GCSE COURSES' HANDBOOK 2025-2027

Daw Derwen o Fesen Fach

HEADTEACHER'S INTRODUCTION

Dear Pupil,

The next steps in your school career here at Ysgol Caer Elen will certainly be important and exciting. As you come to the end of Year 9 and begin your GCSE studies we need to ensure that we provide you with the best guidance and advice which will help you to make decisions regarding subject choices that are most relevant to your future career pathway.

This resource pack is intended to provide you with information regarding the subjects you have to study and the subjects you can choose to study in Years 10 and 11. Our aim is to make the process as accessible and clear as possible to ensure that you can complete your choices with confidence.

During Year 10 and Year 11 you will study the core subjects which are Welsh, English, Mathematics and Science. The other compulsory subjects are Religion, Values and Ethics, the Welsh Baccalaureate, RSE and Physical Education.

You will also have the opportunity to choose three subjects from the three Option Blocks created. You will need to make sure that you choose wisely and consider which subjects are most relevant to your future pathway.

In September there will be an increase in the number of timetabled lessons for the core subjects. Sufficient hours will also be allocated for the option subjects which will allow you to thrive in your chosen areas of study.

We are fortunate that we have an experienced team of teachers that will be available to advise you throughout the process. It is important that you:

(a) Discuss your option choices with your parents, subject teachers, form teachers, Heads of Progress and Wellbeing, the Assistant Headteachers, the Deputy Headteacher and the Headteacher.
(b) Make sure that you know the content of the different subjects.
(c) Seek advice from the Careers Officer who will be able to inform you if there is a need to study a particular subject for a particular career or course in the future.

The journey towards completing your GCSEs will not always be easy. There will be times when you will feel completely in control and will be coping well with the workload. You will be managing your time effectively and will be revising thoroughly and achieving good results. At other times you will be feeling under pressure and will find the workload challenging. You might receive disappointing marks or will be experiencing frustration. I can assure you that we will be with you at every stage of this journey and will be available to guide and support you. Your health and wellbeing will be as equally important to us at Ysgol Caer Elen as your academic progress.

All I ask of you is that you do your best. Working together constructively will be key and I'm confident we can look towards the future in a positive way.

Dafydd Hughes

THE CURRICULUM

The course of study your child follows in school is known as the Curriculum. The curriculum has to be broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated. A curriculum has **breadth** if it introduces a wide range of experience, knowledge and skills to the pupils.

It is necessary to allocate sufficient time to each area of the curriculum in order to ensure **balance**. The subject matter will be **relevant** in each area of the curriculum and should be taught in such a way as to link with the pupils' own experiences and to promote their development as well as to prepare them for adult life.

The curriculum needs to be **differentiated** so that it provides for the special needs of pupils in a way that ensures that the curriculum is accessible to all pupils.

The learning programmes must show **progression**. The curriculum consists of a number of subjects together with cross-curricular matters.

The subjects are further classified into **Core** and **Foundation** subjects.

CORE SUBJECTS

- Welsh
- English
- Mathematics
- Double Science

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

- Personal and Social Education (Sweet)
- Physical Education
- Religion, Values and Ethics
- Welsh Baccalaureate

OPTION SUBJECTS

- Art
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology
- Digital Technology
- Drama
- Engineering
- Food and Nutrition
- Geography
- Health & Social Care
- History
- Leadership through Sport (BTEC)
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Spanish
- Triple Science

CURRICULUM

The mandatory curriculum at Key Stage 4 consists of Welsh, Science, Mathematics and English as well as Physical Education and Religious Studies.

CORE SUBJECTS

- Welsh - 7 hours
- English - 7 hours
- Mathematics/Numeracy - 7 hours
- Double Science - 7 hours
- (Triple Science - 12 hours)

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

- Personal and Social Education - 2 hours
- Physical Education - 2 hours
- Religion, Values and Ethics - 1 hour
- Welsh Baccalaureate - 2 hours

OPTION SUBJECTS

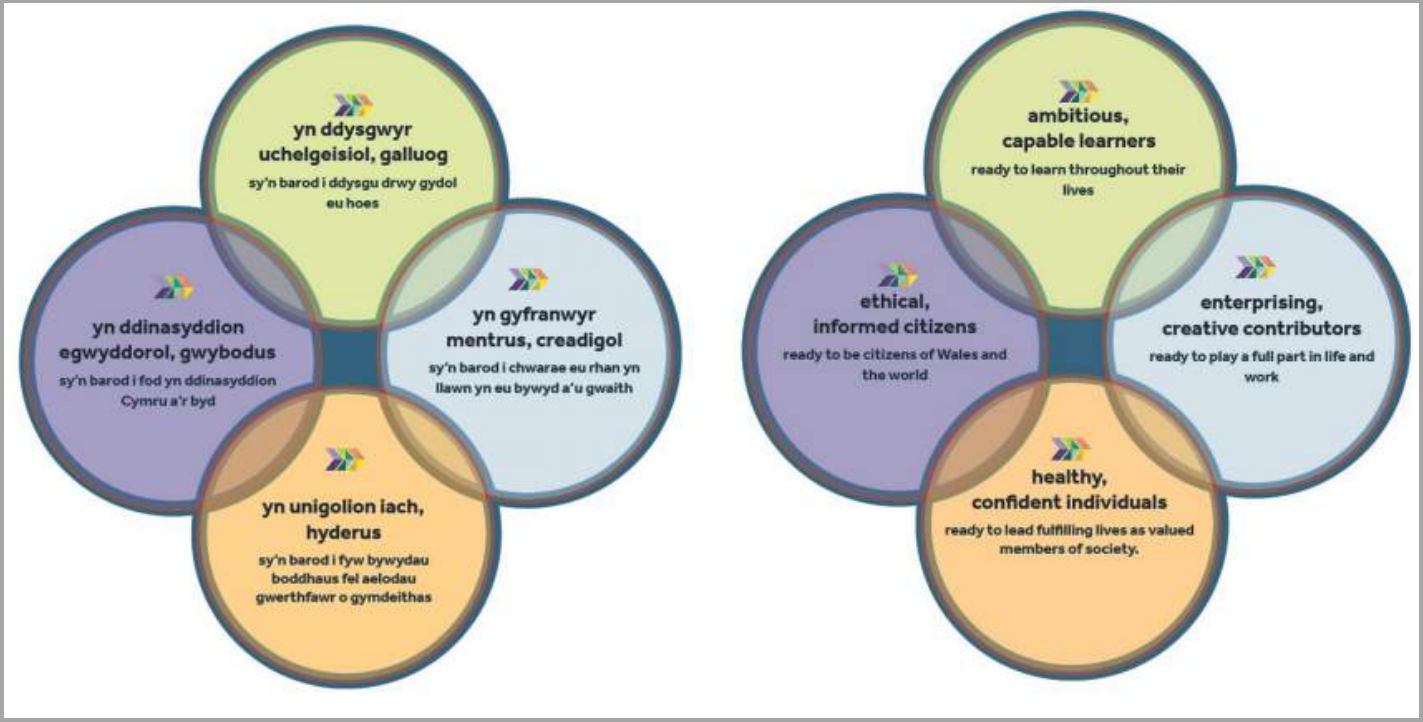
There will be **three** option groups. These groups have been designed in order to enable the pupils to study a broad and balanced curriculum. A wide range of academic and vocational subjects are available.

Each option group will be allocated **5 hours** a fortnight.

DYSGU AR DRAWS Y CWRICWLWM
LEARNING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Bydd cyfle gan pob un disgybl i ddatblygu sgiliau a gwerthoedd canlynol ar draws y cwricwlwm. / Each pupil will have the opportunity to develop the following skills and values across the curriculum.

Bydd ein holl blant a phobl ifanc yn datblygu i fod yn...
All children and young people will be...



Llythrennedd **Rhifedd** **Cymhwysedd Digidol**

Literacy **Numeracy** **Digital Competency**

Sgiliau Trawsgwricwlaidd / Cross-curricular Skills

Sgiliau Ehangach / Wider Skills

- Meddwl yn feirniadol a datrys problem
- Cynllunio a threfnu
- Creadigrwydd ac arloesedd
- Effeitholrwydd personol
- Thinking critically and solving a problem
- Planning and organisation
- Creativity and innovation
- Personal effectiveness

ANGHENION DYSGU YCHWANEGOL / ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

Er mwyn sicrhau bod y cwricwlwm ar gael i bob disgybl bydd yr ysgol yn darparu ar gyfer disgyblion ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol. Yn unol â gofynion deddf newydd ADY 2021, bydd yr ysgol yn paratoi cynlluniau datblygu unigol ar gyfer disgyblion sydd yn cael eu hystried ag Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol. Bydd yr ysgol yn cynnal cyfarfodydd cyson gyda'r disgyblion a'u rieni er mwyn sicrhau'r darpariaeth a chefnogaeth anghenreidiol.

