



MAELOR SIXTH PROSPECTUS



FOR ENTRY SEPTEMBER 2026

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ABOUT MAELOR SIXTH

About Maelor Sixth Form Support & Guidance

We will support all students throughout Year 12 and 13 both academically and pastorally. Whether you are a student looking to go onto university, an apprenticeship or employment, we have the expertise and experience to guide students every step of the way. We aim to provide an environment in which students can achieve personal goals and live successful lives as responsible young adults.

Form Tutor

Our Form Tutor team are sixth form specialists and are responsible for monitoring attendance, academic progress, and welfare. Form Tutors are key to providing excellent support throughout a student's time at Maelor Sixth.

Tutors in Year 12 focus on laying the foundations for positive academic study practices and creating that vision for the future. In Year 13 tutors continue to develop this vision and build on a student's ability to manage their own approaches to successful study in preparation for further education or the work of work. All tutors offer expert advice on post-18 destinations and will work with our students to complete university, apprenticeship and employment applications.

In both years, the need for students to make the connection between effort and achievement is crucial: knowing when to make changes to practices, when to adapt the work life balance or simply talking to someone when making key decisions is important. To maximise this support, we offer the following:

- Experienced and dedicated sixth form tutors
- Personalise tracking
- A dedicated Pastoral Support team
- Regular contact with teachers throughout and after the school day to help you feel part of our community



The VESPA system supports student learning, helping them become the best they can be. VESPA draws together current thinking from psychology, business and sport to inspire, motivate and support students ensuring they achieve their full potential. It addresses common behaviours and characteristics that all students require to be successful. VESPA suggests five key components to success for all students.

VISION

The degree to which a student knows what they want to achieve

EFFORT

The number of proactive independent hours of study a student is willing to do

SYSTEMS

The level to which the student organises their learning resources

PRACTICE

The level to which a student commits to practising and developing their skills

ATTITUDE

The way a student responds constructively to setbacks.

Work carried out during form tutor sessions will develop an understanding of VESPA, setting targets for improvement and making a connection between the work and a student's long-term vision.

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

WJEC A LEVEL

The art department is an exciting, creative, relaxing, engaging environment for students to develop independence and enthusiasm in the realm of Art, Craft and Design. Students pursue personal lines of enquiry informed by guided cultural elements, contemporary and historical references. Students will explore diverse types of art in a range of specialisms such as Fine Art, Textiles, Graphics, Photography and Sculpture.

Students will extend their own work using examples from diverse cultures and time periods.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Personal Investigation - Coursework with no external exam
- One personal creative enquiry, A3 sketchbook

Year Two

- Personal Investigation - Coursework
- Externally Set Assignment

Workshops will cover

- Advanced Development of Drawing and Painting using acrylic, oil, gouache, and water colours
- Advanced Development of Photography & Digital Photography
- A range of advanced forms of print making
- Advanced Development of ceramic, glazing, wire/card construction, plaster, latex, and moulding
- Art History & Art Movements from 15th Century to current day selected depending on the student's line of enquiry

Students experience new interactive techniques every year with an emphasis on the use of mixed media.

Assessment

- AS - Coursework and an A3 Sketchbook worth 40% of the full A Level grade
- A Level - Coursework worth 36% and an externally set assignment worth 24% of the full A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- A genuine interest in Art
- GCSE grade B/6 or above in Art or Art related subject

Further Information

The department arranges a variety of inspiring trips to Liverpool, London, and Paris. Professional, national, and international artists visit the school and students work with these artists to develop creative ability. The department works closely with Oriel Gallery, Wrexham, to encourage students to produce blogs and web pages to gain personal commissions. Students have secured unconditional offers to study Art & Design at prestigious universities and schools of art securing the opportunity to become top artists and designers in our country.



Subject Leader: Mrs S Hartigan

Links to Future Careers

A level Art develops a strong understanding of historic and contemporary visual art practice, through supporting contextual studies. It supports skills to progress into,

- Graphic and gaming design
- Web & app development
- Film, animation, set & model design
- Careers for TV, film & theatre, special effects
- Architecture and interior design
- Publishing, editorial & journalism
- Fashion, textile design and 3D design
- Advertising, branding & packaging design



MEDIA STUDIES

WJEC A LEVEL

The media plays a significant role in contemporary culture, society and politics. They shape our perceptions of the world through the way they portray it and by the ideas and points of view offered. The media has real relevance and importance in our lives today, providing us with ways to communicate, with forms of cultural expression and the ability to participate in key aspects of society. This course offers students the opportunity to develop a thorough and in-depth understanding of key issues, using a variety of support critical perspectives to support critical exploration, reflection, analysis, and debate.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Investigating the Media
- Creating a Media Production

Year Two

- Media in the Global Age
- Creating a Cross-Media Production

Content will involve

- The study of key media concepts; media language, representations, audiences, and media industries
- Analysis of advertising and video games, online news and the TV film, music, and magazine industries
- Planning, producing, and evaluating your own media products

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1, written examination in the summer of year 12 worth 24%. Unit 2, coursework worth 16% of the full A Level grade
- A Level - Unit 3, written examination in the summer of year 13 worth 36%. Unit 4, coursework worth 24% of the full A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade C/4 or above in GCSE Media is an advantage but not essential

Further Information

The Media Studies department offer students the opportunity to visits to Media studios and universities.



Subject Leader: Mrs L Davies

Links to Future Careers

A Level Media Studies can lead to professions in media, film, and journalism. A degree in Media Studies can develop a wide range of transferable skills including analysis, visual communication, problem solving, as well as communication, presentation, and organisational skills. It supports skills to progress into,

- Media and cultural studies
- Video and film production
- Advertising and marketing
- Scriptwriting and journalism

Media Studies complements other disciplines requiring analytical skills and cultural awareness.

