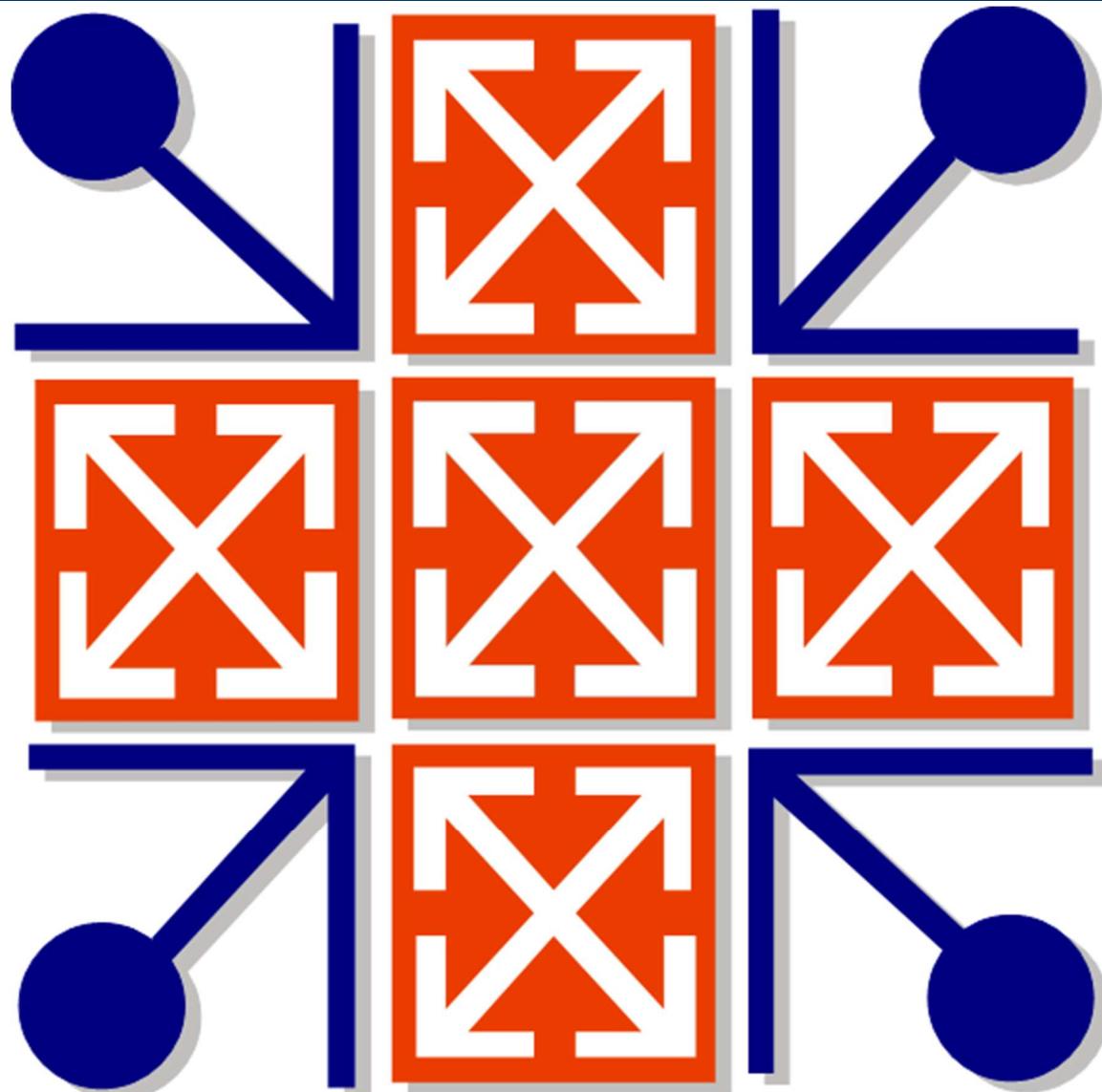


Sixth Form Curriculum & Options

Post- 16 courses for 2024-2026 study



Llantwit Major School
Ysgol Llanilltud Fawr



Llantwit Major School prides itself on the broad and balanced curriculum it offers students. Monitoring and evaluating our students' progress is one of the key aspects to our success. We aim to set challenging targets for our students throughout their school career to ensure they strive to achieve the best possible results.

We are firmly committed to:

- Setting the highest expectations, to ensure students become independent learners, and attain the knowledge, skills, understanding and qualifications necessary to ensure success in the future.
- Creating an ethos which demands high regard for self and others, ensuring that each student makes a positive contribution to the community and wider society.
- Providing a stimulating, challenging and supportive curriculum which meets the needs and interests of all students and celebrates success for all.
- Developing dynamic and meaningful partnerships between the school and the wider community which have, at the core, the aim to raise attainment and promote learning as a lifelong activity.

Why should I continue studying post Year 11?

There are many advantages to continuing your education into sixth form. Obviously, you will gain extra qualifications which are needed for you to access courses at universities and colleges. You will be giving yourself the time to develop as a person, to become more mature and enhance the social skills necessary for the outside world. Other skills such as time management and independent study will develop, proving to admissions tutors/employers that you're adaptable and can work using your own initiative.

Continuing your education specifically in Llantwit Major Sixth Form has the following benefits:

- You know the school and the school knows you! Familiar teachers and surroundings will help you settle in quickly.
- Since we know in advance which courses are running and how many students we will have, you will start your course in the first week of term – enrolment in our Sixth Form will only take an hour.
- The majority of classes are small and run by experienced teachers.
- Textbooks and many other resources are supplied by the departments.
- We have three rooms for use only by Sixth Form students, complete with access to computers.
- There is excellent pastoral support in place to help you through any difficulties you may be experiencing.
- You can access expert help and advice on what to do when you leave the Sixth Form.

- We provide you with many opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities outside the classroom to enrich your time with us.

Prospective new students to Llantwit Major Sixth Form

- If you are considering joining us- wonderful! We always have a number of new students from other schools and you will be made to feel very welcome. Initially, please make contact with the school to let us know and provide your contact details.
- We would love to arrange a tour of the school so that you can have a look around and get to know some key members of staff.
- We would encourage you to attend our sixth form open evening which takes place in late November. You will be invited on the evening to indicate which courses you are interested in studying.
- We will be in contact later in the school year giving you advice on what to do next with regards to letting the school know about your GCSE results and when the school will be open to discuss any further advice you may need prior to starting with us in September.

What qualifications do I need to get into the sixth form?

We try to offer courses appropriate to students of all abilities. Clearly we want everyone to succeed and we will advise each student individually on the best course of study for them.

All students will need a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade C or above. Only GCSEs, BTECs and WBQ will be considered as part of our entry requirements. Qualifications such as SWEET, Agored, Finance and Prince's Trust will not be considered in applications for sixth form.

We offer a selection of A level equivalencies at Level 3 in the sixth form, some of which are a progression from the Level 2 ones taken at KS4. These include L3 OCR IT, L3 Applied Science, Sport, Public Services and Criminology.

Entry requirements vary by subject, but the minimum entry requirement for any subject will be at least a C at GCSE in that subject. These appear as 'essential' requirements in each subject's information in the sixth form options booklet.

Some departments will allow pupils to enrol at AS Level without having taken it at GCSE, but will require evidence of ability in a similar subject. Please check the sixth form options booklet for subject-specific information. Our Leaders of Learning are the experts and they will make the final decision regarding whether individuals are suitable for certain courses.

Some departments have other requirements e.g. to study Mathematics at AS Level pupils must have an A grade at GCSE after studying the Higher Tier course. Pupils are selected for the Further Mathematics route due to the independent study demands of the course.

It is compulsory for any pupil that has not achieved at least a C in English and/or Maths at GCSE to resit in Year 12 and resit lessons will be provided.

How many subjects will I study at AS Level?

All our Sixth Form students are expected to study a total of **4 AS level or equivalent qualifications**.

To continue with a subject in Year 13, you must have achieved at least an E grade at AS Level. In Year 13 you must be studying a **minimum of 3 A level or A level equivalency subjects**.

How do I choose my subjects?

Already have a university degree in mind? If so, go to www.ucas.com and look at the ‘search for courses’ section. This will lead you to universities offering the course you wish to study - it will mention subjects required in their details.

Not sure what you want to do after Sixth Form? Choose subjects you enjoy the most and you think you will do well in. A good balance of subjects will be most likely to allow you to keep your options open. You can speak to the Director of Sixth Form about which subjects work well together.

Interested in Russell Group universities? These will have the highest number of applicants. Please visit www.russellgroup.ac.uk and look at the section called ‘**informed choices**’ where you can find advice on the subjects you should consider selecting.

What help and support will I get?

