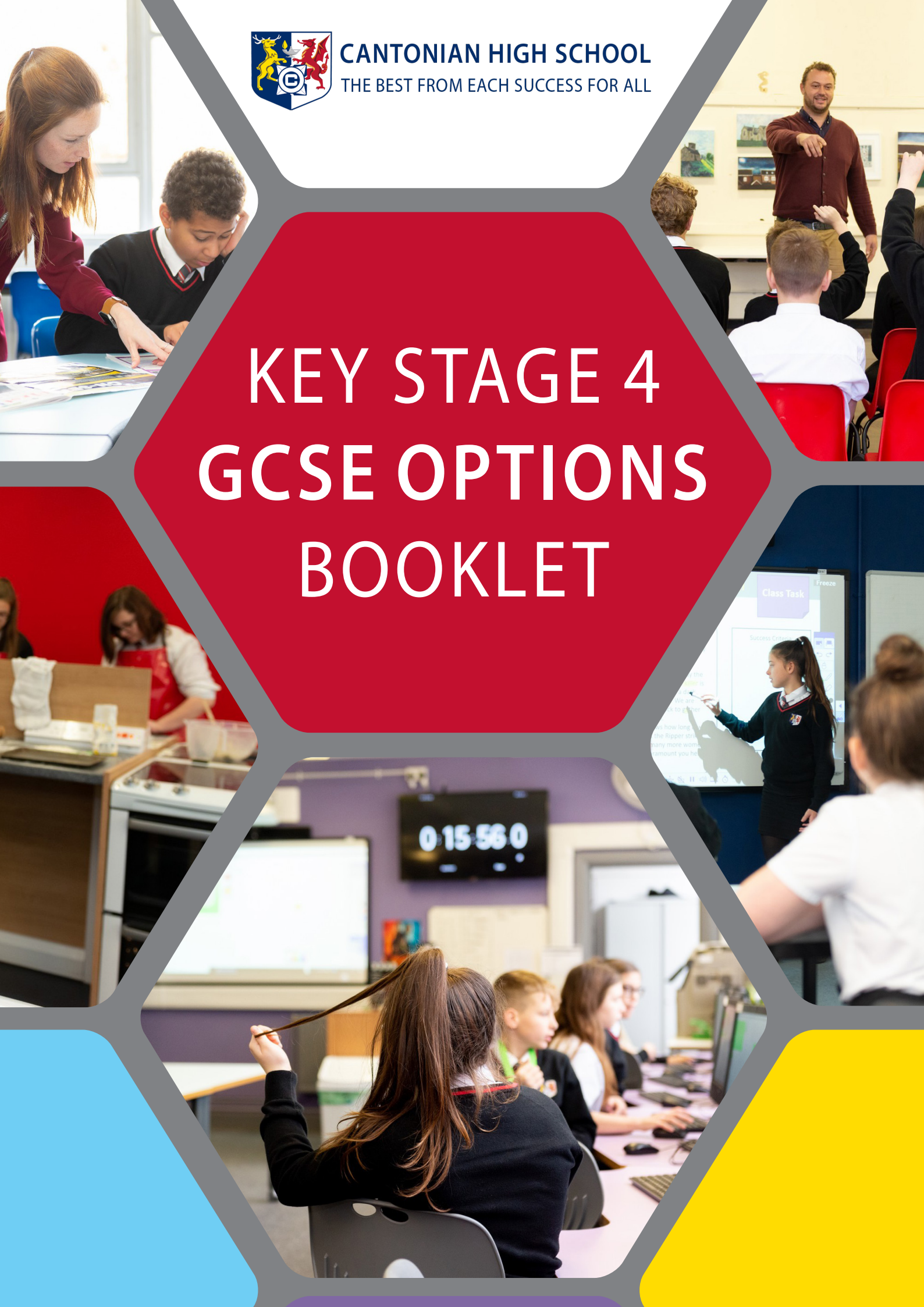




CANTONIAN HIGH SCHOOL
THE BEST FROM EACH SUCCESS FOR ALL

KEY STAGE 4 GCSE OPTIONS BOOKLET





the **BEST** FROM *each*
Success
for **All!**

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Dear Parent / Guardian,

This booklet has been prepared to provide you and your child with the relevant information about the choices available to pupils in Year 9 for their key stage 4 studies and how to set about making such choices.

In key stage 4, pupils will continue to follow some subjects as part of the National Curriculum requirements. When making choices, it is important to consider how these may affect future options in terms of careers and educational opportunities. Pupils and parents will have the opportunity to speak to staff in relation to any choices being considered.

It is important that you help your son or daughter to think through the implications of their choice. In particular, the following are important considerations:

- Each option takes up approximately 10% of the pupil's timetable. It is vital that the pupil has a liking for the subject. Most pupils work better in subjects that they enjoy
- Opting for a subject requires a two year commitment.
- All pupils will need to have reserve choices. The school will try to accommodate the pupil's first choice wherever possible, however, in some instances a course may not run due to low numbers or it may be oversubscribed. In all cases of pupil placement within an option, consideration is given to the individual's ability to benefit from the course. Attention will be paid to career aspirations and needs (if known) and to evidence of previous commitment to the subject (where appropriate).
- Some pupils will benefit from a tailored support programme, which may take place at the school itself, or at an alternative provider. If we feel that this applies to your child, we will discuss this with both yourself and your child.

May I take this opportunity of wishing your child every success in their studies throughout years 10 and 11.

Mr G Jones
Head of School

NOTE TO ALL PUPILS

You are about to make very important choices about the subjects you wish to study next year.

BEFORE you choose.....

- CONSIDER the subjects you enjoy and are good at
- FIND OUT about the NEW courses on offer
- If you have a particular career in mind, CHECK if any particular subjects are required
- DISCUSS your choices with as many adults as you can. They can advise and support you: your parents / guardian, subject teachers, Form Tutor, Head of Year, Subject Area Leaders and Careers staff are all willing to help
- Do not opt for a subject because you like the teacher, they may not be teaching you!

I hope you find this booklet helpful in your making decisions that are right

FOR YOU!

Remember, each course lasts for two years and to be successful you will need to work hard. Check to see how the course is assessed, is it more practical etc. It is important that the course suits your learning style.

