



Pentrehafod School

Ysgol Pentrehafod

Year 8

Options Booklet 2023



Article 28

Children have the right to an education...



Pentrehafod School

Ysgol Pentrehafod

Vision Statement

Respect • Resilience • Success

Students of all abilities at Pentrehafod School will be challenged to become:

Ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives;

Enterprising, creative contributors;

Ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world;

Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

Options - Transition to Key Stage Four

Before the end of Year 8 you will have completed your Key Stage 3 National Curriculum courses and will start Key Stage 4 early. Now is the time to consider which option courses you wish to study.

In Key Stage 4 some subjects still remain compulsory. All students must take English, Maths, Science, Welsh, and the Welsh Bacallaureate at Intermediate or Foundation Level. PE, ICT and RE are also statutory with the potential for all students to gain a qualification in ICT and RE. The remaining three subjects are selected from the various option blocks.

It is a difficult decision to make. Not only will the courses you decide to take determine the work you do in school but they could also influence your career possibilities.

At the moment you may not be sure about the work you eventually want to do. Even if you do know you may change your mind over the next few years. It does make extremely good sense for you to choose a range of subjects that will give you a flexible and balanced course. The way we have arranged the core subjects helps you to do this.

How should I choose my options?

Good reasons for making a particular choice are because you like a subject, because you are good at it or because you will need it for your future job.

Do not take a subject just because you like a particular teacher – they may not teach you next year. Also avoid taking a particular subject just because most of your friends have chosen it. You will need to think carefully about your choices. You will need to discuss your options with your parents.

You might want to speak to the Careers Advisor **Mrs Nicola Edwards** nicola.edwards@careerswales.com you can also access further information via the Careers Wales website (www.careerswales.com).

If the subject you want to study is new to you, you may want to talk to the teacher of that subject. If you or your parents have any queries at all, please do not hesitate to contact:

Deputy Headteacher - Mrs L Carroll
carrolll15@hwbcymru.net

RSL – Mrs F Daniels danielsf4@hwbcymru.net

Y8LL – Mr J Williams williamsj1245@hwbcymru.net

Either by email or at the school - 01792 410 400.

For pupils in Year 8, the choosing of option subjects is an extremely important task. Great care and thought must be put into the process.

Not only will your choices determine the work you do over the next two years, but also it could influence your career possibilities.

The Different Types of Qualifications

Qualification level	Achievement level	Examples of qualifications at this level
Level 1	Basic knowledge, understanding and skills and the ability to apply learning to everyday situations	All GCSE grades D-G , BTEC and OCR courses at Level 1.
Level 2	Building knowledge and/or skills in relation to subject or sector areas; gaining the ability to apply learning to a varied range of tasks. This is seen as the minimum level expected by employers and is critical to going on to further study and higher level skills	All GCSE grades A*-C , BTECs, Cambridge Nationals at Level 2.

What are BTEC Qualifications?

BTEC study options

The BTEC is suitable for students who wish to apply their knowledge and skills and is designed for those who are capable of achieving A* to C grade GCSE. It is ideal for students who wish to focus on a work-related vocational qualification or work area.

How you will be assessed

BTEC qualifications are delivered and assessed by staff. These may include projects, presentations, speeches and case studies. Some BTECs require an examination, usually worth 20% of the overall grade to be completed. Students can gain a Pass, Merit or Distinction grade which are equivalent to C, B and A*/A GCSE grades.

Progression options

Successful students will usually progress to a Level 3 qualification such as an NVQ or BTEC National within the same occupational area. However some will use their qualification to gain employment in the same business sector or go on to study A levels.

The Welsh Bacalaureate

Course Outline

Through the Welsh Bacalaureate learners will raise their skills levels and confidence, enabling and empowering them to take their place as responsible and active citizens. Learners are provided with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of society, the community in which they live and an awareness of global issues, events and perspectives.

The Welsh Bacalaureate is based on a Skills Challenge Certificate alongside Supporting Qualifications. The requirements of both the Skills Challenge Certificate and Supporting Qualifications must be met in order to achieve the overarching Welsh Bacalaureate. The Skills Challenge Certificate is a GCSE equivalent qualification and is graded A* to C for level 2 learners and Pass / Pass* for level 1 learners.

The Skills Challenge Certificate consists of four components which are followed by all learners:

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

The combined outcomes of the four components will determine whether the Skills Challenge Certificate is awarded at National (level 2) or Foundation (level 1) level.

The Supporting Qualifications include two mandatory GCSEs of English Language together with either Mathematics-Numeracy or Mathematics GCSE. A further three GCSEs are also required, of which two may be of equivalent qualifications.

WJEC Level 2 Vocational ICT

The qualification will allow learners to develop skills in understanding and analysing data and in developing a range of digital products and assets that meet the needs of audiences and users, as well as allowing learners to explore the ways in which digital technologies change and enhance communications between people. This will include the building of mobile apps and websites.

HOW COULD IT HELP WITH MY FUTURE?

Become independent, confident and knowledgeable users of existing, new and emerging digital technologies; Develop a knowledge of the digital technology systems used by a wide variety of organisations; Understand the impact digital technologies can have on individuals and wider society and the ways in which they can bring about change; Develop skills in researching and exploring issues before finding and implementing solutions to them;

Assessment

- 1 x practical pieces of coursework, worth 60% of the final grade.
- 1 x onscreen theory exam worth 40% of the overall grade

There is further opportunity to choose Creative IMedia and GCSE Computer Science as option subjects to study.

