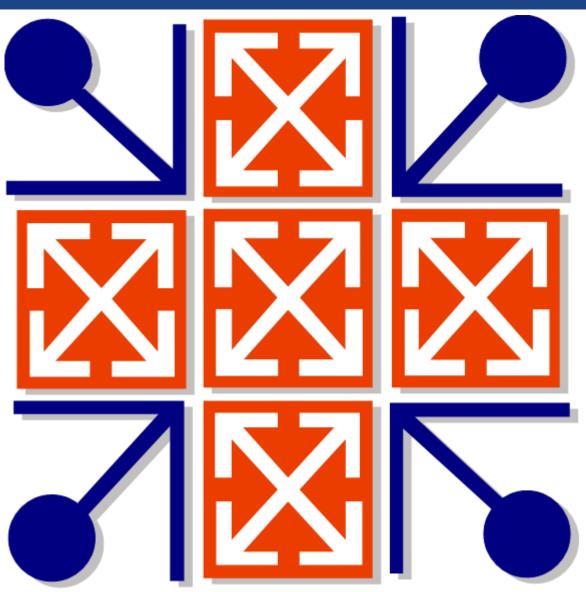
# Sixth Form Curriculum & Options

**Exciting courses for future careers 2022-2024** 



Llantwit Major School Ysgol Llanilltud Fawr

A School for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century at the Heart of the Community



**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 individual results.

We believe that:

### People are our greatest asset

We are therefore committed to ...

- Setting the highest expectations, to ensure students become independent learners, and attain the knowledge, skills, understanding and qualifications for success in the future.
- Creating an ethos which demands high regard for self and others, and ensures 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 learners 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.

#### Any questions?

#### Why should I stay in education?

There are advantages to continuing your education at Llantwit Major Sixth Form, or elsewhere. Obviously you will gain extra qualifications which are needed for you to access courses at universities and colleges, and employers also look for evidence of education beyond GCSE. But there are also other benefits to staying on too:-

You give 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 in Llantwit Major Sixth Form has benefits of its own:-

- You know the school and the school knows you! Familiar teachers and surroundings will help you settle in quickly
- Because 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 the Sixth Form will only take one day
- The majority of classes are small and run by experienced teachers
- Textbooks and many other resources are supplied by the departments
- We have 2 Rooms for use only by Sixth Form students, complete with access to computers
- There is pastoral support to help you through academic or personal problems
- You can access help and advice on what to do when you leave the Sixth Form
- We provide you with many opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities outside the classroom to enrich your time with us.

#### New students to Llantwit Major Sixth Form who are moving from another school:

- Please contact us if you are considering starting Sixth Form with us so contact details can be taken
- If you would like to visit the school this may be arranged at the end of a day for convenience, please contact Mrs G Griffiths, our Sixth form Progress LSA to discuss – an indication of option choices can be handed in to the school at this point
- We will write to you later in the school year giving you advice on what to do next with regard to letting the school know about your GCSE results and when the school will be open to discuss any further advice you may need with regard to option changes, etc
- We always have a number of new students from other schools and you will be made very welcome!

**Labour Market Intelligence (LMI)** Are you unsure about your next steps after year 11? Using **labour market intelligence (LMI)** can help you to make an informed choice about your future, so make sure you know what skills employers want and learn about job trends in Wales.

#### Look at labour market intelligence in the careers that interest you:

- Visit the Careers Wales website www.careerswales.com
- Telephone the Learning and Careers Advice Helpline 0800 100 900

#### What qualifications do I need to get into the Sixth Form?

We have what is called an "open" Sixth Form which means we try to offer courses appropriate to students of a variety of abilities. Clearly we want everyone to succeed and we will advise students on what is the best course of study for them and make sure they have reached the required level to progress onto a specific course.

To enter Year 12 you will need:

- 1. A minimum of 5 GCSE's at grade C or above. If you have taken vocational qualifications in KS4, we also want to see evidence of C grades in some GCSE subjects before agreeing to you starting AS level courses. 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 in KS4. Example A level equivalency courses are L3 OCR IT, Medical Science, Sport, Music and Public Services. The entry requirement of most departments is at least a C at GCSE in the subject you wish to study at AS level. These subjects appear as 'Essential' subjects in the departments' information
- 2. Some departments will let you study their subject at AS Level without having taken it at GCSE, but will want to see evidence of ability in a similar subject eg for Sociology you need a grade C in English or a Humanities subject
- 3. Some departments have other requirements eg to study Biology, Chemistry or Physics at AS Level you should have at least **BB** grades at Higher Level and generally to study Mathematics at AS Level you should have an **A** grade at GCSE after studying the Higher Tier course. You need to be selected to study Further Maths due to the independent study demands of the course
- 4. Some departments may prefer you to have a GCSE at grade C in other subjects too these appear as 'preferable' subjects in the departments' information eg to study Biology at AS level it is preferable that you also have at least a **C** grade in Mathematics. *If in doubt, check the information for specific departments later on in the prospectus*
- 5. GCSE English language and Mathematics regardless of your chosen subjects at AS level, we would prefer you to have at least a C grade in these two subjects. If you haven't, you will be expected to re-sit as a condition of you returning to the Sixth Form. Employers and universities expect these qualifications. You should be aware that universities now require a B grade in both English Language and Mathematics for all teacher training courses.