DISENTITLEMENT STATEMENT

Please note as a result of pupil choices the Headteacher may decide to withdraw courses from the offer when too few pupils choose to study a course and as a result it would be too costly to put on a course for just a small number of pupils.

There may also be occasions when a pupil's choice is declined such as:

- A pupil chooses a course which is not suited to their academic ability
- Where a subject may conflict with other choices the pupil has made
- Where there are health & safety risks

The 'free choice' exercise will be used to decide course viability and create the option grids to maximise pupil choice. Any courses removed will be communicated to pupils.

THE CURRICULUM IN KEY STAGE 4

All pupils study a **Core** of subjects at key stage 4:

English, Maths, Science, Religious Education, Welsh, Physical Education and Skills Challenge

Pupils will be taught in sets alongside pupils of similar ability in these subjects. Additionally, pupils choose subjects in 3 Option Blocks. PSE is delivered to all pupils throughout the academic year as part of the PSE programme of collapsed timetabled days.



- Our curriculum meets the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum
- It has both breadth and balance whilst giving pupils maximum choice
- It recognises the different needs and abilities of individual pupils

The school offers a broad range of courses within its local curriculum.

Whilst every effort will be made to allow pupils to take the subjects they choose, it is important to understand that not every course that is offered will eventually run or be available to any individual pupil.



QUALIFICATIONS

GCSE - General Certificate of Education

This is the qualification that you are most probably familiar with. We offer a number of GCSEs at Cantonian High School. At GCSE grades A* - G are all pass grades. For further progression, some schools, colleges or employers will ask for grades A* - C in some subjects.

BTEC

BTECs are high-quality vocational qualifications that blend the needs of the classroom with those of the world of work. Many BTECs require pupils to work through a number of different units. The BTEC grades are Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*.

A BTEC is equivalent to a GCSE at A* - C grade.

Entry Level

Entry level is the first level in the National Qualifications Framework and sits below foundation or level 1. All entry level qualifications are pitched below a grade G at GCSE. In order to recognise achievement within the qualification, there are three stages: Entry 1, Entry 2, and Entry 3, with Entry 3 being the highest level.

Others

There may be a small number of other qualifications offered throughout key stage 4 as part of our on-going support programme. Additionally, some pupils may benefit from provision available at work based learning providers. We will work closely with pupils and parents to identify individuals for whom these courses are suitable.



CORE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

English is a great subject to study as it teaches pupils a wide range of transferable skills that are required in almost any job. Skills include understanding how to investigate and obtain information, communication, writing ability and self-sufficiency – just to name a few. In addition to this there is the opportunity to learn about different cultures and people through the eyes of a variety of authors. What other subject allows you to be transported to other countries and meet new people from the comfort of your own classroom?

English Language

Pupils will engage in current and local affairs and begin to discuss issues that are relevant to them and their local community. Issues such as graffiti and the voting age are used as a tool to develop pupils' debating skills.

Pupils are taught the 'Big Six':

- What impressions...
- How does the writer...
- Synthesis
- Summary
- Compare and contrast
- Explain...



A wide range of resources are used to teach these skills and pupils are given the opportunity to read a variety of texts to support this learning.

Pupils will engage in writing challenges to prepare them for writing in exam conditions and over the course will learn how to write for a variety of purposes using appropriate structure. Pupils will learn how to write text types such as:

- Formal letters
- Leaflets
- Magazine articles
- Reports
- Newspaper articles
- Speeches

In addition to this pupils will also acquire the skills needed to produce narrative and descriptive writing styles using a range of language techniques.

How is the Course Assessed?**Task 1 (10%) – Individual Researched Presentation** (40 marks)

One presentation, which may include responses to questions and feedback, based on WJEC set themes.

Task 2 (10%) – Responding and Interacting (40 marks)

One group discussion in response to written and/or visual stimuli provided by WJEC to initiate the discussion.

Unit 2 External Examination**Reading and Writing - Description, Narration and Exposition****Section A (20%) – Reading** (40 marks)

Understanding of at least one description, one narration and one exposition text, including continuous and non-continuous texts, assessed through a range of structured questions. This section will also include an editing task focusing on understanding short texts at word, sentence and text level (2.5% of qualification total).

Section B (20%) – Writing (40 marks)

One writing task to be selected from a choice of two that could be either description, narration or exposition. This section will also include one proof reading task focusing on writing accurately (2.5% of qualification total).

20 marks will be awarded for communication and organisation (meaning, readers and structure) and the other for writing accurately (language, grammar, punctuation and spelling). The proof reading task is worth 5 marks.

Unit 3 External Examination**Reading and Writing – Argumentation, Persuasion and Instructional****Section A (20%) – Reading** (40 marks)

Understanding of at least one argumentation, one persuasion and one instructional text, including continuous and non-continuous texts, assessed through a range of structured questions.

Section B (20%) – Writing (40 marks)

One compulsory argumentation writing task and one compulsory persuasion writing task.

Half of the marks for this section will be awarded for communication and organisation (meaning, purpose and structure) and the other half for writing accurately (language, grammar, punctuation and spelling).

English Literature

What Topics are Studied?

Pupils are introduced to a range of authors and a diverse collections of texts. There is the opportunity to study Welsh poets, learning how to analyse and critique their poetry. In addition to this, pupils study a Shakespearean play in depth and will be able to analyse the language used and the effect it has on an audience.

Pupils will study two novels and a play over the course:

- Of Mice and Men
- Heroes
- An Inspector Calls

This allows the pupils to show understanding of characters, plot and theme. In addition to this when studying 'Of Mice and Men' pupils will be introduced to the context of the novel and begin to understand what America was like during that time. Similarly when reading 'An Inspector Calls' pupils will learn about Britain during the time of the play which helps them to understand the authors purpose.

How is the Course Assessed?

External Assessment = 35%

Unit 1: Prose (50 marks)

Includes different cultural and contemporary prose

External Assessment = 40%

Unit 2a: Literary heritage drama and contemporary prose

Unit 2b: Contemporary drama and literary heritage prose

Controlled Assessment = 25%

Unit 3: Poetry and drama



**For more information, see Miss. L. Oakley - Subject Area Leader English
Mrs A Mann - Second in English**

CORE SCIENCE - DOUBLE AWARD

The WJEC GCSE Double Award Science provides a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It encourages pupils to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, biology, chemistry and physics and to recognise its importance in their own lives and to society.

