

# St Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

## Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig ac Anglicanaidd Sant Joseff



### Key Stage 4 Information Booklet

Llyfryn Gwybodaeth Cyfnod Allweddol 4

Parent/Carer Information  
Gwybodaeth Rhiant/Gofalwr

# Introduction

## Cyflwyniad

Key Stage 4 is the most important time in your child's education so far. The partnership between home and school is vitally important as we strive to ensure that pupils are supported during this most vital time. There's no doubt that a strong relationship between home and school allows a child to maximise their potential.

The main tool for communication between home and school is the Pupil Planner, so please feel free to use the Planner to relay any important information to us. The Planner should be a working document and weekly checking of it should keep you up to date with any deadlines that your child may have.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Year 10 team. We are privileged to be able to call upon an outstanding team of experienced Form Teachers: Mrs Samuels (Cassidy), Mr Chambers & Mrs Mills (Devereux), Mr D Lambert (King), Mrs Jones & Mrs Tompkins (Kolbe) and Miss Davies (Romero). We know that they will offer your child help, support and guidance they need during the next two years. The Year 10 team will be supported by our Senior Leadership Team link, Mrs Clark.

We look forward to the next two years being fruitful, rewarding and successful for your child.

Mr C Wilkinson  
Headteacher

Mr M Timbrell  
Head of Year 10

# Important Dates: Year 10

## Dyddiadau Pwysig: Blwyddyn 10

### Reports

27 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Termly Report
19 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Mock Results
16 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Termly Report
6 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	Termly Report

### Skills Challenge Certificate: collapsed timetable days

14 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2020	Global Citizenship
29 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Enterprise Challenge
1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021	Enterprise Challenge
8 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Enterprise Challenge
4 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Community Challenge
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Community Challenge
23 <sup>rd</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Community Challenge
2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021	Project
8 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	Project

### Parent's Evening

11 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
10 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 – Collaborative courses ( <i>appointment only</i> )

### Year 10 Assessments

2 <sup>nd</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Assessment Week 1
18 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Assessment Week 2
14 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2021	Assessment Week 3

### Soli House Retreat

2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### Others:

Senior Prefect Applications out – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
Senior Prefect Application due – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021  
Senior Prefect Interviews – 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021

# Art & Design

## Celf a Dylunio



GCSE Art and Design is a popular option for pupils. The classes are mixed ability and average approximately 25 pupils per class.

The course consists of:

60% Portfolio (coursework)

40% Externally set assignment (exam)

You will produce a portfolio of work which will form the coursework element of the course and this makes up 60% of your final mark. The external Controlled Assessment (examination) begins in the January of Year 11 and forms 40% of your final mark. For the External Controlled Assessment students will spend a minimum of six weeks preparing and developing a body of work which culminates in a ten-hour exam to produce a final piece. All work is marked internally and then moderated externally by the examination board (WJEC).

There are four assessment objectives that form the marking framework. Over the course of the projects, you will cover all these assessment objectives. As a part of this, you will critique art and work in the style of artists using their techniques. You will develop your work and experiment with many techniques. You will play and get messy whilst honing your artistic skills and finding your niche. Techniques, which can be covered, will consist of drawing, painting, 3D sculptures, printmaking, stitch, photography and mixed media.

Art and Design qualification have a large workload. While the heavy workload can be an initial shock those who survive emerge with focus, organisational and time management skills that many other students dream of. Homework is set fortnightly and coursework is expected to be continuously developed outside the timetabled allocation. Extra-curricular lessons are offered to GCSE pupils each week to accommodate catching up or further progression within their work.

Every year there will be an opportunity for the Year 10 cohort to spend a weekend on a residential course with practising artists and teachers. This weekend opens the mind to new techniques and shows that anything is possible. Students will come away with a design board and a final piece that can form a part of your coursework.

**Head of Department: Mrs Sarah Taylor**

# **ASDAN**

## **Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE) Level 1**

### **What is the Aim of the course?**

ASDAN Award Programmes offer you imaginative ways of developing, recording and certificating a wide range of personal qualities, abilities and achievements, as well as introducing you to new activities and challenges.