If in doubt, check the information for specific departments later on in the prospectus and or discuss it with the subject Leader of Learning.

#### **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.** Those students expected to get **7 A\*-A grades**( or equivalent) at GCSE can select <u>any 4 subject areas of study</u>. If successful in achieving these grades, students will be offered a subject guidance session where their selection of subjects and future university aspirations will be discussed to agree on an appropriate selection of subjects. All other students have the option to study a minimum of **3 AS qualifications plus Welsh Baccalaureate**.

To continue with your studies in a subject in Year 13, you must have achieved at least an E grade at AS Level. In Yr13 you must be studying a minimum of 3 A level or A level equivalency subjects. It should be noted that if Welsh Bac is opted for it continues automatically into Year 13 as it has a 2 yr registration.

#### **How do I choose my subjects?**

Do you already have a university degree in mind? If so go to <a href="www.ucas.com">www.ucas.com</a> 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. It is also recommended to talk to subject teachers for advice too.

Interested in Russell Group universities? These are universities which are likely to have a high volume of applicants. Their website contains advice on how to make your option choices: <a href="www.russellgroup.ac.uk">www.russellgroup.ac.uk</a> – look for the section called **'Informed Choices'**. This document helps to suggest useful A levels for particular courses.

#### What help will I get if I need it?

As in previous years, you will have a leader of Progress. Mr E Rees and the sixth form team will get to know you very well and will want to build up a good relationship with you, for example monitoring your attendance and giving you advice on study skills.

Assisting Mr E Rees, Leader of Learning, Upper School is Mrs G Griffiths, the 14-19 support LSA. They can be approached at any time to discuss problems whether academic or personal and Mrs Griffiths will also be involved in liaising with your parents.

For the vast majority of students, their time in the Sixth Form passes by with few problems, but we do have procedures in place to ensure that you get the best out of your time here, such as an attendance policy and a contract. Academic progress is monitored regularly and communication is maintained with subject tutors and parents so that support and guidance can be given if and when needed.

You can be assured that you will be fully supported throughout your time in the Sixth Form. We know that it can be a challenging time for some students and we want to make it run as smoothly as possible for you. In addition to the advice and support given by the sixth form team of tutors and the Head of School there is opportunity for selective students to receive additional mentoring to support the transition into Post 16 education.

#### What difference will I see on my timetable?

On your timetable you will have your subject choices. For the first time since starting school you will also have independent study periods (ISP's) as part of your timetable. 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. Each half term your progress will be analysed and students who are showing they can work effectively as an independent learner can be awarded with a Freedom Contract allowing you to study at home during your ISP's.

#### What can I do in the Sixth Form apart from studying?

There are a range of responsibilities you can take on in the Sixth Form; just a few are listed below:

- Lead Boy Prefect / Lead Girl Prefect
- Become part of the Senior Prefect team
- Paired Reading tutoring lower school students
- Support pupils from our feeder primary school
- Peer Mentoring
- Anti-bullying mentoring
- Become a bus monitor
- Dragon Sports
- Become a Llangrannog team leader
- School Council Representative
- Lower school form buddy
- Focused lower school lesson support within your link department
- Duty support in an area of your choice
- Become part of an assembly team

#### What help will I get with Careers Guidance?

The Work Related Education department is run by Mrs L Gallo. The Careers Education Programme as part of the WBQ in school is designed to ensure students have a good understanding of career opportunities but any sixth form student can ask for guidance. 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 now 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 colleges are given the additional help they need.

#### 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. Guidance/support is given with attendance to ensure you receive regular payments.

#### What happens next?

Options Evening is scheduled for Thursday 25th November. You are encouraged to use this options book and to discuss post 16 courses with the relevant teachers to help build up an appreciation of the courses in preparation for the evening and ultimately to make sound choices. You will be given access to an online "free" options choice in November to allow you to indicate what you would like to do. This information will be used to develop a final Options form in the new year, where subjects will be grouped into columns of choice. The options forms are to help show the subjects you would like to study Post 16 or to indicate what type of college course you wish to follow if you do not intend to return to school. You should complete the Options Forms so we can support your transition plans for after Yr11. The deadline for the final Option form where choices are in columns is Monday 7 March. By this date you will have had time to think about the subjects you wish to study in Year 12 having listened to and talked to subject teachers as well as reading the prospectus carefully- or you should be clear on the college courses/apprenticeships you wish to apply for.

'Clashes' - the "free" option form information you provide will be used to work out the best placement of subjects into options columns for the sixth form offer. Inevitably given the range of potential individual choices that may be required we have to look to accommodate the combination of subjects most students wish to study. Despite this it is unavoidable that some students will have 'clashes'. If you do have clashes in the final option choices made available, let us know and the feedback will be considered but it is important to remember option columns are structured as a best fit for the majority of students.

Class sizes: if a subject only attracts a very small number of students we have no guarantee that this subject will then go ahead or run with the full number of lessons.

