

# Cardiff West Community High School



*Create Your World*

# YEAR 8 Options

## 2022

*Ambition*

*Resilience*

*Trust*

Dear Year 8 pupil and your families,

Welcome to the options process for year 8 pupils, parents and carers. Choosing your options for GCSE is an important stage in your education. This is the process that allows you to think about your future goals and supports you to choose some of the subjects that you will study over the next three years.

We know that it can be a difficult time and can cause anxiety because there are a lot of questions that you might have: Which subject is right for me? What if I don't know what I want to do at all? Rest assured that we will help you to make choices about your future that are right for you. This booklet and the options process are designed to make this time less worrying for you and your parents/ carers. They will help you to start making decisions about your learning and to choose subjects that suit your aspirations, skills and needs.

Please use all the information available to you: this booklet; the subject videos on our website, advice from teachers; your tutors and your parents. All of these people know you and may be able to suggest whether they think a subject would suit you as a learner. You will also explore some career choices and subjects through assemblies, taster sessions in some lessons, and information from our in-house careers advisor Catrin Hutchins. Wherever possible we do our best to ensure you are able to study your first choice in each of the option subjects.

There will be two rounds of options; the first will be a free choice and the second round will involve you selecting options organised into three columns. You can select GCSE options using the Options Form link on the next page. The second-round options link will be shared with you during the week of 17<sup>th</sup> May.

You will find a timeline for the options process on the next page but the two key deadlines are the 3<sup>rd</sup> February for the options launch event for parents and 8<sup>th</sup> February for the submission of option choices.

I hope that you find the process one that allows you some personal reflection on your pathways for the future. You have a very important decision to make. Follow the do's and don't below to make sure you make the right choice!

Mrs Natalie Richards

(Deputy Headteacher)

Useful Contact information:

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**28th January:** You will receive curriculum offer booklets (also available on school

**3rd February:** Options launch for parents

**4th Feb:** Options forms links via office forms for all pupils to select their options.

**8th Feb:** Final option form submissions

**Week of 14th February:** Option interviews with pupils (led by form tutors, SLT and Progress team).

**From 14th March:** Final decisions made and confirmation letters home.

Subjects running taster sessions through lessons during this period

## What your curriculum will look like:

### CORE SUBJECTS (8 qualifications)

GCSE ENGLISH (8 lessons)  
GCSE ENGLISH LIT  
GCSE MATHS(8 lessons)  
GCSE NUMERACY  
GCSE SCIENCE (7 lessons)  
GCSE WELSH (4 lessons)  
SWEET Year 9-10 (3 lessons of SWEET and 1 Form based PSE)  
— this extends to Welsh Baccalaureate in year 10 and 11.  
**CORE PE (4 lesson per fortnight)**

We will release the QR code on 3rd February 2022 VIA class charts

### 3 OPTION SUBJECTS – One from each column below (3 QUALIFICATIONS) 5 lessons per fortnight in year 9

Option A	Option B	Option C
L2 Hair, beauty and production		GCSE Media Studies
Arts	GCSE DT-Product	GCSE Art
BTEC Sport	GCSE DT-Fashion	GCSE Music
GCSE PE	GCSE RE	
GCSE Art	GCSE Digital Technology	GCSE Geography
GCSE History	GCSE Drama	GCSE Spanish or French
GCSE Business Studies	GCSE Food	L2 Engineering
GCSE Food	GCSE PE	L2 Construction
GCSE Digital Technology	L2 Performing Arts	GCSE Health and social care and childcare
L2 Retail Business	L2 Princes Trust	L2 Princes Trust

Option A	Option B	Option C
L2 Hair, beauty and production Arts	GCSE DT-Product	GCSE Media Studies
BTEC Sport	GCSE DT-Fashion	GCSE Art
GCSE PE	GCSE RE	GCSE Music
GCSE Art	GCSE Digital Technology	GCSE Geography
GCSE History	GCSE Drama	GCSE Spanish or French
GCSE Business Studies	GCSE Food	L2 Engineering
GCSE Food	GCSE PE	L2 Construction
GCSE Digital Technology	L2 Performing Arts	GCSE Health and social care and childcare
L2 Retail Business	L2 Princes Trust	L2 Princes Trust

# *Your Core Subjects*

## English

- The first two terms in Year 9 will explore a range of fiction and non-fiction as a springboard to the developing of a range of Literature and Language skills.
- The Summer Term will be devoted to completion of Shakespeare NEA for GCSE Literature and reading the Unit 1 Literature text, *Of Mice and Men*.
- Year 10 will be focused on completing Literature study for entry at the end of Year 10 (2024). Year 11 will be devoted to Language preparation for examination in June 2025.

### **GCSE English Literature (with the aim of completing by the end of Year 10)**

- The opportunity to study a range of prose, poetry and drama. These are likely to include *Of Mice and Men*, *An Inspector Calls*, *Heroes*, a range of Welsh poetry and a Shakespeare play.
- NEA forms 25% of the overall grade and is comprised of two essays: a poetry comparative analysis and close study of a Shakespeare play.
- Remaining 75% is from two examinations of two hours duration each.

### **GCSE English Language (examination at the end of Year 11)**

- The study of a range literature and non-fiction extracts.
- NEA forms 20% of the overall grade and is comprised of two Oracy assessments: one group and one individual.
- The remaining 80% is from two examinations of two hours duration each.

All science students will sit one of the following qualifications:

- Double Award Science (Set 1 only)

7 Units in total—6 Written examinations and 1 practical assessment

- Double Award Applied Science

5 Units in total - 3 Written examinations, 1 task based assessment and 1 practical assessment.

- Single Award Applied Science

In Year 9 all pupils will be fully set for maths and will be completing the algebra scheme of learning until Easter. After this they will then begin to study the content of GCSE Numeracy

Students will be entered for GCSE Numeracy at the end of year 10 and will spend the rest of year 10 and all of year 11 focussing solely on GCSE Mathematics, Which they will be entered for at the end of year 11.

There are 3 tiers of entry: Higher (A\*-C), Intermediate (B-E) and Foundation (D-G). Students will be told at the start of year 10 which tier we are aiming for them to be entered for and final decisions are made in February before the exams

If students want to do A-Level Maths, they must sit higher tier GCSE. There are a number of subject areas where A-Level maths is beneficial (if not essential when moving onto university) - the sciences, engineering and business.

## Sweet

- ♦ This qualification in PSE- Personal and Social education is based around you and the needs you have to grow up into a fully rounded human being. Think about what makes you the person you are; the need to exercise and eat healthily as well as wider issues such as banking, politics and applying for a job and you will start to understand what makes Sweet such a fascinating subject as well as such an important one.
- ♦ At the end of your studies, Sweet is worth 2 grade Bs so its well worth making sure you put as much effort as you possibly can. Its delivered through 8 individual booklets so there's bound to be something that grabs your interest.
- ♦ For the last 2 years we have had 100% success at level 2 in this qualification – every year 11 student has put in the hard work necessary to be a success and we are sure you will too!