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MEDIA STUDIES

MUSIC

WJEC A LEVEL

Music can have an impact on people's lives at many levels. By studying music at A Level, students have an opportunity to develop practical performing and composing skills as well as studying styles of music and putting these into context (appraising). A Level students will learn to understand and appreciate a wide range of musical styles. In addition to the compulsory work, students extend either performing or composing as a specialism.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Performing. A Performance of 6-8 minutes
- Unit 2 - Composing. Two compositions of 1+ minutes written during the course, one reflecting a brief set by the board
- Unit 3 - Appraising (listening). Study of two areas of music

Year Two

- Unit 4 - Performing - 6-8 or 10-12 minutes
- Unit 5 - Composing - 2 or 3 pieces
- Unit 6 - Appraising (listening) - Extended work on the AS areas of study plus a third area of music

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1, worth 12% of the A Level grade is externally assessed in the Spring term. Unit 2, 12% is submitted to the board for assessment late in the Spring term. Unit 3, written & listening examination taken in the summer of year 12 worth 16% of the A Level grade.

- A2 - Unit 4, 5 & 6 are collectively worth 60% of the final A Level grade. Unit 4 is externally assessed in the Spring term. Unit 5 is submitted to the board for assessment late in the Spring term. Unit 3, written & listening examination taken in the summer of year 13

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade C/4 in Music, with a B/6 in appraising, or
- A pass in grade 5 theory and practical as well as a higher-grade GCSE that demonstrates extended writing skills (typically English or History)
- Grade 5 theory is useful to all A Level pupil and there are opportunities to study for and sit this exam in school

Further Information

Students should attend concerts in the local area over the duration of the year. Students must be active musicians and participate in the extra-curricular musical life of the school, local, county, regional and national ensembles.



Subject Leader: Mrs F Baglin

Links to Future Careers

In addition to self expression, studies show that Music can help to develop all areas of the brain, cognition, fine motor skills and analytical abilities. Music is valued by universities for students studying a range of musical and non-musical subjects.

A Level Music helps students to think differently using imagination and creativity particularly in the fields of:

- Teaching
- Performing
- Theatre work
- Sound editing and design
- Media production



PRODUCT DESIGN

WJEC A LEVEL

Product Design offers a unique opportunity for students to identify and solve real problems with imaginative and innovative thinking. The course develops knowledge, understanding, skills and application for designing & making high quality products. Students will create products that are fit for purpose, satisfy desires and needs, provide sustainable solutions, enhance our daily lives, and provide the opportunity to demonstrate creativity and design capability. Students will develop analytical and evaluative skills alongside drawing and practical abilities, developing the power to solve design problems. Students must be committed to the development of their own design skills and be prepared to complete a highly professional portfolio of work.

The Course Involves:

Year One

Unit 1 - Written examination paper to assess knowledge and understanding of

- Designing and Innovation
- Product Analysis
- Materials and Components
- Industrial and Commercial Practice

Unit 2 - Design and Make Task. The WJEC will set a range of themes for the major project, though candidates may also submit their own proposals for approval.

Year Two

Unit 3 - Written examination paper to assess AS theory plus the following

- Human Responsibility
- Production Systems & Control
- Public Interaction
- Industrial and Commercial Practice

Unit 4 - Design and Make Task

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1, written examination in the summer of year 12 worth 20%. Unit 2, coursework worth 20% of the final A Level grade
- A Level - Unit 3, written examination in the summer of year 13 worth 30% and Unit 4, coursework worth 30% of the final A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B/6 in Design and Technology
- A keen interest in design.

Further information

Department visits include The Big Bang @ Wales Rally GB, EESW 6th Form Challenge and the Design Museum London.



Subject Leader: Mrs L Davies

Links to Future Careers

A Level Product Design enables you to combine an understanding of materials and manufacturing processes with your own creative visions by taking charge of the design process. The course would provide a good foundation for careers in,

- Product Design
- Industrial Design
- Graphic Design
- Automotive Engineer
- Furniture Conservator
- Web Design
- Interior Design
- Engineering
- Procurement
- Advertising
- Exhibition Designer
- Model Maker
- TV Set Designer



CRIMINOLOGY

WJEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA

The WJEC Level 3 Criminology qualification is split into two parts, an applied certificate achieved at the end of year 12 and an Applied Diploma achieved at the end of year 13.

The course introduces criminal justice and links well with A Level Psychology.

The Course Involves:

Year 1 Applied Certificate in

Criminology Unit 1 - Changing

Awareness of Crime

- Different types of crime
- Influences on perceptions of crime & why crimes are unreported.

Unit 2 - Criminological Theories

- Why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1

Year 2 Applied Diploma in Criminology

Unit 3 - Crime Scene to Courtroom Mandatory

- Understanding of the criminal justice system from the committal of a crime to the verdict

Unit 4 - Crime and Punishment

- Students will apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories, and the process of bringing an accused to court to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy

Assessment

- Year 1 Alone - Applied Certificate
- Year 1 + 2 - Applied Diploma
- Unit 1: Coursework based assessment worth 25% of the diploma or 50% of the certificate
- Unit 2: Written examination in the summer worth 25% of the diploma or 50% of the certificate
- Unit 3: Coursework based assessment worth 25% of the diploma
- Unit 4: Written examination in the summer worth 25% of the diploma

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B/6 above in English
- GCSE grade C/4 in Maths due to the numerical content.
- GCSE grade C/4 or above in Biology is preferable

Further Information

The Level 3 Diploma would support access to:

- BA Criminology /Criminal Justice, Criminology and Sociology
- BSc (Hons) Criminology/Psychology/Sociology and Criminology with Law & LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology



Subject Leader: Mrs L Edwards

Links to Future Careers

An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work, sociology, and psychology.

The qualification allows learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within aspects of the criminal justice system,

- National Probation Service
- Courts and Tribunals Service
- National Offender Management Service



BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE

CRIMINOLOGY

PSYCHOLOGY

WJEC A LEVEL

A Level Psychology investigates the nature of psychology and psychological enquiry. There are opportunities to explore psychological controversies & debates and consider the ethical issues and implications of psychological endeavours. The emphasis is on applying knowledge and understanding, thereby developing a student's transferable skills in analysis, evaluation, and critical thinking.

