

## **FOREWORD**

Students in Year 9 have reached the point in their school careers when first thoughts about further education, careers and training begin to take shape.

The second stage of this process happens as they reach the age of 16 in Year 11 when an overwhelming number choose to continue their education post-16. The days when young people of whatever aspirations walked out of school and looked for a job without further training are gone.

Between now and Year 11 most students' ideas about what subjects they like, what they are good at and what they might consider doing in the future will change. For this reason it is important for students to keep as broad a range of subjects as possible. The next two years in a young person's education are not the last lap but the entry into the next phase.

Students who enter Year 10 next year are able to exercise a fairly open choice over the subjects they take. They will be encouraged to follow an individual learning pathway; this is good news for many, though not without its dangers. I believe that it is in the interests of the vast majority of our young people to take a combination of courses to 16 which will preserve breadth and balance. Accordingly, we shall be guiding the choices that students make to ensure that they have a balanced curriculum.

There is a common core which all must take consisting of English, Mathematics, Science, Personal and Social Education, Religious Education, Physical Education and Welsh. In addition students will be able to make four choices, though it should be noted that if a subject attracts very few choices it may be uneconomical to provide it.

Our Key Stage 4 curriculum provides a good range of choice. A number of new subjects is on offer and students need to find out as much as they can about these courses before making their choices. The developments in 14-19 education in Wrexham have also enabled us to extend our option menu to include subjects available at other educational venues within the Wrexham area.

From September 2010 we will be offering the Welsh Baccaalaureate qualification to all Year 10 learners. This is an exciting qualification which adds a valuable new dimension to the courses already available to 14-19 year old students. The academic qualifications which young people gain are only a part of their education at Ysgol Rhiwabon. We take pride in the ways in which they are prepared for adult life; they are trained to develop skills of listening and responding with reasoned argument, to research their own material, to make decisions based on fact and informed judgement and to use ICT. Social skills, community activities and work experience are an essential part of their education during the next two years. The Welsh Baccaalaureate qualification recognises the importance of personal development skills and combines these with existing qualifications such as GCSEs to make one wider award that is valued by employers and universities.

I hope that parents and children will take time together to discuss the choices, and that you choose wisely and well. The staff at school are more than happy to help with any queries you or your child may have.

**Angela Williams**  
**Headteacher**

## **WHAT NOW?**

Read this booklet carefully so that you are aware of all the facts.

Talk to your parents and teachers about the subjects on offer in the booklet.

In the near future you will be making your choices on the Careers Wales website.

Once you have made your choices, you will have the opportunity to discuss them with one of our team of advisers which includes Mrs P Gooding, Mr J Hotchkiss, Mrs C Ballamy and Mrs S Cooper.

## **THE CURRICULUM**

### **YEAR 10**

**Core Curriculum:** compulsory for all students.

English

Mathematics

Science

Physical Education

Personal and Social Education

Religious Education (short course)

Welsh (Full or short course)

**Optional Courses:** Students choose subjects from the four option columns.

**LEVEL 2 COURSES – Courses offered at GCSE A\* - C grade or equivalent**

**LEVEL 1 COURSES – Courses offered at GCSE D – G grade or equivalent**

**ENTRY LEVEL COURSES – Courses offered below GCSE level**

**GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**(Entry level/level 1/level 2)**

The course seeks to develop in students:-

- (a) the ability to communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in speech and writing;
- (b) the ability to understand and respond imaginatively to what they hear, read and experience in a variety of media;
- (c) the capacity to enjoy and appreciate the reading of literature.

The syllabus will provide for a range of experiences of:-

- (a) oral communication
- (b) reading
- (c) writing.

This will involve sustained writing and sustained reading of various kinds, including the reading of whole works of literature.

**ASSESSMENT**

- (a) The assessment of written English will consist of:-
  - (i) Two examination papers (40%)
  - (ii) Coursework (30%)
- (b) The assessment of Spoken Language will be made during the course by the class teacher. This is worth 30% of the total allocation.

Good attendance is essential in order to complete all the components of the course.

Entry Level English will be offered to pupils who may find the demands of GCSE too great.

## **GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE (level 1 and level 2)**

Students will also follow a literature course which will lead to a separate GCSE qualification.

