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Turn the pages of your imagination.

READ!

YSGOL EIRIAS
SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS /
PROSPECTWS Y CHWECHED DOSBARTH





Join us at Ysgol Eirias, where our combination of culture, high quality teaching and a broad and balanced curriculum results in a unique educational experience in which you will excel individually as well as create life-long friendships and fond memories.

At Ysgol Eirias we offer you a Sixth Form that regularly features as one of the top performing Sixth Forms in England and Wales. With us, you will feel challenged and supported to achieve your full potential. We are passionate about inspiring a love of learning, about supporting personal growth, and about providing a wide range of opportunities and experiences so that you have the knowledge, skills and values to help you achieve your ambitions and become a happy, confident young person who is prepared for the challenges of an exciting and ever-changing world.

A love of learning

Through our personalised care and high quality, innovative teaching, we will inspire you to take ownership of your learning, to think beyond the curriculum and to want to know more, helping you to recognise and celebrate your strengths and unique qualities. We will support you to make progress in your learning and achieve academic success, help you to identify your future aspirations and guide you along the pathway towards achieving them.

Personal growth

The success of our Sixth Form is not only measured in academic achievements but also in the personal growth, leadership skills, resilience and friendships that our students develop here. Through personalised guidance, mentorship programmes, and a strong support network, you will receive the care that you need to thrive both academically and personally.

Opportunities and experiences

We offer a variety of extra-curricular activities and enrichment programmes that have been designed to complement our curriculum provision. These experiences will provide you with opportunities outside of the classroom to develop your friendships, to extend your learning and to work with outside agencies, developing a well-rounded skill set that will serve you well throughout your life.

Zoe Evans
Headteacher

Dr M D Greenslade
Head of Sixth Form

WELCOME TO YSGOL EIRIAS SIXTH FORM

Here in the Sixth Form at Ysgol Eirias we focus on learning and personal development. This prospectus will give you some idea of the range of opportunities and experiences that we offer to our students.

We offer a broad range of subjects, spread across five option columns. We believe this provides a strong and adaptable package of courses that should suit the vast majority of students. The Sixth Form team, together with subject teachers, have a wealth of experience and we look forward to discussing your options and your future plans with you.

Visit the school website, or contact us directly, if you need any further information.



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CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT / CYFOETHOGI'R CWRICWLWM

The Sixth Form area offers spacious, modern study and recreational facilities. We are an integral part of the school, but the Common Room and the Resource Base give us a greater degree of independence and responsibility.

We receive excellent preparation for Higher Education, apprenticeships or employment, including presentations, visits, "mock" interviews and individual counselling. We have a wide range of guest speakers, often from our extensive alumni programme, including employees from JCB, Cosrtain, students studying abroad and much more. Focus groups help us to prepare for our chosen route, whether it is an Engineering apprenticeship, a career in medicine or a future as a barrister or solicitor.

SENIOR PREFECTS

Within the Sixth Form there are 3 major factors which determine our success: hard work, effective time management but above all, self-motivation.

We are treated differently by staff based on mutual respect which creates strong relationships. We have the opportunity to develop our strengths both in and out of the classroom to become well rounded independent individuals. We even get to dress up and look stupid from time to time! In their inspection of the school, ESTYN report that in the Sixth Form :

"students make extremely good progress in lessons. They respond very well to the highly effective teaching that they receive...their behaviour is exemplary and they make a very good contribution to the life of the school. They are aware of their teachers' high expectations of them and are motivated to meet them."

ESTYN also state that standards in the Sixth Form are outstanding and reported good or better teaching in all the Sixth Form lessons observed as part of the inspection focus.

The support programme enables us to make informed choices about our future. Here are just a few of the many activities we have experienced here in the Ysgol Eirias Sixth Form:

GIVING BACK

Giving something back to the school community is important - being involved as a prefect; acting as Language Ambassadors to support younger learners; volunteering to coach school sports teams; working with years 7 and 8 as lower school support in lessons or acting as 6th form mentors with Year 7 pastoral groups. It is hard work but certainly rewarding.

RAISING MONEY FOR CHARITY

For all those people who don't get to dress up as Smurfs or Sumo wrestlers on their Saturday nights out, Comic Relief is a perfect opportunity. Not only are we giving to charity, but we're having fun in the process. And if you are slow to get out of bed for Children in Need, then come to school in your pyjamas instead!

If you want to welcome the new Year 7, come along to our Year 7 Games Day in the Common Room. Keen to 'say it with flowers'? Take part in the Valentine's Roses promotion in February.

We have organised a number of high profile awareness raising events, including guest talks from refugees living in the area.



WIDER SKILLS

The Sixth Form offers a wide range of opportunities to improve important transferable skills necessary for life outside school.

We all learn valuable skills through the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales qualification, which gives great preparation for living and working in the 21st Century. We get the opportunity to improve our confidence in leadership and teamwork by contributing to the school's Lower School Support programme as part of the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales qualification.



We take on individual research to produce an Individual Project which we can focus on our future university or career plans. We investigate different career pathways for the Future Destinations Project. Who knows, perhaps some of us will become the most successful entrepreneurs, the most respected politicians and the most compassionate doctors of the future?

TRIPS

If we want to discover learning outside the classroom, how about CERN with Science or experience Europe in Manchester at the Christmas markets. That's just a taste of what's on offer.



YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

WHY SHOULD I STAY ON IN TO THE SIXTH FORM?

In Year 11 when the pressure of work is increasing rapidly and you are no longer able to go out and enjoy yourself as freely as you were before, it is easy to become frustrated with school and impatient with its rules – it is easy to conclude that the sooner you leave the better.

For a minority, that may be the right thing to do; for the majority it would be quite wrong. Try to remember that what you feel strongly about may soon change and the most important consideration is your long term future.

An important aspect of this is to train yourself for the better, more fulfilling career that higher qualifications can give. But that is not all the Sixth Form offers. Your understanding of life will develop greatly, as your studies will be broader than your specialist areas and you will be given varied opportunities to use initiative and assume responsibility.



ISN'T SIXTH FORM JUST MORE OF THE SAME THING?

Absolutely not. For a start, you will be working in much smaller groups and this leads to a friendlier atmosphere. Secondly, you will be with students who have chosen to specialise in that subject.

Lessons take on a different quality altogether – much greater emphasis is placed on your contribution to discussion, research and experimentation; your initiative, suggestions and observations become more important. You are more responsible for the organisation of your work and your time. Your success depends on your own sense of purpose, your determination and your self-discipline.

HOW SHOULD I CHOOSE MY SUBJECTS?

