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- *BETTER PROSPECTS*
- *VARIETY OF COURSES*
- *TRANSFERABLE SKILLS*
- *RESPECT*
- *SUCCESS*



@CardiffWestCHS

We endeavour to ensure all materials are correct at the time of going to print. However during the year, details of courses may be subject to change.

2024/2025



Foreword

Thank you for your interest in Cardiff West Community High School Sixth Form.

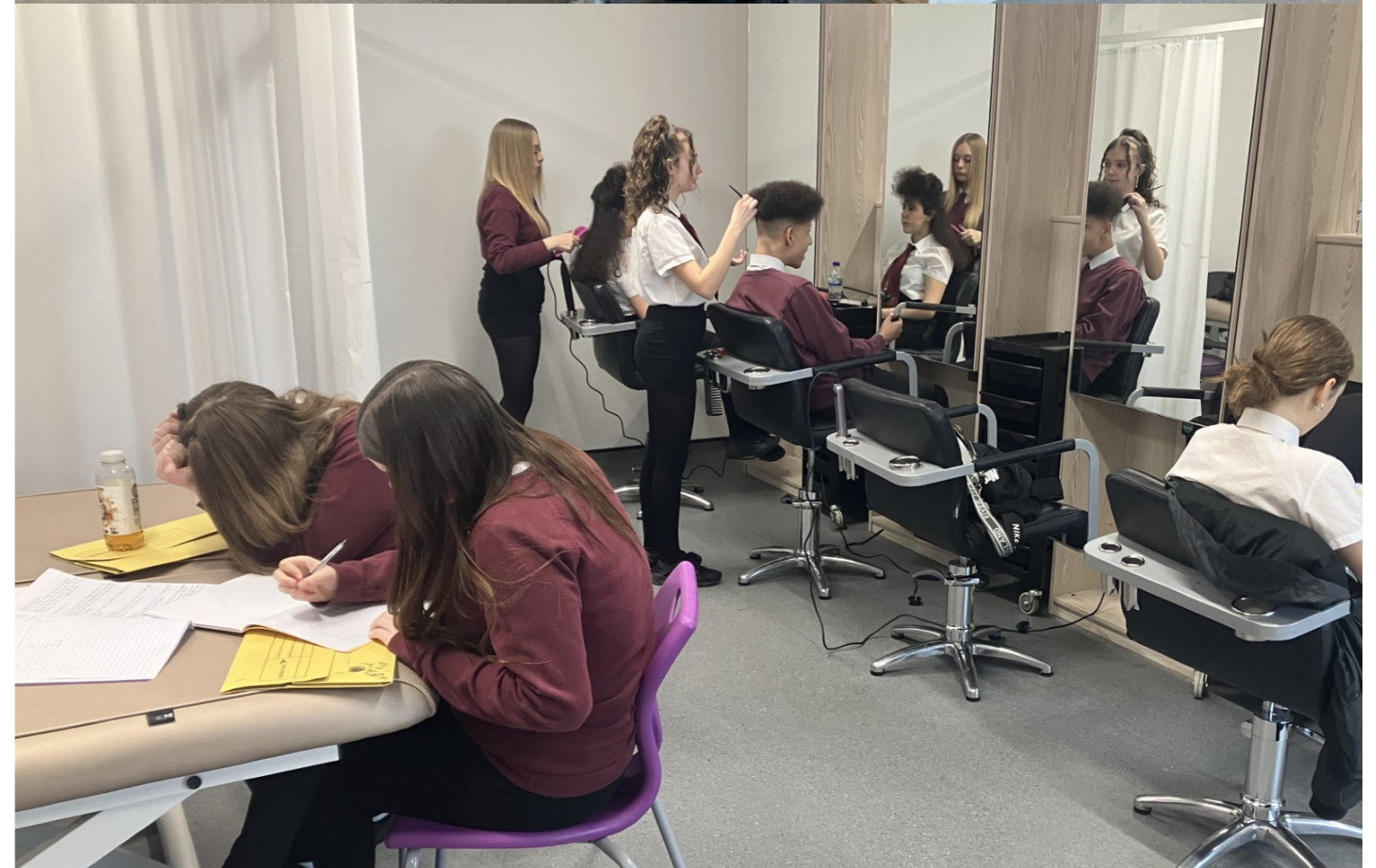
Our Sixth Form provides a wealth of expertise and pathways to help you find your way to an excellent future and chosen career. The Cardiff West Community High School Sixth Form works to provide students with a unique educational experience. We are committed to providing high-quality post-16 education for students in the West Cardiff area.

Collaboratively we offer a wider curriculum, leading to vibrant and relevant opportunities for our students. Together we offer a superb mix of academic and vocational qualifications, enabling students to select the courses which meet their needs and interests.

Our collective sixth form provision ensures a truly personalised programme of support so that all young people can achieve their very best, in an environment where aspirations are high, levels of care, support and guidance are second to none and where excellence thrives. We are very proud of our academic attainment: in 2023, students achieved 20% A*-A in A Levels and Vocational qualifications, and 89% got A-E in 3 A Levels.

We hope that you will enjoy planning your sixth form options, and look forward to welcoming you to our sixth form

EXPERTISE
PERSONALISED
PROGRAMME
SUCCESSFUL
FUTURE



VRQ Level 2 & 3 Hairdressing

About this course

This level 3 City and Guilds qualification is designed to provide you with a nationally recognised vocational qualification, which will aim to prepare you to enter employment within the hairdressing industry. The course provides the knowledge and understanding needed and will help you develop the sector specific skills required to work in this industry.

What will I study?

The course will focus on equipping you with the skills and techniques to succeed in the Industry including:

- Cutting Techniques
- Colouring Hair
- Colour Correction
- Creative styling and dressing
- Dressing long hair
- Monitoring Health and Safety

What next?

This course provides an excellent basis for employment in hairdressing or to progress to further qualifications in Hair and Beauty such as the Assessors Award.



WELCOME

Welcome to the Cardiff West Community High School Sixth Form Prospectus.

Cardiff West Sixth Form offers the widest range of A Levels available locally. Our motivation is to foster a lifetime love of learning across a plethora of academic disciplines, and we are passionate about giving young people the opportunity to discover their potential.

Our students have their own dedicated area where they have access to computers and Chromebooks, study rooms and a common room area giving them space to grow and learn independently and collaboratively, supporting students' academic rigour and allowing them to fulfil their potential.

Our Students speak of the sixth form environment as being a warm, friendly and very welcoming place. Whether in the classroom or pastorally, all staff provide that much needed guidance and support to ensure their enjoy their time with us and go on to help achieve their personal and academic goals.

Our students progress to a wide range of degree programmes at top U.K. Universities including business and economics; mathematics, engineering and cyber security; medicine and law; art and creative media; history and international relations.

