



Monmouth | Ysgol Gyfun
Comprehensive School | **Trefynwy**

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS 2025-2026



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Hugo Hutchison
Headteacher



Welcome to Monmouth Comprehensive School, and to our Sixth Form

We have a strong and well-deserved reputation as one of the very best Sixth Forms in the region. Our students are able to choose from a wide range of qualifications, details of which you can discover in this prospectus. Our tutors, teachers and Learning Coaches also support you every step of the way, from our induction programme at the start of your courses to university applications and other pathways.

Exam outcomes for our Sixth Form students are exceptional. Our results routinely place us in the top 10% of Sixth Forms in the country, and our students go on to a wide range of wonderful opportunities, such as Oxford, Cambridge, Dartmouth USA and other first-class universities, as well as other high quality pathways such as technical qualifications and vocational work-based opportunities.

We are firmly committed to developing the whole student at MCS. Beyond the classroom, Sixth Form students participate in a rich and varied extended curricular programme, including sport, music and the performing arts as well as organisations such as World Challenge and Duke of Edinburgh Award. This

programme further enables each to explore their own interests, develop their character and maximise their own unique talents.

Our pastoral care is second to none. We have a dedicated team of Sixth Form tutors who work with our wellbeing team to ensure every student is well known and is supported to become not only successful but also a happy and confident adult. We also have a wonderful modern learning environment that provides you with excellent facilities.

Students have a strong sense of pride in being a member of the MCS community. Opportunities such as being a Prefect or mentoring younger students are fantastic

ways to develop leadership skills. Sixth Form students leave us after two years of study ready to make a positive contribution to the wider world as future leaders in their own fields.

We provide an environment in which you will be both happy and successful. We are a school community that believes in working hard and being kind.

Welcome to our school. We hope you will join us.

Yours sincerely,
Mr Hutchison, Headteacher

Towards independent learning



Success at this level depends on effort, motivation and self-discipline. The development of independent study skills is vital to success. Students have study periods and will need the maturity to use these wisely. Students are supported in developing these skills through the Key Stage 5 Integrated Curriculum.

MAKING CHOICES

We are proud of the diverse range of Level 3 courses we are able to offer (see page 15 for further details). For students to be successful on these courses, they will have needed to have achieved six Level 2 qualifications at C grade or above, including either English

Language or Maths. If applying from England Level 4 is the closest equivalent to a C (Level 5 is the closest equivalent to a B, which is required for some courses). English or Maths GCSE re-sit courses will be added to Sixth Form Programmes, if required. Course by course, skill requirements are clearly identified within the course information section.

HELP WITH CHOICES

Important choices are made when entering the Sixth Form so it is vital that students are given clear guidance and support to ensure that they maximise their potential. We achieve this during Year 11 by introducing potential

Sixth-Formers to the courses provided during the tutorial periods. We involve parents through a Pre-Sixth Open Evening in January, and students are invited to individual Next Step interviews, some with senior staff, in March. New students from other schools who are considering joining us are invited in for interview with the Director of Sixth Form Studies and to discuss course choices.

KNOWING AND SUPPORTING EVERY STUDENT

In the Sixth Form, students are encouraged to take more responsibility for their own progress. They are supported and monitored through individual interviews with their tutors. These are structured to generate termly reports to parents. Students are helped to manage their learning through close liaison with their Form Tutors and the Director of Sixth Form Studies. All staff, particularly Form Tutors, support students if they are feeling unhappy and through periods of stress. We can arrange for meetings and help from agencies outside the school.

PROGRESS AND TARGET SETTING

We look closely at every student's potential and set expectations high. GCSE results are used with ALPS software to help students set their Minimum Expected Grades (MEGs) and their progress is monitored termly, so that students and parents know accurately what progress is being achieved.

Sixth form leadership team



Caroline Edginton
Director of Sixth Form Studies



Ben Green
More Able and Talented Co-ordinator



Christian Hampshire
Deputy Headteacher



Kirsten Jones
Sixth Form Administrator & KS5 Learning Coach, Pathways



Olivia Barnes
KS5 Learning Coach

Full and varied curriculum

AS and A Level Courses

Art and Design
 Biology
 Chemistry
 Classical Civilisation
 Computer Science
 Design and Technology: Product Design
 Design and Technology: Fashion and Textiles
 Digital Technology
 Drama and Theatre Studies
 Economics
 English Language
 English Literature
 Geography
 Health and Social Care
 History
 International Languages
 Mathematics
 Further Mathematics
 Music
 Music Technology
 Physical Education
 Physics
 Psychology
 RS: Philosophy & Ethics
 Welsh

Vocational Qualifications

BTEC National Extended Certificate in Business
 BTEC National Extended Certificate in Engineering
 BTEC Sport
 BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services
 Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

Other Qualifications

Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales
 Level 2 Pathways to Employment
 GCSE Maths and English



2024 Qualification Outcomes

Percentage is number of students who achieved this grade.

GRADE	% of students
A* - A	32.5
A* - B	56.2
A* - C	71.9
A* - E	96.7



E-sgol

E-sgol is a project funded by Welsh Government to assist school sixth forms in Monmouthshire to provide opportunities to study subjects that may not be available for learners to study at their own school due to low numbers. The lessons, led by Monmouthshire teachers, are delivered using a blend of extended face-to-face learning once every half term and online lessons as part of the school timetable. Microsoft Teams and OneNote are used alongside a range of technologies to develop highly effective, interactive lessons. Students will receive feedback, both during lessons and following written assignments as normal, as well as more formal reporting points throughout the year. All students are given a laptop and training.

Owing to the hybrid nature of these lessons, only one E-sgol course can be chosen by each student. For more information please see contact Miss Edginton or Mr Hampshire, or visit the E-sgol website at E-sgol.cymru. Please see the E-sgol Case Studies to learn about the experiences of previous learners.

These courses will be clearly marked in the following booklet with the E-sgol symbol.



Choosing your sixth form courses

HOW DO I CHOOSE?

If you have a particular career or University course in mind, you should ensure you are taking suitable subjects for it. Otherwise, it is sensible to choose your subjects according to your strengths and your enjoyment of them. You will be spending a great deal of time on each subject (4-5 hours of lessons each week) and it will be easier to maintain motivation throughout the course if you are really interested in the area you are studying.

WHO WILL HELP?

Talking to teachers and students on the Sixth Form Open Evening is highly recommended. When trying to make choices, even provisionally, students and parents should not be afraid to seek advice by contacting the Director of Sixth Form Studies. You should also carefully examine the course requirements and course information.

WHEN DO I HAVE TO DECIDE?

We would like a provisional indication of choices from our list of courses (please use the 'Free Choices' form on our website



www.monmouthcomprehensive.org.uk by 17th January 2025 and selecting the School Info dropdown – Sixth Form – Admissions) to help curriculum planning. Based on this information, the exact combinations of subjects we can offer (Block Choices Form) will be available from 14th March 2025.

Final decisions do not have to be made until Results Day in August when GCSE results are available. Post-Results Advice and Guidance Days offer advice for enquiries, held on the first Wednesday after Results Day offering further advice and support if needed.

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

All suitably qualified students will find a place at university, but institutions and courses offered vary enormously in popularity, style and quality. The more popular the course and the university, the higher the UCAS points score will be required for entry. Entry to the top academic universities is very competitive

'We have for some years been strongly of the view that for A Level students AS Levels taken at the end of Year 12 are of significant educational benefit. We remain in favour of the retention of the current link between AS and A2's'

Director of Admissions Cambridge University

and, for the first time, students will be working not just to achieve a set standard, but with all others in the whole of their age group, in both state and private schools, for very sought-after places.

UCAS point scores are indicated on the following table. There is no upper limit on points and universities may require not only a total point score, but a particular score in a specific subject.

BTEC National Courses, Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales and AS and A level courses have UCAS points for university entrance, and it is quite acceptable to mix the different types of course.

PATHWAYS IN THE SIXTH FORM

All Year 12 students will select four Level 3 courses to study which may include the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales.

AS AND A2 LEVELS

Each two-year A level course is split as follows:

AS LEVEL

- 2 units in 1 year
- examined after 1 year
- 40% of the A level

A2 LEVEL

- 2 AS units (as indicated above)
- 2 further A2 units taken Year 13, 60% of the A level

It is increasingly common, and indeed welcomed by many university admissions tutors, for students to choose combinations of subjects that show a breadth of interest, such as Humanities with Science, or Languages with Science.

BTEC NATIONAL COMBINATIONS AND AS / A2 LEVELS

Students may also consider combining BTEC National qualifications with each other, or with A Levels.

For example:-

- BTEC National Extended Certificate in Engineering plus
- BTEC National Extended Certificate in Business plus
- A Level Design and Technology plus
- A Level History



Pathways beyond the sixth form



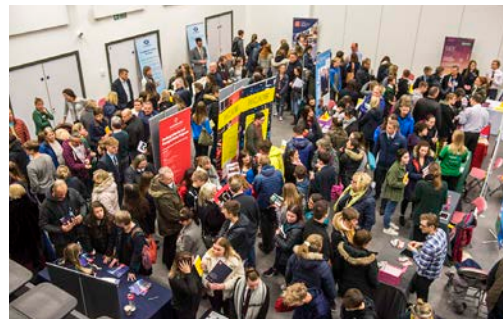
At Monmouth Comprehensive School, all students are supported in learning to lead their lives. Nowhere is this more important than in the provision the School makes for supporting students in their progress onwards from the Sixth Form.

‘Sixth form graded as ‘excellent’ for last six years’

Alps report, Summer 2022

The School provides:

- **Opportunities for relevant Work Experience**
Students may undertake work experience during Year 12 or Year 13 where agreed with the Director of Sixth Form Studies. For example, medicine applicants and for veterinary science may wish to undertake work experience as this will be advantageous to their university applications.
- **A Careers and Higher Education Fair**
Held at the School with over one hundred career professionals and Higher Education establishments.



- **Higher Education support**
To ensure students understands how to research and apply to University.
- **Mock interviews upon request**
For those needing University interviews.
- **Support for those students entering the workplace after the Sixth Form**
To ensure students have the research and application skills to gain appropriate employment.
- **A Learning Resource Centre**
Where students can find brochures, prospectuses, computers and other resources to help them choose any appropriate post-16 pathway.
- **Access to the Careers Wales Advisor on request**
- **An active Alumni Association**
Providing the opportunity to network with former students. This can lead to, for example, valuable careers advice, work experience, help with CV writing or specialist mentoring from Alumni.

UCAS Point Scores - A Level

The process to which points are accrued has changed. AS points are lower, equivalent to a 40% split 60% A2.

Official title: Advanced GCE & Advanced VCE	A level & Advanced Subsidiary VCE (AS) VCE	A level & Advanced VCE (A2)
GRADE	TARIFF POINTS	TARIFF POINTS
A*		56
A	20	48
B	16	40
C	12	32
D	10	24
E	6	16

UCAS Point Scores - BTEC National

GRADE			TARIFF POINTS
Extended Diploma	Diploma	Subsidiary Diploma	
D*D*D*			168
D*D*D			160
D*DD			152
DDD			144
DDM			128
DMM	D*D*		112
MMM	DD		96
MMP	DM		80
		D*	56
	MM	D	48
	MP	M	32
	PP	P	16

Extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities



New experiences, new skills

Sixth Formers can take the opportunity to broaden their experience and develop new skills.

LEADERSHIP

- Sixth Form Induction
- School Council
- Sports Coaching
- Captaining Teams
- Chairing Meetings
- Representing subjects/school at Open Evenings
- Peer Mentoring
- Sixth Form Prefect Team
- Year Council



SPORTS

- Rugby
- Football
- Cricket
- Netball
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Squash
- Rowing
- Boat Club
- Cross-country
- Athletics
- Mountain Biking
- Boxing



SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS

- Players
- Lighting team
- Stage Management team
- Wardrobe team
- Sound/Music team



SERVICE

- Fund-raising
- Community Work
- Additional Needs
- Primary School
- Nursery School
- Charity Committee
- Peer Mentoring
- Eco-Council



ENRICHMENT

- Work Experience
- University Taster Courses
- Careers & Higher Education Fair
- University Open Days
- Departmental Field Trips
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Skills Cymru Exhibition
- World Affairs Seminar
- Bar Mock Trial
- Youth Speakers Debating Competition

CULTURE & DEVELOPMENT

- Creative Writing
- Poetry Club
- Media Club
- Orchestra/Ensembles
- Choir/Glee Club
- Theatre Trips
- Gallery Trips
- Museum Visits
- Lectures
- Warhammer Club
- Workshops



Duke Of Edinburgh Award

SCHOOL CONTACT
MR A WOOLLEY
DofE DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE FOR
MONMOUTHSHIRE

To achieve this very prestigious award students also have to:

- complete a practice expedition
- complete one week residential course
- volunteer in the community for 12 months
- learn a new skill and complete a physical activity (one for 12 months the other for 6 months)

If you achieve the Gold Award you will receive your Award in person at St James's Palace in London, in the presence of the Duke of Edinburgh.



Head Student Team

HEAD STUDENT SAFFRON JARVIS

From: Osbaston Primary School
Currently Studying: Geography, Chemistry and Biology.

Throughout my years at Monmouth Comprehensive School I have grown immeasurably as both a student and as an individual. I owe so much to this school and I am proud every day to give back to the school and local community without which I would not be where I am today.

For me, A levels have been a testing but rewarding challenge. I can attest my enthusiasm towards my studies to the school's outstanding and enthusiastic team of staff. No matter what challenges I might face, the teachers and support staff here at Monmouth Comprehensive School are there to offer advice and support both academically and pastorally. Their commitment to students' success both inside and outside the classroom is what makes our school such a welcoming place to return to each morning and has fostered my love for learning.

The school's support has been especially important during UCAS applications which can be both an exciting yet daunting time for students. What makes MCS so special is the genuine investment of our school community in the success of every student from start to finish, regardless of if university is your chosen pathway or not. There is always someone to turn to for advice whether that be



for personal statement guidance, interview preparation or navigating the seemingly endless choice of pathways available to you.