Pupils will study in depth a range of literary texts in Prose, Drama and Poetry (pre- and post-1914). A coursework assignment based on Poetry and Drama will be submitted for assessment.

Pupils will study a prescribed text in Prose, Drama and Poetry for the terminal examinations.

In doing so they will:-

- (i) develop their ability to read, understand, enjoy and respond to a variety of literary texts;
- (ii) develop their awareness of personal, social and cultural significances in the study of literature;
- (iii) develop their ability to construct and convey meaning in written and spoken language.

### **ASSESSMENT**

The assessment will be based on two examination papers and on coursework submission.

Examination 75%                      Coursework 25%.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS K HATFIELD**

## **GCSE MATHEMATICS** **(Entry level/level 1/level 2)**

All pupils will study Mathematics and will be taught in sets arranged according to ability. They will continue to work through the National Curriculum in Mathematics.

Most pupils will be entered for the WJEC GCSE Mathematics examination. This is a new course which will be introduced by the WJEC in September 2010. Entry Level Certificate in Mathematics will be offered as an alternative to those pupils for whom GCSE is inappropriate.

The GCSE syllabus has two overlapping tiers of entry.

Higher Tier (level 2)	A*	A	B	C	D			
Foundation Tier (level 1)				C	D	E	F	G

Assessment for both tiers will be through three written papers, sat during Years 10 and 11. The three units are

Unit 1 – Mathematics in Everyday Life

Unit 2 – Non-Calculator Mathematics

Unit 3 – Calculator-Allowed Mathematics

All pupils will require their own scientific calculators and basic mathematical instruments for use in lessons, examinations and for homework. Advice on suitable equipment and calculators is available from any Mathematics teacher.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS J ROBERTS**

### **GCSE SCIENCE (level 1 and level 2)**

Pupils will be sitting GCSE Single Award at the end of Year 10 at either Higher or Foundation Tier. They can attain a GCSE Award at the end of Year 10. They will study topics covering the three sciences – Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There will be practical exercises throughout Year 10 and the marks from these exercises contribute to the final GCSE grade.

In Year 11 pupils will sit a second GCSE in Science.

There is the opportunity for some pupils in Year 10 to study the three separate sciences at GCSE level. This means that they will be able to obtain a GCSE in Chemistry, Physics and Biology. A lot of extra work is involved in the study of this course, but it provides an excellent basis for the study of Science at Advanced level.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS G MANN**

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

#### **Course Details**

At Key Stage 4 students will have the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and understanding in a number of activities.

Students will be encouraged to develop a critical awareness of strengths, limitations and opportunities presented in challenging situations.

#### Assessment Criteria

Students will be assessed in

- Games
- Health-related exercise

#### Assessment Procedures

Assessment will be completed through a series of appropriate tests and/or teacher observations.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MR E PARTRIDGE**

### **WELSH BACCALAUREATE**

All students will follow the Welsh Baccalaureate course. This includes a study of Wales, Europe and the World, Work-Related Experience, Key Skills and PSHE.

### **PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION**

Pupils throughout the school study PSHE.

PSHE is taught in year teams by Year 9 form tutors, the Lead Learner and a member of the senior team. The PSE lessons take place on a rota basis, replacing normal lessons in the mornings of Week B.

The PSE programme covers a wide range of topics such as: First Aid, cultural diversity, drugs education, sex education, anti-racism, recycling and fair trade. The programme is supported by a number of guest speakers and professionals from our local community.

Careers and the world of work topics include an introduction to Careers Wales on-line to access information about jobs. All Year 9 students will have a guest speaker from the 'Dynamo Role Models' project during their PSE lesson.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:**

**MRS C BALLAMY**

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SHORT COURSE) (level 1 and level 2)**

All pupils in Years 10 and 11 are required to study Religious Education for one hour per week.

The course covers many issues which have relevance for adult life, for example relationships, justice and concern for the environment.

It can also lead to the opportunity to obtain a GCSE short course qualification.