The **Director of Sixth Form** oversees the sixth form team. It is their job, supported by the sixth form tutors, to monitor your overall attendance and progress.

There is also a full-time **Sixth Form Wellbeing Officer**. They are the first point of contact for your parents and you can approach them at any time to discuss your wellbeing, progress and any concerns you may have, or just to have a chat!

All sixth form pupils are assigned to a tutor group led by a **sixth form tutor**. You will get to know your tutor really well and they should be your first port of call if there is something you feel you need to discuss.

For the vast majority of students, their time in the Sixth Form passes by with few problems, but we do have stringent procedures in place to ensure that you get the best out of your time with us. Academic progress is monitored regularly and communication is maintained with subject tutors, form tutors and parents so that support and guidance can be given if and when needed. The Sixth Form Wellbeing Officer will monitor your attendance very closely and will be in touch with you and your parents if your attendance causes concern. If we are concerned at any point about your attendance or progress you may be placed in mentoring, on a contract or instructed that you are expected to remain on the school site during your study periods.

How will my timetable be different to Year 11?

Your subject choices will appear on your timetable as you have been used to previously. However, for the first time since starting school, you will also have independent study periods (ISPs) as part of your timetable. We advise that this study time should be spent in one of the two sixth form study rooms working independently – we recommend that for every hour you spend on a subject in the classroom you put in at least another hour of your own time. If we have any concerns about your attendance or progress you will be instructed to remain onsite during study periods and will sign in and out at the sixth form office.

What extra-curricular opportunities are on offer?

There are a range of responsibilities you can take on in the Sixth Form, these include but are not limited to:

- Becoming part of the Senior Prefect team
- Paired reading tutoring for lower school students
- Supporting students from our feeder primary schools
- Peer mentoring
- Becoming a school council representative
- Being a lower school form buddy
- Focused lower school lesson support with a link department
- Duty support in an area of your choice
- Becoming part of an assembly team
- Planning events throughout the year to enrich sixth form life
- Organised sporting activities e.g. running clubs and charity football matches
- Developing your skills in public speaking through debating competitions like Rotary Youth Speaks.

What Careers support can I access?

The work-related education department is run by **Mrs L Gallo**. The Careers Education Programme is designed to ensure students have a good understanding of career opportunities/ pathways after sixth form. The Careers Advisor from “Careers Wales” can also provide you with guidance/counselling to ensure you make the right decisions about your future.

What help will I get with university applications?

You will be supported fully through the whole process, whether you are certain about what you want to do or have no idea at all. Applications are carried out electronically and full training and support is given for this. We encourage all students who apply to take advantage of Open Days and other visits, some of which we arrange for you. Help will be supplied with making choices, writing personal statements, preparing for university entrance exams and mock interviews will also be carried out if you wish. Those students applying for medicine or Oxbridge are provided with a wealth of additional support.

What about finances?

We fully support students' applications for the Educational Maintenance Allowance and many of our students are entitled to this means tested payment to help them stay on in full-time education. EMA is available for 16 to 18 year olds living in Wales, who want to continue their education after school leaving age. If you're eligible (it is based on parents'/carers' income) you could get £40 a week, paid every two weeks. Guidance/support is given with attendance (high levels are expected!) to ensure you receive regular payments.

What does the options process look like?

The **sixth form marketplace event, on 27th October**, provided our year 11 students with a wealth of information about the courses on offer to them. This is organised and presented by our current sixth form students, so that the information provided is in an engaging format and pupils feel comfortable asking the relevant questions about their chosen subjects. It is a perfect opportunity, along with open evening, to explore the options available.

The **sixth form open evening** takes place on the **23rd November at 6pm**. Firstly, we encourage you all to attend! Use this options booklet to make some initial preliminary choices and have discussions with the relevant teachers to help build up an appreciation of the courses.

Once you have attended the open evening, you should complete the **online options form** to indicate your preferred institution and subject choices if you wish to study at Llantwit by **Monday 4th December**. These initial choices will be used to put together the option blocks. Please be advised that whilst we will do our very best to accommodate everybody courses may not run if there is very limited interest.

On **Tuesday 5th December**, we are running a **sixth form taster day** for our prospective students. This will allow students to gain an insight into what life will be like in the sixth form and experience taster sessions in their choice of subjects. There will also be opportunities to explore our study areas and other facilities, as well as speak to current sixth form students throughout the day. If any external students would like to take part please contact the Director of Sixth Form via the school email address and we would be delighted to accommodate you.

Options interviews will take place in the spring term so that we can all be sure you are making the right decision. A confirmation letter regarding final choices will be sent home in the summer term.

GCSE Results Day is Thursday 22nd August. Hopefully your results will be as expected, in which case you do not need to do anything more until September. Things not gone quite as planned? Don't worry. Members of the sixth form team will be on hand and in school on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd August to meet with you individually and discuss next steps.

September – You will be given information on results day regarding Year 12 enrolment. This information will be emailed to new starters to the school.

Subject choices

Art and Design

Business

Criminology

Design Technology - Product Design

Home Economics -Food Science

Home Economics -Textiles

Home Economics- Health & Social Care

Drama - Theatre Studies

English Language/ Literature

English Literature

French

Geography

History

OCR ICT

Mathematics

Media Studies

Music

BTEC Sport

Psychology

BTEC Public Services

Religious Studies

Science - Applied Science

Science – Biology

Science - Chemistry

Science - Physics

Sociology

Welsh

Welsh Baccalaureate (Advanced)

Art & Design

Art, Craft and Design and Photography

Teacher in charge of the course	Miss K Donaldson
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS & A Level Art, Craft and Design or Photography (Qual Code AS 1650QS/A level 2650QS QAN 601/5347/7 601/5290/4)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	The GCE in Art and Design has been designed to encourage an adventurous and enquiring approach to the subject. Artistic studies are encouraged in fine art, photography, mixed media, painting, printmaking and other digital media.
Assessment format	<p>Year 12 - AS Level, Unit 1: Personal Creative Enquiry Unit 1 is worth 40% of the overall A Level grade. It is purely coursework based and there is no exam in year 12. Pupils will have the opportunity to choose a theme for their work and they will work to develop a portfolio of practical and theoretical work, using a range of 2D and 3D artistic materials, including Photography and digital media.</p> <p>Year 13 - A Level, Unit 2: Personal Investigation Unit 2 is worth 36% of the overall A Level grade and is a personal- led project. Pupils will work independently to develop a portfolio containing practical and theoretical work based on a theme that has personal significance to them. Pupils will also be required to write an extended piece of writing about their chosen artists.</p> <p>Year 13 - A Level, Unit 3: Externally Set Assignment Unit 3 is the exam unit and is worth 24% of the overall A Level Grade. In February of year 13 pupils will receive an exam paper and will choose a theme/question to base their work on. After the preparatory period pupils will then sit a 15 hour controlled assessment, in April/May, completed under supervised exam conditions, during which they will create their final outcome. The exam questions are set by WJEC, all work is internally assessed and a sample from each unit is then externally moderated by WJEC.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is <u>essential</u> for students to have achieved an <u>A* - C GCSE grade in EITHER Art, Photography, Graphics, 3D Design or Art Textiles</u> . All students will be expected to have an enthusiastic interest in the subject and a dedication to producing self-led creative and written work.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	AS/A Level Art and Design will prepare you for a Foundation Course in Art or to a Degree Course in a variety of areas including: 3D Design Graphic Design Multimedia Photography Fashion Architecture Fine Art

**What else do I
need to know?**

For more information please talk to your Art teacher or see the WJEC website.

Business

Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs L Gallo
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level Business (Qualification Codes: 1510QS A Level 2510QS AS QAN 601/5238/2 601/5260/6)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	The overall aim of the course is to enable you to develop an understanding of business concepts and theories through critical consideration of current business issues. You will also develop a range of numerical skills and make justifiable decisions using both quantitative and qualitative methods.
Assessment format	AS Units: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Business Opportunities ● Business Functions A2 Units: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Business Analysis & Strategy ● Business in a Changing World
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	Although it is very useful to have done GCSE Business Studies before tackling the AS course, many students starting from scratch enjoy the challenge of a new subject.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	It is ideal preparation for further study of Business or Management at degree level, entry onto vocational qualifications or direct entry into employment.

What else do I need to know?

At least a grade C in Maths and English would be desirable for students studying this course.