Aside from support and success, one of the very best aspects of Monmouth Comprehensive School is the passion both staff and students have for what they do. From sports to music to debate, there really is something for everyone here regardless of your

'What makes MCS so special is the genuine investment of our school community in the success of every student from start to finish.'

Head Student Saffron Jarvis

interests. The school will push to do your best in everything you do and take you to places you never before thought possible. This summer I was fortunate enough to attend the World Affairs Seminar in Wisconsin, USA because of the encouragement and help of this exceptional school community - an experience that I will never forget thanks to this school.

HEAD STUDENT ARCHIE BARRELL

From: Osbaston CIW Primary School
Currently Studying: Chemistry, Further Maths, Maths, Physics

After completing secondary education, I knew that continuing on at Monmouth's Sixth Form was my best option. Offering a plethora of subjects, facilities and opportunities, it definitely sets high standards of post-GCSE learning. In addition, offering AS

'The freedom to study how you want, alongside the available individual support will let you achieve your academic ambitions at MCS and beyond'

Head Student Archie Barrell

qualifications for most subjects at Monmouth Comprehensive means that you'll be able to show all that you're capable of and take some of the stress out of the year 13 exam period, something that I feel gets easily overlooked.

The key value of having freedom with responsibility is interlocked closely with the structure of Sixth Form learning here. Personally, I found that the free periods were a great chance to keep on top of the workload as well as to read around my subjects to better understand what I wanted to do after the two years. Using the study environments and technology available were very beneficial to me, and accessing the subject hubs allows for more communication with the brilliant staff in the areas you are interested in.

The step up to further education is critical for every student, and this transition is very well supported by Monmouth Comprehensive. Everyone wants you to succeed with whatever your ambitions are, and I know that the current Sixth Form students here would agree, and reassure you, that you can also have the excellent experience that is offered.

Head Student Team

HEAD STUDENT MOLLIE PITTAWAY

From: Ellwood Community Primary School
Currently studying: English Literature,
English Language and Philosophy and Ethics

I am proud to be one of the four Head Students representing Monmouth Comprehensive School for 2024/25! After studying here for nearly seven years I can confidently say that I have learned equally as much about myself and my character as I have learned academically. My Sixth Form experience at Monmouth Comprehensive School has afforded me countless opportunities whether that be socially or academically and has given me a safe and secure environment to explore the aforementioned opportunities, allowing me to thrive.

One of my favourite aspects of Sixth Form is freedom and independence afforded to students. Academically, you are propelled into a deeper level of education than ever before and are learning in smaller classes allowing for more focused support; taught by passionate staff who are rooting for your success every step of the way. The A Level courses offered to you, whether that's Classics, Law, Music Technology or Maths you are able to further existing passions, alongside discovering new interests. There is also a large range of leadership opportunities that can allow you to form connections within the school and gain valuable skills and experience. From the Student Leadership team to the Wellbeing Ambassadors, you will find what is right for you! Socially, free

'Sixth form teaches responsibility and accountability for your own learning enabling you to develop into a professional student'

Head Student Mollie Pittaway

periods offer students greater control and independence over their own learning, offering study spaces and access to resources that allow you to further your education outside of allocated lessons. Sixth form teaches responsibility and accountability for your own learning enabling you to develop into a professional student.

Sixth Form bridges the gap between school and adult life and the staff and school community are dedicated to helping students transition into adulthood as an informed, mature and independent individual. Through advice sessions, career and higher education fairs, and the strong network of alumni that our school has to offer, you are guaranteed support to make informed decisions in regards to your future. Staff are incredibly generous and want to see every individual's success, and will help in any way possible to give access to whichever pathway is best for you. Having been unsure about the prospect of university, I cannot credit our staff enough for the encouragement and unconditional

understanding and support given to me when I was in my pathway decision process.

Sixth Form encourages ideas, growth and accepts nothing less than you have to give. By the time you leave and move on to your next step, you will be immeasurably changed and greatly prepared for the future that lies ahead

HEAD STUDENT FLORENCE HILLS

From: St Briavels Primary School, Wydean School
Currently Studying: Music, Music Technology,
Theatre Studies

For the past two years MCS has been the foundation I have used to grow, having been nurtured and given responsibility through my subject areas this has allowed me the chance to develop as an individual, being Head student has been a privilege and a main part of my growth. It has been an absolute honour to represent the school and the student voice as part of the leadership team. This role has given me the responsibility to give back to the

'Our school gives you the opportunity to discover and find your passions; which allows you to unlock your full potential.'

Head Student Florence Hills

students, and the community who offer themselves every day to the school.

As a new comer to Monmouth Comprehensive last year, as a sixth former, I was immediately welcomed and supported by my subjects teachers to reach my full potential. I learnt that a good student-teacher bond is the key for keeping the enthusiasm within your chosen subjects, that I still share today for the performing arts. The support offered by the sixth form leaders and your subjects teachers guide you through you final years in your schooling career so that you can pursuit excellence, and achieve anything you set your mind to.

At MCS, we pride ourselves on the extensive amount of extracurricular activities here. If you want to join chess club or be part of the school shows there is always a place for you. Being part of the school shows and concerts within school, has allowed me to experience such a warm and welcoming atmosphere is like no other with all your teachers and peers ready to boost your confidence. Our school gives you the opportunity to discover and find your passions; which allows you to unlock your full potential.

Making plans - schedule of events

SPRING TERM 2025

Issue of Sixth Form Prospectus

Sixth Form Open Evening - 16th January

Senior Staff outline the ethos and curriculum of the Sixth Form. Staff and students from each course will be available for further discussion in all subject areas. Students talk about their experiences of the Sixth Form.

Next Steps Meeting - 3rd April

Each student, together with their parents, is invited to have an individual Next Step meeting. The purpose is to review progress towards GCSE, to offer advice and to review options for each student's intended pathway post-16.

SUMMER TERM 2025

Exams - from mid May

GCSE results and sixth form registration - August (tbc)

Prospective Sixth Form students are required to either confirm their provisional choices or discuss their results with the available staff advisors. Discussions with Senior Staff members by appointment may be available, if required.

Post Results and Guidance Day - August (tbc)

A further opportunity for students to discuss results and seek advice and guidance about joining the Sixth Form and course requirements.



AUTUMN TERM 2025

Start of Year 12

Course registration and sixth form induction day - September (date tbc)

Please note that this is an 'Inset Day' and, therefore, no school transport will be available. Students attend course registration in the morning, meet course leaders and confirm their timetables. The afternoon will focus on Sixth Form Induction. This is a fun, team-building afternoon and is not only an introduction to our academic programme for Sixth Form, but an excellent opportunity for students to mix with staff and fellow students in a less formal environment.

Courses start - early September (date tbc)

Our normal Sixth Form timetable commences for Year 12 students.



General information



SCHOOL LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

The School Library and Information Resource Centre is open throughout the day and available for all students at breaktime, lunchtime and after school. It closes at 4.00pm Monday to Friday. Sixth Form students can work in this area at any time and have additional laptops for their use.

ENHANCING YOUR LEARNING USING ICT

The school is equipped with a wireless network to support students in their use of IT to develop learning when and where they require it. Dedicated Sixth Form IT devices are provided in the Learning Resource Centre.

In addition, the Sixth Form benefit from BYOD (Bring your Own Device) that allows students to log on to the school network using their own device, to access files and folders. This means that they can complete work electronically in school, at home, in fact anywhere and at any time. MCS also utilises Google Classrooms which parents can also access.

SPORT

The school aims to promote a healthy, active lifestyle and encourage lifelong participation. The school promotes a 'Sport for All' ethos and works hard to keep up with present trends. There are many sporting

activities available after school. These include rugby, football, cricket, basketball, netball, cross-country, athletics, badminton, squash, rowing and volleyball. The school runs teams of different age groups. The school also encourages the pursuit of excellence offering competitive fixtures. Students representing the school are expected to act in a sporting manner at all times, thereby bringing credit to themselves and their teams. Students are promoted in their pursuit of prestigious sporting honours and over seventy present students have represented the County or Area.

Information relating to the following topics can be found on our website.

- Sixth Form Uniform
- School Day
- Term Dates
- Food Hall
- Parentpay
- School Address and Contact Details
- Sixth Form Admissions
- Governors
- Complaints Policy
- Sport
- Sixth Form Pathways
- Equal Opportunities
- Sex and Relationships Education Policy
- Transport

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17	Biology
18	Chemistry
19	Classical Civilisation
20	Computer Science (E-sgol)
21	Design and Technology: Product Design
22	Design and Technology: Fashion and Textiles
23	Digital Technology (E-sgol)
24	Drama and Theatre Studies
25	Economics (E-sgol)
26	English Language
27	English Literature
28	Geography
29	Health and Social Care
30	History
31	International Languages (E-sgol)
32	Mathematics
32	Further Mathematics
33	Music
34	Music Technology
35	Physical Education
36	Physics
37	Psychology
38	RS: Philosophy & Ethics
39	Welsh (E-sgol)

Vocational Qualifications

15	Vocational Qualifications Introduction
40	BTEC National Extended Certificate in Business
41	BTEC National Extended Certificate in Engineering
42	BTEC Sport
43	BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services
44	Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

Other Qualifications

45	Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales
46	Level 2 Pathways to Employment
15	GCSE Maths and English

Introduction

Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Level qualifications and Advanced (A2) Level qualifications

Most students will select four Level 3 courses to study which may include the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales.

AS AND A2 LEVELS

Each two-year A level course is split as follows:

AS LEVEL

- 2 units in 1 year
- examined after 1 year
- 40% of the A level

A2 LEVEL

- 2 AS units (as indicated above)
- 2 further A2 units taken Year 13, 60% of the A level

It is increasingly common, and indeed welcomed by many university admissions tutors, for students to choose combinations of subjects that show a breadth of interest, such as Humanities with Science, or Languages with Science.

BTEC NATIONAL COMBINATIONS AND AS / A2 LEVELS

Students may also consider combining BTEC National qualifications with each other, or with A Levels.

GCSE Maths and English

GCSE Maths or English resit classes will be included as part of a Sixth Form curriculum if either qualification is yet to be achieved at C grade or above.

Vocational qualifications

Vocational qualifications are well established in the school and many past students have used these vocational courses to qualify for entry to universities, and as a qualification and preparation for employment.

BTECs are vocationally related qualifications, where learners develop knowledge and understanding by applying their learning and skills in a work-related context. Additionally, they are popular and effective because they engage learners to take responsibility for their own learning and to develop skills that are essential for the modern-day workplace. These skills include teamworking, working from a prescribed brief, working to deadlines, presenting information effectively and accurately completing administrative tasks and processes.

For entry to a BTEC Level 3 course students will be expected to have achieved at least 6 'C' grade GCSEs or equivalent, to include either Maths or English, dependent upon the subject chosen for study.

Level 3 Courses

Level 3 programmes are vocationally based qualifications. For entrance to a Level 3



course, students are expected to achieve the standard sixth form entry requirements.

The Sixth Form may utilise an extended timetable to accommodate the range of courses and to maximise choice.

Please see our website for details of the School Day.

Please note all course information may be subject to change and course availability may be subject to student numbers. Please check our website for all up to date information and amendments to the prospectus.

AS/A level Art and Design



Faculty of Performing and Expressive Arts

COURSE LEADER
MRS K ROSSER

The Art Department will be offering a one route Advanced Art Course with the opportunity to specialize in a wide variety of Art areas. Within the Unendorsed framework we offer students the chance to specialise in Fine Art, Graphics, Textiles, Photography or 3D Design.

This course is an ideal option for those wishing to follow a broad based art curriculum. This could lead to a pre –

Degree Foundation course, or direct entry to degree through specialisms such as Photography, Animation, Fashion, Textiles and Illustration.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Ideally, students will have achieved a grade C at GCSE or have presented a portfolio after discussion with the course leader.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Portfolio - Personal Creative Inquiry

This module encompasses the whole of the coursework requirement for the AS.

Emphasis will be given to developing a broad range

of skills and techniques. Students will work on a theme or themes that will allow them the opportunity to work in the areas of Fine Art, Graphic Design, Textiles, Photography and 3D Design. Throughout the Portfolio unit, students will be introduced to the work of artists and designers to develop their critical and historical awareness as well as their knowledge of contemporary practice.

The unit will be teacher led for the first half term before students develop a theme of their choice, working in sketchbooks, as well as developing portfolio work for assessment. This unit is internally marked and externally moderated.



YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 2: Personal Investigation

This unit allows the student a greater amount of time to work in their specialist area. They need to produce an in depth study of a particular aspect of Art or Design that interests them. It combines a 1000-3000 word study with practical exploration. This unit could be developed from the experimental work in Unit 1, or it could involve a new area of Art and Design, keeping the A Level broad and varied in its approach.

This work is internally set through teacher/student negotiation, and is internally marked and externally moderated.



UNIT 3: Externally Set Assignment

For this unit students can choose a different specialism from Unit 2. They will choose a question from set themes on the externally set paper. A period of time to develop their ideas and investigations follows before outcomes are created in timed conditions. This is the synoptic paper and is therefore an opportunity for students to work to their strengths. All the Assessment Objectives are covered in this unit building on the skills, knowledge and understanding of Art and Design gained throughout the course. At the end of the period of preparatory time students produce a final

outcome in a 15 hour time frame.

For A Level students, an option to study an AS in Photography or Textiles is also available, after discussion with your teacher.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

AS LEVEL

Unit 1: Portfolio - personal creative inquiry
100% Coursework

A2 LEVEL

Unit 2: Personal investigation
1000-3000 word study + practical exploration
Unit 3: Externally set assignment
A preparatory period followed by 15 hour exam

AS/A level Biology

Faculty of Science and Technology

COURSE LEADER
MR J LE BOEUF

WHY CHOOSE BIOLOGY?

Most students choose A Level Biology because they are interested in the ideas and concepts they will encounter. Biology is the 21st century science with cutting edge research into fields such as medicine, genetics and ecology changing the way we live and the way we look at the world. The A level Biology course reflects all the key issues of today and will give you the scientific understanding to truly understand them as well as exploring the impact they have on society.