Studying GCSE Science (Double Award) provides the foundations for understanding the material world. Scientific understanding is changing our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. All learners should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. They should be helped to appreciate how the complex and diverse phenomena of the natural world can be described in terms of a small number of key ideas relating to the sciences which are both inter-linked, and are of universal application.

What Topics are Studied?

- **Biology:** Cells, Photosynthesis, Circulatory system, Respiratory System, Digestion, Human Impact on Ecosystems, Evolution and DNA.
- **Chemistry:** Atoms and the nature of all chemical substances, Water, Rates of reaction, the Ever-changing Earth, Metals and Acids.
- **Physics:** Circuits, National Grid, Heat transfer, Space, Radiation and Speed/Distance.



How is the Course Assessed?

The WJEC GCSE Double Award Science is assessed as follows:

- A 1 hour 15 minute written exam in each area of study from Year 10 at the summer term of Year 10 each worth 15% of the final grade
- Two practical assessments in the first half of the spring term of Year 11 worth a total of 10% of the final grade
- A 1 hour 15 minute written exam in each area of study from Year 11 at the summer term of Year 11 each worth 15% of the final grade

For more information, see Mrs S Saint - Subject Area Leader Science

CORE MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is a fantastic subject to study given that it relates so easily and significantly, to skills that are needed and used in everyday life. GCSE Mathematics and Numeracy help to prepare pupils for the world of work and for further education. Throughout the course you will develop and use problem solving skills, logical reasoning skills where you will interpret and draw conclusions and you will learn to interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms.

Qualifications

There are two linear qualifications that are studied at GCSE:

- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Mathematics-Numeracy

These are two separate qualifications, meaning that pupils will achieve two separate grades. Pupils usually sit the GCSE Mathematics-Numeracy in the November of year 11 and will then sit the GCSE Mathematics in the summer of year 11.

What Topics are Studied?

GCSE Mathematics:

- Algebra, geometry, Measures, Probability, Number

GCSE Mathematics-Numeracy:

- Everyday Mathematical skills (Percentages, Ratio, costs etc)
- Financial Skills
- Statistics
- Map scales and scale drawings



How Are the Courses Assessed?

There are two written examination papers for both qualifications (4 papers in total). Each paper is worth 50% of the final grade.

Tiers and Grades

There are three separate tiers for entry, for both qualifications:

Foundation Tier – Grades D – G

Intermediate Tier – Grades B – E

Higher Tier – Grades A* - C

For more information, see Miss I Edwards - Subject Area Leader Maths

CORE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education encourages pupils to explore a range of philosophical, theological, ethical and spiritual questions in a reflective, analytical and balanced way that stimulates questioning and debate.

Core Religious Education focuses on understanding humanity's quest for meaning, the positive aspects of multicultural / multi-faith understanding and pupils' own understanding of, and responses to, life and religion. It helps to develop in every pupil a sense of personality and cultural identity that is receptive and respectful towards others and promotes approaches that support the ethnic and cultural identities of all pupils as global citizens.

What Topics are Studied?

Christianity and Islam (the following will be covered from the Christian and Islam viewpoints):

The World:

- Life and its Origins
- The Natural World and Living Things

Human Experience:

- Human Identity
- Meaning and Purpose of Life
- Belonging
- Authority and Influence
- Relationships and Responsibilities
- The Journey of Life



Search for meaning:

- Exploring Spirituality
- Responding to Spiritual Experiences
- Developing Personal Beliefs and Values

How is the Course Assessed?

Pupils are not required to sit any examinations for Core Religious Education.

For more information, see Miss G Smith - Subject Area Leader Humanities

CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In key stage 4 pupils build on their skills, knowledge and understanding acquired at key stage 3. Activities undertaken are non-competitive forms of exercise. The emphasis in KS4 is on participation and enjoyment to promote a prolonged interest in sport and physical activity.

What Topics are Studied?

There is an increasing focus on developing an understanding of personal responsibility for a healthy and active lifestyle through developing activities that can be enjoyed and sustained in the school and in the community.

How is the Course Assessed?

At key stage 4, Physical Education remains a compulsory subject and all pupils have one hour of curriculum time dedicated to it.

Pupils are not required to sit any examinations for core Physical Education.

**For more information, see Mr G Davies - Subject Area Leader
Physical Education**



CORE WELSH SECOND LANGUAGE

The aim of the applied Welsh course is to enable you to communicate in Welsh in your everyday lives and in work-place situations. You will develop skills to make practical use of the Welsh language in order to communicate effectively, usefully and appropriately in the bilingual society of the 21st Century.

What Topics are Studied?

The topics are divided into 3 broad themes:

- Employment
- Wales and the World
- Youth



How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1: Oracy response to visual material.

You will demonstrate an understanding of spoken language in public and social situations, for example, conversations, presentations, news reports and television programmes.

Oracy Exam (25% - 10% Speaking, 15% Listening)

Unit 2: Communicate with others.

You will communicate and interact spontaneously and effectively for different purposes, including conveying information, expressing and justifying opinion, and asking and answering questions.

Oracy Exam (25% - 20% Speaking, 5% Listening)

Unit 1 and Unit 2 are non-examination assessment. The tasks are set by WJEC to be completed under the guidance of the teacher on specified dates.

Unit 3: Report, specific and instructional.

This will include reading correspondence, online information, marketing materials, diagrammatic information, public information, guidance, letters and articles and also completing office-based tasks such as translation and proof reading.

Written Examination (25% - 15% Reading, 10% Writing)

Unit 4: Descriptive, creative and imaginative.

This will include reading extracts adapted from novels, short stories, poems, reviews, online information, marketing materials, letters and articles. It will include descriptive, creative and imaginative writing tasks.

For more information, see Mr S Radsma - Subject Area Leader Languages

CORE WELSH BACCALAUREATE

National / Foundation Key Stage 4

To achieve the National Welsh Baccalaureate pupils must achieve the National Skills Challenge Certificate together with the following Supporting Qualifications:

- GCSE English Language at grade A* - C
- GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy at grade A* - C
- A minimum of three further GCSEs grade A*- C, of which two may be equivalent qualifications

The primary aim is to enable pupils to develop and demonstrate an understanding of and proficiency in essential and employability skills: Communication, Numeracy, Digital Literacy, Planning and Organisation, Creativity and Innovation, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, and Personal Effectiveness. The emphasis is on applied and purposeful learning and to provide opportunities for assessment in a range of real life context through three challenges and an Individual Project.

