

Faculty of English, literacy and communication

Faculty of English, literacy and communication

What will your child be learning?

Through the topic of 'sport', your child will be learning to write for a variety of different purposes and audiences (description, narration and exposition). Learners will also be developing higher order reading skills (comparison, synthesis, analysis and summary) In this unit, there is also a proofreading and editing element where pupils will have to identify errors within a piece of work. The second topic studied this term 'extreme tourism'. Pupils will revisit the same reading skills as before but for writing, they will now focus on writing to persuade or argue a point through non-fiction.

During these topics, pupils will complete mock examinations for both unit 2 and unit 3.

What can you do to help?

Weekly independent tasks will be placed on Google Classroom to improve proof-reading and editing skills and Weekly '200 Word Writing Challenges' will be posted on to Google Classroom.

Faculty of mathematics and numeracy

Mathematics and numeracy

What will your child be learning?

During this term, your child will be learning to develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts; and acquire and use problem-solving strategies. If they are following the foundation tier course, they will be continuing to practice their written calculations using the four rules of number as well as using BIDMAS to ensure calculations are made in the correct order. Pupils who follow the intermediate tier course will be reading, writing and calculating both large and small numbers in standard form. They will also be transforming shapes using reflections, translations, rotation and enlargements. For pupils who are following the higher tier course they will be introduced to simplifying surds and using them within calculations and developing their algebraic skills through solving a variety of equations, including simultaneous equations. This term will have a large focus on numeracy and financial skills ahead of numeracy GCSE examinations.

What can you do to help?

Ensure your child is making full use of the resources available to them on Google classroom, where they will find links to videos and websites to support them, this will enable them to review lessons and consolidate their learning. They need to ensure they are completing all set work on the Google classroom by the deadlines as this aids recall of key facts and processes. Pupils should be completing 1-2 hours of revision each week. There are copies of past papers and revision tools available on their Google classroom and additional resources are available at www.mathsdiy.com

Business Studies

What will your child be learning?

This term your child will continue to develop and strengthen their understanding around organisational structure, business ethics and financial reporting used in businesses. They will look at external influences on businesses including the impact of international trade and globalisation. They will review a multinational business case study to look at advantages and disadvantages of this business model and will complete a Unit 1 and Unit 2 mock assessment.

What can you do to help?

By supporting your child to complete revision of topics covered in lessons; creating and using knowledge organisers and revision notes is a great way to consolidate key terminology. Revision materials and resources will be posted to Google Classroom and after school revision sessions will run each Wednesday to support this.

Faculty of science and technology

What will your child be learning?

Biology:

Your child is studying WJEC triple award biology. They will be working on unit 2 across the year and sit an examination in this in May. This term they will be studying the topics of:

- cell division and stem cells
- DNA and inheritance
- variation and evolution
- response and regulation

Chemistry:

Your child is studying WJEC triple award chemistry. They will be working on unit 2 across the year and sit an examination in this in May. This term they will be studying the topics of:

- bonding, structure and properties
- metals and their extraction
- chemical and their extraction
- chemical reactions and energy

Physics:

Your child is studying WJEC triple award physics. They will be working on unit 2 across the year and sit an examination in this in May. This term they will be studying the topics of:

- Newton's laws
- work and energy
- further motion concepts
- stars and planets
- the Universe

What can you do to help?

There is a wide range of resources on the Google Classroom that will support and develop their understanding of the units of the GCSE at home. This is a link to the WJEC biology, chemistry and physics website which will provide you with extra support in terms of past papers and resources:

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/biology-gcse/#tab_keydocuments

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/chemistry-gcse/#tab_keydocuments

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/physics-gcse/#tab_keydocuments

Faculty of science and technology

What will your child be learning?

Digital technology:

In the first term pupils will complete the unit 3 complete controlled assessment work in lessons on different forms of online marketing communications, the impact of these and the analysis of audience needs. This work relates to their previous unit 2 digital product. They will create a digital asset and evaluate its effectiveness. All work completed in class contributes towards their assessment and so attendance to lessons is essential.

What can you do to help?

Digital technology:

All work for unit 3 needs to be completed in lessons as it is an assessed assignment. Discussing the progress of this work with your child and checking on the deadlines for each piece is essential. At home they should be completing the independent learning task which develop further the necessary skills for the GCSE examination. This is link to the WJEC GCSE website which will provide you with information on this course:

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/digital-technology-gcse/#tab_keydocuments

Faculty of science and technology

Food and nutrition

What will your child be learning?