## Welsh Baccalaureate

Ø A new exciting set of challenges which is completely different to how you usually learn. Think about Beach clean ups, making and selling cakes and raising money for charity and you will start to understand what makes the Welsh Bac so unique.

Ø Built on 4 challenges, you work in a variety of ways to ensure you successfully complete the challenge - together within a group and on your own. Challenges include a Community project – working for and in your local community; a global challenge through which you can challenge something which you believe to be unacceptable – homophobia or racism for example and an Enterprise challenge through which you can actually run your own business. The final challenge is a research project where you investigate a subject you find interesting – homelessness or teenage pregnancies or why Manchester United are the most successful club in the world are just some of the topics students investigated last year.

Ø Everything is completed on computer – from your rough notes to your final drafts; everything is planned, developed and completed on computer before finally being submitted to the board. Welsh Bac is all coursework, there is no written exam so success is totally in your own hands. If you work hard , you will succeed , if you don't ..... Sweet , it's a 21st century subject, delivered in 21st century way



\*Essential Communication Skills level 1 (Foundation) or 2 (National), and Essential Application of Number Skills level 1 or 2 for post-16.

**Cymraeg Ail Iaith Cwrs Llawn – Welsh Second**

**When studying this qualification learners will be required to cover the following areas:**

- Listening: understand and respond to different types of spoken language
- demonstrate an understanding of spoken language by one or more speakers in public and social situations, for example, conversations, presentations, news reports and television programmes;
- understand the main message, main points, specific details and different perspectives communicated verbally in long and short pieces.
- communicate and interact spontaneously and effectively for different purposes, including conveying information, expressing and justifying opinion, and asking and answering questions;
- Use a range of strategies to support and sustain effective communication, including asking questions to clarify meaning and eliciting information;
- hold conversations and discussions making extended contributions and combining a variety of sentences and language patterns;
- use simple language patterns accurately;
- use different verb tenses;
- modify language appropriately for different audiences and a range of situations, using appropriate register, clear pronunciation and appropriate intonation.

**Reading: understand and respond to different types of written language**

- understand and respond to written language in different forms written for a variety of purposes and audiences, including correspondence, articles, online information, marketing materials, literary texts, diagrammatic information, public information and instructions
- understand the main message, main points, specific details and different perspectives in a variety of long and short, simple and complex written texts, using different verb tenses;
- discern meaning within a variety of long and short written texts, including some relating to abstract topics, unfamiliar material and some more complex language, interpreting implied meaning where appropriate;
- scan for specific information within extended and multi-format written material.

**Writing: communicate in writing**

- write accurately using simple and familiar sentences, language patterns and vocabulary to convey meaning and information effectively;
- write in an extended and coherent manner in order to convey facts, ideas and perspectives for different audiences and purposes, including descriptive and report writing, persuasive and instructional, creative and imaginative, critical / expressing opinions;
- use a range of different written forms, for example letters, e-mails, articles, diaries, posters, stories and blogs;
- Use different verb tenses;
- make creative use of language, varying and adapting vocabulary and language patterns, style and register intentionally for different purposes;
- modify language appropriately, including language and register, for different audiences and a range of situa-





# GCSE – General Certificate of Secondary Education

## GCSE – General Certificate of Secondary Education

GCSE's are related to one academic area of study.

They may be in familiar subjects or in subjects that you may not have studied before.

GCSE's are assessed by examinations, usually at the end of the course, although some subjects have modular exams throughout the 2 year course. Some GCSE's also have a percentage of the course assessed by coursework.

With at least 5 A\* - C or equivalent grades at GCSE, you will be able to study Level 3 Courses – A levels. These will allow you to access University.

You will also increase your chances of getting an apprenticeship or other career oppor-

## What will I do?

- Investigate
- Visits
- Discussions
- Research
- Team Work
- Background Reading
- Extended Writing
- Evaluations of Information
- Coursework
- Examinations

## What skills do I need?

You will need to be able to

- Motivate yourself
- Work as part of a team
- Work on your own



# IVET – Initial Vocational Education and Training

## IVET – Initial Vocational Education and Training

IVET's are related to one vocational subject, usually a subject you will not have studied before.

They are either BTEC's or Level 1/2 Awards.

IVET's are assessed mainly through course work units and also a smaller percentage of examinations, usually in Year 11.

An IVET Level 1/2 will allow you to progress to Level 2/3 courses

## What will I do?

- Present Assignments
- Use different methods of presentations
- Prepare a portfolio of evidence
- Practical/Vocational experiences
- Discussions
- Work Individually or as part of a team
- Background reading
- Evaluation of information
- Writing extended pieces of work
- Visits
- Coursework
- Examinations

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: WJEC GCSE in Physical Education*****In GCSE Physical Education you will learn about:***

1. Health, training and exercise
2. Exercise physiology
3. Movement analysis
4. Psychology of sport and physical activity
5. Socio-cultural issues in sport and physical activity

***You will learn by:***

- Becoming increasingly physically competent through being actively engaged in a range of physical activities
- Becoming increasingly effective in your performance in different types of physical activity and roles such as player/performer, leader and official

The formal study of physical education is possible through the study of GCSE PE. However, it is not a course that students should select if they feel it might just involve running around the sports hall, kicking a football and throwing a ball in the basket. The understanding of the theoretical concepts takes time and a great deal of hard work. The practical activities have to be rehearsed and practised in depth to produce skilled performance and advanced knowledge.

***You will be assessed by:***

UNIT 1 INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL EDUCATION ▶ Written examination: 2 hours ▶ 50% of qualification ▶ 100 marks Learners will be assessed through a range of short and extended questions. The questions will be based on audio-visual stimuli and other sources.

UNIT 2 THE ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION ▶ Non-exam assessment ▶ 50% of qualification ▶ 100 marks LEARNERS WILL BE ASSESSED IN: ▶ three different activities in the role of performer ▶ at least one individual and one team sport and one other from the approved lists of activities ▶ a personal fitness programme linked to the chosen major activity.

***Recommended entry requirements:***

**\*Exemplary Record of bringing kit on a regular basis and maintaining standards in all lessons.**

**\*A keen interest in Anatomy and physiology.**

**\*A keen interest in developing technical and tactical knowledge of physical activities.**

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

GCSE PE can lead to many opportunities such as further study of courses such as A Level PE and possibly eventually degree courses. The qualification can lead into a range of careers including Health Care, physiotherapist, leisure attendant, sports coach, PE teacher, sport tutor, lecturer, development officer, sports journalist, Sport and movement analyst and many more.