The Course Involves:

Year One

Unit 1 - Psychology: Past to Present

- Five psychological approaches will be explored, Biological, psychodynamic, behaviourist, cognitive and positive

Unit 2 - Psychology: Using Psychological Concepts

- Contemporary debate
- Principles of Research

Year Two

Unit 3 - Implications for the Real World

- The Study of Behaviours
- Controversies

Unit 4 - Applied research Methods

- Personal Investigations
- Application of research methods to novel scenarios

Assessment

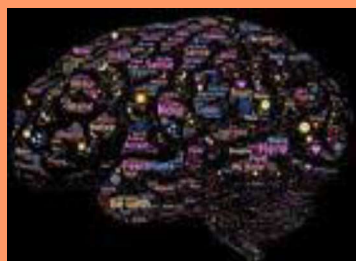
- AS - 2 written examinations in the summer term of year 12, both worth 20% of the full A Level grade
- A Level - 2 written examination in the summer term of year 13, one worth 20% and the other 40% of the full A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B/6 above in English
- GCSE grade C/4 in Maths due to the numerical content
- GCSE grade C/4 or above in Biology is preferable

Further Information

To study Psychology, students should have an interest in the world and how individuals operate in that world. Literacy levels and good analytical skills are the key to understanding the concepts and theories. For students who decide to work in a non-psychology related field, the skills and knowledge that you develop studying Psychology will be helpful.



Subject Leader: Mrs L Edwards

Links to Future Careers

The entry requirements for Psychology degree courses vary from one institution to another but studying Psychology at A Level is useful preparation. The study of Psychology would also be beneficial for the following career pathways,

- Clinical Psychologist
- Forensic Psychology
- Psychology in the NHS
- Teaching
- Human Resources
- Sports Psychology
- Manufacturing
- Advertising
- Marketing
- Social Worker
- Careers Advisor
- Child Minder
- Communication Support



BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE

PSYCHOLOGY

BIOLOGY

WJEC A LEVEL

Biology is the fastest developing Science with Genetically Modified Technology and Climate Change constantly in the headlines. This course offers a comprehensive insight into the distinct aspects of Biology. There are millions of varied species on the planet and the course follows a comparative approach into the ways in which species have evolved adaptations to overcome the “trials of life”.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Basic Biochemistry: Carbohydrates, Lipids and Proteins
- Cell Structure, Organisation and Cell Division
- Cell Membranes and Transport
- Biological Reactions Regulated by Enzymes
- Nucleic Acids and their Functions
- Biodiversity and Classification
- Adaptations for Gas Exchange
- Adaptations for Transport
- Adaptations for Nutrition

Year Two

- Photosynthesis and Respiration
- Microbiology
- Homeostasis and the Kidney
- The Nervous System
- Sexual Reproduction in Humans and Plants
- Variation and Evolution
- Application of Reproduction and Genetics
- Ecosystems and human Impact on the Environment
- Immunology and Disease

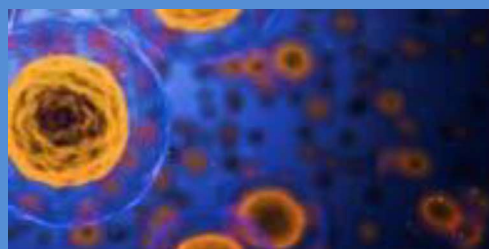
Assessment

- AS - 2 written examinations in the summer term of year 12 for the AS qualification worth 40% of the full A Level grade
- A Level - 2 written examinations in the summer term of year 13 - 50% of the final A level. A practical exam in the summer term of year 13 worth 10% of the full A Level grade

Entry Requirements

As a minimum, students will require:

- A GCSE grade B/6 in Biology & another Science subject grade B/6 or
- A GCSE B/6 grade in the Higher Double Award Science or
- A GCSE B/6 grade in Core & Additional Science, Higher Tier
- Aa grade B/6 in Mathematics as this course has a mathematics module worth 10%



Subject Leader: Mrs C Ferrier

Links to Future Careers

Biology not only allows students to access a wide range of biological sciences from ecology to microbiology to medicine, but also supports other sciences and paths opened by those.

Biology A Level will provide students with the skills for higher education and an excellent foundation for careers in medicine, veterinary sciences, nursing, and biology. Both AS and A2 Biology are excellent courses for non-biological degrees.

Students might also consider how useful Biology is for other courses/careers, for example,

- Archaeology
- Pharmacology
- Speech therapy
- Psychology
- Law

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CHEMISTRY

WJEC A LEVEL

Chemistry is a vibrant and exciting subject that is referred to as the “central science” as it connects all the other sciences. Chemistry engages in everything around us from the food we eat to the medicines that keep us healthy. The skills involved in studying Chemistry A Level are ideal for future university degrees and employment.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Basic ideas about atoms, chemical calculations, bonding and solid structures, the periodic table, simple equilibria, and acid base reactions
- Unit 2 - Thermochemistry, rates of reaction, organic compounds, hydrocarbons, halogenoalkanes, alcohols and carboxylic acids and instrumental analysis

Year Two

- Unit 3 - electrochemistry, redox reactions, chemistry of the p and d block, kinetics, enthalpy changes, entropy, equilibrium, and acid-base equilibria
- Unit 4 - Isomerism, aromaticity, alcohols and phenols, aldehydes, ketones and carboxylic acids, nitrogen containing compounds and organic synthesis and analysis

Assessment

- AS - 2 written examinations in the summer term of year 12 for the AS qualification worth 40% of the full A Level grade
- A Level - 2 written examinations in the summer term of year 13 - 50% of the final A level. A practical exam in the summer term of year 13 worth 10% of the full A Level grade

Entry Requirements

As a minimum, students will require:

- A GCSE grade B/6 in Chemistry & another Science subject grade B/6 or
- A GCSE B/6 grade in the Higher Double Award Science or
- A GCSE B/6 grade in Core & Additional Science, Higher Tier
- A grade B/6 in Mathematics as this course has a mathematics module worth 10%



Subject Leader: Mrs L Chesworth

Links to Future Careers

Chemistry uses and develops skills which are very desirable for future employment, including problem solving, research, analytical, numeracy, practical skills, teamwork, and communication. Potential careers involve those in healthcare such as,

- Medicine
- Pharmacy and dentistry
- Biological sciences
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Pharmacology
- Analytical chemistry