When you are making your choices you should use all the available resources to help you. Don't decide to take a subject just because your friends are taking it

This booklet is designed to help you in making your choices. You will find the content of each subject outlined on the following pages.

You will also find at the bottom of each subject description a teacher or group of teachers who will be able to help you. You could also ask your present class teacher.

As you read through this booklet have a piece of paper and a pencil with you. You may have questions to ask. Write down any questions you have – so you don't forget.

You must select your options using the Careers Wales website www.careerswales.com which can be accessed through the schools website. You will be provided with a tuition lesson to enable you to use this website effectively.

What do I do now?

- 1. Read this booklet with your parents/carers**
- 2. Choose 4 or 5 subjects that you are interested in**
- 3. Discuss these choices with your teachers in school**

The following pages contain information about each of the subjects that can be chosen for study at KS4.

At the end of the options process you will settle on 3 subjects to study as option subjects.

GCSE Art and Design

Optional Subjects

With a few exceptions, everything made by man is designed by an artist, from architecture to fashion design, from furniture to landscape design, from interiors to jewellery design and photography to graphics and publishing. The huge range of Art careers and further education courses available require a diverse and broad approach at GCSE.

Students considering Art as an option should demonstrate an ability using a range of skills and different media. Enthusiasm is essential, as is an imaginative and creative approach. Students must be able and prepared to work independently, and will explore a wide range of exciting techniques, ideas and materials throughout the course. 2D and 3D methods will be explored such as printmaking, ceramics, painting, drawing, sculpture, glass and wire work.



Career Opportunities

This course provides a creative grounding and appropriately leads you to A level and beyond to a whole plethora of fantastic career opportunities.

Viable and rewarding careers in Art include opportunities within commercial and industrial applications.

Popular careers include: Painter, Sculptor, Animator, Graphic Designer, Ceramicist, Jeweller, Architect, Fashion and Textile Designer, Interior Designer, Photographer, Film Producer, Illustrator and many more. Just look around you; every aspect of life, from clothes to buildings, books to cars, contains artistic input at some level.

All Art careers demand commitment, perseverance, originality, good communication skills and good qualifications.

Assessment:

Coursework = 60 %

Practical Exam Task = 40 %

Work will be assessed on:

- Drawing and recording from experience and observation
- Artist studies, written analysis and links to own practical work
- Development of ideas through media and processes
- Personal response in final piece
- Written annotation throughout units of work, demonstrating understanding of own work and ideas.

You will complete a practical exam, in the form of another project.

Further information

Mrs C. Jones

jonesc2360@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Art & Design Textiles

Optional Subjects

Textiles is intended for those candidates who are interested in an Art & Design course which relates specifically to the investigation, understanding and different materials, their surface qualities, structures and textural qualities.

This is an innovative course aimed at pupils who wish to develop their skills and understanding of various textile and fashion styles through practical application.

The content will include elements of painting and drawing in order to then interpret these images into textile decoration, fashion design and interior design. Students are expected to provide clear evidence of the use of ICT to further develop their own work by using image creation, image manipulation and digital photography.

Topics covered

Candidates should demonstrate an expressive and decorative response through the use of fabrics, dyes and fibres. Areas of study might include

- fashion studies`
- domestic textiles
- surface decoration
- garment decoration, body adornment and accessories
- stagecraft, theatre and costume design
- textile sculpture



Career Opportunities

Fashion Design, Costume & Theatre Design, Interior Design, International Fashion Buying & Marketing, Fashion Buyer, Fashion Marketing, Fashion Journalism, Fashion Photography, Textile Design, Textile Technology, Surface Pattern Design.

Students who wish to further their studies can progress to Advanced Level in Fashion & Textiles.

This course is suitable for both male and female students.

Assessment:

Coursework = 60 %

Practical Exam Task = 40 %

Work will be assessed on:

- Drawing and recording from experience and observation
- Artist studies, written analysis and links to own practical work
- Development of ideas through media and processes
- Personal response in final piece
- Written annotation throughout units of work, demonstrating understanding of own work and ideas.

You will complete a practical exam, in the form of another project.

Further information

Mrs K. Bowen

bowenk33@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Art and Design Photography

Optional Subjects

Photography GCSE provides pupils with the opportunity to explore their creativity through the use of a digital camera. Pupils are introduced to the functions and settings of a digital camera and are encouraged to use the skills and knowledge they have acquired to produce successful digital imagery. Pupils will need to independently take their own photos outside of school, as well as taking part in class photoshoots and school visits to different locations, to build up their own photography portfolio. Areas of study that pupils may wish to pursue include:

- Portraiture
- Landscape photography
- Still life photography
- Documentary photography
- Fine art
- Computer manipulated photography



Career Opportunities

For those of you who consider yourselves to be artistic with a good eye for detail there is a wealth of opportunity in this field.

Popular careers include: Animator, Graphic Designer, Fashion and Textile Designer, Interior Designer, Photographer, Film Producer, Illustrator and many more.

Assessment:

Coursework = 60 %

Practical Exam Task = 40 %

Work will be assessed on:

- Recording of experiences and observation through own photography
- Artist studies, written analysis and links to own practical work
- Development of ideas through media and processes
- Personal response in final piece
- Written annotation throughout units of work, demonstrating understanding of own work and ideas.

You will complete a practical exam, in the form of another project.