Options interviews should start shortly after the forms have been collected in March so that we can all be sure you are making the right decision. A confirmation letter regarding final choices will be sent home in May.

#### 25 August – results day!

September – it is possible that once you have got your GCSE results you may wish to change your mind about your options. You will be given time in the first week of term when this can be discussed/changes made if necessary. By week 5 we expect all students to have a settled curriculum to follow and do not anticipate further curriculum changes taking place from this point

#### **Decision Time**

It is best to try and make your decision early. We will accept you on to a course as late as the first day of term, but it is better for everyone, especially you, if you read this handbook in plenty of time and think carefully about what you want to do at the end of Year 11. Advertisements for apprenticeships or jobs appear any time after Easter so you need to think now about your future.

If you do choose to return to Llantwit Major Sixth Form, and we hope you do, it must be your decision and made for the right reasons. We want students who are ready to face the new and exciting challenges of life in the Sixth Form: students who are willing to work hard and make the most of their time here in what is a crucial stage in their education.

Please remember to look at your choices carefully. It is critical if you intend to come back to Sixth Form that you review the subjects on offer and if your decision is not to return to school it is important to clarify your intention so you can receive appropriate careers guidance.

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Teacher in charge of the course	Miss K Donaldson
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS & A Level Art, Craft and Design
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	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. The theme for year 12 is 'Self' and pupils 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.  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.  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, which is 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.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	Entry onto the course will require an A* - C GCSE grade in Art, Photography, Graphics, 3D Design or Art Textiles. 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 Ceramics Photography Fashion Architecture Fine Art Animation
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
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:      Business Opportunities     Business Functions  A2 Units:     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.

## **DT - Product Design**

Teacher in charge of the course	Mr J Martlew
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Product Design at AS and A Level
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Product Design encompasses a wide range of possible areas of study from graphics, architecture, electronics, engineering and product design, hopefully presenting a broad range of possibilities to students. Studying Product Design may enhance the study of Art, Electronics, IT/Computing, Physics or Maths.  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. Pupils will be able to 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.
Assessment format	AS Unit 1: Written paper 1 Written examination: 20% of A Level 2 hour paper - paragraph/extended essay writing questions AS Unit 2: Design and make task Non-exam assessment: Approximately 40 hours. 20% of A Level Project work developed from a given theme - candidates must work through the design process to design and make. 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 DT. A2 Unit 4: Design and make project Non-exam assessment: Approximately 60 hours 30% of qualification 100 marks A sustained design and make project, based on a brief developed by the candidate.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	Preferable to have a GCSE A* - C grade in either: Graphics; Product Design or Textiles.
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 Draughtsperson 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 pupils.

## 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
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	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. 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:  • 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. ie. organic food, the rise in obesity in childhood. etc
Assessment format	AS Level involves: 1 Mandatory unit 50%  Meeting the Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups- Practical exam and external written paper.  A Level involves: 2 units, each worth 25%  Ensuring food is safe to eat- Coursework task  Current issues in Food Science and Nutrition- individual project.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	This stimulating and rewarding course will appeal to you if you 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.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	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, consumerism etc.
What else do I need to know?	This course will be of value and interest to students whose principal interests are food and nutrition.

<b>Textil</b>	es	Desi	ign
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Teacher in charge of the course	Ms T Games
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC GCE Art and Design (Textile Design)
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	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, challenging your idea of "Textiles". 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.
Assessment format	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.  GCE AS Level Unit 1: Personal Creative Enquiry (40% of qualification 160 marks) unit comprises of Workbook and considered final piece.  GCE A Level: The above plus further two units:  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 from which to explore during 8 week preparatory period followed by Controlled Assignment 15 hours. All units are internally assessed and externally moderated.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is not essential for you to have studied Textiles at GCSE Level in order to join the course. Many such students have been successful in previous years and their interest and hard work has helped them through to achieve the qualification. Sometimes they choose this because they had regretted not doing so at GCSE. However, you will be expected to be prepared to put in the effort to gain the knowledge and understanding achieved in studying Textiles at GCSE.
How can I use this course after Year 13?	Studying Textiles equips you with a whole set of transferable skills both for life and for 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.  The course is a gateway for those students wishing to undertake further studies in art, craft and design related subjects post-18 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.  Many of our past students are now studying fashion and art courses at degree level and many have gone on to secure careers in fashion, Costume/ Theatre design, Surface pattern design and some have eve gone into careers such as ceramic, photography etc having completed a foundation year before specialising at degree level.
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. You will select your own area of interest from which to develop your own individual project.