Unit 1: Relationships (Issues of love, marriage and divorce)

Unit 2: Is it Fair? (Issues of justice and equality)

Unit 3: Looking for Meaning (Issues about God, life and death)

Unit 4: Our World (Exploring Creation and our place in the world)

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MISS H PICCOU**

## **WELSH SECOND LANGUAGE (SHORT COURSE) GCSE (level 1 and level 2)**

All pupils are required to continue their studies in Welsh into year 10 and 11. Welsh is available in the opinions as a full GCSE. A GCSE short course in Welsh for one hour per week will be followed by all pupils who don't choose Welsh in the options. The course will enable students to obtain a GCSE grade, which is equivalent to half a full GCSE.

The course is aimed at students:

- whose first language is not Welsh
- for whom Welsh is not the everyday language of the home.

Students are assessed in three major skill areas – oracy, reading and understanding and writing.

The course is divided into two units:

Unit 1: (50%)	Writing paper	
	4 questions:	2 writing questions (20%) 2 reading questions (30%)
Unit 2: (50%)	Oral assessment	
	2 tasks:	individual presentation (20%) role play (20%)

Written response to the work (10%)

The course will be based on the following study topics:

Holiday  
Sports  
Fashion / shopping  
Welsh Stars  
Cinema / Films  
Pop Music  
Charity work / part time work  
The area  
Welsh culture  
Wales  
About me  
Special occasions / events

There are two tiers of study:

- i) The Foundation Tier will assess grades C - G
- ii) The Higher Tier will assess grades A\* - D

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MISS H OWAIN OR MRS L STEEN**

**OPTIONAL COURSES**

Art and Design	10 and 11
Business	11 and 12
Catering	12 and 13
Child Development	13 and 14
Design and Technology (Product Design)	14
Drama	15
Engineering	15 and 16
French	16 and 17
Geography	17 and 18
Health & Social Care	18
History	19
ICT	19 and 20
Media Studies	21
Music	21 and 22
Physical Education	22 and 23
Religious Studies (Full Course)	23
Sociology	24
Spanish	24 and 25
BTEC First Certificate in Sport	25 and 26
Textiles	26 and 27
Welsh Second Language (Full Course)	27 and 28
Courses available in the Wrexham Network	29
Curriculum Enrichment Courses	29

### **OPTIONAL COURSES**

Four subjects are to be chosen from the option columns -  
one subject from each column.  
Remember - choose a balanced curriculum.  
Courses are available at various levels.  
The levels are indicated in brackets after each subject name.

### **GCSE ART AND DESIGN (level 1 and level 2)**

The GCSE course is structured to build on existing, familiar working methods and to develop practical, perceptual and critical skills in Art, Craft and Design. The emphasis of the syllabus is personal research which requires a high level of self motivation. Although mainly practical, there is a theoretical aspect as students will develop an understanding of the language and conventions of past and contemporary Art. Students will investigate, analyse, experiment and document ideas in an imaginative and creative manner, informed and influenced by the work of artists, craftspersons and designers. There will be opportunities for students to use a wide range of media and processes, such as drawing, painting, 3D, textiles, IT, printmaking and new media. All students will be required to develop their ideas in a sketchbook. There may be opportunities for students to visit local galleries and exhibitions and participate in practical workshops.

#### **Assessment**

- 1 Candidate Portfolio 60%  
Practical and contextual Artwork selected and presented by students from work undertaken within the course. The deadline for completion of this is the end of the Autumn term in Year 11 (December) after four terms of work.
- 2 Externally-Set Task (10 hours focused study) 40%  
This is presented to students in the Spring Term (January) of Year 11. Research and preparation time is followed by a sustained period of focused study of 10 hours (April).

Both assessment areas need to show equal evidence of the four Assessment objectives.

- 1 Contextual Understanding
- 2 Creative Making
- 3 Reflective Recording
- 4 Personal Presentation

Students will present an exhibition of their work which is internally assessed and then externally moderated.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS L MOORE OR MR E ROBERTS**

**GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES (level 1 and level 2)**

**The course is designed so that students learn how to –**

- ◆ start up a business and become an entrepreneur!
- ◆ market a company and its products
- ◆ sell and advertise products to customers
- ◆ design and invent new products
- ◆ manage staff, recruit them, reward them and even sack them!
- ◆ develop a business and make it bigger, more profitable and more powerful!
- ◆ deal with the legal side of running a business

**Can you do the course? It's an option if you have.....**

- ◆ good written communication skills
- ◆ good attendance
- ◆ good ICT skills
- ◆ good work ethic
- ◆ good team working skills

**Course Benefits:**

**Preparation** - for business-related careers through an understanding of the dynamic environment in which business operates and the factors which influence business activity and behaviour.