What Topics are Studied?

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

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



How is the Course Assessed?

Skills Challenge Certificate components	Weighting	Assessed Skills	Internal Assessment	External Moderation
Individual Project	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning and Organisation• Critical Thinking and Problem Solving• Digital Literacy	✓	✓
Enterprise and Employability Challenge	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creativity and Innovation• Personal Effectiveness• Digital Literacy	✓	✓
Global Citizenship Challenge	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Thinking and Problem Solving• Creativity and Innovation	✓	✓
Community Challenge	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning and Organisation• Personal Effectiveness	✓	✓

For more information, see Miss G Smith - Subject Area Leader Humanities

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

GCSE ART AND DESIGN

Why Study Art?

If you enjoy the experience of drawing or making and have an interest in the visual world you are almost certainly a pupil who will enjoy this very practical subject. Looking at the world around us and also at the way other artists interpret art is an exciting way to develop your own personal expressions.

What Topics are Studied at GCSE?

This course offers a practical and visual experience with maximum opportunities for the development of creativity.

- Pupils complete a portfolio of work based on a range of coursework activities. At Cantonian, we follow an unendorsed GCSE specification. This is a broad course which explores art through a range of 2D and / or 3D processes and technologies.
- Within this specification we look at art, craft and design. This means that pupils can present evidence of achievement in areas such as Graphic Communication, Three Dimensional Design and Photography.
- For the externally based element, pupils will choose from a range of themes and select one area to develop as a personal outcome. As with the coursework, this outcome may be undertaken in any of the areas/disciplines covered within the two-year course.

How is the Course Assessed?

Coursework

Pupils produce a single coursework unit (60%)

Exam

Pupils undertake an external examination which is essentially a response to a theme or task (40%).



For more information, see Mrs D Lynch - Subject Area Leader Arts

Why Study Business?

Business is a very exciting and popular subject to study in Year 10. Pupils opting to study this subject will learn the valuable skills needed to succeed in the future in whatever career path they choose! Business relates to real-life and no matter what career you want to follow, you will find that this course will come in useful for your future. At the end of Year 11, pupils who want to progress will have the opportunity to continue to study Business in the 6th form at A-level. The course provides a variety of skills important for future employment.

What Topics are Studied?

The GCSE Business course is a new specification and consists of six clear and distinct topic areas:

- Business Activity
- Influences on Business
- Business Operations
- Finance
- Marketing
- Human Resources



These topics enable pupils to apply their knowledge and understanding to different business contexts, including businesses ranging from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global contexts. Pupils will gain an understanding of the important role played by these business organisations in the economy of Wales and the rest of the UK. Pupils will explore current issues in business and develop an understanding of the dynamics of business activity. There will be opportunities for pupils to get involved in different projects, including events management, to use and develop their business skills over the two-year period ready for future employment.

How is the Course Assessed?

The subject content for GCSE Business will be assessed across two examination papers. Pupils attain 1 GCSE grade A* - G.

Unit 1: Business World

Written examination:
62.5% of qualification
Total marks: 100

Unit 2: Business Perceptions

Written examination:
37.5% of qualification
Total marks: 60

Both units assess content from all six topic areas, so pupils will be required to draw together knowledge, skills and understanding from across the subject content in each assessment.

For more information, see Mr P Jackaman - Subject Area Leader Enterprise

GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE

Why Study Computer Science?

Computer skills are in demand across every sector of employment, and becoming increasingly more important as a job skill. The computer science field is creative and rewarding, affecting nearly every part of our lives. Companies that develop computers, medical equipment, aeronautics, publishing and social media software—nearly every industry imaginable, rely on computer scientists to develop solutions to a multitude of challenges.

A course in Computer Science offers a unique opportunity in the curriculum for pupils to identify and solve real problems by designing algorithms and computer code for a wide range of contexts.

What Topics are Studied?

- Hardware
- Logical Operations
- Data Representation and Data Types
- Operating Systems
- Principles of Programming
- Software Engineering
- Program Construction
- Algorithms
- Programming Constructs and Languages
- Security and Data Management
- Impact of Digital Technology
- Programming Solutions and Testing



How is the Course Assessed?

Pupils will attain 1 GCSE grade A* - G through completion of exams and a controlled assessment.

Understanding Computer Science (50%) – Written examination to assess understanding of the theory content of the specification.

Computational Thinking and Programming (30%) - External assessment to assess the practical application of knowledge and understanding through a series of on-screen tasks.

Software Development (20%) - internally assessed and externally moderated 20 hour controlled assessment to develop a piece of work using programming software following a task brief issued by WJEC. Throughout the production of the solution, pupils are required to produce a refinement log that evidences the development of the solution.

For more information, see Mr P Jackaman – Subject Area Leader Enterprise

Why Study Digital Technology?

The WJEC GCSE qualification in Digital Technology is a broad-based qualification that allows learners to build on the digital skills, knowledge and understanding that is used both in their school and everyday lives. The qualification is designed for learners who wish to begin their journey towards a career that utilises digital technologies or to progress onto advanced level programmes of learning involving digital technologies. The qualification will allow learners to develop their understanding of the range of digital technology systems at use in our connected and globalised society. It will also allow learners to explore the ever-evolving nature of digital technology systems and how these systems can be used productively, creatively and safely.

What Topics are Studied?

Big Data

Digital technology and communication systems

Cybersecurity

Future of digital technologies – VR, AR and Robotics

Planning and developing a website, game or an animation

Creating social media assets such as editing photographs and creating graphics.

Planning a social media campaign



How is the Course Assessed?

Pupils will attain 1 GCSE grade A* - G through completion of 3 Units:

Unit 1 The Digital World (40%): On-screen examination. An assessment (taken on-screen), comprising of a range of question types to assess specification content related to digital technology systems, the value of digital technology and perspectives on digital technology

Unit 2 Digital Practices (40%): Non-examination assessment. A non-examined assessment comprising of two sections. In Section A candidates will interrogate a supplied data set imported into a spreadsheet; to inform Section B, where they will create a website incorporating either an animation or a game related to a set context.