## Home Economics Health & Social Care

Teacher in charge of the course	Miss N Richards
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Health,Social Care and Childcare Single Award A/AS level
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	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.  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.
Assessment format	<ul> <li>AS- Unit 1- Promoting health and well-being- 50% (20% A level) - Mandatory unit. Written exam.</li> <li>AS- Unit 2- Supporting health, wellbeing and resilience in Wales- 50% (20% A level) - Mandatory unit. Coursework.</li> <li>A2- Unit 3- Theoretical perspectives of children and young peoples development- 30%-Mandatory unit. Written examination.</li> <li>A2- Unit 4- Supporting the development, health, well-being and resilience of children and young people - 30%. Mandatory unit. Coursework.</li> </ul>
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	You need to be reliable and have a mature attitude to the course. You must have a willingness to work hard and to meet deadlines during the course.  A record of good attendance and attitude.
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
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	AS Year 12: AS Unit 1: Theatre Workshop 24% AS Unit 2: Text in Theatre Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 16% A Level Year 13: A2 Unit 3: Text in Action 36% A2 Unit 4: Text in Performance Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 24%
Assessment format	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.  AS Unit 2: Text in Theatre 16%  Questions based on 1 performance text; A View from the Bridge, Arthur. Miller  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  A2 Unit 4: Text in Performance 24%  Two questions, based on two different texts; Sweeney Todd, Stephen Sondheim & The Absence of War, David Hare.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	It is useful to have studied GCSE Drama but many students choose AS Drama and Theatre Studies who have not studied Drama before but may have participated in the School Production/ show outside of School (not essential).
How can I use this course after Year 13?	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 a relaxed, appropriate body language. A level Drama and Theatre Studies also compliments several other courses such as Music, History RS, Psychology, Sociology, Media and English.
What else do I need to know?	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 – excellent attendance is vital.

