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Ysgol Bae Baglan School

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Bae  
Baglan

www.BaeBaglan.school

# Year 9 – Learning Pathways

## Thursday January 9<sup>th</sup> 2020

### Which Way Now?



## Aim of the evening

- ▶ Options at YBB
- ▶ The Core Compulsory Curriculum
- ▶ Compulsory Subjects / Subjects on offer
- ▶ Advice on Subject Selection
- ▶ Help
- ▶ Key dates



## 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 pupil's ability;
- ▶ Offers subjects that lead to nationally recognised qualifications.

## The Process

- ▶ Distribution of Option booklets and free choice form;
- ▶ Pupils receive advice and enter into discussions with Subject Teachers, Careers Adviser, Form Tutors, Wellbeing / Learning Directors and SLT;
- ▶ Choices made x3 plus 2 reserve choices;
- ▶ Analysis of free choice to produce curriculum based on a best fit scenario, maximising pupil choice;

## The Process

- ▶ Careful analysis of choices by school staff e.g. Wellbeing / Learning Directors, SLT;
- ▶ Are all courses viable to run?



## The Core Curriculum

- ▶ All pupils will be given the opportunity to follow GCSE / ELQ courses in:
- English Language / Literature
  - Mathematics / Numeracy
  - Science



# English Language GCSE

- ▶ The language GCSE will:
  - Focus on the skills that learners will need in their everyday lives;
  - Develop the purposeful 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

# English Language GCSE

- ▶ Unit 1 - Speaking and listening - 40 marks contributing 20% of final qualification
- ▶ Unit 2 – Reading and Writing – 80 marks contributing 40% of final qualification
- ▶ Unit 3 - Reading and Writing - 80 marks contributing 40% of final qualification



## English Literature GCSE

- ▶ Unit one (35%)– Of Mice and Men and Poetry. Exam end of Y10.
- ▶ Unit two (40%) – An Inspector Calls and Heroes. Exam end of Y11.
- ▶ Non examination assessment (25%) - a comparison of two Welsh poems and a study of a Shakespeare play again titles stipulated by WJEC.

## GCSE Mathematics / Numeracy

▶ The Mathematics Numeracy GCSE will:

- Focus on the skills that learners will need in their everyday lives ;
- Assess candidates' ability to solve 'real-life' problems;

▶ The Mathematics GCSE will:

- Feature problems set both in real-life and purely mathematical contexts;
- Encourage learners to employ and evaluate different mathematical techniques.



## GCSE Mathematics / Numeracy

► Both Mathematics GCSEs will:

- Be linear - all assessments taken at the end of the course;
- Have three tiers – 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
- Unit 1 - non calculator, Unit 2 - calculator;



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# 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 x2 during the Spring term of Y11
- ▶ Awarding of two grades.



# Single Award Applied Science and Entry Level

## Single Award Applied

- ▶ Unit 1 in year 10
- ▶ Unit 2-4 in year 11 (Unit 3 and 4 have set windows to be completed).

## Entry Level

- ▶ One written exam in summer year 11 (25%).

# Compulsory Subjects

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



# Choices

GCSE Further Additional Mathematics

GCSE Art and Design

GCSE Art – Photography

Level 1/2 Business and Enterprise

GCSE Business

GCSE Computer Science

Pathways Certificate for IT Users

Level 1/2 Award in I&CT

Level 1/2 Award in Constructing the  
Built Environment

GCSE Drama

Level 1/2 in Engineering

GCSE French

Level 1/2 Global Business Communication

GCSE Geography

Level 1/2 Certificate in Hair Services

GCSE Health & Social Care

GCSE History

Level 1/2 Award in Hospitality and Catering

GCSE Music

GCSE Physical Education

GCSE Product Design

GCSE Fashion and Textiles

GCSE Science - Triple Award

Level 1/2 Award in Sport

Level 2 Vehicle Technology

Level 1/2 CoPE

Life Skills / Basic Skills



# Types of Qualifications

## GCSE's

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

## Vocational Qualifications

- ▶ Level 2 qualification graded as 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 35 lessons</b>

## 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 should

- ▶ Get as much advice as possible. If 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 are good at;
- ▶ Listen to the advice given;
- ▶ Talk to you their parents / carers about their choices;
- ▶ Think about their futures and how choices made may help them with any future careers that they may have in mind;
- ▶ Choose a balance of subjects.



## **Pupils should not**

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



## Key Dates

- ▶ **Parents' Option Talk Meeting - January 9th**
- ▶ **Parents' Evening - January 13th**
- ▶ **Submission of choices to form tutor by January 30<sup>th</sup> at latest.**



**DREAM IT**

**BELIEVE IT**

**ACHIEVE IT**



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# Thank you

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