Criminology

Teacher in charge of the course	E Rushworth																								
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology (601/6248/X)																								
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>We are all inquisitive about crime and its impact on society. Criminology encompasses Sociology, Law and Psychology. Gaining an insight into these subjects in relation to crime and the legal system allows you to develop your analytical/questioning skills. It also provides an opportunity for in-depth analysis of controversial topics such as the nature vs nurture debate, the impact of the media on crime in society and the roles of those involved in an investigation process.</p> <p>An understanding of criminology is relevant to many jobs within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and Sociology and Psychology.</p> <p>This qualification is very popular because of its applied nature and methods of assessment. Some students naturally perform better in the controlled assessment written report, which provides them an additional form of assessment alongside the end of year examinations.</p>																								
Assessment format	<p>The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is assessed through a combination of 2 written examinations, set and marked by WJEC, and 2 centre-marked assignments.</p> <p>Qualification structure and content</p> <p>The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is made up of four mandatory units:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Unit Number</th> <th>Unit Title</th> <th>Assessment</th> <th>GLH</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Changing Awareness of Crime</td> <td>Internal</td> <td>90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Criminological Theories</td> <td>External</td> <td>90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Crime Scene to Courtroom</td> <td>Internal</td> <td>90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Crime and Punishment</td> <td>External</td> <td>90</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology				Unit Number	Unit Title	Assessment	GLH	1	Changing Awareness of Crime	Internal	90	2	Criminological Theories	External	90	3	Crime Scene to Courtroom	Internal	90	4	Crime and Punishment	External	90
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What qualifications do I need to start the course?	A C grade or above at GCSE English or English literature would be <u>desirable</u> .																								

How can I use this course after Year 13?	The course has elements of Psychology, Law and Sociology that complement the study of humanities. The main qualification supports access to higher education degree courses, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BSc Criminology ● BA Criminology ● BA Criminology and Criminal Justice ● BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology ● LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology ● BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology ● BA (Hons) Criminology ● BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology ● BSc Criminology with Law
What else do I need to know?	An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, including police officers, probation and prison officers and social workers. With their enhanced critical thinking, analytical and communication skills, Criminology graduates are also attractive to employers outside the criminal justice sector in areas such as social research and politics.

D&T - Product Design

Teacher in charge of the course	Mr J Martlew
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Product Design (Qual codes A level 1603QS AS 2603QS QAN Codes 601/8485/1 601/8439/5)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>Product Design encompasses a wide range of possible areas of study from engineering, graphics, architecture, electronics and product design, hopefully presenting a broad range of possibilities to students. Studying Product Design may enhance the study of Art, IT/Computing, Business Studies, Physics or Maths.</p> <p>The course involves identifying situations or problems and developing and creating design solutions. The content is delivered with reference to contemporary societal and technological issues to enable students to experience and build their own technological understanding. Students refine their ability to translate ideas into well manufactured 3D outcomes using traditional and/or CAD/CAM methods. Designing and manufacturing should help students to see the relationship between designer, manufacturer and user, to develop a greater perception of Design and Technology in the real world.</p>
Assessment format	<p>AS Unit 1: Written paper 1 Written examination: 20% of A Level 2 hour paper - paragraph/extended essay writing questions</p> <p>AS Unit 2: Design and make task non-exam assessment: Approximately 40 hours. 20% of A Level Project work developed from a self- directed theme - candidates must work through the design process to design and make a product that directly meets the needs and wants of a chosen target market.</p>

	<p>A2 Unit 3: Written paper 2 Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 30% of qualification. The exam includes a mix of structured and extended writing questions to assess knowledge and understanding of D&T.</p> <p>A2 Unit 4: Design and make project non-exam assessment: Approximately 60 hours 30% of qualification - A sustained design and make project, based on a brief developed by the candidate.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is <u>desirable</u> for candidates to have achieved a <u>GCSE A* - C grade in either Graphics, Product Design or Textiles.</u>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	Solving problems is a part of day -to -day life, so the technique of finding answers to practical problems is a useful life skill. Design careers are many and varied and the course can be used to access foundation courses, HND and Degree courses. Typical careers could include: automotive; aeronautical; civil; structural or mechanical Engineering; interior Design; architecture; CAD Operator; Product Design; furniture design; industrial design; jewellery design; graphic design; illustration; animation; advertising; model making; television and theatre design; multimedia design.
What else do I need to know?	The department encourages involvement in several competitions. We encourage students to actively seek the assistance of local experts in execution of major projects. Local businesses have in the past been very involved and supportive of our students.. More information on A Level Product Design can be found here https://youtu.be/VrUJgcBs7Ac?si=WqLQp0qHlpojHm

Level 3

Food Science & Nutrition

Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs R Newbrook
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition (Qual Code Yr13 4563QDU Yr12 4563QCU QAN 600/4386/6 600/4385/4)

Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>An understanding of food science and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. Care providers and nutritionists in hospitals use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives. Many employment opportunities within the field of food science and nutrition are available to graduates.</p> <p>The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition has been designed to provide learners with underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills to progress to further study and training. You will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Meeting the Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups- this unit will enable the learner to demonstrate an understanding of the science of food safety, nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts, and through ongoing practical sessions, to gain practical skills to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals. · Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat- Learners develop their understanding of the science of food safety and hygiene; essential knowledge for anyone involved in food production in the home or wishing to work in the food industry. Practical sessions will support the gaining of theoretical knowledge and ensure learning is a tactile experience. · Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition- Students have the opportunity to explore current food related issues and investigate them further- for example, organic food, the rise in obesity in childhood etc.
Assessment format	<p>AS Level 1 Mandatory unit 50% Meeting the Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups- Practical exam and external written paper.</p> <p>A Level 2 units, each worth 25% Ensuring food is safe to eat- Coursework task Current issues in Food Science and Nutrition- individual project.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	<p>It is <u>desirable</u> to have studied Food/Catering at GCSE Level, although it is not essential to have done so in order to join the course. Many students find a food link with Sports Science and Biology.</p>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>This course could lead to relevant careers related to an improvement to the quality of life and provide a basis for further study. Possible careers could include food science, dietetics, teaching, health education, food journalism, management within the retail industry, food technology or consumerism.</p>
What else do I need to know?	<p>This course will be of value and interest to students whose principal interests are food and nutrition.</p>

Textiles Design

Teacher in charge of the course	Ms T Games
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC GCE Art and Design Textile Design (A Level 1653QS AS level 2653QS QAN Code 601/5290/4 A 601/5347/7 AS Level)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>The course is focused on developing your ideas and creativity. Experimenting with different processes, techniques and materials will allow you to try different aspects of Textiles such as installation, fibre art, surface design, mixed media, as well as fashion design, surface pattern and embellishment.</p> <p>You will be introduced to a wide range of contemporary and historical artists, designers and craftspeople. This will take the form of discussions and slideshows as well as first-hand visits to galleries and exhibitions. You will be given ongoing feedback which will allow you to refine and develop your working practices so you meet your creative potential.</p>
Assessment format	<p>The specification is divided into a total of three units, one AS Unit and two A2 units. Weightings are expressed in terms of full A level qualification.</p> <p>GCE AS Level Unit 1: Personal Creative Enquiry (40% of qualification 160 marks) unit comprises of workbook and considered final piece.</p> <p>GCE A Level: Unit 2 Personal Investigation (36% of qualification 160 marks) unit comprises of workbook and considered final piece. Unit 3: Externally Set Assignment (24% of qualification 100 marks) Pupils select one of 14 topics to explore during an 8 week preparatory period followed by a Controlled Assessment of 15 hours. All units are internally assessed and externally moderated.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is <u>desirable</u> but not essential for you to have studied Textiles at GCSE Level. Many students new to Textiles have been successful in previous years, but it is important to understand that you will be expected to be prepared to put in the effort to gain the knowledge and understanding gained at GCSE if you are new to the subject.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>Studying Textiles equips you with a whole set of transferable skills both for life and in a wide range of vocational areas. These include lateral thinking, creative problem solving, analytical and critical thinking, verbal reasoning, communication, risk-taking, the ability to use your own initiative, time-management and organisation.</p> <p>The course is a gateway for those students wishing to undertake further studies in art, craft and design-related subjects including Foundation courses, as well as entry onto degree courses such as Textile Design, Fashion Design, Surface Pattern, Fine Art, Advertising, Photography, 3D, Architecture, Product Design and Illustration.</p>

**What else do I
need to know?**

You will enjoy this course if you are creative and enjoy experimenting with different ideas, materials or techniques. The course specialises in Art Textiles and as such can be studied in conjunction with other fine art or photography- based courses.

