

6th Form Prospectus

Achievement for All
Llwyddiant i Bawb

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Headteacher's Welcome

Ysgol Bryn Elian's Sixth Form offers you a purposeful academic and caring environment in which you will be supported and guided so that you achieve the very best that you can be. Our last Estyn report commented that: 'The school provides exceptional support and guidance to pupils... this provision is an outstanding feature of the work of the school.' We rightly pride ourselves on the high quality of teaching and personal mentoring that, along with your own enthusiasm and commitment will help you realise your ambitions.

We have a well-deserved reputation for excellence in examination results, including the Welsh Baccalaureate.

Our motto, 'Achievement for All' is at the very heart of all that we do. Our Estyn report recognised that 'The vision of Achievement for All is shared by all and more importantly is evident in all aspects of the school's work.' Here, you are known for the individual that you are, and guidance will be tailored to your needs. We really do strike the balance between academic success and offering you opportunities to participate in a huge array of extra-curricular activities, to help develop a range of skills and to broaden your experience. Life in the Sixth Form here at Bryn Elian will enable you to make the best decisions for your future. Dedicated support is provided for UCAS applications and preparation for the world of work. We pride ourselves on the care we take to fully equip you for your future and work in partnership with many providers to ensure you have the best curriculum choice available and specialist advice.

The Sixth Form at Bryn Elian is a happy, well-supported and a constantly innovating place to study. We welcome enquiries from any student who shares our belief in quality and care.



Mrs Lindsey Hastings
Headteacher

Pathways in the Sixth Form

There are different pathways in the Sixth Form, depending on your needs. The three example pathways opposite show how A level, or equivalent courses such as BTEC courses, can be combined with re-sits in English Language or Mathematics, based on need, with all students studying the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales.

- 1.** 3 A levels (or equivalent)
+ Advanced Welsh Bac
- 2.** 4 A levels (or equivalent)
+ Advanced Welsh Bac
- 3.** 2 A levels (or equivalent)
+ Re-sit GCSE's
+ Advanced Welsh Bac
- 4.** Bespoke package from Level 2 and
3 Qualifications & Advanced Welsh
Bacc.

Sixth Form Life at YBE

In Sixth Form at Ysgol Bryn Elian, we aim to instill the school value of independence within our students to best prepare them for successful futures. We do, however, offer valuable support and guidance, both pastorally and academically, when required, to ensure that every student fulfils their potential and has a variety of options at the time of leaving us. It is important to us that every student feels valued, cared for and fully involved in their educational learning journey, and each student is carefully monitored throughout their time within Sixth Form.

Students receive individual targets that are challenging but achievable for each of their chosen subjects and the Welsh Baccalaureate. Progress towards targets are tracked carefully by both the curriculum and pastoral teams, and we operate a stepped intervention programme to support progress throughout all aspects of sixth form life.

Our Sixth Form centre offers a comfortable base for students when not partaking in a timetabled lesson. The centre boasts a suite of computers and laptops to assist students with their private study during non-timetabled lessons. We also have a successful 'Bring Your Own Device' scheme, which further facilitates effective private study. We have lockers available for the safekeeping of valuables, and a well-equipped kitchen area, giving students the facilities to make hot drinks, toast and re-heat food from home. Our Senior Student Team consists of 4 elected Year 13 students, who are the voice of the Sixth Form. The team have significant responsibilities within the whole school community, including fund raising, school council,

open events, governors meetings and the highlight of the year, the leavers ball.

We genuinely believe that parents and guardians play a vital role in the Sixth Form. Communication between home and school is regular and informative. Parents and guardians are encouraged to contact us with any issues they need clarification upon, and we welcome such communication. Experience tells us that success in the Sixth Form is best achieved via a three-way partnership between students, parents and school.

The transition from GCSE years to Sixth Form life can sometimes be a tricky one when dealing with more independent study time and higher-level courses. Students should choose courses that they enjoy and are good at, and plan their study time carefully in order to be successful. Organisation in Year 12 will go a long way to ensuring that examination performance is excellent and will lead students nicely into Year 13. This final year of school is dominated by the application process for further education, apprenticeships, or the world of work. Students and parents are fully involved in the process that starts at the end of Year 12, culminating in the students finding the next step in their journey after A Level Results day. We are there to support and share our expertise at every step of the journey.

Our 2026 Sixth Form Options Evening will be held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 and will be an opportunity to discuss course choices with subject teachers. More information on the evening will be available via the school website and our social media platforms closer to the event. There will also be an opportunity to discuss Linc Conwy courses at a Venue Cymru event on Wednesday 28th January 2026.

Mrs Jane Jarvis
Progress Leader of Sixth Form

Advanced Skills

Baccalaureate Wales

The Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate has been an important part of the Sixth Form here at Bryn Elian since 2003, and has grown and developed significantly in that time.

This new and updated qualification, which sits alongside your A level or BTEC choices, adds breadth and balance to your studies through a core programme of activities. The Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales is graded A*-E, carrying the same UCAS points as other courses.

The Course consists of:

Individual Project
Global Community Project
Future Destinations Project

These three areas of study are delivered through formal lessons with specialist teachers. The Projects are designed to develop the essential and employability skills of:

Literacy Numeracy
Digital Competence
Critical thinking and Problem Solving
Creativity and Innovation Personal Effectiveness Planning and Organisation

Success in the top three areas of study will give you the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales.

Mathematics

WJEC AS Mathematics progressing to A2 level Entry Requirements

Entry Requirements

Essential: GCSE Mathematics at grade B or above at Higher Tier.

Desirable: Level 2 Higher Tier Additional Mathematics Pass or above.

Why should I study this programme?