### **KS4 Overview:**

You will select a number of challenges from 12 modules:

- Communication
- Citizenship & Community
- Sport & Leisure
- Independent Living
- The Environment
- Vocation & Diploma Education
- Health & Fitness
- Work related learning & Enterprise
- Science & Technology
- International Links
- Expressive Art
- Beliefs & Values

### **Assessment:**

You will need to achieve 12 credits in order to gain the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness Level 1. You will also need to provide evidence of the six skills units below.

### **6 Skills Units:**

- Introduction to working with others.
- Introduction to improving own learning and performance.
- Introduction to problem solving.
- Planning and carrying out a piece of research.
- Communicating through discussion.
- Planning and giving an oral presentation.

**Head of Department: Mrs Ruth Lee**

# Drama

Exam board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3690QS

Drama is a popular subject and is taught in a specialist Drama Studio.

## **Overview:**

### **Unit 1: Devising Theatre 40%**

Internally assessed/externally moderated

**Practical:** Pupils will create their own piece – either using the technique of an influential theatre practitioner or genre in response to a stimulus set by WJEC.

**Written:** Pupils will produce a Portfolio of supporting evidence and an evaluation of the final performance.

### **Unit 2: Performing from a text 20%**

Non-exam – externally assessed by visiting examiner

**Practical:** Pupils will perform 2 extracts from the same play (chosen by school)

**Written:** No written element

### **Component 3: Interpret Theatre 60 marks/40%**

**Written exam:** 1 ½ hours

**Section A** – Pupils will study a set text

**Section B** – Pupils will write about an aspect of Theatre based on a live production seen during the course.

### **Extra-Curricular**

Pupils rehearse at lunchtimes and occasionally after school.

**Head of Department: Mrs Melanie Clark**

# English Language Iaith Saesneg



**Pupils will complete this GCSE in Year 11**

Exam board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3700QS

**Controlled Assessment: 20%**

## **Unit 1:**

- Speaking and Listening – individual presentation
- Speaking and Listening - group discussion  
(Approximately 1 week of class and home preparation is allowed ahead of each of these Controlled Assessments).

**Examination: 80%**

The exams are untiered.

## **Unit 2:** 2 hour exam paper (40%):

- Description, Narration and Exposition reading skills
- Editing and Proofreading skills
- Description, Narration and Exposition writing skills (1 extended writing task from a choice of 2)

## **Unit 3:** 2 hour exam paper (40%):

- Instructional, Argumentation and Persuasion reading skills
- Argumentation and Persuasion writing skills (2 writing tasks)

GCSE English Language has three components, in this case the internal component is made up of two oracy tasks. Students will also sit two external examinations in June at the end of Year 11. These both focus on students' reading and writing skills.

How should students be preparing at home?

By the end of Year 10, students should have extensive knowledge of the novel 'Of Mice and Men'. Ideally, they should have their own copies of this text and be re-reading it at home, making notes in their text in preparation for the assessments. There are also a number of study revision guides that students can purchase online which will aid their learning of the book.

They should also be ensuring that any work set on Google Classrooms, whether this is for homework or in cases where they are self-isolating, is completed and completed by the deadlines set by teachers.

In Year 11, students should have access to a wide range of reading material at home in order to develop their reading skills and vocabulary. Spelling and reading homework tasks will be set weekly in order to improve students' spelling, grammar and use of punctuation (spag) which are vitally important in the writing sections of the examinations.

**Acting Head of Department: Mrs Kathryn Hatfield**

# English Literature

## Llenyddiaeth Saesneg



Pupils will complete this GCSE in Year 10

Exam board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3720QS

### Examination

Pupils will be entered at either Higher or Foundation tier for the exams.

Higher Tier: grades A\*-D

Foundation Tier: C-G

**Unit 1:** 2 hour exam paper:

- Two extended response questions about *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- Extended response to two previously unseen contemporary poems, including compare and contrast

### Controlled Assessment

**Unit 3:** 2 hour Shakespeare task  
2 hour Poetry of Wales task

Students at St Joseph's will complete two distinct GCSEs in English: English Literature and English Language. Students will be entered into GCSE Literature this year in Year 10 and they will then complete GCSE English Language in Year 11.

GCSE English Literature has two components this year. The first component is made up of two tasks. Students are currently completing the first of these two tasks which is a task based on the play 'Romeo and Juliet'. Students will start to study for the second task, a poetry comparison, in December. There is also one other component, which is made up of three questions. Two are based on the novel 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck and the third question is an unseen poetry comparison question.