MEDICAL SCIENCE

WJEC A LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA

Medical Science is the science of dealing with the maintenance of health and the prevention and treatment of diseases. The WJEC Level 3 qualification splits into two parts, an Applied Certificate achieved at the end of year 12 and an Applied Diploma achieved at the end of year 13. The qualification covers the key topic areas of health, physiology, and disease, as well as providing the opportunity to study the areas of pharmacology, physiological measurement, clinical testing, and medical research.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Human Health and Disease
- Unit 2 - Physiological Measurement Techniques
- Unit 3 - Medical Science Research Methods

Year Two

- Unit 4 - Medicines and Treatment of Disease
- Unit 5 - Clinical Laboratory Techniques
- Unit 6 - Medical Case Study

Assessment

- Year 1 - Applied Certificate. Unit 1 Written examination worth 50% and Units 2 & 3, coursework both worth 25% of the applied certificate

- Year 2 - Applied Diploma. Unit 4, coursework is worth 50%, Unit 5 coursework is worth 25% & Unit 6 is a written examination worth 25%.

Entry Requirements

- At least a C/4 grade in Science and Maths

Further Information

Medical advances have completely changed society and the way we live our lives. Dedicated research can lead to developing new pain relief through to pioneering double hand transplants. This is a fascinating and dynamic area of study. Medical scientists are at the forefront of healthcare services. They are vital in the diagnosis of disease, determining the effectiveness of treatments and searching for new cures.



Subject Leader: Mrs N Williams

Links to Future Careers

The course equips students with scientific knowledge & understanding, as well as practical skills that would support progression to degree courses or health related job roles such as,

- Medical Research
- Management of health organisations.
- Laboratory testing to support diagnosis and treatment of disease
- Areas of pharmacology
- Physiological measurement
- Clinical testing and medical research



PHYSICS

WJEC A LEVEL

A Level Physics explores a vast range of ideas and theories from the wonders of the universe to the sub-microscopic world of quarks and exotic particles. The whole of our technological world relies on the principles of Physics and the course is a rewarding, yet challenging exploration of these ideas.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Motion, Energy and Matter - basic physics, kinematics, dynamics, energy concepts, solids under stress, using radiation to investigate stars, and particles and nuclear structure
- Unit 2 - Electricity and Light - conduction of electricity, resistance, D.C. circuits, the nature of waves, wave properties, refraction of light, photons, and lasers

Year Two

- Unit 3 - Oscillations and Nuclei - circular motion, vibrations, kinetic theory, thermal physics, nuclear decay and nuclear energy
- Unit 4 - Fields and Options - capacitance, electrostatic and gravitational fields of force, orbits and the wider universe, magnetic fields, and electromagnetic induction

Assessment

- AS - 2 written examinations in the summer term of year 12 for the AS qualification worth 40% of the full A Level
- A Level - 2 written examinations in the summer term of year 13 worth 50% of the final A level. A practical exam in the summer term of year 13 worth 10% of the course

Entry Requirements

As a minimum, students will require:

- a) A GCSE grade B/6 in Physics & another Science subject grade B/6 or
- b) A GCSE B/6 grade in the Higher Double Award Science or
- c) A GCSE B/6 grade in Core & Additional Science, Higher Tier
- d) A grade B/6 in Mathematics as this course has a mathematics module worth 10%



Subject Leader: Mr S Jones

Links to Future Careers

Physics is particularly useful in combination with any other science subject and is vital for anyone thinking of pursuing a career in engineering or medicine.

A Level Physics will give you incredibly strong analytical and research skills. You will be able to come at problems and solve them in a methodical and logical way. You will be able to investigate theories, devise tests and explore innovative ideas.



BTEC LEVEL 3 BUSINESS

National Extended Certificate

The world is becoming a smaller place these days with Business increasingly conducted on a global scale. The Extended Diploma is a two-year course that develops transferable skills in high demand by both universities and the business world. Studying Business could lead to a wide variety of career choices and the knowledge and skills gained will ensure that you will have the aptitude required to work in any industry when you leave education.

The Course Involves:

Year One

Unit 1 - Exploring Business

- Explore the features of different businesses and analyse what makes them successful
- Investigate how businesses are organised and how they operate
- Examine business markets
- Investigate the role and contribution of innovation and enterprise to business success

Unit 3 - Personal and Business Finance

- Understand the importance of managing personal finance and explore the personal finance sector
- Understand the purpose of accounting, break even and cash flow forecasts
- Select and evaluate various sources of business finance
- Complete statements of comprehensive income and financial position and evaluate a business's performance

Year Two

Unit 2 - Developing a Marketing Campaign

- Principles and purpose of marketing
- Plan and develop a marketing campaign

Unit 8 - Recruitment and Selection

- Students will examine why the human resources department is important
- Plan and undertake a recruitment activity

Assessment

- Year 1 - Unit 3, written examination worth 33% of the BTEC grade. Unit 1, coursework worth 25% of the BTEC grade
- Year 2 - Unit 2, internally assessed unit worth 25% of the BTEC grade. Unit 8, internally assessed unit worth 17% of the final BTEC grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade C/4 in both English and Maths.
- You do not need to have studied Business in year 11 to select the subject in year 12



Subject Leader: Mrs A Farrer

Links to Future Careers

The Extended Diploma meets entry requirements for students who want to progress to higher education courses in business areas. It can also support learners who want to progress directly to employment in business, management, and Higher Apprenticeships. Business develops the knowledge and skills required to think critically about issues and will provide skills for career in,

- Accounting
- Business management
- Marketing & finance
- Accounting & finance
- Marketing & advertising
- Retail & sales
- Human resources
- General business consultancy



COMPUTER SCIENCE

WJEC A LEVEL

Computers are used in all aspects of business, industry, government, education, leisure, and the home. In this increasingly technological age, a study of computer science is not only valuable to the learner but also essential to the future well-being of the country. In this course students learn the principles of computation and algorithms, computer programming, machine data representation, computer systems (hardware and software), computer organisation and architecture, communications and networking, databases, and the consequences of using computing.