English	Language/	<b>Literature</b>
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Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs C Pearson
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level English Language and Literature
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	At AS Level you will:  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.  At A Level you will: 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.  Skills developed include: 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	Exams and coursework. Coursework is only part of the A level course.
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	Essential: While you must achieve at least a C in both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature to be accepted onto this course, you will find the course very difficult if you have not achieved a B or above in at least one of the qualifications at GCSE.
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					
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	At AS Level you will:  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.  For A Level English Literature you will:  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).  Skills developed include:  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	Exams and coursework. The coursework element is only part of the A level rather than AS qualification.					
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	Essential: While you must achieve at least a C in both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature to be accepted onto this course, you will find the course very difficult if you have not achieved a B or above in at least one of the qualifications at GCSE.					
How can I use this course after Year 13?	You could use this A level for: 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 M Scantlebury						
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC A level French						
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	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.  The specification offers learners a rich and comprehensive insight into the social fabric, political, intellectual and artistic culture of the countries/ communities where French is spoken. The content covers two main areas of interest i.e. social issues and trends and political, intellectual and artistic culture. Learners have the opportunity to study at least one film in Yr 12 and one literary text in Yr 13, taken from a prescribed list.						
Assessment format	Assessment will be divided into six units:  Unit 1 (AS) (12% of A Level) Non–exam speaking assessment involving discussion of topics studied during the year.  Unit 2 (AS) (15% of A Level) A written examination in listening, reading and translation Unit 3 (13% of A Level) A written examination on a film studied in Year 12.  Unit 4 (18% of A Level) A non-exam speaking assessment where learners present and discuss their own independent research project.  Unit 5 (23% of A Level) A written exam in listening, reading and translation.  Unit 6 (19% of A Level) A written exam on a literary work studied in Year 13.						
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	A good pass at 'B' grade or above GCSE French or any MFL subject.						
How can I use this course after Year 13?	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. Most Universities view the study of a language at A Level as advantageous for many degree courses.  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.						
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	Mr E Rees		
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC GCE Geography		
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<ul> <li>AS Unit 1 Changing Landscapes         <ul> <li>Investigating Changing Landscapes (coastal landscapes or glaciated landscapes) - explaining landforms, challenges and management.</li> <li>Investigating Tectonic hazards - analysing volcanoes &amp; earthquakes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Unit 2 Changing Places         <ul> <li>Investigating Changing Places - challenges facing urban and rural areas locally and globally.</li> <li>Fieldwork Investigations in Human and Physical Geography to be undertaken over two days studying coastal processes and inequality.</li> </ul> </li> <li>A2 Unit 3 Global Systems and Global Governance         <ul> <li>Investigating Global Systems (water and carbon cycles), Investigating Global Governance (change and challenges on oceans and global migration) and Investigating 21st Century Challenges.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Unit 4 Sustainability &amp; Tectonic Hazards         <ul> <li>Investigating Contemporary Themes. Pupils choose two options from ecosystems, economic growth and challenges in China, energy challenges or weather and climate.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Unit 5 Independent Investigation         <ul> <li>Non-exam assessment (3000-4000 words). Pupils can choose an area of geography to complete an investigation with guidance from their teacher.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
Assessment format	Unit 1 - 24% - 2h written paper. Unit 2 - 16% - 1h 30 written paper. Unit 3 - 24% - 2h written paper. Unit 4 - 16% - 2h written paper. Unit 5 - 20% - 4000 word fieldwork investigation.		
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	The specification provides a balanced geographical education which builds on, but is not dependent on, prior knowledge of the subject at GCSE level. A minimum grade C at GCSE Geography is preferable.		
How can I use this course after Year 13?	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 and meteorology.  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. Geography provides pupils with many transferable skills such as 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.		
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	AS History in Year 12 Unit I: History of Wales and England 1880-1980- examined by factual questions Unit 2: Nazi Germany c1929-1939- examined by evidence questions  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: Causes of Russian Revolution 1917/ or own choice- assessed by coursework  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.		
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?	<ul> <li>If you did History at GCSE you must have at least a C grade.</li> <li>If you did not do History at GCSE we would consider you if you have got at least a C grade in English or another humanities subject but you will need to discuss this with the Leader of Learning.</li> </ul>		
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 (1 AS level Equiv.) OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT (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	Students take 2 mandatory elements.  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.  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:  - Computer systems - Interactive media authoring - Computer networks  - Spreadsheet modelling - IT technical support - Database Design  - Computer Game Design - Communication Technologies - Website production  - Web Server Scripting - Computer animation - Digital Graphics					
Assessment format	All units are internally assessed, and externally moderated by an OCR Moderator.  There are no external tests or exams, and on-going 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 learn 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 learn on this course will also benefit you following non IT related courses.					
What else do I need to know?	In IT you will learn 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						
Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs M Martin					
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC  • AS Mathematics • A Level Mathematics					
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	AS Level – Year 12: Two Units  Unit 1 (Pure Mathematics): Proof, co-ordinate geometry, quadratic functions and their graphs, curve sketching, algebra – factor theorem and remainder theorem, surds, differentiation, binomial theorem, laws of logarithms, solving trigonometric equations, circles and their theorems and integration, vectors.  Unit 2 (Mechanics and Statistics): Statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions, hypothesis testing, kinematics, forces and Newton's Laws, vectors.  A Level – Year 13: Two Units  Unit 3 (Pure Mathematics): – Proof, algebra and functions, parametric differentiation, geometric and arithmetic sequences, double angle formulae, product rule, chain rule, quotient rule, implicit differentiation, integration by parts, integration by substitution, partial fractions, numerical methods.  Unit 4 (Mechanics and Statistics): Probability including conditional probability, normal distribution, further hypothesis testing, differential equations and mechanics, further kinematics, moments, Newton's Laws and further vectors.					
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.					
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 a requirement that those opting for Mathematics A level have achieved at least a grade A in their GCSE.					
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 Maths impresses all employers and opens up job opportunities in various professions such as: banking, insurance, accountancy, industry, engineering, the RAF. With a Degree in Maths 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 Maths 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					
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Skills developed include:  Analytical and Communication skills  Ability to discuss different viewpoints  Understanding of gender representation,  Ability to evaluate your own productions					
Assessment format	This specification is divided into 4 units, 2 AS and 2 A2 units, each worth 25%.  AS LEVEL  Unit 1: MS1 (50% AS) External Assessment: 2½ hour Written Paper Media Representations and Responses. 3 compulsory questions, including an unseen audio-visual or print based material  Unit 2: MS2 (50% AS) Internal Assessment: Media Production Processes - pre production/ production/ production report (Group work permitted for audio-visual productions only.)  A LEVEL (the above plus a further 2 units)  Unit 3: MS3 Internal Assessment: Media Investigation & Production 3 components: a written investigation into media text(s) based on one or more of the key media concepts; a media production; a production evaluation informed by the investigative research. (Group work permitted for audio-visual productions only.)  Unit 4: MS4 External Assessment: 2½ hour Written Paper  Media – Text, Industry and Audience. Candidates must answer each question on a different media industry.					
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	A good pass at 'C' grade or above GCSE English or English literature would be advantageous.					
How can I use this course after Year 13?	Opt to take Media Studies at college or University. 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.  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.					
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					
Qualificatio n and Exam Board	Edexcel BTEC Level 3 National Certificate and Extended Certificate in Music performance					
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 used as coursework evidence in a digital portfolio which is assessed at four stages throughout the year.					
What qualificatio ns 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.  • 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 Certificate in Sport					
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	This qualification has been developed to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. Employers and professional bodies have also been involved and consulted to confirm that the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice for learners who may choose to enter employment directly in the sport sector.  Learners will study <i>four</i> mandatory units:  Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology (Externally assessed).  Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being.  Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry  Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance (Internally assessed).					
Assessment format	360 GLH (445 TQT) Equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (67%). Learners achieving a qualification will have achieved across mandatory units, including external and synoptic assessment. Units are assessed as Distinction (D), Merit (M), Pass (P), Near Pass (N) and Unclassified (U). The grade of Near Pass is used for externally-assessed units only. Pass, merit or distinction which are respectively equivalent to an E, C or A at A Level.					
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	GCSE PE or Btec PE from Year 11 would be desirable, but if you have not taken these routes you are welcome to discuss your interest with Mr Crocker. An interest in sport and exercise is <i>essential</i> . You should enjoy sport and be keen to find out more about the world of sport. You must be prepared to work independently to meet various deadlines.					
How can I use this course after Year 13?	All BTEC Nationals provide transferable knowledge and skills that prepare learners for progression to university. These transferable skills include:  • the ability to learn independently  • the ability to research actively and methodically  • being able to give presentations and being active group members.  BTEC Sport provides a vocational context in which learners can develop the knowledge and skills required for degree courses, including effective writing and analytical skills					
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 have to say too. You need to be interested in sporting world events, the human body and how it works and other topics linked to the world of PE and sport and want to discuss what is happening and why.					