Further information

Mrs C. Jones

ionesc2360@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Digital Technology

Optional Subjects

The qualification will allow learners to develop skills in understanding and analysing data and in developing a range of digital products and assets that meet the needs of audiences and users, as well as allowing learners to explore the ways in which digital technologies change and enhance communications between people.

The digital products that you will design and create include, Digital graphics, websites, social media advertising campaign and a digital game.

Topics Covered

- Game design and creation.
- Data organisation and analytics.
- The Digital world – what are digital technology systems and how they affect our lives?
- Social media and online marketing communications.
- Creating digital assets and planning digital communications.

Students will gain experience using a variety of software including Spreadsheets, website editors, Game creation and digital image editing

HOW COULD IT HELP WITH MY FUTURE?

Become independent, confident and knowledgeable users of existing, new and emerging digital technologies;

Develop a knowledge of the digital technology systems used by a wide variety of organisations; Understand the impact digital technologies can have on individuals and wider society and the ways in which they can bring about change; Develop skills in researching and exploring issues before finding and implementing solutions to them.

Assessment

Unit 1 The Digital World
onscreen exam – 40%

Unit 2 Digital practices NEA – 40%

Unit 3 Communicating in a digital world NEA – 20%

Further Information

Mr S. Ellett

elletts@hwbcymru.net



GCSE Computer Science

Optional Subjects

This exciting GCSE gives you an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work and how they're used, and to develop computer programming and problem-solving skills. You'll also do some fascinating in-depth research and practical work. For example, some of the current investigations look at JavaScript, encryption and assembly language programming.

The course will help you learn about critical thinking, analysis and problem solving. We hope you'll find it a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can also be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life. This will also include designing and creating your own computer games.

- think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science.
- understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including; abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation
- analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs to do so

HOW COULD IT HELP WITH MY FUTURE?

If you take a GCSE in Computing and then go on to study the subject at A Level or university, you'll have an advantage over fellow students who are picking up the subject at these higher levels.

The increasing importance of information technologies means there'll be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this field.

Assessment

The course is assessed through the completion of 2 controlled assessments (60%) and 2 written papers (40%).

Further Information

Mr S. Ellett

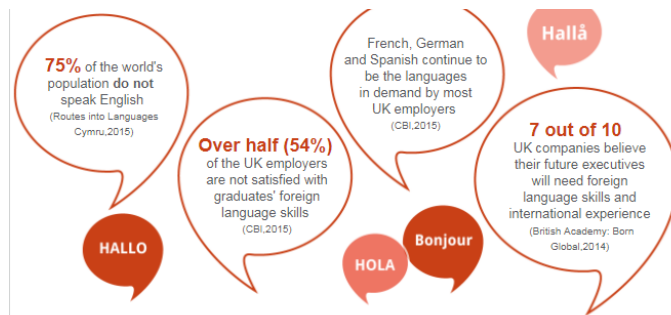
elletts@hwbcymru.net



GCSE in Spanish

Optional Subjects

During Key Stage 3, you have had the opportunity to study introductory Spanish. You now have the opportunity to continue to more advanced language and also discover Hispanic culture and traditions.



These days there are many employers who require qualifications in a modern foreign language such as Tourist Information Officers, Airline Pilots, Cabin crew, Hoteliers, Managers and Receptionists, Banking, Chefs, Bar Staff, Solicitors, Royal Air Force, Navy, Army, Waiters and Waitresses, Health/community/social services, Teachers, IT, Law, Business.

Many Spanish companies have bases in the South Wales area and employ local people who can speak Spanish.

SPANISH COMPANIES BASED IN SOUTH WALES

- CAF Rail UK Ltd (Newport)
- Admiral PLC / Admiral Group, PLC (Swansea and Cardiff)
- WWS Scenery Manufacturer (Neath)

A qualification in Spanish could well be the one thing to give you the edge at a college/university or job interview. A language qualification will always be advantageous and can often open doors, leading to opportunities to live, work or study abroad.

Assessment:

During your KS4 studies, You will develop your understanding of the language and use it for practical communication. Key skills – Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking and Translating – will all be assessed by examination at the end of year 11. Each paper (R, W, L, S) account for 25% of your overall grade.

Topics covered:

- Technology and social media
- Food and drink
- Holidays and tourism
- Festivals and celebrations
- Employment and career plans

Further information

Miss K. James

jamesk62@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Business

Optional Subjects

Do you have dreams of running your own business; will you be part of the next generation of successful entrepreneurs?

GCSE Business is a vocational subject that will help you to develop a range of skills and knowledge needed in the business world today. You will find out about different types of businesses, what they do and what people's jobs involve. You will learn practical skills like how to handle financial documents, how to go about promoting an event or product, how to provide good customer service and how to provide a presentation to an audience.

GCSE Business will not only equip you with the skills for future employment, but it will also help you to develop a range of transferable skills useful elsewhere. These include initiative, problem solving and decision making. GCSE Business will complement a number of other GCSE subjects including ICT and Product Design.

The content is presented in six topic areas:

- ❖ Business activity
- ❖ Influences on business
- ❖ Business operations
- ❖ Finance
- ❖ Marketing
- ❖ Human resources



Career Opportunities

The demand for business skills continues to grow. The Welsh Assembly Government is keen to develop entrepreneurship in Wales. GCSE Business will provide a basis for the study of a number of subjects at Advanced level including Business Studies and Economics. Leading to study of a range of business based courses at degree level including Fashion Management, Hospitality and Tourism and Sport science. Career options are vast and include Retail Management, Law, Marketing and Accounting.