In order to ensure that the curriculum is accessible to all pupils, the school will cater for pupils with additional learning needs. In accordance with the requirements of the new ALN Act 2021, the school will prepare individual development plans for pupils who are affected by Additional Learning Needs. The school will hold regular meetings with pupils and their parents in order to ensure the necessary provision and support.

GWEITHGAREDDAU BYD GWAITH / WORLD OF WORK ACTIVITIES- MRS ELEN GRIFFITHS / MR TRISTIAN LEWIS

Bydd pob disgybl ym mlwyddyn 10 yn cael cyfle i gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau Byd Gwaith yn yr ysgol. Bydd y profiadau hyn yn helpu'r disgyblion i ddeall gofynion cyflogwyr ac yn eu paratoi ar gyfer y newidiadau fydd yn eu hwynebu wrth iddynt symud o fyd ysgol i fyd gwaith.

All year 10 pupils will follow a series of World of Work activities organised at the school. This will also help pupils to understand the requirements and expectations of future employers and will assist them in making the transition from school to the adult world of work.

Consider the following before making your choices

- What subjects do you like/dislike?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- Do you like practical subjects or academic subjects?
- Have you ensured a balanced combination?
- Will the subjects chosen allow you to follow a suitable course after Year 11?
- Will the subjects allow you to follow your chosen career in the future?

Pwy sydd yma i'ch helpu gyda'ch dewisiadau?
Who can support you with your choices?

Mr Dafydd Hughes

PENNAETH
HEADTEACHER

Mr Gareth Owens

DIRPRWY BENNAETH
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

Miss Sophie Thomas

PENNAETH CYNNYDD A LLES BLWYDDYN 9
YEAR 9 HEAD OF PROGRESS AND WELL-BEING

Cydlynwyr Maes Dysgu a Phrofiad ac Athrawon Pwnc

Areas of Learning and Experience Coordinators and Subject Teachers

LLES A CHYMORTH YCHWANEGOL
WELL-BEING & ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Mrs Elen Mai Griffiths
Pennaeth Cynorthwyol
Assistant Headteacher

Miss Sophie Thomas
Pennaeth Cynnydd a Lles Blwyddyn 8/9
Year 8/9 Head of Progress and Well-being

Mrs Jane Davies
Cydlynydd Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol
Additional Learning Needs Coordinator

Miss Carys Wright
ELSA

Mrs Jenna Morgan
Gweithiwr Ieuenctid
Youth Worker

Mrs Glenda Llewellyn-Jones
Swyddog Gyrfaoedd
Careers Officer

Cofiwch gysylltu os rydych am air o gymorth!
Remember to contact if you require additional support!

GCSE Courses 2025/27

December 24

Discuss the process of choosing GCSE courses with year 9 students.

January 25

KS4 course presentation to Year 9 Students.

30th of January 25

GCSE Options evening

February 25

Open choices for Year 9 Students.

19th of February 25

Year 9 Parents Evening

January 25

Open choices for Year 9 Students.

January 25

Launch the Ysgol Caer Elen 2025/27 KS4 Course Handbook.

6th of February 25

Careers day – Pembrokeshire College

February 25

Option blocks will be shared

March 25

Final choices

'Small steps towards big success'

GYRFA CYMRU

CAREERS WALES

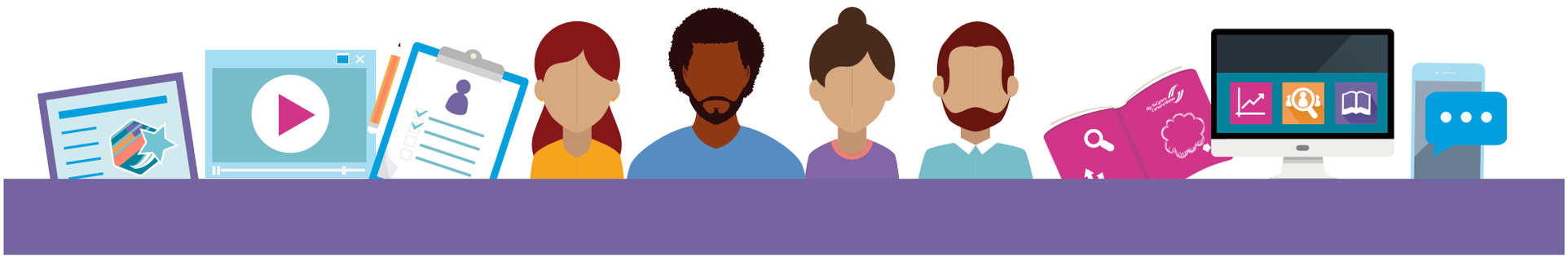
ABOUT US

Careers Wales provides free and impartial careers information advice and guidance to support anyone making education or employment decisions.

We are here to help young people and adults make career plans and decisions, to move into the right training, further learning or employment opportunities.

Our services focus on supporting customers to develop self-awareness and aspirations to equip them to make effective career decisions throughout their lives.

Find out more about Careers Wales.



CONNECT WITH CAREERS WALES

www.careerswales.gov.wales

post@careerswales.gov.wales

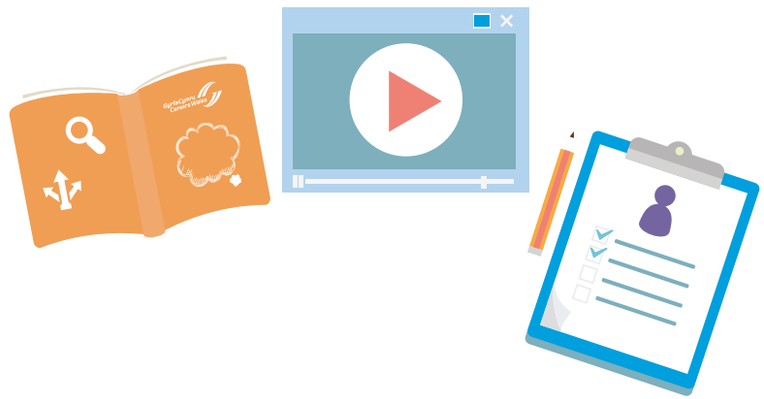
0800 028 4844

Webchat

@CareersWales

CAREERSWALES.GOV.WALES

Our website is full of information, tools and resources to help you plan your career.



Job Matching Quiz

Find job ideas that match your skills and interests.
www.careerswales.gov.wales/job-matching-quiz

Job Information

Search for information on 100's of different job titles, including wages and qualifications needed.
www.careerswales.gov.wales/job-information

Buzz Quiz

Take the Buzz Quiz to find out your personality type and what jobs might suit you.
www.careerswales.gov.wales/buzzquiz

Apprenticeships

Search for Apprenticeships **and other vacancies.**

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT...

Choosing subjects and courses

How to choose the right subject or course

Choosing subjects in Year 8 and 9

Choosing subjects and courses at 16

Choosing subjects and courses at 18

Your options

Options at 16

Options at 18

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT...

Getting a job

Getting a Job

Getting into Self-employment

tv.careerswales.gov.wales

View live and recorded webinars with employers from leading industries.

Careers Wales You Tube Channel

Our YouTube channel includes a variety of videos covering topics such as:

- Your options
- Skills employers want
- Getting ready for the world of work

and much more.....

PYNCIAU CRAIDD

CORE SUBJECTS

CORE SUBJECT

GCSE Cymraeg Language and Literature (Double Award)

INTRODUCTION

"The Welsh language is one of the treasures of Wales. It is part of what defines us as a people and as a nation." (Welsh Government, *Cymraeg 2050:* A million Welsh speakers, 2017, p.2). It is the Welsh Government's ambition to reach the target of 'a million Welsh speakers' by 2050 and you are one of the million! This is a new and exciting qualification in which you will be studying a wealth of literature that will ignite your imagination, build your enthusiasm and prepare you to communicate and live through the medium of Welsh.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

UNIT 1 (Narrative) – in this unit you will study a Welsh contemporary novel and learn how to appreciate the contents, characters, themes and plot. You will also respond to the novel in a personal and creative way.