Physical Education						
Teacher in charge of the course	Mr J Crocker					
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS/ A level Physical Education					
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	Four areas of study:  1. Exercise physiology, performance analysis and training  2. Sport psychology  3. Skill acquisition  4. Sport and society  Any of the areas of study can be assessed in any of the units. The content can be assessed in units 1 and 3 as part of the written examinations and in units 2 and 4 as part of the analysis and evaluation of performance. The specification enables learners to understand the interrelationships between the areas of study and apply them in a variety of contexts.					
Assessment format	2 AS units and 2 A2 units. Weightings below are shown in terms of the full A level qualification.  AS Unit 1: Exploring physical education Written examination: 1¾ hours 24% (72 marks).  Contextualised questions to include multiple choice, data response, short and extended answers.  AS Unit 2: Improving personal performance in physical education Non-exam assessment 16% of qualification 48 marks.  To assess:  • Practical performance in one activity as a player/performer/ and as coach or official  • Personal Performance Profile A level Units (AS units plus a further 2 units)  A2 Unit 3: Evaluating physical education Written examination: 2 hours 36% (90 marks).  Students will need to respond to a range of questions including data response, short and extended answers.  A2 Unit 4: Refining personal performance in PE Non-exam assessment 24% (60 marks).  A practical performance in 1 activity as a player/performer, coach or official plus investigative Research.					
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	GCSE PE/PE SPORT is desirable, if you have not taken these routes you are welcome to discuss your interest with Mr Crocker. This specification provides a suitable foundation for the study of physical education or a related area through a range of higher education courses, progression to the next level of vocational qualifications or employment.					
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 sport and PE at degree level. This specification is designed to integrate theory and practice with an emphasis on the application of theoretical knowledge. Learners will develop an understanding of how various theoretical concepts impact on their own performance. Learners will also have the opportunity to develop an awareness of contemporary issues relevant to physical education and sport in Wales.					
What else do I need to know?	The course is broken down into theory and practical assessments. As this is the case, pupils choosing to study this course must have an activity or sport they regularly participate in competitively and are willing to be assessed in said sport both in order to receive a practical grading and also analyse their own performance and create a piece of coursework analysing their performance and create further notes on said performance and sport.					

Psychology			
Teacher in charge of the course	Miss E Rushworth		
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A2 Level Psychology		
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	AS- Approaches in Psychology: You will learn about the five psychological approaches  Biological  Psychodynamic  Behaviourist  Cognitive  Positive  Each approach explains human behaviour in a slightly different way.  Research Methods Inc. maths (Investigating Behaviour). How psychologists design and conduct different research.  A2- Topics studied in Y13 are:  Addiction  Schizophrenia  Criminal Behaviour  Controversies in Psychology- Non human animals, Ethical cost of research.  Practical Research- Research Methods (Applied) Inc. 2 Personal Investigations carried out by the students which they are also examined on  Students will develop literacy, numeracy, communication and problem-solving skills, as well as learning to design, evaluate and think critically about psychological research.		
Assessment format	100% examination.		
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	Essential GCSE English (C) GCSE Maths (C) GCSE Science (C)		
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/ enthusiasm for learning will be necessary in order to succeed in psychology A-Level		

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Teacher in charge of the course	Mr J Crocker	
Qualification and Exam Board	Edexcel Level 3 BTEC National Subsidiary Award in Public Services	
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	<ul> <li>Units: 6 units of study that include:</li> <li>Government, Policies and the Public Services</li> <li>Leadership and Teamwork in the Public Services</li> <li>Citizenship, Diversity and the Public Services</li> <li>Understanding the Impact of war, conflict and terrorism on public services</li> <li>Police powers in the public services</li> <li>Outdoor adventurous expeditions</li> </ul>	
Assessment format	100% coursework. A number of assignments for each topic area split up into smaller sections throughout the course. Pupils are able to attain a pass, merit or distinction which are respectively equivalent to an E, C or A at A Level.	
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	GCSE English is advisable at a grade C grade or above so pupils can manage the literacy aspects of completing assignments— see Mr Crocker to discuss if you feel that you might be interested.  You must be interested in current issues in the public domain, you might have an interest in different public services, and what to pursue a career in a specific field.	
How can I use this course after Year 13?	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.  Pupils could further their studies with a university degree or go on to work in a range of public service fields.	
What else do I need to know?	This is a course that studies a wide range of interests over a number of different fields. You will develop a number of skills in leadership and independent study. It suits candidates who have an interest in current affairs and the public services and pupils who do not particularly like exams.	

Religious Studies			
Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs M A Williams		
Qualification and Exam Board	AS/A2 Religious Studies WJEC		
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	AS: Unit 1: An Introduction to the Study of Judaism. 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.  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  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.  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  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;		
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 it is strongly recommended that you have at least a Grade B in one of your English papers.		
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.		