Assessment:

You will carry out examinations worth 100% in order to cover the assessment criteria for this course.

Further information

Mr J. Williams

williamsj1245@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Health and Social Care, and Childcare

Optional Subjects

Students will have the opportunity to develop their understanding of influences on human growth, development, behaviour and well-being. They will also gain an 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. Students will gain an understanding of how service provision in Wales supports the development and well-being of individuals, to be able to make informed decisions now and in later life.

Assessment and Examinations

Students will have the opportunity to either study for the single award (1 GCSE) or double award (2GCSEs)

Single Award: 60% 1 Unit of coursework
40% External Examination

Double Award: 60% 2 units of coursework
40% 2 External Examinations



Career opportunities

In the health and social care sector, typical employment opportunities may be as an apprentice or in a supervised entry role in a health care professional field such as nursing, care of the elderly or young people. This qualification provides learners with a taste of what the health and social care sector is like, enabling them to make informed choices about their future career.

Progression post 16:

This specification provides a suitable foundation for the study of Health and Social Care, and Childcare at AS or A level.

In addition, this specification provides a suitable foundation for a range of Level 2 or Level 3 qualifications within the Health and Social Care, and Childcare suite, including:

- Level 2 Health and Social Care: Core
- Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Core.

This course is suitable for both male and female students.

By studying Health and Social Care, and Childcare students will be able to:

- Develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary issues.
- Actively engage in the study of health and social care, and childcare to develop as effective and independent learners, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.
- Appreciate a range of perspectives on the impacts of health and social care, and childcare services on wider society.

Further information

Mrs D. Howells

howellsd50@hwbcymru.net

BTEC L2 Award, Certificate and Extended Certificate in Enterprise Skills

Optional Subjects

All businesses need enterprising employees to drive their organisations forward, to have ideas and initiatives to instigate growth, and to ensure that businesses survive in this fast-changing world. Enterprise is a key government focus and is set to form an important part of the UK's global economic status, both now and in the future. Enterprise skills provide a fantastic progression pathway into several roles in an organisation and are transferable into all businesses.

Students will experience a wide variety of teaching approaches as well as standard classroom delivery. There will be small group work, class discussions and visiting speakers. There will be visits to some local firms. The course develops student's business acumen using a range of projects based on different business scenarios.

The BTEC Enterprise course is a practical work-related course. It is a good introduction into business and gives students the opportunity to develop both the skills and knowledge required for success in any business.

Aims

- provide learners with opportunities to link education and the world of work in engaging, relevant and practical ways
- enable learners to enhance their English and mathematical competence in relevant, applied scenarios
- support learners' development of transferable interpersonal skills, including working with others, problem-solving, independent study, and personal, learning and thinking skills
- provide learners with a route through education that has clear progression pathways into further study or an apprenticeship.

Assessment

100% Coursework – assessed by the subject teacher and externally verified.

Career opportunities

Following completion, successful candidates would be able to enter a Level 3 course with progression to relevant Business Studies related courses.

Further information

Mr J. Williams

williamsj1245@hwbcymru.net

BTEC Home Cooking Skills

Vocational Level 1-2 Hospitality and Catering

Optional Subjects

Understanding the importance of a healthy diet and lifestyle is essential for our wellbeing. It affects how we feel and how we perform in all aspects of our lives including our general health, self-esteem and our ability to learn. These courses are designed to develop a range of practical skills and to provide a good foundation of knowledge and understanding of the Hospitality and Catering Industry.

These exciting and challenging courses are designed to educate learners in 3 key areas including:

- Home Cooking Skills – development of practical skills and presentation techniques
- The Hospitality and Catering Industry – Unit 1
- Hospitality and Catering in Action – Unit 2

Pupils will have the opportunity to learn how to produce high quality practical outcomes including sweet and savoury dishes in our brand new facility. It should however be understood that the course has a significant amount of written work and that there is a regular financial obligation to buy ingredients for the course.



Career opportunities

Qualifications in this area can lead to a career in the following fields:

Food and Nutrition Management, Public Health, Nutrition, Chef, Hospitality and Events Catering, Sports Science, Sports Coaching, Education and Research, Health Professional including: Doctor, Paediatrics, Food Technologist, Health Promotion Specialist, Nutritionist, Nurse, Nutritional Therapist, Social Worker

This course is suitable for both male and female students.

Year 9 – BTEC Home Cooking Skills

(Equivalent to ½ a GCSE)
Skills based course with a focus on cooking.

Year 10-11 – Vocational Level 1-2 Hospitality and Catering

(equivalent to 1 GCSE)

Written Exam – 40%
Coursework and practical – 60%

Further information

Parents are more than welcome to contact

Mrs G. Ostad

Teacher of Food and Nutrition
ostadg@hwbcymru.net

Mrs D. Howells

AOLE Lead
howellsd50@hwbcymru.net

BTEC Public Services

BTEC Level 2 Certificate and Diploma in Preparation for Public Services

Optional Subjects

BTEC Public Services is a popular and successful option at key stage four. The course is designed to provide students with a wide variety of skills that are essential for careers in a range of Public Sector jobs, such as the Fire Service, Police Force, Armed Forces, Education and Health and Social work. We currently study the latest Edexcel BTEC level 1/2 specification. The course is highly relevant and can be studied further at college (level 3) and degree level.