Your choice of subjects will be influenced by three interacting considerations:



Which subjects do you enjoy?



Which subjects produce the best results?



Which subjects are required for the career you have in mind?

Your present interest in a subject is usually a realistic guide to the choice you should make but beware! Subjects can change substantially between Year 11 and the Sixth Form, concentrating on different aspects and demanding an alternative style of work. Subjects you find dull now may be much more attractive to you at Sixth Form level and of course, vice versa. You may also wish to study a subject not offered at GCSE.

It may be difficult to predict your summer exam results. While mock exams will give an indication, your teachers will know if you have the ability to study their subject. Their advice is invaluable. Take advantage of it.

There are certain combinations of subjects that you must take if you wish to pursue specific careers. This requires specialist help which you can obtain from the Head of Sixth Form and his team, the Heads of Faculties and Heads of Subjects.

Talk to staff and students already in the Sixth Form to help you with your decision. Use their expertise.

WHAT ABOUT THE ADVANCED SKILLS BACCALAUREATE WALES?

All students in the Sixth Form take the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales. As a school we have the advantage of being able to deliver the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales through two taught lessons per week. You will also take part in a variety of non-curriculum "Skills Days" alongside a complete pastoral and life skills programme which is used to credit the qualification.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I CAN'T COPE WITH MY SUBJECTS?

Almost everyone encounters some problems initially with their courses as the work is at a higher level than before and you are expected to take greater responsibility for your own learning. However, if it becomes obvious that you are not able to rise to the demands of a particular course, even after giving it a good try, then your teachers and the Sixth Form staff will help you to consider the options open to you. Students will be expected to pass end of year AS exams if they are to continue with their courses. During the autumn term, students will be given 'Target Grades' based on ALPs data in each subject area to enable them to monitor their progress in conjunction with their form tutors and subject teachers at various times during the year.

WHAT NEXT? AFTER THE SIXTH FORM?

As soon as students begin their Sixth Form courses, they need to be seriously considering the future. Whether it be Higher Education, apprenticeships or employment, a detailed support structure is in place, including: career interviews with the Careers Service; a well stocked resources centre; easy access to online material and visits to Higher Education Fairs and Universities. There are also visits from past students, university and financial experts, guidance sessions on gap year opportunities, a parents' information evening, a Russell Group and Oxbridge support group, electronic application process support and interview guidance.



OTHER INFORMATION / GWYBODAETH ARALL

UNIFORM

School uniform at Eirias is supported by the students themselves.

- Black knee length skirt / Black trousers
- Sixth form black V-neck jumper
- White shirt / Blouse
- Sixth form or sport / Music tie
- Black shoes
- Dark topcoat

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)

The Education Maintenance Allowance provides support for 16 - 18 year olds in Wales who are continuing their education.

This is a means tested allowance, paid fortnightly, according to student attendance.

It aims to encourage young people to gain qualifications and help to increase their employment opportunities.

The pastoral team will provide students with all the information they need and will support students throughout the application process.

KEY POINTS

- EMA is paid fortnightly
- EMA is means tested and does not affect any benefits paid to families
- Forms will be available from school in the summer term
- Further information is available from: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/ema



ADMISSIONS

Year 11 students from Ysgol Eirias and other schools, within the UK and overseas, are welcome to apply for a place in the Sixth Form.

In order to be offered a place, students must meet our entry requirements; please see the subject pages in the prospectus for subject specific details.

All students will be expected to hold a minimum of 4 A*-C grades at GCSE before starting their programme of study.

Students who have not achieved at least a C grade in both GCSE Mathematics and GCSE English Language will be expected to resit these qualifications in year 12.

We also require students to demonstrate a good record in terms of attendance, punctuality and behaviour before joining the Sixth Form.

The closing date for applications for September 2025 entry is Friday 7th March 2025.



YEAR 11 -> YEAR 12 THE TRANSITION

NOVEMBER
Mock Exams

JANUARY
Sixth Form Opportunities Evening
Brochure distributed
Individual interviews with Sixth Form team where appropriate

FEBRUARY
Follow-up to interviews Meetings with existing Year 12 groups

MARCH
Application forms deadline

MARCH
Year 11 Parents Evening

MAY
Students leave school and begin GCSE exams

JUNE
Induction Day

AUGUST
GCSE Results: Support counselling
Opportunity to enrol on courses

SEPTEMBER
Sixth Form enrolment
(for any student not enrolled on results day)



ADVANCED SKILLS BACCALAUREATE WALES/ BAGLORIAETH SGILIAU CYMRU UWCH

LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA

Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales (Skills) qualification is a Level 3 qualification that supports students to become effective, responsible and active citizens, equipping them with the skills for future study or to enter the job market.

Here at Ysgol Eirias, Skills is delivered as part of our core Sixth Form programme enabling you to develop a portfolio of skills such as Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Creativity and Innovation, and Planning and Organisation which are regarded as increasingly desirable by employers and universities. The qualification is taken

alongside your other qualifications, allowing you to gain vital UCAS points to assist with your university applications.

The two-year course is made up of 3 projects: Global Community Project, Future Destination Project, and Individual Project. Students will take part in a variety of exciting activities and contexts which will be based on the United Nations sustainable development agenda and Wales's Well-being Goals as defined by the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales).

The Global Community Project considers complex global issues and enables you to gain recognition for enrichment activities such as our long established and highly successful Lower School Support programme, helping to promote citizenship.

The Future Destination Project explores future plans for life and employability. When considering your next steps, you will work alongside your form tutor and pastoral team who will support you in your university or employment applications.

The Individual Project enables you to develop and demonstrate application of your skills whilst planning, managing and conducting an independent research project (extended written project or artefact). The qualification is graded A*-E; the skills and behaviours developed through completion of the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales provide a suitable foundation for the study of a range of higher education courses, progression to the next level of vocational qualifications or employment.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



2 GCSEs at Grade C or above with Maths / Numeracy and English at Grade D or above

EXAM BOARD



WJEC

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Miss S Bell



APPLIED BUSINESS STUDIES / ASTUDIAETHAU BUSNES CYMHWYSOL

WJEC LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE & EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

Are you the next Apprentice? Could you pitch to The Dragons? Want to be able to calm an angry customer or sell ice-cream to a penguin? ... If so, this is the course for you.

Applied Business is a dynamic and challenging course that can lead to university, employment or help you take the first steps to being an entrepreneur!

The course will allow you to study all aspects of running and working in a business, including: business decisions, dealing with customers, communication, marketing and market research.