Since Mathematics is one of the most traditional subjects, a good grade in Mathematics can boost an application for most courses. The skills it allows you to develop include problem solving, logic and analysing situations. Add in the improvements to your basic numeracy skills and that bit of creativity needed to solve mathematics problems and you've got yourself a set of skills which would make you more desirable for almost any job!

What will I study on the course?

You will participate in a variety of mathematical activities building on the skills acquired at GCSE. Communication skills are developed through discussion and problem-solving skills are ongoing throughout the course.

A/S Modules

Unit 1: Pure Mathematics A (2 hours 30 mins)

Unit 2: Applied Mathematics A (1 hour 45 mins)

A2 Modules

Unit 3: Pure Mathematics B (2 hours 30 mins)

Unit 4: Applied Mathematics B (1 hour 45 mins)

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: 25% of Qualification

Unit 2: 15% of Qualification

Unit 3: 35% of Qualification

Unit 4: 25% of Qualification

What can I do next with this qualification?

Many courses at university require Mathematics at A level, or contain Mathematics modules in the course. These include: Statistics, Computer Science, Physics, Accountancy, Engineering, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Sports Science, Earth Sciences, Medicine, Chemistry, Biology and Business Studies.

If interested in Further Maths AS Level, Please speak with Mrs Helen Hayes.

Cymraeg Ail Iaith UG/U

Exam Board – CBAC (WJEC)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Welsh at grade C or above is necessary. You will be expanding the language skills of speaking, listening, viewing, reading and writing that you have already been developing during your GCSE course. The knowledge and understanding gained will form a sound base from which to start your AS studies.

What will I study on the course?

There are three units at AS level and three further units at A level.

Unit 1 Oral Examination:

Section A: Approx. 20 mins. per group

Section B: Approx. 5 mins. per candidate 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 A: A composite question which includes different types of linguistic exercises.

Section B: 3 questions based on the prescribed texts.

Advanced Level (the above and three additional units)

A2 Unit 4 Oral Examination: Section A and B approx. 30 mins. per group

Section C approx. 5 mins. per candidate Drama and Oracy

25% of qualification 75 marks

Section A: Living through the medium of Welsh

Section B: Discussing a play

Section C: Personal response Synoptic Assessment

A2 Unit 5 Written Paper: 2 hours The Welsh language in Society and Translanguaging 15% of qualification 80 marks

Section A: The Welsh language in society Questions based on the prescribed text

Section B: Translanguaging – a written response in Welsh to an English-language article Synoptic Assessment

A2 Unit 6: Written Paper: 2 hours The Use of Language and the Short Story 20% of qualification 100 marks

Section A: A composite question which includes different types of linguistic exercises

Section B: 2 questions based on one of the prescribed texts and 1 synoptic question which bring together the information, understanding and skills developed in the subject.

How will I be assessed?

AS Level

Oral exam – Study of the film ‘Patagonia’

Internal Assessment – Written coursework

Written exam – Poetry and language

A level

Oral Assessment – Study of the Drama ‘Crash’

Written exam – The Welsh language in Society and Translanguaging

Written exam – The Use of Language and the Short Story

Medical Science

WJEC Level 3 alternative academic qualifications in medical science (Extended certificate).

Entry Requirements

GCSE Double Science CC or above or Separate Sciences C and English language and Mathematics at Grade C or above.

Why should I study this programme?

Medical Science is the science of dealing with the maintenance of health and the prevention and treatment of diseases. The Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science is for learners who are interested in careers related to healthcare and medical research. It offers learning in a range of vocational contexts with science tailored to medical science and research methods.

What will I study on the course?

As well as learning the fundamentals of Biology, Biological Systems and Human Health and Disease, you will study medical research methods and clinical laboratory techniques, collecting both research and medical data and reporting it appropriately.

How will I be assessed?

The course is a mixture of internally and externally assessed tasks accounting for over 60% of the course, and two examinations accounting for the remainder of the course. It is worth noting that in order to gain A*-C grades there is a minimum mark that must be achieved in these examinations.

What can I do next with this qualification?

WJEC Level 3 Medical Science would support progression to a range of job roles within health care, such as those within the areas of life sciences, i.e. carrying out a range of laboratory and scientific tests to support the diagnosis and treatment of disease, roles within the physiological sciences, working directly with patients, measuring and evaluating particular organs and systems. It is also currently fully accepted by some institutions for progression into further education in medical fields (Note:- individual institutions set their own entrance requirement so check first).

Biology

AS Level, progressing to A2 Level

Entry Requirements

Essential: GCSE Double Science BC or above or Biology at grade B or above and to have studied intermediate or higher tier Mathematics and gained a grade C or above.

Desirable: GCSE Mathematics at grade B or above.

Why should I study this programme?

You will develop the scientific skills practised at GCSE, using research skills and will apply your knowledge and understanding of biological ideas. You will develop key skills, handle data and become a more independent learner.

What will I study on the course?

You will explore the major principles that underpin the study of living organisms such as cell biology and biochemistry as well as studying variation, evolution, inheritance, genetics, homeostasis and the environment, amongst many other topics. You will be able to use high quality microscopes during experimental work.

How will I be assessed?

For AS Level: Units 1 and 2 will be assessed by written examinations during year 12.

For A2 Level: Units 3 and 4 will be assessed by written examinations during year 13.

The practical

Unit 5 will be examined at the end of the 2 year course through a practical exam and a data handling exercise. A practical lab book will be completed over the two year course and will also be used to assess Unit 5.

What can I do next with this qualification?

A level Biology prepares you for further study or careers in areas in health and clinical professions, such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Optometry, Nursing, Sports Science, Zoology, Marine Biology and Forensic Science.