The Course Involves:

Year One

Unit 1 - Fundamentals of Computer Science

- Computer architecture, communication, data representation, data structures, software applications, programs, algorithms, logic, programming methodologies and the impact of computer science on society

Unit 2 - Practical Programming to Solve Problems

- A series of set tasks completed on-screen by candidates. These tasks will assess the practical application of knowledge and understanding and will require the use of Visual Basic.NET

Year Two

Unit 3 - Programming & Systems Development

Unit 4 - Computer Architecture, Data & communications

Unit 5 - Programmed Solutions to a Problem

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1, written examination worth 25% of the A Level grade. Unit 2, on-screen examination worth 15% of the A Level grade
- A Level - Unit 3 & 4, written examinations worth 20% each. Unit 5, coursework worth 20% of the A Level grade

Further Information

A Level Computer Science enables students to develop a broad range of skills in the areas of programming, system development, computer architecture, data, communication, and applications. The course will enable students to design and produce their own programs for realistic situations

Entry Requirements

- GCSE Computer Science is desirable but not essential
- GCSE grade B/6 in Mathematics and English



Subject Leader: Mr R Collins

Links to Future Careers

Computer Science A level is valued by universities and employers as it requires the development of analytical thinking and problem solving skills. This course also lays an appropriate foundation for further study of,

- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Physics
- Web Design
- Game Design
- System Analysis
- Cyber Security
- Business Analysis
- Network
- Software Engineering



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ECONOMICS

WJEC A LEVEL

Economics is an excellent choice if students have an active interest in how we, as individuals and as a society, make choices. Economics at its most fundamental is how individuals and society solve the problem of providing scarce resources in a world where there are unlimited needs and wants. Decisions on whether to introduce a new drug in the NHS to the wages of premier league footballers; from climate change to the continuing implications of Brexit; from prices of food and fuel to unemployment, all are economic issues. Economics is a challenging subject but highly rewarding. This is a well-respected subject and independent research suggests that economists earn more than all other graduates.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Introduction to Economic Principles
- Unit 2 - Economics in action

Year Two

- Unit 3 - Exploring Economic Behaviours
- Unit 4 - Evaluating Economic Models and Principles

Students will learn that economics is a study of scarce resources and approaches to how those resources are allocated to various uses in a market economy. Students will also understand the economic behaviour of consumers, producers, and governments.

Assessment

- AS - Two written examinations, Unit 1, 15% & Unit 2 worth 25% of the full A Level grade
- A Level - Two written examinations, Unit 3, 30% & Unit 4 worth 30% of the full A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B/6 in both Mathematics and English Language
- A genuine interest in keeping up to date with current affairs

Further Information

The department organises visits to economic conferences to hear from a variety of leading economists as well as attending revision workshops; there is a nominal charge for travelling and booking of the conferences and workshops.



Subject Leader: Mr T Nolan

Links to Future Careers

In A Level Economics students will present ideas using complex data, numeracy and techniques of mathematical and statistical analysis. This course also lays an appropriate foundation for careers such as,

- Economist
- Financial Risk Analysis
- Accountancy
- Economic Research
- Investment
- Data Analysis
- Statistics
- Banking
- Stockbroking



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BTEC LEVEL 3 ICT

BTEC LEVEL 3 ICT

Computers and information technology are becoming increasingly more important to organisations. Courses such as Information Technology are more popular both at A Level and at university. This course is the equivalent to an A Level and offers a learner-centred approach to learning with a combination of project-based assessments and exams.

Students who choose to follow this course also develop their practical, interpersonal, and thinking skills which are sought after by employers and higher education.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Information Technology Systems. Students study the role of computer systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations.
- Unit 6 - Website Development. Students understand the principles of designing and creating a functional website to meet the requirements of a client

Year Two

- Unit 2 - Creating Systems to Manage Information. Students study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information.
- Unit 3 - Using Social Media in Business. Students explore how businesses use social media to promote their products and services. Learners also implement social media activities in a business to meet requirements

Assessment

- Year 1 - Unit 1, written examination worth % and Unit 6, coursework worth % of the final level 3 BTEC ICT grade
- Year 2 - Unit 2, project-based assessment set worth % and marked by BTEC. Unit 3, project-based assessment worth % of the final level 3 BTEC ICT grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade C/4 in ICT
- GCSE grade C/4 or above in Mathematics
- GCSE grade C/4 or above in GCSE English

Further Information

The BTEC ICT level 3 qualifications are valued by industry and higher education establishments. The course develops ICT knowledge and is an excellent foundation for studying computer science and other ICT courses at higher education or for progression onto a higher-level apprenticeship.



Subject Leader: Mrs A Farrer

Links to Future Careers

BTEC ICT is for students who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information, alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses or careers for example,

- ICT support
- Software engineering
- Data analysing
- Business analysing
- Project managing
- Network engineering
- Web developing



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ENGLISH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE

WJEC A LEVEL

The WJEC GCE AS and A level in English Language and Literature encourages learners to develop their interest and enjoyment of English as they:

- Develop and apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation
- Develop and apply their understanding of the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language
- Use linguistic and literary approaches in their reading and interpretation of texts, showing how the two disciplines can relate to each other
- Engage creatively and critically with a wide range of texts
- Explore the ways in which texts relate to each other and the contexts in which they are produced and received
- Undertake independent and sustained studies to develop their skills as producers and interpreters of language.

The Course Involves;

AS Unit 1: Comparative Analysis and Creative Writing

Section A: Comparative analysis of poetry and unseen text

Section B: Creative writing and commentary

AS Unit 2: Drama and Non-literary Text Study

Section A: Post-1900 drama

Section B: Non-literary text study

A2 Unit 3: Shakespeare

Section A: Shakespeare extract

Section B: Shakespeare essay

A2 Unit 4: Unseen Texts and Prose Study

Section A: Post-1900 drama

Section B: Non-literary text study

A2 Unit 5: Critical and Creative Genre Study

Section A: Genre study

Section B: Related creative writing

Assessment

Unit 1 & Unit 2, Written examinations each worth 20% of the full A level grade.

A2 Unites 3 & 4, written examinations each worth 20% of the full A level grade.