**Future Careers** – knowledge and understanding of how businesses work is a desirable asset which future employers will look for.

**Learn how companies like Nintendo, HSBC, Tesco and even your local chip shop survive in the harsh business world!**

**Assessment - OCR Business Studies GCSE**

**Marketing and Enterprise Coursework - 25%**

**Business Structure and Human Resources Written Examination - 1hr 25%**

**Production, Finance and the Business Environment Written Examination - 1hr 30mins  
50%**

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MR S MACKRETH**

## **GCSE CATERING (level 1 and level 2)**

The syllabus is designed to give an insight into the catering industry. It will enable the students to develop the work covered in Years 8 and 9 in Food Technology. Students will be able to extend their Design and Technology capabilities and enhance their understanding of how to meet human needs.

As students are required to produce a portfolio of evidence the content of the course is divided into four compulsory areas of study:-

- 1 The Catering Industry
- 2 Food Grouping
- 3 Food Production
- 4 Technological Developments
- 5 Design Development

### **Assessment**

Coursework (school assessment 60%)

- 1 Two practical assessments. One practical assessment will be completed in Year 10, the other in Year 11. 40%
- 2 Theory 40%. One two-hour paper. All questions are compulsory. There will be two tiers – Foundation and Higher.

**THIS COURSE INVOLVES A LOT OF PRACTICAL WORK AND PARTICIPATION IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT.**

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MISS E GRIFFITHS**

## **GCSE CHILD DEVELOPMENT (level 1 and level 2)**

The course is designed to give candidates an opportunity to extend and apply their skills, knowledge and understanding of the development and care of children from conception to the age of five years within a variety of contexts.

**Course**

The course is divided into **six** compulsory core areas of study.

- 1 Family and Child
- 2 Food and Health
- 3 Pregnancy
- 4 Physical Development
- 5 Intellectual Development
- 6 Social and Emotional Development

### **Assessment**

Assessment will be by:

- 1 Unit 1.** Principles of Child Development. Written Paper 1½ hours. Candidates will be required to respond to short-answer, structured and free response questions. Externally set and marked. 40%
- 2 Unit 2.** Controlled Assessment. Child Study. One task to be selected from three set tasks to include investigation and production focusing on a child's development. Work must be completed in school within the given 15 hours. This work must be completed in Year 10. 30%
- 3 Unit 3.** Controlled Assessment. Child-Focused Task. One task to be selected from 2 tasks to include research, planning, making and evaluating. Working must be completed in school within the given 15 hours. This work must be completed in Year 11. 30%

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS L MOORE AND MISS E GRIFFITHS**

### **GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (level 1 and 2)**

The specification will allow candidates to specialise in the focus area of product design where they will learn about a range of materials, manufacturing processes, techniques and technologies and be able to use them as appropriate to the design and make process.

### **Assessment**

- 1 Project - Coursework folio 36%, Coursework Practical 24% - 60%
- 2 This will be one project completed as part of coursework in Year 11.
- 2 End-of-course examination - 40%

Paper 1 - 16% - A common paper taken by all Design & Technology pupils.  
Paper 2 - 24% - This paper concentrates on the focus area of Product Design.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MR H WILLIAMS**

**DRAMA (level 1 and level 2)**

**Unit 1**

Drama Exploration - 30% - Practical Exploration  
Documentary Evidence

**Assessment:** Controlled assessment: six-hour practical exploration, centre-devised; taken at any point to be decided by the teacher; documentary evidence maximum 2000 words.

**Unit 2**

Exploring Play Texts - 30% - Practical Exploration  
Response to Live Theatre - Response to live Performance

**Assessment:** Controlled assessment: six-hour practical exploration, centre-devised based on a play text taken at any point to be decided by the teacher documentary evidence maximum 1000 words.

Written response to live theatre maximum 2000 words.