Our location in the west side of the city, is steeped in history and our aspirations to be the best serves to inspire our students and us to build a successful future. I do hope that you decide to join us and look forward to meeting you in the near future.

Anna Everitt - Head of Sixth Form



Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus. Further details can be found at

www.cardiffwestchs.cardiff.sch.uk

AS /A2 Sport

What can I study?

Post-16 studies will enable you to select from a range of AS/A2 Level and vocational courses. At Level 3 you have a number of options; you can study 3 AS level subjects, alternatively, we also offer a number of different types of vocational qualifications. Some of these are full vocational qualifications where you focus on one subject over 2 years and this is equivalent to 3 A Levels. We offer other smaller vocational qualifications which are equivalent to one A Level and can be studied in combination with AS level subjects should you wish.

What Level is right for me?

With the Cardiff West Community High School Sixth Form, you can study courses at a range of levels – so whatever level applies to you we offer a programme of study to suit your needs and interests.

The table below provides an idea of levels and the entry requirements needed.

	Level 3 AS/A Level & BTECs/ vocational courses	Level 2 Combination Programme (GCSE Equivalence)
ENTRY REQUIREMENT	5 x GCSEs A-C including English & Maths	3 x GCSE D grades
CONTENT	Choose AS/A Levels or vocational qualifications. (Some Vocational qualifications can be studied in combination with A Levels, others are a full time programme focused on one subject and equivalent to 3 A Levels.) Subject entry dependent on GCSE results.	English & Maths + 3 other subjects
LENGTH	2 years Full time	1 year Full time
PROGRESSION	University, Employment, apprenticeships or training.	Level 3 AS/A Levels, Level 3 vocational courses, employment, apprenticeships or training.

Aims of the Course

Choosing to study Sport as a BTEC qualification will enable you to develop the practical skills and knowledge to work or study further in the sport, active leisure and recreation industry. Developing a greater understanding of how the body works, the risks associated and key issues within sport. The guided learning hours for this qualification is 180 hours. These units will build on your existing knowledge and providing further insight into the sport and recreation industry.

The qualification is equivalent to one A level and is graded pass, merit or distinction (P. M. D.). There is also a D* (Distinction*).

What will I study?

These units will build on your existing knowledge and providing further insight into the sport and recreation industry.

The qualification is equivalent to one A level and is graded pass, merit or distinction (P. M. D.). There is also a D* (Distinction*).

External assessment

The following unit is externally assessed (1.5 hour exam- 80 marks)

- Unit 1: Health and wellbeing (mandatory)
This unit introduces learners to the key components and topics that underpin health and wellbeing. Investigating the link between increased physical activity and improving physical, mental and social health. Learners will develop their understanding of how a sedentary lifestyle can cause physical health conditions, mental health problems and social issues. Learners will also improve their knowledge of how injuries in sport can be reduced and of how rehabilitation can be used to reduce recovery times.

Internal assessment-

The following units are internally assessed and submitted for external moderation (coursework).

Options will be decided depending on the group

- Unit 3: Preparation for sport and physical activity
- Unit 4: Sports pedagogy and coaching
- Unit 5: Sports events
- Unit 6: Officiating in sport
- Unit 7: Performance in sport or physical activity •
- Unit 8: Performance analysis in sport •
- Unit 9: Social influences on participation in sport and Physical Activity

What next?

The BTEC Level 3 qualifications enable you to progress straight into employment in the sport and active leisure industry or pursue higher education at University utilising the skills, knowledge and attributes developed during the course.

Course entry requirements

An interest in sport

All year 11 students will be given an application form.

AS/A2 Sociology

Sociology is a stimulating and dynamic subject. We will be studying individuals within a social setting, which includes groups, organisations, cultures and societies and the inter-relationships between them. During this course pupils will have the opportunity to study social institutions such as the family, education, law, politics, the media, and religion. Pupils will study how we acquire our culture and how social structures affect individuals. We will also study the nature of power and social control, and the nature of social divisions.

A Level Sociology encourages you to:

- Acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes
- Develop a lifelong interest in social issues with reference to Wales in particular
- Understand and evaluate sociological methodology and a range of research methods through active involvement in the research process
- Develop skills that enable individuals to focus on their personal identity, roles and responsibilities

What will I study?

AS Level (year 1)

Unit 1

This unit focuses on the role of the family and how we learn to be members of society. It includes defining the family, exploring relationships within the family and issues such as diversity, gender roles, marriage and divorce.

Unit 2

This unit encourages students to explore the nature and practice of social enquiry and includes the study of the various methods employed by sociologists in their research. It also includes definitions of educational terminology; patterns and trends regarding the achievements of different social groups by class; gender, ethnicity and locality, and sociological explanations of these trends.

A2 Level (year 2)

Unit 3

This unit looks at the patterns and trends of crime, sociological explanations of crime, agents of social control, and the role of the media in such things as moral panics.

Unit 4

This unit requires students to apply their knowledge of sociological methods. It also includes the study of social inequality which includes looking at the patterns and trends of inequality in our society, and the sociological explanations for this inequality.

What next?

Sociology is useful for a range of university courses and careers including: community work, housing management, teaching, personnel management, police force, probation service, public sector administration, social work, and welfare advice work.

Course entry requirements

GCSE English grade C or above is recommended.



SIXTH FORM

There is a big gap between high school and the world of work or university study, and Sixth Form can go a long way towards bridging it.

Better Prospects: Your prospects of future training, higher education and employment will be hugely improved by studying a post-16 course.

Variety of courses:

there are courses for all students, in various subjects at a range of levels – from A Levels to career-focused courses such as BTECs.

Confidence and drive:

Post 16 students have high aspirations and the confidence to reach their goals.

Opportunities for university study:

You will increase your chances of going to university. Indeed, many of our students have successfully gone on to study at University

Train for the career you want: If you have your sights set on your ideal career then sixth form study will help you develop the qualifications and skills required for the industry you want to work in.

Transferable skills: All courses in sixth form will prepare you for your future career or further learning, equipping you with the necessary skills, both academic and practical, to succeed.

Respect: All students are treated with respect and are expected to be mature and responsible.

Supported independence: Sixth form offers learning within an independent but structured environment that also helps you to develop personally and socially.

10: Great success rate: In 2023 students achieved 21% A*-A, 76% A*-C in A Levels and Vocational qualifications



AS/A2 RE

A-Level RE introduces learners to 3 core elements of Religious Education. These are: Philosophy, Ethics and Christianity. They will delve into the depths of the unknown, trying to understand where we came from, is anything in this world actually real, what is the most loving thing to do in any given situation and if God is actually a man to name just a few of the ultimate questions A-Level RE students will face. All of this occurs whilst developing their own critical thinking and analysis skills that can be applied to almost all parts of their lives once they have left their A-Level studies.