Unit 3 Communicating in the Digital World (20%): Non-examination assessment. A non-examined assessment focusing on marketing digital assets using social media. Candidates will create digital assets related to a set context and then formulate an online digital communications campaign around them.

For more information, see Mr P Jackaman – Subject Area Leader Enterprise

GCSE DRAMA

"70% of Oxbridge Pupils have experience or qualifications within the Arts."

TES online

Why Study Drama?

GCSE Drama offers many exciting practical opportunities. It is important to realise the value Drama has on an individual in regards to confidence and to also add to their CV. When applying for jobs or university, Drama GCSE shows the pupil will have key skills such as good communication, confidence, the ability to work in a group environment and many more. All pupils have the opportunity to challenge themselves and improve their confidence in many aspects of the dramatic arts. Pupils also have the chance to view professional theatre performances in a variety of theatrical contexts. If you are looking for an engaging, practical subject where every lesson is different – Drama is for you!

What Topics are Studied?

Throughout Drama at GCSE level pupils have the opportunity to explore different themes and practitioners. In year 10, pupils are introduced to new techniques whilst incorporating previous knowledge from key stage 3, and have the opportunity to produce their own practical performance. We also explore a scripted play set by WJEC through theory and practice to prepare pupils for their examination at the end of year 11. We encourage pupils to get involved in all aspects of Drama, including using our lighting desk, projections, iPad recordings, sound equipment and much more! We have recently invested in new stage lighting and iPads to extend our pupils technical opportunities.



How is the Course Assessed?

The course is assessed through a mixture of theory and practical work. The first assessment is a practical devised piece (made up by the pupils) based on a theme set by WJEC. Alongside the practical, they complete a working log book and complete a detailed evaluation at the end of their performance (40%). Next, pupils participate in a performance based on two 10 minute extracts from a performance text of their own choice (20%). Finally, they answer a series of questions based on the set play and complete a live theatre review in formal examination conditions (40%).

For more information, see Mrs D Lynch – Subject Area Leader Arts

BTEC ENTERPRISE SKILLS

Why Study BTEC Enterprise Skills?

This is a specialist Level 2 BTEC Business course which focuses on developing business skills and knowledge to become a successful entrepreneur! You will be taught all of the valuable skills and knowledge needed to set up and run a business of your own and will produce a business plan based on an original idea/concept. At the end of the course, those pupils who want to progress will have the opportunity to continue to study BTEC Business at Level 3 in the 6th form. The specialist knowledge gained from this course will provide you with valuable work-related skills for management and any future career.

What Topics are Studied?

The BTEC Enterprise Skills business course consists of 5 main units of study:

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Unit 1 | The Entrepreneurial Mind-Set |
| Unit 2 | Creating a Vision for Your Business Plan |
| Unit 4 | Researching Your Market |
| Unit 5 | The Marketing Plan |
| Unit 8 | Preparing & Pitching a Business plan |



Many people dream of setting up and running a successful business or one day becoming self-employed. Determination, drive, vision and a wide range of other skills are developed as part of this course as pupils progress through the units of study. Pupils will investigate the qualities and characteristics of successful entrepreneurs whilst developing attributes needed to plan and run a business. Pupils complete a range of diverse activities including assignment and project work, case studies, research, design and presentation preparation.

How is the Course Assessed?

The subject content for BTEC Enterprise Skills will be assessed through completion of coursework units. There are no external examinations; it is 100% coursework based.

The overall BTEC qualification is equivalent to 2 GCSE Grades and will be graded as Distinction (AA), Merit (BB) or Pass (CC).

For more information, see Mr P Jackaman - Subject Area Leader Enterprise

GCSE FOOD AND NUTRITION**Why Study Food and Nutrition?**

The course is designed to give pupils an opportunity to extend and apply their food skills, knowledge and understanding of Food and Nutrition within a variety of contexts. This course is 60% coursework based and is an excellent choice for pupils who wish to pursue a career in catering, nutrition, food standards, dietary related careers, or teaching. Food and Nutrition is a practical subject and pupils will be given the opportunity to develop their food preparation and handling skills through practical cookery activities.

What Topics are Studied?

The specification content is divided into two compulsory areas of study:

Unit 1: Principles of Food and Nutrition

This covers the following topics:

- Food Commodities
- Principles of Nutrition
- Diet and Good Health
- The Science of Food
- Where Food Comes From
- Cooking and Food Preparation

**Unit 2: Cooking and Nutrition in Action**

- Assessment 1: The Food Investigation Assessment (20%)
- Assessment 2: The Food Preparation Assessment (40%)

How is the Course Assessed?**Unit 1: Principles of Food and Nutrition**

This involves a written examination (40% of overall grade).

Unit 2: Food and Nutrition in Action

This involves two assessments that will be completed during lessons and they will involve cooking (60% of overall grade).

Pupils attain 1 GCSE grade A*-G.

For more information, see Miss K Edge - Subject Area Leader Enterprise

Why Study Geography?

Geography prepares pupils for the world of work; it is all around us, and it is in our everyday lives. GCSE Geography will help to develop knowledge and understanding of current events from a local to global scale and investigate the earth and its people.

What Topics are Studied?

Unit 1: Changing Physical and Human Landscapes.

Section A: Core Themes

1. Landscape and Physical Processes (Distinctive Landscapes, Rivers and Coasts)
2. Rural-Urban Links (Urban/Rural Wales, Population and Urban Change in UK, Global Urban Issues)

Section B: Optional Theme (Tectonic Landscapes and Hazards)

Unit 2: Environmental and Development Issues.

Section A: Core Themes

1. Weather, Climate and Ecosystems (Climate Change, Weather Hazards, Ecosystems, Humans and Ecosystems)
2. Development and Resource Issues (UK Economic Development, Global Economic Development, Water Resources)

Section B: Optional Theme (Social Development Issues)

Unit 3: Fieldwork Enquiry

Class based assessment on fieldwork techniques and enquiry methods.

Unit 3 is a written report which will include evidence of the learners' understanding of the enquiry process and their independent ability to process/present data and complete extended writing. The report must be written in response to specific questions set by WJEC.