**Unit 3**

Drama Performance - 40% - Voice and Movement  
Roles and Characterisation

**Controlled assessment:** performance of a play to a visiting examiner, devised or scripted.  
Communication Content, Style and Form

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MISS N DAVIES**

**BTEC IN ENGINEERING (level 1 and level 2)**

The BTEC qualification offers a focused vocational qualification for those who wish to follow a course which can extend their programme of study and provide an initial experience of a vocational area.

**Course Details**

Working Practices in Engineering.  
 Using and Interpreting Engineering Information.  
 Using Computer Aided Drawing Techniques in Engineering.  
 Selecting and Using Secondary Machining Techniques to Remove Material.

**Assessment**

The course is made up of units which are internally assessed through assignments set and marked by the school and externally moderated. As you complete each unit you will be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction grade.

**Assessment Tasks**

1A	Depth Gauge		10A	CAD ProDesktop
1B	Hazards & Risks		10B	CAD 2D Design
1C	Working Relationships		10C	Circuit Diagrams
2A	Drawing Information		14A	Table Lamp
2B	Drawings/Documents		14B	Table Lamp
2C	Production Documents			

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MR H WILLIAMS**

**GCSE FRENCH (level 1 and level 2)**

The two-year GCSE course is designed for candidates who have been learning languages under the National Curriculum. Four topics are studied and these form a challenging and pleasurable course of study which is relevant to candidates from a wide range of ability. The four topics are:

- Personal and Social Life
- The Local Community
- The World of Work
- The Wider World

The course aims to encourage practical communication and creativity; to offer insights into French culture and civilisation; to encourage positive attitudes to foreign language learning and towards speakers of foreign languages; to promote respect for other cultures and civilisations.

The skills assessed are:-

Listening and Responding	20%	
Speaking	30%	Controlled assessment
Reading and Responding	20%	
Writing	30%	Controlled assessment

Candidates may be entered for the Foundation or Higher Tier in each of the components:-

Foundation Tier will assess grades C - G  
Higher Tier will assess grades \*A - D

Pupils will have the opportunity to participate in a language study visit to France which will be an invaluable experience.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MISS F JONES**

**GEOGRAPHY GCSE (level 1 and level 2)**

This is a new course which will develop students as global citizens and help them to recognise how they can contribute to society in the future. There is a clear balance between physical and human themes. Students will apply their learning to the real world through fieldwork and out-of-classroom learning.

**SPECIFICATION CONTENT**

**UNIT 1 – THE CORE**

Six themes are studied during the Year 10 course:-

**PHYSICAL WORLD**

- 1 Water
- 2 Climate change
- 3 Living in an active zone
- 4 Changing populations
- 5 Interdependence
- 6 Development

**GLOBAL WORLD**

## UNIT 2 – OPTIONS

Three themes are studied during the Year 11 course:-

- 1 Our changing coastline
- 2 Tourism
- 3 Retail and urban change

### **ASSESSMENT**

UNIT 1:      CORE GEOGRAPHY – a 1¾ hour written paper sat in June of Y10, worth 40% of the total marks.

UNIT 2:      OPTIONS GEOGRAPHY – a 1¼ hour written paper sat in June of Y11, worth 35% of the total marks.

UNIT 3:      GEOGRAPHICAL ENQUIRY: an enquiry based on fieldwork and a decision-making exercise, worth 25% of the total marks.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MR H PHILLIPS**

### **BTEC FIRST CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE** **DOUBLE GCSE (level 1 and level 2)**

This course in Health and Social Care has been designed to provide a broad education as a foundation both for training leading to employment, and for further education.

The certificate course equates to -

Pass grade	=	2 x GCSE passes at grade C
Merit grade	=	2 x GCSE passes at grade B
Distinction grade	=	2 x GCSE passes at grade A

The assessments are all portfolio/course work –

Unit 1            Communication and individual rights

Unit 2            Individual needs

Unit 5            Anatomy and physiology

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS C BALLAMY**

## **GCSE HISTORY (level 1 and level 2)**

History at GCSE focuses on Modern C20th History, looking at key events in Wales, Europe and other areas which have shaped the world we live in.