What's it all about?

In this course you will be learning about...

- The different public services and their work
- What working skills are used in the public services
- The importance of teamwork and communication skills
- Career planning and self-assessment for entry in the Public Services
- You will also participate in public service fitness tests

Ways you can help your child

Your child will enjoy Public Services if they are interested in a career working with and for the public. Jobs range from working in the armed forces to uniformed services such as the police force and fire service. There are a range of non-uniformed roles such as social work and teaching that may interest your child in the future.

This BTEC in Public Services is a great route into these careers. Public Services can be studied as a level three course at Gower College and as a degree at university. There are over 5.7 million people employed in the public sector. In Wales 25.6% of people in work, work in the public services! The BTEC Public Services course is assessed through 100% coursework and so it is vital that your child keeps up to date with their work.

The first unit of work requires all students to work in various teams (not necessarily with their friends) to complete a number of tasks. It would be beneficial to encourage your child to participate fully in these tasks and to ensure that they are in school to take part in them. All students have to complete a minimum of two community tasks to pass the first unit of work. Students have to pass each unit to gain this qualification.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed by coursework.

- Public Service Skills and Support for the Community
- Employment Skills in Uniformed Organisations
- Health and Fitness for Entry into the Uniformed Public Services
- Activities and Teamwork for the Public Services
- Driving in the Public Services

Further information

Mrs D Howells

AOLE Lead

howellsd50@hwbcymru.net



GCSE Physical Education

Optional Subjects

GCSE Physical Education is a diverse and exciting course to follow. Students who are keen to learn more about the theory behind sport and then apply this knowledge in a wide range of activities will find it very rewarding.

This course is very much aimed at those who want to teach/coach and assist others to become better sports performers. It will also further aid those who wish to become physiotherapists or sports psychologists. During the course students will follow both theoretical and practical aspects of Physical Education.

Theoretical Aspects

There are three main areas of study:

- Exercise and training; looking at health, fitness, types of training, diet, health and hygiene
- Safety aspects and risk assessment; prevention of injury and sports injuries
- Applied anatomy and physiology; covering the body systems, bones, joints, tendons and ligaments, muscles and muscle action

Practical Performance

This area of the course complements the theory work and enables the students to develop their understanding in practical situations. Students will experience activity in lifesaving/ swimming, football, rugby/ netball, rounders, fitness, rock climbing and badminton. Other sports may be offered depending on the needs of the group. Students will be assessed on: their ability to demonstrate correct techniques, their level of performance in each sport, their understanding of rules and tactics and their ability to observe and analyse students in action.

Assessment and Examinations

- Coursework, a controlled assessment of a personal exercise plan, practical performances and analysis of performance counts for 50% of the final mark
- Assessment is carried out constantly by your teachers and a one day practical assessment takes place by an external moderator
- Students are encouraged to play for school teams to improve their standards of competitive performance
- Theory work is assessed at the end of the course by a written 1¾ hour exam

Career opportunities

Following completion, successful candidates would be able to enter a Level 3 course with progression to a sports science field such as Physiotherapy, coaching, personal training etc.

Further information

Mr Morris or Mrs Hill

morrisj252@hwbcymru.net

hillj88@hwbcymru.net

BTEC Performing Arts

Optional Subjects

The Performing Arts is a live, current and responsive industry that reflects and impacts changes in society through theatre, TV, film, radio and a range of other mediums. Participation in the Performing Arts ignites creativity, confidence and critical thinking skills and promotes positive physical health and mental wellbeing. As a result, there are a multitude of job roles within this industry that are both challenging and rewarding.

In Performing Arts, you will take part in practical and theory sessions in the Performing Arts studio where you will have full access to space and resources; lighting rig and sound system to produce your assessed productions. The course is split into three components where you will study a range of theatre styles and pieces such as Verbatim Theatre, Musical Theatre, Physical Theatre, Naturalistic Theatre and Epic Theatre. You will have the opportunity to develop your presentation, acting and interpretation skills as well as your knowledge of technical theatre design skills.

Future Considerations

This course can lead on to further study of Performing Arts, Acting, Directing and Production courses at level 3 or A-Level Drama, Performing Arts or Theatre Studies. It also supports the study of English literature.

Performing Arts Industry Specific Careers: performer (stage/ TV/ film), presenter (TV/radio), director, choreographer, producer, marketing and publicity, lighting, set or sound designer, costume or make-up designer, drama therapist, camera operator/film crew.

How this qualification relates to careers outside of the Performing Arts Industry: This course offers knowledge, training and skills to develop creative and critical thinking: relevant not only for the Performing Arts industry but transferrable to any other career too! You will develop lifelong and transferable skills such as public speaking, critical thinking, creative thinking and problem solving, working to set briefs and time limits, communication, collaboration and resilience; relevant skills that universities and employers look for.



WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award Assessment:

Unit 1: Performing

Internal Assessment 30%

Unit 2: Creating

Internal Assessment 30%

Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

External Assessment 40%

Further information

Mrs F. Williams

williamsf269@hwbcymru.net



GCSE Music

Optional Subjects

This GCSE covers three different musical units; Composing, Appraising and Performing
EXAM BOARD – WJEC

Unit 1 – Performing (35%)

- As a soloist
- As part of a group
- Any style of music is permitted, with DJ-ing, rapping and beat boxing now included in this section.
- The writing of programme notes for one of your performance pieces.