UNIT 2 (Identity) – in this unit you will study a visual text i.e. a film or television programme, and as a group you will undertake a discussion of the plot, characters and the themes. You will develop your listening and responding skills as well as the skill of communicating confidently in Welsh.

UNIT 3 (Attitudes) – in this unit you will study a collection of poetry to learn how to appreciate their content, style and messaging. You will also individually present information orally on the text of your choosing.

UNIT 4b (Linguistic Connections) – in this unit you will read a variety of written texts and you will learn how to combine and summarise information. You will also respond creatively to the texts in a variety of different forms.

UNIT 5 (Respond and Create) – in this unit you will respond and interact orally as a group to a contemporary text whilst also developing your skills in terms of expressing your opinions. You will also have the opportunity to write creatively as part of the coursework.

UNIT 6 (Conveying Meaning) – in this unit you will study a collection of short stories and you will learn how to compare and appreciate literary texts.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

EXAM – There will be three written examinations worth 60% of the Double Award qualification for units 1, 4b and 6. The exams for Units 1 and 6 will be 90 minutes long, and the Unit 4 exam will be 120 minutes long. The exams will consist of a variety of comprehension questions, extended answers and the opportunity to write creatively.

NON-EXAMINATION ASSESSMENT – There will be five non-examination assessments worth 40% of the Double Award qualification for units 2, 3 and 5. There will be two group oral assessments, one individual oral assessment and two written assessments (coursework).

WHAT SKILLS WOULD I DEVELOP?

GCSE Cymraeg Language and Literature is a core subject which will help you to develop the variety of skills listed below:

- the skills and strategy of learning a language
- reading, listening, speaking and writing skills
- skills related to interacting as part of a pair or group whilst listening to others, expressing an opinion and forming conclusions
- written creative skills by reading a wide range of forms
- literary appreciation skills
- public speaking skills
- foster enthusiasm for the Welsh language for further study, in the workplace and in the community.

CAREERS IN THE 'CYMRAEG LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE' FIELD

GCSE Cymraeg Language and Literature – the purpose of this qualification is to inspire you to be citizens that take pride in your nation's culture, history and language. Jobs advertised in Wales often require the ability to speak Welsh as essential or desirable. If you have a GCSE Cymraeg Language and Literature qualification you already have an advantage over others! The ability to speak Welsh is important and advantageous in all areas including education, health and care, the government, media and entertainment, sport, law, marketing and much more. The journey to a million Welsh speakers by 2050 is an exciting one and you are a part of it.

FIND OUT MORE – TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!

CORE SUBJECT

English Language and Literature (Double Award)

INTRODUCTION

The GCSE English Language and Literature Double Award enables you to appreciate how language connects you to the world around you, to engage with a rich range of texts from different periods and by diverse writers, and to develop and apply your own use of language, through written and verbal communication.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Units 1, 4b and 6 are examined units, together worth 60% of your qualification. Each exam lasts 90 minutes and will consist of low-tariff extract-based questions, an extended essay response and a piece of creative fiction or non-fiction writing.

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

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

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

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

CAREERS USING 'ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE'

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

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!

Core Subject
Mathematics & Numeracy (Double Award)

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

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course has 3 units:

UNIT 1: Financial Mathematics and Other Applications of Numeracy

In this unit you will learn life lessons that will help you become a financially well-informed adult. Think about terms or acronyms you may have heard about like 'National Insurance', 'VAT' or 'AER' – these will become familiar to you. Financial opportunities and pitfalls will be addressed, and you will learn how to read important documents like payslips, bills and bank statements.

All sorts of other real-world contexts will also be taught and assessed, making this unit relevant and interesting.

UNIT 2: Non-calculator

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

UNIT 3: Calculator-allowed

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

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT 1: Financial Mathematics and Other Applications of Numeracy	
Higher tier	Foundation tier
1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks	1 hour 30 minutes 65 marks
Weighting: 30% of the qualification	

UNIT 2: Non-calculator	
Higher tier	Foundation tier
1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks	1 hour 30 minutes 65 marks
Weighting: 30% of the qualification	

UNIT 3: Calculator-allowed	
Higher tier	Foundation tier
2 hours 90 marks	1 hour 45 minutes 75 marks
Weighting: 40% of the qualification	

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- You will develop an understanding of the different areas of mathematics and how they relate to each other.
- You will extend your range of mathematical skills and techniques and be able to use and apply them to a range of real-life contexts.
- You will gain a strong foundation in financial mathematics to prepare you for life and work.

CAREERS IN MATHEMATICS

A GCSE in Mathematics and Numeracy can lead to a variety of career paths. These include jobs such as: financial analyst, computer programmer, medical scientist, actuary, software developer, economist, data or research analyst, accountant, teacher.

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!

SCIENCE (Double Award)

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

COURSE SUMMARY

Studying GCSE Science provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. By studying this course, you will:

- Gain and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and its vital role in society.
- Appreciate the unique contribution of science to an objective understanding of the material world.
- Develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods.
- Gain the scientific skills, knowledge and understanding needed to progress to further learning.

ASSESSMENT DETAILS / METHOD

Three written papers are taken in **June of Year 10** and a further three in the **May/June of Year 11**. All of these papers focus on the knowledge, understanding and application of science, and they each account for 15% of the total GCSE Science (Double Award) marks. This means that 45% of the aggregate marks are achieved by examination in Year 10 and 45% by examination in Year 11.

A practical examination will be taken in the **January of Year 11**. This assessment gives pupils the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to work scientifically. This will include experimental skills and strategies and skills in analysis and evaluation. The tasks will be externally marked by the WJEC.

	Biology Unit	Chemistry Unit	Physics Unit	
Summer Year 10	B1 (15%)	C2 (15%)	P3 (15%)	January Year 11. Practical Exam. (10%)
Summer Year 11	B4 (15%)	C5 (15%)	P6 (15%)	

OPPORTUNITIES

Whilst studying the GCSE Science course you will have extensive opportunities and experiences; from educational trips to lectures and workshops run by experts from higher education institutions and industry.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

A good grade in GCSE Science is a great foundation for continuing to study Advanced Subsidiary, Advanced Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It is also a strong foundation for pursuing a scientific or technological career.

FURTHER INFORMATION

WJEC GCSE Double Award Science Specification

Careers Wales – Job Information (Science and Research industry)

Careers Wales – Job Information (Healthcare industry)

PYNCIAU SYLFAEN

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

COURSE SUMMARY

Unit 1
Religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam.

Unit 2
Develop and apply knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, teachings and practices relating to relationships.

Unit 3
Develop an understanding of the different perspectives and interpretations about what makes us human, caring for the world, animal rights, freedom of religious expression and medical ethics.

Unit 4
Enable an awareness of the importance of human rights issues in contemporary society through the lens of religious studies.

ASSESSMENT DETAILS / METHOD

In Year 10, pupils are expected to complete an exam on Unit 1 and a non-exam assessment on Unit 2.

In Year 11, pupils are expected to complete an exam on Unit 3 and a non-exam assessment on Unit 4.

	Examinations
Summer of Year 10 (30%)	Unit 1: Religion and Philosophical Themes Exam: 1 hour 15minutes
Summer of Year 11 (30%)	Unit 3: Roles, Rights and Responsibilities Exam: 1 hour 15minutes

	Non-exam Assessments
January of Year 10 (20%)	Unit 2: Religion and Relationships. 6 hours to complete
January of Year 11 (50%)	Unit 4: Human Rights 6 hours to complete.

