

ST ILLTYD'S HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 9 OPTIONS 2020



loving hopeful
attentive learned curious
faith-filled generous learned wise
eloquent prophetic grateful
intentional compassionate discerning
truthful active



How will I make my choices?

The key dates are shown below, it is important that you are in school every day to view this booklet and to listen to advice from your form tutor, Assistant Head of Year and Head of Year.

Week beginning 27 January 2020
Option blocks and booklet made available on the school website and discussed in classes
From 3 February 2020
One to one meetings with a senior staff member to discuss your choices
14 February 2020
All options forms to be submitted

OPTIONS 2020 - Choose 2 GCSE subjects

Students Name: _____

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS	OPTION SUBJECTS
<p style="text-align: center;">Maths (Maths & Numeracy)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">English (Literature & Language)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Science</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Religious Studies</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Welsh</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Welsh Baccalaureate</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Art</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Asdan</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Business</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Drama</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prince's Trust/Duke of Edinburgh</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Food & Nutrition</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Geography</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Health & Social Care and Childcare (Single Award)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Health & Social Care and Childcare (Double Award)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">History</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ICT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Music</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Photography</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Product Design</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Spanish</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sport</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Core Games</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PSE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Option choice 1</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Additional Qualifications</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sweet L2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Equality & Diversity L2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Financial Literacy L2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Option choice 2</u></p>

Signed: (Student)

Signed:-..... (Parent)

Signed: (Staff member)

Date:

How to Choose

It is strongly recommended that most pupils study a balanced curriculum which includes subjects from different areas to help keep their options open after Year 11. Some pupils may have specific interests and strengths, together with a clear idea of what they would like to do after Year 11.

Making the right choice of courses at Key Stage 4 is very important because it may affect a pupil's progression after Year 11 and possibly their future career opportunities. Option choices will also determine the number, type and grade of qualifications a pupil will achieve as well as their enjoyment of Years 10 and 11. Therefore, the decision making involved in the options process deserves careful consideration of the information, advice and guidance provided by the school.

Key questions to ask:

1. What am I good at and what courses will I succeed in?`

Recent scores in assessments, teacher feedback and assessment point data will all help pupils to identify their areas of strength. If pupils are unsure about their ability to succeed in a particular course, they should ask their subject teacher.

2. What am I interested in and enjoy?

It is important to make sure pupils choose a course because they find the subject interesting rather than just because they like the teacher or the group of friends in their current Year 9 class. It is unlikely that pupils will have the same teacher or group in a particular subject next year.

3. What qualifications do I need for my next step after Year 11 and beyond?

One of the most important outcomes of Key Stage 4 is that pupils achieve the qualifications that they need for progression to their desired next step after Year 11 and in their long term career aspirations. If pupils are clear about what career they wish to pursue they should seek advice about relevant courses. At this stage, many pupils will not know exactly what career they want to pursue so it is important to choose a broad and balanced combination of courses to keep their future options open. However, it is important that pupils think ahead as much as possible and find out what qualifications they may need for their desired post-16 education. However, at this stage, pupils should not be overly concerned if they are unsure about what they want to do after Year 11, as long as they follow the advice of choosing a balanced curriculum to help keep their post-16 options open.

Art

Course outline:

- GCSE Art allows students to experience a wide range of art and artists and gives them the opportunity to explore their own personal expression and individual style.
- Pupils will produce a portfolio of coursework worth 60% in Year 10 and 11. Part of the assessment for your GCSE will be an externally set practical examination. This starts in January in Year 11 and is worth 40% of your final grade.
- In Year 10 topics include skill-based techniques, natural forms and still life. In Year 11 topics include portraiture, close-ups and identity.
- Pupils will be expected throughout the course to work at home in their sketchbooks for homework and to attend a weekly after school art session.
- Pupils will need to evaluate their own work in detail on every page of their sketchbooks throughout the whole course.

Why you should study Art:

- The creative industry is one of the largest in the UK. A qualification in Art will help you in the fashion industry, illustration, interior design, designers, landscape gardeners, theatre design, film industry, graphic designers, beauty therapists, town planners and many other creative sectors.
- You will develop the skills of patience, creativity, virtue, hand and eye coordination.
- Relevance for the modern world - pupils develop their ability for reasoned perception which helps them to give meaning to increasingly complex environments.
- Cross curricular links - using transferable skills across a range of subjects like Graphics, Textiles, Photography, ICT, Drama, Dance and Music.
- Unique to the subject - this GCSE course is designed to encourage an adventurous, exciting, experimental approach in developing Art, using your own personal response.