The career opportunities available are as vast as the subject itself due, in part, to the transferable skills gained whilst studying Biology. Universities and employers see a Biology qualification as an indication of someone with a high level of cognitive

ability, together with excellent practical skills, who will immediately be an asset to the organisation.

Other reasons students give for choosing the course include:

- It is highly regarded for University admissions to all subjects for its academic rigour and the range of skills that it develops.
- It is essential for admission to Medicine and Veterinary schools as well as the huge range of different Biological Science courses available. It is also beneficial to other degree courses such as Physiotherapy and Sports Science.
- It makes an excellent companion to the other sciences, as well as Geography, PE and Psychology.

• It's very varied, both in the many ways in which you learn and the range of topics covered, and never boring.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Statistically, Biology is one of the most difficult subjects to study at Advanced Level. Data indicates that students



who achieve successful grades in the course generally have an average of a 'B' across their GCSE subjects. In particular it is strongly recommended that students entering this course have at least grade Bs in GCSE Sciences and GCSE

Mathematics qualifications.

THE COURSE - FAQ

There is a dedicated team of six Biology specialists at Monmouth Comprehensive to support students with interests ranging from ecology and conservation to

genetics and human biology. Each class will be taught by two experienced teachers from the team.

There are no controlled tasks in the course. There is a 'practical endorsement' in the second year which will assess students' practical and analytical skills. These will also be assessed through questions in both the AS and A Level examination papers.

In addition students will be expected to maintain a well-structured 'Lab Book' of a minimum of twelve specified practical activities carried out through the course.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

This specification is divided into a total of 5 units, 2 AS units and 3 A2 units. Weightings noted below are expressed in terms of the full A Level qualification.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Basic Biochemistry and Cell Organisation

A range of short and longer structured questions, some in a practical context and

one essay. Written exam 1hr 30mins 20%

UNIT 2: Biodiversity and Physiology of Body Systems

A range of short and longer structured questions, some in a practical context and one essay. Written exam 1hr 30mins 20%

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Energy, Homeostasis and the Environment

A range of short and longer structured questions, some in a practical context and one essay. Written exam 2 hours 25%

UNIT 4: Variation, Inheritance and Options

A range of short and longer structured questions, some in a practical context and one essay.

Choice of one option out of four:

- Immunology and Disease
- Human Musculoskeletal Anatomy
- Neurobiology and Behaviour
- Food Science

Written exam 2hrs 25%

UNIT 5:

Practical Exam 10%

AS/A level Chemistry

Faculty of Science and Technology

COURSE LEADER
MRS M ATKINSON

WHY CHOOSE CHEMISTRY?

Chemistry is a challenging and rewarding discipline. By studying chemistry you will acquire a wide range of skills and learn about ideas and concepts which address all the important questions in modern science. It is at the forefront of evolving technology and of helping to solve society's problems. As the Royal Society of Chemistry asserts, "Chemistry is everything", from the microscopic world of atoms and molecules to the macroscopic world of stars and galaxies.

Studying Chemistry is a route for some fantastic career opportunities in the vast areas of Science, Medicine, and Engineering. As well as practical knowledge of the subject, chemistry students develop many other skills

prized by a wide range of employers such as problem solving, numeracy, communication, creativity and data analysis.

Chemistry is considered to be amongst the most difficult of A-level subjects due to its conceptual difficulty in understanding, linking and applying abstract models. It requires students to have a logical thought process, be skilled problem solvers, to have a secure understanding

of numeracy and to enjoy hands on practical discovery work.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Chemistry is a rigorous, rewarding course that builds on the concepts and skills developed at GCSE. Chemistry is one of the most difficult subjects to study at Advanced Level. Data indicates that students who achieve successful grades in the course generally have an average of a 'B' across their

GCSE subjects. In particular it is strongly recommended that students entering this course have at least grade Bs in GCSE sciences and GCSE mathematics qualifications.

THE COURSE - FAQ

There is a dedicated team of two Chemistry specialists at Monmouth Comprehensive to support students, with extensive experience of teaching the chemistry content covered by a range of examination boards. Each

42% OF
STUDENTS PASSED
CHEMISTRY A LEVEL
WITH GRADE A*-B
(Summer 2024 Results)

class will be taught by two experienced teachers from the team.

Chemistry students typically combine their studies with Biology, Physics and Mathematics.

Practical assessments - Students will be expected to maintain a well-structured 'Lab Book' of specified practical activities carried out through the course. These practical activities will be examined within the written papers and there will be a

formal practical exam held in the A Level year.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

It is a Two Year Course. There are a total of 5 units, 2 AS units and 3 A2 units.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: The Language of Chemistry, Structure of Matter and Simple Reactions

Written exam 1hr 30mins
20%

UNIT 2: Energy, Rate and Chemistry of Carbon Compounds

Written exam 1hr 30mins
20%

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

Unit 3: Physical and Inorganic Chemistry

Written exam 1hr 45mins 25%

UNIT 4: Organic Chemistry and Analysis.

Written exam 1hr 45mins 25%

Unit 5: Practical Exam 10%



Many of our sixth formers study science at Oxbridge and Russell Group Universities.

AS/A level Classical Civilisation

Faculty of Humanities

COURSE LEADER
MRS R PORTER

Classical Civilisation is a subject that not only provides students with an in-depth understanding of the Classical world but also provides the skills and knowledge needed for a fuller understanding of modern philosophy, politics, drama literature and law. In the past, Classical Civilisation students have gone on to read courses at University as diverse as PPE, Law, Medicine, War Studies, Archaeology and Economics.

The work covered is incredibly relevant to today's society as it gives an insight into the political, religious philosophical and literary origins of the Western World.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Classical Civilisation is a demanding course which covers challenging concepts and literature in a variety of ancient contexts. Therefore, students need at least a B

grade in English Literature at GCSE and / or other similar subjects such as History and/ or Religious Studies. You should have a passion for the Classical World as well as time management and independent study skills and enjoy arguing and debating. It is imperative that you are prepared to read widely around subjects to appreciate the complex contexts in which our topics are set, to analyse and evaluate a wealth of material and literary evidence from the Classical World in those contexts and to comment upon contemporary and scholars' views. Classical Civilisation may be studied alongside any 'AS' and 'A' level courses but certainly compliments the other Arts A-Levels like History, English or Philosophy and Ethics.

EXAM BOARD

This is an OCR Exam Board Level 3 qualification, not WJEC. The course will be studied as a two-year linear qualification with all certified exams to be taken at the end of Year 13. There is no official AS level exam or grade to be taken in Year 12.

The course is taught in such a way that a wide range of academic and key skills are developed, providing students with a wide range of learning activities. Class debates, note making, searching data-bases, use of the internet for research, analysing statistics, solving problems and the ability to work in a group are all methods used on a regular basis. Enrichment to learning is supported by the use of reproduction artefacts to allow students to study material evidence as well as a trip to the British Museum.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

A LEVEL

**Unit 1: The world of the hero
The Odyssey and Aeneid**

Exam 2hrs 20mins 100 marks
40% of A Level

**Unit 2: Culture and the arts
Greek Theatre**

Exam 1hr 45mins 75 marks
30% of A Level

**Unit 3: Beliefs and ideas
Greek Religion**

Exam 1hr 45mins 75 marks
30% of A Level



Students have gone on to read courses at University as diverse as PPE, Law, Medicine, War Studies, Archaeology and Economics.

AS/A level Computer Science

Faculty of
Business,
Enterprise and
Technology

COURSE LEADER
MR L McATEE

Computer Science is part of everything in our lives, from the cars we drive to movies we watch and the way businesses work. It drives innovation in science, engineering, business and education. Computer Science is a creative, wide-ranging subject that uses underlying principles and logical thinking to design and build systems that work. The course extends the students' horizons beyond the school environment in the appreciation of the effects of computer applications on society and applications. For these reasons, it will combine well with subjects that contain analytical, scientific and technological aspects as well as those that are creative.

Computer Science is often about being a part of a team

and needs people with many different skills, while also having plenty of opportunity for individual flair and imagination. A good computer scientist is able to adapt to technological change and rise to its challenges and opportunities. The future of Computer Science is almost impossible to predict. There are no boundaries to the opportunities that will be available to you in the future.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

No formal Key Stage 4 qualification is required but if you have studied the GCSE course you will find that the AS/A2 course will build on the knowledge and skills you have already developed. For students who have not achieved GCSE Computer Science, some experience of programming is desirable.

60% OF
A LEVEL COMPUTER
SCIENCE STUDENTS
ACHIEVED
GRADE A*-B
(Summer 2024 Results)

The course requires good mathematical/numeracy ability (typically a minimum of grade B at GCSE Mathematics). Skills in Literacy and ICT will also provide a good basis for progression to this course. Students who have an interest in 'how computers work' and in developing solutions to problems using programming language will find this subject appealing.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Fundamentals of Computer Science

Computer architecture, communication, data representation, data structures, programs, algorithms, logic, programming methodologies and the impact of computer science on society. Written exam 2hrs 25% of A Level.

UNIT 2: Practical Programming

Candidates will use a programming language (Visual Basic.Net, Python or Java) to solve problems set by the exam board. On-screen exam 2hrs 15% of A Level

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Programming and Systems Development

Programs, data structures, algorithms, logic, programming methodologies and the impact of computer science on society. Written exam 2hrs 20% of A Level.

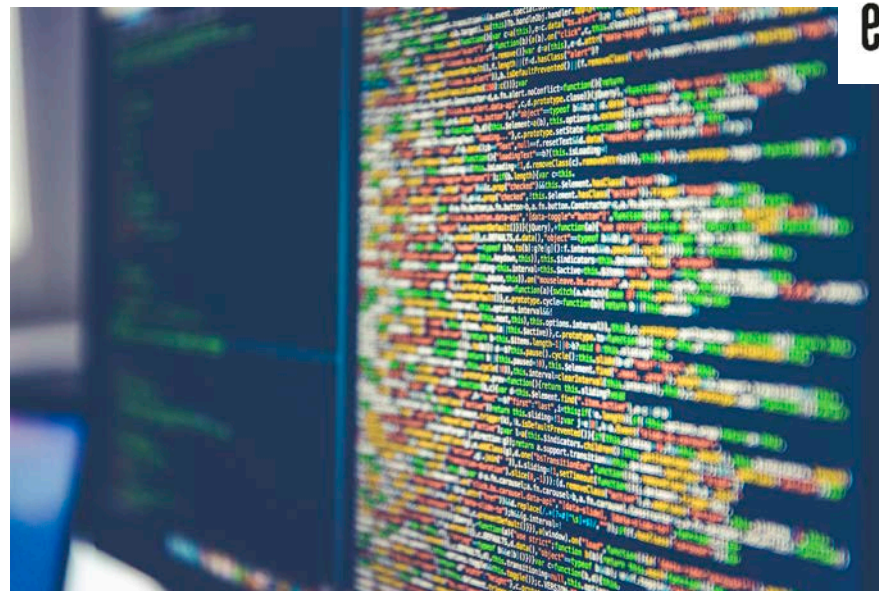
UNIT 4: Computer Architecture, Data, Communication

Computer architecture, communication, data representation, organisation and structure of data,

programs, algorithms and software applications. Written exam 2hrs 20% of A Level.

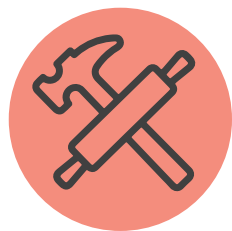
UNIT 5: Programmed Solution to a Problem

Candidates discuss, investigate, design, prototype, refine and implement, test and evaluate a computerised solution to a problem they have chosen which must be solved using original code (programming). Non-exam assessment (coursework) 20% of A Level.



There are no boundaries to the opportunities that will be available to you in the future.

AS/A level Design and Technology: Product Design



Faculty of Science and Technology

COURSE LEADER

MRS C RYAN

This course provides the opportunity for both creative and technical students to study product design to a higher level, it is a natural progression from GCSE courses within design and technology and prepares students for a wide range of higher education courses and related pathways.

50% of the course will require students to design, make, test and evaluate a range of products related to a chosen specialist area. At this level, emphasis is placed upon the design of products for the real world and students will learn about production methods and the application of modern materials. Throughout the course, students will develop

communication and practical skills through the completion of a number of open-ended and focused design activities. Environmental issues are of high priority within this course and students are encouraged to consider aspects of sustainability when designing and making.

100% OF STUDENTS PASSED D&T PRODUCT DESIGN A LEVEL WITH GRADE A*-C
(Summer 2024 Results)

The other 50% is a written examination in each year that will focus on knowledge and understanding in a broad range of Product Design related issues including; Digital technologies, Safe working practices, Characteristics and working properties of materials, Sustainability in Design and Intellectual Property.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

A typical entry profile that would provide students with

a good chance of success on the Product Design course would require students to have studied Design and Technology at GCSE or equivalent, gaining at least a grade C in both the coursework and written examination.

HOW WILL THIS COURSE BE TAUGHT?

Emphasis is placed upon learning through the completion of practical activity. Theoretical work is related to the design projects, wherever possible, in order that it is seen to be both meaningful and relevant.

Students are encouraged to undertake product analysis through the disassembly of commercial artefacts and will be expected to independently research outside of lesson times.

The structure of the course encourages students to use creativity and imagination when applying iterative design processes to develop and modify designs, and to design and make prototypes that solve real world

problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants, aspirations and values.