OPPORTUNITIES

By studying Religious Studies, you will develop knowledge and understanding of religious and non-religious beliefs as well as various teachings and practices. There will be an opportunity to formulate balanced arguments and engage with the world's big questions. By studying the subject, you will have the opportunity to think more deeply about the world and its people and develop a positive attitude towards others.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Studying Religious Studies can be beneficial when considering the following careers: Solicitor / Teacher / Doctor / Police Officer / Politician / Civil Servant / Human Resources Manager / Religious Leader and much more.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about the course from the WJEC

Careers opportunities that link with the subject from the Careers Wales website

WELSH BACCALAUREATE

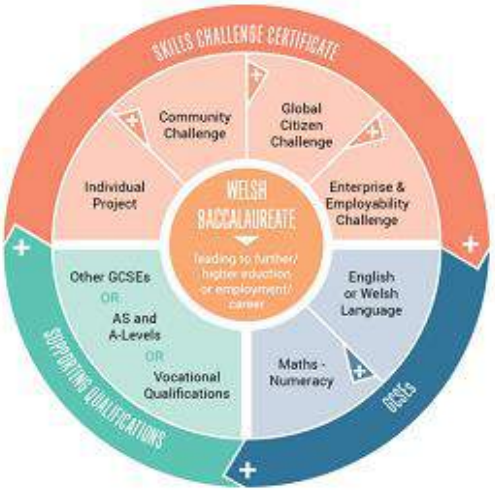
COURSE SUMMARY

The central focus of the Welsh Baccalaureate at Key Stage 4 is to provide a vehicle for 14-16 year olds to consolidate and develop essential and employability skills. The qualification will help pupils to prepare for their future by developing skills, attributes and behaviours valued by post-16 educators and potential employers. The emphasis in the Welsh Baccalaureate is on applied learning i.e. acquiring and applying a range of transferable skills. The School will offer a learning experience relevant to the needs and demands of the workplace that will develop pupils' confidence, drive and initiative, preparing them to enter, succeed and progress in the world of work.

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

ASSESSMENT DETAILS / METHOD

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



The Skills Challenge Certificate consists of four components although only three need to be completed. We as a school have chosen to complete the following challenges:

- Individual Project
- Global Citizenship Challenge
- Community Challenge

The combined outcomes of the three components will determine whether the Skills Challenge Certificate is awarded at National or Foundation level. The Skills Challenge Certificate has been designed to include learning and assessment which will enthuse, engage and motivate pupils in the classroom, the workplace and the wider community. Pupils will be required to consider how the application of their learning may impact on individuals, employers, society and the environment. The qualification has been devised around the concept of a 'plan, do, and review' approach to learning where pupils are introduced to a context for learning, plan activities, carry out activities, review outcomes and learning.

The Supporting Qualifications include two mandatory GCSEs of English Language or Welsh Language together with Mathematics-Numeracy. A further three GCSEs are also required, of which two may be of equivalent qualifications. To meet the National Welsh Baccalaureate requirements all five of the Supporting Qualifications must be achieved at grades A*-C. Similarly, for the Foundation Welsh Baccalaureate the Supporting Qualifications must be achieved at grades A*-G.

FURTHER INFORMATION

'What is the Welsh Baccalaureate?' – Scan or click the QR code below to find out more.

Sweet*

EXAMINATION BOARD

Pearson - BTEC Level 1 and Level 2 Sweet* in Personal and Social Development

COURSE SUMMARY

Sweet* Level 1 and Level 2 is a resource that supports schools in promoting and teaching elements of PSE and The Welsh Baccalaureate
The first five books concentrate primeraly on PSE. The last 3 have close links to the Skills Challenge which is part of the Welsh Baccalaureate.

PSE links

Personal Identity

Managing Relationships

Healthy lifestyle

Moving forward

Financial Matters

Welsh Baccalaureate links

Global Citizenship

Community

Employability

FURTHER INFORMATION

PYNCIAU OPSIWN

OPTION SUBJECTS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

COURSE SUMMARY

By studying GCSE Physical Education, learners will:

- Develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance
- Understand how the physiological and psychological state affects performance in physical activity and sport
- Perform effectively in different physical activities by developing skills and techniques and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas
- Develop their ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance in physical activity and sport
- Understand the contribution which physical activity and sport make to health, fitness and well-being
- Understand key socio-cultural influences that can affect people's involvement in physical activity and sport in Wales and the wider world.

ASSESSMENT DETAILS / METHOD

EXAM = 50%	PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT = 50%
2 hours (x1 paper)	External practical assessment (Year 11)
100 marks	100 marks
Learners will be assessed through a range of short and extended questions. The questions will be based on audio-visual stimuli and other sources.	Learners will be assessed in: • three different activities in the role of performer • at least one individual and one team sport and one other from the approved lists of activities • a personal fitness programme linked to the chosen major activity

OPPORTUNITIES

You will have numerous opportunities and extensive experiences whilst studying the GCSE Physical Education course. There will be opportunities to attend educational trips to lectures and workshops run by experts from higher education institutions and industries. You will have the opportunity to compete against the other schools in the county for standardisation and moderation purposes.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

- AS & A Level Courses
- University Degree
- Masters
- PGCE Primary/Secondary/Higher Education

FURTHER INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION

FURTHER READING & RESOURCES

#TYFURFESEN

LEADERSHIP THROUGH SPORT

EXAMINATION BOARD

PEARSON

COURSE SUMMARY

By studying Leadership Through Sport you will:

- Develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance
- Understand how the physiological state can affect performance in physical activity and sport understand the contribution which physical activity and sport make to health, fitness and well-being
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the skills and techniques of coaching
- Develop knowledge related to sports leadership
- Learn about key aspects of sports leadership, such as dealing with injuries, sports psychology, sports nutrition and how to plan and run a sports event
- Demonstrate how to plan, organise and communicate effectively

ASSESSMENT DETAILS / METHOD

*Unit 1: Planning & leading sports activities	~Unit 2: Injury in sport	~Unit 8: Planning & running a sports event
Assignment	Assignment	Assignment
Internal/External assessment	Internal/External assessment	Internal/External assessment

***Mandatory** **~Optional**

OPPORTUNITIES

You will have numerous opportunities and extensive experiences whilst studying the Leadership Through Sport Course. There will be opportunities for attend educational trips to lectures and workshops run by experts from higher education. You will have the opportunity to practice and develop your coaching and leadership skills.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

- Level 3 Courses
- University Degree
- Masters
- PGCE Primary/Secondary/Higher Education
- Coaching Role

FURTHER INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-specialist/BA033351-BTEC-Splt-L2-LdrshpThrghSprt-spec.pdf

#TUFURFESEN

WHY CHOOSE GCSE

FOOD AND NUTRITION

The WJEC GCSE in Food and Nutrition will equip you with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It will encourage you to cook a range of dishes and will give you the required knowledge and understanding to enable you to make informed decisions about food and nutrition. With the knowledge you gain, you will be able to feed yourselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The specification in food and nutrition will enable you to make connections between theory and practice so that you are able to apply your understanding of food science and nutrition to practical cooking. The content relates to the study of both food and drinks.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT 1: Principles of Food and Nutrition

This will be assessed through an on-screen written examination.
1 hour 30 minutes
40% of qualification
80 marks
Two sections both containing compulsory questions.
Section A: questions based on stimulus materials.
Section B: a range of question types to assess all content related to food and nutrition.

UNIT 2 Food investigation

This will be assessed through a non-examination assessment: marked by your teacher, externally moderated by WJEC. This is worth 20% of the total qualification.

10-hour task

20% of the total marks available

Will involve practical experimental work and written work based on a specific food commodity e.g. bread, pastry.

UNIT 3 – Food & Nutrition in action

This will be assessed through a non-examination assessment: marked by your teacher, externally moderated by WJEC. This is worth 40% of the total qualification.

15-hour task

Will involve research to respond to a given brief plus planning, preparation, cooking (1 x 3-hour session) and presentation of three dishes plus accompaniments (where appropriate) to form a menu.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