Unit 2 = Composing (35%)

- Composing a piece in response to a brief set by WJEC
- Free composition relating to one of the four areas of study (see unit 3).



Unit 3 – Appraising (30%)

Area of study 1 – Musical Forms and Devices.
Area of study 2 – Music for Ensemble.
Area of study 3 – Film Music
Area of study 4 – Popular Music

This unit is assessed via a listening examination.



Why study GCSE Music?

- You enjoy listening to music
- You are creative
- You can critically analyse/comment on a wide range of music.
- You are learning to play an instrument or enjoy singing
- You have some ideas for song writing or enjoy making up songs/ musical pieces
- You want to do a practical subject
- You are involved in Rock Band, Choir, String group or other musical groups in and out of school

Career Opportunities

A GCSE in Music will develop your skills as a musician, both as a performer and composer. It will develop your knowledge of important musical styles, musicians, composers and bands. GCSE music will also allow you to appreciate a broad spectrum of music and considerably develop your aural skills. It will also display to prospective employers that you are a 'team player'.

This qualification will lead on to:

Music technology qualifications Post 16 AS/ A level Music.

A career as a musician/ composer/ song writer.
A career in the Arts industry such as producer, sound engineer or agent.

How are you assessed?

Performance is assessed through a performance on your chosen instrument in a controlled environment. Including a solo and group performance, the overall timing should total 6 minutes. The actual performance is 30% of the overall examination and 5% is given for your programme notes.

Composition is assessed through coursework undertaken throughout the two year programme. The total duration time of compositions should last between 3 – 6 minutes. 30% of the overall qualification is allocated to your compositions, with a further 5 % awarded for your written evaluation of your work.

Appraising is assessed through a listening examination and forms the remaining 30% of the overall qualification

Further information

Mr N Kiley kileyn@hwbcymru.net

GCSE History

Optional Subjects

If you enjoy learning about the past, then you will enjoy GCSE History. In GCSE History we not only aim to foster a life-long enjoyment of learning but aim to equip you with skills that you can use in your future studies and careers. You will:

- Improve your knowledge and understanding of the past
- Improve your literacy skills
- Improve your skills of investigation, analysis and interpretation
- Be able to evaluate a range of information
- Improve your communication skills
- Create research and presentation tasks

GCSE History is a challenging, yet very rewarding, subject. It is always a popular subject with pupils at Pentrehafod with very solid results.

Overview of content

At GCSE level you will study the following units:

- Changes in Health and Medicine c.1340 – present day (30% exam)
- Germany in Transition 1919-1939 (25% exam)
- Depression, War and Recovery 1930-1951 (25% exam)
- World War I Controlled Assessment (20% written coursework)



Career Opportunities

GCSE History helps to develop skills required for a variety of career paths such as the following:-

- Tourism ▪Television ▪Law ▪Journalist ▪Media Researcher ▪Social Worker ▪Writer ▪Social Worker
- Social Media Manager ▪Website Editor ▪Museum Curator ▪Project Manager ▪Government ▪Police
- Architect ▪Archaeologist ▪Banking ▪Teaching (primary or secondary) ▪Lecturing ▪Accountancy

Should I take History?

If you are interested in stories of the past, have strong literacy skills and are prepared to work hard then yes!

We encourage pupils who gain a high end of year level to take this subject.

Further information

Miss R. Evans

evansr107@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Geography

Optional Subjects

Is Geography a good choice at GCSE?

If you enjoy Geography and are good at it – then take the subject at GCSE! You are more likely to obtain your best results in a subject you enjoy and are good at! You are at the stage of choosing to study the subject further within the school curriculum; however, in a few years' time you may be planning to go to university. Many of the universities in Wales and England are now offering places for certain courses such as law to students who have studied subjects such as Geography at GCSE and A Level.

Is Geography a good choice in terms of getting a job in the future?

The answer is YES!!! The skills you use in your geographical studies make you of potential interest to a wide range of employers. Compared to other subjects, Geographers are among the most employable. They possess the skills that employers look for. In part this is because the subject combines knowledge of Science and an understanding of the Arts.

What would I study?

<p>Unit 1 Changing Physical and Human Landscapes</p> <p>Theme 1: Landscapes and Physical Processes.</p> <p>Theme 2: Rural-Urban Links</p> <p>Theme 3: Tectonic Landscapes and Hazards.</p> <p>Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes. 40% of qualification.</p>	<p>Unit 2 Environmental and Development Issues</p> <p>Theme 4: Weather, Climate and Ecosystems</p> <p>Theme 5: Development and Resource Issues</p> <p>Theme 6: Social Development Issues</p> <p>Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes. 40% of qualification</p>
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Who can do Geography?

If you choose to do Geography you must be prepared to work hard and at a fast pace! There is a large amount of literacy and numeracy involved within the WJEC Geography course. We encourage pupils who gain a high (Levels 6 or 7) End of Year Level to take this subject.