M	edical Science - Applied				
Teacher in charge of the course	Mr P Fellows				
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science (equivalent to one A level)  This qualification has been developed in conjunction with Universities and Clinical Pathology laboratories. It provides an engaging and meaningful context led approach to the development of scientific knowledge and skills, to enable learners to develop the tools necessary to understand, assess and suggest solutions to real-world challenges. Yr12 learners will complete Level 3 Certificate in Medical Science (equivalent to one AS level).				
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	The course provides learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills in key scientific principles to support progress to higher education or employment in areas of Medical science, such as job roles in physiological sciences or clinical laboratory services. The qualification covers the key topic areas of health, physiology and disease, as well as providing the opportunity to study the areas of pharmacology, physiological measurement, clinical testing and medical research.  In order to achieve the Level 3 Applied Diploma in Medical Science learners are required to complete 6 units: • Human health and disease • Physiological measurement techniques • Medical Science research methods • Medicines and treatment of disease • Clinical laboratory techniques • Medical case study				
Assessment format	Learners need to complete the six units to achieve the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma Medical Science. Unit 6** is synoptic for the qualification. Unit 1* also contains a synoptic component for units 2 and 3.  Weighting of the internal and external assessment is shown in the table below.  Internal assessment  Unit No. 2 3 4 1* 5 6**  % 12.5 12.5 25 25 12.5 12.5				
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	At least two C grades in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science are essential.  To be able to cope with the level of material covered during the course, it is essential that students have at least a C grade in GCSE Mathematics.				
How can I use this course after Year 13?	The Science industry offers huge potential for learners interested in it. The UK is currently regarded as a world leader in sectors including renewable energy, space, low carbon, pharmaceutical, utilities, automotive, agri-food and bioscience.  UCAS has reviewed the qualification to assess its value for access to higher education, and has allocated UCAS points.				
What else do I need to know?	If you are interested in Medical Science please feel free to discuss the content of the course further in school with any of the Science Tutors.				

	Science- Biology		
Teacher in charge of the course	Ms L Wainwright		
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level Biology Specification:		
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	AS Units (weightings and exam length in brackets):  Basic Biochemistry and Cell Organisation (20% - 1 hour 30 minutes)  Biodiversity and Physiology of Body Systems (20% - 1 hour 30 minutes)  A level Units:  Energy Homeostasis and The Environment (25% - 2 hours)  Variation and Inheritance (25% - 2 hours)  Practical Examination in Biology (10%)		
Assessment format	There are two practical tasks:  Experimental Task – a two hour practical investigation  Practical Analysis Task – a one hour written examination  Both tasks will be set in the Spring Term of Year 13		
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 essential that students have at least a B grade in GCSE Mathematics  At least two B grades in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science are essential while at least one A grade is preferable.		
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 any of the Science Tutors.		

	Science- Chemistry		
Teacher in charge of the course	Mr R Jones		
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A Level Chemistry		
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	AS Units (weightings and exam length in brackets):  The Language of Chemistry, Structure of Matter and Simple Reactions Written Examination- (20%- 1 hour 30mins- 80 Marks) Energy, Rate and Chemistry of Carbon Compounds Written Examination- (20% - 1 hour 30mins- 80 Marks)  A level Units: Physical and Inorganic Chemistry Written Examination- (25% - 1 hour 45mins- 80 Marks) Organic Chemistry and Analysis Written Examination- (25% - 1 hour 45mins- 80 Marks ) Practical Examination: (10%) Experimental Task ( 3 Hours- 30 Marks) Practical Methods and Analysis Task ( 1 hour- 30 Marks)		
Assessment format	Students will undertake examinations in the summer term of both years. Unit 1,2 for AS while Unit 3,4 and 5 constitute the A level year.  Unit 5 will have both a written exam and a practical examination. The practical examination,(3 hours), will be set by the WJEC board and will be carried out in the spring term. The written practical examination will take place as part of the summer exam series.		
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 essential that students have at least a B grade in GCSE Mathematics Two B grades in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science are essential while an A grade is preferable.		
How can I use this course after Year 13?	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.  Examples of careers are as follows:  Medicine, chemistry, biochemistry, dentistry, veterinary sciences, forensic research, engineering, accountancy and physiotherapy.		
What else do I need to know?	Due to the complementary nature of the courses students would benefit from studying other science A level subjects as well as mathematics. Students / Parents are welcome to discuss the content of the course further in school with Mr Jones.		

	Science- Physics			
Teacher in charge of the course	Mrs E Denscombe			
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS / A2 Level Physics			
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	The AS Course contains two units: (1) Motion, energy and matter (2) Electricity and light.  The A level Course contains three units: (3) Oscillations and nuclei (4) Fields and options (5) Practical skills.			
Assessment format	AS Assessment  Unit (1)- Written Examination 1 hour 30 minutes (50 % of AS grade) (20% of A level grade)  Unit (2) - Written Examination 1 hour 30 minutes (50 % of AS grade) (20% of A level grade)  A level Assessment  Unit (3) - Written Examination 2 hours 15 minutes (25 % of overall A level grade)  Unit (2) - Written Examination 2 hours (25 % of overall A level grade)  Unit (3) - Practical Examination 2 hours 30 minutes (10% of overall A level grade)			
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 essential that students have at least a B grade in GCSE Mathematics.  At least two B grades in GCSE Core Science and Additional Science are essential while at least one A grade is preferable.  The most successful candidates also study 'A' level Mathematics.			
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.			
What else do I need to know?	Due to the complementary nature of the courses students would benefit from studying A level Mathematics Students/Parents are welcome to discuss the content of the course further in school with any of the Physics Tutors.			