The units of study will allow you to put business theory into practice and develop transferable skills which will equip you for employment or further study.

You will consider the problems that businesses face, solutions to these problems and their consequences. You will become better at making decisions - a skill highly sought by employers and universities.

60% controlled assessment and 40% external exams. The course is suited to students who are well organised and who enjoy working independently.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



Four GCSEs at Grade C or above
GCSE Business Studies Grade C
or above (if studied).

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mr D Jones

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



ART AND DESIGN / CELF A DYLUNIO

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

This course offers you the opportunity to extend your passion for art and appreciation of artworks. You will explore the creative process of artists past and present, investigate and experience a range of processes and techniques using a wide variety of media. You will explore an array of personal responses linked to a range of themes enabling you to create your own fine art.

You will experience a variety of lesson approaches including practical demonstrations, workshops, artist-led activities and discussion work, and your studies are supported throughout with the

use of ICT and digital photography in the classroom. You will have the opportunity to partake in wider learning experiences to those offered in the classroom alone through our annual art gallery visits and we run regular competitions. Further to this, you can feed your awareness of art by visiting other galleries.

This course appropriately leads you in the pursuit of art in Further and Higher Education, to complete foundation courses in Coleg Menai and Llandrillo or have the opportunity to apply directly to a degree course.

This A level course provides a strong creative grounding within the realms of fine art, on which to base any art based career, from curating to printmaking and animation to illustration and is suitable for all motivated young artists with a desire to express.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Art A* - C or GCSE Textiles
or GCSE Graphics **plus**
GCSE English Language A* - C
or GCSE English Literature A* - C

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mrs M Millington
Cassidy

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



BIOLOGY / BIOLEG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

Have you ever wanted to be the first to discover a new species of animal, find a cure for a rare parasitic disease or be the first person to grow a new heart from stem cells? Do you have the interest, inspiration and the ambition to be a future Nobel Prize winner? If the answer to these questions is 'Yes', then why not study Biology?

The Biology AS course consists of 2 theory units worth 20% each of the A2 qualification. You will be studying Basic Biochemistry and Cell organization ensuring a smooth transition from GCSE. The second unit explores Biodiversity and Physiology

of body systems. Each theory module is assessed by a 90 minute examination.

The A level course includes the AS level units, 2 theory units worth 25% each and a practical unit worth 10%. You will look at Energy, Homeostasis and the Environment in Unit 3. You will have the opportunity to develop understanding of Variation and Inheritance plus an option in Unit 4.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Science Double Award
A*A*- B B at Higher Tier
And GCSE Mathematics A*- B at
Higher Tier

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mrs R Haslock

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



BUSINESS STUDIES / ASTUDIAETHAU BUSNES

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

The A Level Business course provides learners with an introduction to the dynamic business environment and the importance of entrepreneurial activity in creating business opportunities and sustaining business growth.

You will gain a holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts and a critical understanding of different types of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants. You will have the chance to generate enterprising and creative approaches to business problems and issues and to acquire a wide range of business and generic skills, including

decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis.

The AS accounts for 40% of the total A Level, it is divided into two examinations: Unit 1 covers Business Opportunities, including business start-ups, SMEs and other types of business organisations. Unit 2 covers Business Functions and involves data response questions covering the full AS course content.

The A2 units account for 60% of the A Level and are also divided into two examinations: Unit 3 covers business strategy and analytical techniques used in decision making. Unit 4 is a case study and essay-based exam covering the full A level content

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Business A*- B (if studied)
Or GCSE English Language A*-B (if
GCSE Business Studies has not
been studied).

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mr D Jones

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



CHEMISTRY / CEMEG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

The AS Chemistry course is designed to enable a smooth transition from GCSE and builds on popular areas of the Chemistry course from years 10 and 11. These involve the language of chemistry, structure of matter and simple reactions, in addition to looking at energy, rate and chemistry of carbon compounds. From the beginning of the course you will be given an opportunity to develop your practical skills in a variety of experiments including the testing of unknown compounds as well as the synthesis of new materials.

If you continue onto the A2 course you will then move on to study the latest methods

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Science Double Award
A*A*- B B at Higher Tier
And GCSE Mathematics A*- B at
Higher Tier

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Ms N O'Leary

of drug design and structural analysis in addition to looking at why chemical reactions happen on a fundamental level. Here again, the theoretical aspects of the course are always consolidated with interesting and appropriate practical tasks.

Chemistry is regarded as a discipline that requires logical thinking and a clear and organised mind. It uses and develops a host of skills which employers regard as being invaluable in the workplace, including problem solving, team working, numeracy, communication and practical skills. It is a subject which is at the heart of a variety of science based careers, such as medicine, veterinary sciences, dentistry and pharmacy. Alternatively, an A level in Chemistry can also be used as a stepping stone to a non-scientific career in fields as diverse as business, law, accounting and management.

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CYMRAEG AIL IAITH / WELSH SECOND LANGUAGE

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

The Welsh Second Language A level includes practical and academic elements and is assessed through written and oral examinations as well as coursework. You will acquire the language skills needed to appreciate Welsh literature and media, focusing on modern themes and advanced literary techniques. The course also enables you to develop your grammatical skills to a very high standard.

The coursework component in year 12 allows you to choose a topic of personal interest which relates to Wales or Welsh issues. It provides you with an insight into the history of the Welsh language and

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Welsh A*- C

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mrs L Newman

its status in today's society. The Welsh faculty will also provide you with opportunities to use your Welsh outside the classroom – from Eisteddfodau to working with younger students as mentors in Welsh lessons. You will have the opportunity to attend a 3 day residential course at Glan-Ilyn where workshops and lectures are led by authors, poets and other course specialists.

By the end of the course you will be able to communicate in Welsh with confidence and fluency, orally and in writing. The ability to speak Welsh is essential for many jobs in the public sector in Wales and is increasingly required in the private sector in jobs which involve working with people. If you wish to specialise in Welsh at university, career opportunities include the Welsh media, translating, nursing and policing in Wales as well as teaching at both primary and secondary level.

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DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY / TECHNOLEG DDIGIDOL

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

This qualification advances learners' understanding of the digital technologies that are used by individuals and organisations across the world, including how they are developed and how they continue to change.

In Year 12 – AS you will study two units of work. Unit 1 Innovation in Digital Technology is a written two hour assessment taken on screen worth 20% of the full qualification. You will look at digital IT systems, AI, digital life cycles, HCI and the use of social media by individuals and society.

You will also complete unit 2 Creative Digital Practices worth 20% of the full qualification which is a non-examined assessment. This focuses on game development including planning, designing, creating and testing.