Chemistry

AS Level, progressing to A2 Level

Entry Requirements

Essential: GCSE Double Science at BC or above or GCSE Chemistry at grade B and to have studied intermediate or higher Maths and gained a grade C or above. **Desirable:** GCSE Mathematics at grade B or above.

Why should I study this programme?

Chemistry is the Science that underpins how everything around us works at a fundamental level. You will develop the scientific skills practised at GCSE, and develop practical skills in the area of chemical preparation and analysis. You will also improve and acquire research skills and improve your independent learning.

What will I study on the course?

You will build on fundamental chemical principles such as atomic structure and bonding, energetics and moles as well as explore chemical behaviour and patterns in the Periodic Table. You will also develop your practical skills and apply them to quantitative analysis, chemical identification, preparation and problem solving.

How will I be assessed?

For AS Level, Units 1 and Unit 2 will be assessed by written examination at the end of year 12. For A2 Level, Units 3 and Unit 4 will be assessed by written examinations at the end of the year. The practical Unit 5 consists of a practical examination and the assessment of a practical laboratory book complied over the 2 years of AS and A2 courses.

What can I do next with this qualification?

A level Chemistry prepares you for further study in areas as diverse as Drug Design and Forensics to Medicine and Volcanology.

A-level Chemistry underpins roughly 180 different occupations including Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Pharmacology, Forensic science, Environmental science, Marine Sciences, Research, Teaching and even Volcanology.

Physics

AS Level, progressing to A2 Level

Entry Requirements

Essential: GCSE Double Science at BC or above or GCSE Physics at grade B or above with GCSE Mathematics, studied at higher tier, at grade C or above.

Desirable: GCSE Mathematics at grade B or above.

Why should I study this programme?

Physics is fascinating and fun. At its heart, Physics is about finding things out – about understanding what lies behind everyday phenomena like rainbows, red sunsets and blue skies as well as the more revolutionary concepts of quantum theory, relativity and cosmology.

What will I study on the course?

Following this course you will be introduced to a wide range of Physics principles and be led to an understanding of how nature operates at both microscopic and macroscopic scales. You will understand how these principles are applied in tackling problems of human society.

How will I be assessed?

For AS Level, Units 1 and 2 will be assessed by written examinations at the end of Year 12. This makes up 40% of the whole A level. For A2, Units 3 and 4 will be assessed by written examinations during year 13. The practical Unit 5 will be assessed through an experimental task and a data-analysis task, both synoptic in nature, performed under controlled conditions. During the course a laboratory record book will be kept and assessed as a record of the development of the essential practical skills required for this course.

What can I do next with this qualification?

All technology is based on the principles of Physics so for any career related to technology, such as designing future transport or planning environmentally sustainable electricity generation, a qualification in Physics is a good place to start.

The principles of Physics are also useful in explaining biological and chemical phenomena and so Physics is a great subject to study for any student wishing to pursue further study in any Science-related discipline.

Art, Craft & Design

WJEC AS Level Art progressing to A2 Level

Entry Requirements

A GCSE in Art, grade C or above is desirable.

Why should I study this programme?

Art and Design can be studied by candidates who enjoy drawing, painting, manipulating a range of materials, experimenting with approaches and developing new techniques. An enthusiastic and positive attitude to the course will enable you to respond to tasks creatively and personally. You will have opportunities to develop your knowledge, understanding and skills both practically and theoretically. Your portfolio of work is developed from a personal starting point and you will also be encouraged to attend life drawing classes and visit art galleries.

What will I study on the course?

A creative enquiry of work in Year 12 is developed from a personal starting point and you will also be encouraged to attend life drawing classes and visit art galleries. There will be no exam in Year 12 (AS). In Year 13 (A2) you will complete a personal investigation, which will include an extended written element and an externally set assignment.

How will I be assessed?

The course consists of three units of study over a two year period:

Unit 1 (AS): One personal creative enquiry of work you will complete in a sketchbook of work and create final outcomes. (40% of A level).

Unit 2 (A2): One personal investigation with sketchbook, preparatory studies, critical studies (1000 words) and final outcomes. (36% of A level).

Unit 3 (A2): Externally set assignment (15hrs) – response to an externally set task. (24% of A level).

All the above units are assessed and marked by your tutors and externally moderated by the WJEC exam board.

What can I do next with this qualification?

Students with an Advanced Level in Art and Design have access to a wide range of career and higher education opportunities. It is generally advised that a one year foundation course is pursued at college to determine your specialist area to study at University e.g. Animation, Illustration, Photography, Fine Art, Textiles, Graphic Design, Fashion, Film, Product Design, Advertising, Architecture and Teaching.

Design Technology

WJEC AS Level Design & Technology progressing to A2 Level

Entry Requirements

GCSE Design & Technology grade C or above is desirable. Candidates may have already gained knowledge and understanding of Design & Technology through their study of Graphic Communication or Product Design but will be able to access the course if they have not studied the subject previously.

Why should I study this programme?

In Product Design we aim to help you develop your own individual creativity to its full potential. You are valued as an individual so we try to design a course that meets your unique set of needs and abilities, whilst ensuring you are set the highest expectations that will challenge you. You are encouraged to think, question and enquire. Product Design is not just about “doing” but is about interactively thinking and doing. Solutions are not always as obvious as you may think! So, if you are committed, enthusiastic and prepared to listen and learn, you may want to consider studying Product Design.

What will I study on the course?

In Year 12 you will complete a design and make task. You will learn how to use several tools, materials and machinery as well as a range of software packages. We do like our students to ‘think outside the box’, so we welcome your ideas and thoughts. Students usually do well when they work to their strengths, developing and designing around their own interests.

How will I be assessed?

This specification is divided into a total of 4 assessment units, 2 AS units in Year 12 and 2 A2 units in Year 13.