ASDAN

Course outline:

- The ASDAN qualification is available at Level 1 and Level 2. The course is designed to develop and demonstrate a range of personal, key and employability skills.
- There are no exams. The qualification is assessed via a portfolio of evidence that is externally moderated and then available for pupils to take with them when they leave school.
- Across year 10 and 11, a total of 12 modules are completed from a menu of options that includes Beliefs and Values, Health and Fitness, International Links and Vocational Preparation.
- There are also six skill units which link to these modules (Working with Others, Improving Own Learning and Performance, Problem Solving, Research, Discussion, and Planning and Giving an Oral Presentation).

Why you should study ASDAN:

- The ASDAN course recognises personal achievements and helps pupils manage their own learning.
- The portfolio showcases pupil skills and acts as a record of achievement.
- ASDAN enables pupils to manage their learning in a variety of real-life contexts and encourages pupil choice.
- The skills developed in ASDAN lessons can support pupils in their Welsh Bacalaureate activities, as well as in English and Humanities topics.



Business Studies

Course outline:

- The BTEC Business course is designed to introduce pupils to the world of business, how they operate, market research, finance, trends and branding.
- The course has 1 exam, 1 hour online, and it is worth 25% of the qualification. The exam is held in Year 10. Additionally, you will complete 3 units worth 75% of your final grade.
- The topics studied in Year 10 are; Unit 1 - Introduction to Business; exploring how businesses operate, consider market research and the marketing mix. Unit 2 - Finance for business; understand costs involved in businesses, how businesses plan for success, how they measure success and identify areas for improvement.
- The topics studied in Year 11 are; Unit 3 – Enterprise in the Business World; know how trends and current business environment may impact on a business, plan an idea for a new business and present a business model for a business start-up.

Why you should study Business Studies:

- Business is a diverse subject with many job opportunities, these include setting up your own business; managing finance; accountancy; marketing and customer service.
- The skills include: teamworking, working from a prescribed brief, working to deadlines, presenting information effectively, accurately completing administrative tasks and processes.
- Business is always developing and how customers shop, experiences they have and new brands and technology is an important part of this course.
- Close links exist with subjects such as ICT, Maths and Design Technology.



Drama

Course outline:

- The GCSE course is an exciting, inspiring and practical course. It is designed to enable pupils to develop skills in creativity, devising, performing, researching, group work, characterisation, script work/analysis and evaluation.
- 60% practical performance with written coursework elements and 40% written Exam, you can choose to be assessed on acting or design.
- In Year 10, the topics are: basics of performance and characterisation, exploring theatre practitioners (e.g. Brecht, Stanislavski and Boal); experimenting with different theatre types (e.g. Theatre in education and Physical Theatre); devising your own performance and performing in front of an audience; visiting theatre productions; and critically reviewing theatre.
- In Year 11, the topics are: preparation for the devised (what you've created) practical exam, supported with a written portfolio and followed by a written evaluation of the performance, the scripted performance, where you perform extracts from a text; the study of a set text; and evaluation of live performances.

Why you should study Drama:

- Studying drama could support a career path in acting, theatre, film, production, drama therapy, teaching, media studies and journalism.
- You will develop skills in: communication; creativity; leadership; organisation; problem-solving; initiative and decision making. Drama also nurtures self-discipline, confidence and teamwork.
- In a world where effective communication skills are vital, drama will help you to become a "well-rounded" individual with a wide range of transferable skills that will be attractive to a future employer.
- Close links exist with subjects such as English, Music, Art and PE.
- You will get the chance to attend a variety of theatre or film productions organised by the Performing Arts department.



DRAMA

Prince's Trust/Duke Of Edinburgh

Course outline:

- These qualifications will develop pupil's employability and life skills.
- In the Prince's Trust Achieve Award pupils will undertake a range of project based and practical work developing ICT skills, healthy lifestyle, teamwork and planning for personal development.
- The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award includes expeditions, skills development and volunteering.
- The lessons will be in ICT rooms, classrooms, and involve practical sessions in school and the community.
- There are no formal examinations.