**Acting Head of Department: Mrs Kathryn Hatfield**



# French and German

## Ffrangeg ac Almaeneg



Exam board: WJEC  
Specification Code: French 3800QS German 3820QS

Pupils follow the WJEC exam syllabus which can be downloaded from the WJEC website [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

Pupils are tested on four skills at the end of the two year course – listening, speaking, reading and writing. Three broad themes are covered and include the following:

### **Identify and Culture**

#### **Youth Culture**

Self and relationships  
Technology and Social Media

#### **Lifestyle**

Health and Fitness  
Entertainment and Leisure

#### **Customs and Traditions**

Food and Drink  
Festivals and Celebrations

#### **Wales and the World – areas of interest**

##### **Home and Locality**

Local areas of interest  
Travel and Transport

##### **The Wider World**

Local and regional features and characteristics of Germany and German-speaking countries  
Holidays and tourism

##### **Global Sustainability**

Environment  
Social Issues

##### **Current and Future Study and Employment**

###### **Current Study**

School / college life  
School / college studies

###### **Enterprise, Employability and Future Plans**

Skills and Personal Qualities  
Post-16 Study  
Career Plans  
Employment

## **Examinations**

The GCSE in French and German is assessed by a series of exams which take place at the end of Year 11, during the GCSE examination period and are as follows:

### **Unit 1 - Speaking 25% (60 Marks)**

Exam in April or May Year 11 with your teacher, who records the exam, but it is marked by the exam board.

No dictionaries allowed.

Foundation tier – 7-9 minutes

Higher Tier – 10-12 minutes

### **Unit 2 - Listening 25% (45 Marks)**

Exam in May/June of year 11

Foundation tier = 35 minutes

Higher tier= 45 minutes

No dictionary allowed.

### **Unit 3 – Reading 25% (45 Marks)**

Exam in May/June of year 11

Foundation tier = 1 hour

Higher tier = 1 hour 15 minutes

No dictionary allowed.

### **UNIT 4–WRITING 25% (60 Marks)**

Exam in May or June Year 11

Foundation paper = 1 hour 15 minutes

Higher paper = 1 hour 30 minutes

No dictionary allowed.

**Head of Department: Mrs Rachel Large**

# Geography

## Daearyddiaeth



Exam Board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3110QS

### **About the Subject**

Geography is a popular subject at GCSE level which is reflected in the large uptake in the options. Pupils who have opted for this subject will need to be interested in current affairs and have enquiring minds.

### **KS4 Overview**

We started the GCSE in Year 9, where by 2 units were introduced. Pupils will be taught four units in Year 10 and two units in Year 11, with all six have an integral environmental theme.

### **Year 9**

1. Option – Tectonics (1<sup>st</sup> section)
2. Option – Social Development Issues

### **Year 10**

1. Core Theme – Landscapes & Physical Processes (Field Trip)
2. Core Theme – Rural-Urban Links (Field Trip)
3. Core Theme – Weather, Climate and Ecosystems
4. Core Theme – Development & Resource Issues

### **Year 11**

1. Unit 3 – NEA [Non-examination assessment]  
Revision
2. Option – Tectonics (2<sup>nd</sup> section)
3. Option – Social Development Issues (2<sup>nd</sup> section)

### **Assessment**

- Pupils are assessed fortnightly by means of mini tests (**marked out of 10**)
- Pupils are given a written homework once a fortnight which is marked in terms of a raw mark or a GCSE grade.
- There is an end of unit test, which will include a past GCSE question and other questions testing more specific knowledge.

### **Terminal Examination and Controlled Assessment**

Pupils will sit two papers at the end of Year 11, both lasting 1 ½ hours each and accounting for 80% of the final mark.

The NEA consists of 3 fieldwork sessions undertaken in the Summer Term of Year 9 and the Autumn Term of Year 11. The write up (2000 words) is completed under direct teacher supervision, in 20 hours during the second half of the Autumn Term in Year 11.

### **What you can do to help**

It is very important that you encourage your child to do their homework to the very best of their ability. You will find all their homework results in the back of their Geography book. You can purchase the WJEC revision guide which has been written for the specification, for £5 through school.