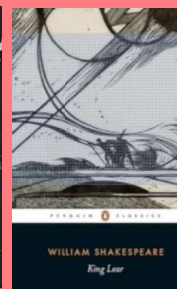
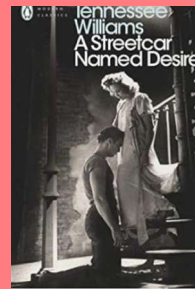
A2 Unit 5, non-examination assessment: 2500-3500 words. Worth 20% of the full A level grade.

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B/6 in English Language.
- An interest in language and how language is used in context - eg political speeches, media communications.

Further Information

Fundamental to the course as a whole, learners will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how to apply linguistic and literary methodologies and concepts to inform their responses to and interpretations of texts.



Subject Leader: Mr M Manuel

Links to Future Careers

English Language and Literature A level develops formal written communication styles, which is a key skill for further studies

and communication in a career. All the skills developed through studying this subject are related to independent thinking and support the skills beneficial for the following careers

- Publishing
- Law
- Speech & Language Therapy
- Foreign Language Teaching
- Translation & Interpreting
- Journalism
- Education
- Writing



FRENCH

WJEC A LEVEL

This course will provide students with an exciting opportunity to build on the previous study of French. Through social, intellectual, and cultural themes students will be able to develop linguistic knowledge and cultural understanding of the countries and French speaking communities. An opportunity to study literature and film will allow students to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and increase cultural awareness.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Speaking about a theme, using discussion and argument based on one of four themes.
- Unit 2 - Listening, reading, translation and critical response in writing

Year Two

- Unit 3 - Speaking, students present and discuss the results of an independent research project based on a selected select an area of personal study that should encouraged students to broaden their knowledge and appreciation of the countries or French speaking communities.
- Unit 4 - Listening, reading and translation
- Unit 5 - Critical and analytical response in writing (closed-book)

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1 - Oral examination worth 12% of the final A Level grade. Unit 2 written examination worth 28% of the final A Level grade.

- A Level - Unit 3, Speaking examination worth 18% of the final grade. Unit 4, written examination worth 30% and Unit 5 written examination worth 12% of the final A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B/6 grade in French or Welsh
- A genuine interest in studying languages

Further Information

A Level French offers a rich and comprehensive insight into the social fabric, political, intellectual, and artistic culture of the countries and French speaking communities. The specification content covers two primary areas of interest,

- a) Social issues and trends
- b) Political, intellectual, and artistic culture.

Under these two areas of interest a total of four themes are selected to offer students an extensive and pertinent learning experience



Subject Leader: Mrs G Goodchild

Links to Future Careers

French is a major world language, being the first or second language in over forty-three countries. It is spoken by approximately 270 million people and is an official language in the EU, the UN and major sporting events such as the Olympics, the World Cup and the Euros. The civil and diplomatic services also value linguistic skills as well as in the more traditional areas of interpreting and translating. Students with proficiency in French have highly marketable skills in the spheres of,

- Business & Marketing
- Law
- Journalism
- Tourism



CYMRAEG/WELSH WJEC A LEVEL

The course aims to prepare students to play an appropriate role in a bilingual Wales. It will help develop an understanding of both the language and culture of Wales. The units studied are varied and significantly different to those from the GCSE course. Students will, for example, develop skills in speaking, reading and writings by studying a variety of texts. The course aims to challenge the perception of Wales and her language and to encourage students to form their own mature opinions.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Film and Oracy
- Unit 2 - Three extended pieces of writing, (1,500-2,000 words in total)
- Unit 3 - The Use of Language; Poetry

Year Two

- Unit 4 - Drama and Oracy
- Unit 5 - The Welsh Language in Society and Translanguaging
- Unit 6 - The Use of Language and the Short Story

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1, oral examination worth 15% of the final A Level grade. Unit 2 coursework worth 10% of the final A Level grade. Unit 3 written examination worth 15% of the final A Level grade

- A Level - Unit 4, Speaking examination worth 25% of the final A Level grade. Unit 5 written examinations worth 15%, and Unit 6, written examination worth 20% of the final A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B in Welsh
- A genuine interest in the Welsh Language

Further information

A Level Welsh is a challenging but rewarding course, therefore, it is important that students have an interest in the language. Students learn about a variety of topics which have not studied at GCSE, making this an interesting course. During year 12 and 13 a visit to Glan-Llyn is available.

This involves a 3-day residential at the annual sixth form conference.



Subject Leader: Mrs G Goodchild

Links to Future Careers

A Level Welsh is well-respected and there are great advantages in being bilingual. Welsh law expects public services to treat Welsh and English on an equal basis so there has been a rise in the demand for people who can communicate in both languages. Twice the language, double the skills. It can lead to employment in a variety of sectors,

- Journalism
- Law
- Local government roles, Police, Primary and Secondary Education, Social Care & Nursing
- National Government
- Administration
- Human Resources



COMMUNICATIONS

WELSH

GEOGRAPHY

WJEC A LEVEL

Geography is relevant, stimulating, and interesting. Whether students want to broaden knowledge, plan to continue studies in higher education, or use this course to start a career, Geography will provide the opportunity to gain transferable skills including communication, teamwork, analysing, investigation, IT and map reading.

If students are interested in the world around us and would like to understand more about the different cultures and environments that surroundings, then A Level Geography would be an excellent choice of study.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Coastal Landscapes & Tectonic Hazards
- Unit 2 - Changing Places & Fieldwork. Investigation work conducted in Liverpool and Whixall Moss

Year Two

- Unit 3 - Global Systems, Global Governance & 21st Century Challenges
- Unit 4 - Tectonic Hazards & Contemporary Themes in Geography
- Unit 5 - Independent Investigation

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1, written examination worth 24% of the final A Level grade. Unit 2, written examination worth 16% of the final A Level grade
- A Level - Unit 3, written examination worth 24% of the final A Level grade. Unit 4, written examination worth 16% of the final A Level grade. Unit 5, Coursework worth 20% of the final A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B/6 or in Geography
- GCSE grade C/4 or above in English Language

Further Information

The course entails the need to undertake both a human and physical investigation in Year 12 and then a further trip for the independent investigation. The Geography department also runs an international trip every two years.