What will I study?

- Year 12

- Unit 1 – An Introduction to the Study of Religion – 1hr 15 min exam – 15% - Christianity
- Unit 2 – An Introduction to Religion and Ethics and the Philosophy of Religion – 1hr 45 min exam – 25 % - Natural Law, Situation Ethics, Utilitarianism and Ethical Thought. Arguments for and against God’s existence, Religious Experiences and Challenges to Religious Belief.

- Year 13

- Unit 3 – A Study of Religion – 1hr 30 min exam – 20% - Christianity
- Unit 4 – Religion and Ethics – 1hr 30 min exam – 20% - Ethical Thought, Deontological Ethics, Determinism and Freewill.
- Unit 5 – Philosophy of Religion – 1hr 30 min exam – 20% - Challenges to Religious Belief, Religious Experiences and Religious Language.

- A religious studies A-level can provide you with lots of transferable skills including:
 - Communication and literacy skills - As studying religious studies at A-level involves essay writing and debate, you will learn how to communicate your thoughts clearly, and create structured arguments.
 - Analytical and critical thinking skills - You will gain excellent analytical and critical thinking skills from looking closely at different religions. Both of these are key skills that employers look for.
 - Interpersonal skills - As studying religious studies will enable you to gain a deeper understanding of society, this will help you to better understand, and relate to people from different walks of life.

What next?

Studying RE can lead to jobs in

- Chaplain
- Teacher
- Advice worker
- Police officer
- Lawyer
- Youth worker
- Charity worker
- Counsellor
- Community development worker
- International aid/development worker
- NHS admin or managerial role
- Mediator
- Journalist

Course entry requirements

C grade in English/Humanities subject

AS/A2 Psychology

Psychology is a fascinating subject which will allow you to understand human behaviour and the reasons why we behave in the ways that we do. To gain this understanding of human behaviour, psychologists study behaviour through experiments and observations of visible actions. Psychologists also consider hidden internal mental processes and try to explain the inner workings of the mind.

There are various approaches to Psychology and during the course you will study key pieces of research and topics from a range of these areas including criminal behaviour, eye-witness testimony, phobias, relationships and therapies such as psychosurgery. You will also study research methods and develop existing numeracy skills by looking at data and working out what it tells us about human behaviour.

What will I study?

AS Level (year 1)

Unit 1: Psychology – past to present

This unit introduces five main psychological approaches including Biological, Behaviourist, Cognitive, Psychodynamic and Positive Psychology. You will examine lots of different topics including explanations for criminal behaviour, phobias and more.

Unit 2: Psychology – investigating behaviour

This unit introduces psychological research methods including participant selection, conducting safe and ethical research, and design of psychological research studies. This unit also covers debates on topics such as:

- Should the mother be the main caregiver for a child or can other people help in this role.
- Can we trust what eyewitnesses say in criminal trials – is our memory as accurate as we think it is.

A2 Level (year 2)

Unit 3: Psychology - implications in the real world
Learners are expected to apply knowledge and understanding from Unit 1 to three human/animal behaviours; Autistic spectrum behaviour, Criminal behaviour & Schizophrenia. Students will also study six controversial issues in Psychology.

Unit 4: Psychology – applied research methods:
This unit further develops students' understanding of research methods studied at AS, including the practical application of two research methods to class based Psychological research studies where students gather data and interpret its meaning.

What next?

The study of Psychology at A Level is useful for a diverse range of university courses and careers including: clinical psychologist, forensic and criminal psychology, counselling, mental health nursing, lecturer in Psychology, social worker and educational psychology .

Course entry requirements

At least one grade B in GCSE Science and grade C in GCSE Mathematics are required. Grade C or above in GCSE English is recommended. However, students wishing to apply to study AS Psychology who have just missed the entry requirements might still be able to take Psychology following an interview with teaching staff in September.

***Being run at Cantonian**

Level 3 Options:

Level 3 Career-focused courses

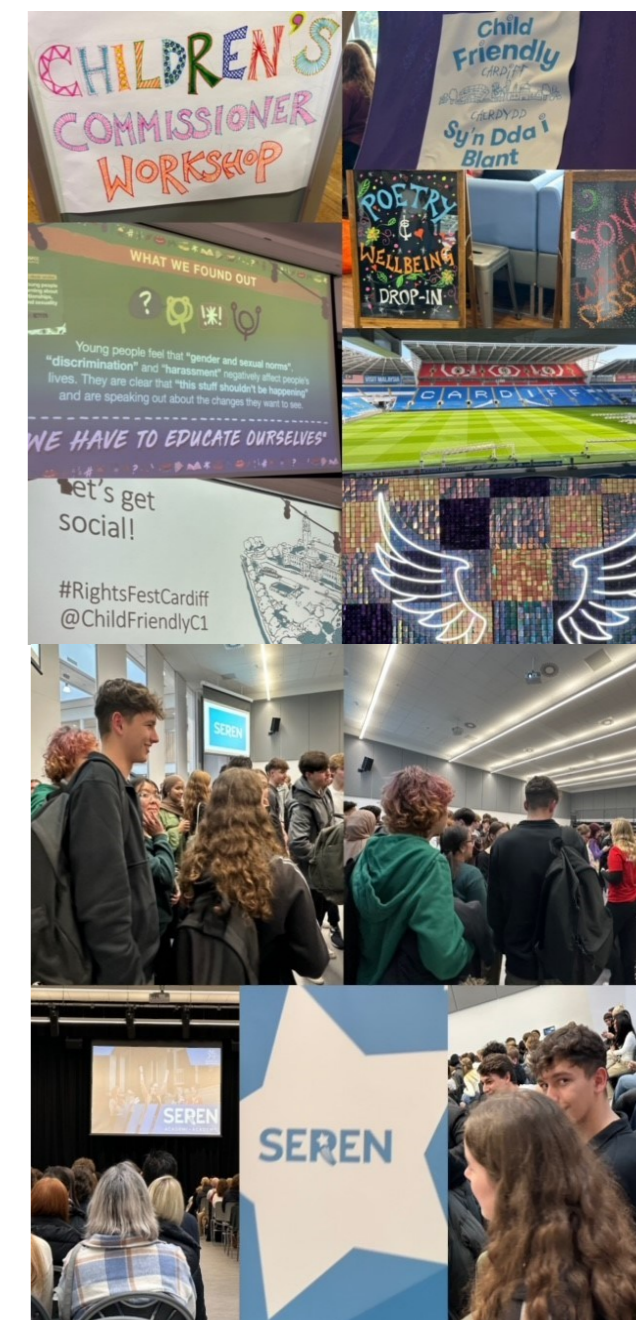
These Level 3 vocational courses focus on providing you with the skills and knowledge sought by employers in industry.