The course specification is divided into a total of 4 assessment units, 2 AS units and 2 A2 units.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Written exam 50% of AS / 20% of A Level

UNIT 2: Design and make task. App.40 hours 50% of AS / 20% of A Level

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Written examination
Written exam 2hrs 30mins
30% of A Level

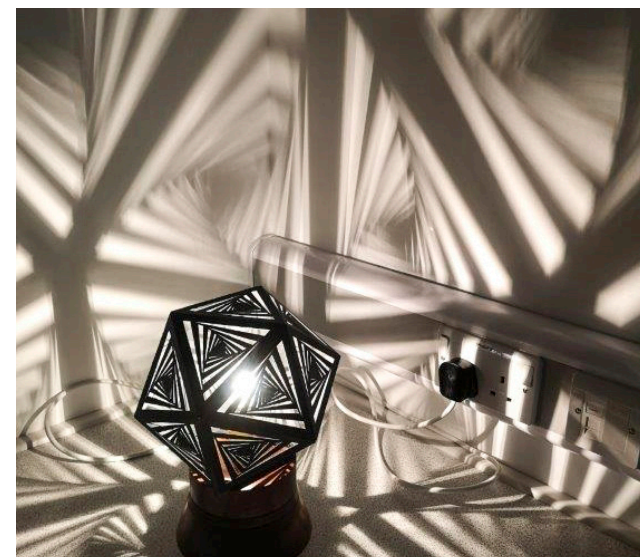
UNIT 4: Design and make project: app. 60 hours 30% of A Level

WHAT CAN THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?

In the past, students who have successfully completed an A Level in this subject have progressed to higher education courses related to: Architecture, Engineering, Furniture Design, Graphic Design, Industrial Design, Interior Design, Product Design.



Students are encouraged to consider aspects of sustainability when designing and making.



AS/A level Design and Technology: Fashion and Textiles

Faculty of Science and Technology

COURSE LEADER
MRS C RYAN

Textiles is an excellent choice for students wishing to pursue one of the many career options in the Fashion/Textiles industry. It is desirable to have followed GCSE Textiles, but is not essential. The course is assessed through a mixture of coursework and exams.

50% the course is focused on developing students' ideas and creativity. The course allows students to develop their own style and there is a key focus on originality and individuality within all the design and make tasks.

Students will explore pattern cutting to enable them to create their fashion/textile products, covering all the necessary skills required to construct their design work. Students will be able to create and manipulate fabrics and then explore how fabrics can be decorated through a

wide range of printing and embroidery techniques.

Environmental issues are of high priority within the course and students are encouraged to consider aspects of sustainability when designing and making. 50% is a written exam relating to other subject specific content with a focus on properties and characteristics of materials and Industrial and commercial practice in relation to textiles and the fashion design industry.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

A typical entry profile that would provide students with a good chance of success on the Fashion and Textile course would require students to have studied either Fashion and Textiles,

Product design or Art at GCSE or equivalent, gaining at least a grade C in both the coursework and written examination.

HOW WILL THE COURSE BE TAUGHT?

This experimental process will evolve through creating a sketchbook that will develop a range of skills from drawing, gathering relevant primary and secondary research, analysis of work produced and the work of others, producing individual textile samples and creating a series of professional and exclusive outcomes. These will relate to others' needs, wants, values and aspirations. Theoretical work is related to the design projects, in order that it is seen to be both meaningful and relevant.

The course allows students to develop their own style and there is a key focus on originality and individuality.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

The course specification is divided into 4 assessment units, 2 AS units and 2 A2 units.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Written exam 2hrs, 50% of AS / 20% of A Level.
UNIT 2: Design and make task: app.40 hours, 50% of AS / 20% of A Level.

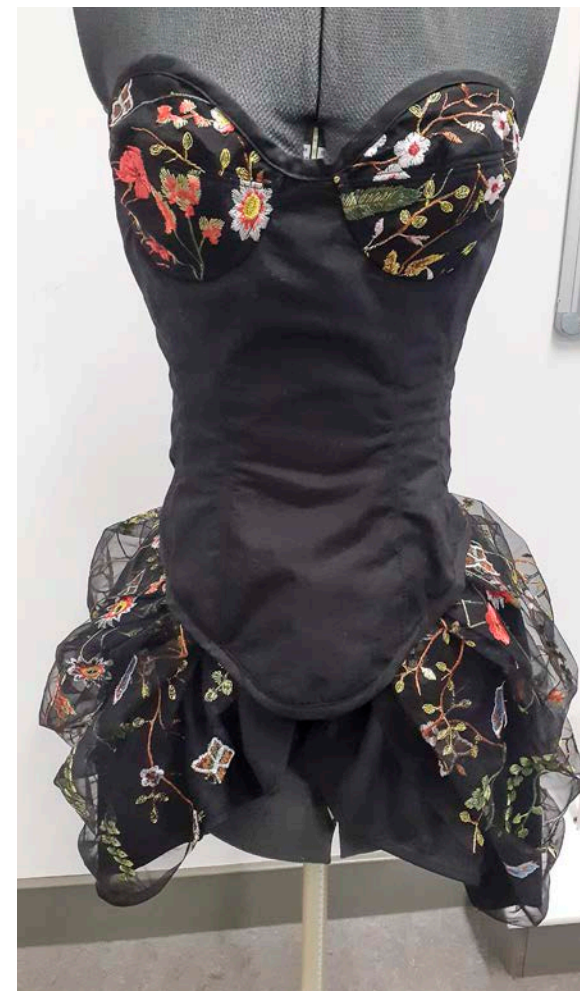
YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Written exam 2hrs 30mins, 30% of A Level
UNIT 4: Design and make project: app. 60 hours, 30% of A Level.

WHAT CAN THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?

Pupils who study this course can access careers and higher education relating to the following:
Textile Technologist,
Fashion Journalism,
Fashion/Product Designer,
Fashion buyer,
Fashion Retail and Management,
Theatre/Costume design,
Education Lecturer/teacher.

Graduates in these courses are in demand worldwide.



AS/A level Digital Technology

Faculty of Business, Enterprise and Technology

COURSE LEADER

MR L McATEE

The world is increasingly dominated by the use of Digital Technologies. Many aspects of our daily lives rely on these and the WJEC GCE AS and A level qualification in Digital Technology advances learners' understanding of the digital technologies that are used by individuals and organisations across the world, including how they have developed and how they continue to change.

The qualification enables learners to develop a deep understanding of how innovations in digital technology, and the increasing levels of connectivity between them, impact the lives of those who use them and the wider society. Learners will also develop practical skills in developing both creative digital products and digital

solutions to problems faced by organisations, supporting their progression into employment in a career that utilises digital technologies or onto a programme of higher education involving digital technologies and computing.

This course will enable learners to develop:

- an understanding of significant past, current and emerging digital technologies
- an understanding of the integrated and connected nature of digital technologies used by individuals and organisations

- skills in researching and exploring issues before finding and implementing effective solutions to them
- skills in planning, designing and creating innovative web-based and multimedia content that meets the needs of specific audiences
- an understanding of legal, social, ethical and professional and environmental impacts of digital technologies on individuals and wider society
- a knowledge of the systems development life cycle and its iterative and cyclical nature.



TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

No formal Key Stage 4 qualification in the subject is required, but if you have studied the GCSE course you will find that the AS/A2 course will build on the knowledge and skills you have already developed.

The coursework relies on students having good skills in planning and design alongside analysis and evaluation combined with the ability to present their ideas accurately and coherently. It is recommended, therefore, that students achieve at least a C in GCSE English.

Students who have an interest in any aspect of Digital Technology particularly Game Design and the creation of transactional websites will find this course appealing.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Innovation in Digital Technology

Written exam: 2hrs. 20% of qualification

An assessment (taken on-screen), comprising of a range of question types to assess specification content related to connected digital systems and smart devices, the development of Artificial Intelligence, digital technology development life cycles, user experience and human computer interaction in digital systems development and the functions, purposes and uses of social media by individuals and organisations.

UNIT 2: Creative Digital Practices

Non-exam assessment (NEA): approximately 45hrs. 20% of qualification
A non-examined assessment

focussing on the end to end creation of a game. Candidates will investigate, plan, design, create, test and review a game of their choice.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Connected Systems

Written exam: 2hrs
30minutes. 30% of qualification

An assessment (taken on-screen), comprising of a range of question types to assess specification content related to collecting, storing, analysing and using data, cyber security, and digital technology networks.

UNIT 4: Digital Solutions

Non-exam assessment (NEA): approximately 45hrs. 30% of qualification
A non-examined assessment focussing on the creation of a transactional website linked to a server-based RDBMS. Candidates will plan, design, create, develop, review, test and refine a transactional website of their choice.

AS/A level Drama and Theatre Studies

Faculty of Performing and Expressive Arts

COURSE LEADER
MRS A PEARCE

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop practical performance skills and gain a greater understanding of how theatre and plays are structured and performed.

The course will be taught in a Drama Studio complete with lights and resources. Students will have the opportunity to see live theatre in different venues and locations.

The subject demands practical, creative and communication skills in almost equal measure. You will extend your ability to create drama and theatre, either in a performing or production role. You need to be curious about issues and ideas and have a creative instinct for communicating your views through drama. You may be keen on acting,

writing or on the visual and technical side of theatre and wish to develop your skills in some or all of these areas. There is an expectation that some rehearsals will be after school.

The AS and Advanced GCE can lead to further study in Drama, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts in Higher Education at degree or HND level. It can be used as part of your course to broaden your studies and may lead on to a career in the Performing Arts Industries. 82% of students obtained grade A*-B and 100% of students obtained grade A*-C in August 2023.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Grade requirements – B in English Literature or B in Drama GCSE.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Theatre Workshop

In Unit 1, the learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of theatre based on the reinterpretation of an extract from a text supplied by the exam board. The piece will

100% OF STUDENTS PASSED DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES A LEVEL WITH GRADE A*-C
(Summer 2024 Results)

be developed using the techniques and working methods of a theatre practitioner or company.

UNIT 2: Text in Theatre

This unit comprises of an 'open book' written examination in which the learners will answer a series of questions based on the text set by the exam board.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Text in Action

In Unit 3, the learners will participate in the creation, development and performance of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus supplied by the exam board. The first is a devised piece using the techniques and working methods of either a theatre practitioner or a theatre company. The second piece is an exploration from a text in a contrasting style.

UNIT 4: Text in performance

This unit is assessed through an 'open book' written examination in which the learners will answer two essay based questions on two contrasting texts.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

AS LEVEL

Unit 1: Theatre Workshop

Performance 24%

Unit 2: Text in Theatre

Open book written exam 16%

A2 LEVEL

Unit 3: Text in Action

Performance 36%

Unit 4: Text in performance

Open book written exam 24%



Gain a greater understanding of how theatre and plays are structured and performed.



AS/A level Economics

Faculty of Business, Enterprise and Technology

COURSE LEADER

MR J WILLIAMS

A Level Economics is a contemporary and dynamic course that provides a coherent combination of microeconomic and macroeconomic content. Students will develop an understanding of economic concepts and theories through critical consideration of current economic issues, problems and institutions that affect everyday life, drawing on local, national and global contexts.

Economics is a study of scarce resources and how those resources are allocated to various uses in a market economy. Students will be required to understand the economic behaviour of consumers, producers and governments. This course enables students to develop an

in-depth understanding of the role markets play and the way in which governments seek to manage them.

The subject is split into two main sections; microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Macroeconomics looks at the big issues affecting the economy as a whole such as unemployment, inflation, stability and growth, whereas microeconomics looks at individuals and businesses focusing on supply and demand and other forces that determine the price levels seen in the economy.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Whilst no prior study of this subject is required, students must have a Grade B or above in GCSE Maths.

A LEVEL ECONOMICS

Economics complements many other A Levels in the Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities and may lead to higher education courses in any discipline. Students who study Economics need to be able to interpret data, compare theory with reality

Students develop an in-depth understanding of the role markets play and the way in which governments seek to manage them.

and make causal connections between market models and current economic behaviour.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

AS LEVEL

Unit 1: Introduction to Economic Principles

Written exam 1hr and 15 mins

Unit 2: Economics in Action

Written exam 2hrs

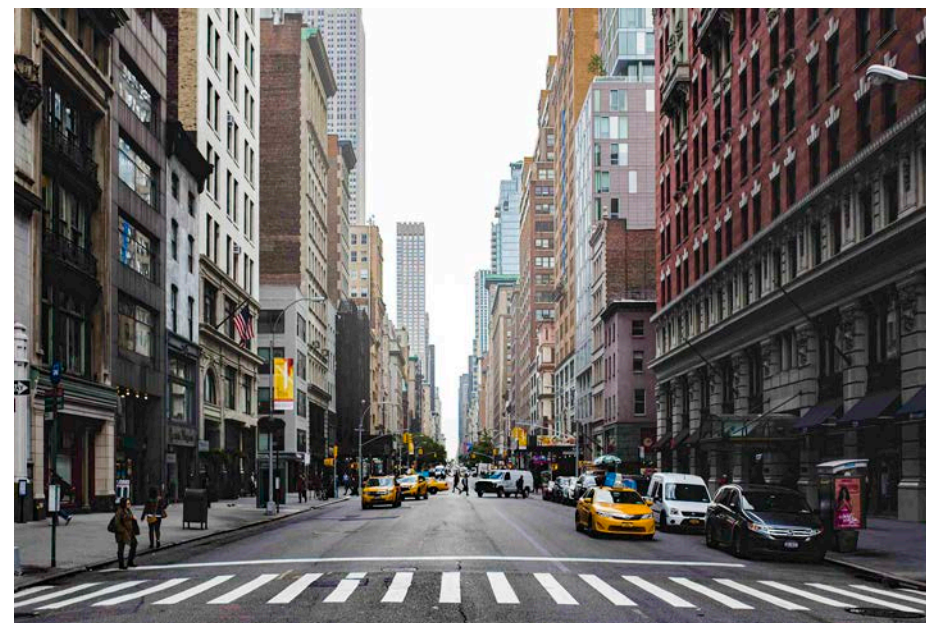
A2 LEVEL

Unit 3: Exploring Economic Behaviour

Written exam 2hrs

Unit 4: Evaluating Economic Models and Policies

Written exam 2.5hrs



AS/A level English Language



Faculty of English

COURSE LEADER
MR N JONES

The English language occupies all of our waking hours and much of our sleeping: when we are awake we speak, listen, read, write and think, and of course, when we are asleep, we dream using language. 'A' Level English Language allows us to understand and appreciate the beauty, diversity and complexity of the English language, from its birth fifteen hundred years ago, to the present day. It also enables us to become more proficient users of that language, a distinct advantage in the very competitive world of university application and work. It is helpful if students have achieved a B grade in



both English Language and English Literature at GCSE in order to cope with the academic requirements of this course.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Students with B grades at GCSE are statistically more likely to achieve a C grade and above at AS and A Level.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Exploring Language
This first unit introduces us to the many forms in which language presents itself in the modern world. We learn how to analyse language, using the frameworks

for study, acquiring an awareness of grammar particularly, but also of lexis (vocabulary) and pragmatics (the context in which language is produced).