AS Unit 1: Written paper 20% (2 hours)

AS Unit 2: Design and make task 20%

A2 Unit 3: Written paper 30% (2 hours and 30 mins)

A2 Unit 4: Design and make project 30%

How will I study the course?

Design and make task - Learners are required to complete one design and make task, based on a design brief developed by the learner.

Approximately 40 hours should be devoted to this task.

Design and make project - Learners are required to complete one sustained design and make project, based on a design brief developed by the learner. Approximately 60 hours should be devoted to this project.

What can I do next with this qualification?

A range of higher education courses and employment opportunities are clear progressions from this course: Product Design, Architecture, Interior/Spatial Design, Design Theory, Design Craft, Design Technology, Design with Multi-Media, Furniture Design, 3D Design, Industrial Design, Fashion Design, Transport Design, Computer Aided Design, Graphic Design, Manufacturing and Engineering.

English Language & Literature

AS Level, progressing to A2 Level (WJEC)

Entry Requirements

You should have achieved a grade C or above in English Language and English Literature at GCSE.

Why should I study this programme?

The combined English Language and Literature course is a modern and exciting specification that has something for everyone. During the course you will develop and apply your knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation, as well as your understanding of the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language. You will learn how to integrate linguistic and literary approaches through your study of a range of texts. The course encourages you to engage creatively and critically with texts, as well as undertake independent and sustained studies to develop your skills as a producer and interpreter of language.

What will I study on the course?

You will study the following units at AS:

Unit 1: Comparative analysis of poetry with an unseen text. Creative Writing with Commentary

Unit 2: Post- 1900 Drama, Non-literary text study

You will study these further units at A2:

Unit 3: Shakespeare extract and essay questions

Unit 4: Analysis of unseen texts, study of a prose text

Unit 5: Study of a chosen prose genre, creative writing

How will I be assessed?

Units 1,2,3 and 4 are externally assessed written examinations.

Unit 5 is assessed through two pieces of writing to total 2500- 3000 words in length.

What can I do next with this qualification?

This qualification is wide-ranging and well regarded, covering a range of skills and interests. This A Level is an excellent basis for continued study of Language and/or Literature at university and is desirable for any degree course. Many students of English go on to work in journalism, law, creative industries, media and the public sector.

English Literature

AS Level, progressing to A2 Level (WJEC)

Entry Requirements

You should have achieved a grade C or above in English Language and English Literature at GCSE.

Why should I study this programme?

The English Literature course is an exciting and enjoyable course for lovers of all types of Literature. You will be encouraged to enjoy your literary studies based on an informed personal response to a range of texts from a range of literary genres including: poetry, prose and drama. You will be required to consider individual, moral, ethical, social, cultural and contemporary issues in regards to the texts you are studying. You will also be required to read and respond critically and creatively to a variety of texts. If you are a keen reader and enjoy discussing and writing about the texts you have read, this is the perfect course for you.

What will I study on the course?

You will study the following units at AS:

Unit 1: Prose and Drama. A study of a prose fiction pre-1900 text and a play.

Unit 2: Poetry Post-1900. A study of two poets requiring critical analysis and comparison.

You will study the following units at A2:

Unit 3: Poetry Pre-1900 and Unseen Poetry. A study of a selection of poetry.

Unit 4: Shakespeare. A study of a Shakespeare play.

Unit 5: Prose Study. An assignment based on the reading of two prose texts from different periods.

How will I be assessed?

Units 1,2,3 and 4 are externally set written examinations. Each examination is 2 hours long. Unit 5 is a non-examination assessment. It consists of an assignment based on the study of one pre-2000 and one post-2000 prose text. The assignment should be 2500-3000 words in length.

Each unit is worth 20% of the overall subject award.

What can I do next with this qualification?

This qualification is wide-ranging and well regarded, covering a range of skills and interests. This A Level is an excellent basis for continued study of Literature and is desirable for any degree course. Many students of English go on to work in journalism, law, creative industries, media and the public sector.

Sports Studies

Year 12/13: Pearson BTEC Foundation Diploma in Sport - Equivalent to 1.5 A' Levels

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's Grades A- C. A Pass grade BTEC Level 2 Sport is desirable but not essential.

Why should I study this programme?

BTEC Nationals are widely recognised by industry and higher education as the signature vocational qualification at Level 3. They provide progression to the workplace either directly or after study at a higher level.

The Pearson BTEC Foundation Diploma in Sport provides a broad basis of study for the sport sector. Equivalent in size to one A level this qualification is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

What will I study on the course?

Those who wish to pursue a career in coaching or sports leadership, or progress to industry-recognised qualifications will study 4 Units of which 3 are mandatory and one is optional.

Units covered include:

Anatomy and Physiology

Fitness Training and Programming

Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Practical Sports Performance

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is through four units, three of which are mandatory. Two of the four units are examined externally. The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the Sport suite are: examinations – all learners take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome set tasks – learners take the assessment during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task.

What can I do next with this qualification?

The BTEC Level 3 Sport qualification gives learners the opportunity to enter employment in the sport and active leisure sector or to progress to higher education courses. For further information on the course and its contents, please contact any member of the Physical Education Department.

Religious Studies (Philosophy & Ethics)

GCE AS/A level

Entry Requirements

An interest and enthusiasm for Religious Studies is preferred. Learners should have a broad understanding of world religions and will need some experience of producing extended writing and analysing source material.

Why should I study this programme?

This course is for students who have a keen interest in studying Religious Studies and who want to study the subject at university or college level and/or as preparation for future employment and the world of work. This course will develop skills that can be transferred to other subjects and enrich learners' academic development.

What will I study on the course?