You will gain practical hands on experience as well as an in-depth understanding of your subject and the skills needed to succeed in the sector.

Choose AS / A Levels or vocational qualifications. Some vocational qualifications can be studied in combination with A Levels. Others are a full time programme equivalent to 3 A Levels, focused on one subject.

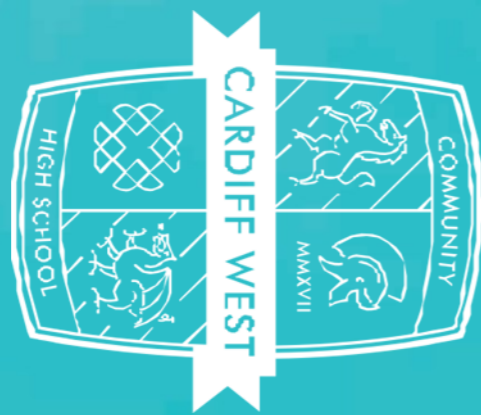
We also offer the What's Next Award which gives students the opportunity to prepare for the world of work.

Please note there needs to be a minimum of 8 students in a class for it to run at A Level



2024-2026

OUR COURSES



BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts

The BTEC qualification in Performing Arts will develop your skills for a broad range of careers within the Performing Arts Industry: Performer (acting, singing, dancing, musical theatre), Performing Arts Teacher, Theatrical production or working in a Theatre, or Performing Arts Journalism to name just a few. This Level 3 Diploma is broadly equivalent to 2 A Levels. We complete one in Year 12 and the second in Year 13.

In Year 12 you complete units 1-3 and one optional unit, and in Year 13 you complete units 4-6 and one optional unit.

What will I study?

You choose either a dance, acting or musical theatre pathway through this qualification based on your interest and abilities. You will theoretically and practically explore a range of different skills within your chosen discipline. As well as developing the skills within your chosen discipline, this course develops a number of different skills such as: communication, working with others, presentation skills, analytical skills, organisational skills, evaluation and reflection skills.

Higher education

Learners who complete the qualification should have a broad appreciation of work in the environmental sector allowing for progression into further education, employment or training.

Year 1

Compulsory units

- Unit 1 - Investigating Practitioners' Work
- Unit 2 - Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
- Unit 3 - Group Performance Workshop

Optional units (choose 1 of the following)

- Contemporary Dance Technique
- Interpreting Classical Text for Performance
- Musical Theatre Techniques.

Year 2:

Compulsory units

- Unit 4 - Performing Arts in the Community
- Unit 5 - Individual Performance Commission
- Unit 6 - Live Performance to an Audience

Optional units (choose 1 of the following)

- Choreography for Live Performance
- Acting Styles
- Singing Techniques for Performers

Through the completion of these units, you will develop understanding and the skills needed to be a performer or work within the Performing Arts industry.

What next?

The course is an ideal step towards further study of drama, dance or musical theatre or to a range of higher education degree courses when combined with other A Level subjects. This course also prepares you if you wanted to go straight into employment in the Performing Arts industry.

Course specific entry requirements

5 GCSE's at grade A* - C including Mathematics and English.

AS /A2 Music

A level music is divided into a total of 6 units, 3 AS units and 3 A2 units.

What will I study?

Year 12

AS Unit 1: Performing Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes 12% 60 marks A performance consisting of a minimum of two pieces either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination of both. One piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one area of study.

AS Unit 2: Composing Total duration of compositions: 3-6 minutes 12% 54 marks
Two compositions: 1. A piece of at least 1 minute duration which uses the techniques associated with the Western Classical Tradition, in response to a brief set by WJEC. Learners will have a choice of four set briefs. 2. A free composition of at least 2 minutes duration

AS Unit 3: Appraising Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 16% 72 mark
Part 1 Area of Study A The Western Classical Tradition: You will study Religious Choral Music 1730-1800 including one set work, Requiem, Mozart (Requiem, Dies Irae, Tuba Mirum and Rex Tremendae). You will also study Musical Theatre, Porter, Rodgers, Schönberg and LloydWebbe

Course entry requirements
B or above in Music GCSE

Year 13

A2 Unit 4 Performing (22%) A performance consisting of a minimum of three pieces. At least one is a soloist. The other pieces may be either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination. One piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one area of study. At least one other piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one other, different area of study.

A2 Unit 5: Composing (14%) Two compositions: 1. A piece of at least 1 minute using techniques associated with the Western Classical Tradition. Learners will have a choice of four set briefs. 2. A free composition of at least 2 minutes duration.

A2 Unit 6: Appraising Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes - 24% 80 marks Two areas of study: Area of study E: The Western Classical Tradition (Part 2) Religious Choral Music 1800-1890 including one set work, Requiem, Verdi (Dies Irae). You will also study Strand 2: Chamber Music in Wales including one set work, Night Dances, Plowman and two subsidiary pieces: Ariel, Samuel and Tango Passacaglia, Wilson-Dickson and American Musical Theatre, Stephen Sondheim and Stephen Schwartz.

What next?

Music will enable you to demonstrate many skills which employers, colleges and universities will be looking for. It can also give you opportunities to travel, meet people and get the most out of life



How do I choose my A Levels?

All students choose three subjects to study in the Sixth Form. It is always advisable to choose subjects that compliment each other and demonstrate to universities and employers that you have a range of skills that are relevant to the course/job you are applying for.

THE SUBJECTS YOU CHOOSE SHOULD REFLECT

- Your interests and subjects that you enjoy
- Any career aspirations you have (have you researched what the requirements are?)
- Your best chances of success (do you prefer all exam based subjects or some subjects with coursework and examinations, such as BTEC's?)

SIXTH FORM MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A LEVEL

Students wishing to pursue an A Level pathway must have achieved a minimum of five A-C grades and attain the individual subject requirements, highlighted later in the prospectus.

BTEC/TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS

Students who wish to pursue a BTEC/Technical qualification pathway, must have a minimum of five A-C grades across their GCSE's, including English and Mathematics.