**Head of Department: Mrs Suzanne Arnull**

# Health and Social Care, and Child Care Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol, a Gofal Plant



Exam board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3570QS

## **About the subject:**

Health and Social Care, and Child Care is a vocationally related subject. Pupils develop their knowledge and understanding of Health and Social Care in a vocational context. We have an excellent partnership with a local residential care home. In June 2009 this partnership won an award in the category “Learning about Caring, Caring about Learning” at the Social Care Accolades run by the Care Council for Wales. Health and Social Care is taught in a designated room which is equipped with computers.

## **KS4 overview:**

Health and Social Care, and Child Care consists of coursework (60%) and an external examination (40%). Areas of study include Health, Social Care and Children’s Services and Human Growth and Development. Coursework projects are based on an individual known to the pupil. All coursework is produced on computers and started in Year 10 and completed in Year 11. In Year 10, pupils study the unit of work ‘Human Growth and Development’, with an external examination of 1¼ hours at the end of Year 11.

## **Assessment**

Pupils sit the WJEC GCSE Health and Social Care examination.

**Head of Department: Mr Dave Lambert**

# History

## Hanes



Exam Board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3100QS

### **Unit 1**

- ❖ Study in depth Wales and the wider perspective
- ❖ Depression, War and Recovery 1930 -1951

### **Unit 2**

- ❖ Study in depth History with a European/World Focus
- ❖ Germany in Transition 1919 – 1939

### **Unit 3**

- ❖ Thematic study
- ❖ Changes in Crime and Punishment C1500 to the present day

Controlled Assessment is in 2 parts and is based on an exam board question.

**Head of Department: Mrs Yvonne Williams**

# ICT

# TGCh

Exam Board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 4330QS

## GCSE

The specification for GCSE ICT is arranged in units:

### **Unit 1: Understanding ICT**

External Assessment: 1½ hours (20%)

This examination paper assesses knowledge and understanding of functional elements of ICT in a home and school context.

### **Unit 2: Solving problems with ICT**

Controlled assessment: 22½ hours (30%)

This controlled assessment requires the pupil to produce a portfolio of work and will test the practical aspects of the functional elements of ICT.

### **Unit 3: ICT in Organizations**

External Assessment: 1½ hours (20%)

This examination paper will assess the 'application' content of ICT in a business and industry context.

### **Unit 4: Developing Multimedia ICT Solutions**

Controlled assessment: 22½ hours (30%)

This controlled assessment gives the pupil the opportunity to develop a piece of work using multimedia software following a task brief issued by WJEC.

This course has been designed to prepare candidates for work in the ICT sector by providing them with an introduction to the skills, knowledge and understanding required in the workplace. Pupils complete units of work enabling them to gain a good basic understanding of ICT on which to build expertise.

Some minor changes have been made recently to the exam content by the WJEC to bring the course more up to date. Pupils have been made aware of these changes.

**Head of Department: Mr Peter Chambers**

# Mathematics

# Mathemateg



Exam Board: WJEC  
Maths Specification Code: 6300QS  
Numeracy Specification Code: 6310QS

## **Introduction**

The Maths department occupies 5 rooms each containing a computer linked to a classroom interactive touchscreen. The teaching of maths consists of various strategies to get all pupils engaged. These include the use of small whiteboards, interactive games and a mental and oral starter. Homework is set regularly and most are set via the internet. Homework contains links that involve interactive electronic learning which will assist pupils with the learning of new topics, completing homework and revision.

## **KS4 overview and course content**

Year 10 and 11 pupils study the WJEC examination that consists of a numeracy exam and a maths exam. There are two written papers for each of the exams. There are three tiers of entry, the Higher tier is taken by the top sets and pupils can achieve up-to an A\* grade. The intermediate tier that consists of Grades E to B which will be taken by pupils in set 2 and some in set 3. Some pupils may sit the foundation tier.

At present there is no controlled assessment for Mathematics.

## **Extra Maths Lessons and additional support**

The maths department runs a series of workshops and extra lessons to enable pupils to achieve their target grade. Pupils are also given the opportunity to buy a revision guide at a discount price.

