** of the others.

### What skills do I need?

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Problem Solving
- **A minimum of a high level 6 at the end of KS3**

### Career Opportunities & Progression

A minimum of a B grade in each Science is required to progress and study at A Level. Studying A Level Chemistry is essential for Medicine, Dentistry & Veterinary. Studying A Levels in Biology and Physics can lead to careers in Marine Biology, Biochemistry, Engineering, Pharmacology, Sport and Exercise Science, Physiotherapy, Architecture.

### How can I find out more?

Speak to Mrs Rafee (Leader of Learning Science)

Visit the course page at:

- Biology: [https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/biology-gcse/#tab\\_overview](https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/biology-gcse/#tab_overview)
- Chemistry: [https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/chemistry-gcse/#tab\\_overview](https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/chemistry-gcse/#tab_overview)
- Physics: [https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/physics-gcse/#tab\\_overview](https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/physics-gcse/#tab_overview)

# SKILLS CHALLENGE

## Tystysgrif Her Sgiliau

### Qualification Information: Compulsory subject

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

### Course outline

The Welsh Bacalaureate is awarded when learners achieve the Skills Challenge Certificate alongside Supporting Qualifications. The requirements of both the Skills Challenge Certificate and Supporting Qualifications must be met in order to achieve the overarching Welsh Bacalaureate.

The National/Foundation Welsh Bacalaureate enables learners to develop and demonstrate an understanding of and proficiency in the Curriculum for Wales' integral and cross curricular skills. These are the skills that employers and next-stage educators' value and which learners need for learning, work and life. The seven integral and cross curricular skills are:

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

### How will I be assessed?

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

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

The combined outcomes of the four components will determine whether the Skills Challenge Certificate is awarded at National or Foundation level.

### What skills do I need?

Learners should have good literacy and mathematical skills, be good at problem solving, enjoy working with others and have good ICT and communication skills.

### Career Opportunities & Progression

Learners achieving the National/Foundation Welsh Bacalaureate may progress to the Advanced Welsh Bacalaureate qualification. The Skills Challenge Certificate is a qualification that is valued by employers, colleges and universities

### How can I find out more?

The WJEC website will give full course details – <https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/welsh-bacalaureate-national-foundation> Alternatively ask Mrs K.A. Morgan



# WELSH Cymraeg

## Qualification Information: Compulsory subject

**Qualification:** GCSE

**Exam Board:** WJEC

## Course outline

All learners will study a full Welsh GCSE course over 2 years. Learners will learn to speak Welsh spontaneously on 3 topic areas; Youth, Wales and Employment, be able to read every day stimuli and write letters, job applications and reviews. The course will enable learners to understand and use the language for a variety of purposes and audiences, develop language learning skills and strategies in order to communicate and interact confidently and spontaneously in relevant situations, use Welsh in further studies, in the workplace and in their communities and to develop curiosity about the Welsh language.

## How will I be assessed?

This qualification has two external assessment units which are weighted equally and two internal assessment units. The two external assessment units test reading and writing skills while the two internal assessment units test oral and listening skills. The exams are not tiered therefore every pupil completes the same assessments and will be able to achieve a grade ranging from A\* - G. Either unit 1 or 2 will be assessed in year 10. The remainder in year 11, as explained in more detail below.

Unit 1: Oracy response to visual stimulus Non-examination assessment: Speaking (10%) Listening (15%)

Unit 2: Communicating with other people Non-examination assessment: Speaking (20%) Listening (5%)

Unit 3: Narrative, specific and instructional Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 25% of the qualification Reading (15%) Writing (10%)

Unit 4: Descriptive, creative and imaginative Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 25% of the qualification Reading (10%) Writing (15%)

## What skills do I need?

Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing, Team work.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

A great basis for further study or training, or direct entry into employment requiring Welsh language skills.

## How can I find out more?

[https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/welsh-second-language-gcse/?sub\\_nav\\_level=digital-resources#tab\\_resources](https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/welsh-second-language-gcse/?sub_nav_level=digital-resources#tab_resources)

# BTEC Subjects

## Pynciau BTEC

# BUSINESS STUDIES Astudiaethau busnes

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** BTEC Level 1 /Level 2 Award in Business

**Exam Board:** Pearson

## Course outline

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 start-up 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 will I be assessed?

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Business includes one externally assessed unit (Finance exam). The remaining units are internally assessed. Internal assessment enables learners to develop a wider range of skills and provide evidence towards meeting the unit assessment criteria.