AREAS OF STUDY	COMBINATION MIGHT FOCUS ON	RUSSELL GROUP PREFERENCES
Medical - Medicine, Veterinary medicine, Dentistry, Biomedical	Chemistry, Biology	Chemistry, Biology
Other Medical - Nursing, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy	Health and Social Care, Sports, Science subjects	Biology
Engineering (Civil, Chemical, Mechanical) and Construction	Mathematics, Technology, IT, Science subjects	Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry
Business and Finance	Business, Arts, Mathematics, Performing Arts	Mathematics
Law	Business, Arts, Mathematics, Performing Arts	History, English Literature
Architecture	Technology, IT, Art, Mathematics	Art, Mathematics
Health and Sport	Health and Social Care, Sport, Science, Performing Arts	Biology
Languages	Languages	Languages
Theatre, Drama	Creative Arts, Arts, Performing Arts	History, English Literature
Art and Design	Creative Arts, Technology	Art Subjects
English, Liberal Arts, Humanities	Arts, Languages, Humanities, Performing Arts	History, Geography, English Literature, Languages



AS/A2 Mathematics

The emphasis of the course is on using and applying Mathematics. The AS specification has been selected to develop abilities to reason logically, and to understand the relationship between 'real world' problems and mathematical models. The A2 specification extends students' range of mathematical skills and techniques and uses them in more difficult unstructured problems. Students will develop an awareness of the relevance of Mathematics to other fields of study, to the world of work, and to society in general.

What will I study?

AS Level (year 1)

Unit 1: Pure

Algebra, coordinate geometry, differentiation, integration, sequences and series, trigonometry, vectors, exponentials and logarithms

Unit 2: Applied (Statistics and Mechanics)

Statistics: Sampling, probability, data presentation and interpretation, statistical distributions and hypothesis testing

Mechanics: Forces and Newton's laws, kinematics in 1D, pulleys and lifts.

A-Level (year 2)

Unit 3: Pure

Further differentiation and integration, trigonometry and functions and, differential equations.

Unit 4: Applied

Mechanics: Moments, kinematics in 2D, differential equations and friction.

Statistics: Discrete random variables, probability, binomial distribution, poisson distribution, continuous random variables.

What next?

Mathematics provides a useful route into many careers. The ability to think logically and be able to solve problems are highly valued skills in the work place. Mathematics is now a requirement for a number of university courses and is also an advantage for many subjects including: actuarial work and insurance; economics and business; management, finance, and accountancy; computer science and ICT; medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy; genetic engineering and physics; social sciences; and law.

Course entry requirements

Grade B or above in GCSE (Higher) Mathematics and studied Additional Maths

Level 3 Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate

The central focus of the Welsh Baccalaureate At level 3 there is a strong emphasis on independent learning – your teachers don't teach you in the traditional way but rather act as a learning coach or mentor to support you to achieve the best you can. Regular tutorials, one-to-one help, support and guidance will be available both inside and outside of timetabled lessons and are designed to encourage you, the learner, to take responsibility for your own learning. Support will be given on planning and target setting; taking responsibility for your own learning; as well as also providing advice on where to find expert advice. Currently, Welsh Bacc is divided up as follows:

Global Community Project:

For this section of the course you will be expected to: Carry out research from a wide variety of sources about a global issue of your choice and produce a Research Review. You will then use this information to inform an audience about your chosen issue. Explore how your chosen global issue is related to a problem in Wales or local area that needs addressing. Produce a Persuasive Proposal that identifies the most appropriate solution to the problem. Consider how you can contribute towards addressing the chosen global issue by taking positive action for at least 15 hours as an active citizen either in your local community, nationally, or globally. Produce an Active Citizen Record which will evidence your journey from planning, through to performing and evaluating your involvement in your chosen community action.

Future Destinations:

Present a Self-Assessment analysis of yourself in preparation for your future destination – wherever this may be. Use these outcomes to explore potential realistic future employment for you. Produce a Personal Employment Destination Plan outlining your journey to your future destination, explaining and justifying your choices. Select one of the themes from the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales Act) to devise an initiative called 'Improving our Future' that could have a positive impact on others, and which may be relevant to your future destination. Produce an Initiative Proposal and Presentation. During this task discuss your proposed initiative by collaborating with another person, people, or group. Use their feedback to develop your idea.

Individual Project:

This builds on the skills developed in year 11 and provides opportunities for learners to develop a range of research skills and acquire detailed knowledge of a topic that particularly interests them. The skills that learners will be developing will be of great benefit to them in future higher education and employment, as well as good discussion points for interviews leading to their future destination. In completing the Individual Project learners will recognise the importance research plays in making informed decisions. Learners will be encouraged to find, evaluate, analyse, communicate, and use information to solve a complex problem. They will have the opportunity to demonstrate originality, initiative, and to exercise personal responsibility. The Individual Project should be completed in the second half of the course, generally after the Global Community Project and Future Destination Project, to enable the learner to showcase their use of the skills that have been developed

Welsh Baccalaureate aims to enable learners to develop and demonstrate an understanding of and proficiency in essential and employability skills. These are the skills that employers and educators value, and which learners need for learning, work and life. The seven essential and employability skills are:

- Literacy
- Personal Effectiveness
- Numeracy
- Creativity and Innovation
- Digital Literacy
- Planning and Organisation
- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

.What next?

Whatever your plans for the future, Welsh Baccalaureate will help you develop and demonstrate an understanding of, and proficiency in essential and employability skills. These are the skills that are highly valued by employers and further and higher education institutions alike.

AS/A2 Art

This specification provides learners with opportunities to develop a broad foundation of critical, practical and theoretical skills at AS level. This offers learners a holistic understanding of a range of practices and contexts in the visual arts, crafts, and design fields, culminating in greater specialism and achievement at A Level.

What will I study?

You'll be encouraged to develop:

- Intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive capabilities
- Investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and critical Judgement
- Independence of mind in developing, Refining and communicating your own ideas, your own intentions and personal outcomes.
- An interest in, enthusiasm for, and enjoyment of art, craft and design
- The experience of working with a broad range of media
- Knowledge and experience of real world contexts and, where appropriate, links to the creative industries
- Knowledge and understanding of art, craft, design and media and technologies in contemporary and past societies and cultures.

What next?

This subject combines well with many other subjects, however, it is recommended that no more than one practically-based subject is studied alongside art as the work-load may be excessive.

Students may progress to Higher Education within the field of Art and Design.

Past students have gone on directly to degree or HND courses in history of art, graphic design, fine art, fashion and textiles, art history, etc. However, the majority take a Foundation Studies course before applying for degree courses.

Course specific entry requirements

Art and Design at grade C or above and the necessary aptitude and commitment to Art and Design. A grade C or above in D&T or Textiles will be accepted, subject to discussion, and in exceptional cases, students might be accepted without the minimum qualification on production of a suitable portfolio of work. There is some written work so the ability to communicate in written English is important.

A Level Law

Description of course

Law is one of the most useful and interesting academic subjects to study as it affects nearly all aspects of our everyday life. Law at Cardiff West Community High School is taught to the new BTEC specification.

Year 12 focuses on:

Unit 1 - Dispute Solving in Civil Law

Students will explore how civil disputes are resolved, both in the courts and by alternative means. They will examine the making and working of legal precedent and its application in the law of negligence.