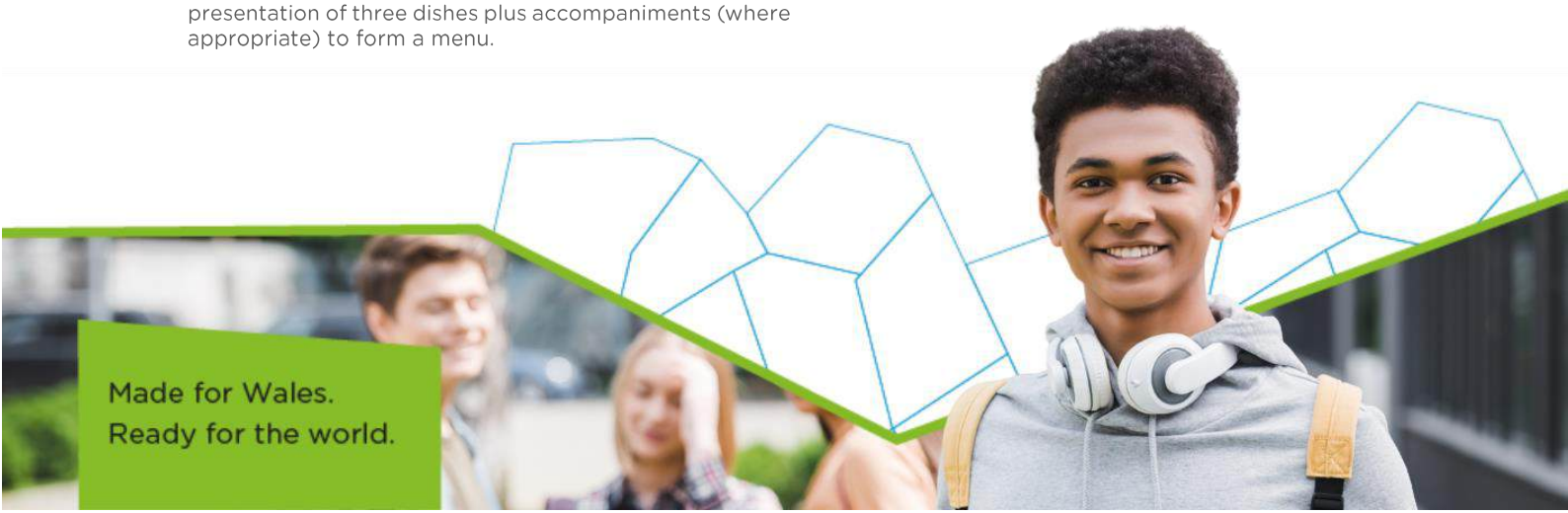
By studying food and nutrition you will be able to:

- 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 the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, including the physiological and psychological effects of poor diet 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 when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.
- Understand and explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions (traditional Welsh, British and international) to inspire new ideas or modify existing recipes.

CAREERS IN FOOD & NUTRITION

This qualification will build on subject content that you will have been taught through the progression steps and will provide a suitable foundation for the study of Food and Nutrition at Level 3 for example the WJEC Level 3 Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition. This qualification will also provide a coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study for you if you do not progress to study further in this subject. In addition, the qualification will introduce you to a new way of thinking about food which could help you make informed decisions about a wide range of career pathways.

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!



WHY CHOOSE GCSE

ART AND DESIGN?

The WJEC GCSE Art and Design qualification will support you to:

- explore the work of artists and designers to help develop your own creative talent
- develop creative skills so that you can plan, devise and design your own work
- gain practical skills, becoming increasingly sophisticated and controlled
- reflect on, evaluate and refine your work
- explore diversity, identity and culture

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The GCSE Art and Design qualification is available in the following pathways:

- Art, craft, and design
- Fine art
- Graphic communication
- Textile design
- Three-dimensional design
- Photography

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Unit 1 – Portfolio

Assessment Type: Non-exam assessment
60% of qualification: 120 marks

This unit is designed to enable you to develop knowledge, understanding and skills within the creative process. You will be encouraged to make personal discoveries and take creative risks through your own investigations. You will be required to produce a portfolio:

- through a sustained project that shows development, refinement, reflection and presentation
- that is internally set, in consultation with your teacher, based on a theme, concept or specific design brief.

Unit 2 – Externally Set Assignment (ESA)

Assessment Type: Non-exam assessment
40% of qualification: 80 marks

The ESA contains five overarching 'big ideas'. You must choose one big idea and use given stimuli as a starting point to inform your work.

You will undertake contextual and practical research and supporting studies during a preparatory period. This will inform your response during a 10-hour 'sustained focus' period.

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WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will learn to use a broad range of media, techniques, tools, digital technologies and processes depending on which pathway you choose. You will develop the skills to create artefacts – whether that is painting, fashion design, content creation, photography, or architectural models (to name a few possibilities). You will learn how to develop creative processes and working methods to develop the visual outcomes that you choose.

You will also learn and understand about working independently (with teacher support) to develop your own ideas and to meet deadlines set for your work. Through all of this, you will gain an awareness of sustainability in art and design as well as a deeper understanding of culture and identity through engaging with your emerging work.

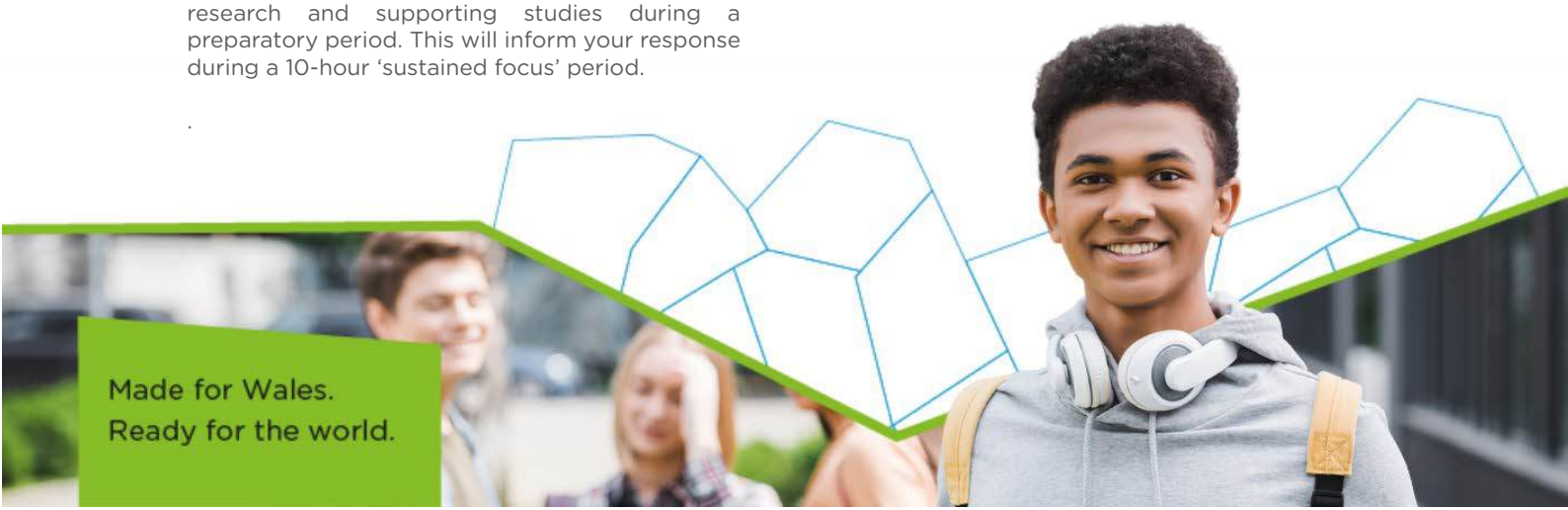
CAREERS IN ART AND DESIGN

This qualification provides a suitable foundation for the study of Art and Design at A-level. It will also provide a satisfying course of study for you if you choose not to progress to study further.

The career possibilities that come through the study of art and design are vast, a few are listed here:

Advertising, Animator, Architect, Art Therapist, Book Designer, Cartoonist, Ceramicist, Cinematographer, Costume Designer, Digital Artist, Exhibition Designer, Furniture Designer, Fashion Designer, Fine Artist, Film researcher, Food Stylist, Graphic Artist, Game Designer, Interior Designer, Illustrator, Jewellery Designer, Knitwear designer, Landscape Architect, Lighting Designer, Make-up artist, Medical Illustrator, Model Maker, Muralist, Product Designer, Photographer, Potter, Puppet Maker, Printmaker, Production Designer, Sculptor, Silversmith, Special Effects Artist, Stained Glass Artist, Tattoo Artist, Teacher, Theatre Designer, TV Director, Textile Designer, Typographer, Urban Designer, Video artist.

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!



WHY CHOOSE GCSE MUSIC?

The WJEC GCSE Music qualification will support you to:

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

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The GCSE Music qualification is based on the study and application of the elements of music:

- dynamics
- form and structure
- harmony
- melody and pitch
- performance techniques/articulation
- sonority / timbre
- tempo, rhythm and metre
- texture
- tonality.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Unit 1 – Performing

Non-exam assessment
32.5% of qualification: 78 marks
Minimum 2 pieces, 4-6 minutes
Solo and/or ensemble

You will select pieces that you wish to perform, individually or as part of an ensemble.

Unit 2 – Composing

Assessment Type: Non-exam assessment
32.5% of qualification: 78 marks
2 compositions, 3-6 minutes total

You will compose your own music in a style you choose, one to a set brief and one to your own brief. You will also submit an assessed reflective log.