Sociology			
Teacher in charge of the course?	Miss E Rushworth		
Qualification and Exam Board	WJEC AS and A2 Level Sociology		
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	The study of people, society and how they react to each other. You will study 4 units:  AS Unit: 1 Acquiring Culture. Focusing on the theme of socialisation, identity and culture and is divided into two sections.  Section A - Processes of cultural transmission, including socialisation and the acquisition of identity.  Section B Families and households. Family forms and diversity.  Assessment is through compulsory questions and a choice between two essay questions.  Unit 2: Understanding Society and Methods of Sociological Enquiry.  This unit focuses on the themes of education and methods of sociological enquiry.  Section A Methods of sociological enquiry.  Section B Education.  Assessment is through compulsory questions and a choice between two essay questions.  A2 Unit 3: Power and Control- Crime and Deviance—  Focuses on issues relating to social order and social control via crime and deviance.  Assessment is through a compulsory section with two questions and a further section with a choice between two essay questions.  Unit 4: Social Inequality and Applied Methods of Sociological Enquiry  Based on the themes of social differentiation-inequality, power and stratification Assessment is through a choice of two sections with two questions in each, one of which is an essay.		
Assessment format	100% examination		
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	Essential GCSE English (C) Preferred GCSE Sociology (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		
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 qualification s do I need to start the course?	To be able to cope with the level of material covered during the course, it is essential that students have at least a B grade in GCSE Welsh Second Language.		
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 Welsh Baccalaureate		
Subject Knowledge and Skills Covered	The Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate is designed to broaden the education of its learners with a skills based learning experience. The qualification will develop skills in literacy, numeracy, digital literacy, planning and organisation critical thinking and problem solving.		
	The qualification is an A level graded A* to E. UCAS points are attached to the qualification, as with all other A levels. The Welsh Baccalaureate course is designed to prepare and equip students for future employment or educational studies.		
Assessment format	Assessment takes place through controlled assessments carried out in school. Sample student work is sent away for external moderation.		
	Learners need to complete 4 Skills Challenges  1. 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. Completed in Year 13.		
	<ol> <li>Enterprise and Employability Challenge (20%): To develop enterprising skills and attributes and enhance employability. Completed in Year 12.</li> </ol>		
	<ol> <li>Global Citizenship Challenge (15%): To understand and respond appropriately to a global issue. Completed in Year 12.</li> </ol>		
	<ol> <li>Community Challenge (15%): For learners to identify, develop and participate in opportunities that will benefit the community. Completed in Year 12.</li> </ol>		
What qualifications do I need to start the course?	<ul> <li>To gain the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate you must have</li> <li>GCSE English Language and GCSE Mathematics or Maths Numeracy and</li> <li>Minimum 2 A level qualifications graded A*-E or equivalent level 3 vocational qualifications</li> </ul>		

## How can I use this course after Year 13?

The Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate 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 Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification for all courses, including medicine.

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.

## What else do I need to know?

As part of the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification, you will take part in a number of activities outside the classroom:

- Team Enterprise Activity
- · Community Participation (30 hours, independently organised)
- . Research on a Global issue
- . Completion of an individual research project with a focus on a future educational or career aspiration.

#### There are no final exams.

Assessment takes place through classroom based controlled assessments throughout the 2 year course.

Many universities discuss the Individual Project learners complete as part of the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification during interviews for University places.

#### **School Uniform:**

#### Mandatory Range of Everyday Wear for Girls and Boys

SKIRT	Plain black, knee length.	Not patterned or mottled, not shorter or longer.
OR		
TROUSERS	Plain black or dark charcoal grey, classic cut.	Not jeans, cords, leather, flared, flecked, striped or patterned, nor any other variation of grey.
SHIRT	Plain white shirt with collar	No alternative is acceptable.
TIE	Red with white stripe and School logo	No alternative is acceptable. No lack of tie is acceptable.
JUMPER	Optional wear over Senior School shirt. Plain black with embroidered Senior School logo.	No alternative is acceptable.  No alternative undergarment is acceptable.  No lack of shirt is acceptable.
SOCKS		
STOCKINGS OR TIGHTS	Plain black.	No alternative is acceptable.
SHOES	Plain black, <u>low heeled</u> .	No other colour is acceptable. Trainers, boots, fancy patterns and suede are <b>not</b> acceptable. High heels <b>must not</b> be worn
TOPCOAT	A single plain colour waist or hip length, with or without hood, anorak/jacket.	No stencils, patterns, logos, illustrations or stripes. No multi colours.

**Please note:** For reasons of safety and security in School the wearing of bracelets, neck chains, earrings and rings is **not** encouraged. Ear-studs are strongly discouraged for the same practical reasons, but in any case not more than one stud per earlobe will be accepted. A discrete amount of make-up is permitted for senior students. Head scarves, coloured bows and head-bands are **NOT** allowed. Scarves should **NOT** to be worn inside the School buildings.

Should there be any doubt about the acceptability of a particular item of wear, or of hairstyle or length; the Headteacher's decision must be accepted.