



MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

YSGOL GYFUN ABERPENNAR

2025 - 2027

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CYNON VALLEY CONSORTIUM

**NEW ROAD
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WELCOME TO MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

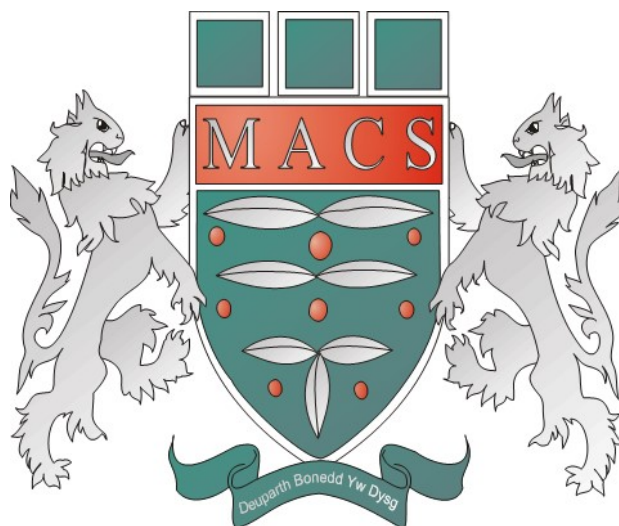
Making the right choice about what and where to continue your studies after Year 11 is an extremely important decision. It is also a difficult decision as there are so many other things to consider.

This prospectus will help you make decisions about your future. If you decide to continue your studies in the sixth form, a wide variety of academic and vocational courses are offered within the Cynon Valley Consortium which consists of Mountain Ash Comprehensive School, Aberdare Community School and St. John the Baptist CiW High School. The balance of subjects available has been carefully considered to meet the needs of our learners and to prepare them for further study or the world of work.

At Mountain Ash Comprehensive School we have high expectations of our learners and we aim to provide them with the highest standards.

As a member of the sixth form you will have the opportunity to play an active role in the life of the school through a variety of extra-curricular activities and charity events. You will also have the opportunity to develop your leadership skills by becoming a senior prefect.

The pastoral and academic support offered to pupils in the sixth form at Mountain Ash Comprehensive School is excellent. Our key aim is to support and encourage all learners to fulfil their potential.



I very much look forward to welcoming you back to our sixth form and I wish you well as you embark on the next phase of your education

MRS S EVANS
HEADTEACHER

WHY CHOOSE MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SIXTH FORM?

At Mountain Ash Comprehensive School Sixth Form, we are driven by creating unique learning experiences that deliver results for our learners. After all, learning does not necessarily just take place in the classroom. We aspire to offer you a post-16 experience that shapes you for life outside of school. As part of the Cynon Valley Consortium, we offer a varied range of academic and vocational courses, mentoring, community work and other extra-curricular activities. Our A-level and BTEC results are consistently high and demonstrate the excellent teaching and learning that exists at post-16.

Learners who wish to study in our sixth form need to gain at least 5 good GCSES or equivalent qualifications. The sixth form courses on offer run in partnership with our other partner secondary schools in the Cynon Valley Consortium, Aberdare Community School and St John the Baptist CiW High School and learners are able to choose courses in these schools should they wish. A free bus service operates between the schools on a regular basis, should learners opt to study subjects at these schools.

EXPECTATIONS |

The school is open to learners from 8:35am and the school day begins with registration at 8.45am, with the last formal lesson ending at 3.00pm. All learners are allocated form groups and are expected to be in school for registration at the start and end of the day and to attend all their lessons. During form periods, important information is distributed to learners and form tutors monitor attendance, academic progress and provide personal support for all learners. Studying at Mountain Ash Comprehensive School community school sixth form is a full-time provision.

RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE SIXTH FORM |

As well as privileges and benefits there are, as you might expect, certain responsibilities. These come as a natural and practical part of being a young adult learner.

Sixth form learners are expected to set a good example to the rest of the school. They are also expected to respond to requests for assistance from teachers, senior management or any member of the support staff

SENIOR PREFECT TEAM |

Sixth form learners represent the school. They are expected to show visitors around, attend some evening functions and act as guides to new learners. Learners appointed as senior prefects must attend meetings regularly and frequently.

The sixth senior prefects meet on a regular basis and form an important part of the school's Senedd (School Council).

COMMON ROOM AND STUDY AREA |

Situated in the two-storey block, post-16 learners are provided with a quiet study area for working, researching and revision, which includes IT facilities for the sole use of sixth form learners.

SUPPORTING MORE ABLE AND TALENTED LEARNERS

Mountain Ash Comprehensive School is committed to supporting high aspiring learners. We have a dedicated and unique programme of activities and events, which will enable you to stand out from other equally able learners from across the country.

The programme includes:

- motivational speakers.
- higher education visits to universities.
- learner support with university entry exams.
- support with university applications

THE SEREN NETWORK |

Mountain Ash Comprehensive School is proud to be part of the Seren network – a network designed to support Wales's highest achieving sixth formers in achieving their academic potential and gaining access to leading universities. Enrolment criteria is set by the Seren network and is based on GCSE results. Learners who achieve six or more A* grades at GCSE level are usually invited to participate in the Rhondda Cynon Taff Seren hub. This elite programme is only available to MAT learners with the aim of maximising their potential in their subjects

LEARNER VOICE |

We place great emphasis on the importance of learner voice and learners at Mountain Ash Comprehensive School are given opportunities to express their views on the teaching and learning they receive. Sixth form learners are involved in the review of teaching and learning at Key Stage 5 as we believe your views on how you learn will keep on improving the learning experience.

Y SENEDD |

A forum through which your voice can be heard and real change can be brought for the learners of MACS. It is an opportunity to discuss a variety of topical matters, ranging from mental health and wellbeing to LGBTQ++. Learners can participate in one of the following sub committees within the school:

- Sports Ambassadors/Leaders
- Language Ambassadors
- Anti-bullying Ambassadors
- Community Ambassadors

DESIGNING YOUR FUTURE

Mountain Ash Comprehensive School takes pride in preparing post-16 learners for the next step in their learning journey beyond school, be it applying for university, apprenticeships or preparing for employment. Our dedicated and highly experienced UCAS team of personal tutors will work very closely with you to support your preparation for application and interview. This will include specific guidance for early applications to Oxford and Cambridge universities and applications to medical, veterinary or dental courses. We collaborate with Careers Wales service and external agencies in a bid to support successful integration into the world of work for those choosing employment as their post sixth form pathway.

ACADEMIC GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT |

Deciding which direction to go from here can be daunting. At Mountain Ash Comprehensive School, we are committed to providing you with the tools and support to ensure you choose the path best suited to you. You will work closely with your form tutor, who will offer support and guidance from applying to university, apprenticeships and employment. Extensive PSE/mentoring provision will help to support your personal development and prepare you for university, employment or gap-year programmes.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS |

Formal, written reports are provided for each learner, once in year 12 and once in year 13. These reports provide detailed feedback on a learner's progress. Parents' evenings for both year 12 and year 13 are held annually. Any parent who has a concern about their son's or daughter's progress is encouraged to contacting the head of sixth form at any time.

CAREERS GUIDANCE |

All learners are supported and encouraged in nurturing positive aspirations based on realistic self-appraisal and awareness of the steps and processes needed to achieve their goals. In years 12 and 13, individual interview simulations can be provided for those seeking employment or a higher education place. Careers Wales is also involved in assisting with individual choices and in providing a counselling service following receipt of AS and A2 results

PREPARING FOR UNIVERSITY |

We provide learners with relevant and up to date information about university entry and alternatives to university. Sixth form tutors are on hand to offer advice to learners.