Why you should study the Prince's Trust and Duke of Edinburgh

- Skills you will develop ICT skills, healthy lifestyle, teamwork and planning for personal development.
- The Duke of Edinburgh qualification develops life skills in leadership, teamwork, communication and problem solving.
- The Princes Trust qualification involves a work experience placement which will develop a pupil's employability and person skills.
- Both qualifications relevance for the modern world as pupils develop a variety of skills which can carry them through the world of work and life as a global citizen.
- Both courses have cross curricular links with a variety of subjects including the Welsh Baccalaureate and ICT.



YOUTH
CAN
DO IT

Food and Nutrition

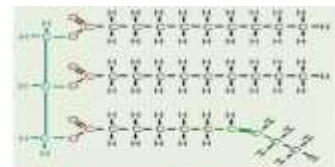
Course Outline:

- Food and Nutrition is a science based subject. If you enjoy Biology and Chemistry and want to understand human nutrition for people of all ages in different situations, then this course will be suited to you.
- Practical tasks will be based around theory of nutrients and science experiments in order to understand ingredients and their functions. Practical tasks will take place 3 times a term and you will be expected to bring in your own ingredients.
- There is one exam at the end of year 11 worth 40% of your overall mark. 60% of your mark will cover two controlled assessment tasks, one involving a science experiment.
- In year 10 the topics are nutrients, the science of cooking, special diets, cooking methods and health and safety in food.
- In year 11 there are two controlled assessment and the topics are the function of ingredients, food spoilage and the function of cooking equipment.

Why you should study Food and Nutrition:

- If you enjoy Biology and Chemistry and want to understand human nutrition for people of all ages, then this course will be suited to you.
- Careers routes include dietitian, nutritionist, retail food development, food and service industry as well as personal training.

The Chemical Structure of Fat



The chemical name for a fat molecule is called a **Triglyceride**.

Triglyceride (**Tri – three**) (**Glyceride – Fat**).

A fat molecule is made up of **3 fatty acids**.

Fats can either be **solid** at room temperature (solid fats) or **liquid** at room temperature (Oil).

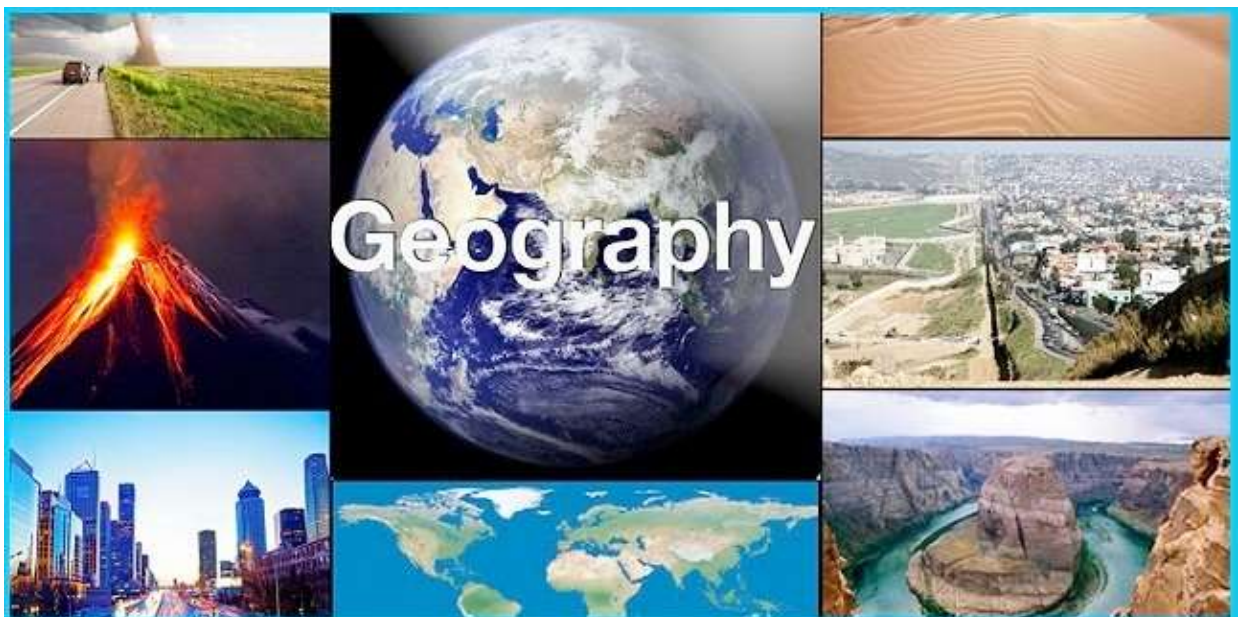
Geography

Course outline:

- The GCSE Geography course is designed to encourage an investigative approach to the study of geographical issues and concepts.
- There are 2 exams of 1hour 30mins each at the end of Year 11. Both are worth 40%. At the beginning of Year 11 there is a controlled assessment exam worth 20% of the GCSE.
- The topics studied in Year 10 are rivers, glaciation, coasts, population and global cities.
- The topics studied in Year 11 are climate change, weather, ecosystems, global inequalities, resources management and social development.

Why should you study Geography:

- A versatile subject that could be applied to several fields such as town planning, environmental studies, teaching, engineering and agriculture.
- The skills that will be developed throughout the course will range from understanding physical process, mapping trends, understanding the distribution of key features and linking human activities and the effect they have on natural processes.
- Geography will help you to understand the world you live in and how that is going to change in the future.
- Close links exist with many different subjects such as Science, History and Maths.
- In Year 10 each pupil will attend 2 days of fieldwork, in association with Margam Fieldwork centre, so that data can be collected to complete the controlled assessment



Health and Social Care & Childcare

Course outline:

- The GCSE course is a course designed to introduce learners to and build their knowledge of the development and care of individuals throughout the life cycle from conception to later adulthood.
- For the single award there is an exam worth 40% and two coursework tasks worth 60% of the final GCSE.
- For the double award there are two exams worth 40% and three coursework tasks worth 60% of the final GCSE.
- For the single award you will study human growth, development and well-being and promoting and maintaining health and well-being
- For the double award you will also study health and social care, and childcare in the 21st century and promoting and supporting health and well-being to achieve positive outcomes.

Why you should study Health and Social Care and Childcare:

- This is a valuable course for anyone looking to progress into a wide range of career pathways in the health and care sectors including nursing, social care, health administration, teaching, youth work, childcare, counselling.
- You will develop the skills to recognise aspects of development across the life cycle, understand how circumstances can affect individuals and how to actively develop and maintain health and wellbeing.
- This subject gives a valuable insight into the human lifecycle and promotes a positive attitude towards maintaining health and wellbeing for both ourselves and others.
- Aspects of this course have links with PE, Biology, Skills Challenge, Food and Nutrition.



History

Course outline:

- The GCSE History course is designed to encourage students to develop their historical skills by completing a variety of units covering several different time periods.
- There are 3 exams, 1 hour each, with one sat in y10 and two at the end of y11. At the beginning of Year 10 there is a controlled assessment worth 20% of the GCSE.
- The topic studied in Year 10 is Crime and Punishment, which is an outline study of 500 years of History
- The topics studied in Year 11 are the rise of Hitler in Germany and British History 1930-1951

Why should you study History:

- History is a literacy focused subject that develops several thinking skills suitable for many areas of employment.
- Studying History provides a student with skills which are not confined to the study of the past. Skills of analysis are invaluable in many jobs, and the ability to analyse and then prioritise information is vital to decision making.
- The skills that will be developed throughout the course will range from understanding Historical concepts, source analysis and the development of extended written work
- History will help you to understand the world you live in and how it is affected by the past
- In Year 10 each pupil will have the opportunity to complete a residential trip to Berlin to support their studies



ICT

Course outline:

- The GCSE course in ICT is designed to identify and solve real problems by designing information and communication systems in a wide range of contexts relating to their personal interests.
- The course has 2 exams, 1hour 30mins each, worth 40% of the GCSE. The exams are held at the end of both Year 10 and 11.
- You will also complete 2 controlled assessment tasks, worth 60% of the GCSE.
- In year 10 you will study data validation, verification, ICT and learning, emerging technologies and complete the controlled assessment 'Solving Problems with ICT'.
- In year 11 you will study multimedia industries, networks, social and environmental impacts, safety in organisations and complete the controlled assessment 'Developing Multimedia ICT Solutions'.