Career Opportunities

- Travel Agent • Tourism Officer • Eco-tourism Advisor
- Tour Guide • Media Researcher • Social Worker
- Planner • Market Researcher • Housing Officer
- Estate Agent • Meteorologist • Disaster Manager
- Flood Prevention Officer • Water Supply Coordinator
- Estate Manager • Forestry Ranger • Environmental Consultant
- Pollution Analyst • Conservation Officer
- Volcanologist • Geologist • Coastal Manager • Civil Engineer • Banking • Teaching (primary or secondary)

Further information

Mr M James

jamesm241@hwbcymru.net

Assessment:

Unit 3 Fieldwork Enquiry

A non-examination assessment set by the WJEC. This unit will make up 20% of the final grade and is completed after pupils attend both urban and physical fieldwork in Year 10. The non-examination assessment is completed in Year 11.

As stated above, Unit 1 and Unit 2 will be assessed through written examinations which will be 1½ hours long. Each paper is worth 40% of the qualification. The Fieldwork Report will make up the final 20% and will be carried out in Year 11.

GCSE Sociology

Optional Subjects

Sociology considers **how** society works. It will help you to understand how individuals fit into a wider social network and encourage you to question beliefs about society which you may previously have taken for granted.

Sociologists are interested in **why** society works in the way it does.

Sociology is about your life and the world around you. It is a subject that you will have experience of and one that will help you understand many aspects of your own future. You can bring your **own life experiences and ideas** into the classroom in a way you might not be able to in other subjects.

You will need an **open and enquiring mind**. Some things that you "know" aren't always entirely accurate. You will need to view society from **different viewpoints** and will be challenged to 'think outside the box' about our lives and the world around us.

Unit One: Understanding Social Processes

Exam in year 10:1 hr 45 min

(worth 50% of your overall GCSE grade)

- Culture, norms, identity and values—where do they come from?
- The role of the family—diversity, structures, changes, issues and viewpoints
- The role of education— processes, patterns and factors that affect achievement in schools (social class, ethnicity, gender)
- Research methods—How & why do Sociologists conduct research on the world around us?

Unit Two: Understanding Social Structures

Exam in year 11:1 hr 45 min

(worth 50% of your overall GCSE grade)

- Who really holds power in society?
- Does everyone get an equal chance in life? Equality and inequality in society (class, gender, ethnicity, age, disability and sexuality)
- Crime and Deviance—social control, patterns, factors and viewpoints on criminality
- Research methods—Conducting your own sociological study

What career might it lead to?

There are many careers where a qualification in Sociology is useful:

- Police Force
- Health Care
- Prison Service
- Social Work
- Charity Work
- Journalism
- Teaching
- Social Services



Further information

Mr M James

jamesm241@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Design Technology Product Design

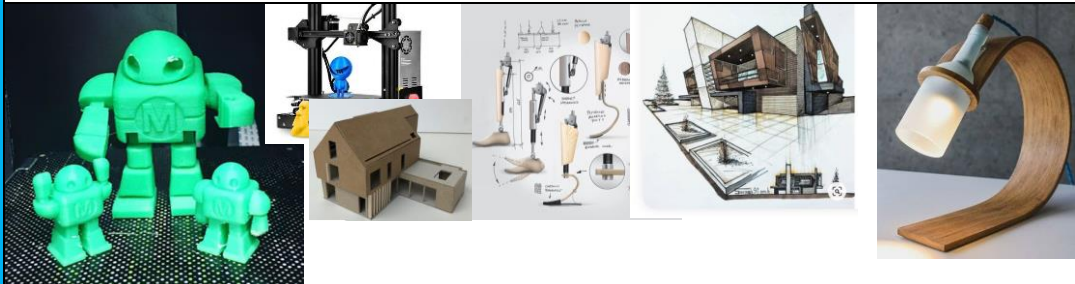
Optional Subjects

This GCSE course is ideal if you enjoy designing and making, using a wide range of materials and processes.

We follow an iterative design process and learn to problem solve with innovative solutions.

It is a challenging and exciting subject, which demands a great deal. You need to show your knowledge, understanding and skills in the numerous areas of work and highlight your intellectual, creative and practical skills in order to achieve your true potential. A high degree of personal commitment is required in order to complete the work to a high standard.

When you study Product Design you will be working our studio-workshop. You will develop a range of design strategies and practical skills. You will utilise Computer Aided Design-CAD, and Computer Aided Manufacture- CAM producing a variety of products using the Laser cutter and 3D Printer as well as more traditional skills in working wood, plastic and metal in the workshop.



Career opportunities

A Product Design GCSE can help with careers in **Industrial Design, Furniture Design, Architectural Design, Engineering, Automotive Design and Building and Construction.**

We are in partnership with **The College of Engineering at Swansea University** as well as **Buckingham Group Construction.**

This means plenty of opportunity to be part of projects to prepare you for the vast array of careers that Product Design can lead to.

The course provides a pathway into A Level Product Design in Sixth Form Colleges in Wales.

Year 9/10 – Skills Focus.

Tree House- Laser
Clock Project- Hand tools
Chess Board - 3D Printing
Lamp Project – Mixed

Assessment: WJEC

Year 11

Design & Make Task 50%.
Examination 50%.

Further information

Mrs Vaughan-Williams

vaughanwilliamss5@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Triple Science

Optional Subjects

Studying GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all learners will be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Key ideas include:

- The use of conceptual models and theories to make sense of the observed diversity of natural phenomena.
- The assumption that every effect has one or more cause.
- That change is driven by differences between different objects and systems when they interact.
- That science progresses through a cycle of hypothesis, practical experimentation, observation, theory development and review.
- That quantitative analysis is a central element both of many theories and of scientific methods of inquiry.



