



If you can dream it...
Ysgol Bae Baglan School

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Baglan

www.BaeBaglan.school

Year 9 – Learning Pathways

Thursday January 11th 2018

Which Way Now?



Aim of the evening

- ▶ Update - Curriculum changes
- ▶ The Option process at YBB
- ▶ Subjects on offer
- ▶ Do's and Don'ts
- ▶ Help
- ▶ Key dates

English Language GCSE

► The new language GCSE will:

- Focus on the skills that learners will need in their everyday lives;
- Develop the functional aspects of reading, writing and oracy;
- Places significantly more of an emphasis on the quality and accuracy of writing and on core writing skills such as spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Be linear - all assessments taken at the end of the course;
- No tiered entry
- Awarding of grades at A* - G

GCSE Mathematics / Numeracy

- ▶ The new Mathematics Numeracy GCSE will:
 - Focuses on mathematics learners will need for everyday life ;
 - Assess candidates' ability to solve 'real-life' problems;
- ▶ The new Mathematics GCSE will:
 - Cover all aspects of mathematics;
 - Will give young people the mathematical skills they need for further mathematical, scientific or technical study;
 - Encourage learners to employ and evaluate different mathematical techniques.

GCSE Mathematics / Numeracy

- ▶ Be - linear all assessments taken at the end of the course;
- ▶ Have three tiers of entry – Higher (A*-C), Intermediate (B-E) & Foundation(D- G);
- ▶ Higher and Intermediate 2 papers 1hr 45mins; total marks = 160
- ▶ Foundation 2 papers 1hr 30 mins; total marks =130
- ▶ Paper 1 non- calculator; Paper 2 calculator paper;

Double Award Science

- ▶ Study 3 hrs each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics over the two week cycle;
- ▶ Examinations at the end of Y10 and 11 - one in each discipline;
- ▶ Coursework tasks during the Spring term of Y11
- ▶ Awarding of two grades.



The option system at Bae Baglan

- ▶ Is aimed to provide a range of experiences relevant to future needs;
- ▶ Provides a broad choice that also includes the ability to specialise;
- ▶ Offers subjects at the level appropriate to the pupils ability;
- ▶ Offers subjects that allow progression to further education or training.

The process

- ▶ Distribution of Option booklets and free choice form;
- ▶ Pupils receive advice / enter in to discussions with subject teachers, Careers Adviser, form tutors, HoY and SLT;
- ▶ Choices made x 3 plus 2 reserve choices;
- ▶ Analysis of free choice to produce curriculum based on a best fit scenario and maximising pupil choices;
- ▶ Careful analysis of choices by school based staff e.g. subject teachers, HoY, SLT;
- ▶ Are all courses viable to run?
- ▶ For some pupils interviews with key school based staff to discuss choices.

Compulsory Subjects

- ▶ GCSE Mathematics and Numeracy
- ▶ GCSE English Language and Literature
- ▶ GCSE RE
- ▶ GCSE Welsh / Support
- ▶ GCSE Science - Double Award
- ▶ Skills Challenge Certificate
- ▶ Health and Fitness



Choices

GCSE Further Additional Mathematics	GCSE Health & Social Care
GCSE Art and Design	GCSE History
GCSE Art – Photography	Level 1/2 Award in Hospitality and Catering
Business and Enterprise	GCSE Music
GCSE Computer Science	GCSE Physical Education
Pathways Certificate for IT Users	GCSE Product Design
Level 1/2 Award in I&CT	GCSE Fashion and Textiles
Level 1/2 Award in Constructing the Built Environment	GCSE Spanish
GCSE Drama	GCSE Science - Triple Award
Level 1/2 Engineering	Level 1/2 Award in Sport
GCSE French	Level 2 Vehicle Technology
Level 1/2 Global Business Communication	Level 1/2 CoPE
GCSE Geography	Life skills / Basic skills
Level 2 Certificate in Hair Services	WorkSkills

Types of qualifications

GCSE's

- ▶ Level 2 qualification graded at A*, A, B and C
- ▶ Level 1 qualification graded at D, E, F and G
- ▶ Can also be awarded U grade

Vocational Qualifications IVET's

- ▶ Level 2 qualification Distinction*, Distinction, Merit and Pass
- ▶ Level 1 qualification Level 1 Pass



The KS4 Experience

Week A + Week B = 50 lessons

Compulsory Subjects

Mathematics / Numeracy	= 7 lessons
English	= 7 lessons
Science	= 9 lessons
Welsh	= 4 lessons
Skills Challenge Certificate	= 3 lessons
RE	= 3 lessons
Health and Fitness	= 2 lessons
Total	= 35 lessons

The KS4 Experience (cont.)

Option A	= 5 lessons
Option B	= 5 lessons
Option C	= 5 lessons
Total	= 15 lessons

Total Number of lessons $35 + 15 = 50$ lessons

Pupils must:

- ▶ Get as much advice as possible. If you are unsure, just ask;
- ▶ Find out as much as possible about the courses on offer especially if choosing a “new” course;
- ▶ Choose subjects they like and will be good at;
- ▶ Talk to parents about your choices;
- ▶ Think about the future and how choices made may help you;
- ▶ Choose a balance of subjects.

Pupil must not:

- ▶ Think that you are expected to know what to do later in life; keep as many doors open as possible
- ▶ Follow your friend's choices. You might find yourself in a different teaching group anyway!
- ▶ Choose a subject because you like / dislike the teacher
- ▶ Rush and make hasty decisions
- ▶ Choose a subject because you think it will be easier than others.
- ▶ Worry because you can't fit everything in – you simply cannot study everything

Options Help and Advice

- ▶ Options booklet has all the information on the courses available
- ▶ Careers Wales website
<http://www.careerswales.com>
- ▶ Qualifications Wales website
<http://www.qualificationswales.org>
- ▶ School staff and subject teachers
- ▶ School careers adviser - Rebecca Mogford



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Key Dates

- ▶ **Parents' Evening – January 15th**
- ▶ **Submission of choices by January 31st.**

Dreaming



**If you can dream it.... You
can achieve it**



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Thank you

Diolch