## **Equipment**

Your child should come to maths lessons with a pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, protractor and scientific calculator. The preferred model is a Casio. Some lessons will also require pupils to bring a compass but they will be given a lesson notice beforehand.

## **Homework**

Homework is set regularly and most are set via the internet. Most homework will be set via the school's interactive electronic learning environment. Your child can download the homework onto their own computer and print them off. We have also started using the PiXL Maths app that can be downloaded to a phone or iPad.

## **Assessment**

The class teacher will assess pupils on a regular basis and use this information to track pupils' progress. This assessment could be in the form of a short test, or an investigation. There is an exam at the end of Year 10 and a mock exam in December of Year 11. Pupils work is kept in a folder that can be used as a revision resource at the end of the course.

**Head of Department: Mr Nick Donlon**

# Music

## Cerddoriaeth



Exam Board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3660QS

### **Peripatetic Staff:**

Voice	- Mrs Tina Boycott
Cello & Double Bass	- Mr Ed Waden
Violin & Viola	- Mrs Sophie Davies
Brass	- Mr Steve Atherton
Drum Kit	- Mr James Edwards
Piano	- Mrs Shirley Newman
Woodwind	- Mr Steven Shotton
Guitar	- Mr Matt Nichols

The Music Department is a modern suite of 4 rooms with good storage facilities and teaching space. It is well resourced with a variety of equipment, both acoustic and electronic.

Key Stage 4 Music is an option subject for pupils who show aptitude and potential. Pupils receive 5 hours' tuition per fortnight and follow the WJEC GCSE Music course. Each pupil performs a solo and ensemble piece \* (35%), submits 2 extended, contrasting compositions (35%) and sits a final Listening Examination (30%). Homework in all 3 areas is set regularly and pupils are also expected to practice music set by their vocal/instrumental teachers for monthly performance assessment in class.

\*which will be internally assessed, externally moderated.

**Head of Department: Mr Oliver Sammons**



# Physical Education

## Addysg Gorfforol

Exam Board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3550QS

### **The GCSE course is assessed over two units:**

#### Unit 1

- Externally assessed through a written examination paper of 2 hours;
- This is worth 50% (100 marks) towards your total marks.

#### Unit 2

- Three practical performances; Learners will be assessed on three different activities in the role of performer in at least one individual sport, one team sport and one other. One activity will be a major activity which will have a personal fitness programme linked to it.
- Off-site activities can be used; where candidates must provide video evidence.
- This is worth 50% (100 marks) towards your total marks.

The percentage/approximate marks you need for each grade:

A\* - 90%/180    A - 80%/160    B - 70%/140    C - 60%/120  
D - 50%/100    E - 40%/80    F - 30%/60    G - 20%/40

### **Resources:**

#### Revision Guides

- GCSE Physical Education Complete Revision & Practice
- ISBN 9781847624055
- GCSE Physical Education The Revision Guide
- ISBN 9781847623058
- Revise GCSE Complete Study & Revision Guide
- ISBN 9781906415822

#### Free Apps

- Flashcards (+) by NKO Ventures
- iBooks
- Socrative
- Kahoot
- MyFitnessPal

#### Websites

- stjoseph.wrexham14to19.net
- wjec.co.uk
- Twitter: @SJ\_WXM\_PE
- Google Site: <https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/stjosephgcsepe/home>
- Assessment Calendar: Ongoing from September

**Head of Department: Mr Kieron McComb**

# Product Design

## Dylunio Cynnyrch



Exam board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3603QS

Design and Technology (Product Design) is a course that gives pupils the opportunity to design freely and explore new technologies and their development. Pupils work through a number of practical projects, using a variety of skills and materials to work with.

Throughout the course you will complete 3 design and make projects. The first 2 will focus on developing skills and knowledge and the 3<sup>rd</sup> will contribute towards your final GCSE Grade. In doing so, the project will involve a folder design task and a working project that will be marked against the GCSE marking scheme externally.

The course is assessed on two areas, the practical and the theory. The practical project is worth 50% of the final marks and is conducted through the 3<sup>rd</sup> project carried out in school. The theory side is also worth 50% of the final mark and is conducted in a 2 hour exam at the end of the course.

Design and Technology gives you the opportunity to think outside of the box and develop your practical and theory skills in Technology. If you enjoy solving problems and are able to communicate your ideas well in a design area then this may be ideal for you.