Unit 3 – Appraising

Assessment Type: Digital exam (1h 30m)
35% of qualification: 84 marks

The exam questions will be based on extracts of music you will be able to listen to, and you will be expected to know and understand the elements of music and how they are used. You will study 2 set works in detail.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Exploring: you will have the opportunity to explore various styles and genres of music linked to different cultures in Wales and the world and understand how they have been created to produce the intended effect. You will be able to use these ideas to create and develop your own music. You could also compose through exploring ideas in improvisation

Responding and reflecting: you will be able to evaluate and refine your work through reflection and feedback from others, to create a successful finished product

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

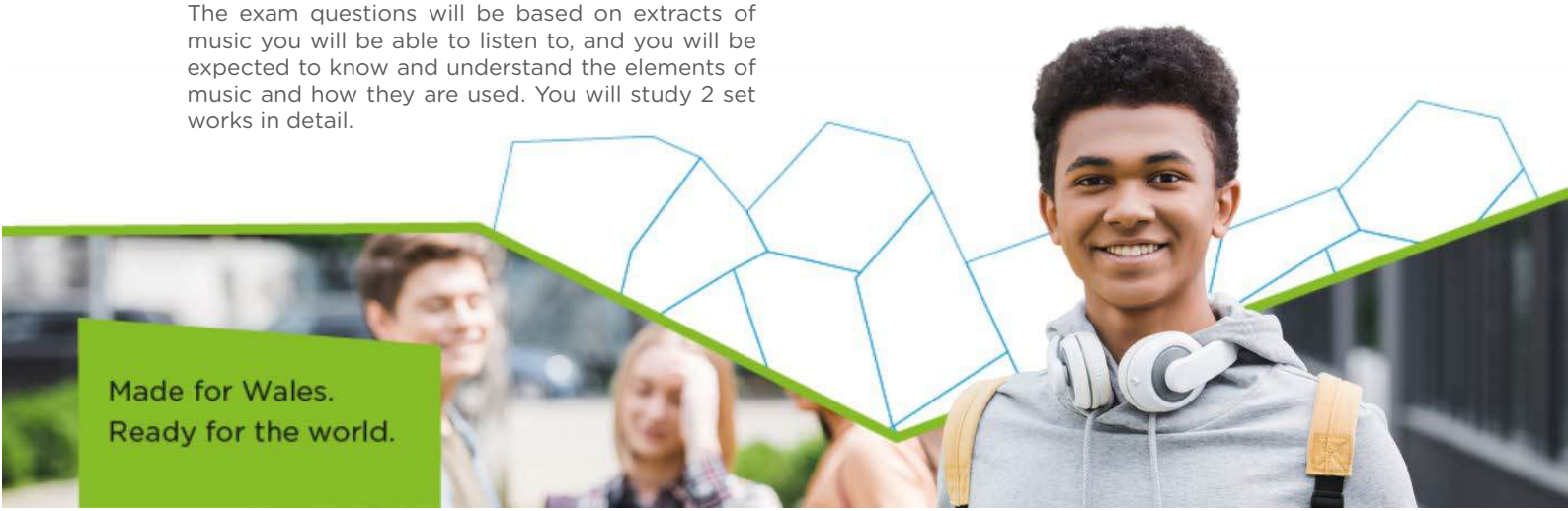
CAREERS IN MUSIC

This qualification provides a suitable foundation for the study of Music at A-level. It will also provide a satisfying and worthwhile course of study for you if you choose not to progress to study further.

In the future, Creativity is going to be one of the most important and in-demand skills at work (World Economic Forum). When business leaders across the world were surveyed, they voted Creativity as the most important workplace capability to help their businesses survive and grow. This means that the study of creative subjects, like Music, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people to give you the chance to succeed, whatever your ambitions! At the same time, you will find many opportunities to develop and improve your personal wellbeing both independently and as part of a wider community.

Importantly, studying music will develop many transferable skills including communication, presentation skills, team working, leadership, focus, refinement, creativity and self-confidence.

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!



WHY CHOOSE GCSE

COMPUTER SCIENCE?

If you take a moment to consider a world without computers, you will begin to understand why developing your knowledge of the world of computing has become such a critical success factor in modern life.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

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

Unit 1: Understanding Computer Science -

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

Unit 2: Computer Programming –

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

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Unit 1: Understanding Computer Science

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

Unit 2: Computer Programming

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

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

GCSE Computer Science will help you to:

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

CAREERS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computers are everywhere – Whilst there is a huge range of opportunities in the world of computers and programming itself, it is equally true that computers are transforming just about every aspect of life as we know it. Therefore, whether you choose to specialise in computing, or use your computing knowledge to improve your performance in other areas, choosing to improve your computing skills will never be a bad decision.

Examples of Computing careers

- Web development
- Artificial intelligence and LLM development
- Project management
- Social media platforms and Marketing
- Systems planning and analysis
- Games and interactivity systems
- Financial and security systems
- Robotics and the Internet of Things

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!

WHY CHOOSE GCSE Geography?

Geography is the study of places and the relationships between people and their environments. Geographers explore the physical properties of the earth's surface and the human societies spread across it.

What can be more important for our future?

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

TITLE/UNIT 1 – **Our Physical and Human World.**

Here you will study:

- Drainage basin and rivers.
- Changing coastlines
- Migration
- Settlement Change

TITLE/UNIT 3 – **Our Dynamic and Diverse World.**

- The geography of inequality
- The highs and lows of our weather
- Wild weather
- Continual climate change.
- Managing global challenges.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

EXAM 1 – **Unit 1 Our Physical and Human World.**

This is worth 30% of the qualification and is a written exam 1 hour 30 mins.

EXAM 2 – **Unit 3 Our dynamic and Diverse World.**

This is worth 30% of the qualification and is a written exam 1 hour 30 mins.

Non-Examination Assessments (NEA) – There **are 2 NEA** tasks:

Unit 2 Developing Fieldwork Skills 25% of the qualification.

You will carry out a field work visit based on a topic such as, change over time or environment, and investigate this in a chosen location, writing a fieldwork enquiry that will be submitted to WJEC.

Unit 4 Sustainable Solutions, 15% of the qualification

You will receive a resource booklet on a geographical issue and will also carry out background reading on the issue. You will then write a report based on a real-world issue in a decision- making task, reporting how sustainable the various options are likely to be.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

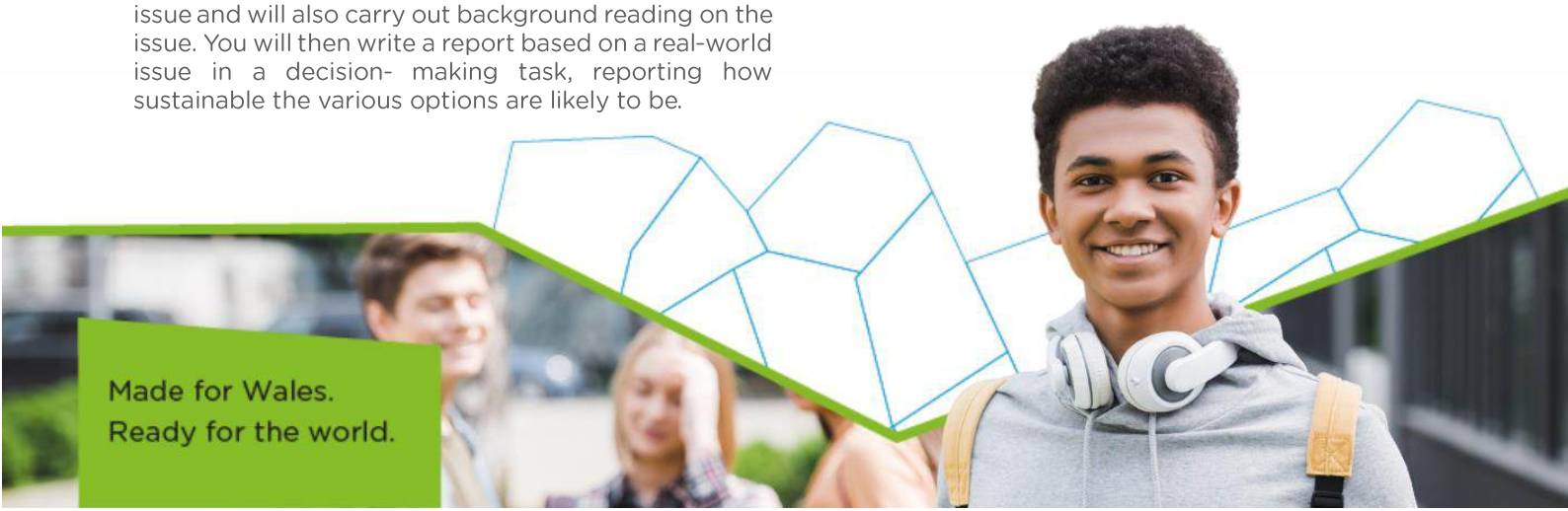
- Geography is always in the news. You will develop skills to interpret, analyse and evaluate information to make decisions about issues and problems that affect people and the environment.
- An ability to collect, process, analyse and understand qualitative and quantitative data and communicate it to a variety of audiences.
- Develop a reasoned argument and communicate it to a variety of audiences.
- Teamwork and leadership skills.
- Studying geography allows you to develop a range of personal skills for life, including time management, dealing with uncertainty, flexibility, creativity, problem solving and self-confidence.