Health & Social Care and Childcare

Teacher in charge of the course	Miss N Richards
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Health and Social Care Single Award (Qual Code A level 2570QS/ AS 1570QS QAN 500/4867/3 500/4814/4)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>Health and Social Care A/AS offers candidates a holistic learning experience, with the opportunity to engage local employers, and the possibility of work experience. Candidates also have the opportunity to learn in an applied health and social care context, developing fundamental personal and professional skills.</p> <p>Whilst the qualification is not designed for candidates' direct entry into specialised employment within the health and social care sectors, it does offer a suitable foundation for employment in the sectors in a more general context, as well as for the study of health and social care through higher education.</p>
Assessment format	<p>AS Unit 1 Promoting health and wellbeing 50% (20% A level) - Mandatory unit. Written exam.</p> <p>AS Unit 2 Supporting health, wellbeing and resilience in Wales- 50% (20% A level) - Mandatory unit. Coursework.</p> <p>A2 Unit 3- Theoretical perspectives of children's and young people's development- 30% Written exam.</p> <p>A2- Unit 4 Supporting the development, health, wellbeing and resilience of children and young people- 30% Coursework.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	There are no specific entry requirements in terms of qualifications. However, you need to be reliable, have a mature attitude and a willingness to work hard and meet deadlines.

How can I use this course after Year 13?	This course is an excellent foundation on which to build further study in Child Psychology or Social work, Nursing, Early Years, Teaching or Midwifery.
What else do I need to know?	You will be taught by a team of teachers delivering different aspects of the course.

Drama - Theatre Studies

Teacher in charge of the course	Miss H Toms
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC GCE AS/A Level Drama & Theatre Studies (Qual Code 1690QS A Level 2690QS AS Level QAN 603/0289/6 603/0290/2)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>AS Year 12: AS Unit 1: Theatre Workshop 24% AS Unit 2: Text in Theatre Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 16%</p> <p>A Level Year 13: A2 Unit 3: Text in Action 36% A2 Unit 4: Text in Performance Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 24%</p>
Assessment format	<p>AS Unit 1: Theatre Workshop 24% Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of theatre based on a reinterpretation of an extract from a text chosen from a list supplied by WJEC. The piece must be developed using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company.</p> <p>AS Unit 2: Text in Theatre 16% Questions based on 1 performance text, <i>A View from the Bridge</i>, Arthur Miller.</p> <p>A2 Unit 3: Text in Action 36% Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus supplied by WJEC: -a devised piece using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company (a different practitioner or company to that chosen for Unit 1) -an extract from a text in a different style chosen by the learner</p> <p>A2 Unit 4: Text in Performance 24% Two questions based on two different texts: Sweeney Todd, Stephen Sondheim & The Absence of War, David Hare.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is <u>desirable</u> to have studied GCSE Drama but many students choose AS Drama and Theatre Studies who have not studied Drama before.

How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>Our students are regularly accepted to top drama colleges with many already working in the Performing Arts Industry. However, this is the age of the 'presentation' where products/ ideas are sold in a competitive market on the basis of how well the presenter can vouch for his/her point of view. No-one is exempt from the need to be able to communicate clearly and studying Drama can support this. Interviews require confidence and an ability to speak clearly with using relaxed, appropriate body language.</p> <p>A level Drama and Theatre Studies also compliments several other courses such as Music, History RS, Psychology, Sociology, Media and English.</p>
What else do I need to know?	<p>Essentially delivered through practical experiences, lessons do involve aspects of written work, e.g. performance appraisals. Completing tasks by deadlines is an integral part of the course - there are a variety of mid-term assessments and you will be continuously assessed, so excellent attendance is vital.</p>

English Language/ Literature

Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs C Pearson
Qualification and Exam Board	<p>WJEC AS and A Level English Language and Literature (Qual Code 1710QS A Level 2710QS AS Level QAN 601/5388/X 601/5404/4)</p>
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>At AS Level you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse poetry and make comparisons between the poetry and unseen texts • Produce pieces of creative writing and then write a commentary, analysing your own work • Study a play written post 1900 • Study an extended non-fiction text. <p>At A Level you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study a play by Shakespeare • Study a novel • Compare a range of unseen texts using linguistic terminology • Produce a coursework folder which contains a study of a genre chosen by you and then a linked piece of creative writing which adheres to the conventions of that genre. <p>Skills developed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analytical skills • Understanding of literary genres and periods • Communication and debating skills • Creative Writing Skills • Linguistic skills and understanding of how words work within a sentence.
Assessment format	In Year 12, you will sit two exams which will contribute 20% each to the whole A Level. In Year 13, you will complete a coursework unit, which comprises of a comparison of texts

	and a piece of creative writing and is worth 20% of your overall grade, as well as a further two exams.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	To be able to access this course, it is essential to have achieved <u>at least a C in GCSE English Language</u> and <u>at least a B GCSE English Literature</u> .
How can I use this course after Year 13?	An English A level is one of the most highly regarded qualifications regardless of where you want to go next. There is the obvious route such as studying English at university, journalism, media and law, but a sizable percentage of our students have gone on to study everything from medicine to art. English A levels develop valuable interpretative, analytical and communication skills which can demonstrate you are a well-rounded and perceptive candidate for any job or university course.
What else do I need to know?	If you can't decide between English Literature or English Literature and Language, then think about the elements of your GCSE course you particularly enjoyed. For example, if you enjoyed the oral and creative writing units, then English Literature/Language is probably for you. If you enjoyed studying novels, plays and poetry and writing about them, then opt for English Literature. If in doubt, ask your teacher!

English Literature

Teacher in charge of the course?	Mrs C Pearson
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level English Literature (Qual Code 1720QS A Level 2720QS AS Level QAN 601/5389/1 601/5405/6)

Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>At AS Level you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study a pre-1900 novel ('Jane Eyre') Explore a drama text ('A Streetcar Named Desire') Analyse a range of post 1900 poetry in detail and compare the poems. <p>For A Level English Literature you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study both extended works of poetry and develop the skills to analyse unseen poetry texts Study a text by Shakespeare Produce a coursework assignment comparing two novels from two different genres (one pre-2000, one post-2000). <p>Skills developed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical skills Ability to discuss different viewpoints Understanding of literary genres and periods Ability to write a strong literary argument Communication and debating skills.
Assessment format	In Year 12, you will sit two exams which will contribute 20% each to the whole A Level. In Year 13, you will complete a coursework unit, worth 20% of your overall grade, as well as a further two exams.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	To be able to access this course, it is essential to have achieved <u>at least a C in GCSE English Language</u> and <u>at least a B GCSE English Literature</u> .
How can I use this course after Year 13?	An English A level is one of the most highly regarded qualifications regardless of where you want to go next. There are the obvious route such as studying English at university, journalism, media and law, but a sizable percentage of our students have gone on to study everything from medicine to art. English A levels develop valuable interpretative, analytical and communication skills which can demonstrate you are a well-rounded and perceptive candidate for any job or university course.
What else do I need to know?	The English Department aim to take students on theatre trips and visit universities for outside lectures. English literature is not just about studying books. It also encompasses history, media, philosophy, cultural changes and psychology as all these things have an influence on the literature we study.

French

Teacher in charge of the course	Madame H Marshallsay
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Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC A level French (Qual. code: AS Level 2800QS, A Level 1800QS QN code: 603/0288/4, 603/0287/2
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>Through the course you will be able to communicate more effectively, confidently and clearly in the French. You will focus primarily on acquiring the grammatical and linguistic skills necessary for effective communication in the foreign language.</p> <p>The subject content covers two main areas of interest: Social issues and trends and Political, intellectual and artistic culture. From these areas the following four themes have been chosen to offer learners an extensive and pertinent learning experience:</p> <p>AS - Being a young person in French-speaking society/ Understanding the French-speaking world</p> <p>A Level - Diversity and difference. / France 1940-1950: The Occupation and the post-war years</p> <p>Learners study at least one film in Yr 12 and one literary text in Yr 13, taken from a prescribed list.</p>
Assessment format	<p>Assessment will be divided into five units:</p> <p>Unit 1 (AS) (12% of A Level) Non-exam speaking assessment involving discussion of topics studied during the year.</p> <p>Unit 2 (AS) (28% of A Level) A written examination in listening, reading, translation and a critical response in writing based on a film studied in Year 12.</p> <p>Unit 3 (18% of A Level) A non-exam speaking assessment where learners present and discuss their own independent research project.</p> <p>Unit 4 (30% of A Level) A written exam in listening, reading and translation.</p> <p>Unit 5 (12% of A Level) A written exam on a literary work studied in Year 13.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	A <u>minimum of a B in GCSE French</u> is <u>essential</u> .
How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>The study of a foreign language opens up a host of possibilities in later life. You can of course choose to study French at University or perhaps study a new language altogether. There are also a range of degree courses with other subjects, such as French and English, French and Law or French and Management Studies/Business. Most Universities view the study of a language at A Level as advantageous for many degree courses. Being competent in a foreign language shows what great communication skills you have.</p> <p>As far as jobs are concerned, a foreign language could open doors into a variety of professions, ranging from business and law to travel, translating and maybe even teaching! Perhaps the most exciting opportunities, however, lie in living and working in the countries where the target languages are spoken.</p>
What else do I need to know?	The study of a modern language at A Level requires dedication and commitment. It involves you taking responsibility for your own learning and revising independently the grammar and vocabulary that you are taught. As communication is the key, you are encouraged at all times to speak in the foreign language, whether it is in the lessons or in time spent with native speakers. Don't be afraid of making mistakes!