AS Unit 4: Learners will study ethical language and thought, Kant's Moral Theory, contemporary developments in ethical theory and freewill and determinism.

AS Unit 5: Learners will study the New Atheism, challenges to religious belief, religious experience and the psychology of religion.

How will I be assessed?

Learners will be externally assessed during May/June of both years.

What can I do next with this qualification?

Religious Studies GCE AS/A level provides a suitable foundation for the study of Religious Studies, Social Sciences, Psychology, Sociology and Law through a range of higher education courses or direct entry into employment.

Unit 1: This unit offers the study of the Buddhist religion. There will be four themes within each option: religious figures and sacred texts; religious concepts; religious life; and religious practices that shape religious identity.

Unit 2: Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics. Students will study philosophers' views on the teleological argument for the existence of God and the problem of evil and suffering for religious believers. Learners will also study the work of Aquinas, Natural law, Fletcher's Situation Ethics and Utilitarianism.

A2 Unit 3: Learners will study religious figures and sacred texts from Buddhism, significant historical development in religious thought, significant social development in religious thought and religious practices that shape religious identity.

History

GCE AS/A Level (WJEC)

Entry Requirements

A GCSE grade C or higher in History or English Language is essential. Learners should have a broad Historical understanding and will need some experience of producing extended writing and analysing source material.

Why should I study this programme?

This course is for students who have a keen interest in studying History and who want to study the subject at university or college level and/or as preparation for future employment and the world of work. This course will develop skills that can be transferred to other subjects and enrich learners' academic development.

What will I study on the course?

AS/A2:

HY1: Wales and England, 1780-1880 (Politics, Protest and Reform).

HY2: Weimar Germany, 1919-1933 (Challenges facing the new democracy; Work of Gustav Stresemann; The Rise of the Nazis)

HY3: British History, 1880-1990 (Social Change and Reform)

HY4: Nazi Germany, 1933-45 (Nazi State; Racial and Social policies; Opposition to Nazism; War and Defeat)

HY5: NEA: A study in Historical Interpretation

How will I be assessed?

Learners will be externally assessed during May/June.

Learners will submit NEA coursework during the spring term of the second year.

In the summer of the final year learners will take a synoptic exam, which will include questions on both areas of study.

What can I do next with this qualification?

History GCE AS/A level provides a suitable foundation for the study of History or a related area through a range of higher education courses or direct entry into employment.

Level 3 Applied Extended Certificate in Tourism

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's to include English Language at grade C or above are preferred. Learners should have a broad understanding of tourism-based issues and will need some experience of producing extended writing and analysing source material.

Why should I Study this Programme?

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Extended Certificate in Tourism is an exciting new qualification from WJEC that supports learners to understand the local, national and global tourism industry, and enables them to develop a broad range of skills and qualities required by the industry.

What Will I study on the course?

Globally, travel and tourism's direct contribution to GDP was approximately 5.8 billion U.S. dollars in 2021. In 2021, travel and tourism in the United Kingdom generated, directly and indirectly, 4.11 million jobs. In April 2022, there were an estimated 2.1 million visits to the UK with spending by overseas residents in April 2022 being estimated at £1.7 billion. In Wales, tourism currently gives over £6.2 Billion to the Welsh economy and provides over 172,000 jobs. Learners undertaking the WJEC Applied Extended Certificate in Tourism will have the opportunity to learn about key aspects of the industry through the completion of six units. Two of these are mandatory whilst the further four units are chosen from six optional units.

Year 12

Unit 1 – The Global Tourism Industry - This unit introduces learners to the many sectors that exist to provide tourism products and services, the types of tourists who might be attracted to a destination and their motivations, the interrelationships that allow the tourism industry to work successfully and the undeniable value that tourism can have on an economy. The aim of the unit is to provide learners with an understanding of the foundations of the global tourism industry.

Unit 4 – Global Destinations - This unit introduces learners to appreciate and understand the importance of travel geography and what attracts visitors to global destinations. In this unit learners will learn about core geographical facts, along with the types of global destinations and the attractions and their main appeal. The learner will also develop knowledge about niche markets and the motivational factors behind their decision making.

Unit 8 – Adapting to Change in the Tourism Industry - This unit introduces learners to study and investigate the ‘bigger picture’ surrounding the tourism industry. It introduces the lifecycle of destinations and products, issues and trends and how the industry can respond. Focussing on local, national and global perspectives encourages a wide and complex set of skills development, which will not only support learners in this qualification, but through future learning and career paths.

Year 13

Unit 2 – Wales as a Tourist Destination - This unit introduces learners to what Wales has to offer in terms of its tourism and the motivations of the people who visit. Learners will build a knowledge of how accessible Wales is as a tourist destination, issues that impact tourism in Wales, along with the trends and priorities that will need to be considered.

Unit 3 – Managing the Customer Experience - This unit introduces learners to appreciate and understand the importance of providing excellence in customer experiences in the tourism industry. In this unit learners will learn about the importance of evaluating the customer experience. The learner will develop excellence in managing the customer experience and demonstrate the delivery of an excellent experience for customers in tourism situations.

Unit 7 - Employment in Tourism and Events - The unit will provide learners with the ability to research actively and methodically, identifying specific pathways in the tourism and events sector. The unit allows learners to explore a wide range of employment opportunities, where they can identify the variety of skills, qualities and qualifications required for a range of employments in the sector.

How will I be assessed?

Each of the mandatory units (Unit 1 and Unit 2) contribute 20% of the overall qualification grade. Unit 1 is assessed through a written examination available on screen or on paper, and Unit 2 is assessed by a Controlled Assessment that is marked by WJEC. The additional optional units are internally assessed and submitted for external moderation.

What can I do next with the qualification?