The GCSE History course consists of four elements:-

- 1 Germany in Transition 1929-47 – study in depth.
- 2 China under Ze Dong, 1949-76 - study in depth.
- 3 The development of the USA, 1929-2000 – an outline study.
- 4 Coursework based on local, Welsh or Welsh/English history and involving an enquiry-based approach.

### **Assessment**

Assessment will be by:

- 1 Examination - two papers. Paper 1 of 2 hours assesses knowledge, understanding, interpretations and sources of the two studies in depth. Paper 2 of 1 hour 20 minutes assesses knowledge and understanding of the outline study. The two papers carry 75% of the marks.
- 2 Coursework of two assignments carries a total of 25% of the marks. These will be internally assessed via a controlled assessment.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS K ELLIS/MS A NAVARRO**

## **OCR NATIONAL IN INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (level 2)**

The OCR Nationals suite of qualifications provides students with high quality, industry-relevant qualifications geared to the specific requirements of key sectors. They are vocationally-related qualifications that provide valuable opportunities for individuals to develop skills and gain underpinning knowledge and understanding which will support entry into work or progression to further studies through Further Education or Higher Education.

The OCR Nationals are attractive, practically-based qualifications intended to stimulate and interest students. They support achievement of Key Skills and relate to national occupational standards thereby providing an ideal progression to National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) once individuals are in suitable employment.

OCR Nationals are structured in such a way that they allow progression from a one GCSE-equivalent course (the OCR Level 2 National First Award in ICT), through to a four GCSE-equivalent course (the OCR Level 2 National Certificate in ICT), depending on the number of modules covered in the year.

**It is envisaged that students choosing this option will follow a two GCSE- equivalent course (the OCR Level 2 National Award in ICT).**

The course is 100% coursework meaning that there is no final exam at the end of a two-year period of study. Instead, the students compile a portfolio of work throughout the two years and are assessed on this at regular intervals. OCR offer 23 Units giving an extensive "a la carte menu" to choose from to build up the relevant number of modules for required qualification.

These modules include units in:

- Unit1 ICT - Skills for Business (a mandatory unit)

**Optional Units**

- Unit 2 Webpage creation
- Unit 3 Digital imaging – plan and produce computer graphics
- Unit 4 Design and produce multimedia products
- Unit 5 Desktop publishing
- Unit 6 Spreadsheets – design and use
- Unit 7 Databases – design and use
- Unit 8 Technological innovation and e-commerce
- Unit 9 Customer support
- Unit 10 Planning and supporting telecommunications
- Unit 11 Career planning for IT
- Unit 12 Work experience in IT
- Unit 13 IT systems and user needs
- Unit 14 Installation of applications
- Unit 15 System testing and maintenance
- Unit 16 Repair and decommissioning of IT equipment
- Unit 17 CAD and CAM
- Unit 18 Application of computer control
- Unit 19 Application of data logging
- Unit 20 Creating animation for the WWW using ICT
- Unit 21 Creating computer graphics
- Unit 22 Creating sound using ICT
- Unit 23 Creating video

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MR D T JONES/MR S MACKRETH**

## **GCSE MEDIA STUDIES (level 1 and level 2)**

The course aims to:-

- (i) offer students the opportunity to develop a critical understanding of the media;
- (ii) encourage and develop a range of communication skills appropriate to the context of media studies;
- (iii) encourage and develop an investigative approach to the media;
- (iv) allow students to engage with a broad range of issues as they occur in the study of the media including economic and moral issues;
- (v) encourage students to become creative media producers for different audiences.

This will involve students studying a wide range of media texts, as well as undertaking practical and investigative work.

### **Assessment**

The assessment of Media Studies will consist of:

- (i) one examination paper (40%)
- (ii) coursework (60%).

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:**

**MRS S COOPER**

## **GCSE MUSIC (level 1 and level 2)**

GCSE Music is a practical course which allows students to develop further their performing, composing and listening skills. Through a range of activities students acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding to:

- 1 make music, both individually and in groups
- 2 develop a lifelong interest in music
- 3 progress to further study at A/AS level.

The course also gives students opportunities to develop broader lifeskills and attributes including critical and creative thinking, aesthetic sensitivity and emotional and cultural development.

The course is based on four areas of study:

Music for stage and screen  
Musical forms and devices

Music in Wales  
Music Evolution

**Assessment:**

Students are assessed and examined in three parts.