UNIT 2: Language Issues and Original Writing

So many factors can bring about language change and variation: Where we live, our age, gender and profession being just a few. This module focuses upon language and power, and language and situation, and is designed to introduce students to the ways in which language affects our day-to-day lives.

The unit also gives learners an opportunity to display their creativity – they will produce a piece of literary or non-literary writing, based on language issues.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Language Over Time

How the language we speak has developed over the fifteen hundred years of its history and how it may develop in the future. A theoretical awareness is essential in this module, but as always, study is underpinned by an ability to interpret data.

UNIT 4: Spoken Language and Creative Recasting

This unit encourages learners to engage with spoken language and to produce an original piece of writing. It is designed to give learners the opportunity to apply their analytical skills and to communicate creatively in different ways.

UNIT 5: Language and Identity

The AS year will have introduced students to a great many areas of interest, generating ample opportunity for independent study.

Students select one area and gather data, which will form the basis of an independent investigation into language and identity.

'A' Level English Language is a great choice, even if you do not wish to study English Language at University. University admissions tutors and employers are impressed by the evidence an English Language qualification provides of sophisticated analytical and communication skills. It is also an excellent companion to History, Sociology, Psychology and Modern Foreign Languages. Students go on to read courses as diverse as Law, Politics and International Relations and

Philosophy at the institution of their choice.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

AS LEVEL

Unit 1: Exploring Language
Examination

Unit 2: Language Issues
Examination



A2 LEVEL

Unit 3: Language Over Time
Examination

Unit 4: Spoken Language and Creative recasting
Examination

Unit 5: Language and Identity
Coursework

Students go on to read courses as diverse as Law, Politics and International Relations and Philosophy.

AS/A level English Literature



Faculty of English

COURSE LEADER
MR N JONES

English Literature is a superb 'A' Level choice for all those students who love books, reading and have thoroughly enjoyed their GCSE texts. It is helpful if students have achieved a B grade in both English Language and English Literature at GSCE in order to cope with the academic requirements of this course.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Students with B grades at GCSE are statistically more likely to achieve a C grade and above at AS and A Level.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Prose and Drama

This unit is split into two sections which deal with

pre-1900 prose and drama. A particular focus of this module will be cultural and contextual influences and how attitudes and values are expressed in texts.

Possible texts include:

POETRY:

Charlotte Bronte: Jane Eyre
Thomas Hardy: The Mayor of Casterbridge
Charles Dickens: David Copperfield

DRAMA:

Christopher Marlowe: Doctor Faustus

Tennessee Williams: A Streetcar Named Desire
Oscar Wilde: Lady Windermere's Fan

UNIT 2: Poetry Post-1900

This second unit is based upon the study of two paired poetry texts. In addition to being able to analyse the texts closely and

independently, students will have to be aware of the variety of ways in which a text will be interpreted. They will also consider the ways in which texts relate to one another.

Possible poets include:

Ted Hughes
Sylvia Plath
Seamus Heaney
Owen Sheers

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Poetry Pre-1900 and Unseen Poetry

Students are required to study one text analysing how meanings are shaped in poetry texts and the way writers adapt structure, form and language for effect.

Possible poets include:

Geoffrey Chaucer: The

Merchant's Prologue and Tale

John Keats: Selected Poems
Christina Rossetti: Selected Poems

UNIT 4: Shakespeare

No 'A' Level English Literature course could ignore Shakespeare's cultural legacy, with the richness of his poetry and prose, and the depth of his plots and characters. Study focuses upon one of his plays, which include:
King Lear
The Tempest
Hamlet

UNIT 5: Prose Study

This assessment requires candidates to produce one 2500-3500 word essay based on the reading of two prose texts from different periods.

Even if you do not wish to study English Literature at University, admissions tutors and employers are impressed by the evidence an English Literature qualification provides of transferable skills and competencies such as analysis, argument and research. It is an excellent



companion to History, Theatre Studies and Modern Foreign Languages, and students go on to read courses as diverse as Law, Medicine and Classics and Ancient History at the institution of their choice.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

AS LEVEL

Unit 1: Prose and Drama

Examination

Unit 2: Poetry Post-1900

Examination

A2 LEVEL

Unit 3: Poetry pre-1900 and Unseen Poetry

Examination

Unit 4: Shakespeare

Examination

Unit 5: Prose Study

Coursework - 2500-3500 word essay

A superb 'A' Level choice for all those students who love books, reading and have thoroughly enjoyed their GCSE texts.

AS/A level Geography

Faculty of Humanities

COURSE LEADER
MRS R FRY

Geography is one of the most popular and successful subjects in the Sixth Form. Outcomes are very strong. It is a unique and academic subject that encompasses a diverse range of topics and embraces the physical and built world. It spans the Arts/ Humanities and Sciences; as such it complements other subject choices in both these fields.

Geography is an excellent choice for combining with a mix of science subjects (such as Biology or Mathematics) or arts subjects (such as Languages, History or Business Studies). It develops a range of skills such as analysis and evaluation, problem solving, essay and report writing. Tasks set as part of the Geography course will also heavily support many aspects of the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate. Geography is,

perhaps, one of the best placed subjects to support students to achieve this qualification and the UCAS points it carries.

The WJEC course offered includes material ranging from the hazard threat posed by earthquakes and volcanic eruptions through to rural change and counter urbanisation. Geography encourages the student to take a broader view of the changes involved at both the local and global scale and fosters a concern for the future management of the environment around us.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Candidates are not required to have studied the subject at GCSE but will need to demonstrate good numerical, logic and literacy skills. Therefore, grades at GCSE Mathematics English and Science will be looked at (students must have a grade B or above in these areas). Data indicates that, typically, students who are successful in A Level Geography have an average points score of 6.5 or above across their GCSEs.



ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1

Section A: Changing Landscapes – process, change and issues

Section B: Tectonic Hazards – process, change and issues
Written Exam.

UNIT 2

Section A: Changing Places
Section B: Fieldwork Investigation

The course is designed to build on the knowledge and skills gained at GCSE, although students do not necessarily have to have taken Geography – a good awareness of global issues

and current affairs would be beneficial. 'AS' Geography makes an excellent one year course for those wishing to add breadth to their Sixth Form choices. Written exam.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3

Section A: Global Systems
Section B: Global Governance: Change and Challenges
Section C: 21st Century Challenges. Written exam.

UNIT 4

Section A: Tectonic Hazards
Section B: Contemporary Themes in Geography: Ecosystems; Energy. Written exam.



Geography develops a range of skills such as analysis and evaluation, problem solving, essay and report writing.

UNIT 5: Independent Investigation Project

The second year course takes the depth of study further to 'A' Level standard and deals with the areas of contemporary concern in Geography, namely the concept of sustainable development and management of selected environments. Coursework.

Fieldwork is integral to both the AS and A-Level courses. Fieldwork. The Geography Department runs several very

successful fieldtrips to the local region each academic year, investigating economic and physical changes in both human and natural environments. In recent years we have also run highly engaging enrichment fieldtrips to the exciting environments of Iceland. Here we have investigated the impacts of tectonic processes, tourism, climate change and the use of geo-thermal energy.

AS/A level Health and Social Care

Faculty of Social Sciences

COURSE LEADER
MRS D GAYLARD

WHY CHOOSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

Careers in health and social care are some of the most important in the world. If you have a desire to make a difference, and care about helping other people, this could be the vocation for you.

There are many different specialist careers available within the healthcare system, including: nurses; midwives; clinical support staff, such as donor carers and new-born hearing screeners; allied health professionals, such as radiographers and orthoptists; and specialist therapy staff, such as occupational therapists, speech therapists and art therapists. Such jobs are in demand, with the NHS (National Health Service) being the largest employer in Europe (over one million employees).

Careers in social care are concerned with helping vulnerable people and providing them with support. Social care work is needed in places such as people's own homes, in residential care units, in shelters for the homeless, and in young offender institutes. Careers could focus on supporting a variety of social problems, such as domestic violence, asylum, or mental health.

Careers in health and social care are undoubtedly amongst the most challenging, but they can also be the most satisfying.



There are many different specialist careers available within the healthcare system.

They require empathy, responsibility, perseverance and, above all, a strong desire to help others.

A-LEVEL IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE, AND CHILDCARE

Health and Social Care, and Childcare is suitable for students who are interested in learning about the

development and care of individuals throughout the life span from conception to later adulthood. The qualification provides a suitable foundation for further study of health and social care through a range of higher education courses, or into employment. Students who have studied Health and Social Care at MCS have

progressed onto various related degree pathways including Education, Nursing, Midwifery, Social Work, Health Care Studies and Occupational Therapy.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Promoting health and well-being.

Written exam 2hrs 20%

UNIT 2: Supporting health, well-being and resilience in Wales.

Non exam assessment: Investigative task. Approx 30 hours 20% of qualification

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

The full cohort will study either Childcare (units 3 and 4) or Adult Health and Social Care (units 5 and 6). The decision will be informed by the needs and preferences of the cohort.

UNIT 3: Theoretical perspectives of children and young people's development

Written exam: 2hrs 30mins 30% of qualification

& UNIT 4: Supporting the development, health, well-being and resilience of

children and young people
Non exam assessment: Produce an Information resource. Approx 40 hours 30% of qualification
OR

UNIT 5:

Theoretical perspectives of adult behaviour

Written exam: 2hrs 30mins 30% of qualification

& UNIT 6:

Supporting adults to maintain health, well-being and resilience

Non exam assessment: Produce an Information resource. Approx 40 hours 30% of qualification

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Health and Social Care, and Childcare is suitable for learners who are capable of Level 3 A Level study. An average GCSE point score of 5.5 or above is required. Previous study in HSC is not required.

AS/A level History

Faculty of Humanities

COURSE LEADER
MRS R PORTER

History is a subject that not only provides students with an in-depth understanding of the world but also provides the skills needed for further study and a wide range of careers. At present, in the Upper Sixth, History students are going on to read courses at University as diverse as PPE, Law, Medicine, War Studies and Economics.

The work covered is relevant to today's society as it gives an in-depth understanding of the political, economic and social construction of that world.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Students need at least B grades in History and English Language at GCSE. Students need to have excellent time management and independent study skills and enjoy arguing, debating, reading widely and want to make their views heard.

History perfectly complements courses such as English Literature, Philosophy and Ethics and Classical Civilisation but may also be studied alongside other AS and A2 courses such as Mathematics, Physics, French, English, and DT.

The course is taught in such a way that all Essential Skills are covered, providing students with a wide range of learning activities. Class debates, note making, searching data-bases, use of the internet for research, analysing statistics, solving problems and the ability to work in a group are all methods used on a regular basis. There are day visits organised to the Houses of Parliament and Quarry Bank Mill.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: A Period Study - Europe in an Age of Conflict and Co-operation c 1890 - 1991. Causes of World War; International Relations
UNIT 2: A Depth Study - Part One - Radicalism and the Fight for Parliamentary Reform c 1783 - 1832.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: A Breadth Study - Change Over Time. The American Century c 1890 - 1990

UNIT 4: A Depth Study - Part Two - Protest and Campaigns for Social Reform c 1832 - 1848.

UNIT 5: Interpretations
Coursework - An interpretation Exercise
4000 words.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

AS LEVEL

Unit 1: A Period Study

Exam 20%

Unit 2: A Depth Study Pt 1

Exam 20%

A2 LEVEL

Unit 3: A Breadth Study

Exam 20%

Unit 4: A Depth Study Pt 2

Exam 20%

Unit 4: Interpretations

Coursework 4000 words 20%



Students need to have excellent time management and independent study skills and enjoy arguing, debating, reading widely and want to make their views heard.



International Languages: French, German, Spanish



Faculty of International Languages

COURSE LEADER
MISS J SNOOK

The MFL Faculty offers French, German and Spanish to Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level; candidates sit the Welsh Joint Education Committee examinations.

The A Level course aims to cater for the needs and interests of the student through the development and extension of language skills already acquired at GCSE. An Italian QCF qualification is also offered to students pursuing languages at KS5 as an extra-curricular option.

Themes at AS, these include Being a young person in society (including family structures, traditional values, youth trends, personal

identity and education) and understanding the French/German/Spanish speaking world (regional culture, literature, art, film and music). Students also study a film in their chosen language.

At A2, the themes studied include Diversity and Difference and political/cultural aspects. In addition to these at A2, students focus on a literary work in depth and are able to independently research an area of interest for oral presentation.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

It is a prerequisite that you have studied the chosen language at GCSE. It is strongly recommended that students entering this course have a grade B at GCSE. Students should have a passion for languages and a desire to communicate confidently, through the exploration of culture, literature and social factors. Students will learn to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, and to respond effectively to the spoken and written language.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Speaking

Task 1: Arguing a point of view based on a written stimulus card (5-6 minutes)
Task 2: Discussion based on a second written stimulus card (7-9 minutes)
Non-exam assessment: 12-15mins (plus additional 15mins preparation time) 12%

UNIT 2: Listening, Reading and Translation

Section A: Listening
Section B: Reading
Section C: Translation - from MFL to English
Section D: Critical response in writing on the film studied. Learners are not permitted to use dictionaries in any part of the assessment. Written exam 2hrs 30mins 28%.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Speaking

Independent research project
a) Presentation of independent research project (2mins)
b) Discussion on the content of the independent research project (9-10mins)
Non-exam assessment 11-12mins 18%



Students should have a passion for languages and a desire to communicate confidently.