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: BTEC LEVEL 1 / 2 AWARD SPORT*****In BTEC SPORT you will learn about:***

A wide range of areas related to a variety of sports and the issues surrounding them, including:

- Sports development and organisations
- Planning campaigns for sports
- Psychological and physiological factors
- Technical factors and strategies
- Review and analyses of performance
- Components of fitness
- Body systems
- Training methods

***You will learn by:***

Developing your knowledge of the sports industry as a diverse sector with a wide range of qualification and employment opportunities. The WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Sport is designed to mainly provide pupils with a broad introduction to the world of sport. The qualification provides pupils with an opportunity to enhance their knowledge of sport and develop skills such as planning, communication and evaluation. The understanding of the theoretical concepts takes time and a great deal of hard work. The practical activities have to be rehearsed and practised in depth to produce skilled performance and advanced knowledge.

***You will be assessed by:***

BTEC Sport is made up of a combination of practical and theory. The theory lessons are taught in class and computer rooms and the practical lessons in the sports hall or on the field. There are three units that make up this qualification with two of these assessed internally by teachers and the other which is assessed externally by moderators. Each unit is sat under examination conditions and requires pupils to complete a set piece of work in a given time frame.

***Recommended entry requirements:***

- \*Exemplary Record of bringing kit on a regular basis and maintaining standards in all lessons.**
- \*A keen interest in Anatomy and physiology.**
- \*A keen interest in developing technical and tactical knowledge of physical activities.**

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

Completion of the Level 1/2 Award in Sport course can lead to many opportunities such as further study of courses such as A Level PE and Level 3 vocational qualifications in sport. The qualification can lead into a range of careers including leisure attendant, sports coach, PE teacher, sport tutor, lecturer, development officer, sports journalist, physiotherapist and many more.

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE Art & Design**

**Art** is not just a subject for those who can draw! It is about imagination, creativity and experimentation. You can always learn to draw and you all have unique and brilliant imaginations!

In this course you will experiment with many types of different media such as; lino printing, screen printing, collage, mosaics, spray painting and photography.

***You will learn by:***

- ♦ Exploring and studying a range of artists and artwork.
- ♦ Exploring and experimenting with a variety of different media.

***GCSE Art will help you:***

- Develop skills and attitudes which you will need in your working life.
- Learn skills for everyday life that are useful whatever you choose to do.
- Develop creative, communication, critical thinking and problem-solving skills

***You will be assessed by:*****Unit 1: Portfolio (60%)**

You will create a portfolio based on a particular theme. You will create work using as many different types of media as possible. You will research and study artists that you are interested in to get ideas for your own work. You will create a portfolio of art work that shows your best work, including a final piece. This could be a canvas painting, a piece of sculpture in clay, modroc or papier mâché, a mosaic, a collage, a portrait or a fine drawing.

**Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)**

You will work on a theme set by the exam board. You will then repeat the process that you did for Unit 1 and complete a portfolio of art work. Again, you will study an artist or artists and experiment with different media, but this time your final board will be completed in a 10 hour controlled assessment in school and moderated by the exam board.

***Recommended entry requirements:***

- ♦ You should enjoy art.
- ♦ You should have achieved a minimum of a Level 5 in Art at the end of Year 8.

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

You could continue your study of Art through a Level 3 Music course at 6<sup>th</sup> form or college. Art compliments a variety of other courses such as Fashion design, Graphic Design, Design and Production Arts.

**Career Progression** – Artist, Photographer, Designer, Graphic Designer, Marketing Officer, Costume Designer, Designer, Animator, Architect, Gallery Curator, Teacher.

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE Drama*****In Drama you will ...***

have the opportunity to explore drama as a practical art form. You explore how ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through choices of genre, style and convention. You are introduced to key practitioners, theoretical influences and influential playwrights whilst developing and building your practical performance skills.

***You will learn by:***

- ◆ Exploring and studying a range of different drama practitioners and styles.
- ◆ A mixture of practical work and written work.
- ◆ Working on your own and with others in your class.

***GCSE Drama will help you:***

- Develop skills and attitudes which you will need in your working life.
- Learn skills for everyday life that are useful whatever you choose to do.

***You will be assessed by:*****Unit 1: Devised Theatre (40%)**

You will create an original piece of theatre in response to a stimulus, using the techniques or characteristics of a practitioner or genre and give a performance (or design) to an invited audience. You also keep a record in a coursework portfolio with a final written evaluation.

**Unit 2: Performing Theatre (20%)**

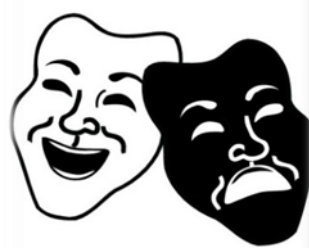
You will be assessed on your acting (or design) using scenes from a play. You will perform for an audience and the external examiner.

**Unit 3: Interpreting Theatre (40%)**

This is a written exam where you will write about a play that you have studied in lessons and you will also write a review of a play you have seen performed live.

***Recommended entry requirements:***

- ◆ Must be willing to perform in front of an audience.
- ◆ Must be willing to be filmed performing.
- ◆ You should have achieved a minimum of a Level 5 in drama at the end of Year 8.

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

You could continue your study of Drama through a Level 3 Drama course at 6<sup>th</sup> form or college. GCSE Drama also compliments a performing based course (e.g Level 3 Performing Arts) at 6<sup>th</sup> form or college. GCSE Drama compliments a variety of different courses at Level 3 for a number of career paths.

**Career Paths** – Actor, Director, Producer, Marketing Officer, Box Office Staff, Front of House Staff, Stage Manager, Theatre Journalist, Theatre Blogger, Sound Engineer, Lighting Engineer, Technical Director, Production Manager, Costume Designer, Teacher.



**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE Music*****In Music you will learn about performing, composing and appraising.***

You will learn to perform music on an instrument of your choice or voice. You will learn how to create your own music and you will explore and study a range of music from different genres.

Are you creative? Do you like performing or singing? Do you want a varied and interesting course? If so, then GCSE Music would be an ideal course for you.

- ♦ Music is a creative and academic course that is recognised by all colleges and universities.
- ♦ The Music course is not entirely exam based and a large proportion of your grade is based on practical work

***You will learn by:***

- ♦ Exploring and studying a range of music from different genres.
- ♦ A mixture of practical work and written work.
- ♦ Working on your own and with others in your class.

***GCSE Music will help you:***

- Develop skills and attitudes which you will need in your working life.
- Learn skills for everyday life that are useful whatever you choose to do.
- Develop creative, analytical, problem-solving, thinking, team-working and communication skills.