A Level 3 Applied Extended Certificate in Tourism provides a suitable foundation for the study of tourism or a related area through a range of higher education courses. This qualification has been designed for learners who want to learn about the sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers or further study. It is most suitable as a foundation for further study or training. This further study would provide learners with the opportunity to develop a range of specialist and general skills that would support their progression to employment.

Geography

GCE AS/A Level

Entry Requirements

A GCSE grade C in Geography or English Language is essential. Learners should have a broad understanding of geographical issues and will need some experience of producing extended writing and analysing source material.

Why should I study this programme?

This course is for students who have a keen interest in studying Geography and who want to study the subject at university or college level and/or as preparation for future employment and the world of work. This course will develop skills that can be transferred to other subjects and enrich learners' academic development.

What will I study on the course?

AS (2 units)

AS Unit 1: Changing Landscapes: Written examination: 2 hours, 24% of qualification.

Section A: Changing Landscapes - Coastal Landscapes; two compulsory structured questions with data response.

Section B: Tectonic Hazards - Three compulsory structured questions with data response.

AS Unit 2: Changing Places - Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 16% of qualification

Section A: Changing Places - Two compulsory structured questions with data response.

Section B: Fieldwork Investigation in Physical and Human Geography - Three compulsory structured questions with data response on fieldwork and the learner's own fieldwork investigations.

A Level (as AS plus a further 3 units)

A2 Unit 3: Global Systems and Global Governance: Written examination: 2 hours 24% of qualification.

Section A: Global Systems - Water and Carbon Cycles: two compulsory structured questions with data response and one extended response question.

Section B: Global Governance: Change and Challenges Processes and patterns of global migration and global governance of the Earth's oceans: two compulsory structured questions with data response and one extended response question.

Section C: 21st Century Challenges - One compulsory extended response question drawing on Units 1, 2 and 3 with resource material.

A2 Unit 4: Contemporary Themes in Geography: Written examination: 2 hours 16% of qualification.

Section A: Tectonic Hazards - One compulsory extended response question

Section B: Contemporary Themes in Geography - Select two optional themes from four:

Ecosystems

Economic Growth and Challenge: India or China or Development in Sub-Saharan Africa

Energy Challenges and Dilemmas

Weather and Climate

Two essay questions, one on each chosen theme.

A2 Unit 5: Independent Investigation. Non-exam assessment: 3000-4000 words, 20% of qualification.

One written independent investigation based on the collection of both primary data and secondary information.

How will I be assessed?

Learners will be externally assessed during May/June of both years.

Learners will submit their NEA during the spring term of the second year.

Health and Social Care, and Childcare

WJEC AS Level, progressing to A2 Level

Entry Requirements

The qualification provides a suitable progression route for learners who have studied Level 2 qualifications within the health and social care, and childcare course. The course is also suitable for learners who have not previously studied Health and Social Care but who are capable of A Level study.

Why should I study this programme?

Learners who are interested in learning about the development and care of individuals throughout the life span from conception to later adulthood.

What will I study on the course?

The qualification enables learners to develop and demonstrate their knowledge, skills and understanding within the context of health and social care, and childcare by: Promoting health and well-being; Supporting health, well-being and resilience in Wales; Theoretical perspectives of children and young people's development; Theoretical perspective of adult behaviour; Supporting adults to maintain health, well-being and resilience.

How will I be assessed?

The course is divided into six units. Two AS units and four A2 units: two units plus two A2 units relating to a chosen pathway. 50% internal assessment and 50% external assessment.

What can I do next with this qualification?

Progression into employment at trainee level within a range of health, social care and child care environments. Progression into further qualifications in a variety of HND or degree level courses in health, social care and child care related subjects such as midwifery.

Drama

WJEC GCE AS/A Level

Entry Requirements

You will need a grade C or above in Drama GCSE or Theatre Studies.

Why should I study this programme?

If you love to perform and enjoy all elements of Drama and the theatre then this is the course for you. You will explore a variety of styles and practitioners from Steven Berkoff and Marianne Elliott. You will build on previous knowledge and expand your performance repertoire by studying a variety of plays. You will also have the opportunity to use our technical equipment in preparation for exams and school productions.

What will I study on the course?

There are four units, which will be spread out across the two years. Unit 1 and 2 will be completed in year 12 and units 3 and 4 will be completed in year 13:

Unit 1: Theatre workshop worth 24% of qualification

Reinterpretation of an extract using the influence of one practitioner or credited theatre company.

Unit 2: Text in theatre worth 16%

A sit down written exam lasting 1hr 30mins. Questions based on one text we study in class.

Unit 3: Text in action worth 36%

Two performances required. One devised using a particular practitioner or credited Theatre Company. One using an extract as your script however, you must use a different practitioner or credited Theatre Company.

Unit 4 :Text in Performance worth 24%

A sit down written exam lasting 2hrs 30mins. Two questions based on two extracts focused on in class.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment varies throughout the course. Some units are externally assessed and some are internally assessed:

Unit 1: Internally assessed

Unit 2: Externally assessed

Unit 3: A visiting examiner

Unit 4: Externally assessed

What can I do next with this qualification?

This course will provide you with the skills and knowledge to study Drama and Theatre studies in higher education. This course will also help you with any auditions in preparation for Drama School. It will also help you gain access to careers in the Performing Arts sector.

Digital Media

OCR Cambridge Technicals Extended Certificate Level 3

Entry Requirements

This qualification provides a suitable progression for learners who have studied Computer Science, ICT or Business Studies at GCSE level or any student with an interest in Digital Media. It is recommended that learners have, or are working towards, a grade C or above in Mathematics & English GCSE's.

Why should I study this programme?