UNIT 4: Listening, Reading and Translation

Section A: Listening
Section B: Reading
Section C: Translation - from English/Welsh into target language. Written exam 2hrs 30%

UNIT 5: Critical and analytical response in writing (closed-book)

One essay question, based on the study of a literary work
Learners are not permitted to use dictionaries or texts in

any part of the assessment. Written exam 1hr 30mins 12%

HOW CAN LANGUAGES BENEFIT YOU?

The ability to offer one or more foreign languages is now a natural requirement of an increasing number of jobs. Whilst languages on their own can lead to careers in teaching, interpreting and translating, colleges and universities nowadays reflect the needs of business and industry by offering courses

which combine languages with a variety of other studies - accountancy, business, law, marketing and tourism. Science and modern languages are also increasingly popular. Many such courses include work placements or study abroad.

Students are encouraged to spend some time in the foreign country during Sixth Form and may consider work experience placements abroad during the course.

AS/A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics



Faculty of Mathematics

COURSE LEADER
MISS L DRAPER

Mathematics is a fascinating and rewarding subject that underpins many other areas of learning. It has been fundamental to the development of the society in which we live.

Mathematicians are highly valued and well placed for a diverse range of careers.

A Level Mathematics is divided into 2 areas: at its heart lies Pure Mathematics, which is mainly concerned with Algebra, Geometry, Calculus and Trigonometry, and Applied Mathematics which applies these techniques to solve problems in the world about us.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

As the A level builds upon scientific and technical previous knowledge, it is essential that students have achieved the B grade on the Higher Tier Mathematics GCSE (rather than Intermediate or Numeracy) as this tier and paper contains the algebra necessary for success at A level. For Further Maths students should have achieved an A grade in GCSE Mathematics.

53% OF STUDENTS
PASSED A LEVEL
MATHS WITH
GRADE A*-A
(Summer 2024 Results)

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

MATHEMATICS

Units are compulsory to be awarded the AS/A2 levels and are examined externally. There is no coursework component for these qualifications. The Statistics and Mechanics modules have been combined and are now examined together in the Applied Unit.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

Both assessed through external examinations.

UNIT 1: Pure Mathematics

Extending the algebra learnt at GCSE Higher Maths and introducing new topics such as Calculus and Vectors.

UNIT 2: Applied Mathematics

Statistics and Mechanics.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

3 modules. Assessed through external examinations.

UNIT 3 Pure Mathematics

Further Functions and Calculus.

UNIT 4 Applied Mathematics

Statistics, Differential Equations and Mechanics.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Further Mathematics has modules that students study in addition to the AS/A Level Mathematics. The course

provides a very useful foundation for any mathematical based degree such as Mathematics, Physics, Engineering and Computer Science. The logical skills

The logical skills required in Further Mathematics complements all disciplines and is a fascinating and beautiful subject.



required in Further Mathematics complements all disciplines and is a fascinating and beautiful subject in its own right.

Mathematics is an excellent choice for students who wish to pursue employment in finance, statistics, navigation (such as air traffic control), management and accountancy. It can also lead to a career in many other paths such as architecture, designing computer games, medicine and veterinary science.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

All modules are assessed through external examinations.

UNIT 1: Further Pure Mathematics A

UNIT 2: Further Statistics

UNIT 3: Further Mechanics

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

All modules are assessed through external exams.

UNIT 4: Further Pure Mathematics B

UNIT 5: Choice of: Further Statistics B

or Further Mechanics B

AS/A level Music

Faculty of Performing and Expressive Arts

COURSE LEADER
MRS A RITTER

The course provides an opportunity for students to develop a range of musical skills and interests, and forms the basis for an informed and lasting love of music, either in a musical career or as a leisure activity. The 'AS' may either be taken as a free standing, self contained course or as the first part of the full Advanced Level. It is suitable both for those students who intend to progress to A Level and for those whose interest in the subject is more recreational.

The 'A' level syllabus is designed both to develop students' skills to a level appropriate for entrance to courses of study in Music in Higher Education and to inform and enrich the appreciation and enjoyment of music for those students for whom it will remain a lifelong interest. Its academic

rigour lays down patterns and standards for critical judgement that will benefit each student. This is an Edexcel exam board Level 3 qualification. The course will be studied as a two-year linear qualification with all certified exams to be taken at the end of Year 13.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Potential students should have achieved a minimum of Grade 5 on one or more instruments/voice and achieved a B grade at GCSE in order to be successful.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Performing

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. Total duration of performances: 6-10 mins
Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

UNIT 2: Composing

Two compositions:

- A piece of at least 1 minute duration which uses the techniques associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by WJEC. Learners will have a choice of four set briefs, released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken.

- A free composition of at least 2 minutes duration. Total duration of compositions: 3-6 minutes
Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by WJEC

UNIT 3: Appraising

Written exam 1hr 30mins.
Two areas of study:
Area of study A: The Western Classical Tradition
Either: The Symphony 1760-1830 including one set work, Symphony Number 103, Drumroll, Haydn, Movements 1 and 2.
Or: Choral Music 1730-1800 including one set work, Requiem, Mozart (Requiem, Kyrie, Dies Irae, Tuba Mirum and Rex Tremendae).
One area of study from:
Area of study B: Rock and Pop 1965-1990

Area of study C: Musical Theatre, Rodgers, Sondheim, Schonberg and Lloyd-Webber
Area of study D: Jazz 1935-1960.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

At A2 students can opt to specialise in one area so that the weighting of each component is altered.

UNIT 4: Performing

Option A: A performance consisting of a minimum of three pieces. At least one of these pieces must be as a soloist. The other pieces may be 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. At least one other piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one other, different area of study.

Or Option B: 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.



Unit 5: Composition

Option A: Two compositions:
1. A piece of at least 1 minute duration which uses the techniques associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be 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.

Or Option B: Three compositions:
1. A piece of at least 1 minute duration which uses the techniques associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by WJEC. Learners will have a choice of four set briefs, released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken. 2. A free composition reflecting one different area of study of at

least 2 minutes duration. 3. A free composition.

UNIT 6: Appraising

Two areas of study: Area of study E: The Western Classical Tradition Either: The Symphony 1830-1910 including one set work, Symphony Number 1, Brahms, Movement 4.
Or: Choral Music 1800-1880 including one set work, Requiem, Verdi (Dies Irae).
Area of study F: Post 1900
Learners choose one strand from list A and one strand from list B. List A Either: Strand 1: Impressionism
Or: Strand 2: Twenty-first century Chamber Music in Wales List B Either: Strand 3: American Popular Songs of the 20s and 30s Or: Strand 4: Popular Music in Wales Set works will be included in each strand. Written exam 2hrs

AS/A level Music Technology

Faculty of Performing and Expressive Arts

COURSE LEADER
DR J WILDRIDGE

This course provides students with a balanced and inter-related programme of study that includes recording, composition and production skills; critical listening; technical proficiency and understanding of contemporary musical styles. Students will have the benefit of extensive use of the Department's state-of-the-art Recording Studio and Computer Suite running Logic X on iMac computers.

Students develop skills in recording studio techniques, acoustics, mixing, music production software, synthesis, sampling, effects use and sound processing. They will study the development of recording and production, and popular music styles from 1950 to the present day. Final assessment takes place in the second year,

with two extended practical coursework tasks, and two written exams to complete the Advanced level qualification.

It is suitable for students who have an interest in music production, recording, and electronic and rock styles that have developed since the 1950s. The A Level is designed to develop students' skills to a level appropriate for entrance to courses of study in Music Technology, Production or Sound Engineering in Higher Education or the work place, and to inform and enrich the technical and musical understanding of those students for whom it will be a leisure pursuit. The Pearson specification is followed.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Students need to develop a high level of critical listening ability, plus technical skills with music software, electronic instruments and recording studio techniques. They need a good level of musical understanding, and to be able to interpret and realise performances

using technology. The new qualification from 2017 places a greater emphasis on the theory of sound and acoustics. Although performance and music theory is not directly assessed, potential students will benefit from having reached a proficient standard of performance on an instrument/voice and, preferably, have achieved a good grade at GCSE Music. Students do not necessarily need GCSE Music or formal instrumental Grades, but these are certainly useful.

If you are keen on popular music and music production, and would like to know if this course is suitable for you, please talk to a member of the Music Department. The possession of a good grade in GSCE Physics (or Double Award Science) would also be helpful for technical aspects of the course.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

PRACTICAL WORK

Two tasks that involve extensive planning, development and refinement to produce high quality



finished pieces of music:

- Multi-track Recording - managing live performances and sequenced keyboard parts to record and mix a song from a choice of 10 options
- Technology-Based Composition - using synthesis, sampling, effects and sound design to create an original piece of music based on a published brief. Choice of music for moving image, words and music and current affairs

WRITTEN PAPERS

- Listening and Analysing – commenting on features of recordings to demonstrate understanding of music production and musical

styles throughout the eras from the 1950s to present day

- Producing and Analysing - editing, mixing and producing with supplied audio and MIDI in exam conditions; analytical essay on an aspect of music production

Music Technology may be combined with any other A Level or Vocational subjects in the Sixth Form. It is possible to take Music AS or A Level alongside Music Technology. Contribution will be made to the Key Skills of Communication, Information and Communication Technology, Working with Others, Improving Own Learning and Problem Solving.

The many Music Technology degree courses that are now available enable students to study further according to their own strengths and interests. For those intending to pursue a career outside Music, the A Level will give students technical skills that they can use widely in the changing technological world.

Students have progressed from the A Level to the most prestigious Higher Education courses in the UK including the internationally-renowned Tonnmeister at Surrey University; Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts, Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and Royal Northern College of Music.

AS/A level Physical Education

Faculty of Physical Education

COURSE LEADER
MISS E BIDDLE

This exciting A Level Physical Education course aims to combine the practical aspects of Physical Education with the theoretical content. Practical application is a key aspect of the course so we aim to deliver a course that underpins the theoretical content through practical examples. Students will develop a holistic understanding of the range of factors that can affect the refinement of performance in Physical Education.



TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Due to the nature of the course, and the importance of building upon prior knowledge and understanding within Physical Education, it is a requirement that students have studied the subject at GCSE and have achieved at least a C grade.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Exploring Physical Education

Unit 1 is assessed through a 1hr 45min exam that consists of compulsory structured questions plus one question requiring extended writing covering the following topics:

- Exercise Physiology, Performance Analysis and Training
- Sport Psychology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport and Society

UNIT 2: Improving Personal Performance

Students are to select one sport to be assessed in. The following breakdown of the unit is specific to the chosen sport selected by the student:

- Practical Performance in

one activity

- Coaching or officiating in the same activity
- Personal Performance Profile

Students will be assessed in this unit through a practical moderation that will take place in March.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Evaluating Physical Education

Unit 3 will be assessed through a 2hr exam that consists of compulsory structured questions plus one question requiring extended writing based on the following:

- Exercise Physiology, Performance Analysis and Training
- Sport Psychology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport and Society

UNIT 4: Refining Personal Performance in Physical Education

Students are to select one sport to be assessed in throughout this unit. Both aspects of the unit are focused on refining performance and include:



It is a requirement that students have studied the subject at GCSE.

- Practical Performance in one activity (Performance, Coaching or Officiating)
- Investigative Research. Students will be assessed in this unit through a practical moderation that will take place in March.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

AS LEVEL

Unit 1: Exploring physical education. 1hr 45min exam - 24% of A Level / 60% of AS
Unit 2: Improving Personal Performance. Practical performance - 16% of A Level / 40% of AS

A2 LEVEL

Unit 3: Evaluating Physical Education. 2hr exam 36% of A Level
Unit 4: Refining Personal Performance. Practical performance 24% of A Level

AS/A level Physics

Faculty of Science and Technology

COURSE LEADER
MRS N PETERS

WHY CHOOSE PHYSICS?

Physics is at the heart of everything and is a highly rewarding discipline to study at school, university and beyond. Above all a physics qualification opens doors to a wide variety of careers. It forms the basis of most modern technologies and holds the future to global well-being.

The career opportunities available are as vast as the subject itself due, in part, to the transferable skills gained whilst studying physics. Universities and employers see a physics qualification as an indication of someone who will immediately be an asset to the organisation. Physicists are found working in a wide range of sectors, including: research & development; health & medicine; engineering; finance; IT; architecture;

astronomy; meteorology and of course teaching.

Physics requires a logical and numerate mind; the ability to solve problems; teamwork, flexibility and practical skills are second nature to those trained in physics.

THE COURSE - FAQ

There is a dedicated team of physics specialists at Monmouth Comprehensive to support students with interests ranging from medical physics and engineering to particle and astrophysics. Each class will be taught by two experienced teachers from the team.

Students often ask whether they should study A level mathematics alongside physics. It is definitely helpful due to the overlap between the two subjects. It is also important to note that universities require A Level mathematics as a qualification to access a degree in physics. That said, a large number of students successfully follow the course without studying A Level mathematics. The A

Level physics course itself will require proficiency in higher tier GCSE mathematics, particularly in the areas of algebra, graphs, standard form and trigonometry.

Other popular courses to take with physics are Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, Geography and Computing.

There are no controlled tasks in the course. There is an examination in the second year which will assess students' practical and analytical skills. In addition students will be expected to maintain a well-structured 'Lab Book' of specified practical activities carried out through the course.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Statistically Physics is one of the most difficult subjects to study at Advanced Level. Data indicates that students who achieve successful grades in the course generally have at least an average of a 'B' across their GCSE subjects. In particular it is strongly recommended



A physics qualification opens doors to a wide variety of careers.

that students entering this course have at least grade 'B's in GCSE sciences and GCSE mathematics qualifications.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY YEAR 1 – AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Motion, Energy and Matter. Motion and Forces, Energy Concepts, Materials, Radiation from Stars, Atoms & Particles. Worth 20% Exam taken end of Yr12. (One resit allowed at the end of Yr13)

UNIT 2: Electricity and Light. Electrical Conduction and Resistance, D.C. Electrical Circuits, Wave Properties,

Refraction, Photons, Lasers. Worth 20% Exam taken end of Yr12

YEAR 2 – A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Oscillations and Nuclei. Circular Motion, S.H.M., Kinetic Theory, Thermal Physics, Nuclear Decay, Nuclear Energy. Worth 25% Exam taken end of Yr13

UNIT 4: Fields and Options. Capacitors, Electrostatic and Gravitational Fields, Orbits,

Electromagnetic Induction
The option will be one of A.C. Electricity; Medical Physics; Sports Physics; Energy & Environment. Worth 25% Exam taken end of Yr13

UNIT 5: Practical

A two-part examination taken towards the end of A2 which assesses practical and analytical skills. Worth 10% Two Part Exam in March of Yr13, (half practical task, half written exam).