***You will be assessed by:***

**Unit 1: Performing (35%)** You will perform a minimum of 2 pieces (of your own choice) on an instrument of your choice or voice. This is internally assessed and externally moderated.

**Unit 2: Composing (35%)** You will compose 2 pieces of music is internally assessed and externally moderated. You then write an evaluation of your second composition.

**Unit 3: Appraising (30%)** This is a written examination in the summer of Year 11. The questions on the paper will be on 4 different areas of study: Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music. Two questions are on set works (specific pieces we study in class)

- Peer Gynt Suite No 1: Anitra's Dance (Grieg, 1875)
- Everything Must Go (Manic Street Preachers, 1996)

***Recommended entry requirements:***

- ♦ Ability to perform on any instrument **OR** sing. This can be through classroom-based study in Year 7 & 8 but you should expect to perform during the duration of the course.
- ♦ You should have achieved a minimum of a Level 5 in music at the end of Year 8.

*School will provide additional peripatetic music lessons for pupils studying GCSE Music.*

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

You could continue your study of Music through a Level 3 Music course at 6<sup>th</sup> form or college.

GCSE Music also compliments a performing based course (e.g Level 3 Performing Arts) at 6<sup>th</sup> form or college.

**Career Paths** – Musician, Composer, Producer, Music Manager, Arts Administrator, Marketing Officer, Funding Officer, Box Office Staff, Front of House Staff, Stage Manager, Music Journalist, Music Blogger, Musical Director, Sound Engineer, Technical Director, Production Manager, Music Producer, Animator, Teacher.

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: BTEC Performing Arts*****In Performing Arts you will***

have the opportunity to study and specialise in a range of areas while studying a variety of Performing Arts disciplines. Students choose one of these pathways:

- Musical Theatre
- Drama
- Dance
- Design - costume, sound and lighting, set and prop, make-up and hair.

***You will learn by:***

- ◆ Exploring the Performing Arts industry and different disciplines within it.
- ◆ A mixture of practical work and written work.
- ◆ Working on your own and with others in your class.

***Performing Arts will help you:***

- Develop skills and attitudes which you will need in your working life.
- Learn skills for everyday life that are useful whatever you choose to do.
- Develop independent learning, time-management, creative, collaboration, communication and problem-solving skills.

***You will be assessed by:*****Planning, Preparation and Performance (20%)**

In this unit, as a group we will decide on a topic that we will perform to primary schools. We will plan and prepare a piece for performance.

**Developing Your Skills (20%)**

In this unit you get to focus on one area of Performing Arts (Dance, Design, Drama or Musical Theatre). You will focus on developing your skills in your chosen area by submitting a portfolio of evidence.

**Individual Showcase (60%)**

You will be given a task set by the exam board which you will complete in your chosen discipline.. You will write a letter of application and create a final outcome.

***Recommended entry requirements:***

- ◆ Must have an interest in Performing Arts (onstage or backstage role).

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

You could continue your study of Performing Arts on a Level 3 course at 6<sup>th</sup> form or college. We offer Level 3 Performing Arts and Production Arts at CWCHS 6<sup>th</sup> Form.

**Career Paths** – Performer, Dancer, Singer, Actor, Musical Theatre Performer, Choreographer, Teacher, Community Arts Worker, Artist Management, Arts Administrator, Marketing Officer, Funding Officer, Box Office Staff, Front of House Staff, Stage Manager, Arts Journalist, Sound Engineer, Technical Director, Production Manager, Director, Costume Designer, Set Designer.





**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES*****In GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES you will ...***

This qualification is for students who wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in enterprise and marketing. The course will prepare students for further study of qualifications in enterprise, marketing or business.

The qualification is made up of a variety of subjects from marketing to financial planning. The course has a greater emphasis on coursework and allows the student to research and explore real world situations

**GCSE Business Studies will help you:**

- ◆ Use an enquiring, critical approach to distinguish facts and opinions, to build arguments and make informed judgements.
- ◆ Develop and apply business knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary issues in a range of local, national and global context.
- ◆ Appreciate a range of perspectives on the impacts of business on wider society.
- ◆ Consider the extent to which business activity can be ethical and support sustainable development.
- ◆ Develop and apply quantitative skills relevant to business including using and interpreting data.

***You will be assessed by:***

The course requires 2 controlled assessment (Coursework elements and an exam)

**Enterprise and marketing concepts**

Students will learn how and why customer segmentation is used and how to target a customer market.

**Examination unit**

A range of different types of theory elements of Business examined.

**Design a business proposal**

Students will research and work in groups to present a proposal

**Career Progression**

- ◆ Many Business courses available in 6<sup>th</sup> Form.
- ◆ Degree pathways are varied and allow a mix of Business and other subjects.
- ◆ Many apprenticeship opportunities and career development possibilities including major local employers such as BT, Admiral and GE Capital
- ◆ Skills to set up and run businesses.



**QUALIFICATION TITLE: Digital Technology****Why Study ICT?**

ICT is a contemporary subject which reflects a continually changing world. The course suits students who can demonstrate a logical and practical approach to problems and are able to work to close deadlines under own initiative, finding solutions to problems using a skills base gained in lessons.

**What Skills Will I Develop?**

GCSE ICT will help you to:

- ◆ Understand how computers work and how the digital world works.
- ◆ Be aware of the effect of ICT upon our world and the effect on people.
- ◆ Develop excellent skills using applications and different software.

***You will be assessed by:*****Unit 1: Understanding ICT (20%)**

An exam module which tests knowledge of the functional aspects of ICT in a home and school concept.

**Unit 2: Solving problems with ICT (30%)**

A controlled assessment element using skills with Word Processing, Spreadsheets, Desk top Publishing and Databases to produce a solution to a given scenario.

**Unit 3: ICT in Organisations (20%)**

This is an exam which tests knowledge of ICT used in business and industry.

**Career Progression****6th form**

Computing, Cyber Security, Web design, Programming.

**At University**

Web development, Smart app design, Future technologies, Graphic design, Digital imaging, Robotics, Programming in a variety of languages, Motorsport, Vehicle design, Medicine, Applications in Science

**In the world of work**

Opportunity for travel especially America and developing economies. Skills in very short supply and almost guaranteed employment from the right



**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE SPANISH/FRENCH*****In GCSE French or Spanish you will learn about:***

**Identity and culture** – Self family home life, shopping, meals, healthy living, illness and accident, free time, fashion and future plans.

**Wales and the world** – Home town, school, environment, pollution and recycling, local facilities, weather and seasons, travel and holidays, media, social issues of young people, life in France.