Throughout the year, various employers are invited into school to talk to year 12 about the careers available within their areas. Many of our learners are also able to attend subject- specific information days at local universities

UCAS SUPPORT |

Year 12 learners are given opportunities to attend higher education conventions, courses and open days. Year 12 and 13 learners are given regular guidance on the process of choosing a university course, drafting their personal statements, preparing the application form and submitting the final application through the UCAS apply system.

POST-16 ADMISSIONS PROTOCOL

Learner success in post sixteen education is due to the breadth of provision available, providing learners with sufficient time, support and flexibility to fulfil their learning potential. Progression to further education is maximised through an effective core programme, main qualifications, community learner industry focus (CLIF) and work experience. Learners' ability, aptitude and individual needs will be considered in formulating effective programmes of study in line with the Welsh Government post 16 planning framework. Schools within the CVC will work with other partner schools and a wide range of community, academic and workplace-based organisations to provide a balanced programme with

Suitable outcomes for individual learners promoting inclusion in post sixteen education.

Key Elements:

- ensure the right learners are able to access the right programmes within the CVC and thereby maximise their outcomes
- ensure quality assurance mechanisms are in place in relation to, programme allocation, delivery and suitability of learners for the programmes set
- provide quality educational experiences and outcomes for all learners
- optimise use of resources reducing unnecessary duplication of provision within the consortium while maintaining enough flexibility to react to learner needs
- maintain cost-effectiveness and efficiency of programmes
- develop a sustainable provision

EDUCATIONAL MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA) |

If you are concerned that you might struggle to settle down in the sixth form for financial reasons, then the availability of EMA may help you.

The EMA is an income-assessed weekly allowance of £40. This helps learners with the cost associated with studying at A-level. To be eligible for this allowance, certain requirements must be met.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATHWAY FOR YOU

We understand that choosing the right courses to study at A-level can be difficult. A feature of MACS sixth form is the close consultation between the individual learner and the sixth form team to decide the best combination of courses for the learner during years 12 and 13. This process begins in the spring term and includes post-examination results advice. When you make your initial application to sixth form, we ask that you choose three subjects using our subject trawl system. This will help us to do our very best to accommodate all learner's preferred subject choices

GCE ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES |

Most subjects are divided into four units or modules, with some subjects containing a mixture of practical, oral and written modules. The majority of our A-level courses contain both coursework and exam-based modules. Specific details of each subject can be found in this prospectus

BTEC LEVEL 3 COURSES |

BTEC courses are vocational in nature and comprise of mandatory units as well as specifically chosen optional units. Some of the BTEC qualifications offered across the Cynon Valley Consortium are assessed through assignment- based projects and do not contain any exam element.

All BTEC level 3 qualifications are equal in size to our GCE advanced level courses.

*Please note, a requirement of returning to sixth form is that 3 subjects are chosen, additionally, all learners must study the Level 3 Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales.

GCSE RESIT OPPORTUNITIES |

Mountain Ash Comprehensive School Sixth Form offers re-sit classes for GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics for those who narrowly missed out on a C grade. These classes are compulsory for those who did not gain a C grade in either of these subjects.

LEVEL 3 COURSES |

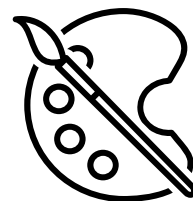
We work closely with our consortium schools to ensure there are a wide range of courses available for all types of learners.

Below is a breakdown of courses available within the consortium. A more detailed subject option guides, including videos and presentations, are available at the following website:

<http://www.cynonvalleyconsortium.co.uk>

Please note that subjects will be withdrawn if there is insufficient demand.

ART & DESIGN



HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE/ACS/ST.JOHN BAPTIST

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This WJEC AS/A level specification in Art & Design is designed to enable learners to gain a sequential and incremental learning experience from a broad introductory foundation of art, craft and design related to option choice at AS, through to greater specialism and achievement at A-level. The AS represents the first year of a two year A-level qualification but it can be studied separately. AS consists of one unit.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: Personal Creative Enquiry
40% of A level
internally assessed, externally moderated.

Unit 2: Personal Investigation
36% of A level
internally assessed, externally moderated.

Unit 3: Externally Set Assignment
24% of A level
internally assessed, externally moderated.

This specification provides the flexibility and capacity to build on, and extend, the breadth and depth of learners' creative practice and offers the choice of a broad-based general course, plus six endorsed title options with no prohibited entry combinations.

WHY STUDY ART & DESIGN?

Art and Design is a course that will equip learners with many highly sought-after skills in various career paths. The course nurtures creativity, fostering an environment where students can explore and express their artistic talents. Whether learners aspire to become professional artists or designers or work in a different field, the skills gained from this course are invaluable and will open many doors. Skills such as Problem solving, critical thinking, independent learning, and analytical skills. Most importantly, learners should study Art or Photography because they are passionate about the subject and enjoy the artistic process.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Jobs that are available in these areas include: Architect, Interior Design, Teacher, Lecturer, Advertising, Fashion Designer, Makeup Artist, Computer Graphics, Animation, Museum/Gallery work, Publishing, Comic Book Artist, Medical Illustrator, Film, Costume design, Photographer (Fashion, Wedding, Wildlife, Crime), Photojournalism, Set Designer, Independent Artist and many more. Learners can progress to a higher education degree in a wide range of Art based programmes including BA(Hons) Fine Art, Surface Pattern, Illustration, Ceramics, Graphic Design and Photography

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

BIOLOGY



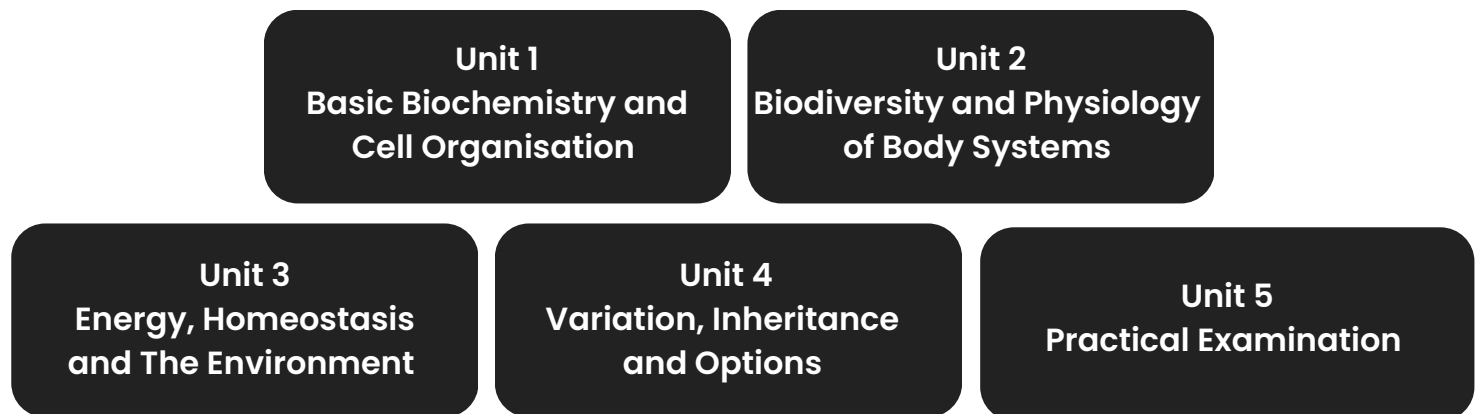
HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE/ACS

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This specification is divided into a total of 5 units, 2 AS units and 3 A2 units. The AS represents the first year of a two-year A level qualification, but it can be studied separately.