- 1 Composing – 30%. Internal assessment. Students compose a folio of music in a style of their own choice.
- 2 Performing – 30%. Internal assessment. Students perform individually and as part of a group (own choice of piece.)
- 3 Listening examination – 40%. Externally marked. Students will sit one listening exam at the end of the course.

**Previous Experience:**

The course is a continuation of work and experiences already encountered during KS3 Music lessons.

Additional instrumental lessons are not needed to pass the examination, however students will be required to develop their keyboard skills to the required level for performance and composition work.

Candidates are advised that performing before the class is an essential element of the course.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:**

**MR G ERLANDSON**

**GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (level 1 and level 2)**

The course is designed to follow on from the KS3 Physical Education Programme of Study. It provides students with opportunities to lead a healthy and active lifestyle by choosing from a variety of roles and activities in which to participate.

The examination will assess the candidates' ability to demonstrate:

- personal performance, including an ability to plan, perform and evaluate whilst undertaking an activity
- analysis and improvement of performance
- knowledge and understanding of factors affecting performance
- knowledge and understanding of health and safety aspects of games
- knowledge and understanding of training, tactics and obstacles
- knowledge and understanding of reasons for participation

Students are assessed in two units:

- Unit 1
- a) 40% of the full course.
  - b) Written paper based on theoretical aspects of course.
  - c) Short answers, multiple choice and extended answers based on a scenario issued prior to examination.

- Unit 2
- a) 60% of full course.
  - b) Four activities, at least two on a performer.
  - c) At least one activity must be in a different role.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:**

**MR E PARTRIDGE**

**GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES (Full Course) (level 1 and level 2)**  
**plus GCSE CITIZENSHIP (Short Course) (level 1 and level 2)**

If you think outside the box and enjoy being challenged, this is the subject for you. Religious Studies gives students the chance to look at many contemporary issues in depth using discussion, debate and role play. There is also an opportunity to gain an additional Short Course GCSE in Citizenship through this option. Students will cover three main topics: Power, Politics and the Media, Human Rights and The Global Village. There is no demand that the students should have religious beliefs of their own, just an interest in life.

**Assessment**

Religious Studies (Full Course) – Two exam papers, each 1 hr 50 mins  
Citizenship (Short Course) – 40% Project portfolio  
60% Exam Paper, 1 hr 30 mins

**Religious Studies Content Full Course:**

Unit 1: Religion and Conflict (Issues of peace, forgiveness and conflict)

Unit 2: Religion and Medicine (Issues of medical ethics)

Unit 3: Religious Expression (Issues of expressing one's faith)

Unit 4: Religion and the State (Issues of law and order in religion and society)

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:**

**MISS H PICCOU**

## **GCSE SOCIOLOGY (level 1 and level 2)**

The GCSE Sociology course is designed to give pupils a broad understanding of the society in which they live, including a focus on the family, education, poverty, social control and crime. Students may study a short or full course in this subject.

### **Assessment**

Assessment will be by:

- 1 Short course – examination 1½ hours covering the topics of studying society, families and education (Unit 1).
- 2 Full course – Unit 1 examination plus a further examination of 1½ hours covering the topics of crime and deviance, mass media, power and social inequality.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:**

**MRS S COOPER OR MS A NAVARRO**

## **GCSE SPANISH (level 1 and level 2)**

The two year GCSE course is designed for candidates who have been learning languages under the National Curriculum. Four topics are studied and these form a challenging and pleasurable course of study which is relevant to candidates from a wide range of ability. The four topics are:

- Personal and Social Life
- The Local Community
- The World of Work
- The Wider World

The course aims to encourage practical communication and creativity; to offer insights into Spanish culture and civilisation; to encourage positive attitudes to foreign language learning and towards speakers of foreign languages; to promote respect for other cultures and civilisations.