Unit 2 - Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System

Students will research how laws are made and interpreted, who advises and decides on the outcome of criminal cases and the punishments that can be imposed if laws are broken. They will then present advice to clients on non-fatal offence case studies.

Year 13 focuses on:

Unit 3 - Applying the Law

Learners examine the law related to specific crimes, including homicide and offences against property. They will explore the police procedures for dealing with such offences.

Unit 4 - Aspect of Family Law

Students explore the requirements of a valid marriage and civil partnership, the laws governing the breakdown of relationships, as well as how disputes over children are resolved by the courts.

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Possible court visits / Prison visits to understand the English Legal System and the sentencing / rehabilitation of offenders. Possible visits to the Inns of Court and Westminster to understand the legal profession and sources of law. We also run an extra-curricular Law Club and take part in the Bar Mock Trials national competition.

WHY STUDY LAW?

BTEC Extended Certificate in Applied Law (Level 3) is not only an excellent qualification for progression to University and the legal profession. Studying Law develops skills that are highly sought by employers e.g. analytical, research and communication skills.

Studying Law can be useful for careers in Public Services, Civil Service, Human Resources, Business and Banking, Teaching, Social Work and Research.

***Possibly being run at Cantonian**

AS/A2 Languages

Welsh / Spanish—Fresh start to A’Level

Whether Welsh or Spanish, you will develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing in the chosen language. You will also further develop confidence in communicating and an awareness and understanding of other cultures.

What will I study?

Spanish—GCSE AS & A2 over Yr 12& 13

At AS (year one) 1. Being a young person in Spanish-speaking society Family structures, traditional and modern values, friendships / relationships Youth trends, issues and personal identity Educational and employment Opportunities And

2. Understanding the Spanish speaking world Regional culture and heritage in Spain, Spanish-speaking countries and communities Literature, art, film and music in the Spanish-speaking world

3. Diversity and difference Migration and integration Cultural identity and marginalisation Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference Discrimination and diversity

4 -Spanish - The Two Spains: 1936 onwards El franquismo – origins, development and consequences Post-Civil War Spain – historical and political repercussions The Spanish Civil War and the transition to democracy (represented in the arts, cinema, literature, art and photography) Spain – coming to terms with the past? “Recuperación de la memoria histórica”

What next?

Studying a language can lead to many different careers that directly require the use of languages such as translating, interpreting and teaching. However, skills in a foreign language can also open the door to an array of career paths such as journalism, international aid/development work, marketing, sales and logistics

Welsh

Unit 1 - Film and Oracy. Group Oral Assessment (15%) In small groups, you will discuss various aspects of the film Patagonia.

Unit 2 - Written Coursework. Internal Assessment (10%) You will complete three written tasks (600-800 words each) on a theme of your choice.

Unit 3 - The Use of Language and Poetry. 2 hour written exam. (15%) Use of Language tests your grammatical understanding and ability to communicate accurately in writing. Poetry: you will analyse one of the five contemporary Welsh poems you have studied. A Level 60%

Unit 4 - Drama and Oracy. Group Oral Assessment (25%) In small groups, you will spend 30 minutes discussing your experiences of using your language skills beyond the classroom and the play

Unit 5 – The Welsh Language in Society and Translanguaging. 2 hour written exam. (15%) Welsh in Society: you will learn about events throughout history which have affected the status of the Welsh language in our society, and, in turn, the number of Welsh speakers. You will learn more about the protests and initiatives that have raised the profile of the Welsh language and reversed the decline in the number of Welsh speakers.

Unit 6 – The Use of Language and the Short Story. 2 hour written exam. (20%) Use of Language offers you the opportunity to demonstrate your grammatical understanding and your ability to adapt language according to the audience and purpose of the task.

Course entry requirements

C or Above in any language

AS/A2 Biology

Biology is the study of life. It will enable you to develop a vast array of skills and acquire knowledge about the natural world and all the living things within it. Gaining an A-level in this subject opens up a vast range of opportunities for both university degrees and career options.

What will I study?

Year 1

Unit 1: Basic Biochemistry and Cell Organisation.

This unit covers the topics of biological molecules, cells, enzymes and cell division.

Unit 2: Biodiversity and Physiology of Body Systems.

This unit covers the biodiversity of organisms, adaptations that organisms have for gas exchange, transport and nutrition. In A level Biology, there are a further two themed units which are assessed at the end of the second year of study.

What next?

This qualification is designed to support progression to further study at university, employment, or apprenticeship. It will give successful students the transferable knowledge, understanding and skills that will be an advantage when applying for a range of industry-linked training programmes or apprenticeships in the Applied Science sector, or other sectors.

Course entry requirements

Science or Biology Grade B or above

Year 2

Unit 3: Energy, Homeostasis and the Environment for Life.

This unit covers the topics of photosynthesis, respiration, microbiology, homeostasis, the nervous system, ecosystems and human impact on the environment.

Unit 4: Variation, Inheritance and Options.

This unit covers reproduction in animals and plants, inheritance, variation and evolution and the application of reproduction and genetics. There is also a choice of one option topic from the following: Immunology and Disease, Human Musculoskeletal Anatomy or Neurobiology and Behaviour

Unit 5: Practical examination

This unit will assess your practical skills developed over the duration of the course. It comprises two tasks which will be completed on set dates in the Spring term of the second year of study.

WJEC Diploma in Criminology

WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is a qualification with elements of Psychology, Law and Sociology that complements studies in humanities related subjects. The qualification would support learners' progression from any study at Level 2, particularly GCSEs in Sociology, Law or Psychology. The course will go beyond the traditional academic study with guest speakers from agencies involved in services/practice that the Criminology course material covers.

What will I study?

Certificate (year 1)

Module 1 - Changing Awareness of Crime:

Students will assess how the public, based on media portrayal, measured by the state and social values, perceives crime. Study of these areas will culminate in the creation of a campaign to raise awareness, or change the perception of a specific criminal offence.

Module 2 – Criminological Theories:

Students are required to familiarise themselves with, and evaluate a wide range of socio-psychological theoretical explanations for criminal behaviour.

Diploma (year 2)

Module 3 – Crime Scene to Court Room:

This unit will provide an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified, to the verdict. Learners will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information, in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases.

Module 4 – Crime and Punishment:

Learners will apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories, and the process of bringing the accused to court, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy.

What next?

On successful completion of this course, many learners could apply to, and be offered places, at university on courses related to Criminology, Sociology, Law or Psychology. Alternatively, the course will enhance an application to work in the areas of the criminal justice sector, social and probation work.

Course specific entry requirements

Grade C in English Language.