COURSE STRUCTURE



Units 1-4 are assessed by external examinations consisting of a range of short and longer structured questions and one extended response. Units 1 and 2 are taken at the end of year 12, units 3 and 4 at the end of year 13. Practical work is an intrinsic part of this specification and is carried out throughout the course. A practical exam (Unit 5) is taken at the end of year 13. Practical work is vitally important in developing a conceptual understanding of many topics and it enhances the experience and enjoyment of biology. The practical skills developed are also fundamentally important to learners going on to further study in biology and related subjects and are transferable to many careers. Learners are required to have achieved at least a grade B at higher level in GCSE biology or double award science to progress onto this course.

WHY STUDY BIOLOGY?

A high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world around us. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Pupils studying Sciences will be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge, skills and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They should be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

A science qualification can open the door to many important jobs, in fields as wide ranging as medicine, dentistry, research, engineering, forensics, teaching, psychology, physiotherapy and many, many more.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

BUSINESS STUDIES



BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL DIPLOMA

HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL/ST JOHN BAPTIST

EXAM BOARD: PEARSON

OVERVIEW

This BTEC course is designed for students who have an interest in exploring the world of business in a practical way. You will have a chance to develop an understanding of how businesses work in the real world, using well known case study organisations. The course is equivalent in size to one A Level. Learners will study 4 units over two years.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: EXPLORING BUSINESS

25% of A level
Mandatory Unit
Internally Assessed

Unit 2: DEVELOPING A MARKETING CAMPAIGN

25% of A level
Mandatory Unit
Externally Assessed

Unit 3: PERSONAL AND BUSINESS FINANCE

25% of A level
Mandatory Unit
Externally Assessed

Unit 4: OPTIONAL UNIT

25% of A level
Optional Unit
Internally Assessed

Assessments are available twice a year.

WHY STUDY BUSINESS STUDIES?

Do you thrive in a fast-paced environment? Do you dream of starting your own business one day? From marketing to merchandising to good customer service – are you fascinated by the world of business and eager to discover how it all works? If so, then business is the course for you. The course introduces you to one of the most important employment sectors in the UK, where you will have the opportunity to explore various aspects of business and develop a range of skills in Accounting and Finance, Business Operations, Marketing and more!

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Business will give you good IT knowledge, great analytical skills, and excellent problem-solving skills. This means that when it comes to potential careers, there will be lots of choice. Possible career pathways include: Content writer, Customer service representative, E-commerce web developer, Logistics, Marketing assistant, Marketing management, Retail buyer, Retail management, Sales associate, Social media, Team leader and Visual merchandiser.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

CHEMISTRY



HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE/ACS/ST JOHN BAPTIST

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This specification is divided into a total of 5 units, 2 AS units and 3 A2 units. The AS represents the first year of a two-year A level qualification, but it can be studied separately.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1

the language of chemistry,
structure of matter and
simple reactions

Unit 2

energy, rate and chemistry
of carbon compounds

Unit 3

physical and inorganic
chemistry

Unit 4

organic chemistry
and analysis

Unit 5

Practical Examination

Practical work is an intrinsic part of this specification. It is vitally important in developing a conceptual understanding of many topics and it enhances the experience and enjoyment of chemistry. The practical skills developed are also fundamentally important to learners going on to further study in chemistry and related subjects and are transferable to many careers. Learners are required to have achieved at least a grade B at higher level in GCSE chemistry or double award science to progress onto this course. We also strongly advise that learners attain at least a grade B in English and Maths at GCSE due to the high levels of literacy and numeracy required for the course

WHY STUDY CHEMISTRY?

A high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world around us. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Pupils studying Sciences will be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge, skills and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They should be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

A science qualification can open the door to many important jobs, in fields as wide ranging as medicine, dentistry, research, engineering, forensics, teaching, psychology, physiotherapy and many, many more.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

COMPUTING & IT



UAL CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION & TECHNOLOGY

HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: UAL

OVERVIEW

This A-level takes a hands-on, practical approach to ICT. You will learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. You will develop a range of specialist ICT skills and knowledge by building on your prior understanding of ICT. This A-Level is the perfect mix of Media and Computing, where learners will develop their skills in media production – using industry recognised media equipment to film content. The final year project will focus on promoting your video using a range of ICT skills.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: Design and Research Skills
Internally Assessed

Unit 2: Video Production
Internally Assessed

Unit 3: Final Year Project
Internally Assessed,
Externally Moderated

All units are assessed through 100% coursework. There are no exam elements to this course

WHY STUDY COMPUTING & IT?

This unique course, focussing purely on Video Production and Computer Games Development, provides the skills necessary to design, create, promote and evaluate a project life-cycle using a range of skills in creative media production. These skills include:

Media Processes and Technical Skills

- Design and Research Skills
- Introduction to Professional Practice
- Critical and Contextual Awareness
- Audio & Visual Production and Technology
- Developing a Creative Media Production Project

This course is ideal for any pupil interested in following any career involving ICT, especially the Creative Media side of Digital Technology.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

This course provides essential digital skills that would help in any career. Specific careers include: Systems Analyst, Software engineer, Web Developer, Network Manager, Business Analyst, Graphic Designer, Video Editor and more!

There are many university degrees and apprenticeships available in this field.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

CRIMINOLOGY



HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL/ACS/ST. JOHN BAPTIST EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

Criminology encompasses many elements of psychology, law and sociology and complements studies in the humanities subjects of geography, history & RS. It will equip you with the knowledge and understanding of contexts linked to the criminal justice system and is suited to further study at HE level in university. You will be assessed through the following method:

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: CHANGING AWARENESS OF CRIME
25% of A level
Mandatory Unit
NEA

Unit 2: CRIMINAL THEORIES
25% of A level
Mandatory Unit
External Exam

Unit 3: CRIME SCENE TO COURTROOM
25% of A level
Mandatory Unit
NEA

Unit 4: CRIME & PUNISHMENT
25% of A level
Optional Unit
External Exam

WHY STUDY CRIMINOLOGY?

Study Criminology, and you can enter into a professional role that is of high value to society. You could be tackling crime, exploring why people break the law and improving systems in education, rehabilitation and crime prevention. If you want to play a big part in keeping people safe, this could be the degree course for you. Criminals and the crimes they commit are continuously changing – people are always looking for new ways to break the law. This means that your work could be dynamic and challenging, with many new research areas appearing regularly.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Criminology students have numerous different career options at their fingertips. Exciting roles include in immigration, education, law enforcement, people protection, community planning, advocacy, policing, consulting, public administration and international development.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

CYMRAEG

WELSH – AIL IAITH



HOST SCHOOL: ST JOHN BAPTIST

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

A level Welsh is a modern, exciting and engaging course that will open up a whole world of opportunities for you. You will develop the grammar and oracy skills that you studied at GCSE, as well as acquire the Welsh language skills needed to appreciate Welsh literature and media.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1

Oracy Examination based
on the film Patagonia
15% of Grade

Unit 2

Internal written assessment
based on a Welsh-related topic
of your choice
20% of Grade

Unit 3

Written examination based
on 5 famous Welsh poems
15% of Grade

Unit 4

Oracy examination based
on the Welsh play 'crash'
25% of Grade

Unit 5

Written examination based on
the history of the Welsh language
15% of Grade

Unit 6

Written examination based on
Welsh grammar techniques
and a selection of short stories
20% of Grade

WHY STUDY WELSH SECOND LANGUAGE?