How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1: Examination – 40% of final GCSE grade

Unit 2: Examination – 40% of final GCSE grade

Unit 3: Controlled Assessment based on fieldwork enquiry (20% of final GCSE grade)

For more information, see Miss G Smith - Subject Area Leader Humanities

GCSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE AND CHILDCARE**Why Study Health and Social Care and Childcare?**

This course equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills related to the development and care of individuals throughout the lifecycle from conception to later adulthood. Learners have the opportunity to develop their understanding of influences on human growth, development, behaviour and well-being. They will also gain understanding of the social, physical, emotional and cultural needs of people who use care and support services. This course is suitable for those with an interest in working within a health and social care setting or with children.

What Topics are Studied?**Unit 1**

- Human Development Across the Life Cycle
- Physical, Social, Emotional and Intellectual Health
- Importance of Active Participation on Development and Wellbeing
- Early Intervention and Prevention to Promote and Support Growth, Development and Wellbeing for a Range of Conditions and Circumstances

Unit 2

- Health and Social Care and Childcare Provision in Wales to Promote and Support Health and Wellbeing
- Public Health and Health Promotion Across the Lifecycle
- Factors Affecting Health and Wellbeing Across the Lifecycle

How is the Course Assessed?

Pupils will attain 1 GCSE grade A* - G through completion of an exam and a controlled assessment.

**Unit 1: Human Growth, Development and Wellbeing
(Written Examination) – 40%**

A written examination comprising of a range of question types to assess theory content relating to human growth, development and well-being.

**Unit 2: Promoting & Maintaining Health & Wellbeing
(Controlled Assessment) – 60%**

Task 1: Service Provision: 40% of the controlled assessment marks are allocated to a service provision investigation which will assess the pupil's knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to health and social care and childcare service provision locally and nationally.

Task 2: Health Promotion: 60% of the controlled assessment marks are allocated to a task which assesses the pupil's knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to promoting and maintaining health and well-being.

For more information, see Miss K Edge - Subject Area Leader Enterprise

Why Study History?

Taking History can help you to learn how to collect evidence, analyse situations and present information. It will help in careers where you need to understand past or current affairs, or where you need to investigate and present information.

What Topics are Studied?

Unit 1 - Depression War and Recovery 1930-51

Unit 2 - USA 1910-1929

Unit 3 - Changes in health and medicine, c.1340 to the present day

Unit 4 – Working as an historian (NEA)

How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1 – Depression, War and recovery:

Studies in Depth – Wales and the wider perspective

Written examination: 1 hour 25% of qualification

This unit will be assessed by compulsory questions. These will focus largely on the analysis and evaluation of historical sources and interpretations.

Unit 2 -USA 1910-29:

Studies in Depth – History with a European / world focus

Written examination: 1 hour 25% of qualification

This unit will be assessed by compulsory questions. These will test second order historical concepts and also analyse and evaluate historical sources and interpretations.

Unit 3 – Changes in Health and medicine 1340 - present day:

Thematic studies from a broad historical perspective

Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes 30% of qualification

The Thematic Study will include the study of an appropriate historic site and its significance. Each study will be assessed by compulsory questions focusing extensively on second order historical concepts including continuity, change, cause, consequence, significance, similarity and difference.

Unit 4- Working as an historian.

Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) 20% of qualification

The NEA will involve the completion of two separate tasks, one with a focus on source evaluation within the creation of an historical narrative and one with a focus on the formation of different historical interpretations of history.



BTECH LEVEL 2 HOSPITALITY**Why Study Hospitality?**

This qualification will inspire anyone who is considering a career in the hospitality industry in their future. Working in hospitality as a career may involve working directly with customers in restaurants, hotels, theme parks and similar facilities designed for recreational activities. It also includes events management and event planning. Learners will have the opportunity to gain knowledge, understanding and skills needed to have potential opportunity to enter employment within a wide range of job roles in this industry sector.

What Topics are Studied?

The core and mandatory units cover the following areas of hospitality:

Unit 1: Introducing the Hospitality Industry – this unit covers the different aspects of the hospitality industry, looking at its component parts and the different products and services that are offered as well as the essential processes involved in operating a hospitality business.

Unit 2: Working in the Hospitality Industry – this unit covers the importance of team working and customer service for working in a variety of roles within the hospitality industry, and looks at other important aspects such as personal appearance and personal attributes necessary to work successfully.

Unit 3: Food Safety and Health and Safety in Hospitality – where learners will discover the various aspects of health and safety, and food safety law in relation to those working in the hospitality industry.

How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1 – Introducing the hospitality industry (Core Unit) - Assessed Externally

Unit 2 – Working in the hospitality industry (Core Unit) - Assessed Internally

Unit 3 – Food Safety & Health & Safety in hospitality (Mandatory Unit) - Assessed Internally

Plus ne other optional unit, also assessed internally.

For more information, see Mr P Jackaman - Subject Area Leader Enterprise

BTEC LEVEL 2 FIRST AWARD IN INFORMATION & CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Why Study Information and Creative Technology ?

This course is designed to Inspire and enthuse learners to become more technology aware i.e. producers of technology products and systems and not just consumers. It gives learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the Information Technology sector and some aspects of the creative industries e.g. publishing or multimedia production.

Learners will explore the fundamentals of technology and gain the practical skills, knowledge and understanding to design, make and review:

- Information technology systems and products
- Creative technology products
- Products that combine information technology and creative technology

What topics are studied?

On this course you will cover a wide variety of theoretical and practical development skills, including such units as;

- The Online World – Looking at technologies and processes behind the internet and investigate how they come together.
- A Digital Portfolio – A series of web pages with links to content will be created. Which includes multimedia assets such as images, sound and video.
- Creating Digital Graphics - Designing, creating and testing graphic products in a similar way to how it is done in industry and technology and techniques used by professionals.
- Mobile App Development – designing, developing, testing and reviewing a mobile app.

By the end of this course you will have developed an independent portfolio showcasing the range of skills you have developed and use this to progress onto the next stage of your education.

How is the course assessed?

This qualification is awarded grades Level 1, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Distinction and Level 2 Distinction*. The course is made up of four units (two core units and two optional). This course is 75% coursework-based portfolio that is completed during class time. The examination (unit 1 is assessed by an online examination), is also taught during class time.