Controlled Assessment: 50%

Written Examination: 50%

**Head of Department: Mr Dave Lambert**

# Religious Education

## Addysg Grefyddol



Exam Board: WJEC  
Specification Codes: 3125QT (Short Course) option 3120UF  
3121QS (Full Course) option 3120UF; 312103

### **About the subject:**

WJEC Religious Studies provides opportunities for students to follow a course that is coherent and that balances knowledge of core beliefs, teachings and practices of Catholic Christianity and Judaism, with an understanding of how they can be applied to philosophical and ethical themes.

The course aims to enable students to : develop knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, teachings, practices and sources of wisdom and authority, through their reading of key scripture passages and other important texts; develop the ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of the subject; engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth and their influence on human life; reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in the light of what they have learned and contribute to their preparation for adult life in a pluralistic and global community; study Welsh perspectives, enriching students' understanding of the world around them; develop knowledge and understanding of non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism.

### **KS4 overview:**

#### **Unit 1: Religion and Philosophical Themes:**

Topic 1 Catholic Christian Beliefs: Teachings and Practices: Jesus' teachings and the Church

Topic 2: Judaism: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices: Synagogue

Topic 3: Life and Death: The World, the Origin and Value of Human Life, Life after Death.

Topic 4: Good and Evil: Crime and Punishment, Forgiveness, Good, Evil and Suffering.

#### **Unit 3: Catholic Christianity and Ethical Themes:**

Topic 1: Catholic Christian Beliefs, Teachings and Practices: The Bible, The Afterlife, the Liturgical Year, Special Places.

Topic 2: Catholic Christian Core Beliefs, Teachings and Practices: The Nature of the Church, the Role of Mary, Religious Life, Forms of Religious Expression.

Topic 3: Relationships: Relationships, Sexual Relationships, Prejudice and Discrimination.

Topic 4: Human Rights: Human Rights and Social Justice, Prejudice and Discrimination, Issues of Poverty and Wealth.

### **Assessment:**

This specification is 100% examination. Pupils will sit two examinations **in May/June 2020**. There is a big emphasis placed on end of unit tests (approx. every ½ term). As there is so much course content it is vital that pupils keep on top of their work, meeting deadlines and catching up when absent. Organisation of work and A4 ring binders is essential.

**Head of Department: Mrs Heidi Roe**

# Science

## Gwyddoniaeth



Exam Board: WJEC  
Specification Codes: Double Award 3430QD

**Triple Award:**

Biology 3400QS  
Chemistry 3410QS  
Physics 3420QS

Triple Award Science: Pupil will gain 3 GCSE's, Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Double Award Science: Pupil will in effect gain 2 GCSE's in Science. Double grades will be based on a 15 grade scale, from A\*A\* to GG.

Controlled Assessment: One practical assessment per GCSE will be set in January of Year 11. These will be done in school but marked externally and are worth 10% of the total mark.

Examinations will be available in the Summer of Year 10 and Summer of Year 11. There are no January examinations or re-sits available.

Triple Award examinations will be 1 hour and 45 minutes in length. Each pupil will sit six examinations, three in Year 10 and three in Year 11, i.e. one each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics in each year.

Double Award examinations will be 1 hour and 15 minutes in length. Each pupil will sit six examinations, three in Year 10 and three in Year 11, i.e. one each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics in each year.

**Head of Department: Mrs Nicky Ellis**

# Cymraeg Ail Iaith (Welsh Second Language)



Exam Board: WJEC  
Specification Code: 3020QS

This 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
- Develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in an integrated manner, emphasising listening and speaking skills
- Use Welsh in further studies, in the workplace and in their communities
- Develop curiosity about the Welsh language

This qualification has two external assessment units which are weighted equally and two internal assessment units. The two external assessment units test reading and writing skills while the two internal assessment units test oral and listening skills.

## **Subject Content**

The qualification is made up of four units: Unit 1 and Unit 2 are a non-examination speaking and listening assessment. Unit 3 and Unit 4 are reading and writing examinations. The course is suitable for teaching over two years within 120 guided learning hours.

The context for learning the language is organised under three broad themes: Employment, Wales and the World and Youth.