If you are unsure of what you want to do in the future, A level Welsh is the perfect option for you. All employers recognise A level 3 qualification in Welsh as a real advantage and this will give you so many more opportunities in the world of work.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

A Level Welsh can give you a career in theatre, media, government, education, nursing, social work and so much more. Check out the noticeboard outside CO07 for more details. There is a huge demand in the world of work for Welsh speakers, and a Level 3 qualification in Welsh will give you a huge advantage over other interview candidates. There are also plenty of financial incentives available for people who choose to study Welsh in further education.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY FASHION AND TEXTILES



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This course focuses on textiles techniques and production, exploring different decorative techniques and different fashion trends, including vintage and cultural wear. Experimentation of the different techniques will be undertaken during the first year in order to improve skills. The techniques include: silk painting, hand and machine embroidery, applique and more. Throughout the course you will be asked to take inspiration from artists, fashion designers and your own experience in order to compile different research and media to base your sketchbook and outcome on.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: WRITTEN EXAMINATION
2 HOURS
20% OF QUALIFICATION

Unit 2: DESIGN AND MAKE TASK NEA
40 HOURS
20% OF QUALIFICATION

Unit 3: WRITTEN EXAMINATION
2 HOURS 30
30% OF QUALIFICATION

Unit 4: DESIGN AND MAKE TASK NEA
60 HOURS
30% OF QUALIFICATION

Unit 2 is a design and make task, based on a brief developed by the candidate, assessing the candidate's ability to identify, investigate, and outline design possibilities. Design and make prototypes – analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology.

Unit 4 is a sustained design and make project, based on a brief developed by the candidate, assessing the candidate's ability to:

- identify, investigate, and outline design possibilities
- design and make prototypes
- analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in Design and Technology.

WHY STUDY FASHION AND TEXTILES?

Fashion & Textiles is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. This specification encourages learners to use creativity and imagination when applying iterative design processes to develop and modify designs, and to design and make prototypes that solve real world problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants, aspirations and values.

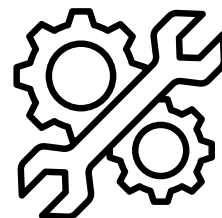
CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Specific job roles include; fashion design, teacher (primary & secondary), Tailor, Textiles production manager, fabric design, stylist, pattern cutter, costume curator, marketing and sales.

Progressions: BA (Hons) Fashion Design USW, Textile Design – BA (Hons) Cardiff Met, BA (Hons) Fashion Business and Marketing USW, Fashion Buying and Brand Management – BA (Hons) Cardiff Met.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY PRODUCT DESIGN



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

You will develop the understanding and knowledge required to design, develop, model, construct and evaluate a range of products from given design briefs and self-researched areas. Manufacturing will include modern and traditional methods including use of a 3D printer and laser cutter.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: WRITTEN EXAMINATION (AS)
2 HOURS
20% OF QUALIFICATION

Unit 2: DESIGN AND MAKE TASK NEA (AS)
40 HOURS
20% OF QUALIFICATION

Unit 3: WRITTEN EXAMINATION (A2)
2 HOURS 30
30% OF QUALIFICATION

Unit 4: DESIGN AND MAKE TASK NEA (A2)
60 HOURS
30% OF QUALIFICATION

Unit 2 is a design and make task, based on a brief developed by the candidate, assessing the candidate's ability to identify, investigate, and outline design possibilities. Design and make prototypes – analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology.

Unit 4 is a sustained design and make project, based on a brief developed by the candidate, assessing the candidate's ability to:

- identify, investigate, and outline design possibilities
- design and make prototypes
- analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in Design and Technology.

WHY STUDY PRODUCT DESIGN?

Unit 2 is a design and make task, based on a brief developed by the candidate, assessing the candidate's ability to identify, investigate, and outline design possibilities. Design and make prototypes – analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in design and technology. Unit 4 is a sustained design and make project, based on a brief developed by the candidate, assessing the candidate's ability to: -identify, investigate, and outline design possibilities -design and make prototypes -analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues in Design and Technology.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Specific job roles include; Graphic designer, brand identity, packaging, Animator, visual merchandiser, illustrator, furniture designer, construction worker, engineering design. Progressions: BA/BSc (Hons) Product design Cardiff Met, Product & Furniture Design (Full time) (BA Hons) UWTSD.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

E-SPORTS

BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN ESPORTS



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: PEARSON

OVERVIEW

This qualification has been developed to meet the upcoming demand for skills in esports and includes a breadth of transferable skills that enables learners to experience different areas of esports to aid their progression to employment, either directly or via further study. Esports offers a unique opportunity to study a sector that crosses over multiple subject areas such as sport, marketing, enterprise, IT and the creative industry. These are skills that are highly valued in the changing and fluid workplace.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: INTRODUCTION TO ESPORTS

17% of A level

Mandatory Unit

Internally assessed

Unit 2: ESPORTS SKILLS, STRATEGIES & ANALYSIS

33% of A level

Mandatory Unit

Internally Assessed

Unit 3: ENTERPRISE IN THE ESPORTS INDUSTRY

25% of A level

Mandatory Unit

Internally Assessed

Unit 4: Health, Wellbeing & Fitness

25% of A level

Mandatory Unit

Internally Assessed

There is no exam element to this course – all units are internally assessed and externally moderated by the exam board. This course is highly focussed on developing your business skills.

WHY STUDY E-SPORTS?

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders. This ensures that the content is appropriate and consistent with current industry practice to enable learners to enter employment. Higher education institutions have been consulted to ensure that the qualification allows appropriate progression for those aspiring to higher-level study.

This is a career-focused qualification with industry endorsement that will enable learners to learn underpinning knowledge, develop technical and transferable skills, and gain experience in a variety of different sections of the esports industry.

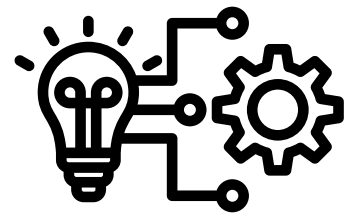
CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Jobs that are available in these areas include: esports player, team coach, social media influencer, data analyst. Learners can progress to higher education degree programmes, such as a BA (Hons) in Events Management, a BA (Hons) in Media or a BA (Hons) in Esports

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

ENGINEERING

BTEC Level 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE



HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: PEARSON

OVERVIEW

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Engineering course offers a flexible qualification that can be studied alongside other level 3 qualifications such as A levels. It provides a broad basis of study for the engineering sector Designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a study program that includes other appropriate A Levels. They are designed for Post-16 Level 3 learners wishing to go on to further or higher-level study of the sector or directly to employment. It attracts UCAS points and are widely recognised by universities and employers.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The Level 3 Extended Certificate is equivalent in size to one A Level. You will cover 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

Mandatory content (83%).

External assessment (67%).

Everyone taking this qualification will study two mandatory units covering the following content areas.

**Unit 1: MATHEMATICS FOR
ENGINEERING**

**Unit 2:
ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES**

**Unit 3: MECHANICAL
PRINCIPLES**

**Unit 4:
ENGINEERING PROCESSES**

WHY STUDY ENGINEERING?