In the autumn term pupils will be completing the NA work which is worth a total of 40% of their total GCSE. They have two pieces of work to complete: an investigation and a full practical. The investigation looks at a particular factor which could affect the cooking of a food group. They will need to complete a 1500 word write up for this work. Your child will also be cooking a three-course meal linking to a topic. They will need to trial all dishes and evaluate them. Then in the practical exam they will cook the three dishes and these will be graded.

What can you do to help?

At home your child should be practising these dishes. They should cook them as many times as possible and then seek your opinions on these. This is an important part of the development of the dishes. Please provide honest and constructive comments for them to use in their evaluation.

Faculty of science and technology

Engineering

What will your child be learning?

Pupils will be preparing for the examination - Unit 1 Engineering World. Within the lessons they will be learning about the engineering processes used to make modern engineered products. They will be developing their knowledge about the types of material and technology used to make such products and understanding how engineering contributes towards a sustainable future. The examination is in November and pupils must pass to achieve their BTEC qualification. Once they have completed the exam they will move onto the next assignment Unit 5 - Engineering Materials. They have to complete two assignments prior to the Christmas break.

What can you do to help?

All work for the exam can be accessed on the Google Classroom, ensuring your child is accessing this work regularly and using it to revise for the exam in November is essential. There are practice papers on the Google Classroom too and pupils should be completing these. You could ask to see them and maybe mark them with them discussing the answers. After the exam they will continue with their assignments and talking to them about these in terms of meeting deadlines will support them.

Faculty of science and technology

Child Development

What will your child be learning?

In half term one and two we are consolidating learning about children's growth and development. Pupils will explore children's growth and development aged birth to five years and understand expected patterns of development for children of different ages. They will also investigate the factors affecting growth and development of children from birth to five years old.

We will also move on to consider an understanding of how play activities can influence children's learning between the ages of birth and five years old. Pupils will consider the different types of play in which children engage, and how activities can support children's learning and progress across the five areas of development.

What can you do to help?

Encourage your child to complete independent research on the stages of childhood development and discuss their findings with them. Discuss their own development from childhood.

Faculty of language and culture

What will your child be learning?

Welsh:

In year 11 we continue to look at the GCSE course. Pupils are working on developing their grammatical and language skills whilst studying the topic of 'byd gwaith' (the world of work). Pupils are developing their translation, correction, oracy and extended writing skills. During the year pupils will complete assessments in all 3 skill areas, oracy, reading and writing. Pupils will continue to develop key grammar terms and how to form the present, conditional, future and past tenses. They apply these rules to create phrases to write and speak about the topic as well as to understand written texts.

Agored Cymru: Wales, Europe and the World:

In year 11, pupils will continue to complete the coursework based Agored Cymru qualification. They will be studying 'Towards a bilingual society'. Pupils are developing a knowledge of what it is to be bilingual, the importance of a bilingual society and how this impacts the area in which we live.

What can you do to help?

Welsh:

Pupils should use the GCSEPods on the Google Classroom to support the learning of topical vocabulary. They should also complete all independent learning tasks set, these will be uploaded to the Google Classroom and will support the development of skills as well as building vocabulary and improving grammatical accuracy. Pupils are also able to use free online learning resources such as Quizlet and Duolingo to build their vocabulary and gain confidence in speaking aloud.

Agored Cymru: Wales, Europe and the World:

Pupils should complete all independent learning tasks set, these will be uploaded to the Google Classroom and will support the development of skills as well as building vocabulary and improving grammatical accuracy.

What will your child be learning?

Art:

Your child will be following the WJEC Art and design specification. They will be completing their personal portfolio that covers the four assessment objectives. They will study a breadth of artists, explore various materials and art making processes, developing their recording and drawing skills and create personal responses through original artwork.

Photography:

Your child will be following the WJEC endorsed photography specification. They will be completing their personal portfolio that covers the four assessment objectives. They will study a breadth of photographers, explore various ways to take photographs, techniques and editing processes and create personal responses through original photography and artwork.

Performing arts-drama

The year 11 unit focuses on pupils developing and implementing their own ideas in performance. Pupils will be working towards two performance exams this year - one devised piece and one scripted. Excellent attendance is vital for the success of this unit as pupils work in groups to create work.

What can you do to help?

Art:

Support the completion of independent learning tasks that will be available through Google Classroom and encourage practice of drawing techniques and skills. Pupils will be expected to take sketchbooks home to complete tasks.