Digital media increasingly touches almost every aspect of our lives in this modern 21st century society, there are endless career possibilities within the industry. Digital media has become a huge outlet for advertising and marketing and have a range of different purposes. Whether it is to advertise and promote a product or service, inform an audience of a cause, or engage and entertain an audience. Advertising media is around us daily, from billboards in the street to adverts watched on the television. Different types of advertisements are used together to create campaigns that grow a brand and an organisation's image and promote all types of products and services used to entice the public at large.

What will I study on the course?

This qualification has 5 units and graded as 'Pass, Merit, Distinction & Distinction *'

Unit 1: Media products and audiences 2 hour written paper.

Whichever sector of the media you want to work or specialise in, all media institutions work to create products that meet the needs of specific target audiences. Students will learn about how audiences are categorised, researched, and targeted

Unit 2: Pre-production and planning 2 hour written paper. Students will learn about the constraints that need to be considered when planning a new media production, including time scales and resources. Students will understand how to create pre-production documents in relation to client requirements and how to plan projects to meet these needs.

Unit 3: Create a media product (project-based -internally assessed)

In this unit, students produce one of the following media products: print-based, audio- visual or audio. Students will plan, produce and edit original content for the intended product. Students will be able to understand the following:

Ownership models of media institutions.

How media products are advertised and distributed.

The use and application of production techniques to create media products i.e., camera work, sound, editing, photography techniques, sound effects etc.

Unit 6: Social Media & Globalisation (1 hour 30 minutes written paper)

The aim of this unit is to enable students to understand the ways in which online technologies and social media products have created a globalised, connected society and how such tools are used by media producers. Students will fully investigate how media producers use contemporary social media to generate ideas, fund and plan projects with other professionals and how social media is used commercially to create awareness and advertise products to global audiences.

Unit 20: Advertising Media (project-based - internally assessed)

In completing this unit, students will understand advertising campaigns and how audio-visual, print based, or audio advertising media are used within them. The task is to plan an advertising campaign for a product or service, selecting the appropriate media components to produce it.

What can I do next with this qualification?

Digital Media provides a strong base for progression to Higher Education at University to study Media Studies, Business, ICT, Computer Science or any other subject, work or apprenticeships and are recognised for UCAS tariff points.

Studying digital media will prepare students for employment in the creative media sector.

Business

GCE AS/A Level

Entry Requirements

A GCSE grade C in Business or English Language is essential. Learners should have a broad understanding of enterprise and will need some experience of producing extended writing and analysing global markets.

Why should I study this programme?

This course is for students who have a keen interest in studying Business and who want to study the subject at university or college level and/or as preparation for future employment, being an entrepreneur and the world of work. This course will develop skills that can be transferred to other subjects and enrich learners' academic development.

What will I study on the course?

AS (2 units)

AS Unit 1: Business Opportunities: Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes, 15% of qualification.

AS Unit 2: Business Functions - Written examination: 2 hours 25% of qualification.

A Level (as AS plus a further 3 units).

A2 Unit 3: Business Analysis and Strategy: Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes 30% of qualification.

A2 Unit 4: Business in a Changing World: Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes 30% of qualification.

How will I be assessed?

Learners will be externally assessed during May/June of both years.

Information & Communication Technology

Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma Level 3

Entry Requirements

A grade C grade in GCSE English Language is desirable and an interest in It is essential.

Why should I study this programme?

This course will encourage you to develop: the capacity for thinking creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically the skills to work collaboratively, the ability to apply skills, knowledge and understanding of IT in a range of contexts to solve problems an understanding of the consequences of using IT on individuals, organisations and society and of social, legal, ethical and other considerations on the use of IT an awareness of emerging technologies and an appreciation of the potential impact these may have on individuals, organisations and society.

What will I study on the course?

Unit 1: Fundamentals of IT

Unit 2: Global Information

Unit 5: Virtual and Augmented Reality

Unit 13: Social Media and Digital Marketing

Unit 17: Internet of Everything

How will I be assessed?

Units 1 and 2 will be assessed through written examinations whilst the remaining units will be assessed through coursework.

What can I do next with this qualification?

You could continue to study IT at degree level where you could put your analytical, design, and problem-solving skills to good use. You may choose to opt for a career such as: Web designer, System analyst, Computer games developer, User experience developer, Database administrator, Network manager.

Public Services

BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Uniformed Protective Services

Entry Requirements

Learners who achieve a Grade C at English alongside other qualifications at Level 2 can do well on this course.

Why should I study this programme?

Learners who have an interest in a career in one of the armed services such as the Army, or the Police, Fire and Rescue Service or one of the many areas of local or national government employment such as Emergency Planning or the Crown Prosecution Service.

Learners who wish to follow a course that will inform them about concepts such as the Law, the Courts, the Media, Citizenship and Human Rights. It is a highly regarded course which emphasizes realistic, work-focused learning.

What will I study on the course?

Compulsory units cover Citizenship and Diversity, Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Services, Physical Preparation, and Teamwork and Leadership in the Uniformed Public Services.

A fifth additional unit will be completed to reach the 510 Guided Learning Hours. A range of teachers deliver the course, according to their specialist knowledge, aided by visits and talks from members of the Uniformed Protective public services.

How will I be assessed?

Learners are assessed in one unit with a terminal examination. The remaining four units are assessed through assignments. Assessments will be through written assignments and witness statements of practical activities that you plan, do and review. This qualification is studied over two years and is equivalent to 1.5 A-Levels.

What can I do next with this qualification?

The course is an excellent preparation for a career in one of the public services. It is widely regarded by the full range of employers. It also attracts the same UCAS points as 1.5 A levels and is a firm basis for further or higher education.

Entry Requirements

English Language at grade C or above is preferred. Learners will also require some experience of producing extended writing and analysing source material.