Career Opportunities

Obtaining triple science will allow progression to A level sciences and careers linked heavily to science, these include:

- Doctor
- Dentist
- Engineer
- Chemist
- Nurse

Assessment:

Each separate GCSE will comprise of 2 exams and 1 Non exam assessment, the breakdown as follows:
Unit 1 – Exam (45%)
Unit 2 – Exam (45%)
Unit 3 – Practical Assessment NEA (10%)
Please note the above is for EACH separate qualification.

Further information Mr. J. Jones

jonesj264@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Media Studies

Optional Subjects

We engage with the media every day of our lives. **Media Studies** is a discipline and field of study that deals with the content, history, and effects of various media. In this option, students will be required to think carefully about the meaning behind the messages we see in the ever-changing forms of media we are exposed to, including how that meaning is constructed and communicated.

Throughout GCSE Media Studies, we will develop analytical and creative skills by closely examining media products and their messages, including representation of genders, issues and social groups. We will go on to test our knowledge in a practical context by creating our own products with messages of our own. Students who wish to choose GCSE Media Studies should show enthusiasm for learning about the modern media, an enquiring mind and a willingness to think critically!



Career Opportunities

GCSE Media Studies could be the first step to a rewarding career in creative industries in Wales. Creative industries in Wales employ over 56,000 people and have grown by 40% since 2010.

Students will have to opportunity to develop important skills relevant to an evolving digital media world such as:

- Critical analysis
- Pre-production planning
- Independent Research
- Problem solving
- Reflection & Evaluation

Assessment:

Exam Tasks = 60 %

Unit 1: Exploring the Media (90 minute examination).

Unit 2: Understanding television and film (90 minute examination).

Coursework = 40 %

Unit 3: Research, production and evaluation of a media product (film trailer or music video).

Further information

Mr. Corey Hughes

HughesC1032@hwbcymru.net

GCSE Statistics

Optional Subjects

Statistics is about making decisions where there is uncertainty. Perhaps one of the most versatile areas of maths, it gives students the skills to collect, analyse, interpret and present data. Topics are clearly and logically structured and include: investigations, hypothesis testing, data collection, charts and diagrams, sampling, measures and probability.

It complements subjects such as GCSE Biology, Psychology, Geography, Business and Economics.

Assessment and Examinations

100% examination. All specification content can be assessed.

Paper 1: Written examination, 1 hour 45 minutes
80 marks
50% of GCSE

Paper 2: Written examination, 1 hour 45 minutes
80 marks
50% of GCSE



Questions are a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and a Statistical Enquiry Cycle (SEC) question.

Career opportunities

GCSE Statistics opens the door to a variety of careers:

- Biological sciences
- Business analyst
- Accountant
- Economist
- Financial manager
- Insurance underwriter
- Statistician
- Investment analyst
- Actuary
- Operational researcher
- Researcher
- Weather forecasting

By studying Statistics students will learn how to:

- Plan an investigation
- Recognise and interpret different types of data
- Data collection techniques
- Identify trends
- Calculate moving averages
- Use probability distributions
- Conduct practical investigations
- Analyse diagrammatic data



Statistical Distributions

$x = \sqrt{ab}$
Geometric & Weighted Mean

Correlation & Regression

Standard Deviation

GCSE STATISTICS

Further information

Mrs C. Dixon

DixonC16@hwbcymru.net

BTEC First Travel and Tourism

Optional Subjects

The qualification provides an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of travel and tourism giving students the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. Students will explore some of the key areas within the sector, including accommodation, tourism development and promotion, transport and visitor attractions. Students will investigate the importance of the travel and tourism sector to the UK, and investigate different types of customer and UK destinations. Students will also have the opportunity to study international travel and tourism. Students will develop key skills, such as research, report drafting and writing skills and project management.

The qualification is the same size and level as a GCSE and is aimed at everyone who wants to find out more about the travel and tourism industry.

Students will study the following three mandatory units, covering the underpinning knowledge and practical skills required to work in the industry:

- UK travel and tourism sector
- UK travel and tourism destinations
- the travel and tourism customer experience

Students will choose one further unit from two optional units, covering more specific aspects of the global travel and tourism sector. These are:

- international travel and tourism destinations
- factors affecting worldwide travel and tourism

Assessment and Examination

Students will carry out tasks/assignments throughout the course which are teacher assessed.

For the assessment for Unit 3: The Travel and Tourism Customer Experience, students will be able to draw on the knowledge, skills and understanding they have developed in the qualification as a whole.

The assessment for Unit 1: The UK Travel and Tourism Sector, is a test that is sent away to be marked. This test includes multiple-choice and open-ended-response questions based on main types of tourism in the UK and the different component industries that make up the UK travel and tourism sector

Where can this qualification take me?

The sector-specific skills and knowledge will provide a sound basis for progression to further study of this sector at level 3 through a vocational qualification such as a BTEC National in Travel and Tourism, or an apprenticeship in either travel and tourism or hospitality.

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Travel and Tourism provides the knowledge, understanding and skills for Level 2 learners to progress to:

- other Level 2 vocational qualifications
- Level 3 vocational qualifications, such as BTEC Nationals, specifically the Pearson BTEC Level 3 in Travel and Tourism
- related academic qualifications. Learners who achieve the qualification at Level 1 may progress to related Level 2 vocational or academic qualifications, such as BTECs and GCSEs.

Further information

Mrs D. Howells

howellsd50@hwbcymru.net