**Current and future study and employment** – Work experience, part-time jobs, future careers and technology.

***You will learn by:***

Practising the 4 key skill areas – listening, speaking, reading and writing – based around the topics above. This will be like you have been doing in Year 8 lessons, with regular assessments to check on your understanding and allowing your teacher to guide you on how to improve.

***You will be assessed by:*** All four skills have examinations in the Summer of Year 11:

<b>LISTENING</b> Listening comprehension tasks with non-verbal and written responses. Foundation: 35 mins Higher: 45 mins	<b>SPEAKING</b> There are three tasks: a role play, a photo card discussion and a conversation. These will be recorded in school with your teacher. Foundation: 7-9 mins Higher: 10-12 mins
<b>READING</b> Reading tasks with non-verbal and written responses, including one translation task from Spanish into English. Foundation: 1 hour Higher: 1 hour 15 mins	<b>WRITING</b> Writing tasks including one translation task from English into Spanish. Foundation: 1 hour 15 mins Higher: 1 hour 30 mins

***Recommended entry requirements:***

You should already be learning an MFL (French or Spanish) in Year 8.

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

Languages are important in the world we live in and give you great skills for the rest of your life. The internet has brought everyone much closer together so chatting, blogging and networking with people of different languages from all over the world is easier than ever. With GCSE French or Spanish you could continue to study French or Spanish at A-level and beyond... who knows where it will take you?

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: Product Design**

(cannot take with Fashion and textiles)

In **Design & Technology** you will learn design and making skills before **choosing your preferred material** to make a product of your own design.

This course develops your **design and make practical skills**, problem-solving skills, presentation drawing, Technical drawing, computer aided design and manufacture, e.g. 3D design, laser cutter.

Core theory will develop your knowledge and understanding in Design & Technology and its impact on daily life, including emerging technologies, environmental issues, developments in materials technology, past and present designers, Airbus, James Dyson, Bethan Gray.

***You will learn by:***

You will learn through several practical short focused **design & make tasks** in a range of materials including wood, metal, plastics and electronics. You will follow a number of themes to develop your design and practical skills, knowledge and understanding in the subject area, before completing the Controlled Assessment and examination.

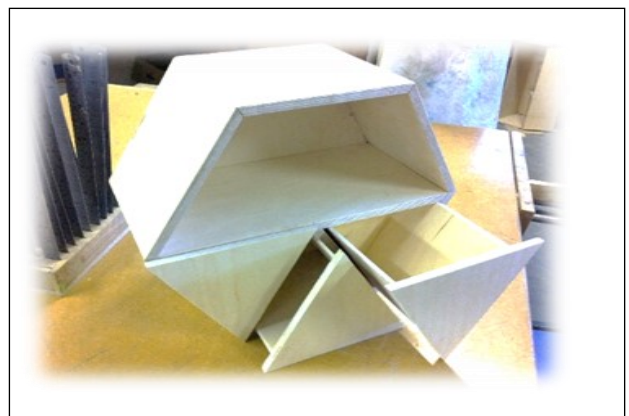
***You will be assessed by:***

**Controlled Assessment (coursework) 50%** in your preferred material area. You will choose one of three challenges, write your own design brief, create a prototype in school and develop a design portfolio.

**Final Examination (50%)**, core + material area

**To be successful** in this course and awarded this qualification, you need to be:-

- ◆ Dedicated to your studies
- ◆ Complete all portfolio tasks at a competent level
- ◆ Perseverance to achieve quality practical outcomes
- ◆ Have due regard for your own and others Health & Safety in the workshop.

**What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?**

Job and career prospects include:- designer, automotive, electronics, IT, retail, architecture.

Apprenticeships or further and higher education, for example A-level Design & Technology, Level 2 & 3 vocational qualifications, Product Design, Engineering or Architecture degree.

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY : Fashion & Textiles**

(cannot take with Product Design)

In **Fashion & Textiles** you will have the opportunity to study textile design, construction and decoration of textiles, fibres and fabrics, modern and smart materials, using patterns for garment-making, textile techniques such as dyeing, embroidery, applique, production methods, CAD/CAM, past and present designers, Laura Ashley, Stella McCartney, Orla Kiely and to explore the current fashion and textiles market and trends.

**Fashion and Textiles** is a both a **practical and theoretical subject** and you will develop knowledge and understanding through research and practical activities. During the course you will follow a number of themes and focused practical tasks to develop your design and practical skills in the subject area, such as projects on fashion, garment-making, accessories and soft furnishings, textile techniques, before completing the Controlled Assessment and Final Examination.

**You will be assessed by:**

**Controlled Assessment (50%)** Choose from 3 challenges! Write your own design brief Fashion, accessories, soft furnishings, home or corporate, work on design possibilities, create a prototype in school and develop a design portfolio.

**Final Examination (50%)** Principles of Textiles and Fashion.

**To be successful** in this course and awarded this qualification, you need to:-

- ◆ Complete all portfolio tasks at a competent level
- ◆ Be creative and want to problem-solve
- ◆ Have perseverance to achieve quality practical outcomes
- ◆ Have due regard for your own and others Health & Safety in the workshop.

**What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?**

A-level Fashion & Textiles, Further and Higher education courses including Btec & Degree courses.

Careers as a Designer; fashion, soft furnishings, Retail buyer, Journalist, Fashion photographer, stylist, illustrator, blogger, Interior designer, Fabric technologist, Textile designer, Textiles teacher, Costume designer, TV, theatre, wardrobe, Production manager.



**QUALIFICATION TITLE: Engineering: Metal**

(cannot take with Engineering: Metal)

**In Engineering:**

**Metal you will learn** about the **world of Engineering**, Computer Aided Design, machining techniques and mathematics for engineering. You will learn and practise the **fundamental skills** including metal working, technical drawing, computer aided design, practical maths skills and problem-solving using drawings and diagrams for practical tasks. You will also study the relevant **health and safety** requirements to ensure that all aspects of an engineer's operative role can be carried out safely.

**You will learn:**

**Practical technical skills** through completing a minimum of 9 focused tasks in engineering processes, including metal machining techniques and Computer Aided Design, such as a toolmakers clamp, tap wrench, 100mm square, toolbox. Practical skills required for professional technical engineering roles.

In addition, through a **training portfolio** provided by Skillstart of knowledge and information worksheets for you to complete, the drawings and diagrams for your practical tasks and to record your assessments.

**You will be assessed by:** completing the focused practical Engineering Metal tasks demonstrating your practical skills within prescribed tolerances for the Skillstart Engineering Metal qualification, and the completion of a training portfolio.