CAREERS IN GEOGRAPHY

The transferable skills developed by studying geography are actively sought by employers. There is a wealth of jobs that geographers can do spanning almost every sector! Most jobs have an element of geography in them, whether a doctor investigating the spread of disease or an engineer designing products to cope with less demand for plastic.

"The study of geography is about more than just memorizing places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents. And in the end, it's about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together." **Barak Obama.**

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!



WHY CHOOSE GCSE

Drama?

The WJEC GCSE Drama qualification will support you to:

- explore drama created and performed by other people to help develop your own talents
- gain understanding of a range of techniques, forms, styles, genres and contexts
- reflect on, evaluate and refine your work
- explore diversity, identity and culture
- discover and explore your performance and/or design skills

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The GCSE Drama qualification will allow you to explore and respond to stimuli, create and reflect on your own work, develop your own creativity and engage with many different styles of theatre.

You will also have the opportunity to build on your understanding of acting, directing, design and technical theatre.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Unit 1 – Devising Theatre

Practical non-exam assessment
40% of qualification: 96 marks

One devised piece in response to a chosen stimulus, performed in a group of between two and five actors and up to four designers.

Unit 2 – Performance from a Text

Practical non-exam assessment
30% of qualification: 72 marks

A performance of one extract from a text of your choice. Assessed by a Visiting Examiner and performed in a group of between two and four actors and up to two designers.

Unit 3 – Interpreting Theatre

Assessment Type: On-screen examination (2 hours)
30% of qualification: 72 marks

The exam is broken into two sections: Section A and Section B. Section A will ask questions based on a set text you will have studied in lessons. Section B will ask questions based on an excerpt of a live theatre production from one of four set genres, that you will be able to watch in the exam. The genres are Musical Theatre, Naturalism, Theatre in Education or Physical Theatre.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Exploring: you will have the opportunity to explore, experience and interpret many different styles and genres of theatre linked to different cultures in Wales and the world. You will be able to build on these ideas to create and develop your own theatre when devising and when working from a script.

Responding and reflecting: you will be able to recount, evaluate and refine your work through reflection and feedback from others, to create an exciting, imaginative and successful finished product. You will also be able to evaluate and analyse the work of others to inform your own creativity.

Creating: in Unit 1, you will devise your own original piece of theatre in response to a stimulus and in a style/genre of your choice, within a group of your peers. In Unit 2, you will work from a text of your choosing, also in a style of your choosing.

CAREERS IN DRAMA

This qualification provides an excellent foundation for the study of Drama at A-level. It will also provide a satisfying and worthwhile course of study for you if you choose not to study further.

Importantly, studying Drama will develop many transferable skills including communication, presentation skills, team working, leadership, focus, refinement, creativity and self-confidence. The career options that come from studying Drama are extensive, but here are a few of those options:

Actor, Drama Therapist, Recruitment, Scenic Make-Up Artist, Marketing Executive, Casting Director, Producer, Events Management, Script Writer, Stage Manager, Primary school teacher, University Lecturer, Make up and Prosthetics Technician, Teacher, Community Arts Manager, Playwright, Lighting Designer, Costumer Designer, Workshop Leader, Sound Technician, Studio Supporting Artist, Theatre Agent, Arts Administrator, Theatre Manager, Dramaturg, Theatre/TV Director, Broadcasting Crew, Researcher.

FIND OUT MORE - TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY:
PRODUCT DESIGN

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

COURSE SUMMARY

Studying GCSE Design and Technology offers you a unique opportunity to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products. By studying this course, you will:

- Be ready to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world.
- Be aware of, and learn from, the wider influences on design and technology.
- Be able to work creatively through designing and making, and use technical and practical expertise to solve problems.
- Develop an appreciation of the importance of creativity and innovation in good design practice.
- Gain the technical skills, knowledge and understanding needed to progress to further learning.

ASSESSMENT DETAILS / METHOD

You will be completing two units during the course:

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

A mixture of short answer, structured and extended writing questions that assesses your knowledge and understanding in Product Design.

Unit 2: Design and Make task
Non-exam Assessment: approximately 35 hours
50% of the qualification

An intensive design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by WJEC, which assesses your ability to:

- Identify, research, analyse and outline design possibilities.
- Design and make prototypes and evaluate their fitness for purpose.

OPPORTUNITIES

You will gain many opportunities and experiences while studying a GCSE Design and Technology course; from the use of brand new machinery, equipment and technologies within the department to lectures and workshops hosted by experts in the fields and industries of Design and Technology.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

A good grade at GCSE Design and Technology is a great foundation for continuing to study the subject at A level. It is also a good foundation for studying design and technology courses at college or university or gaining an apprenticeship in the industry. A degree in GCSE Design and Technology can open doors to a wide range of industries and jobs such as; architecture, product design, interior design, animation, construction and many more.

FURTHER INFORMATION

WJEC GCSE Design and Technology Specification

SCIENCE (Triple Award)

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

COURSE SUMMARY

Studying GCSE Science provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. By studying this course, you will:

- Gain and apply skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and its vital role in society.
- Appreciate the unique contribution of science to an objective understanding of the material world.
- Develop a critical approach to scientific evidence and methods.
- Gain the scientific skills, knowledge and understanding needed to progress to further learning.

ASSESSMENT DETAILS / METHOD

The following assessments will be undertaken in each of the three science subjects.

Two written papers will be taken for each science subject – one in the **June of Year 10**, one in the **May/June of Year 11**. Each examination will count for 45% of the total contribution to each one of the three separate science GCSEs.

A practical examination will be taken in the **January of Year 11**. This assessment gives pupils the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to work scientifically. This will include experimental skills and strategies and skills in analysis and evaluation. The tasks will be externally marked by the WJEC.

	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Summer Year 10	Unit 1 (45%)	Unit 1 (45%)	Unit 1 (45%)
Summer Year 11	Unit 2 (45%)	Unit 2 (45%)	Unit 2 (45%)
January Year 11	Practical Exam (10%)	Practical Exam (10%)	Practical Exam (10%)

OPPORTUNITIES

Whilst studying the GCSE Science course you will have extensive opportunities and experiences; from educational trips to lectures and workshops run by experts from higher education institutions and industry.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

A good grade in GCSE Science is a great foundation for continuing to study Advanced Subsidiary, Advanced Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It is also a strong foundation for pursuing a scientific or technological career.

FURTHER INFORMATION

WJEC GCSE Biology Specification

WJEC GCSE Chemistry Specification

WJEC GCSE Physics Specification

Careers Wales – Job Information (Science and Research)

Careers Wales – Job Information (Healthcare)

WHY CHOOSE GCSE HISTORY?

We all live in a constantly changing and interconnected world. Understanding historical events is crucial for making sense of current happenings. GCSE History assists us in achieving this by examining significant events and figures from the past and their influence on our present.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The GCSE History course allows you to explore a wide and diverse selection of topics from various historical periods and societies. Students can examine, analyse, and assess historical figures and events from the extensive array of choices available. These options include:

UNIT 1: An in-depth study on Welsh history

You will study one of six historical topics to undertake an in-depth study that will provide them with an insight into the development of Wales at a specific point in time.

UNIT 2: An in-depth study on European and/or World history

You will study one of six historical topics to undertake an in-depth study that will provide them with an understanding of an issue in European and/or world history.