AS/A level Psychology

Faculty of Social Sciences

COURSE LEADER
MRS D GAYLARD

Psychology involves the study of the human mind and behaviour and apart from its fundamental interest will be of use to anyone pursuing a people oriented career. Its value is recognised within a range of fields from business and education to health and sport.

The concept of 'How Science Works' underpins the study of this course and students develop an understanding of how scientists investigate phenomenon in their attempts to explain the world about us and the influence this can have on society. A critical approach and an appreciation

A critical approach and an appreciation of ethical considerations are encouraged.

of ethical considerations are encouraged, along with improved analytical and essay writing skills.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Success in Psychology is determined by both strong literacy skills and an understanding of how science works. Students need to be confident in writing discursive essays. It is highly recommended that students achieve B grades in English and Science at GCSE level for entry onto the course.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1: Psychology past to present.

Approach:

- Biological
- Psychodynamic
- Behaviourist
- Cognitive
- Positive

What is studied?

- The assumptions of the approach.
- Applying the approaches to explain the formation of relationships.
- Relevant therapies for each approach.
- A classic piece of research for each approach

UNIT 2: Exploring behaviour Theory of research

What is studied?

An introduction to the methodologies used by psychologists to scientifically gather data on behaviour.

Contemporary debates

What is studied?

Independent research into areas where psychology has been influential in making changes (e.g. how research into eye-witness testimony has reformed the justice system)

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3: Implications in the real world

The study of behaviours

What is studied? Three out of a choice of six different behaviours: autism, addiction, bullying,

schizophrenia, stress and criminal behaviour.

Controversies

What's studied?

Controversies of cultural bias, ethical costs of conducting research, non-human animals, scientific status and sexism.

UNIT 4: Applied research methods

Personal investigation

What's studied? Designing,

conducting and evaluating your own piece of psychological research (one question in the exam).

Novel scenarios

What's studied? Applying your knowledge of research methods to given pieces of research.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

AS LEVEL

Unit 1: Psychology past to present

Exam 20%

Unit 2: Exploring behaviour
Exam 20%

A2 LEVEL

Unit 3: Implications in the real world

Exam 40%

Unit 4: Applied research methods

Exam 20%



AS/A level RS: Philosophy and Ethics

Faculty of Humanities

COURSE LEADER

MRS S PERRY-PHILLIPS

An 'A' Level in Religious Studies does not attempt to encourage pupils to a particular religious commitment but is an intellectually demanding educational activity by which students may identify and explore fundamental questions of human existence.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Candidates are not required to have studied the subject at GCSE or to have obtained a qualification at this level, but will need to be able to demonstrate good achievement in terms of their literacy and logic skills. B Grades (or equivalent Grade 6) are required across GCSE subjects in literacy based subjects.

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNIT 1 - An Introduction to the Study of Religion
Option E - Hinduism

A study of

- Religious figures and sacred texts
- Religious concepts
- Religious life
- Religious practices

UNIT 2 - An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion and Religion and Ethics
Section A – An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion

- Cosmological Argument
- Teleological Argument
- The Problem of Evil
- Religious Experience
- Ontological Argument

Section B – An Introduction to Religion and Ethics

- Ethical Language and Thought
- Natural Law
- Situation Ethics
- Utilitarianism

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNIT 3 - Study of Religion
Hinduism

- Religious figures and sacred texts
- Historical development in religious thought
- Social development in religious thought
- Religious practices that shape society

UNIT 4 - Religion and Ethics

- Ethical Language
- Kant's Moral Theory
- Contemporary developments in Ethical Theory
- Free will and Determinism

UNIT 5 - Philosophy of Religion

- Challenges to religious belief
- Religious Experience
- Religious Language

'AS' and 'A' Level Religious Studies (Religion, Philosophy and Ethics) will provide candidates with a foundation and preparation for the study in Further Education. The course examines a student's ability to select and present relevant factual information in an organised manner, to show understanding of its nature and significance and to demonstrate a capacity for critical evaluation.

Those wishing to continue with their studies in Religion, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, Humanities, History, English, and Politics will find the course of great value.



Students may identify and explore fundamental questions of human existence.



AS/A level Welsh



Faculty of Cymraeg/Welsh

COURSE LEADER
MRS A AGGLETON

If you have enjoyed studying Welsh at GCSE then the next stage towards becoming a fluent Welsh speaker is to follow the AS course. At AS and A2 Level, students will be able to 'Croesi'r Bont' - to cross the bridge to speaking and understanding Welsh fluently.

At AS Level, you will be able to practise speaking Welsh every day and have the opportunity to study the language in much greater depth. In order to succeed at AS and A2 Level, you will also need to practise using your Welsh outside the classroom as much as possible. The Faculty will arrange visits to see Welsh plays and films and Welsh courses and you

will also have the opportunity to speak with Welsh speaking members of the public in an informal setting. You will be encouraged to help with Year 7 and 8 Welsh lessons, to help out with the organisation of the school's Eisteddfod and come as a 'SWOG' (helper) to the Urdd Centre in Llangrannog.

20% of the population of Wales speak Welsh and this figure is rising. Amongst young people of school-age the figure is 40%. Research shows that understanding more than one language allows us to think more flexibly and creatively. Learning Welsh opens the door to experiencing a different culture of music, literature, TV and radio. Welsh is a highly sought after qualification for many careers, in particular: jobs in the media, teaching, tourism, journalism, the civil service, local government, administration, translating and sub-titling.

With Welsh AS and A2 qualifications, you can progress to a degree in

Welsh, teaching, journalism, business, media studies, Leisure and Tourism, Welsh History and many more. Having a Welsh qualification will also be beneficial when applying to study or when studying any other language at University. Welsh AS and A2 are fully accepted qualification at all British Universities and colleges.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Welsh is available to anyone who has studied the Full Course Welsh GCSE, although students who have achieved at least a 'B' grade have a stronger chance of being successful. We are willing to discuss acceptance onto the A Level course for students who have achieved a C grade at GCSE and decisions will be made on an individual basis.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

YEAR 1 - AS LEVEL

UNED 1 / UNIT 1: Speaking in Welsh. Oral Exam 15%
One of the main focuses of the AS course is speaking Welsh. In the Oral Exam you will talk in a small group about the film 'Patagonia' for



35 minutes, but you will also discuss Welsh television and radio programmes and Welsh plays and films.

UNED 2 / UNIT 2: Welsh culture or history.

Internal written assessment 10%
The Internal Written Assessment consists of a project of between 1,500-2,000 words. You will write 3 different pieces, of different formats on an element of Welsh culture or history. This is an opportunity to write about a topic of your interest linked to Wales.

UNED 3 / UNIT 3: Grammar and Poetry. Written exam 15%
In the grammar section of the exam, you will need to correct errors in a written piece and complete some translation exercises. You will also need

to show an understanding of changing sentences from the 1st person to the 3rd person and write an extended piece of writing under exam conditions.

Poetry: You will study five poems during the course and you will discuss the content and poetical techniques and themes. You will be required to write about one of these poems in the 3rd person.

YEAR 2 - A2 LEVEL

UNED 4 / UNIT 4: Welsh Speaking.

Oral exam 25%
In the A2 Oral Exam, you will talk in a small group for 45 minutes about a Welsh play 'Crash' by Sera Moore Williams. You will also be required to discuss your experiences of learning Welsh and the Welsh Media.

UNED 5 / UNIT 5: Welsh in Society: Written exam 15%
You will study the history of the Welsh language and its development over the past 60 years. You will also discuss the use of the Welsh language today and its importance. You will be required to write about elements linked to these in a written exam.

Trawsieithu: For 'Trawsieithu' you are asked to read a topical article in English and write a letter in response to it in Welsh.

UNED 6 / UNIT 6: Grammar and short stories. You will study Welsh grammar in depth and you will be required to complete a series of written exercises applying the rules you have learnt.

Short Stories: Four modern short stories are studied throughout the course. You will then be required to write about one of them in the exam.

BTEC National Extended Certificate in Business

Faculty of Business, Enterprise and Technology

COURSE LEADER
MR J WILLIAMS

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. Employers and professional bodies have been involved and consulted in order to confirm that the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice for learners planning to enter employment directly in the business sector.

The four units of the BTEC course give students an introduction to and understanding of the business environment, finance, marketing and human resources.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

Students will have achieved six Level 2 qualifications including English or Maths



GCSE and have an interest in studying or working in the business sector.

ASSESSMENT OF THE COURSE

There are four units of work of which 50% are internally assessed and the other 50% are externally assessed. The assessment approach of the BTEC National in Business is rigorous and thorough. Students are expected to adhere to strict deadlines throughout the course and failure to do so can result in failure of an assessment.

Evidence for assessment may be generated through a range of diverse activities including assignment and project work, case studies, workplace assessment, presentations

and examinations. Once a student has started to receive results from their assessments, they will have concrete information on how well they are achieving and how that achievement translates into a grade.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses if taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two year programme of learning. It will support entry to many higher education courses, depending on the

other qualifications learners have taken. Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes at specific higher education providers. The qualification can also support progression to employment directly, or via an apprenticeship.

The BTEC National in Business provides a route to employment or higher education in the many diverse areas of business including specialist areas such as Management, Marketing, Finance, Law or Human Resources.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY UNIT 1: Exploring Business

In this unit, you will gain an overview of the key ingredients for business success, how businesses are organised, how they communicate, the characteristics of the environment in which they operate, and how this shapes them and their activities. You will also look at the importance of innovation and enterprise to the success and survival of businesses,

with the associated risks and benefits (Internally assessed, coursework due Yr 12).

UNIT 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign.

Marketing is a dynamic field central to the success of any business. You will gain an understanding of how a marketing campaign is developed. You will explore different stages of the process that a business goes through when developing its campaign and develop your own campaign for a given product/service (Externally assessed, controlled assessment due Yr 12).

UNIT 3: Personal and Business Finance.

The business finance aspects of the unit introduce you to accounting terminology, the purpose and importance of business accounts and the different sources of finance available to businesses. Planning tools, such as cash flow forecasts and break-even, will be prepared and analysed. Measuring the financial performance of a business will require you to

prepare and analyse statements of comprehensive income and statements of financial position (Externally assessed, exam due in Yr 13).

UNIT 8: Recruitment and Selection Process

Recruiting the right people is essential to the success of a business. It is important that the processes and procedures involved in recruitment and selection meet the needs of the business and comply with current regulations. You will learn that successful recruitment is key to maintaining the success of a business, as people are often considered to be the most valued resource. You will explore the various selection tools and the enhanced use of technology in this area. Businesses with an effective recruitment process in place are more likely to make successful appointments. In a competitive labour market this is a major advantage and will support business success (Internally assessed, coursework due Yr 13).

BTEC National Extended Certificate in Engineering



Faculty of Science and Technology

COURSE LEADER
MRS C RYAN

INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW BTEC NATIONALS

The BTEC National Extended Certificate in Engineering offers students a course that focusses on various aspects within the vocational sector of Engineering. It is designed to broaden the range of studies for those following a GCE route (or combination) and provides an engineering emphasis.

A BTEC National Extended Diploma has the equivalence of one GCE A Level. It is possible for students to progress further into higher education, as a successful qualification gives UCAS points towards university applications. The course is,

therefore, ideally suited to Sixth Form students who wish to follow a shorter programme of study directly related to engineering which is an area that interests them in respect to their future career pathways.

The course will give you an understanding of skills and knowledge needed to begin professional work in engineering or to move onto further study. You will discover what opportunities are available, helping you to choose a career in your preferred area of expertise.

COURSE DETAILS

The course itself is run over two years, giving a total contact time of 360 guided learning hours. During these two years, students will engage in four separate units of study. The first three core units are mandatory and

the fourth is chosen from a list suited to local industrial requirements.

UNIT ONE covers mathematical and scientific principles and students will take a 2 hour externally marked exam at the end of Year 12. This exam has a very similar content to A Level Maths and Physics and it is, therefore, essential students have a solid platform of Grade B in Maths and/or Physics.

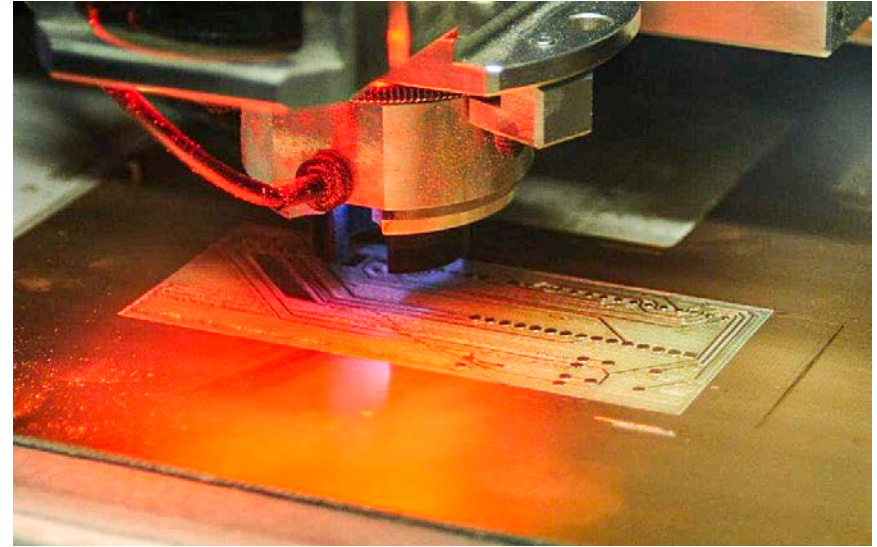
UNIT TWO explores the delivery of engineering processes safely as a team. Students will be given assignments relating to the unit. This unit is internally assessed.