**100% coursework** comprising of:-

- A completed Training Portfolio
- Practical tasks, graded for quality within tolerances

**To be successful** in this course and awarded this qualification, you need to:-

- ♦ Be dedicated to your studies
- ♦ Complete all portfolio tasks at a competent level
- ♦ Have perseverance to achieve quality practical outcomes
- ♦ Have due regard for your own and others Health & Safety in the workshop.

**What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?**

**Job & career prospects** include:- Engineering – civil, mechanical, chemical, structural – working in variety of sectors including energy, marine, aerospace (ICAT).

**Apprenticeships or further, higher education**, for example further Level 2, Level 3 or Degree level Engineering qualifications.

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: Engineering: Wood/Carpentry**

(cannot take with Engineering: Metal)

**In Engineering: Wood you will learn** the fundamental skills and knowledge needed to carry out a range of activities common to all **wood-working/carpentry practices**. You will learn and practise wood working skills, technical drawing, computer aided design, practical maths skills, problem-solving, developing your skills for roles within the technical & professional Carpentry & Construction Industry. You will also study the relevant **health and safety requirements** to ensure that all aspects of the operative role can be carried out safely.

You will complete a minimum of **8 focused practical tasks** in wood, involving a range of carpentry and joining tasks, to include a phone holder, push stick, marking guage, speaker box, and toolbox.

In addition, a **training portfolio** provided by Skillstart of information, worksheets for you to complete, the drawings and diagrams for your practical tasks and to record your assessments.

**You will be assessed by:**

Completing the focused practical Engineering Wood tasks demonstrating your practical skills within prescribed tolerances for the Skillstart Engineering Wood qualification, and the completion of a training portfolio.

**100% coursework** comprising of:-

A Training Portfolio

**To be successful** in this course and awarded this qualification, you need to:-

- ◆ Be dedicated to your studies
- ◆ Complete all portfolio tasks at a competent level
- ◆ Have perseverance to achieve quality practical outcomes
- ◆ Have due regard for your own and others Health & Safety in the workshop.

**What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?**

Job & career prospects include:- builder, carpenter & joiner, architect, civil engineer. House & commercial building, infrastructures.

Apprenticeships or further education, for example further Level 2 or Level 3 Carpentry or Construction qualifications.



**QUALIFICATION TITLE: Health & Social Care, and Childcare**

In **Health & Social Care, and Childcare** you will learn about the **development and care** of individuals from conception to old age. You will gain an understanding of how **service provision** in the Health and Social Care, and Childcare sectors in Wales support the development and well-being of individuals. You will be introduced to a broad range of roles within the Health and Social Care sectors which will help you to develop an understanding of the **job and career pathways** available to you.

This GCSE in Health and Social Care and Childcare will cover key topics such as: human growth, development and well-being, promoting and maintaining health and well-being

**You will learn:**

Powerpoint presentations prepared to provide you with the most pertinent information to understand and learn, videos, classroom discussion, case studies, a course specific textbook for additional reading, the Health and Care Learning Wales website for additional study, quizzes and tests to promote learning and revision, practice past paper questions to learn and practise examination technique and theory topics. For your **coursework** you will choose your target group by age, such as children, adolescents, the elderly and specific topic, e.g. physical welfare, social and emotional well-being, education and learning.

**You will be assessed by:** regular classroom assessments to check your progress on completion of specific topics.

**Final assessment Unit 1 will be an External written examination (40%).**

**Coursework assessment Unit 2 (60%):-**

**Task 1:** Service Provision and job roles for your choice of target group

**Task 2:** Health Promotion planning a health promotion campaign for your chosen target group

**To be successful** in this course and awarded this qualification, you need to :-

- ◆ Be dedicated to your studies
- ◆ Be able to study independently
- ◆ Enjoy studying about people, their development and well-being
- ◆ Be empathetic
- ◆ Be creative

**What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?**

**Job and Career pathways** in Health & Social Care or Childcare such as in medicine, nursing professions, midwifery, as therapists, psychologist, social worker, youth & community worker, counsellor, in hospitals, in schools such as teachers, teacher assistants, or assistants in care homes, or nurseries.

**Further and Higher education courses** such as A-level in Health & Social Care, Level 3 Btec Health & Social Care or Childcare and Education, Degree courses in subjects such as Health & Social Care, Sociology, Psychology, Teaching, Nursing & Medicine.

Visit the **CareersWales website** for further information on the Health & Social Care sector

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: Food and Nutrition**

In **Food & Nutrition** you will gain the knowledge and skills required to apply the principles of **food science, nutrition and healthy eating** and understand the relationship between diet and health. It encourages you to **develop food preparation and cooking skills** and make informed decisions about food and nutrition. It will help you acquire the knowledge needed to be able to feed yourselves, your families and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life as well as the valuable transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning, communication and team-working skills for employment or further career development.

**You will learn through** a range of activities, **academic and vocational, theory and practical**, both independently and in teams. The course will include reference to work and career related tasks.

Practical lessons will be timetabled every fortnight to develop food planning, preparation, cooking and service skills.

**You will be assessed by:**

Completing portfolios based around units of study including Nutrition, Food Safety, Meal-planning, Planning, Preparing, Cooking & Finishing Food, both written and practical assessment tasks

Portfolios may include written work, photographic evidence, observation and witness statements of practical tasks.

**To be successful** in this course and awarded this qualification, you need to :-

- ◆ Be dedicated to your studies
- ◆ Be able to work independently and as a team member
- ◆ Enjoy practical food lessons as well as the theory of food
- ◆ Be well-organised
- ◆ Be creative

**What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?**

**Job & career pathways** including:- Careers in the Food Service industry, such as restaurant brigade, chefs, restaurant and hotel managers and in Nutrition and Food Science, such as dieticians, food technologists in food manufacturing, and in Accommodation Services.

**Further and Higher education** such as A-level, BTEC Level 3, Degree courses in Food & Nutrition, Hospitality & Catering, Events Management, Dietetics, Hotel Management, Level 2 & 3 craft courses such as Bakery & Patisserie.

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE Religious Studies*****In Religious Studies you will learn about:***

- ♦ Christian Beliefs, Teachings and Practices
- ♦ Buddhism Beliefs, Teachings and Practices
- ♦ Issues of good and evil (Causes of crime, treatment of criminals, death penalty, the problem of evil and suffering)
- ♦ Issues of life and death (Was the world designed? Abortion, Euthanasia, Death and the afterlife)
- ♦ Issues of relationships (Adultery, marriage, divorce, remarriage, relationships, same-sex relationships)

***You will learn by:***

You will study the core beliefs and practices of Christianity and Buddhism. Following those topics we will look at issues of life and death, good and evil, relationships and human rights whilst applying our Christian and Buddhist knowledge to these subjects. We will debate, discuss and evaluate all the core questions from these topics. These skills are transferable across multiple subjects and are valuable skills to take into further education or employment.