Photography:

Encourage the completion of home tasks that will be available through Google Classroom and encourage your child to take photographs in preparation for in school lessons. Pupils will work on a digital portfolio that can be accessed at home and there is an expectation to complete tasks outside of lesson time. Pupils must take photographs outside of the classroom and school day to ensure a varied and individual portfolio.

Performing arts-drama:

Supporting your child to attend every lesson will be a great support in the delivery of the year 11 unit. All pupils will also complete an ongoing weekly log reflecting on their decisions and progress made.

Faculty of life

Health and social care:

What will your child be learning?

Health and social care:

This term, your child will be working on task 2 of the non-examined assessment (NEA) for the course. This task involves investigating healthcare campaigns, culminating in pupils researching a chosen topic and creating their own campaign to raise awareness about the issue. This work must be completed in the classroom under direct teacher supervision, so it is essential that your child attends every lesson. The controlled assessment requires a total of fifteen hours, with an additional minimum of fifteen hours allocated for teaching and research.

How can you help?

You can support your child with the research required for their NEA preparation. Encouraging them to carry out their own investigation will be very helpful. The following website may be a useful resource for both you and your child:

<https://www.healthandcarelearning.wales/resources/gcse-hsc-childcare-double-award-unit-2-221-health-and-social-care-and-childcare-provision-in-wales-to-promote-and-support-health-and-well-being/>

What will your child be learning?

RVE:

During the autumn term, we will explore our own worldviews by examining the factors that shape our opinions and perspectives. Pupils will study the 'lens' through which people with religious and non-religious beliefs see the world, considering how these beliefs influence behaviour, lifestyle, and viewpoints, and making comparisons between them. Your child will also investigate the factors that contribute to building healthy relationships and reflect on how their own worldview affects the way they overcome challenges.

Skills:

Pupils choose a topic of their interest to research, investigate, and present. They analyse their findings and produce a 2,000-word dissertation. This individual task helps pupils develop skills in literacy, numeracy, digital literacy, problem-solving, critical thinking, planning, organisation, and personal effectiveness. Pupils are expected to dedicate at least twenty hours of independent study at home for this project, which accounts for 50% of their overall skills grade.

How can you help?

RVE:

Discuss your in-school learning and share your opinions, while considering the factors that might cause differences in viewpoints. Supporting independent learning tasks is important, as they help reinforce understanding and contribute to progress toward the qualification.

Skills:

You can support your child by discussing a suitable topic for them to investigate. Ideally the topic should relate to an area in which they wish to continue to study, a field of work that they are keen to explore or a contemporary issue. Recent examples have included 'Does social media negatively affect our well-being?', 'Why is there a decline in the bee population?', 'Should the halo system be removed from formula one racing?' and 'Does racism still exist in the game of football?' For further information, please look at the following link and then look for 'promotional materials'.

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/welsh-baccalaureate-national-foundation/#tab_keydocument

Faculty of life

What will your child be learning?

Physical Education:

During this term, your child will be undertaking and learning two modules in the year. The two modules are sport psychology and anatomy and physiology. The pupils will also be assessed in three different sports. One will be an individual sport, and one will be a team sport. The third sport will be either an individual or team sport.

Sport:

During this term, your child will look at applying the principles of personal training. They will look at fitness testing protocols as well as study the muscular skeletal system including bones, joints and muscles. They will produce a 6-week training program to develop in one area. Your child will need to reference how goal setting can motivate an individual to achieve their goals and produce a diary to monitor their progress. They will evaluate the progress of their training programme by summarising the outcome of each session.

Well-being:

Pupils will participate in a range of activities to improve their physical, mental and emotional well-being.

How can you help?

Physical Education:

You can support your child by discussing the importance of exercise on our everyday health and well-being and encouraging them to complete the tasks that are set on Google Classroom to the best of their ability.

Sport:

All activities will be posted on Google Classroom where all learning and revision materials will be available. You will also need to ensure your child is up to date on recent developments in the sporting industry so conversations around sports coaching/leadership whilst an up-to-date idea of how training methods are used to get fit would be beneficial to improve the knowledge of your child in these areas of learning.

Well-being:

Please ensure that your child brings and wears the correct PE kit to these lessons. You could also discuss the benefits of regular physical activity and explain how this reduces the risk of illness both in the short and long term and how it is linked to positive mental health outcomes. You could also explore the type of physical activity that your child enjoys most and help them to incorporate that into their weekly routines.