We employ a learner-centred approach to the curriculum, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied in project-based assessments. We focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be able to succeed in employment and higher education.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Specific job roles include; construction worker, engineering design.

Progressions: BA/BSc (Hons) Engineering at a range of universities.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

ENGLISH

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE & ENGLISH LITERATURE



HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL/ACS/ST JOHN BAPTIST EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This is an engaging course where you will be encouraged to develop your enjoyment of literature and literary studies. You will be expected to approach and respond to a range of texts in a creative fashion. The new WJEC GCE English Literature course has a five-unit structure which includes the study of Shakespeare, as well as a wide selection of more modern poetry, prose and drama. You will be provided with an opportunity to write creatively in a chosen style and will also be asked to provide an analysis of your own work. You will also have the opportunity to discuss the texts and your responses in an open and supportive environment.

COURSE STRUCTURE

AS UNIT 1
PROSE AND DRAMA (CLOSED-BOOK)
WRITTEN EXAM
2 HOURS
20% OF QUALIFICATION

AS UNIT 2
POETRY POST 1900
WRITTEN EXAM
2 HOURS
20% OF QUALIFICATION

A2 UNIT 3
POETRY PRE 1900
WRITTEN EXAM
2 HOURS
20% OF QUALIFICATION

A2 UNIT 4
SHAKESPEARE - CLOSED BOOK
WRITTEN EXAM
2 HOURS
20% OF QUALIFICATION

A2 UNIT 5
PROSE STUDY
NEA
20% OF QUALIFICATION

The English Literature course will be both challenging and rewarding. Students are required to have achieved at least a grade C in GCSE English Literature in order to progress onto this course

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE?

Many of the skills developed through studying this subject are related to independent thinking — the ability to analyse sophisticated ideas and the ways in which they are presented, to synthesise large and complex text, and to know how to build a convincing argument are just a few.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

English Literature is one of the Russell Group universities' 'facilitating' subjects — so called because choosing them at A-level allows a wide range of options for degree study.

It is widely recognised by universities that the skills developed through the study of English Literature are among the most transferable, with English graduates going on to develop the widest range of careers — among the most popular are publishing, broadcasting, marketing and PR, journalism, law, teaching and politics.

Employers recognise that English students think critically, analyse how meanings are created, evaluate multiple perspectives, and learn to write with sophistication.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This course allows you to develop an understanding of the science of food safety, nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts. On-going practical session will be used to support the gaining of theoretical knowledge and help you to gain essential practical skills to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals. You do not need to have studied a food course in Year 11 to take this course.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: (AS) Meeting nutritional needs
NEA (25%)
Written exam (25%)

Unit 2: (A2) Ensuring food is safe to eat
Written exam (25%)

Unit 3: Optional Unit – see below
NEA (25%)

For the final unit, learners can choose between 2 specialised units.

Unit 3 Experimenting to solve food production problems OR Unit 4 Current issues in food science & nutrition (A2) – By choosing one of these units it allows you to study subjects of particular interest or relevance to you and your other studies.

WHY STUDY FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION?

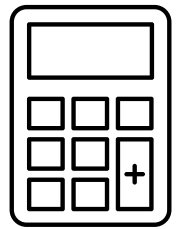
An understanding of food science and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. Care providers and nutritionists in hospitals use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Jobs that are in these areas include: Food Product Development, Food Marketing, Nutritionist, Dietician, Environmental Health Officer, Teaching, Hospitality Industry, Health Psychologist. Learners can progress to higher education degree programmes, such as BSc (Hons) Food and Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Human Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology, BSc (Hons) Sport, Exercise and Nutrition, BA (Hons) Hospitality Management, BA (Hons) Hospitality & Catering. The following universities have supported the delivery of this course at sixth form; Cardiff Metropolitan, University of Huddersfield, Bath Spa University and Birmingham City University.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

FURTHER MATHS



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

Students who study Mathematics at A level may study Further Mathematics as an additional A level. Further Mathematics comprises of units in Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics, building on concepts and theories studied in A level Mathematics. Pure Mathematics consists of induction, complex analysis, matrices, series and polar co-ordinates. Mechanics consists of vectors, circular motion and differential equations. Statistics consists of statistical inference and hypothesis testing.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: Further Pure Mathematics A
Written examination:
1 hour 30 minutes
13% of qualification

AS Unit 2: Further Statistics A
Written examination
1 hour 30 minutes
13% of qualification

AS Unit 3: Further Mechanics A
Written examination
1 hour 30 minutes
13% of qualification

A2 Unit 4: Further Pure Mathematics B
Written examination:
2 hours 30 minutes
35% of qualification

A2 Unit 5: Further Statistics B
Written examination
1 hour 45 minutes
25% of qualification

You will be assessed through examinations sat at the end of Year 12 and 13. A total of three exams are sat in the summer of Year 12. In year 13, pupils specialise in either further mechanics or statistics. A pure exam will be sat, alongside an exam in their chosen specialism, worth a combined 40% of the overall qualification.

WHY STUDY FURTHER MATHS?

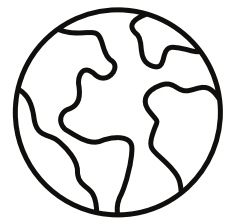
Mathematics helps learners to develop their understanding of mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence and fosters enjoyment. It also encourages them to use mathematics as an effective means of communication and develops an awareness of the relevance of mathematics to other fields of study, to the world of work and to society in general.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Mathematics is an entry level qualification which lead to careers in Medicine, Science, Engineering , Astronomy, Law, Education, Finance, Statistics, Accounting and Banking

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

GEOGRAPHY



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL/ST JOHN BAPTIST

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

The Geography course will cover both Physical and Human Environments and the complex interactions of processes that shape our World. Importantly it looks at the careful relationship the human race has with our environment and how people are often forced to adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment. The WJEC Geography course is one of the few new A Levels that allows coursework to count for 20% of the overall course.

COURSE STRUCTURE

AS Unit 1: Changing Landscapes

Written examination

2 hours

24% of qualification

AS Unit 2: Changing Places

Written examination

1 hour 30 minutes

16% of qualification

A2 Unit 3: Global Systems and

Global Governance

Written examination

2 hours

24% of qualification

A2 Unit 4: Contemporary Themes

in Geography

Written examination

2 hours

16% of qualification

A2 Unit 5: Independent Investigation

Non-exam assessment

3000 – 4000 words

20% of qualification

In year 12, you will be studying changing places and changing landscapes. In changing places, you will focus on coastlines and tectonics (volcanoes and earthquakes). In changing places, you will focus on how rural and urban areas are rapidly changing and adjusting to 21st century living. You will also complete four fieldwork experiences.

In year 13, you will study water and carbon cycles, the global governance of migration and oceans, development in Sub-Saharan Africa and the energy challenges and dilemmas. There is also an additional independent investigation component worth 20% of the course.

WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

The study of geography is crucial to make sense of the many current events that shape our world in the 21st century. In geography, we focus on the causes, impacts and responses to both natural events and human activity. In our increasingly interdependent and globalised world, it is incredibly important that we build upon knowledge and understanding of a wide range of topics. If you study geography, then expect to be investigating natural hazards, climate change, ecosystem management, migration, development and geopolitics.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Natural hazard management, rural and urban planning, GIS specialist, geopolitical analyst, environmental scientist, volcanologist, teacher, cartographer, transportation adviser, market researcher, travel writer, national parks warden, seismologist, tour guide, weather forecaster, emergency response coordinator.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE AND CHILDCARE



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL/ST JOHN BAPTIST

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This course will equip you with thorough in-depth knowledge, understanding and skills related to the development and care of individuals throughout the lifespan. You will have the opportunity to develop your understanding of influences on human growth, development, behaviour and well-being. You will also gain a detailed understanding of the social, physical, emotional, and cultural needs of people who use care and support services and recognise that each individual has a unique blend of abilities and needs. Active learning and personalisation are promoted by giving you opportunities to investigate care issues and topics of your own choice. The course follows a broad study of health and social care and childcare at AS level. And then at A level will focus on childcare specifically.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLBEING
20% of A level
Written Examination

Unit 2: SUPPORTING HEALTH, WELLBEING & RESILIENCE IN WALES
20% of A level
NEA

Unit 3: THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES DEVELOPMENT
30% of A level
Written Examination

Unit 4: SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH, WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
30% of A level
NEA

WHY STUDY HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE AND CHILDCARE?

This specification provides a coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study for you even if you do not progress to further study in this subject. It provides a suitable foundation for the study of health and social care and childcare through a range of higher education courses, or into employment. The course develops your knowledge and awareness of the principles and values which underpin health and social care and childcare and contemporary issues in relation to the provision of ethical and sustainable health and social care and childcare system in Wales.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Jobs that are in these areas include: Nursing, Medicine, Paediatrics, Social Work, Teaching, Child Psychology, Care workers, Dietician, Holistic Health, Childcare. Learners can progress to higher education degree programmes, such as BA (Hons) Health and Social Care, BSc (Hons) Public Health and Wellbeing, BSc (Hons) Nursing, BA (Hons) Social Work, BSc (Hons) Childhood and Youth Studies, BSc (Hons) Psychology, BA (Hons) Education.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

HISTORY



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL/ST JOHN BAPTIST

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

Learners will be given the opportunity to study a variety of different topics from British and non-British history and provides them with an excellent breadth and depth of knowledge as well as transferable skills which can be applied to other subjects and careers.

COURSE STRUCTURE

**Unit 1: POLITICS, PROTEST &
REFORM 1780-1880**
Written Examination

**Unit 2: WEIMAR GERMANY
1919-1933**
Written Examination

**Unit 3: THE AMERICAN
CENTURY 1890-1990**
Written Examination

**Unit 4: GERMANY
1933-1945**
Written Examination

Unit 5: NEA

All units represent 20% of the A-level qualification. Unit 1 and 2 sat in year 12 as two written papers, and units 3 and 4 sat in year 13 as two written papers. Unit 5 is completed over the course of year 13 as an independent study.

WHY STUDY HISTORY?

History helps us understand the world around us and the society that we live in. Without the study of History, we would not understand how women achieved the right to vote, or how the fall of the Berlin Wall led to the collapse of the USSR. History gives us our identity and our sense of belonging, while also making us well-rounded citizens of the world. Also, not only is History a traditional and well-respected choice at A-Level, but the skills you develop within the subject can open many doors. For example, analytical skills through source analysis and being able to assess conflicting opinions are essential skills for the world of work. As George Santanya once said, those who do not remember the past are doomed to repeat it.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Further education opportunities include degrees in the field of History. Career options include the following: Teacher, Solicitor/ Barrister, Researcher, Civil servant, News reporter, Archaeologist, Author.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

MATHEMATICS



HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL/ACS

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

The course comprises units in Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics. Pure Mathematics consists of algebra, calculus, co-ordinate geometry and trigonometry. Mechanics consists of dynamics (the mechanics of motion) and statics (the study of force systems). Statistics consists of probability theory and distributions. Students will study modules in all three disciplines of Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics. Mathematics is a component of the entry requirement to many higher education courses and professional careers such as engineering, technology and applied sciences. Mathematics has become a pre-requisite for many higher education courses and is a gateway into numerous professions.

COURSE STRUCTURE

AS Unit 1: Pure Mathematics A
Written examination
2 hours 30 minutes
25% of qualification

AS Unit 2: Applied Mathematics
Written examination
1 hour 45 minutes
15% of qualification

A2 Unit 3: Pure Mathematics B
Written examination
2 hours 30 minutes
35% of qualification

A2 Unit 4: Applied Mathematics B
Written examination
1 hour 45 minutes
25% of qualification

You will be assessed through examinations sat at the end of Year 12 and 13. 40% of the course is studied in Year 12, while the remainder is studied in Year 13. There are opportunities to re-sit exams in Year 13.

WHY STUDY MATHEMATICS?

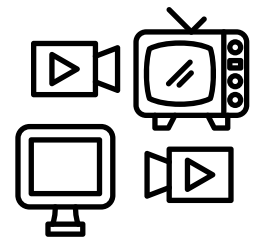
Mathematics helps learners to develop their understanding of mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence and fosters enjoyment. It also encourages them to use mathematics as an effective means of communication and develops an awareness of the relevance of mathematics to other fields of study, to the world of work and to society in general.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Mathematics is an entry level qualification which lead to careers in Medicine, Science, Engineering , Astronomy, Law, Education, Finance, Statistics, Accounting and Banking

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

MEDIA STUDIES



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

The course engages you across a wide range of media, including film, television, the internet, gaming, advertising and news. You will be given the opportunity to understand and question the media that is all around us. There is also a creative side where you will have the opportunity to create your own media. The media industry is one of the most successful in the country and all careers in the modern age tend to have a media dimension, you can give yourself an advantage. The course comprises of four modules taught over a two-year period of study.

COURSE STRUCTURE

**Unit 1: selling images in advertising and music videos, news in the online age and film industry from Wales to Hollywood
(exam)**

**Unit 2: research, planning, creating and evaluating a media product based on advertising, news or film
(coursework)**

**Unit 3: television in the global age, magazines and changing representation and video games, media in the digital age
(exam)**

**Unit 4: cross media production of media text based on individual research into tv, magazines or video games
(coursework)**

WHY STUDY MEDIA STUDIES?

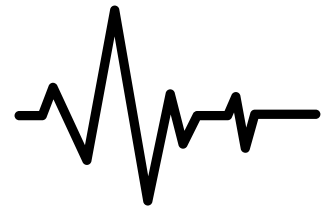
We are living in a world dominated by the media. This course allows you to study different types of media including film, television, advertising, computer games and pop music.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Film Making, Marketing, Advertising, PR, Film, TV, Magazine Publishing, Sales, Gaming, Radio, Newspaper Publishing, Music Industry, Web Design, Social Media, Communications.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

MEDICAL SCIENCE



LEVEL 3 APPLIED DIPLOMA

HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Medical Science (Extended Certificate) enables students to study the principles and applications of medical science through three mandatory units, and further explore other areas in more detail via an optional unit. Students will also learn practical and investigation skills that build on this fundamental knowledge.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The mandatory units cover the following areas:

**HUMAN ANATOMY,
PHYSIOLOGY AND
PATHOLOGY**

**HEALTH ISSUES AND
SCIENTIFIC REPORTING**

**PRACTICAL MICROBIOLOGY
AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

The optional units provide opportunity for students to choose one of the following specific specialist area in which they wish to develop their knowledge and skills:

- Diseases, disorders, treatments and therapies
- Biomedical science
- Human reproduction and fertility.