***You will be assessed by:***

Two exams (One for each unit studied).

Each exam is 2 hours long

***Recommended entry requirements:***

**No entry requirements as RE has been studied in Year 8 by all students.**

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

- ♦ Go on to study at A-Level's as GCSE RE will support you in whatever subjects you choose to study.
- ♦ You can study A-Level Religion, Ethics and Philosophy.
- ♦ Jobs such as a counsellor, teacher, lawyer, journalism, police officer, youth worker, project manager, coaching and many more!

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE History*****In History you will learn about:***

- ♦ **Depression, War and Recovery, 1930 -1951** (Unit 1) [*Britain before, during and after WWII*].
- ♦ **Germany in Transition, 1919 -1939** (Unit 2) [*The rise of Hitler and Nazi Germany*].
- ♦ **Crime and Punishment, c.1500 to the present day** (Unit 3) [*Crime through the ages*].

There will also be a controlled assessment task that will be based around

- ♦ **Apartheid in South Africa and the role of Nelson Mandela** (Unit 4)

***You will learn by:***

During the course you will learn about key developments across Europe in the Twentieth Century within units one, two and four, plus a focus on health and medicine over five centuries of change in unit 3. Your studies will enable you to explain why these changes took place over time, while also evaluating the consequences of such changes. You will continually use the skills of analysis and evaluation of sources within History and be able to discuss aspects of reliability and usefulness of such information. These skills are transferable across multiple subjects and are valuable skills to take into further education or employment.

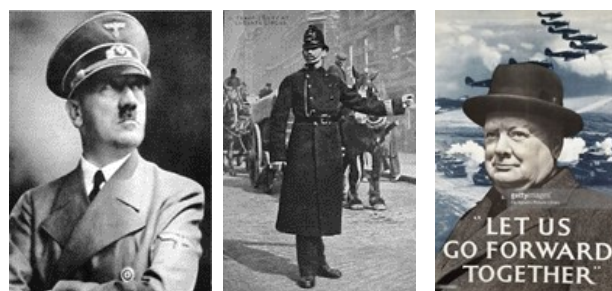
***You will be assessed by:***

**Three exams (2 x 1 hour & 1 x 1 hr 15 mins) and a two-part controlled assessment.**

**Units 1, 2 and 3 are exam-based assessments (80%) and Unit 4 is a controlled assessment piece of work containing two essays (20%).**

***Recommended entry requirements:***

**No entry requirements, other than an interest in History and a willingness to carry out work independently when required.**

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

History provides people with opportunities to develop a variety of skills that will contribute to their employability, whatever their chosen career. The transferable skills, abilities and attitudes to independent learning developed through the study of history make young people attractive to employers.

Careers related to the study of history include those in:

Accountancy Administration Architecture Archives Armed Forces Business Management Civil service  
Human Resources IT Journalism Law Local Government Media Police Politics Teaching Tourism

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE Geography*****In Geography you will learn about:*****Unit 1:** 'Changing Physical and Human Landscapes'.**Section A:** 'Landscapes and Physical Processes' & 'Rural-urban Links'.**Section B:** 'Tectonic Landscapes and Hazards'**Unit 2:** Environmental and Development Issues**Section A:** 'Weather, Climate and Ecosystems' and 'Development and Resource Issues'**Section B:** 'Social Development Issues'**Unit 3:** Fieldwork Enquiry***You will learn by:***

WJEC GCSE Geography adopts an enquiry approach to the study of geographical information, issues and concepts. It is based on the principle that geographical education should enable learners to become critical and reflective thinkers by engaging them actively in the enquiry process. The integration of knowledge and understanding with appropriate geographical skills with this qualification enables pupils to become globally and environmentally informed and thoughtful, enquiring citizens.

***You will be assessed by:*****Course Structure**

The course consists of three units of study. Units 1 and 2 are exam based assessments (80%) and Unit 3 is a controlled assessment piece of work based on fieldwork studies (20%).

***Recommended entry requirements:***

No entry requirements, other than an interest in Geography and a willingness to carry out work independently when required.

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

Geography provides people with opportunities to develop a variety of skills that will contribute to their employability, whatever their chosen career. The transferable skills, abilities and attitudes to independent learning developed through the study of geography make young people attractive to employers.

Careers related to the study of geography include the following:

Ecologist	City Planner	Cartographer	Climatologist	Coastal Zone Manager	Conservation Officer
Environmental Planner	Hazardous Waste Planner	Market Researcher	Meteorologist	Military Planner	
Natural Resource Manager	Police	Teacher	Tourism Development	Transportation Planner	



**QUALIFICATION TITLE: GCSE Media Studies*****In Media Studies you will learn about:***

The media play a central role in contemporary society and culture. They shape our perceptions of the world through the representations, viewpoints and messages they offer. In addition, they importantly provide us with ways to communicate, with forms of cultural expression and enable us to participate in key aspects of society. This WJEC GCSE specification in Media Studies offers learners the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of these key issues and the ability to debate important questions about the media.

***You will learn by:***

This course explore the media with a particular focus on the media in Wales, considering aspects of the media industries in Wales, products intended for Welsh audiences and representations of Wales and Welsh cultural identity. Where appropriate, learners will be able to study Welsh language media products. Learners will learn through research and analysis of media products as well as creating their own. This course will attract those that like learning independently as well as part of a 'team'.

***You will be assessed by:***

Unit 1: **Exploring the Media Written examination:** 1 hour 30 minutes 30% of qualification

Unit 2: **Understanding Television and Film Written examination:** 1 hour 30 minutes 30% of qualification

Unit 3: **Creating Media Non-exam assessment** 40%

***Recommended entry requirements:***

**At least a level 5 in English.**

**You need to have a keen interest in the Media, including journalism, Film and TV.**

**You need to have an excellent attendance record.**

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

Study at A level or Level 3 in Media, Film or Journalism.

Work in TV, Film and Media through apprenticeships or go and study a degree.

Media teaches you analytical skills which can be transferred to a number of jobs. It is also a high literacy subject which will allow you to branch into many other careers.

**QUALIFICATION TITLE: VRQ Diploma in Hair Services*****In Hair Services you will learn about:***

Do you want to work with people? Are you confident? Do you want a varied and interesting course? If so, Hairdressing would be an ideal course for you.

The Hairdressing course will help you:

- ♦ Gain confidence and develop communication skills.
- ♦ Develop both your technical and employability skills.
- ♦ Become an 'industry ready' junior stylist.

***You will learn by:***

Practical assessment—70%

Theory—30%

9 Units to be completed to achieve 2 GCSE grades.

***You will be assessed by:***

The course consists of ten units of study. Over the course there will be ten Practical assessments and ten online examinations. Completion of this qualification provides the learner with a C grade GCSE qualification.