In Year 13 – A Level you will you will study two further units of work. A two and a half hour assessment worth 30% taken on screen looks at the collection, storing and analysis of data, cyber security and digital networks. You will also create an e-commerce website linked to a database. This is worth 30% and is assessed by a non-examined assessment. For this you will design, create, develop, review, test and refine your product.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE in Digital Technology or Computer Science at grade C or higher. A Grade C in English Language or higher (if GCSE Digital Technology not studied)

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mr D Jones

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



ENGLISH LANGUAGE / IAITH SAESNEG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

This course offers the opportunity for budding writers and linguists to extend their skills and develop their analysis of how people talk and write. We offer students a variety of Creative Writing Workshops including Travel Writing, Dramatic Monologues and Children's Books. We use modern samples of Spoken Discourse to analyse body language and language used by individuals including I'm a Celebrity, Love Island, YouTubers. You will even be recording and analysing family and friends.

You will experience a range of lesson opportunities including workshops, presentations, group activities, paired work, digital research and production. This course is ideal for students who enjoy watching and analysing others. It links into fields of work including journalism, police, teaching, speech therapy, psychology and law. With topics such as gender, accent and dialect, child language and language and power, there is a great balance to keep everyone interested.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE English Language A*-B and GCSE English Literature A*-C.
- Students who have not reached the required grades, but have NEAs at grade B and above will be considered.

HEAD OF SUBJECT

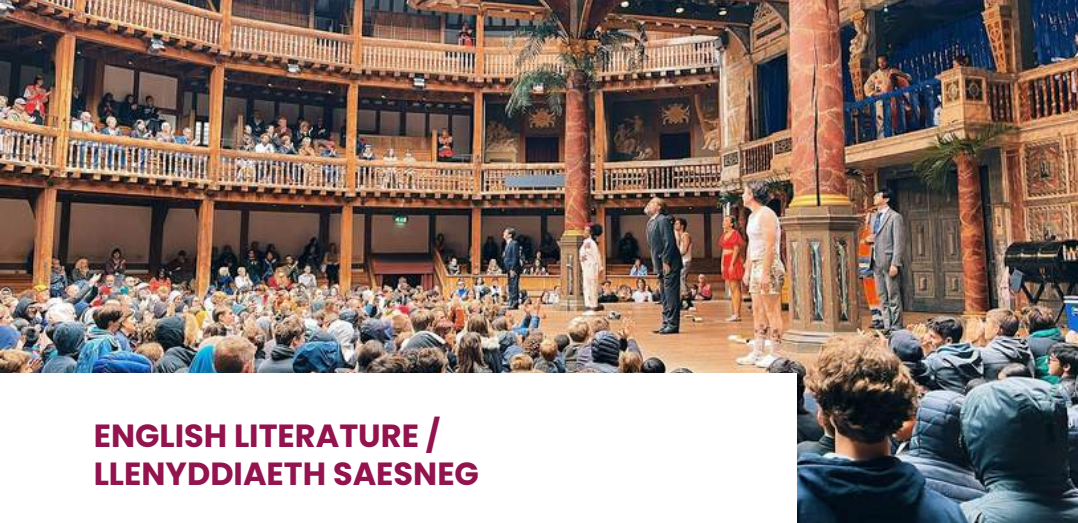


Mrs H Blackwell

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



ENGLISH LITERATURE / LLENYDDIAETH SAESNEG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

This course builds on the skills and enthusiasm for literature you will already have acquired at GCSE. It is an opportunity for all lovers of reading to broaden your range of reading experiences and to develop skills in appreciation of writing. The texts studied are varied and exciting, including novels, plays and poetry. You will encounter writers such as Duffy, Larkin, Bronte and Tennessee Williams and you will be guided on your journey of literary experience!

The course is ideal for students who enjoy reading and discussing books.

It leads to a range of fields of work including politics, academia, teaching, creative writing and journalism.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE English Language A* - B
And GCSE English Literature A*
- B

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Ms J Edwards

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



GEOGRAPHY / DAEARYDDIAETH

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

Geography opens your eyes to the wonderment of the world around you. This course is designed to allow students to develop an understanding of: the forces influencing our natural environment; the issues affecting people and the places where they live; how people and the environment interact; an appreciation of current events and global issues; what decisions are being made about the use and management of resources.

We offer students a variety of field trips and out of classroom experiences, alongside taught lessons. Teaching involves the use of contemporary examples of geographical

issues, allowing a deeper understanding of the world around you.

As well as developing your geographical knowledge through a wide and varied curriculum, this course will enable you to develop a number of transferable skills of use in later life. Topic areas such as hazard management, urban sustainability, management of physical processes and inequalities in development enhance research, organisational and numeracy skills.

Students will experience a range of lessons and activities including group work, paired work, presentations, ICT research and practical activities. The course is well suited to those with an interest in the world around them, while leading to a number of potential employment opportunities, including the leisure industry, teaching, law, accountancy, journalism & civil engineering.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Geography A* - B GCSE
English A* - B

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mrs S Marriott

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE / IECHYD A GOFAL CYMDEITHASOL

WJEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA

Health and Social Care provides you with a unique opportunity to study a vocational course at A level standard. The way in which it is delivered and assessed, allows you to explore topics through research and work-related placements.

A variety of tasks enable you to use methods such as presentations, posters and leaflets. There is also the opportunity to carry out practical tasks in care settings such as residential homes. You will develop the skills to work independently or as part of a team. ICT and communication are also integral to the course.

The Diploma consists of 6 Units and is equivalent to two A Levels. One of the units is externally examined whilst the other five are Controlled Assessment Tasks.

If you are thinking of a career in health, social care or childcare, this is the course for you. You can progress to university or work related qualifications in primary teaching, nursing, social work, occupational therapy and many others.

Please note: this subject needs to be taken from Option Pool 1 AND Option Pool 2.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



A desire to work in Health and Social Care And 4 GCSEs at C grade or above

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mr D Jones

EXAM BOARD



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HISTORY / HANES

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

Are you inquisitive? Do you like finding the reasons why something might have happened? Does it excite you to shed light on problems that have puzzled people in the past? Do you like to form your own opinions, even if they might be different from those of your friends or teachers? A level History is for you!