UNIT THREE investigates engineering product design. Students will be given an engineering design problem

and told to solve it. Their solutions will be externally assessed.

UNIT ELEVEN (optional unit) will explore the maintenance issues found within engineering systems.

A successful student can progress straight into a career, with a range of potential occupations that can be accessed, for example, mechanical engineer, electronic engineer or engineering technician.



TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

The entry requirements for the BTEC National Extended Certificate in Engineering is a broad education including, for example, a BTEC First in engineering at merit/distinction level along with a B grade at GCSE Maths and Physics. The level of mathematics in Unit one is equivalent to AS Level and so students who wish to take the course should be able to work through material of that level.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

The course requires two academic years to complete.

UNIT 1: Mathematical and scientific principles. 2hr externally marked exam end of yr 12.

UNIT 2: Engineering processes. Internally assessed assignments

UNIT 3: Engineering product design. Externally assessed assignment

UNIT 11: (optional unit) Maintenance issues found within engineering systems.

A successful qualification gives UCAS points towards university applications.

BTEC Sport

Faculty of Physical Education

COURSE LEADER
MRS L TAYLOR

This is a wonderful course for students who are interested in Sport, Physical Education and Science. The focal point of this course is the development of performance, with an understanding of sports science and its various concepts. The knowledge of the scientific disciplines will be developed through the practical. This is a demanding course which consists of practical and theory being married together and the application of one to the other.

Assessment is carried out by students completing assignments under controlled conditions and by external assessment.

The course requires its candidates to be well motivated and disciplined as some modules require independent planning and leading of practical sessions.

The practical based units will provide students with experience of coaching analysis performance and carrying out first aid.

This vocational course can be studied up to the equivalent of 1,2 or 3 A Levels, depending on the number of units passed. It allows the candidate to enter employment or continue into higher education with many opportunities available.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Recreation manager, sports coach, sports development officer, leisure centre assistant, fitness instructor, PTI Armed forces, outdoor pursuits, police force.

UNIVERSITY/HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sports Science, Human Movement Studies, Leisure/ Recreation, Physical Education, Physiotherapy and Sports sandwich course.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

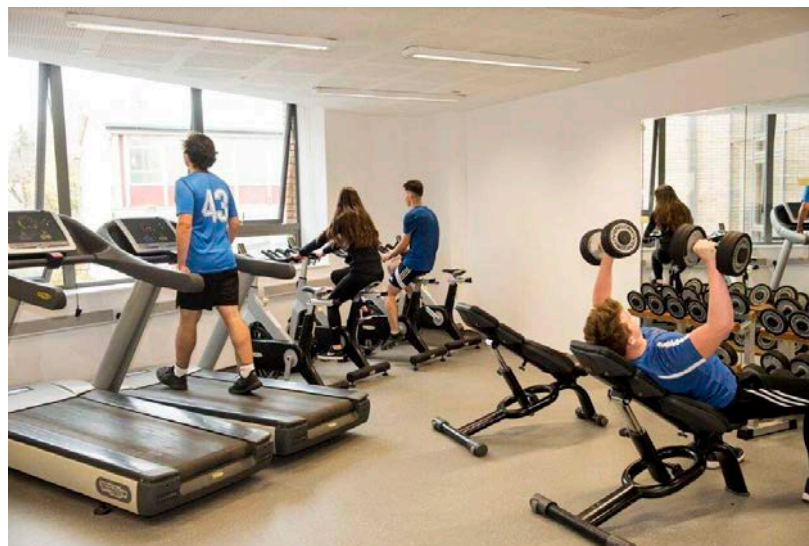
To gain access onto the BTEC National Sport and Exercise Sciences course, students will have achieved six Level 2 qualifications including either English or Maths GCSE and have an interest in studying or working in sports.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

BTEC National Sport is a Level 3 qualification. The following units will be studied for each qualification level.

EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

Equivalent to 1 A Level
YEAR 1
Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology



Externally Assessed
Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry
Internally Assessed
YEAR 2
Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Externally Assessed
Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance
Internally Assessed

DIPLOMA

Equivalent to 2 A Levels
YEAR 1
All units within the extended certificate as well as:
Unit 4: Sports Leadership
Internally Assessed
Unit 6: Sport Psychology

Internally Assessed
Unit 17: Sports Injury Management

Internally Assessed
YEAR 2

Unit 22: Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry

Externally Assessed

Unit 23: Skill Acquisition in Sport

Internally Assessed

EXTENDED DIPLOMA

Equivalent to 3 A Levels
YEAR 1

All units within the extended certificate and Diploma as well as:

Unit 8: Coaching for Performance

Internally Assessed

Unit 19: Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity

Externally Assessed

YEAR 2

All units within the extended certificate and Diploma as well as:

Unit 6: Application of Fitness Testing*

Internally Assessed

Unit 9: Research Methods
Internally Assessed

Unit 31: Current Issues in Sport (Subject to change)

Internally Assessed

The practical based units will provide students with experience of coaching analysis performance and carrying out first aid.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services

Faculty of Physical Education

COURSE LEADER
MRS L TAYLOR

This qualification is targeted at learners who would like to gain employment in the public services sector or advance onto higher education. The qualification will develop learners' abilities through the knowledge and skills gained in the programme and is particularly suitable for learners who would like to know more about employment, or further studies, in non-uniformed or uniformed public services.

The public sector is the largest employment sector in Monmouthshire. This qualification focuses on, but is not limited to, the uniformed protective services such as the police service, fire and rescue service, armed services and prison

service. However, it also is designed to provide highly specialist, work-related qualifications that provide students with the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment or higher education. The qualifications provide career development opportunities for those looking to enter the world of work and progression opportunities to higher education, degree and professional development programmes within the same or related areas of study, within universities and other institutions.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE:

Students will have achieved six Level 2 qualifications including either English or Maths GCSE and have an interest in studying or working in the public services.

HOW WILL THIS COURSE BE TAUGHT?

The qualification is equivalent in size to one A

Level and is designed to be taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications in a full-time study programme.

This is a demanding and broad based course that require students to apply theoretical skills in practical contexts; students will need to enjoy researching and understanding how society functions as much as planning and leading on practical challenges. Students will be assessed through examination board assignments throughout the two years of the course and one external examination; commitment and dedication are a prerequisite.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

The following core and optional units are studied.

Mandatory units - learners complete and achieve all units:
UNIT 2: Behaviour and discipline in the uniformed protective services. External assessment.

Unit 5: Teamwork, leadership and communication in



These are demanding and broad based courses that require students to apply theoretical skills in practical contexts.

the uniformed protective services. Internal assessment.

Optional units - learners complete 2 units:

UNIT 10: Skills for outdoor activities and the uniformed protective services. Internal assessment.

UNIT 11: Expedition skills. Internal assessment.

UNIT 13: Introduction to criminology. Internal assessment.



UNIT 15: Police powers and the law. Internal assessment.

UNIT 19: Professional development in the uniformed protective services. Internal assessment.

WHAT CAN THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?

This course will prepare students for a wide range of roles within the public sector and public services including

Local Authority employment, Youth Work as well as the uniformed public services including the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services.

This course can help students progress onto a wide range of higher education courses including foundation and higher degrees. Appropriate degree courses would be determined by the combination of courses taken alongside Public Services.

Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

Faculty of Social Sciences

COURSE LEADER
MRS D GAYLARD

Criminology is a new and exciting course that not only looks at patterns and trends within criminal behaviour but also analyses how individuals are punished through the criminal justice system.

If you love your crime documentaries and are interested in what motivates individuals to commit crimes, then this is the course for you.

The Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology course is taught over two years and will accrue the same equivalent UCAS points as one A level.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY YEAR 12

You will be assessed via 50% examination and 50% externally moderated coursework.

UNIT 1: Changing Awareness of Crime (internally assessed). You will



explore how crime reporting affects the public perception of crime and criminals. You will then go on to study how campaigns are used to bring about change and plan a campaign of your own.

UNIT 2: Criminological Theories (external assessment) You will discover and assess all the theories that have been put forward to explain why crime occurs.

YEAR 13

UNIT 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom (internally assessed) You will gain an understanding of the process of criminal investigations. You will then go on to learn

about the prosecution of suspects and be able to review criminal cases.

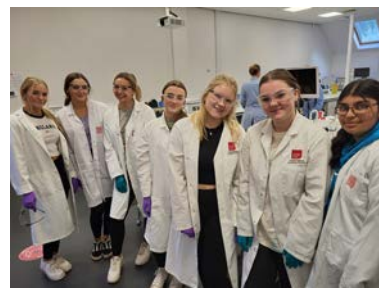
UNIT 4: Crime and Punishment (external assessment) You will study every aspect of the criminal justice system and the types and purposes of punishment in England & Wales.

TYPICAL ENTRY PROFILE

There are no additional entry requirements for this course. Students must achieve the standard entry into the Sixth Form.

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We offer a number of enrichment activities within the Law and Criminology department. We regularly invite different legal professionals into the school to give talks and offer insight in their career pathways. Furthermore, students will be invited to attend a trip to the University of South Wales where students will get to enter their crime scene house, debate the causes of criminality with world leading experts and



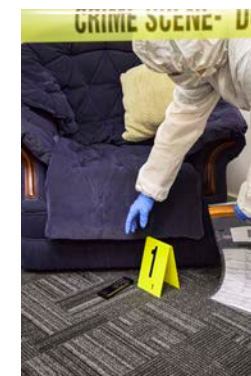
analyse forensic evidence in their forensic laboratory.

PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES

The course supports access to higher education degree courses, such as Criminology itself, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Criminology and Psychology, Law with Criminology, Criminology and Sociology, Psychology and Sociology. The qualification allows learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.



We offer a number of enrichment activities within the law and Criminology department.



Level 3 Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales

COURSE LEADER

MR D EGAN

The Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales (Level 3) is an innovative qualification that promotes learning inside and outside of the classroom, providing learners with opportunities to select their own areas of study whilst advancing their skills of Planning and Organisation; Critical Thinking and Problem Solving; Creativity and Innovation; and Personal Effectiveness (the 'Integral Skills'). Building on their achievements at level 2, the qualification helps learners develop complex skills, attributes and behaviours and provides experiences which enable them to be better prepared for their future destination, whether higher education, apprenticeships, training or employment.

Through completing the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales qualification, learners will:

- develop, apply and be assessed on their skills of Planning and Organisation; Critical Thinking and

“One of the most valuable components of the Welsh Baccalaureate for my current studies was the Individual Project. I chose to focus my piece on the MMR vaccine, highlighting its decline in usage and the potential consequences that this would have. Writing the investigation also gave me my first taste of academic research; an essential skill for my degree over the five years.”

Cameron Watson-Boycott, Graduate of Medicine Cardiff University and former Monmouth Comprehensive School student

Problem-Solving; Creativity and Innovation; and Personal Effectiveness (the 'Integral' Skills)

- be given opportunities to further develop their skills of Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence (the 'Embedded' Skills)
- develop an appreciation of the importance of skills development as a key aspect of life-long learning
- engage in active, creative, and learner-led opportunities

- enquire and think for themselves, plan, make choices and decisions, solve problems, and reflect on and evaluate these
- develop initiative, independence, and resilience
- work independently, take on responsibilities and work effectively with others.

The Level 3 Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales is equivalent to one A-level and is made up of three units referred to as Projects:

GLOBAL COMMUNITY PROJECT

Non-exam Assessment (NEA): 25% of qualification
Learners will demonstrate application of the Integral Skills whilst considering complex global issues and participating in local community action (at least 15 hours) to promote citizenship in a sustainable world and Wales. In completing this Project, learners will:

- be provided with the opportunity to think about their own values and what is important to them
- be able to voice their own

- opinions in making others aware of issues
- play an active role in a local, national or global community to help make a positive difference.

FUTURE DESTINATIONS PROJECT

Non-exam assessment (NEA): 25% of qualification
Learners will demonstrate application of the Integral Skills whilst exploring future destination goals for life, employability, and citizenship in a sustainable world and Wales. In completing this Project, learners will:

- consider their own attributes, capabilities, achievement, and priorities for future wellbeing

- explore opportunities for personal progression to employment and the potential impact on wellbeing
- demonstrate collaboration skills by working successfully towards a common goal.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT

Non-exam assessment (NEA): 50% of qualification
Learners will demonstrate application of the Integral Skills whilst planning, managing, and conducting an independent research project (extended written project or artefact). In completing this Project, learners will:

- recognise the importance research plays in making

- informed decisions
- be encouraged to find, evaluate, analyse, communicate, and use information to solve complex problems
- have the opportunity to demonstrate originality, initiative and to exercise personal responsibility.

Many universities and employers place great value on the qualification and the Individual Project in particular. It is formal recognition that the skills and experiences students gain are valuable when continuing into higher education, or moving into employment.



Level 2 Pathways to Employment

This aspect of our offer is currently being developed, but will give the opportunity for students to complete a vocational route to employment whilst staying at Monmouth Comprehensive School.

Students studying this pathway will be able to join with a lower offer (yet to be confirmed) and will have the opportunity to re-sit English Language and Mathematics GCSE as required.

The qualifications below are the ones likely to be offered by the school and will also include a substantial training placement for students to complete industry related qualifications leading to students being ready to enter employment at the end of the course.

PLAY, SPORT AND LEISURE
Pearson BTEC Level 2
Diploma in Sports Industry
Skills (Sports and Active
Leisure Recreation Assistant).

The placement would be through Mon Life Leisure Centre.

CHILDCARE

WJEC/City and Guilds Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development

WJEC/City and Guilds Level 2 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development – Practice and Theory

The placement would be through local nurseries in the Monmouth area which are yet to be confirmed.

We will ask students to register an interest in these courses and we will give further information and guidance relating to these pathways as it becomes available.

Please be aware that courses may not run if there is not enough interest.



» WE ENABLE OUR STUDENTS TO LEAD



HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL LIVES



Monmouth | Ysgol Gyfun
Comprehensive School | **Trefynwy**