Course Leader: Mr G Reardon

Links to Future Careers

Geography helps students to make sense of the world around us. It is hands on, relevant, and fun. Whatever the passion or concerns for the world, geography will provide you with knowledge and transferable skills that will reward you personally and advance you professionally to pursue careers in,

- Law
- Education
- Medicine
- Human Resources, Administration
- Social Work
- Politics, International Development
- Media, Journalism
- English Language
- Civil Service
- Police, Public Affairs



GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

WJEC A LEVEL

Government & Politics is the perfect course for those who keep their finger on the pulse of news and current affairs, while allowing you to hone your debating skills and encouraging you to express your own opinions. This course enables you to critically analyse the nature and use of authority and power within the political system of the United Kingdom. It is a subject like no other as it is constantly changing as it tries to keep up with events as they happen.

A Level Government & Politics will help you to understand the impact of important decisions that affect your life concerning wealth, health, education, morality along with other issues.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Government in Wales and the United Kingdom. Including the study of the UK constitution, the UK's role in global governance, government in Westminster and Cardiff
- Unit 2 - Living and Participating in a Democracy. Including citizenship, political parties, elections & voting systems, and the influence of pressure groups

Year Two

- Unit 3 - Political Concepts and Theories. Including liberalism, conservatism, socialism, and nationalism from a UK and world perspective
- Unit 4 - Government and Politics of the USA. Focussing on the US constitution, government, elections, and political parties

"A week is a long time in Politics"

PRIME MINISTER HAROLD WILSON

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1 & 2 written examinations worth 40% of the final A Level grade
- A Level - Unit 3 & 4 written examinations each worth 30% of the A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade C/4 or above in English Language
- A genuine interest in political developments

Further Information

Students need to be willing to keep up to date with political developments in local, national, and international news. The course provides the experience of a wide range of analytical and critical analysis skills.



Subject Leader: Mr R Quinn

Links to Future Careers

Studying A-level Government & Politics will provide insight into political beliefs central to an understanding of the modern world. It develops analytical and evaluative skills in relation to interesting topics prevalent in the turbulent political climate of today and leads into the following careers,

- Law, Politics & International Development
- Education
- Medicine
- Journalism, Media
- Human Resources & Administration
- Civil Service, Police, Social Work & Public Affairs



HISTORY

WJEC A LEVEL

Everything has a history. But there is much more to History than just the story. Historical evidence is unreliable, incomplete, or even contradictory. It is the job of the historian to seek out the truth, to find out what evidence we can trust, just like a detective trying to solve a crime. A Level History is not just finding out what happened. It is about being able to make judgements about the validity of evidence or the correctness of opinions. Students will use information to explain why things happen, what consequences they might have, and whether they are important.

The Course Involves:

Year One

- Unit 1 - Wales and England 1780-1880. The protests and reforms of the period, as well as the development of more modern political parties
- Unit 2 - The German Reformation 1500-1531. The origins and initial spread of the Reformation in Germany

Year Two:

- Unit 3 - The American Century 1890-1990. The changes in civil rights and foreign policy during this period
- Unit 4 - The Protestant and Counter Reformations 1531-1564. Covering the development of the Reformation beyond Germany and the Catholic response to it
- Unit 5 - Non-Examined Assessment. An independently researched investigation into a topic relating to British or American history

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1 & 2 written examinations worth 40% of the final A Level grade
- A Level - Unit 3 & 4 written examinations each worth 20%. Unit 5 is coursework and worth 20% of the A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade B/6 in History
- GCSE grade B/6 in English Language, the course does require in depth reading & writing

A love of History is a good place to start, but willingness to read around the topics studied and write at length is also important as well.



Course Leader: Mr R Quinn

Links to Future Careers

Students will develop critical reasoning and analytical skills, as well as the capacity for solving problems and thinking creatively. Students will demonstrate intellectual rigour and independence, together with the capacity to conduct detailed research.

- Archivist
- Heritage Management
- Curation
- Education
- Conservation
- Historical Research
- Archaeology
- Librarian
- Management
- Foreign Service
- Geneology
- Law

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

WJEC A LEVEL

A Level Further Mathematics is fun and rewarding. It broadens mathematical skills and promotes deeper mathematical thinking. Students are introduced to new areas of pure mathematics such as complex numbers and apply mathematics in a wider range of contexts. Studying it is likely to improve a student's grade in A Level Mathematics. The extra time, additional practice, further consolidation, and development of techniques contribute to improved results in A Level Mathematics.

The Course Involves:

Year One:

- AS Unit 1 - Further Pure 1 - including Proof, Complex Numbers, Matrices, Further Algebra and Functions and Further Vectors
- AS Unit 2 - Further Statistics - including Random Variables and Poisson Processes and Goodness of Fit
- AS Unit 3 - Further Mechanics - including Momentum and Impulse, Hooke's Law, Work, Energy, Power, Circular Motion and Differentiation and Integration of Vectors

Year Two:

- A Level Unit 4 - Further Pure Mathematics - including Complex Numbers, Further Trigonometry, Matrices, Further Algebra and Functions, Further Calculus, Polar Coordinates, Hyperbolic Functions and Differential Equations

- A Level Unit 5 or 6 - Further Statistics or Further Mechanics - extending units 2 and 3 respectively

Assessment

- AS, Unit 1, 2 & 3, written examinations all worth 13 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the A Level grade
- A Level, Unit 4 & 5, written examinations both worth 30% of the A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade A/7 or above in Mathematics
- Also studying A Level Mathematics
- A genuine love of maths

Further Information

Maths can play an integral part of careers, and can provide many opportunities, both academically and career-wise.

Course Leader: Mr A Bright

Links to Future Careers

As technology continues to advance, so too does mathematics, increasing its essential role in both every day and corporate life. New mathematical theories are discovered continually enabling inventions and scientific discoveries to continue to flourish. Students would have the opportunity to forge a career that is at the forefront of technological advancement.