The four units you will study are:

- Introduction to Business
- Finance for Business
- Enterprise in the Business World
- Promoting a Brand

## What skills do I need?

It is important that you have basic numeracy skills, along with good communication and problem-solving skills alongside a willingness to learn new subjects. You will develop and apply research skills as well as ICT skills.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Business provides the knowledge, understanding and skills for Level 2 learners to progress to:

- Other Level 2 vocational qualifications
- Level 3 vocational qualifications, such as BTEC Nationals, specifically the Pearson BTEC Level 3 in Business

## How can I find out more?

Visit Pearson BTEC website or ask Miss Thomas (C4)

## Information and Creative Technology

### Technoleg gwybodaeth a chreadigol

#### Qualification Information

**Qualification:** BTEC Level 1 /Level 2 Firsts in ICT  
**Exam Board:** Pearson

#### Course outline

BTEC Firsts in Information and Creative Technology provide a practical, real-world approach to learning and develop specific knowledge and skills learners need to work successfully in the industry, such as:

- Understanding the online world, services and communication, and the impact it has on business, social networking and online security
- Developing technical skills by learning about hardware, software, networking and data and the relationship between them all
- Using creative, communication and presentation skills when designing and producing a digital portfolio.

#### How will I be assessed?

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in ICT includes one externally assessed unit. The remaining units are internally assessed. Internal assessment enables learners to develop a wider range of skills and provide evidence towards meeting the unit assessment criteria.

#### What skills do I need?

The good practical skills gained at Key Stage 3 alongside being organised and determined to succeed.

#### Career Opportunities & Progression

The Pearson BTEC First Level 1/Level 2 in ICT provides the knowledge, understanding and skills for Level 2 learners to progress to:

- Other Level 2 vocational qualifications
- Level 3 vocational qualifications, such as BTEC Nationals, specifically the Pearson BTEC Level 3 in IT

#### How can I find out more?

Visit Pearson BTEC website or ask Miss Thomas (C4)/ Mr Marshall (C1)

# SPORT Chwaraeon

## Qualification Information

**Qualification:** BTEC

**Exam Board:** Pearson/Edexcel

## Course outline

You should opt for this course if you have an interest in Sport, either as a spectator or performer or hopefully both. It will give you opportunities to increase your knowledge and understanding of a number of different areas, researching them and working on them in the best way that suits you.

The theoretical lessons will be based in the classroom with access to computers, alongside practical lessons to reinforce learning.

The Units you will cover are:

- Unit 1 - Fitness for Sport and Exercise
- Unit 2 - Practical Sports Performance
- Unit 3 -Applying the Principles of Personal Training
- Unit 6 - Leading Sports Activities

## How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 - Fitness for Sport and Exercise will be assessed via an online 1.15 hour exam

Unit 2, 3, and 6 - Assessment will be via internal coursework (3 or 4 assignments per unit)

This is a Level 2 qualification

Grading at Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction\* (equivalent to 1 GCSE)

## What skills do I need?

Choosing to do a BTEC qualification puts you in charge of your own learning. You will be set a number of tasks with set deadlines which you will be expected to meet. This course suits people who can adapt a mature approach and enjoy working independently, researching information and presenting it appropriately.

## Career Opportunities & Progression

We hope that as many of our Level 2 pupils will stay with us and enter our Sixth Form to study the Level 3 First Certificate/Subsidiary Diploma in Sport. There is a natural progression between the 2 courses. Therefore, many of our Year 12/13 students progress into Higher Education to study 'sport or leisure related courses or teaching. Other career opportunities would be Physiotherapy, Police, Armed Forces, Social Care and many more.

## How can I find out more?

If you require any further information on the course please see a member of the PE Department.

# The next steps

## Y camau nesaf

Dear Learners,

You have read the booklet and watched subject presentations and my own presentations about the process, so now it is time to make your Key Stage 4 pathway choices for years 10 and 11.

You will submit your choices via Google Form, but there are some important things to remember. You do not need to choose the compulsory core subjects, which are

- English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies, Welsh and the Skills Challenge Certificate

You will choose three subjects and a reserve. Two of these will be studied in year 10, one as a 1-year course and the other as a 2-year course. The third subject you will study as another one-year course when in year 11.

Please note, science teacher recommendation will be required for those wishing to take Triple Science. There may be some subjects that will not run if the numbers of learners opting for them are low.

**The Google Form will go live at 9am on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and the deadline is 5pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March. I will send a link to your school Gmail account.**

Do not forget to talk to your teachers about your choices, as they can support you in making decisions that are most suited to you.

Best wishes



Louise Evans

Senior Assistant Headteacher



# LLISWERRY HIGH SCHOOL

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