Why you should study ICT:

- ICT allows you to apply for a job related ICT skills, such as data analysts, IT Sales Assistants, Web Design and Graphic Design.
- The skills that will be developed throughout the course include analysing data, creating reports, graphs, communicating information for a specific audience and identifying target audiences for the development of websites.
- You will be able to understand how ICT is used in the wider world and the advancements in emerging technologies for business and communication.
- ICT is always developing, and we continually review the impact this has on businesses, schools and society.
- Close links exist with subjects such as Business, Maths and Design Technology.



Music

Course outline:

- Music is open to any student, regardless of whether they play an instrument. However, if you do not play an instrument, you must be prepared to sing or play a classroom instrument.
- The course is made up of three units, performing, composing and appraising. 70% of the course is coursework and 30% is a final listening exam.
- Unit 1 – Performing – Coursework Section A = 30%. You will have to play or sing two pieces of music. Section B = 5%. You must write a detailed programme note for one of your performances.
- Unit 2 – Composing - Coursework Section A = 30%. You will have to produce two compositions. Section B = 5% A written evaluation of one of your compositions.
- Unit 3 – Appraising Exam 30% - 1 hour listening examination to be sat at the end of year 11.
- In year 10 and 11, students will study film music, popular music, music for ensembles and musical forms and devices.

Why you should study Music:

- Career paths include sound engineering, musical director, music therapist, event manager, radio DJ, session musician, teacher, producer, music journalist, recording artist, music agent and working in theatre.
- You will develop your instrumental and composing skills.
- Music fosters creativity, imagination, and individuality as well as teaching important life skills.



Photography

Course outline:

- GCSE Photography explores a range of photographic media, techniques and processes.
- Photography pupils will produce a portfolio of coursework worth 60% in Year 10 and 11. Part of the assessment for your GCSE will be an externally set practical examination. This starts in January in Year 11 and is worth 40% of your final grade.
- In year 10 topics include skill-based techniques and still life. In year 11 topics include portraiture, landscapes. Topics will vary from year to year.
- Pupils will be expected throughout the course to work at home, to take photographs in a variety of settings, including open air locations.
- To attend a weekly after school art session to write and evaluate their own work in detail within their portfolio.

Why you should study Photography:

- The creative industry is one of the largest in the UK. A qualification in Photography will help you in the fashion industry, photo journalism, street / celebrity photography, science and forensics, and many other creative sectors
- Skills you will develop include Photoshop, creativity, ICT, practical and technical skills
- Photography is important to not only to the artistic world, but also to the media and science worlds. Photography is still one of the best ways we have of recording ordinary and extraordinary events in everyday life
- There are cross curricular links as a pupil can transfer skills across a range of subjects like Art, Media studies, ICT, Drama, Music and Science.



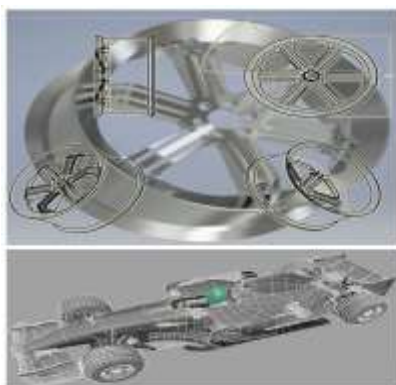
Product Design

Course outline:

- Product Design GCSE is a wide ranging and versatile qualification intended for students who are curious and engaged in careers in any aspect of science and technology.
- The GCSE course is designed to develop and to help understand how products, designers, materials and technology shape the modern world and how products are manufactured on a global scale.
- There is 1 exam in year 11 worth 50% and one NEA (Non-Exam Assessment Coursework folio) worth 50%.
- In year 10 you will study CAD Computer Aided Design, sketching, learning to draw quickly and effectively to show your intentions. You will also study the work of other designers, modern and smart materials energy and eco design plus making products and packaging
- In year 11 you will study mini project preparation for NEA task, informal sketchbook, manufacturing your product and a formal presentation and evaluation.

Why you should study Product Design:

- You should consider product design if you are considering any career in any science technology engineering or maths subject area. Product design is a bridge between the academic and practical world where application of knowledge learned is turned into physically functioning products, using transferable methods.
- If you are interested in engineering, architecture, construction, furniture design, carpentry, games design or surveying then product design is a subject you should study.
- The skills you will develop are hand skills, learning how to cut, shape, drill, form and join various materials. You will also carry out a variety of designing and skill-based tasks such as analysing, designing developing and manufacturing.
- In Product Design we aim to prepare our students for the ever-changing technological developments of the modern world by giving them the opportunities to be creative and learn a range of modern skills in order to design and manufacture products that solve real world problems.
- There are cross curricular links with Science, Maths, IT and Geography.