- Unit 1: The Online World - External Computer Based Examination
- Unit 3: A Digital Portfolio - Internal – Portfolio
- Unit 6: Creating Digital Graphics- Internal – Portfolio
- Unit 8: Mobile App Development -Internal – Portfolio

For more information, see Mr P Jackaman - Subject Area Leader Enterprise

BTEC LEADERSHIP THROUGH SPORT LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE

(Equivalent to 2 GCSE B Grades)

Why study Leadership Through Sport?

This qualification has been designed for learners who have a keen interest in sport and wish to develop skills required for roles in many employment sectors in the sports industry (But will also benefit other sectors where leadership skills are required). There are no examinations, with all assessment carried out through practical tasks and coursework.

What Topics are Studied?

Core Unit:

- **Planning and Leading Sports Activities**

The aim of this unit is to give learners an opportunity to inspire, motivate and improve the performance of a selected target group through the delivery of a sport activity and event.

Also 2 units from the following options:

- **Technical Skills and Tactical Awareness for Sport**

The aim of this unit is to enable learners to investigate the technical and tactical requirements of a sport and the methods of improving their own technical and tactical ability in a selected sport.

- **Nutrition for Sports Performance**

The aim of this unit is to enable learners to develop skills and knowledge in personal nutrition linked to sports performance.

- **Planning and Running a Sports Event**

This unit gives learners the opportunity to be involved in the planning, organising and running of a sports event.

How is the Course Assessed?

The course is assessed through coursework assignments and practical assessment.

For more information, see Mr G Davies - Subject Area Leader Physical Education

GCSE MEDIA STUDIES

The media play a central role in contemporary culture, society and politics. They shape our perceptions of the world through the representations, ideas and points of view they offer. The media have real relevance and importance in our lives today, providing us with ways to communicate, with forms of cultural expression and the ability to participate in key aspects of society.

Why study Media Studies?

- This subject enables pupils to:
- understand the relevance and impact of the media and its role in their daily lives
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the global nature of the media
- develop skills of enquiry, critical understanding and analysis of the media
- explore and understand relevant contexts of media
- develop an understanding of the dynamic and changing relationships between media forms, products, media industries and audiences
- develop their independence when researching and creating practical work and forming their own views and interpretations
- analyse and apply critical perspectives to media products
- evaluate their own practical work

How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1: Exploring the Media (30%) - Written examination

Section A: Representations – advertising, video games and newspapers

This section will assess knowledge and understanding of the representation of gender and events in relation to any of the media forms studied – advertising, video games and newspapers.

Section B: Music This section will assess knowledge and understanding of media language, representation, media industries and audiences.

Unit 2: Understanding Television and Film (30%) – Written examination

Section A: Wales on Television This section will assess knowledge of media industries, audiences, media language and representation.

Section B: Contemporary Hollywood Film This section will assess knowledge and understanding of media industries, audiences and media language.

Unit 3: Creating Media (40%) – Non-exam assessment

A media production, including individual research and planning, created in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC, and applying knowledge and understanding of key concepts.

- An individual reflective analysis of the production.

For more information, see Miss L Oakley - Subject Area Leader English

GCSE MUSIC

Why Study Music?

Music is a part of our everyday lives and studying Music allows you to develop a wide range of transferrable skills. If you enjoy performing, composing and listening to music, then GCSE could be a great choice for you. You will study music past and present and have opportunities to perform using a variety of instruments. Creating your own music is a large part of GCSE Music and you will have the opportunity to work in the music technology suite equipped with macs using industry software such as logic, Garageband and Sibelius.

What Topics are Studied?

AOS 1 - Musical Forms & Devices: Here you will study music from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods, looking at the structural forms and devices used by composers in this period of Western Classical music. You will also study in detail a piece called 'Anitra's Dance' by Grieg which one of the set works in the listening exam.

AOS 2 - Music for Ensemble: You will study a range of musical styles composed for ensemble, such as Jazz and Blues, Musical Theatre, Chamber Music and Welsh Folk Music, you will consider how music is composed for small groups of instruments and voices. Through class performance activities focussed on developing band ensemble skills, you will also improve and develop as a musician.

AOS 3 - Film Music: There are many areas of specialism for musicians within this industry such as composer, orchestrator, arranger, performer, music editor, producer and more. A film composer scores music to accompany a motion picture for film or television. Through this area of study you are encouraged to consider how music for film is created, developed and performed. You will have the opportunity to compose and perform film music and are encouraged to use musical technology to create mood and atmosphere through engaging with the story of the film.

AOS4 - Popular Music: The popular music industry offers a wide range of opportunities for both composers and performers, including singer, songwriter, music producer, arranger and more. Through this area of study you are encouraged to explore the musical idioms associated with a variety of popular music, and you will have the opportunity to perform popular music as well as compose music associated with a popular music genre. You will also study in detail the Manic Street Preachers 'Everything Must Go' which will be assessed within the listening exam.

How is it Assessed?

Performing (35%): You will need to be able to perform in a group (singing or playing an instrument). You also have the option to perform a solo. You can choose your pieces to perform and these can be recorded at any point in Year 11. You are also required to write a programme note to accompany your piece which counts for 5% of your performance grade.

Composing (35%): You will learn how to use the same Music Technology software that modern day composers use in their studios and create two compositions.

Composition 1: Year 10 - free choice, this means you chose the instruments, style and feel of the music you write. **Composition 2:** Year 11 - choice of four briefs – set by exam board. You are also required to write a composition analysis for one of your compositions which counts for 5% of your composition grade.

Appraising (30%): One hour written exam where you will listen to musical examples and answer questions on what you hear.

For more information, see Mrs D Lynch - Subject Area Leader Arts

Why Study Physical Education?

Pupils will acquire the knowledge, understanding, skills and values to develop and maintain their performance in physical activities and understand the benefits to health, fitness and well-being. It can also assist in preparing for careers in the sports sector should they decide to explore this multi-million pound industry as a potential employment opportunity, or progress toward higher level courses in the future.

What Topics are Studied?

- Pupils will study the theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance.
- How the physiological and psychological state affects performance in physical activity and sport.
- Different physical activities performed to develop skills and techniques and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas.
- Improving performance in physical activity and sport through analysis and evaluation.
- The contribution of physical activity and sport to health, fitness and well-being.
- Key socio-cultural influences which can affect people's involvement in physical activity and sport in Wales and the wider world.