The skills assessed are:-

Listening and Responding	20%	
Speaking	30%	Controlled assessment
Reading and Responding	20%	
Writing	30%	- Controlled assessment

Candidates may be entered for the Foundation or Higher Tier in each of the components:-

Foundation Tier will assess grades C - G  
Higher Tier will assess grades \*A - D

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS P GOODING**

**BTEC FIRST CERTIFICATE IN SPORT (level 1 and level 2)**

The Edexcel BTEC First Certificate in Sport is a 180 guided learning hour qualification which offers a bite-sized opportunity for learners to experience a vocational qualification. The course offers a vocational qualification for learners who wish to follow a shorter programme of study related to an aspect of employment that they might wish to move into or a taster qualification which can extend their programme of study and provide an initial experience of a vocational area.

**Key Features of the BTEC First in Sport**

The course has been designed to focus on:-

- Education and training for those working in the sport sector.
- Providing opportunities for learners to gain a nationally-recognised vocationally-specific qualification to enter employment in the sport sector or to progress to further qualifications such as BTEC Nationals.
- Providing opportunities for learners to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life.

**Structure of the Qualification**

The BTEC First Certificate in Sport consists of three units which must include at least one of the specified core units. The units are:-

The Body in Sport (core unit)

Health, Safety and Injury in Sport (core unit)

The Sports Industry

Preparation for Sport

Planning and Leading Sports Activities

Practical Sport

Practical Outdoor and Adventurous Activities

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:**

**MR E PARTRIDGE**

**TEXTILES AND FASHION GCSE (level 1 and level 2)**

Candidate Portfolio: 60% Coursework

Examination: 40% written paper

Textiles at GCSE level inspires creative and imaginative students into a world of fashion, interior design, surface pattern and textiles.

Students will study a broad range of skills required for textiles and fashion, develop their knowledge of independent thinking and gain an understanding of textiles within a diverse and multicultural society.

The activities students will develop are:

- felting
- printing
- surface pattern
- embroidery
- pattern cutting
- surface embellishment

**Task 1:** (20%) **One** to be selected by the student from a variety of tasks.

Duration: 10 hours to be carried out within school

**Task 2:** (40%) **One** task to be selected from a choice of researching, planning, making and evaluating.

Duration: 20 hours to commence in the second half of the course.



The course will be based on the following study topics:

**Unit 1 and 2:**

Holiday  
Sports  
Fashion/shopping  
Welsh Stars  
Cinema/Films  
Pop Music  
Charity work/part time work  
The area  
Welsh culture  
Wales  
About me  
Special occasions/events

**Unit 3 and 4:**

Alcohol, drugs and smoking  
The environment  
Keeping fit/healthy  
Family and friends  
The home  
Weekend  
The Media  
Technology  
Celebrating  
School experiences

There are two tiers of study:

- iii) The Foundation Tier will assess grades C - G
- iv) The Higher Tier will assess grades A\* - D

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MISS H OWAIN OR MRS L STEEN**

## **COURSES AVAILABLE IN THE WREXHAM NETWORK**

A limited number of places is available for courses being provided within the Wrexham network. Placement on these courses will be by interview either in school or by course providers in Wrexham.

Courses available:

A double GCSE - students will study either GCSE Law or GCSE Geology in Year 10 and either GCSE Psychology or GCSE Electronics in Year 11. (Please note that these courses are only available to students who are currently working at National Curriculum Level 6/7 in the Core subjects of Mathematics, English and Science in Year 9.)

Vocational Courses:

Certificate in Engineering and Technology (Level 1)  
City and Guilds Introductory Certificate in Construction (Level 1)  
City and Guilds Certificate in Salon Services (Level 1)  
NVQ in Customer Service (Level 1)  
NVQ in Horse Care (Level 1)  
BTEC First Certificate in Performing Arts (Level 2)  
BTEC First Certificate in Travel and Tourism (Level 2)  
BTEC First Certificate in Hospitality (Level 2)  
BTEC First Certificate in Retail (Level 2)  
BTEC First Certificate in Horticulture (Level 2)  
BTEC First Certificate in Sport (Level 2)

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS P GOODING**

## **CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT COURSES**

Some students will have the opportunity to attend college for one full day a week. These courses will be offered at Entry Level and students who are interested in these courses will be interviewed by staff in school. The courses on offer currently in Year 10 are:

Horticulture  
Engineering  
Sport and Leisure  
Beauty Therapy

**FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM:-**

**MRS P GOODING OR MRS J WILLIAMS**