Geography

Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs R Carpenter
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC GCE Geography (Qual code - 1110QS - A Level & 2110QS - AS level QN code - 601/8455/3 & 601/8484/X)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>AS Unit 1 Changing Landscapes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigating changing coastal landscapes - explaining landforms, challenges & management. Investigating tectonic hazards - analysing volcanoes & earthquakes. <p>Unit 2 Changing Places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigating changing places - challenges facing urban & rural areas, locally & globally. Fieldwork investigations to be undertaken over two days, studying physical & human geographical themes. <p>A2 Unit 3 Global Systems and Global Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigating Global Systems - water and carbon cycles Investigating Global Governance - ocean governance & global migration Investigating 21st Century Challenges. <p>Unit 4 Sustainability & Tectonic Hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary Themes in Geography - Ecosystems & Biomes and weather & climate. <p>Unit 5 Independent Investigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-exam assessment (3000-4000 words). Pupils can choose an area of geography to complete an investigation with guidance from their teacher.
Assessment format	<p>Unit 1 - 24% - 2h written paper.</p> <p>Unit 2 - 16% - 1h 30 written paper.</p> <p>Unit 3 - 24% - 2h written paper.</p> <p>Unit 4 - 16% - 2h written paper.</p> <p>Unit 5 - 20% - 4000 word fieldwork investigation.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	<p>If you studied Geography at GCSE it is essential to have achieved at least a C, although a minimum of a B is desirable.</p> <p>If you did not study Geography at GCSE, it is essential to have achieved a minimum of a C in GCSE English, Mathematics and Science but you will need to discuss this with the Leader of Learning.</p>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>Common careers that many geographers go into include: business, IT, finance, law, environmental charity sector, marketing, environmental consultancy, disaster management, town planning, education, human resources, travel and tourism, landscape architects, sustainable development and meteorology.</p> <p>Geography is an academic discipline which also allows pupils to demonstrate artistic flair and scientific critical thinking. Geography is highly respected at university level and by employers because of the numeracy, literacy & ICT skills inherent in the qualification.</p>

	Geography provides pupils with many transferable skills, including teamwork, analytical problem solving and communication skills.
What else do I need to know?	There has never been a more important time to study geography. We live in a dynamic physical, technological and political world. Geographers are key decision makers on climate, migration, geopolitics, pollution and resources.

History

Teacher in charge of the course	Dr J-M Alter
Qualification and Exam Board	GCE A Level and AS Level – WJEC examination board. (Qual Codes 1100QS A Level 2100QS AS Level QAN Codes 601/5817/7 601/5830/X)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>AS History in Year 12 Unit 1: History of Wales and England 1880-1980- examined by factual questions Unit 2: Nazi Germany c1929-1939- examined by evidence questions</p> <p>A Level History in Year 13 Unit 3: Poverty, protest and rebellion in Wales and England c.1485-1603- examined by essay questions Unit 4: Nazi Germany c1933 – 1945- examined by essay Unit 5: Assessed by coursework topics studied have included Russia 1905-17, USA 1770-84</p> <p>As you gain and understand historical knowledge, you will learn to employ a range of historical skills (e.g. evaluation of sources) and you will gain expertise in transferable skills like research, evaluating and forming arguments, gathering information as well as presentational skills. The study of history will stimulate a genuine interest in the past and lay the foundations for what may become a lasting and absorbing leisure pursuit in adult life.</p>
Assessment format	There are two examinations at AS Level. Each of the modules will be examined. At A2 Level there is one paper and course work.

What qualifications do I need to start the course?	If you did History at GCSE a <u>minimum of a C grade is essential</u> . If you did not do History at GCSE we would consider you if you have <u>achieved a minimum of a C grade in English or another humanities subject</u> but you will need to discuss this with the Leader of Learning.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	The course provides you with a basis for applications to many Higher Education courses. You are also trained in skills that would be of great benefit in such areas as: Law, Education, Research Work, Archive Work, Archaeology, Treasure Hunter, Museum Service, Personnel, Administration as well as Management in the Civil Service, Local Government and Business.
What else do I need to know?	GCE History shows that you have a high level of literacy and that you are able to analyse complex information, make judgements based on facts and assess various viewpoints and theories. These skills are highly valued by both colleges and employers. Moreover, they are invaluable in life as we make decisions and sift through the myriad of information, news and hype that the media and other sources bombard us with. History also gives us a sense of perspective and development- 'He who ignores History has no past and no future!'

OCR Cambridge Technicals in IT

Teacher in charge of the course	Mr M J Bell
Qualification and Exam Board	OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technicals Certificate in IT QAN Code 600/4228/X (1 AS level Equiv.) OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT QAN Code 600/4623/5 (1 A level Equiv.) Developed with the University of Cambridge the course has a practical approach, to offer students a qualification created to develop transferable skills that are essential in the workplace or for further study.
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>Students take 2 mandatory elements.</p> <p>Unit 1: Communication and employability skills for IT- to equip students to use a variety of communication skills, and help them understand the skills an employer wants and how to adapt the message to their audience.</p> <p>Unit 2: Information systems - This unit will ensure that students have a greater understanding of how organisations use information. The functionality of information and the ability to produce management systems plus 4 optional units such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Computer systems</i> - <i>Interactive media authoring</i> - <i>Computer networks</i> - <i>Spreadsheet modelling</i> - <i>IT technical support</i> - <i>Database Design</i> - <i>Computer Game Design</i> - <i>Communication Technologies</i> - <i>Website production</i> - <i>Web Server Scripting</i> - <i>Computer animation</i> - <i>Digital Graphics</i>
Assessment format	All units are internally assessed, and externally moderated by an OCR Moderator. There are no external tests or exams, and ongoing assessments and moderations can take place at any time. Individual units are graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction.

What qualifications do I need to start the course?	To study Cambridge Technicals you need no formal qualification in the subject, but if you have studied an IT course previously you will find that the course will build on knowledge and skills you have already developed. The key factor is that you have an interest in and are enthusiastic about the subject.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	The skills you will develop on this course are up to date and will equip you well for the future whether you choose to go into employment or onto further study on courses such as Computer Science, Cyber Security, Animation or Games Design. The skills you develop on this course will also benefit you if following non-IT related courses.
What else do I need to know?	In IT you will develop a range of skills that are essential for most careers and are valued by employers. IT is widely used in all aspects of government, business, industry, education, leisure and the home. In a technological age, computers are used in the solution of a variety of problems and are not only valuable to business but also essential to the future well-being of the country. ICT integrates well with subjects across the curriculum. It demands both logical discipline and imaginative creativity; it encourages an awareness of the management and organisation of computer systems; it extends the students' horizons beyond the school or college environment in the appreciation of the effects of computer applications on society and individuals. For these reasons, it is as relevant to a student studying Arts subjects, as it is to one studying Science subjects.

Mathematics/ Further Maths

Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs M Martin
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Mathematics (Qual Code AS 2300QS A Level 1300QS QAN 603/1983/5 603/1977/X) WJEC Further Mathematics A level 1305QS QAN 603/1980/X
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>AS Level Mathematics– Year 12: Two Units</p> <p>Unit 1 (Pure Mathematics): Extending your understanding of number work including algebra, functions and vectors.</p> <p>Unit 2 (Mechanics and Statistics): Application of pure mathematics topics to mechanics and statistical contexts.</p> <p>A Level – Year 13: Two Units</p> <p>Unit 3 (Pure Mathematics): – Further extending your pure mathematics skills including applications of differentiation and integration.</p> <p>Unit 4 (Mechanics and Statistics): Developing skills from year AS.</p> <p>AS Level Further Mathematics - Year 12 - Three Units</p> <p>Unit 1: Pure Mathematics A Unit 2 : MechanicsA Unit 3: Statistics A</p> <p>A Level: Two Units</p> <p>Unit 4: Pure Mathematics B Unit 5 or 6: Mechanics B or Statistics B</p>

Assessment format	In year 12 you will complete unit 1 and unit 2, worth 25% and 15% of your total GCE respectively. In year 13 you will complete unit 3 and unit 4 worth 35% and 25% of your total GCE respectively. If you choose to study Further Mathematics you study the full A level Mathematics in year 12 and the full A level in Further Mathematics in year 13.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	The complexity of the mathematics you will use at A level is a significant step up from that studied at GCSE. For this reason it is an <u>essential</u> requirement that those opting for Mathematics A level have achieved <u>at least a grade A in GCSE Mathematics</u> at Higher Tier (excludes Mathematics Numeracy which does not have sufficient algebra content). To opt for Further Mathematics you need to choose maths in BOTH option columns.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	The mechanics module studied in year 12 is useful for further studies in Physics, Engineering courses or Architecture. The statistics module studied in year 13 is useful for further studies in Geography, Medicine, Sports Science, Biology or Psychology courses. An A Level in Mathematics impresses all employers and opens up job opportunities in various professions such as: banking, insurance, accountancy, industry, engineering, the RAF. With a Degree in Mathematics the world is your oyster ... and there is always teaching!
What else do I need to know?	Being able to offer mathematics A level when applying to universities is a big selling point. You will need to purchase a calculator with the ability to carry out statistical calculations, this costs around £20, although we can on occasions source these for a little less. Come and talk to any member of the Mathematics Department for further information about the course.