The qualification is designed to be taken alongside A Levels as part of a study programme and can link to learning in A Level subjects such as physical education and sport, sociology, chemistry and psychology.

Assessment of this BTEC is as follows:

58% of the course is assessed via external examinations – Unit 1 and 2

The remaining units are assessed internally and make up 42% of the qualification.

WHY STUDY MEDICAL SCIENCE?

A high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world around us. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Pupils studying Sciences will be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge, skills and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They should be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

A science qualification can open the door to many important jobs, in fields as wide ranging as medicine, dentistry, research, engineering, forensics, teaching, psychology, physiotherapy and many, many more.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

MUSIC



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

Music A level is the perfect choice for talented musicians offering you the opportunity to develop your performing, listening and composing skills. Learners are given the opportunity to explore a diverse range of different aspects of music, covering topics such as an investigation into significant musical developments, in both classical and contemporary genres, exploring different compositional styles and performing (vocal or instrumental) skills.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1

AS – 30% performance
– external exam

Unit 2

AS – 30% composition –
internal exam

Unit 3

AS – 40% appraising
examination
externally marked

Unit 4

A2 – 25% performance –
external exam

Unit 5

A2 – 25% composition –
internal exam

Unit 6

A2 – 40% appraising
examination –
externally marked

A further 10% of the A2 qualification is taken in performance or composition, at the candidate's discretion.

WHY STUDY MUSIC?

Whilst there is no restriction on students wanting to choose music it is preferable that they currently play an instrument or sing (or are committed to learn). It is expected that students will play an active part in school music activities, including solo and ensemble music making where appropriate. Opportunities include the Orchestra, Choir, Jazz Band, School Production and the possibility of forming other small ensembles as experience and skills allow. All music students are expected to attend recitals, concerts and workshops as directed. Potential for Theatre & Concert visits, workshops with industry professionals and European Concert Tours.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Performer, Composer, Arranger, Studio Engineer, Producer, Teacher, Theatre Technician, Music Therapist.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: PEARSON

OVERVIEW

In this course, worth 1.5 A levels, you will study 4 related units of work. You do not need to have studied music for GCSE or BTEC. It helps, but we have learners each year who start this course and succeed! This course is assessed through 100% coursework.

COURSE STRUCTURE

UNIT 1: RECORDING STUDIO

**UNIT 2: CREATING MUSIC
THROUGH PRODUCTION**

**UNIT 3: MUSIC TECHNOLOGY
AND LIVE EVENTS**

**UNIT 4: PLANNING A CAREER IN
MUSIC**

The first, studio recording gives you the confidence to set up a session in our own recording studio, giving you the skills to mix and edit sound to create a musical product. In the second unit, you become a music producer working to create and remix musical material.

Much of the course is hands-on practical work and the third unit gives you the knowledge and skills to set up a live musical event. The final unit focuses on the many career pathways that are present in the music industry, real jobs for which this course is fantastic preparation.

WHY STUDY MUSIC TECHNOLOGY?

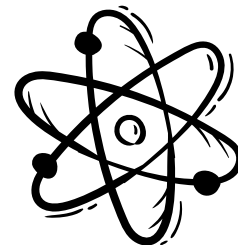
This qualification is suitable for anyone who has an interest and liking of music. There are no barriers to taking this course. You will gain the skills needed to access many job roles in the music industry and become a self-sufficient learner. This BTEC level 3 course carries UCAS points and provides the stepping stone for a career in the world of music production.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Performer, Composer, Arranger, Studio Engineer, Producer, Teacher, Theatre Technician, Music Therapist.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

PHYSICS



HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL/ST JOHN BAPTIST

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This specification is divided into a total of 5 units, 2 AS units and 3 A2 units. The as represents the first year of a two-year A level qualification but it can be studied separately.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: motion, energy and matter (AS)

Unit 2: electricity and light (AS)

Unit 3: oscillations and nuclei (A2)

Unit 4: fields and options (A2)

Unit 5: practical examination (A2)

Practical work is an intrinsic part of this specification. It is vitally important in developing a conceptual understanding of many topics and it enhances the experience and enjoyment of physics. The practical skills developed are also fundamentally important to learners going on to further study in physics and related subjects and are transferable to many careers

WHY STUDY PHYSICS?

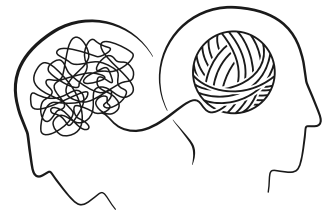
A high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world around us. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Pupils studying Sciences will be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge, skills and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They should be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

A science qualification can open the door to many important jobs, in fields as wide ranging as medicine, dentistry, research, engineering, forensics, teaching, psychology, physiotherapy and many, many more.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

PSYCHOLOGY



HOST SCHOOL: MOUNTAIN ASH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL/ST JOHN BAPTIST EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

Psychology explores the workings of the mind and how thought processes work. A mathematical and scientific background and the ability to create essays in a range of structures (argumentation, descriptive) are essential for successful study. This course is 100% examination based.

COURSE STRUCTURE

UNIT 1: Psychology: Past to Present

UNIT 2: Psychology: Using Psychological Concepts

UNIT 3: Psychology: Implications in the Real World

UNIT 4: Psychology: Applied Research Methods

AS & A LEVEL: Available as a one year course for the “AS” grade or as a two year course for the full “A” Level.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: 5 GCSE’s (or equivalent) at grades A* – C, including English & Maths

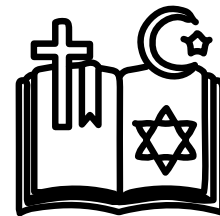
As a result of successfully completing this course, students can progress towards the study of Psychology as an undergraduate at Higher Education level. Psychology can also be taken as part of a Joint Honours degree with another subject, often involving other sciences, humanities or art subjects or Philosophy and Ethics.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Many careers that involve working with people consider a Psychology degree very favourably, including advertising, marketing, charity, law, healthcare, public sector, recruitment and human resources, and social care.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

RELIGIOUS STUDIES



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL/ST JOHN BAPTIST EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

This course studies key questions of human existence which are of present-day interest and relevance. Philosophy of Religion examines questions of whether God exists and why we suffer. Ethics examines questions of what is right and wrong and how we should act. Christianity examines the key beliefs and practices of the world's most popular and influential religion.

- The Philosophy of Religion
- Religion and Ethics
- Christianity

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: An Introduction to the Study of Religion
Written examination
1 hour 15 mins
15% of qualification

Unit 2: An Introduction to Religion and Ethics and Philosophy
Written examination
1 hour 45 mins
25% of qualification

Unit 3: A Study of Religion
Written examination
1 hour 30 mins
20% of qualification

Unit 4: Religion and Ethics
Written examination
1 hour 30 mins
20% of qualification

Unit 5: Philosophy of Religion
Written examination
1 hour 30 mins
20% of qualification

Unit 6: Textual Studies (New Testament)
Written examination
1 hour 30 mins
20% of qualification

Exams sat in Year 12 can be re-taken once if required.

WHY STUDY RELIGIOUS STUDIES?

In many areas of work employers look for someone with an enquiring mind, understanding and appreciation of other people's point of view and an ability to reach a clear, informed decision: these are all skills which are developed in religious studies. Studying religion helps you to see the world from many different viewpoints.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

This will be a valuable addition to any university application in any of the Social Sciences, for example Sociology, Psychology, Religious Studies, Law, Philosophy, Health and Social Care and more!