Spanish

Course outline:

- The GCSE course is a course designed to develop an understanding of the Spanish language and culture whilst improving communication and problem-solving skills
- There are 4 exams (Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing) worth 25% of the final mark which take place in year 11.
- In year 10 topics studied include family, friends and relationships, school life, sports and leisure, holidays
- In year 11 topics studied include social issues, future employment and training, work experience, healthy lifestyle
- A good basic knowledge is required to start the course but, most of all, a positive attitude towards languages

Why you should study Spanish:

- Languages open the whole world to you and there are hundreds of great career opportunities for people able to speak more than one language. Skills you will develop include problem solving, communication, presenting, better understanding of English and other languages, an appreciation of foreign cultures
- Spanish is the second most spoken language in the world as is it spoken in more than 25 different countries.
- As well as learning the language, you will develop an understanding of the education system in Spain, youth culture, festivals and celebrations and some history.
- Speaking another language makes you really stand out in a crowd. Fewer students are taking languages in Britain every year and those that do are in higher demand.



Sport and Coaching Principles

Course outline:

- This is a Level 1/2 Sport and Coaching Principles qualification. The course has been designed to help develop key skills in leading sporting activities.
- There are 3 units which will be completed over the 2 years. Coursework units worth 60% and an exam unit worth 40%. It is important to note that if you fail the exam unit you will fail the entire course regardless of your coursework grades.
- In Year 10 you will start with an analysis of sports performance which is a written coursework - You will complete a logbook based on your own strengths and weaknesses and analyse these as part of an individual improvement plan.
- In Year 11 you will begin by completing unit of work which you would have started in year 10. Then the focus for the rest of the year will be the completion of this unit, coaching principles written coursework with a small element of practical. For this you will need to identify your strengths, weaknesses and next steps to complete this assignment from your coaching in the summer term
- There is a written exam which will cover components of fitness, methods of training, principles of training, muscular system and the cardiovascular system.
- It is important to note this is not an overly practical course and you will not be assessed on your practical ability in any sport. You will spend the majority of your lessons completing classroom-based work, learning and understanding about sport.

Why you should study Sport:

- You would be able to continue a Vocational Level 3 in Sport in both St. David's and Cardiff and Vale College.
- This will allow you to move on to research sport in university.
- Jobs from this course include PE Teacher, sports coach, physiotherapist, class instructors, gym instructors and leisure centre work.
- You will develop communication skills, teamwork, the knowledge and understanding of coaching practices, problem solving, literacy skills and the job application process.



The first step to sports coaching

English Language

Course Outline

The English Language course will enable students to:

- Demonstrate oracy (speaking and listening), reading and writing skills that are instrumental in communicating with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately
- Demonstrate their proficiency in accessing and retrieving information from a wide range of written and dynamic/digital texts, forming a broad general understanding of the text, summarising and synthesising content, inferring intended meaning and evaluating its purpose
- Understand the patterns, structures and conventions of oral and written language
- Understand the impact of variations in language, selecting and adapting speech and writing to different situations, purposes and audiences
- Develop their skills in order to meet their own personal needs as well as the needs of employers and further education so that they can fully participate in society and the world of work
- Develop their verbal reasoning and their ability to think constructively and critically in response to written and digital/dynamic texts
- Develop their proofreading and editing skills

You will develop your ability to use English as active and informed citizens and be able to speak, listen, read and write fluently, appropriately, effectively and critically – for a wide range of personal, functional and social purposes.

What will I study?

Following the course will prepare learners to use language effectively in society and employment. It will enable learners to:

- Demonstrate skills in Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing necessary to communicate with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately
- Express themselves creatively and imaginatively
- Use reading to develop their own skills as writers
- Understand the patterns, structures and conventions of written English
- Select and adapt speech and writing to suit different situations and audiences.



English Literature

Course Outline

The English Literature course is based on the conviction that the study of literature should centre on an informed personal response and a critical understanding of a range of texts in the genres of prose, poetry, and drama.