***Recommended entry requirements:***

**An ability to work with people and a desire to work hard and learn a massive range of skills.**

***What can you do with this subject after GCSE / Level 2?***

The Hairdressing industry provides students with a work related qualification, whilst also providing a suitable basis for further study.

A qualification in Hairdressing could lead to work in Salons, Cruise liners, Hotels or even self-employment



# Attendance Matters!

## Attendance

Your child's success at Cardiff West Community High School is likely to be negatively affected if their attendance is poor.

Those who do not attend will regularly fall behind with their learning which often leads to feelings of frustration and unhappiness.

At Cardiff West CHS our priority is to ensure that all students attend school regularly and on time, making the most of the opportunities available to them.

Absence from school is an important issue that as a school is taken very seriously, however every case is different and we will always support students and their families to make improvements.

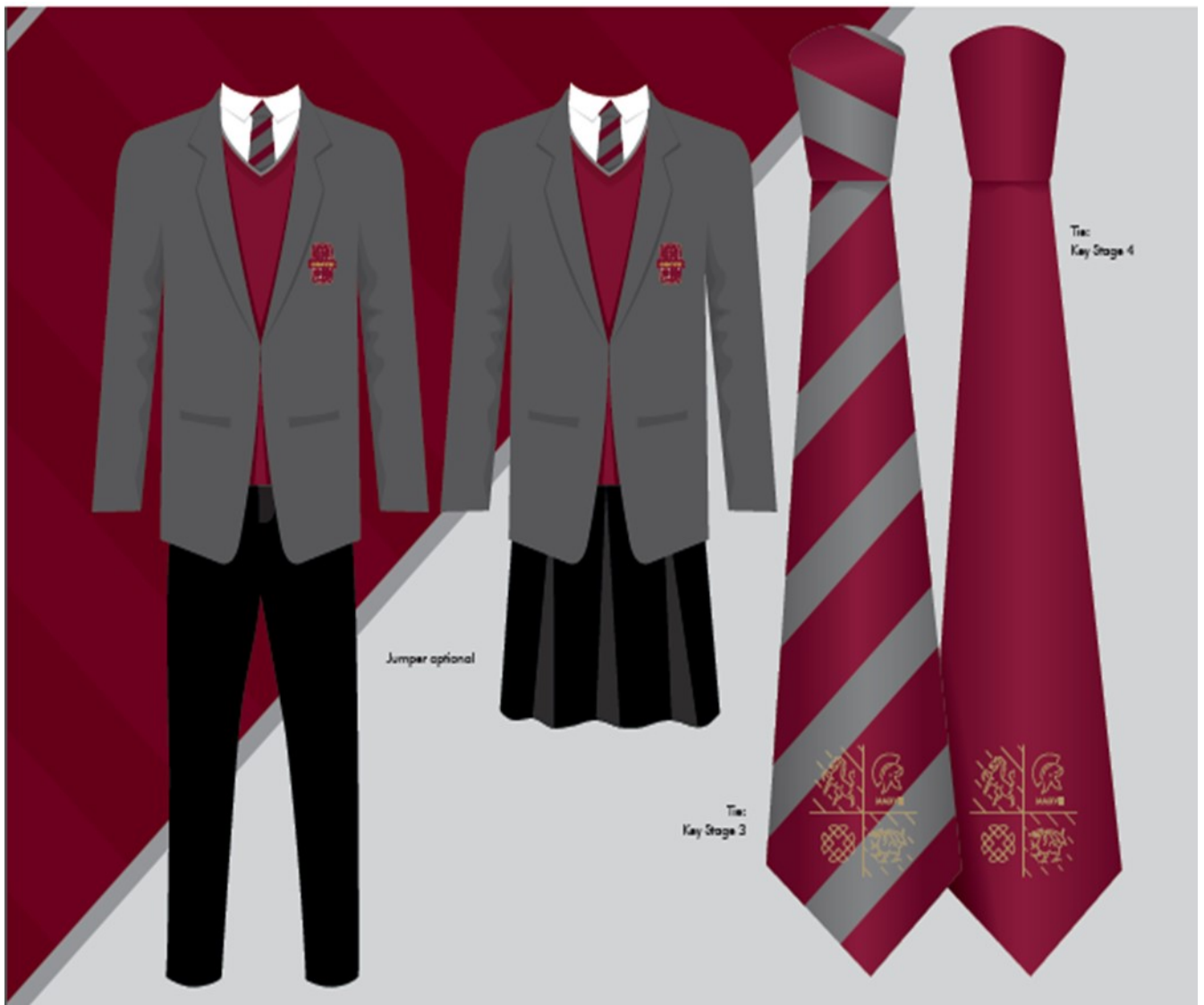
VERY GOOD		WORRYING		CONCERNING			
THE EFFECT OF ABSENCE ON SCHOOL PROGRESS							
365 DAYS IN A YEAR							
190 DAYS IN SCHOOL							
175 DAYS LEFT TO: VISIT FRIENDS & FAMILY, SHOP, ATTEND APPOINTMENTS ETC							
190 DAYS OF EDUCATION	185 DAYS OF EDUCATION	183 DAYS OF EDUCATION	179 DAYS OF EDUCATION	178 DAYS OF EDUCATION	171 DAYS OF EDUCATION	161 DAYS OF EDUCATION	152 DAYS OF EDUCATION
NO ABSENCE	5 DAYS ABSENCE	7 DAYS ABSENCE	11DAYS ABSENCE	12 DAYS ABSENCE	19 DAYS ABSENCE	29 DAYS ABSENCE	38 DAYS ABSENCE
190 DAYS	185 DAYS	183 DAYS	179 DAYS	178 DAYS	171 DAYS	161 DAYS	152 DAYS
100%	97%	96%	94%	93%	90%	85%	80%
<u>EXCELLENT</u> WELL DONE KEEP UP THE GREAT ATTENDANCE	<u>VERY GOOD</u> BEST CHANCE OF SUCCESS	<u>IN THE AMBER ZONE</u> BUT YOU ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION		<u>WORRYING</u> LESS CHANCE OF SUCCESS MAKES IT HARDER FOR YOU TO SUCCEED		<u>SERIOUS CONCERN</u> VERY DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO MAKE PROGRESS	

# Uniform in KS4

## Uniform

The school uniform in Key Stage 4 remains largely the same as it was in Key Stage 3, with the only difference being the tie. The students are required to wear black trousers or skirt with a white shirt, KS4 tie and blazer. They may also wear the optional jumper.

Uniform can be purchased both from the school and YC Sports. Please see Mrs Lovell in the Student Reception if you wish to purchase uniform directly from school.





*Ambition-Resilience-Trust*