Why should I study this programme?

Sociology is for learners who have a strong interest in contemporary society. Learners will foster the development of critical and reflective thinking with respect for social diversity. They will gain an awareness of the importance of social structure and social action in explaining social issues.

What will I study on the course?

Learners will acquire knowledge and gain a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes. They will appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate. Further to this, they will understand and evaluate sociological methodology and a range of research methods through active involvement in the research process. They will develop skills that enable individuals to focus on their personal identity, roles and responsibilities within society. Finally, they will develop a lifelong interest in social issues in Wales and around the world.

Year 12

Unit 1 – Acquiring Culture – This unit is split into two sections; A and B. Section A introduces learners into the key concepts and processes of cultural transmission, socialisation and the acquisition of identity. Section B provides learners with an introduction to Families and Households. Learners will examine the demographic changes that have occurred in England and Wales including marriage, divorce, cohabitation, life expectancy, fertility and singlehood and explain how these changes have resulted in higher levels of family diversity in England and Wales. Additionally, they will gain knowledge of a theoretical perspective of families and households, including Functionalists, Feminists and Marxists.

Unit 2 – Understanding Society and Methods of Sociological Enquiry - This unit is split into two sections; A and B. Section A introduces learners into a variety of Research Methods. Students will evaluate the effectiveness of these methods and assess the ethical considerations required in research using contemporary case studies. Section B introduces learners to Education; within this they will understand the role and function of education in contemporary society. They will assess patterns and trends

of differential attainment and participant with reference to social class, gender and ethnicity.

Year 13

Unit 3 – Crime and Deviance – This unit introduces learners into the world of crime and deviance. Learners will assess patterns of social distribution of crime and deviance related to social class, gender, ethnicity and age in England and Wales. They will examine official government statistics and assess the impact of contemporary social policies on crime rates in England and Wales. Learners will gain knowledge of the theories and explanations of crime and deviance including Functionalists, Feminists and Marxists.

Unit 4 – Social Inequality and Applied Methods of Sociological Enquiry – This unit is split into two sections; Section A and B. Section A introduces learners into the process of research design. They will use their knowledge from Unit 2 to create their own research design. They will demonstrate the higher order skills of designing, analysing, justifying and evaluating their own research proposal. Section B focuses on Social Inequality. Learners will be introduced to social differentiation, power and stratification. Learners will use empirical evidence, statistical data and examples drawn from Wales, to demonstrate inequality and to evaluate the usefulness of sociological theories in explaining their inequalities.

How will I be assessed?

In Year 12, learners will be assessed through two written examinations (Unit 1 and Unit 2), this will contribution to 40% of the overall qualification grade. In Year 13, learners will be assessed through two written examinations (Unit 3 and 4), this will contribute to 60% of the overall qualification grade.

What can I do next with this qualification?

A Level Sociology provides learners with the opportunity to develop an understanding of our changing society as well as opportunities to learn about sociological methods and research. This qualification provides learners with the foundation to move onto studies of Sociology in higher education, alternatively it can support others including Criminology, Psychology or History. Additionally, this qualification includes a range of topics that can be used to support vocational studies including health and social care, nursing, social work and education.

Finance

TLM Level 3 Certificate in Finance (CIF)

This qualification teaches you important money skills, like how to save wisely and borrow responsibly. It helps you understand why managing your money matters and shows you how to plan for your future. You'll also learn about jobs you could do in the world of finance. CIF stands independently as a recognised qualification, while also forming the first stage of the Level 3 Diploma in Finance.

Unit 1: Personal Financial Management in the Short Term

In this unit, you'll explore what money really is, how people think about it, and how it affects the choices we make in life.

Why money matters and what it's used for

- How life stages (like school, work, and retirement) affect your money needs
- Different types of financial products, like bank accounts and savings
- What makes a financial product good for managing your money
- How to manage your money day-to-day and make good decisions
- What income tax and National Insurance are, and why they're important
- How your financial needs will change as you grow older

Unit 2: Strategic Financial Planning for the Future

This unit helps you get ready for managing money in the long term, like saving for your goals or borrowing for big life events.

- How to make a budget for your future plans, like university, a car, or a house
- How to save and plan for things that cost more and take time
- Borrowing money for the long term, like loans or mortgages, and how they work
- Financial products to help you save, invest, or borrow
- How to make smart money choices that are also ethical and good for the planet
- Where to get help and advice if you need support with money

Assessment – Each unit has a coursework element that must be passed before you can sit the synoptic examination. One examination covering Units 1 and 2. Multiple-choice, short and long answer questions. One resit allowed. Graded – A* to E.

TLM Level 3 Diploma in Finance (DIP)

This course builds on what you learned in the Certificate in Finance (CIF). It's designed to help you learn more about money, banking, and finance so you can make smart choices about your future and manage your money well.

Unit 3: Sustainable Personal Finance in a Changing World

This unit of the course helps you make sure you can manage your money well in the long term.

- How to keep your finances stable over time
- What affects your money situation, like the economy and your job
- How different cultures and life situations affect borrowing and debt
- How big world events (like a pandemic or war) can impact your money
- How financial services change over time and how that affects you as a consumer

Unit 4: Navigating Change in the Financial Services Sector

This unit looks at how banks and other financial companies try to stay successful and meet people's needs.

- How banks and other providers work and compete with each other
- What affects financial services and the products they offer
- How they advertise and promote their products
- How they try to attract and keep customers
- How they create new products to meet what people need and want

Assessment - Each unit has a coursework element that must be passed before you can sit the synoptic examination. One examination covering Units 3 and 4. Multiple-choice, short and long answer questions. One resit allowed. Graded – A* to E.



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