Media Studies

Teacher in charge of the course	Miss H Toms
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC GCE A Level and AS Level (Qual Code 2680QS A Level 1680QS As A Level QAN 603/1976/8 603/1982/3)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Skills developed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analytical and Communication skills • Ability to discuss different viewpoints • Understanding of gender representation, • Ability to evaluate your own productions

Assessment format	<p>This specification is divided into 4 units, 2 AS and 2 A2 units.</p> <p>AS Unit 1: Investigating the Media Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 24% of qualification.</p> <p>Section A: Selling Images – Advertising and Music Video; Section B: News in the Online;</p> <p>Section C: Film Industries – from Wales to Hollywood</p> <p>AS Unit 2: Creating a Media Production Non-exam assessment 16% of qualification.</p> <p>A media production, including individual research and planning, created in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC.</p> <p>A2 Unit 3: Media in the Global Age Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 36% of qualification</p> <p>Section A: Television in the Global Age; Section B: Magazines – Changing Representations; Section C: Media in the Digital Age – Video Games</p> <p>A2 Unit 4: Creating a Cross-Media Production Non-exam assessment 24% of qualification</p> <p>A cross-media production, including individual investigative research and development, created in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	A <u>minimum of a 'C' grade or above GCSE English or English literature would be desirable.</u>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>Most universities now deliver Media Studies courses. An A Level in Media could help to establish a career in journalism, television, film, radio, music production, advertising and publishing.</p> <p>To future employers, A Level Media Studies demonstrates dedication and commitment, an analytical understanding of Media texts, an understanding of gender representation and evaluative skills.</p>
What else do I need to know?	Any experience with IT software such as Photo-shop and Serif drawplus would be extremely helpful. Students should choose this subject because they have an interest in Media in all forms and are prepared to work independently to complete set tasks. We will be looking at a range of different Media texts such as photography, film, advertisements and how different genres present these Media texts.

Music

Teacher in charge of the course	Miss H Toms
Qualification and Exam Board	Edexcel BTEC Level 3 National Certificate and Extended Certificate in Music performance (QAN Code cert: 603/3027/2 ex cert: 601/7090/6)

Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Designed to support progression to higher education this programme gives a broad overview of the music sector with a focus on Performance, including musical skills development and professional practice. Unit 1: Ensemble Music Performance Unit 2: Solo Music Performance Unit 3: Practical Music Theory and Harmony Unit 4: Professional Practice in the Music Industry
Assessment format	There is a mixture of external and internal assessment tasks. Assessment will involve Live and recorded performance in both a solo and group capacity. Recorded performances will be used as coursework evidence in a digital portfolio which is assessed at four stages throughout the year.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	GCSE Music is desirable but not essential. You will need to play an instrument or sing to a competent standard and be able to perform both solo and with others.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	In the BTEC National units, there are opportunities during the teaching and learning phase to give learners practice in developing employability skills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cognitive and problem-solving skills: using critical thinking, approaching non-routine problems by applying expert and creative solutions, using systems and technology • interpersonal skills: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation • intrapersonal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development. There are also specific requirements in some units for assessment of these skills where relevant, for example where learners are required to undertake real or simulated activities.
What else do I need to know?	If you have a passion for performing but find the theory elements of music more challenging, this course is for you. This course carries the same UCAS points as a traditional A Level. The Music course is a very varied and vocationally linked course. It gives you a fresh opportunity to be involved in other aspects of Music if you are interested, but have never been a top performer yourself. It is also a different type of qualification for pupils who do not mind exams but prefer the structure of assignment based work that you can prepare and re-submit over the course.

PE BTEC Sport

Teacher in charge of the course

Mr J Crocker

Qualification and Exam Board	Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport (601/7218/6)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>4 units of study which will include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Unit 1 Anatomy and Physiology ● Unit 2 Fitness Training and Programming for Health, sport and wellbeing ● Unit 3 Professional Development in the Sports Industry ● Unit 7 Practical Sports Performance
Assessment format	<p>The course is equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.</p> <p>External assessments which are assessed via an exam make up 67% of the course with the remaining 33% being assessed by coursework.</p> <p>Pupils are able to attain a pass, merit or distinction which are respectively equivalent to an E, C or A at A Level.</p> <p><i>A certificate qualification can be gained for studying 1 year of the course (unit 1 and unit 7).</i></p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	A minimum of a C in GCSE PE and/or a minimum of a pass at BTEC PE is essential in order to access the course. An interest in sport and exercise is essential. You should enjoy sport and be keen to find out more about the world of sport. You must be prepared to work independently and meet various deadlines.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	Future career paths you could consider after studying this course include sports development, working in the sports leisure industry, sports physiotherapy, PE teaching, coaching sports or fitness instructor.
What else do I need to know?	BTECs embody a fundamentally learner-centered approach to the curriculum, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied in project-based assessments. They focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be able to succeed in employment and higher education. This is designed to be a 2 year course. Final grading is given at the end of year 13.

Psychology

Teacher in charge of the course	Miss E Rushworth
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A2 Level Psychology (Qual Code 1290QS A Level 2290QS AS Level QAN 601/5719/7 601/5759/8)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>AS- Approaches in Psychology: You will learn about the five psychological approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Biological · Psychodynamic · Behaviourist · Cognitive · Positive <p>Each approach explains human behaviour in a slightly different way.</p> <p>Research Methods (this includes maths- investigating behaviour.) How psychologists design and conduct different research.</p> <p>A2- Topics studied in Y13 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Addiction · Schizophrenia · Criminal Behaviour · Controversies in Psychology- non -human animals, ethical cost of research. <p>Practical Research- Research Methods (applied)- 2 personal investigations carried out by the students which include an exam.</p> <p>Students will develop literacy, numeracy, communication and problem-solving skills, as well as learning to design, evaluate and think critically about psychological research.</p>
Assessment format	100% examination.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	A minimum of <u>a C in English</u> and a <u>B in English Literature</u> is <u>essential</u> . A <u>minimum of a B in GCSE Mathematics</u> is essential. A <u>minimum of 2 Cs in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science is essential</u> .
How can I use this course after Year 13?	The qualification is accepted at all universities. It will provide students with an excellent knowledge base for going on to study psychology at degree level and students will have learnt many transferable skills that they will be able to use in all college/university courses and all careers. Psychology can open doors to an array of career paths that require interaction or an understanding of human behaviour and development. The study of Psychology can lead to careers in areas such as healthcare, management, social work, research, teaching, marketing, advertising and human resources.
What else do I need to know?	AS & A2 exams involve a variety of questions Inc. 25 mark essays to 3 mark answers and mathematical skills such as correct construction and interpretation of graphs/charts and calculating measures of central tendency / dispersion and statistical analysis

	Excellent attendance and enthusiasm for learning will be necessary in order to succeed in psychology A-Level
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BTEC Public Services

Teacher in charge of the course	Mr J Crocker
Qualification and Exam Board	Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services (603/5067/2)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>Units: 4 units of study that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Unit 2 Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Protective Services ● Unit 5 Teamwork, Leadership and Communication in the Uniformed Protective Services ● Unit 11 Expedition Skills ● Unit 13 Introduction to Criminology
Assessment format	<p>This is an A Level equivalent.</p> <p>A Level. Four units, two of which are mandatory and one is external.</p> <p>External assessments which are assessed via an exam make up 33% of the course with the remaining 67% being assessed by coursework.</p> <p>Pupils are able to attain a pass, merit or distinction which are respectively equivalent to an E, C or A at A Level.</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	<p>A <u>minimum of a C in GCSE English is desirable</u> so pupils can manage the literacy aspects of completing assignments— see Mr Crocker to discuss if you feel that you might be interested.</p> <p>You must be interested in current issues in the public domain, you might have an interest in different public services, and how to pursue a career in a specific field i.e. police force, fire brigade, army etc.</p>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>Public organisations are the largest employers in many parts of the UK, and this public services qualification will prepare you for a career in this exciting and diverse sector.</p> <p>Pupils could further their studies with a university degree or go on to work in a range of public service fields.</p>