UNIT 3: A study of a period in world history

You will study one of six historical topics to undertake a breadth study of an extended historical period.

UNIT 4: A changing society

You will undertake a study of themed events within a continuous period of c. 75–100 years of history.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT 1: Written examination: 1 hour TBC

30% of qualification

UNIT 2: Non-examination assessment (NEA) marked by WJEC

20% of qualification

UNIT 3: Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

30% of qualification

UNIT 4: Non-examination assessment: 4 hours

Marked by centre and moderated by WJEC

20% of qualification

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

GCSE History is the perfect subject to develop a wide range of transferable skills for employment or further study, including:

- Reaching conclusions and making judgements
- Problem solving
- Writing skills
- Research skills
- Independent study skills
- Analytical and evaluative skills
- Making connections

CAREERS IN 'HISTORY'

Employers are always looking for young people who are able to think critically and analytically, both key attributes of the historian. Studying GCSE History can help you take the first steps towards a variety of career paths, including law, journalism, marketing, human resources and management.

GCSE History also serves as a platform for further study at A level and undergraduate level, either in history itself or in a wide range of alternative disciplines.

It can act as the foundation stone for education of all kinds and helps develop academic skills crucial in a range of fields. These include the ability to absorb large quantities of information, sift content, analyse sources and interpretations, shape arguments and reach balanced conclusions.

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!

Level 2

GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare (Single and Double Award)

Who is the qualification for?

The GCSE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare is suitable for learners aged 14-16 who are interested in learning about the development and care of individuals throughout the life cycle from conception to later adulthood.

There are no previous learning requirements for this qualification. It is suitable for learners who have achieved a Level 1 qualification or who have no previous knowledge of the children's care, play, learning and development sectors.

What does the qualification cover?

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.

Qualification structure

The GCSE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare is available as a single and double award. Units 1 and 2 define the subject content for the single award qualification. Units 1, 2, 3 and 4 define the content for the double award qualification.

Unit	Unit Title	Assessment
1	Human growth, development and well-being	External
2	Promoting and maintaining health and well-being	Internal
3	Health and social care, and childcare in the 21st century	External
4	Promoting and supporting health and well-being to achieve positive outcomes	Internal

Assessment

The GCSE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare, is assessed through 60% internal assessment and 40% external assessment. Candidates must successfully complete:

- externally set, internally marked assignments
- external examinations.

What could the qualification lead to?

This qualification supports progression to further learning/ training and/or qualifications, including:

- Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts
- GCE Health and Social Care, and Childcare
- Level 2 Health and Social Care: Practice (Adults)
- Level 3 Health and Social Care: Practice (Adults)
- Level 3 Health and Social Care: Practice (Children and Young People)
- Level 2 Children's Care Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory
- Level 3 Children's Care Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory
- Apprenticeships in Health and Social Care.

Further information

For further information please refer to the Health and Care Learning Wales website at www.hclw.wales.

WHY CHOOSE GCSE

French/German/Spanish?

The WJEC GCSEs in French/German/Spanish have been designed to enable you to use languages in meaningful ways. You will learn how to understand the language and communicate in both speaking in writing in realistic settings. You will also develop an awareness of the culture and society of the countries and communities where the language is spoken and make connections with your own language and culture.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course has 4 units. Two are assessed in examinations in the final year of study. The other two units are completed as non-examination assessments in your classroom, also in your final year of study. You will learn useful language that you could use in situations relating to leisure and wellbeing, travel and study or work.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT 1 – Oracy

Unit 1 is a non-examination assessment of speaking and listening and will be conducted by your teacher. Firstly, you will read aloud a short sentence to show your understanding of French/German/Spanish pronunciation. You will then take part in a role play. After this, you will give a short one-minute presentation that you will have prepared in advance and have a short discussion with your teacher about your presentation. Finally, you will take part in a short conversation with your teacher. This unit is worth 30% of the qualification.

UNIT 2 – Reading and Writing

Unit 2 is also a non-examination assessment that you will complete in your classroom. With your classmates, you will study a short work (either a graphic novel, short story, film script or novel) in French/German/Spanish. You will then write a written response (up to 200 words) in French/German/Spanish about the short story/graphic novel or film script you have studied. This unit is worth 15% of the qualification.

Unit 3 – Listening

Unit 3 is a listening examination worth 20% of the qualification. You will listen a range of speakers in French/German/Spanish and will demonstrate your understanding of what you have heard by for example, answering multiple choice questions or questions in English/Cymraeg.

Unit 4 – Reading and Writing

Unit 4 is a written examination worth 35% of the qualification. For this assessment, you will read texts in French/German/Spanish and answers questions on them in English/Cymraeg. You will also be required to complete a translation into English/Cymraeg. Finally, you will be able to demonstrate your written language skills by writing up to 120 words in French/German/Spanish from a choice of 3 questions.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- You will learn how to communicate clearly and accurately in speaking in writing.
- You will develop your understanding of the language by reading and listening items in French/German/Spanish.
- You will learn how to contribute to discussions and conversations.
- You will develop an awareness of the culture and society of the countries and communities where French/German/Spanish is spoken.
- You will make connections with your own language.

CAREERS IN FRENCH/GERMAN/SPANISH

A GCSE in French/German/Spanish can open up a world of opportunities to you. There are a wide range of career paths that you could follow with a GCSE in languages, including within the more traditionally linked tourist industry, armed forces, language services such as translation and interpreting, teaching and social services. However, the great advantage of having skills in another language is that they can serve you throughout your life and career; not only useful for travel, making friends and developing a general appreciation and understanding of others' identity and culture, but also potentially useful for ANY chosen career. A qualification in International Languages shows that you are a good communicator, are willing to learn, adapt and step out of your "comfort zone" – highly desirable for any prospective employer. It may also interest you to know that in today's global business world, employees with skills in international languages are known to attract higher salaries! What's not to like?

FIND OUT MORE -TALK TO YOUR TEACHER TODAY!

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

COURSE SUMMARY

Why choose WJEC GCSE in Digital Technology?

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

What will I study?

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

ASSESSMENT DETAILS / METHOD

Unit 1: The digital world

On-screen examination: 1 hour 30 minutes - 40% of qualification - 80 marks

An assessment (taken on-screen), comprising of a range of question types to assess specification content related to digital technology systems, the value of digital technology and perspectives on digital technology. All questions are compulsory.

Unit 2: Digital practices

Non-exam assessment (NEA): 45 hours - 40% of qualification - 80 marks

A non-examined assessment comprising of two sections. In Section A candidates will interrogate a supplied data set imported into a spreadsheet in order to inform Section B, where they will create a website incorporating either an animation or a game related to a set context.

Unit 3: Communicating in the digital world

Non-exam assessment (NEA): 15 hours - 20% of qualification - 60 mark

A non-examined assessment focusing on marketing digital assets using social media. Candidates will create digital assets related to a set context and then formulate an online digital communications campaign around them.

OPPORTUNITIES

WJEC GCSE specification in Digital Technology will enable learners to:

- become independent, confident and knowledgeable users of existing, new and emerging digital technologies
- develop knowledge of different digital technology systems used across a range of occupational sectors
- understand the impact digital technologies can have on individuals and wider society and the ways in which they can bring about change
- develop skills in organising and analysing data to identify trends and audiences
- become creators of digital products, in a variety of formats and for a variety of purposes, that meet specified, authentic needs
- develop transferable skills in using a range of hardware and software
- develop their understanding of the systems development life cycle and of how ideas can become products.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

The qualification is designed for learners who wish to embark on their journey towards a career using digital technologies or progress to higher level learning programs involving digital technologies.

Studying Digital Technology can be beneficial when considering the following careers:

- a software engineer,
- a games designer,
- a data analyst,
- online security,
- ICT project manager,
- a graphic designer,
- web designer,
- administrative posts,
- programmer,
- a business analyst,
- social media manager,
- and many other careers.

FURTHER INFORMATION

WJEC GCSE Digital Technology website

CYFLWYNIADAU
PRESENTATIONS

Cliciwch neu sganiwch y cod QR i ddarllen cyflwyniadau'r adrannau er mwyn dysgu mwy am y pynciau TGAU.

Click or scan the QR code to read our departments' presentations and to learn more regarding the GCSE courses.

COFIWCH GYSYLLTU OS OES GENNYCH UNRHYW GWESTIYNAU PELLACH

PLEASE CONTACT IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

swyddfa@ysgolcaerelen.cymru

01437 808470