How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1: **Examination section** - 50% of total mark.

Health, training and exercise

Exercise physiology

Movement analysis

Psychology of sport and physical activity

Socio-cultural issues in sport and physical activity



Unit 2: **Practical performance skills** - 50% of total mark.

Assessment in 2 team and 1 individual sport or 2 individual and 1 team sport

For more information, see Mr G Davies - Subject Area Leader Physical Education

GCSE PRODUCT DESIGN

Why Study Product Design?

This course is designed to give pupils a unique opportunity to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products or systems. Pupils will develop appreciation of importance of creativity and innovation in the design process as well as carry out practical work that involves a variety of design and technology processes. Pupils will be able to use their knowledge and understanding to make design decisions to make a quality prototype based on an idea of their own in response to a complex task.

What topics are studied?

- Target Audience and User Needs
- Design Briefs and Specifications
- Materials and their Properties
- Responsibilities of Designers and Manufacturers
- Stock Forms, Types and Sizes
- Manufacturing Systems and Production Types
- CAD/CAM
- Specialist Techniques to Construct and Assemble a Prototype
- Environmental, Social and Economic Challenges



How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1: Design & Technology in 21st Century (50%)

- A mixture of short answer questions and structured and extended writing questions assessing knowledge and understanding of Product Design

Unit 2: Design & Make Task (Controlled Assessment – 50%)

- A design and make task based on a challenge set by WJEC, assessing pupil ability to identify, investigate, analyse and outline design possibilities and also design and make prototypes and evaluate their fitness for purpose.

Pupils attain 1 GCSE Grade A*-G.

For more information, see Mr P Jackaman - Subject Area Leader Enterprise

Why Study Religious Studies?

Studying Religious Education develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of religious and non-religious beliefs such as atheism and humanism. It enables pupils to develop knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, teachings and practices and gives pupils the opportunity to engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life.

What Topics are Studied?

Unit 1: Part A (Beliefs and Practices)

Christianity

Beliefs: God / Jesus as God incarnate

Practices: Morality / Church

Islam

Beliefs: The Nature of God / The Qur'an

Practices: The Five Pillars of Sunni Islam / Prayer / Salat / Obligatory Acts



Unit 1: Part B (From the Christian and Islamic Perspectives)

Good and Evil / Life and Death

Unit 2 Part A (Christianity – Core beliefs, Teachings and Practices)

Christianity

Beliefs: The Bible / The Afterlife

Practices: Life's Journey / Special Places

Islam

Beliefs: Prophethood / Afterlife (Akhirah)

Practices: Muslim Identity and Ummah / Festivals and Commemorations

Unit 2 Part B (From Christian and Islamic Perspectives)

Relationships

Human Rights

How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1: Examination (50% of GCSE grade)

Unit 2: Examination (50% of GCSE grade)

GCSE TRIPLE SCIENCE – BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS**Why Study Separate Sciences?**

WJEC separate sciences provides the same course of study as the Double Award GCSE, along with more challenging areas of study in each subject to prepare pupils for AS and A-level sciences.

What Topics are Studied?

This Option will reward pupils with a GCSE in each of the sciences, preparing pupils for further study in:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

How is the Course Assessed?

WJEC Biology, Chemistry and Physics (separate sciences) are assessed individually as detailed below:

- • A 1 hour 45 minute written exam from the Year 10 syllabus at the end of Year 10, worth 45% of the final grade.
- • A practical assessment in the first half of the spring term of Year 11, worth 10% of the final grade.
- • A 1 hour 45 minute written exam from the Year 11 syllabus at the end of Year 11 worth 45% of the final grade.

For more information, see Mrs S Saint - Subject Area Leader Science



GCSE SPANISH

Why Study GCSE Spanish?

Have fun learning one of the most popular languages in the world! Having GCSE Spanish is like having a passport to new and exciting opportunities!

Pupils will be able to meet new people, travel and/or work in beautiful places. Learn more about other cultures e.g. the music they enjoy listening to, the food they like to eat, their sport, culture and history by being able to communicate in Spanish. Stand out of the crowd when looking for jobs and have a qualification that proves that you have excellent communication skills. Improve your career prospects by adding a recognised and highly sought after skill by employers in the UK.

What Topics are Studied?

Identity and culture	Wales and the World - areas of interest	Current and future study and employment
Youth Culture Self and relationships Technology and social media Lifestyle Health and fitness Entertainment and leisure Customs and Traditions Food and drink Festivals and celebrations	Home and Locality Local areas of interest Travel and Transport The Wider World Local and regional features of Spain and Spanish speaking countries Holidays and tourism Global Sustainability Environment Social issues	Current Studies School life School studies Enterprise, Employability and Future Plans Skills and personal qualities Post-16 study Career plans Employment

How is the Course Assessed?

The course is arranged into 4 separate skills:

Unit 1: Speaking (25% of the marks)

Unit 2: Listening (25% of the marks)

Unit 3: Reading (25% of the marks)

Unit 4: Writing (25% of the marks)



For more information, see Mr S Radsma - Subject Area Leader Languages

LEVEL 2 TEAMWORK AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Why study Teamwork & Personal Development?

This qualification has been designed for pupils who want the option of working in the public services and in the community, or who want to gain qualifications required to progress onto A level or Level 3 courses. The course is designed to develop skills that are highly desirable for employers such as the National Health Service, Police, Fire and Rescue Service and Armed Forces. It is a dynamic course with opportunities for many practical activities and learning in the outdoor environment.

What Topics are Studied?

Teamwork & Communication Skills:

The aim of this unit is to enable pupils to develop an understanding of teamwork and communication skills and a variety of methods of instruction.

Land Navigation by Map and Compass:

The aim of this unit is to allow pupils to acquire knowledge in relation to land navigation with map, compass and route card, and to demonstrate these skills practically in a safe manner.

Expedition Skills:

The aim of this unit is to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of the skills needed in planning for an expedition, including the equipment required. Pupils will also be able to plan and carry out an expedition in a uniformed organisation context.

How is the Course Assessed?

The course is assessed through coursework assignments and practical assessment.

For more information, see Mr G Davies - Subject Area Leader Physical Education





CANTONIAN HIGH SCHOOL
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