Throughout the course you will:

- Understand that texts from English, Welsh or Irish literary heritage have been influential and significant over time and explore their meaning today
- Explore how texts from different cultures and traditions may reflect or influence values, assumptions and a sense of identity
- Connect ideas, themes and issues, drawing on a range of texts
- Become critical readers of fiction and non-fiction prose, poetry and drama
- Experience different times, cultures, viewpoints and situations as found in literary texts
- Foster an appreciation of Wales' cultural heritage through the study of Welsh writing in English.

What will I study?

The content of the course will allow you to develop your knowledge, skills and understanding over a range of literature as outlined below. It will require you to study a minimum of five texts, at least three of which are from the English, Welsh or Irish literary heritage. Texts must include prose, poetry and drama (including a play by Shakespeare), and will be sufficiently rich and substantial to engage readers intellectually and emotionally.

The range of texts studied will include:

- Texts from the English, Welsh or Irish literary heritage
- Texts from different cultures and traditions
- Welsh writing in English
- Texts by contemporary writers



Mathematics - Numeracy

Course Outline:

Mathematics - Numeracy will build on and progress from the numeracy skills you have developed throughout Key Stage 3 and will assess the mathematics that you will need in your everyday life, in the world of work, and in other general curriculum areas.

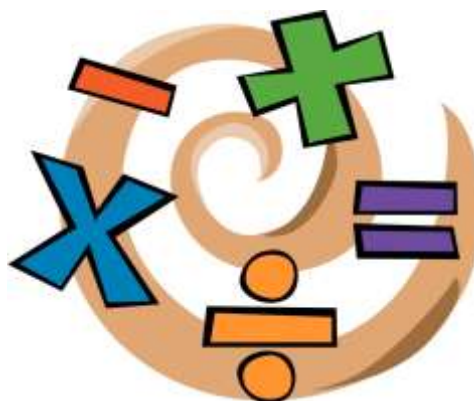
It will help you to develop confidence in, and have a positive attitude towards, mathematics and to recognise the importance and relevance of mathematics to everyday life and to society.

The emphasis will be on those aspects of mathematics which are of most relevance to you within the twenty-first century. It will prepare you to make decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices. Solving problems in the real world and the problem-solving cycle will feature within the course as well as the more numerical aspects of mathematics. There will also be opportunities for you to make informed decisions about the use of technology, the management of money and the use of statistics.

What will I study?

The Mathematics - Numeracy course will enable you to:

- Develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical and statistical methods, techniques and concepts required for everyday life, in the world of work, and in other subject areas
- Select and apply appropriate mathematics and statistics in everyday situations and contexts from the real world
- Use mathematics to represent, analyse and interpret information
- Acquire and use strategies for problem solving and modelling in context
- Understand that models may need refining and that there may be more than one way to solve a problem
- Interpret mathematical results and draw and justify conclusions that are relevant to the context
- Communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms.



Mathematics

Course Outline:

Mathematics will build on and progress from the levels of achievement at the end of Key Stage 3, and extend this to aspects of mathematics needed for progression to scientific, technical or further mathematical study.

It will enable you to appreciate the coherence, creativity, elegance and power of mathematics. It will prepare students to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices.

The course will have an emphasis on those aspects of mathematics required for progression into mathematics or mathematically-related disciplines or employment routes. It will feature problems set both in real-world contexts and within mathematics itself and will encourage learners to employ and evaluate different mathematical techniques.

What will I study?

The Mathematics course will enable you to:

- Develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods, techniques and concepts required for progression into mathematics or mathematically-related disciplines or employment routes
- Make connections between different areas of mathematics
- Select and apply mathematical methods in both mathematical and real-world contexts
- Reason mathematically, construct arguments and simple proofs, and make logical deductions and inferences
- Develop and refine strategies for solving a range of mathematical and real-world problems
- Communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms
- Interpret mathematical results and draw and justify conclusions that are relevant to the context
- Communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms.



Religious Studies

Course Outline:

The Religious Studies course will enable students to:

- Adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion
- Explore Roman Catholicism and Judaism, reflecting on fundamental questions responding intellectually and personally
- Enhance their spiritual and moral development, and contribute to their health and wellbeing
- Enhance their personal, social and cultural development, their understanding of different cultures locally, nationally and in the wider world, and to contribute to social and community cohesion
- Develop their interest in and enthusiasm for the study of religion, and relate it to the wider world
- Reflect on and develop their own ethical values, opinions and attitudes in light of their learning.