What else do I need to know?	You will develop a number of skills in leadership and independent study. This qualification is designed to support learners who are interested in learning about the uniformed protective services sector. It gives them a broad basis of study, designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.
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Religious Studies

Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs M A Williams
Qualification and Exam Board	AS/A2 Religious Studies WJEC (Qual Code A level 1120QS AS level 2120QS QAN603/0277/X 603/0279/3)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>AS: <i>Unit 1: An Introduction to the Study of Judaism.</i> This section provides learners with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth and broad study of four fundamental religious themes: religious figures and sacred texts; religious concepts; religious life and practices.</p> <p>Unit 2: An introduction to Religion and Ethics and the Philosophy of Religion. The Ethics section provides learners with the opportunity to undertake an in depth and broad study of four fundamental ethical themes: ethical language and thought; Aquinas' Natural Law; Fletcher's Situation Ethics and Utilitarianism. Pupils will also explore moral issues such as abortion, euthanasia, homosexual relationships, polyamorous relationships, animal experimentation, and war. The philosophy section includes an in depth study of; cosmological and teleological arguments about the existence of God; The problem of Evil and differing Religious experiences</p> <p>A2: Unit 3: A study of Judaism. Includes a study of religious figures and sacred texts; significant historical and social developments in religious thought/ religious practices that shape religious identity.</p> <p>Unit 4: Religion and Ethics. Includes an in depth study of Meta Ethics, Kant's moral law; free will and determinism; immigration and capital punishment</p> <p>Unit 5 Philosophy of Religion. Includes an in depth study of Ontological arguments for the existence of God; Challenges to religious belief and experience; Freud; Jung.</p>
Assessment format	Pupils will sit two examinations at the end of year 12 and three examinations at the end of year 13. Internal assessments will take place throughout the course. As the exam is essay-based, assessments will also take the same format.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is possible to follow this course without having taken full course GCSE RS, but if you did not, then it is <u>essential</u> for you to have achieved <u>a minimum of a B grade in either GCSE English or English Literature</u> . However, we would be happy to consider any student who shows real interest in the subject and who possesses a determination to do their very best to succeed.

	If you did study full course RS then it is essential for you to have achieved a <u>minimum of a B grade.</u>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	Many people are surprised to find that Universities and employers hold a qualification in RS highly as it is a subject which requires analytical skills, a high level of thinking skills and problem-solving techniques. It can be used as a base for a vast variety of courses and careers which would include medicine, teaching, social work and law
What else do I need to know?	The course is extremely interesting but you need to be the kind of young person who likes to ask questions and is not content with the obvious answer. You will need to be able to research up to date examples and engage in reading what different scholars and philosophers have to say too. You need to be interested in world events and want to discuss what is happening and why.

BTEC Applied Science

Teacher in charge of the course	Mr C Searle
Qualification and Exam Board	Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science Qualification number 601/7434/1
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Unit 1: Chemistry: Structure and bonding, production and use of substances. Biology: Cell structure and function, Cell specialisation, tissue structure and function. Physics: Working with waves, waves in communication. Unit 2: Lab equipment and its calibration, titrations and preparation of standard solutions, colorimetry, calorimetry, chromatography. Unit 3: Under exam conditions students will need to: Plan, carry out, collect, Process and evaluate data. Unit 8: Structure and function of the musculoskeletal system, impact and disorder on physiology of lymphatic system, physiology of digestive system.
Assessment format	Equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%). Unit 1: Principles of Applied Science: Written exam: 2 hours worth 90 marks. Externally set and marked Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques: Internally assessed coursework. Based on practical chemistry skills. Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills Externally assessed coursework: 60 marks. Based on practical chemistry skills Unit 8: Physiology of Human Body Systems: Internally assessed coursework

What qualifications do I need to start the course?	A minimum of a C in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science is essential while a minimum of 2 Cs is desirable. To be able to cope with the level of material covered during the course, it is essential that students also have at least a C grade in GCSE Mathematics.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	BTEC National qualifications provide a broad introduction that gives learners transferable knowledge and skills. These qualifications are for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning. The qualifications prepare learners for a range of higher education courses and job roles related to a particular sector. They provide progression either by meeting entry requirements in their own right or by being accepted alongside other qualifications at the same level and adding value to them.
What else do I need to know?	If you are interested in BTEC Applied Science please feel free to discuss the content of the course further in school with Mr Searle, Mr Fellows or Ms Hunt

Science- Biology

Teacher in charge of the course	Miss L G Wainwright
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level Biology (Qualification Codes: A level 1400QS / AS 2400QS QAN code 601/5846/3)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Biology is the study of life. Studying Biology at A level will enable you to develop a vast array of skills and acquire knowledge about the natural world and all the living things within it. You will study topics such as biological molecules, cells, enzymes, cell division, biodiversity of organisms, adaptations, photosynthesis, respiration, microbiology, homeostasis and genetics amongst others. You will also acquire the skills and ability to apply mathematical skills in biological contexts and analyse, interpret and evaluate a broad range of scientific information.
Assessment format	<p>AS Units (weightings and exam length in brackets):</p> <p>Unit 1: Basic Biochemistry and Cell Organisation (20% - 1 hour 30 minutes) Unit 2: Biodiversity and Physiology of Body Systems (20% - 1 hour 30 minutes)</p> <p>A level Units:</p> <p>Unit 3: Energy Homeostasis and The Environment (25% - 2 hours) Unit 4: Variation and Inheritance (25% - 2 hours) Unit 5: Practical Examination in Biology (10% - 2 hour experimental task & 1 hour practical analysis task)</p>

What qualifications do I need to start the course?	<p><u>At least two B grades in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science are essential</u> while at least one A grade is <u>desirable</u>.</p> <p>To be able to cope with the level of material covered during the course, it is also essential that students have at least a B grade in GCSE Mathematics</p>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	Previous Biology students have gone on to study biomedical science, medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, forensics, marine biology, zoology, sports science, anthropology, architecture, law and accountancy to name but a few of the very diverse options!
What else do I need to know?	Most students find AS and A level Chemistry and Mathematics to be of great benefit when studying Biology as it complements the biochemistry and statistics topics covered during the course. If you are interested in Biology please feel free to discuss the content of the course further in school with Miss Wainwright, Mr Sherrin or Mrs Denscombe.

Science- Chemistry

Teacher in charge of the course	Mr R Jones
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level Chemistry (Qual Codes: A level 1410QS / AS 2410QS QAN Codes 601/5847/5 601/5866/9)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Studying Chemistry at A level will enable you to develop a vast array of skills and acquire knowledge about the interactions between materials. You will study topics such as formulae and equations, bonding, simple equilibria and acid-base reactions, thermochemistry, halogenoalkanes, instrumental analysis, enthalpy changes, stereoisomerism, aldehydes and ketones and organic synthesis and analysis amongst others. You will also acquire the skills and ability to apply mathematical skills in chemical contexts and analyse, interpret and evaluate a broad range of scientific information.

Assessment format	<p>AS Units (weightings and exam length in brackets):</p> <p>Unit 1: The Language of Chemistry, Structure of Matter and Simple Reactions (20% - 1 hour 30 minutes)</p> <p>Unit 2: Energy, Rate and Chemistry of Carbon Compounds (20% - 1 hour 30 minutes)</p> <p>A level Units:</p> <p>Unit 3: Physical and Inorganic Chemistry (25% - 1 hour 45 minutes)</p> <p>Unit 4: Organic Chemistry and Analysis (25% - 1 hour 45 minutes)</p> <p>Unit 5 Practical Examination in Chemistry (10% - 3 hour Experimental Task & 1 hour Practical Methods and Analysis Task)</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	<p><u>At least two B grades in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science are essential while at least one A grade is desirable.</u></p> <p>To be able to cope with the level of material covered during the course, it is also essential that students have at least a B grade in GCSE Mathematics.</p>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>Chemistry A level is looked at preferably by a number of different fields, from medicine and chemical research to engineering and accounting. The skills gained in this broad and challenging course help to equip students with the ability to achieve in a wide variety of subjects.</p> <p>Examples of careers include medicine, chemistry, biochemistry, dentistry, veterinary sciences, forensic research, engineering, accountancy and physiotherapy.</p>
What else do I need to know?	<p>Due to the complementary nature of the courses students would benefit from studying other science A level subjects as well as mathematics.</p> <p>Students / Parents are welcome to discuss the content of the course further in school with Mr Jones, Miss Gunn or Mrs Denscombe.</p>