Candidates will be required to demonstrate their ability to:

Speak (30%) – communicate and interact effectively in different situations and contexts

Listen (20%) – understand and respond to different types of spoken language in a variety of contexts

Read (25%) – understand and respond to a variety of written language in a range of contexts

Write (25%) – communicate effectively for different purposes and for different audiences

This specification builds on subject content which is typically taught as a second language at Key Stage 3 and provides a suitable foundation for the study of Welsh second language at either AS or A level.

## **Two textbooks have been produced for the course**

- Collins WJEC Revision Welsh Second Language, Jo Knell.
- Illuminate Publishing WJEC GCSE Cymraeg Ail Iaith/Welsh Second Language. Revision Guide. Enfys Thomas, Richard Roberts, Tina Thomas.

**Head of Department: Miss Helen Davies**

# GCSE Skills

# TGAU Sgiliau



Pupils will have approximately 2 hours of English, 2 hours of Maths and 1 hour of SCC. Homework is kept to a minimum. The sessions give pupils the opportunity to reinforce their learning and receive individual feedback from specialist English/Maths teachers.

## **1. English/Literacy**

In their Skills Literacy lessons, students will have the opportunity to improve and further develop their English skills. In Year 10, students in English will be completing their GCSE English Literature and the work completed in Skills lessons will complement this work:

### **Winter term**

Students will complete a range of Shakespeare and Poetry tasks which will support their learning of these topics when they sit the internal examinations before Christmas.

### **Spring term**

Students will study the set text 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck in more depth, with a focus on the context of the novel.

### **Summer term**

Students will practise their Poetry Comparison skills through completing a range of questions, in preparation for the question on the external examination.

In Year 11, lessons will focus on writing accurately with a particular focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar.

**Head of Department: Mrs Kathryn Hatfield**

## **2. Mathematics/Numeracy**

This course is based on supporting pupils with mathematical skills in real life situations and help pupils to become numerically independent adults in the future.

The priority is to put maths real life situation learning skills that will be valuable to students when leaving school and having to solve real life numerical problems. The course is closely linked to numeracy GCSE with an emphasis on understanding finance. Examples of topics are best buys, mortgages, interest rates, salary contracts and bills.

Students will build on previous knowledge and develop confidence. They will use everyday maths skills to solve problems including long multiplication, percentages, measuring and manipulating data.

**Head of Department: Mr Nick Donlon**

### 3. Skills Challenge Certificate (SCC)

**Exam Board:** WJEC      **Specification Code:** 90S9QO

#### **What is the Skills Challenge Certificate (SCC)?**

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

#### **General Overview of the Skills Challenge Certificate**

The Skills Challenge Certificate has been designed to consolidate and develop **essential** and **employability skills**. They are:

1. Literacy
2. Numeracy
3. Digital Literacy
4. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
5. Planning and Organisation
6. Creativity and Innovation
7. Personal Effectiveness

The emphasis of the Skills Challenge Certificate is on applied learning so that learners are equipped with transferable skills allowing them to progress with confidence when in the world of work. The challenges [see below] allow learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of society, their community and an awareness of global issues and perspectives.

#### **How it is assessed**

The **Skills Challenge Certificate** consists of four components which will be followed by all of our learners:

1. Enterprise and Employability Challenge – Year 10 (Autumn / Spring Term)
2. Global Citizenship Challenge – Year 9 (Summer Term) and Year 10 (Autumn Term)
3. Community Challenge – Year 10 (Spring / Summer Term)
4. An Individual Project – Year 11 (Autumn / Spring Term)

#### **How it is delivered**

The teaching and learning aspects of the 3 challenges and the Controlled Assessment will be completed in Humanities lessons in Year 9 and in collapsed timetable days and timetabled PSE lessons during Year 10. All of these dates can be found in the Parent/Pupil calendar.

The project will be started at the end of Year 10 and will be delivered in Year 11 timetabled PSE and Welsh Baccalaureate lessons and, to a lesser extent, some collapsed timetable days.

**Welsh Baccalaureate Co-ordinator: Mrs Suzanne Arnull**

example achieve shared life guide  
Christ potential  
faith fully Anglican  
fully Catholic journey  
Mission full God live  
St Joseph whole Christian grow  
school community  
LOVE