What will I study?

Students will follow two units:

Year 10: Catholic Christianity and Judaism

Year 11: Catholic Christianity and Ethical Themes



Science

Course Outline:

The Double Award Science course is designed to develop knowledge and understanding about the material, physical and living worlds. Students will learn about the application of Science in everyday life and the relationship between Science and society as well as developing their skills in problem solving, mathematics, use of technology and the evaluation of risks and benefits. There are also many opportunities for students to develop their practical skills through laboratory and field based experiments. Two grades will be awarded at the end of this course.

What will I study?

The Science course is split into 8 units, which focus upon the three main scientific disciplines:

Year 10

- Biology 1 – Cells, body systems, plants and human impact on the environment
- Chemistry 1 – Fundamentals of chemistry, the Earth and its resources
- Physics 1 – Energy, electricity and waves

Year 11

- Biology 2 –Biodiversity, inheritance and human response and regulation
- Chemistry 2 – Atoms, bonding and chemical reactions
- Physics 2 – Laws of motion, space and radiation
- Practical Assessment – Obtaining and analysing scientific data

Throughout the course, students will learn How Science Works. This underpins the science in the course and ensures that candidates understand scientific method, including the formulation of hypotheses and the collection and analysis of experimental data.

A Triple Science pathway will also be available to a small number of pupils particularly interested in pursuing Science as a career.



Cymraeg

Course Outline:

The GCSE specification in Welsh second language will enable candidates to:

- understand and use the language for a variety of purposes and audiences
- develop language learning skills and strategies in order to enable candidates to communicate and interact confidently and spontaneously in relevant situations and specified context
- develop language learning skills and strategies to enable candidates to develop their grasp of Welsh further and develop curiosity about the language

What will I study?

Students will further develop their understanding of spoken and written Welsh and their ability to express themselves through the medium of Welsh. Students will continue to develop their Welsh language skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Students will also study a range of topics based around the three broad themes of **Youth, Wales and the World** and **Employment**

Topics will include, but not be limited to:

- part time and voluntary work: Duke of Edinburgh award, in school, in the local area, career choices, 6th form, college, work, careers
- bilingualism: signs, polices, image, advantages, organisations that promote the Welsh language, career pathways, benefits, learning Welsh in school, the use of Welsh in schools, adult classes, language centres
- friends, family, the area, holidays, interests, modern technology, healthy lifestyle

The new syllabus comprises 4 units of work, all worth 25% of the overall GCSE grade. There are no controlled assessment or coursework elements.

Unit 1 – Pair/Group speaking – non-examination assessment
(Oracy response to visual stimulus)

Unit 2 – Pair/Group speaking – non examination assessment
(Communicating with others - infographic)

Unit 3 – Reading and Writing examination
(Narrative, specific and instructional)

Unit 4 – Reading and Writing examination
(Descriptive, creative and imaginative)



Welsh Bacallaureate

Course Outline:

The Welsh Bacallaureate is designed to ensure that you develop the necessary skills that are essential for employers, further education, life and work. It provides opportunities to develop these skills through purposeful, meaningful and engaging learning experiences; making your learning relevant and set in real-life contexts for real-life purposes.

The objectives of the Welsh Bacallaureate are for students to be able to:

- Develop an appreciation of the importance of skills development as a key aspect of life-long learning;
- Engage in active, creative, open-ended and student-led opportunities;
- Enquire and think for themselves, plan, make choices and decisions, solve problems and reflect on and evaluate these;
- Broaden their experience through engagement with external organisations;
- Develop as effective, responsible and active citizens ready to take their place in a global society and in the workplace;
- Develop initiative, independence and resilience;
- Increase their confidence and their motivation for learning and skills development;
- Work independently, take on responsibilities and work effectively with others.

What will I study?

Your skills will be developed, applied and assessed through the completion of four 'challenges' to achieve the Skills Challenge Certificate. These are:

- Individual Project
- Global Citizenship
- Enterprise and Employability
- Community

The qualification is achieved through securing this certificate, as well as qualifications in English Language, Mathematics - Numeracy and two other supporting qualifications.