Learning about the past is fun! In A level History you will study Weimar and Nazi Germany [1918-45], Wales and England during the Tudor period and America from 1890 to 1990. You will also carry out a personal investigation of an historical issue for coursework by studying different historical interpretations.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE History A* - B
And GCSE English Language A* - B

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Miss S Haslehurst

EXAM BOARD



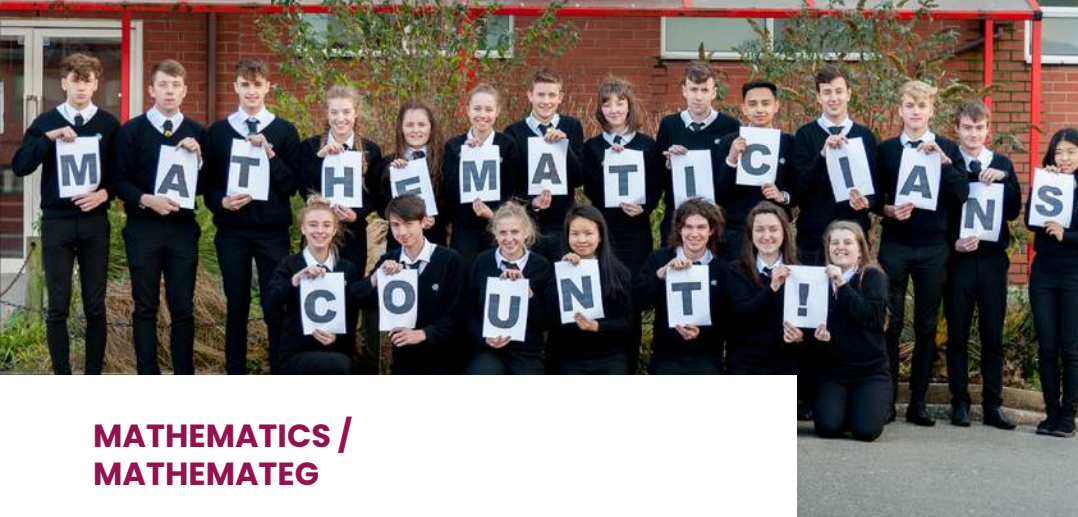
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Studying the people of the past can give you a real insight into people and society today. It will help you to understand how and why humans behave as they do when confronted with a crisis.

History is highly valued by employers because it teaches you to think and make up your own mind. In this rapidly changing world, employers are looking for people who are independent thinkers, open minded, disciplined, good at problem solving and able to pick out the essential from the trivial. In other words – they are looking for historians!

History is particularly useful for careers in education, architecture, journalism, the legal profession, local government, politics, heritage and tourism, research and TV.



MATHEMATICS / MATHEMATEG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

Mathematics is a highly regarded A level, which complements science-based subjects and offers a broad balance to arts based students. It requires a high degree of commitment from you as a student and is of particular use to those of you thinking of Higher Education based in the sciences, business and engineering.

The A level Mathematics course allows you to apply your mathematical knowledge to more practical situations.

Many mathematical concepts covered in the course are based on standard industry methods allowing you to understand how basic principles are derived not only in pure mathematics but also in statistics and mechanics modules.

The key skills of mathematics are observing and recording, together with the discovery and experimentation of techniques and materials. This is accompanied by critical research and opinion, composition and creativity of ideas and presenting solutions. Teachers have developed a range of interactive and visual lessons to implement paired, individual and team work. The aim is to develop you into confident mathematical practitioners.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Higher Tier
Mathematics A* - B

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Miss C
Richardson

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



FURTHER MATHEMATICS / MATHEMATEG BELLACH

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

This course allows students to gain a broader and deeper understanding of Mathematics than is offered by the A-level course alone. The programme of teaching is scheduled so that the A-level Mathematics course is completed in year 12, leaving year 13 for the completion of the A-level Further Mathematics course.

Students taking this course can be confident that they will find it a challenging experience, but one that will bring enjoyment, reward and stimulation. For many students it turns out to be their favourite subject option.

For the keen mathematician this course will provide the opportunity to explore new and/or more sophisticated mathematical concepts. As well as learning new areas of pure mathematics you will study further applications of mathematics in mechanics and statistics. Topics which are widely used in higher levels of study such as matrices, complex numbers, circular motion and chi-squared testing are met for the first time in this course.

Advanced mathematical skills are a cornerstone of all STEM subjects, so if you are planning to take a degree in Engineering, Sciences, Computing, Finance/Economics or Mathematics then you should give A-level Further Mathematics serious consideration; it will give you a competitive edge. For some university courses it will be insisted on.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Mathematics A* - A

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Dr M D Greenslade

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



MEDICAL SCIENCE / GWYDDOR FEDDYGOL

WJEC LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE & EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

If you are considering further study or training in a Biology related occupation, why not consider doing Medical Science as an alternative to, or alongside, the traditional Biology A-level?

Learn how the different body systems work and how these are affected by disease and lifestyle choices. How are these diseases diagnosed? How do the treatment and medicines prescribed work? What new advances in the treatment of disease are currently being developed?

There is an option of doing the one year Certificate studying Human Health and Disease, Physiological Measurements and Medical Research Methods or continuing into Year 13 to complete the extended certificate studying Medicines and the Treatment of Disease, Clinical Laboratory Techniques and Medical Case Studies.

The course is assessed through exam (50%) and controlled assessment tasks (50%) in both years.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Science Double Award A*A* - CC; GCSE Mathematics A* - C and English A* - C

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Miss S Bell

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES / IEITHOEDD RHYNGWLADOL

GERMAN: AS & A2 FRENCH: AS & A2

Businesses are looking for employees with language skills. As globalisation accelerates, the ability to communicate internationally is becoming a prerequisite for success." Miles Templeton, Director General, Institute of Directors.

In a multilingual world, whatever career path you choose, studying French or German will provide you with transferable skills in a competitive market. Salary rises for those using languages at work are estimated to be between 8% and 20%. Universities offer you the flexibility to combine your linguistic skills with other

subjects ranging from Accounting and Architecture to Television Studies and Tourism.

The International Languages Faculty at Ysgol Eirias aims to equip our students with the skills to communicate confidently in the target language, focusing on spontaneous speech and fluency. This is achieved through dynamic delivery of the A level curriculum, smaller teaching groups and a strong focus on speaking skills and strong links with further education establishments.

Students develop a real understanding of the cultural nuances of French and German speaking countries whilst studying social issues, modern technologies, literature and films. In addition to developing linguistic skills, this knowledge is invaluable for students who want to travel or work in these countries in the future.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE French / German A* - B

HEAD OF SUBJECT



FRENCH: Miss I Williams
GERMAN : Mrs B Gordon

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



MUSIC / CERDDORIAETH

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

Studying Music at A Level gives you the opportunity to continue to develop your performing, composing and listening and appraising skills.