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

SOCIOLOGY



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: WJEC

OVERVIEW

Sociology will give you the opportunity to develop an understanding of our changing society as well as examining how our actions are shaped by our social environment. Sociology will challenge your view of the world, making even the ordinary in everyday life seem extraordinary. You will consider how our lives are influenced by social institutions such as family, education and the media, and investigate crime and deviance in contemporary society.

COURSE STRUCTURE

AS Unit 1 15%

Acquiring Culture, socialisation and Identity, Understanding families and Households

Unit 2 25%

Understanding the Social Power System and Methods of Sociology research

Unit 3 25%

Crime and Deviance

Unit 4 35%

Social inequality and Applied Research Methods.

WHY STUDY SOCIOLOGY?

If you are curious and take pleasure in discovery and understanding, then studying sociology is for you! The course will give you an understanding of humankind and give you a rational perception of some of society's more frustrating traits. The course will allow you to develop a broad skill set that will be applicable to many areas of work.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

The course provides the perfect pathway to pursue a career in any field, whether you want to become a Pilot, a Police officer, private investigator, a doctor or more!. Completion of this course may be followed by a degree in any specialism including Forensics, Nursing, Midwifery, Professional Policing and more!

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: PEARSON

OVERVIEW

The ideal course for any learner interested in pursuing a career in the uniformed protective services including, but not inclusive to: Nursing, Police, Fire Service, RAF, Army, Royal Navy. There are ample units to choose from to suit the individual needs of the learner.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: BEHAVIOUR DISCIPLINES
33% of A level
Mandatory Unit
Externally Assessed

Unit 2: TEAMWORK & LEADERSHIP
33% of A level
Mandatory Unit
Internally Assessed

Unit 3: SKILLS FOR THE OUTDOORS
16% of A level
Optional Unit
Externally Assessed

Unit 4: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
16% of A level
Optional Unit
Internally Assessed

Units 3 and 4 can be replaced with Introduction to Criminology AND/OR Police Powers and the Law, should learners want to study these units instead.

WHY STUDY UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES?

Would you like a career that involves being outdoors, travelling, solving problems and developing yourself to achieve more than you thought capable? A career in the uniformed services brings new challenges every day, and our Level 3 Public Services course will help you prepare to expect the unexpected.

On this A-Level equivalent course, you'll study the public service sector, its role in society and learn about working life in a public service organization. You'll learn about the social and political influences that affect the public services and begin to understand more about human behaviour and how it will affect your daily work.

There are two specific pathways to choose from. You can choose to study units based on outdoor activities and expedition skills, or study units on careers within the Public Sector and an Introduction to Criminology.

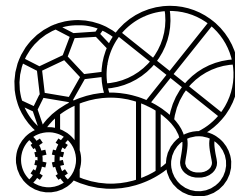
CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

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SPORTS STUDIES

BTEC LEVEL 3 EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN SPORTS COACHING



HOST SCHOOL: ABERDARE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EXAM BOARD: PEARSON

OVERVIEW

For those interested in sport, this would be a natural progression from the BTEC level 2 and GCSE PE delivered at schools throughout the consortium. The course will be integral to your personal development, shaping your ability to be organised, reliable, independent, and become a role model to younger learners in your schools. Additionally, the course will enhance your skills for employability to move successfully into the working world, with opportunities to gain coaching experience and part-time employment with our contacts and partners. BTEC courses prepare you for life!

COURSE STRUCTURE

BTEC level 3 national extended certificate in sports coaching consists of three mandatory units:

Unit 1: Careers in the sport and active leisure industry

Unit 2: Health, well-being and sport

Unit 3: Developing coaching skills

The higher awards, such as the national diploma (2 A-level equivalent) and national extended diploma (3 A-level equivalent) will allow you to engage with more units that look at specific areas of sport such as sports psychology, fitness testing, practical sport, nutrition for physical performance in sport and more.

WHY STUDY SPORTS STUDIES?

BTEC Sports Coaching and Development (2019) is recognised by the Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA), the overarching professional development body for the UK's sport and activity sector. This adds currency to demonstrate that this qualification has recognition beyond academia and UCAS points. The qualification develops learners holistically into employable leaders in their field. The course encourages learners to enhance their confidence, leadership and communication when presenting, being interviewed, interviewing and coaching.

In addition to the qualification itself, we aim to provide professional development in refereeing and other leadership qualifications, working in partnership with local and national organisations. This includes FAW, WRU, Welsh Netball courses as well as developments in local employment in sport & physical activity.

CAREERS & FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

The course acts as a stepping stone to Further Education in the journey of BSc and BA qualifications in Sports Coaching, Sports Development and Education. There is also crossover into medical fields such as Physiotherapy, Sports Science with the Diploma option as the qualification broadens and deepens in its content. There are developments for employment becoming available in Sport RCT directly out of this programme, and beyond.

EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED

CVC POST-16 SUMMARY GUIDELINES

(further details are available from specific CVC documentation.)

1. Programme provision provides L3 (AS/A2 and Vocational) and L2 provision to meet the needs of all learners.

2. A maximum of 25 pupils will be allowed on all L3 courses.

3. Year 11 pupils will be interviewed and provisionally assigned to suitable post sixteen programmes of study in the Easter term of year 11, this will be a provisional offer based on predicted grades and current performance as judged by progress leaders in the base school.

4. Confirmed offer on pupils chosen programme will be secured based on final GCSE results, late submissions to programmes will be allocated on a capacity basis, pupils' aptitude for the subject and final grades.

5. A provisional programme offer will be given to pupils as part of the post 16 options process, parents and pupils will be informed of the programme offer and the necessary entry requirements.

6. All programmes of study at post 16 will require pupils to have achieved L2 in English and Mathematics or make a commitment to attend GCSE resit lessons as part of the CLIF element of the programme of study. Any pupil continuing L3 / A2 courses in year 13 must have achieved a L2 in Mathematics and English prior to year 13.

7. Each programme of study will adhere to minimum entry requirements specific to each course. Entry requirements will be set according to standards agreed by all parties delivering the subject within the consortium.

8. Any pupil accessing a pure science A level should have achieved at least a B grade at GCSE.

9. CVC reserves the right to review a place on any programme of study for pupils' with poor attendance and attitude during Key Stage 4.

10. All pupils follow post 16 courses are expected to maintain high attendance and fully engage in their learning. Pupils failing to commit fully to their programme of study will have their programme of study reviewed

11. All pupils must commit to follow the four programme components as outlined in WAG advice for post sixteen planning.

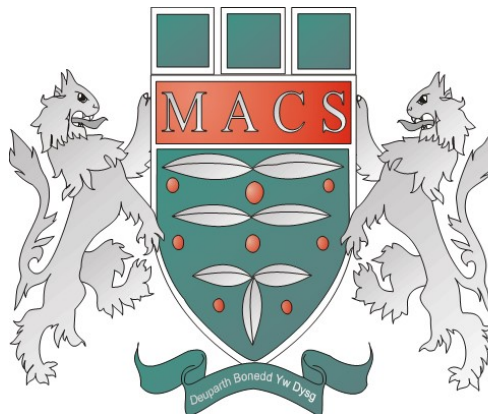
12. Specific issues arising in relation to individual pupils circumstances will be reviewed by CVC lead personnel.

Further detailed guidance can be obtained from specific CVC support documentation.

For more information about our school please get in contact:

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www.macs.uk.net



EVERY CHILD WILL SUCCEED