*Possibly being run at Cantonian

BTEC National Extended Certificate Information Technology

This qualification is suitable for students who want to continue their education through applied learning. The qualifications prepare learners for a range of higher education courses and job roles related to the IT sector. The course develops a wide ranging skill set which is suitable for many careers in the IT sector and for students wishing to apply to University.

What will I study?

The course is made up of 4 units. 2 units are assessed externally and 2 assessed internally.

Unit 1:

Information Technology Systems.

This unit involves the study the relationship between hardware and software, developing a sound understanding of how organisations use IT. The students study the contemporary issues and use of IT systems. This is assessed by an exam taken in year 13

Unit 2:

Creating systems to manage information.

This unit focuses around database design. Student study different data types and validation and independently to construct relational databases. This is assessed in an exam in year 12

Unit 3:

This internally assessed unit examines the features of social media as a business tool and how business utilise and promote using social media. This unit is completed in year 12

Unit 6:

Students will examine the design and features of websites and then construct and test a website from a given scenario. An internally assessed unit completed in year 13.

What next?

This qualification is designed to provide a well rounded understanding of the IT industry in contemporary society. The qualification provides access to a fast growing and constantly changing industry, the qualification can lead to further study at University or a wide range of employment opportunities.

Course entry requirements

Entry requires Maths and English grade A*-C. There is no IT GCSE requirement.

AS/A2 History (Modern)

This course analyses and evaluates sources of information to gain a greater understanding of events throughout History, such as Tudors, Nazi Germany and United States 1890-1990. We will also look at different interpretations of events throughout History in an effort to gain greater knowledge of the truth!

What will I study?

AS Level (Year 1)

AS – Year 12

Unit 1 Aspects of Wales and England 1485 – 1603; politics, government, protest, rebellions. Assessment is through essay style questions. The examination lasts 1hour 30 minutes and contributes to 20% of the A Level.

Unit 2 Weimar and its Challenges 1918-33; its establishment, political and economic issues, role of Stresemann, the rise of Hitler 1929-33. Assessment is through source based questions and an interpretation. The examination lasts 1 hour 45 minutes and contributes to 20% of the A
A2 Units (Year 2)

Level. A2 – Year 13

Unit 3 The American Century c.1890-1990. This focuses on two aspects: The Struggle for Civil Rights and The Making of a Superpower (foreign policy). Assessment is through two essay questions. The examination lasts 1hour 45 minutes and contributes to 20% of the A Level.

Course entry requirements

C grade

Unit 4 An in-depth study of Nazi Germany 1933-45; the consolidation of power, the nature of the political system, economic and social policies, World War Two and the Holocaust. Assessment is through source based questions and an essay. The examination lasts 1hour 45 minutes and contributes to 20% of the A Level.

Unit 5 Non Examination Assessment - Historical Investigation based on Unit 3. Assessment is through a Non Examination Assessment. This is an extended essay which needs to be between 3,000 and 4,000 words and it contributes to 20% of the A Level.

What next?

History is an excellent basis for students who wish to proceed to Higher Education, and is one of the recognised 'facilitating subjects' that will help students gain access to top Russell group universities. A traditional and highly regarded qualification, it gives learners high-level skills and works well with most subjects.

This course is particularly effective for those wishing to continue into history, law, journalism, archaeology, education, or politics.



AS/A2 Business Studies

This course introduces learners to the dynamic business environment and the importance of entrepreneurial activity in creating business opportunities and sustaining business growth. Learners will have the opportunity to develop awareness of contemporary business issues relevant to the Welsh business environment.

What will I study?

AS Level (year 1)

Unit 1: Business opportunities

Business Opportunities: This unit focuses on new business start-ups and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). The content in this section is based around the concept of starting a new business and the issues that surround the process of planning a new business. In addition, learners should be aware of other types of business organisations and the markets they operate in and their various stakeholders.

Unit 2: Business functions

This unit broadens the context for learners and will include all types of business organisations, ranging from recently formed small businesses to well-established multinational companies. Learners need to understand that, in order to succeed in a competitive market, all businesses have to consider the core functions of business. Learners will study the following content areas: marketing, finance, people in organisations (human resources), and operations management.

What next?

The full A Level in Business provides the basis for students who wish to proceed to Higher Education to study law, business management, marketing, accountancy, finance, and banking.

Course-specific entry requirements

GCSE Mathematics and English grade A* - C. There is no requirement for GCSE Business Studies

WJEC Level 3 Health & Social Care Principles & Context

What will I study?

The Level 3 Health and Social Care consists of **three** mandatory units, two NEA coursework style units and one examination

Unit 1: Principles of care and safe practice within outcome-focused, person-centred care. In this unit, assessed through a non-examination assessment (NEA) you will: gain knowledge and understanding of professional responsibilities, roles and accountabilities of health and social care workers within the sector. learn about legislation, national policies, codes of conduct and professional practice that support health and social care workers in their roles gain knowledge of ethical issues and approaches when providing outcome-focused care. understand the importance of positive relationships, trust, effective communication and promoting quality care that is outcome-focused.

Unit 2: Factors affecting individuals' growth and development across the lifespan. In this unit, assessed through an examination, you will gain knowledge and understanding of the factors that affect an individual's growth and development across the lifespan and the effects this can have on their personal well-being outcomes and care and support needs.

Unit 3: Promoting the rights of individuals across the lifespan. In this unit, assessed through a non-examination assessment (NEA), you will gain knowledge and understanding of the rights of individuals and the barriers to participation they may face, how these are promoted and challenged to promote health and wellbeing.

WHY STUDY HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

The study of Health and Social Care will help you to understand the range of settings in which social care takes place, and the different roles and types of work available within the healthcare system. On this course you will study the universal principles of care that are relevant to a wide range of rewarding careers, including social workers, nurses, health visitors, carers and paramedics. The course will also enable you to develop a detailed understanding of the communication skills and safeguarding procedures necessary to work safely and professionally within the health and social care system.

This course will appeal to students who:

- Enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experiences
- Are interested in developing an understanding of caring organisations and the clients they serve
- Want to study a course which is active and enjoyable
- Want to move onto a related career or higher education course
- Would like to work in the health care sector, teaching, police force, youth work, social work etc.

This qualification supports access to a range of higher education courses possibly, but not exclusively, in health and social care, if taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications. This qualification typically makes up one-third of a study programme.

What next?

The Health course provides the basis for students who wish to proceed to Higher Education to study mid-wifery, nursing, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, radiographers, specialists for adults and children with additional needs, social work, community services, child care workers and primary school teachers. As well as careers as a TA, Nursery Assistant

Course-specific entry requirements

English/humanities grade A* - C. There is no requirement for GCSE Health

Engineering— EAL Level 3 Diploma in Engineering Technologies

What are these qualification about?