Both the AS and the A Level courses explore the development of the Symphony through the Classical and Romantic periods. You will also study the genre of Musical Theatre, looking at shows by composers including Cole Porter, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Stephen Schwartz.

A fully equipped ICT Music room is available for you to further develop your composition skills using the sequencing programs Encore and Sibelius.

A live recital forms an important element of the course and you can develop your performance skills by participating in, or organising, a wide range of extra-curricular activities including Choir, Orchestra, Senior Choir and various ensembles.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Music A*- B or similar knowledge and standard such as Grade 5 Practical (Associated Board) and Grade 5 Theory (Associated Board)

HEAD OF SUBJECT

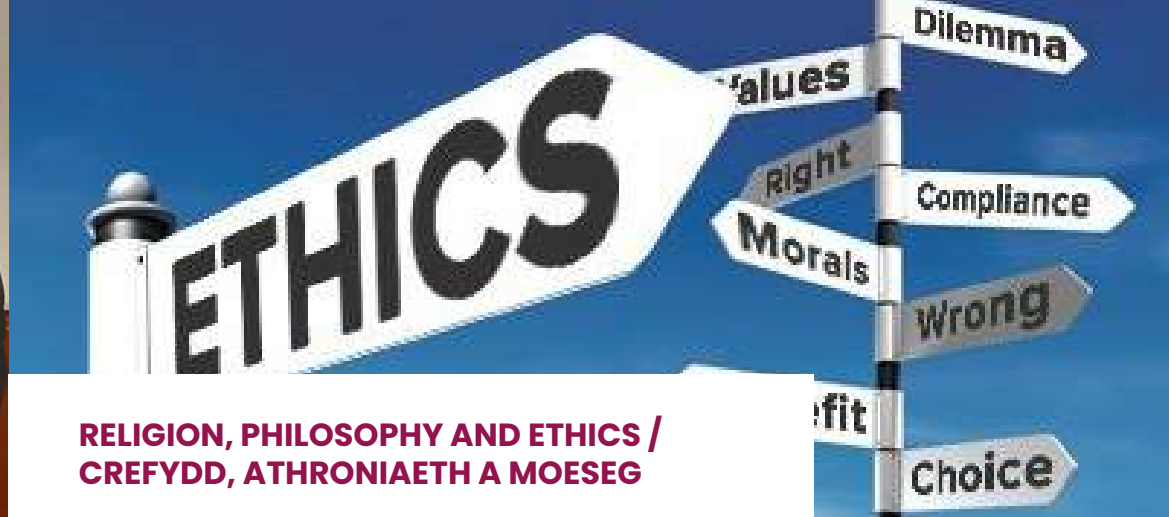


Miss E Hammerton

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS / CREFYDD, ATHRONIAETH A MOESG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

Philosophy and Ethics gives you the opportunity to study some of the influential questions which people have always asked about life: Why are we here? How should we behave? And the relationship between God and Humanity. Students will need to have an open, inquiring and critical approach to the subject.

This course is designed to allow students to develop an understanding of a wide range of issues including: the existence of God, evil and suffering, mysticism, natural law, situation ethics and utilitarianism.

You will be able to develop your knowledge of topics such as, applied ethics, religious language, revelation, free will and determination. You will all undertake an introduction to the study of religion through the example of Buddhism.

Students will experience a range of lessons and activities including, group and paired work, presentations, discussions, debates and the use of ICT.

Many subjects go well with Philosophy and Ethics, for example English, History, Modern Languages, Science, Sociology, Geography and Psychology. Philosophy and Ethics can also be a useful complement to science subjects. The skills developed during the course are particularly useful for careers in law, education, politics, medicine, administration or the media.

The ultimate reasoning course to tackle the challenges of life!

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE RS A* - B and GCSE English Language A* - B

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mrs C Davies

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



PHYSICS / FFISEG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

Ever wondered what a 'quark' is? The AS Physics course is designed to provide you with a smooth transition from GCSE and builds on popular areas of GCSE work. You will look into areas of physics on a microscopic and macroscopic scale. The course visits areas of modern physics such as the study of stars and particle physics.

A2 Physics combines the fascinating areas of traditional and contemporary physics with a range of medical physics, the existence of dark matter, fields and vibrations.

A good physicist is someone who can communicate effectively, wants to find out how things in the physical world work, has good problem solving skills and can carry out investigations with clear, logical thinking. The numeracy, communication, team working and problem solving skills you develop will make you an attractive employee in a range of areas.

An A level in Physics offers a good foundation for any higher scientific, medical or engineering study, or provides a base for non-scientific careers such as in mathematics, accountancy, architecture, radiotherapy and many more.

The course offers you more than just academic qualifications. Through trips, visiting speakers and competitions, your awareness of physics will rocket!

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE Science Double Award A*
A* - B B at Higher Tier
And GCSE Mathematics A* - B at
Higher Tier

HEAD OF SUBJECT

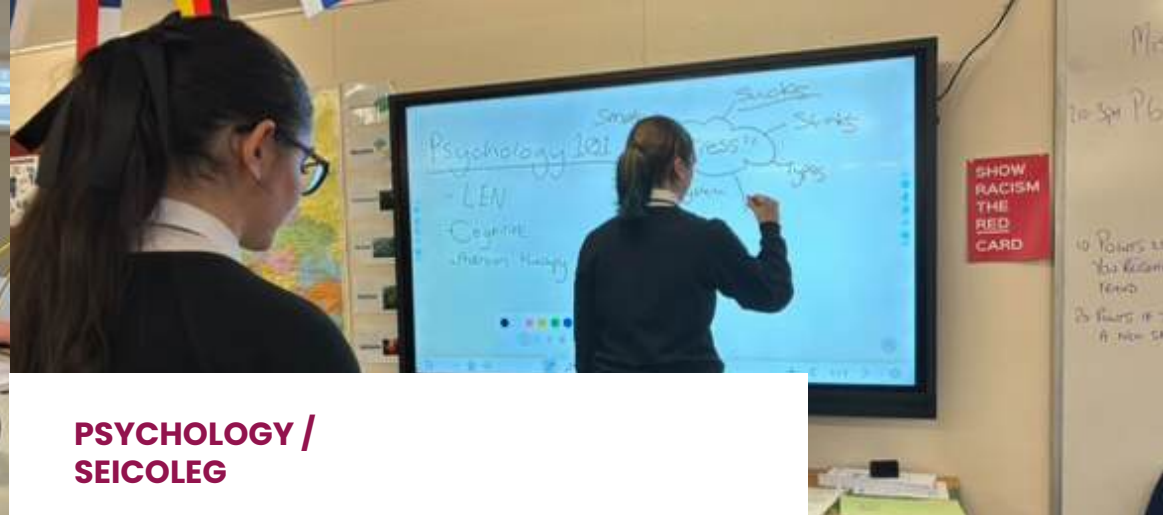


Miss S Taylor

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



PSYCHOLOGY / SEICOLEG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

The human mind is the most complex machine on earth, the source of all thought and behaviour. Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and within this fascinating and multidimensional subject, you will gain insight into human development, cognitive processes, health, clinical and social behaviours.