- Business analyst
- Chartered accountant
- Economist
- Financial manager
- Actuary
- Statistician
- Investment Analyst
- Operational researcher

MATHEMATICS

WJEC A LEVEL

Mathematics underpins the understanding of everyday life in nature, science, engineering, and finance. The course aims to provide the skills necessary to communicate and problem- solve using mathematics. The programme of study includes pure mathematics, mechanics, statistics, differential equations, and numerical methods.

The Course Involves:

Year One:

Unit 1

- Pure Mathematics - including Proof, Algebra and Functions, Coordinate Geometry, Sequences and Series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and Logarithms, Differentiation, Integration and Vectors.

Unit 2

- Applied Mathematics - including Statistical Sampling, Data Presentations and Interpretation, Probability, Statistical Distributions, Hypothesis Testing, Quantities and Units in Mechanics, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's Laws and Vectors.

Year Two:

Unit 3

- Pure Mathematics - including Proof, Algebra and Functions, Coordinate Geometry, Sequence and Series, Trigonometry, Differentiation, and Integration.

Unit 4

- Applied Mathematics - including Probability, Statistical Distributions, Statistical Hypothesis Testing, Trigonometry, Differentiation, Integration, Numerical Methods, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's Laws, Moments, and Vectors.

Assessment

- AS, Unit 1 written examination worth 25%. Unit 2, written examination worth 15% of the A Level grade
- A Level, Unit 3 written examination worth 35%. Unit 4, written examination worth 25% of the A Level grade

Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade A/7 or above in Mathematics
- Also studying A Level Mathematics
- A genuine love of maths A and strong algebraic skills

Further Information

Maths is desirable if entering employment, starting an apprenticeship or for courses and careers detailed here

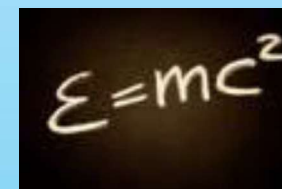


Course Leader: Mr A Bright

Links to Future Careers

Maths A Level supports degree studies in Physics, Engineering, Science, Maths Actuarial Science and Economics. For some courses, students may be required to study a Further Maths course as well. Maths is also useful for studies in,

- Computer Science
- Accounting
- Chemistry, Biology, Life Sciences, Psychology & Philosophy
- Medicine/Nursing, Dentistry
- Business Studies/ Management Studies & Finance
- Architecture & Surveying
- Geology



MATHEMATICS

MATHS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

WJEC A LEVEL

Physical Education and the world of sport science is forever evolving, and this course allows students to develop an appreciation of Physical Education in a wide range of contexts. The course integrates theory and practice with an emphasis on the application of theoretical knowledge. Students will develop an understanding of how the various theoretical concepts impact on your performance, through the integration of theory and practice.

The Course Involves:

Year One:

Unit 1 - Exploring Physical Education

- Exercise physiology, sports psychology, skill acquisition, sport and society

Unit 2 - Improving Personal Performance in Physical Education

- Practical performance in one activity as a player/ performer, and a coach or official
- Completion of a personal performance profile

Year Two

Unit 3 - Evaluating Physical Education

- Exercise physiology, sports psychology, skill acquisition sport and society

Unit 4 - Refining Performance in Physical Education

- Practical performance in one activity as a player/ performer coach or official.
- Investigative Research

Assessment

- AS - Unit 1, written examination worth 24% of the final A Level grade. Unit 2, practical component, worth 16% of the final A Level grade.
- A Level- Unit 3, written examination worth 36% of the final A Level grade. Unit 4, practical component, worth 24% of the final A Level grade.

Entry Requirements

- GCSE B/6 grade in GCSE PE or equivalent qualification.
- A pass in both the practical and theoretical aspects of the GCSE course.
- Active interest in sport, regularly participating in training and/or competitive sport.



Course Leader: Miss E Cross

Links to Future Careers

A Level Physical Education provides access to a range of higher education courses especially within the areas of Sport Science and Physical Education and careers in:

- Teaching
- Physiotherapy
- Sports coaching or management
- Leisure industry
- Professional sport
- Sports Scientist
- Sports Statistician
- Sports Development
- Sports Massage
- Therapist
- Nutritionist
- Umpire/referee



HEALTH

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ADVANCED SKILLS BACCALAUREATE WALES WJEC A LEVEL

The central focus of the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales A Level course is to develop essential and employability skills through a series of Challenges. Collectively are known as the Skills Challenge Cymru (SCC). The SCC work develops and assesses essential skills in literacy, numeracy, digital literacy, critical thinking & problem solving, planning & organisation, creativity & innovation, and personal effectiveness

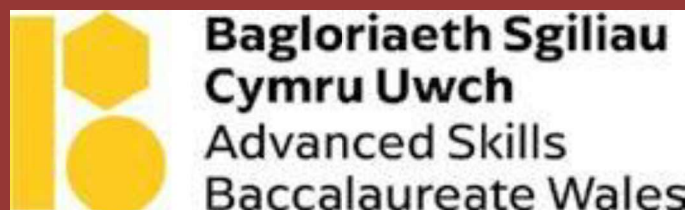
The Course Involves:

The core components of the qualification are detailed below

SCC Elements	Year of Completion	% Of qualification
Global Community Project	Year 12	25%
Future Destination Project	Year 12	25%
Individual Research Project	Year 13	50%
Overall Grade	This A level is graded A*-E based on the total scores from the three Challenges	

Assessment

The AdSBW is coursework based, assessed internally and externally moderated. The results from all three are combined to achieve a total score that equates to an A Level grade, A*-E.



Skills Development

The AdSBW work develops and supports the skills required in A Level and BTEC subject programmes. The Global Community and Future Destinations Challenges completed in Year 12 equip students with the range of skills required to complete the Individual Project in Year 13

This 5,000-word Individual Project provides the experience of,

- Extended writing
- Exploration of different research methods
- Approaches to selecting & analysing information
- Approaches for analysing complex numerical data
- Methods to digitally present information to produce high quality outcomes
- Approaches to concluding research findings
- Harvard referencing



HEADTEACHER/PENNAETH
MRS L EYRE

HEAD OF MAELOR SIXTH/ PENNAETH CHWECHED
MR D WILLIAMS

SIXTH FORM ADMINISTRATOR/
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