These qualifications have been developed to provide learners with an advanced knowledge and understanding of the practices and processes of engineering technologies. They cover knowledge, understanding and skills that have been identified in order to operate effectively in a job role within the Engineering Sector and are relevant to a wide variety of study routes.

What will I study?

These qualifications are based on National Occupational Standards (NOS) for engineering, which are statements of performance that describe what competent people in a particular occupation or task are expected to be able to do, and so contribute to developing the skills and knowledge that have been identified to operate effectively in job roles within the Engineering Sector.

These qualifications are graded Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Who are these qualification for?

These qualifications have been specifically designed for 16 -19 year-old learners in full-time education who are interested in pursuing a career in the engineering sector, including occupations and job roles such as maintenance or mechanical engineer.

What do these qualifications cover?

These qualifications have one core mandatory unit (which provides learners with knowledge and understanding of engineering and environmental health and safety) and pathways within the optional units.

The core mandatory unit is externally assessed as a written multiple choice paper contributing to 25% of final qualification.

Additional mandatory and optional units are internally assessed and externally quality assured.

Y12: Certificate:

2 mandatory units: 1 externally assessed, 1 internally assessed plus one optional unit.

Y13: Diploma:

2 mandatory units: 1 externally assessed, 1 internally assessed plus five optional units

What next?

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 3 or Degree level Engineering qualifications

Course specific entry requirements

5 GCSE's at grade A* - C including Mathematics and English.

BTEC Extended Certificate in Creative Media

About this course

The BTEC qualification in Creative Media Production will develop your skills for a broad range of careers in film, TV and other forms of media production. Wales has a strong and developing media production industry with both large and smaller independent production companies, many of which are at the cutting edge of TV and film production. The course is a step towards a career in this exciting area of work.

What will I study?

Units:

Pre-production techniques for creative media production

You will gain an understanding of the requirements for a specific media production and will learn to prepare, plan and deliver pre-production documentation.

Communication skills for creative media production

You will develop the skills to be able to pitch a media production proposal using appropriate technology.

Optional Units:

Writing for television and video

You will develop an understanding of the commissioning process for writing for television and video and will practice researching and producing scripts and proposals for television and video production.

Single camera techniques

Understanding the features of single camera production and develop the techniques for production.

Units:

Research techniques

This unit will teach you to apply a range of research methods and techniques and present your research.

Optional Units:

Music video production

In this exciting unit you will learn about the styles, conventions, and techniques of music videos, including planning, music and production.

Film and video editing techniques

You will gain an understanding of the development and principles of editing and be able to prepare moving image material for editing.

What next?

This course is an ideal step towards direct employment in the media industry, an apprenticeship, or to a range of higher education degree courses when combined with other A Level subjects.

Course entry requirements

GCSE at grade C or above in English Language is required.

AS/A2 English Literature

English Literature encourages students to develop their interest in and enjoyment of literature and literary studies as they read widely and independently. They will engage critically and creatively with a body of texts and explore ways to respond to them. In addition, students will develop and apply literary analysis and evaluation and explore the contexts of the texts they are reading and others' interpretations of them. Later in the course they are encouraged to undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen their appreciation and understanding of English Literature.

What will I study?

AS Level (year 1)

Unit 1: Comparative Analysis and Creative Writing
This unit examines learners' abilities to explore connections across a wide range of texts. It encourages extensive wider reading and provides opportunities for learners to create their own writing, consciously applying some of the features they have studied.

Unit 2: Drama and Non-literary Text Study
Learners will engage critically with their set text and explore the richness of the English language. In responding to non-literary texts, learners should be able to recognise the bias, the moral outlook, the prejudices, attitudes and values of speakers and writers, and to be able to analyse how these are conveyed through the use of language.

A2 Level (Year 2)

Unit 3: Poetry Pre-1900 and Unseen Poetry
This unit encourages learners to develop their ability to engage with one poetry text and explore ways to approach previously unseen poems. They will learn how to analyse poetic techniques and the author's craft to convey ideas through poetry.

Unit 4: Shakespeare

While learners will engage critically with the text as a work of literature, this unit also offers opportunities for exploring the richness of the English language and its historical development in relation to the themes and concepts addressed in the play chosen.

Unit 5: Prose Study

This unit gives opportunities for learners to complete a coursework assignment on two agreed prose texts from different periods (one pre-2000 and one post-2000). This unit particularly encourages independent research skills and the opportunity to explore other areas of literature.

What next?

A Level English Literature is a pivotal subject which means that most subjects go well with it. Therefore, many careers are open to the English student. However, the most obvious professions are law, journalism, teaching, administration, civil service, banking, the media and creative industries. It is also a 'facilitator' subject which means it is looked on favourably by all Universities, and the Russell Group in particular. This is because of its academic nature and wide range of transferable skills that supports its students to become more sophisticated learners.

Course-specific entry requirements

GCSE English grade A* - C

WJEC LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA IN FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

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

What will I study?

The Certificate qualification will enable you to demonstrate an understanding of the science of food safety, nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts, and through on-going practical sessions, to gain practical skills to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals. It has been designed to offer exciting, interesting experiences through applied learning, i.e. through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful, work-related contexts, linked to the food production industry.

The Diploma qualification will allow you to further develop your understanding of the science of food safety and hygiene; essential knowledge for anyone involved in food production in the home or wishing to work in the food industry. Again, practical sessions will support the gaining of theoretical knowledge and ensure learning is a tactile experience. And, in addition to study current issues in food.

How will I be assessed?

Year 12: Certificate

The WJEC Level 3 Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment. If you follow this qualification you will study one unit.

Unit 1: Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups
You will have to complete: an internal assessment which includes a 3½ hour practical session and an external examination in the summer. weighting is 50% internal coursework, 50% external examination.

Year 13: Diploma

Unit 1: is usually completed at the end of year 12 (can resit in year 13 if needed)
Unit 2: external examination sat between May 1st – June 1st in year 13.
Unit 4: internal assessment: you will need to respond to a set assignment brief at any time within the academic year, which will be marked by your teacher and moderated by WJEC.

What next?

Careers with Level 3 Certificate/Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition

Together with other relevant qualifications at Level 3, such as AS and A levels in any Sciences, Maths and/or Level 3 qualifications in Hospitality, Physical Education, Sociology, Psychology, Health & Social Care, you will gain the required knowledge to be able to use the qualification to support entry to higher education courses such as:

BSc Food and Nutrition, BSc Human Nutrition BSc (Hons), Public Health Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology.

Additionally, this qualification will support higher education and career pathways into Health & Social Care roles, Medicine, Nursing, Teaching, Management courses within Hospitality and Catering, Events Management.

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.

Course specific entry requirements

5 GCSE's at grade A* - C including Mathematics and English.