Within the AS course, you will be learning about the five psychological approaches; biological, psychodynamic, behaviourist, cognitive and positive, all of which help us to understand human behaviour. You will also study and learn about how psychologists design and conduct their research.

Moving into A2 you will delve into the fascinating realm of human behaviour such as criminal or addictive behaviour and also apply your knowledge to contemporary debates.

Studying Psychology will open the door to an array of career paths where an understanding of human behaviour and development is crucial. During the course you will build various skills including critical thinking, problem-solving and research skills.

Assessment for the course is exam based.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE English Language grade
A*-B and GCSE Mathematics
grade A*-B

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mrs K Alexander

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



SOCIOLOGY / CYMDEITHASEG

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

If you have developed an interest in any of the Humanities and want to know more about what motivates people and makes them behave as they do then this is the subject for you!

Sociology is the study of the individual and society, which comprises a mixture of current affairs, history, human geography, philosophy, economics and research.

You will undertake in depth study into Gender, Social Class and Ethnicity and apply these social characteristics to the Family, Education, Criminality, Poverty and Social Inequality.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



GCSE English Language A* - B and One of History, Geography, RS or Short Course RS at A* - B

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mrs K Alexander

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



SPORT / CHWARAEON

APPLIED SPORT LEVEL 3 EXTENDED DIPLOMA & DIPLOMA

There are 2 courses for students who want to study sport in the sixth form: - The WJEC Extended Certificate in Applied Sport is the equivalent to 1 A level, The WJEC Diploma in Applied Sport is equivalent to 2 A levels. Both qualifications are graded from A*-E.

Both courses offer a broad and varied opportunity for students to develop the skills and knowledge they need to work in the leisure industry or progress to a sport related degree course at university.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



Significant involvement and interest in sport in addition to GCSE Science A*-C

HEAD OF SUBJECT



Mr N Wilkinson

The courses have some mandatory units which must be completed by all students. For each qualification there will be -

- One unit assessed through an external exam (90 minutes, 20% weighting of the course).
- One unit assessed through an external controlled assessment of a case study (4 hours, 20% weighting of the course).
- Two further units assessed through internal controlled assessment (10 hours per controlled assessment, 60% weighting of the course).

Students will need to be motivated, organised and be able to effectively manage their time to complete set tasks to a high standard if they are to be successful.

EXAM BOARD



WJEC



LEARNING IN CONWY / LINC COURSES

AS & A2 QUALIFICATION

All Conwy schools and Coleg Llandrillo work together with the Conwy 14-19 Network to offer a choice of subjects which will be available to Year 12 learners in Conwy on one day per week during the next school year.

As well as providing a greater variety of subjects to study, the LINC provision helps learners who may not be able to take certain subjects at their own school, either because the subject is not available or because it may clash with another subject. Information on these subjects will be available in a separate booklet at a Sixth

Form Opportunities Evening which is held early in the Spring Term for learners and parents / carers.

These courses include :

- Art & Design – Fashion and Textiles A Level
- Construction BTEC
- Computer Software and Programming BTEC
- Engineering BTEC
- Law BTEC
- Performing Arts BTEC
- Photography A Level
- Public Services BTEC

ENTRY REQUIREMENT



Specific entry requirements and other details are available in the LINC brochure which can be obtained from school.



WHAT STUDENTS THINK



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At first, I felt nervous and intimidated to join Eirias for sixth form after coming from a much smaller school. However, I quickly felt welcome with everyone being so friendly and open and had no trouble making friends. The teachers are constantly helpful and supportive and are always willing to thoroughly answer any questions to ensure we all achieve our highest potential.

LILY

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Sixth form has been great, I've like how we have more independence now with supervised study and how the teachers treat us less like children.

CATRIN

//

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Being in Eirias Sixth form has truly proven to be the correct choice for me in the next step of my academic journey. It allows you to be well prepared for challenges you may face in the future and offers specialised support for all those who need it. I believe attending Sixth form has given me the foundations to grow in my abilities and mature independently.

LEVI


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//

Attending Sixth Form has been an extremely beneficial experience. The support and encouragement from the pastoral Sixth Form team is wonderful, and they have really helped when applying for university this year. I have really enjoyed the social environment as well, including the student spaces like the common room and the community activities.

LAYLA

//



// Since joining Eirias Sixth Form, I have felt really welcomed by both the staff and students. The teachers are approachable and supportive, making it easy to ask questions at any time—whether during lessons, after school, or even in passing. This support has helped me stay on top of my work and feel more focused and organised.

RHYS

// I wasn't too sure about joining sixth form in year 11 but I'm so glad I did, the sense of community throughout both years creates a really nice environment to be in, and some great friendships have been formed as a result of this. This positive atmosphere carries throughout the school whether that's in the common room at break, the hockey team, or even outside of school. This bond is crucial, especially when wanting to ask for help or advice from someone in the year above who was in your position only a year ago, and can give you alternate tips in addition to what the teachers tell us.

ELIN

// From the moment I joined in Year 7, Eirias has created an environment that encourages curiosity and a passion for learning. The school is highly diverse, with students from a variety of backgrounds, creating a unique and enriching atmosphere where learning extends beyond the classroom. The teachers are exceptionally supportive, forming genuine relationships with students and ensuring everyone feels respected and valued. They are committed to helping you reach your full potential, encouraging you to push boundaries and explore all the possibilities the school offers. This supportive, nurturing environment is what truly distinguishes Eirias.

SUMMER

// Moving to Eirias Sixth Form from a different school felt like a big step, but it turned out to be the best decision I could have made. From day one, the environment has been welcoming and supportive, with teachers like Miss Richardson always ready to help and guide you. What stands out most is how much they encourage you to meet deadlines and push yourself to do your best without it ever feeling overwhelming. If you are unsure about where to go, I can honestly say Eirias is a place that sets you up for success and helps you feel confident about your future—Peter

PETER



YSGOL EIRIAS

FACTS & FIGURES

Ysgol Eirias is one of the top performing schools in Wales, as assessed by the Welsh Government and the Sunday Times Parent Power, taking into account the academic performance of the school, the attendance of its students and the relative improvement over recent years in comparison to similar schools in Wales.