Science- Physics

Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs E Denscombe
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level Physics (Qualification Codes: A level 1420QS / AS 2420QS QAN 601/5867/0)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Physics provides the foundations for understanding the physical world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Gaining an A level in Physics will open up a vast range of opportunities for both university degrees and career options. You will study topics such as kinematics, dynamics, energy concepts, astrophysics, particle physics, photons, lasers, circular motion, thermodynamics and medical physics amongst others. You will also acquire the skills and ability to apply very high level mathematical skills in physical

	contexts and analyse, interpret and evaluate a broad range of scientific information.
Assessment format	<p>AS Units (weightings and exam length in brackets): Unit 1: Motion, Energy and matter (20% - 1 hour 30 minutes) Unit 2: Electricity and Light (20% - 1 hour 30 minutes)</p> <p>A level Units: Unit 3: Oscillations and Nuclei (25% - 2 hours 15 minutes) Unit 4: Fields and Options (25% - 2 hours) Unit 5: Practical Examination in Physics (10% - 1 hour 30 minute experimental task & 1 hour practical analysis task)</p>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	<p><u>At least two B grades in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science are essential while at least one A grade is desirable.</u> <u>To be able to cope with the level of material covered during the course, it is also essential that students have at least a B grade in GCSE Mathematics.</u></p>
How can I use this course after Year 13?	In addition to studying Physics beyond Advanced Level the course would also be useful in a wide range of other disciplines, most notably the study of various strands of engineering at degree level. Previous A level Physics students have gone on to work at CERN and within other areas such as aerospace and defence, meteorology and climate change and medicine.
What else do I need to know?	We are very keen for our A level physics students to sit the Physics Olympiad exam. This not only complements the A level course of study but it is also an excellent addition to UCAS personal statements! Students/Parents are welcome to discuss the content of the course further in school with Mrs Denscombe or Mr Howells.

Sociology

Teacher in charge of the course?	Miss E Rushworth
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A2 Level Sociology (Qual Code 1200QS A Level 2200QS AS Level QAN 601/5237/0 601/5258/8)

Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>The study of people, society and how they react to each other. You will study 4 units:</p> <p>AS Unit: 1 Acquiring Culture. Focusing on the theme of socialisation, identity and culture and is divided into two sections.</p> <p>Section A - Processes of cultural transmission, including socialisation and the acquisition of identity.</p> <p>Section B Families and households. Family forms and diversity.</p> <p>Assessment is through compulsory questions and a choice between two essay questions.</p> <p>Unit 2: Understanding Society and Methods of Sociological Enquiry.</p> <p>This unit focuses on the themes of education and methods of sociological enquiry.</p> <p>Section A Methods of sociological enquiry.</p> <p>Section B Education.</p> <p>Assessment is through compulsory questions and a choice between two essay questions.</p> <p>A2 Unit 3: Power and Control- Crime and Deviance-</p> <p>Focuses on issues relating to social order and social control via crime and deviance.</p> <p>Assessment is through a compulsory section with two questions and a further section with a choice between two essay questions.</p> <p>Unit 4: Social Inequality and Applied Methods of Sociological Enquiry</p> <p>Based on the themes of social differentiation-inequality, power and stratification</p> <p>Assessment is through a choice of two sections with two questions in each, one of which is an essay.</p>
Assessment format	100% examination
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is essential to have achieved at least a C in GCSE English. If you studied Sociology at GCSE, it is essential to have achieved a minimum of a C.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	Develops organisational and communication skills and an ability to understand social behaviour and the world around you. The subject has universal acceptance as a qualification for entry into higher education and professional careers, and is a springboard to a number of careers including: education, social work, journalism, caring professions, management, police, law, and politics. The subject leads to many different careers in such diverse areas as research, social work, nursing, policing, management, the NHS, politics and teaching.
What else do I need to know?	Complimentary to other areas of study especially other social sciences and humanities subjects e.g. History, English, Politics, Psychology, Geography, Languages.

Welsh

Teacher in charge of the course	Mr D Harries
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level (Qual Code 1020QS A Level 2020QS AS Level QAN Codes 601/5392/1 601/5403/2)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Knowledge and Understanding - In the AS and A Level specification, candidates are required to show knowledge and understanding of: the structures, grammar and patterns of both spoken and written Welsh within a meaningful context. Skills - To develop candidates abilities in both oral and written language for a range of audiences and purposes . This could include using appropriate terminology, selecting relevant extracts from texts in discussions, to explain and exemplify personal opinions, discuss and respond to contemporary multimedia culture such as theatre, broadcasting, film and journalism and discuss attitudes and values found in texts.
Assessment format	AS Unit 1 - Oral Examination: Film and Oracy 15% of qualification 60 marks Section A : Discussing a film Section B : Personal response AS Unit 2 - Non-examination Assessment 10% of qualification 60 marks Candidates to write 3 extended pieces. Total of between 1,500 and 2,000 words AS Unit 3 - Written Paper: 2 hours The Use of Language, and Poetry 15% of qualification 120 marks Section Advanced Level (the above and three additional units) A2 Unit 4 - Oral Examination: Section A: Living through the medium of Welsh Section B: Discussing a play Section C: Personal response Synoptic Assessment Drama and Oracy - 25% of the qualification A2 Unit 5 - Written Paper: 2 hours The Welsh language in Society and Translanguaging 15% of qualification 80 marks A2 Unit 6 - Written Paper: 2 hours The Use of Language and the Short Story 20% of qualification 100 marks
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	To be able to cope with the level of material covered during the course, it is <u>essential</u> that students have <u>at least a B grade in GCSE Welsh Second Language</u> .
How can I use this course after Year 13?	The course offers a suitable foundation for further study of Welsh Second Language or a related field, by means of a range of HE courses (e.g. university degree) or direct entry into employment. Welsh language skills are increasingly important for employment in Wales.
What else do I need to know?	The AS and A Level in Welsh Second Language encourages learners to study Welsh with interest, enjoyment and enthusiasm in order to communicate correctly and fluently both orally and in writing. These skills would allow pupils to play an appropriate role in a bilingual society at the beginning of the twenty-first century.

Welsh Baccalaureate

Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs K J Rosser
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales (Qual Code 9503Q0 QAN 601/4917/6 Level 3)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<p>The Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales Qualification delivered from 2023 is designed for learners to take part in a variety of exciting activities, through which they will develop and apply four Integral skills (Planning and Organisation, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Creativity and Innovation and Personal Effectiveness) and three Embedded skills (Digital Competence, Literacy and Numeracy).</p> <p>The qualification is an A level graded A* to E. UCAS points are attached to the qualification, as with all other A levels. The course is designed to support learners to become effective, responsible and active citizens and prepare and equip students for future employment or educational studies.</p>
Assessment format	<p>Assessment takes place through controlled assessments carried out in school. Sample student work is sent away for external moderation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Global Community Project (25%): This will involve research of a global issue, developing a deeper understanding of the issue and presenting the issue to an audience; proposing solutions to the global issue in a local context; and carrying out a community activity addressing the community issue and becoming an active citizen. Completed in Year 12 2. Future Destination Project (25%): This will involve a self-assessment in preparation for a future destination; exploring potential, realistic future employment and producing a detailed Personal Employment Destination Plan; and devising an initiative which could have a positive impact on others. Completed in Year 12 3. Individual Project (50%): This is an independent, research-based assignment on an individually selected subject. Learners demonstrate the knowledge and skills to produce a written investigation or an artefact/product supported by written research; and learners will reflect on how the development of their Integral and Embedded Skills throughout the course has enabled them to plan, manage and produce their Individual Project. Completed in Year 13.

What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is essential for learners to have achieved 5 GCSE qualifications grade C or above (or equivalent) and will have developed skills in Planning and Organisation, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Creativity and Innovation, and Personal Effectiveness to this level.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	<p>The Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales Qualification is an A level graded A* to E. UCAS points are attached to the qualification, as with all other A levels. Cardiff University, for example, (a Russell group University) accepts the Qualification for all courses, including medicine.</p> <p>Many students have used their Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate qualification to gain access to their chosen university course. Employers also value the qualification, with pupils able to demonstrate workplace skills they have developed from completing the qualification.</p>
What else do I need to know?	<p>As part of the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales Qualification, you will take part in a number of activities outside the classroom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Community Activity (15 hours, independently organised) · Research on a Global issue · Exploration of possible future destinations · Development of an initiative which could have a positive impact on others · Completion of an individual research project, usually with a focus on a future educational or career aspiration. <p>There are no final exams.</p> <p>Assessment takes place through classroom based controlled assessments throughout the 2 year course.</p> <p>Many universities discuss the Individual Project learners complete as part of the Advanced Baccalaureate Qualification during interviews for university places.</p>