Subject performance at A Level has been externally verified by Estyn as being outstanding. The school continues to pride itself on the progress made by all students across all subject areas. The following tables illustrate results from 2023/24:

Subject	Entries	% A* -B	% A* -E
Applied Business	6	33	100
Art	14	64	100
Biology	16	56	100
Business Studies	12	67	92
Chemistry	22	41	91
Cymraeg	4	50	100
D & T	6	17	67
Economics	7	100	100
English Language	16	44	100
English Literature	11	64	100
French	1	100	100

Subject	Entries	% A* -B	% A* -E
Further Maths	12	92	100
Geography (2023)	9	11	100
German	3	100	100
History	13	46	100
Maths	29	66	100
Medical Science	4	50	100
Music	2	50	100
Physics	21	62	95
Philosophy & Ethics	2	100	100
Sociology	14	36	100
Welsh Bacc	89	72	100

Cambridge Technical Qualifications	Entries	% Merit & Above	% Pass & Above
Diploma in Health and Social Care	7	86 (A*A* - BC)	100
Introductory Diploma in Sport	3	100 (Distinction)	100
Diploma in Sport	2	100 (Double distinction)	100



SUBJECT INFORMATION / GWYBODAETH PYNCAU

Options lists September 2025

All students should choose one subject from four of the option columns. The fifth option will be devoted to the Advanced Skills Challenge Wales (WBQ) which is compulsory for all Sixth Form students in Wales. The Health Diploma and Sport Diploma (12 lessons) are taught using two option columns – you need to choose both for these subjects. You may combine a Diploma with an Introductory Diploma or with an AS level, provided you meet the entry criteria for that subject.

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	Option E
Biology	Chemistry	Biology	French	Art & Design
Physics	English Language	Chemistry	German	Business Studies
History	English Literature	Psychology	History	Geography
Cymraeg	Mathematics	Music	Sociology	Digital Technology
Sport	Further Mathematics	Applied Business	Mathematics	Religion, Philosophy & Ethics
Sport		Conwy LINC Courses	Further Mathematics	Medical Science
Health & Social Care				
Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales				

Key
AS/A2 Courses
Other Level 3 Courses (Extended Certificate and Diploma)
Conwy LINC Courses
AdvSBW

The subject option table here is correct as of January 2025. Please note that it may be subject to change in the event of staffing changes at the school. The headteacher reserves the right to withdraw courses should there be insufficient numbers for them to go ahead.

NOTES

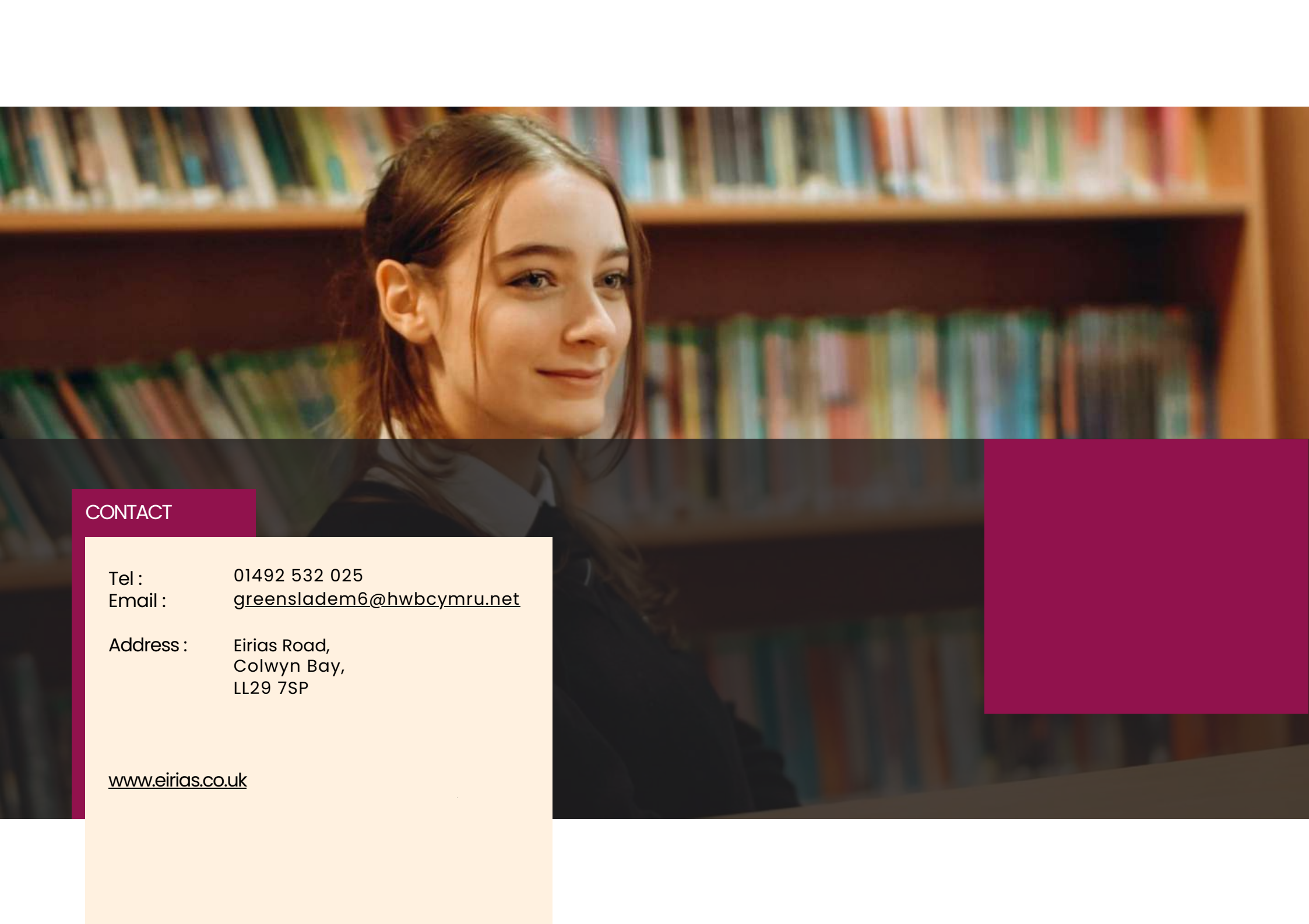


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NOTES



A large rectangular area consisting of 12 horizontal grey bars, intended for writing notes.



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