

Merthyr Tydfil 14-19 Learning Pathways Post 16 Provision



Prospectus 2012 - 2013

Progress through partnership



Merthyr Tydfil
14-19 Learning
Pathways

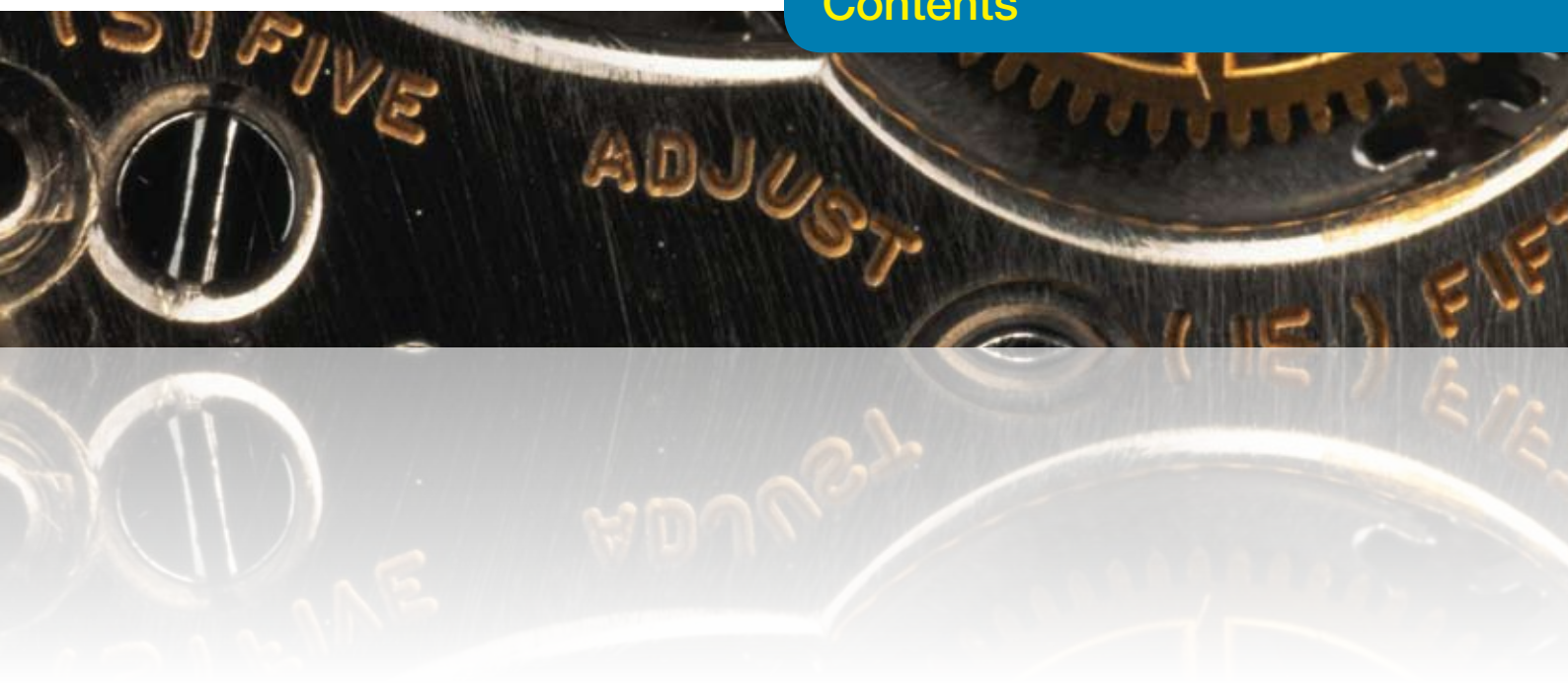




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Learning in Merthyr Tydfil

Welcome to the Merthyr Tydfil 6th Form prospectus for the academic year 2012/13. You are coming to the end of your compulsory schooling and are entering a new and exciting phase of your life. The decisions you make over the next few months will be some of the most important and enduring.

There are three routes you can take in September 2012.

1. Learn full-time, based at your home school sixth form, with the possibility of undertaking programmes offered by other schools or Merthyr Tydfil College;
2. Leave school and take up one of the many full time courses that are available at Merthyr Tydfil College or another college;
3. Start training or paid employment with the possibility of doing a relevant Work Based Learning Qualification.

In Merthyr Tydfil the Secondary Schools, Local Authority and Merthyr Tydfil College are working together to offer all post-16 learners as wide a choice as possible. In this transition period to the new 6th form provision at the College @ Merthyr Tydfil, it may be necessary to make some adjustments to the curriculum in the coming months and the venue for a small number of courses may change at the start of Year 13.

While many of you may choose subjects offered by your home school, some of you may wish to study another course which your school does not offer or you may find there is a timetable clash and rather than settle for second choice you now have the opportunity to follow your preferred subject at another centre. If you study a course elsewhere transport will be provided and there will be close monitoring of your progress and regular updates provided to your home school.

Learners who have studied a course at college or another school have enjoyed the experience and you can be sure of a warm welcome and ready support wherever you may go.

The course descriptions are meant to be a guide only, but it is essential to obtain further information from the course contact. You should also discuss your options with your parents/carers, career adviser, learning coaches and teachers.

May I take this opportunity to wish you well in the choices you make and for your future education.

Mike Southcoat

Chief Education Officer

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council



Venues and Useful Contacts

Afon Taf High School Yew Street, Troedyrhiw Merthyr Tydfil CF48 4ED	01443 690401	Mrs M J Greenway Head of 6th Form
Bishop Hedley High School Gwaunfarren Road Penydarren Merthyr Tydfil CF47 9AN	01685 721747	Mrs Mary Scrivens Head of 6th Form
Cyfarthfa High School Cae Mari Dwn, Queen's Road Thomastown Merthyr Tydfil CF47 0LS	01685 721725	Mrs Alison Wallbank Head of 6th Form
Penydre High School Gurnos Estate Merthyr Tydfil CF47 9BY	01685 721726	Mr John Davies Head of 6th Form
Merthyr Tydfil College Ynysfach Merthyr Tydfil CF48 1AR	01685 726000	Mrs Sian McArthur Head of Faculty Mrs Sue McCarthy Head of Faculty Mr Paul Shankland Head of Faculty
Careers Wales Mid Glamorgan & Powys 27 High Street Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8DP	01685 358180	Ms Gillian Davis Delivery Team Manager

Careers Advice and Guidance



A **Careers Wales Adviser** is available in school to help you plan for the future. The Careers Adviser can help you to:

- find out about careers you are interested in and the qualifications and skills required
- plan your next step after Year 11
- find out about job vacancies and training opportunities
- make decisions about options after sixth form
- apply for university, college, jobs and training

Extra help is available for students with additional support needs.

As well as advising students in individual interviews the Careers Adviser gives class talks on career related topics.

Careers Wales also helps students find out about the world of work through activities like work experience and industry days.

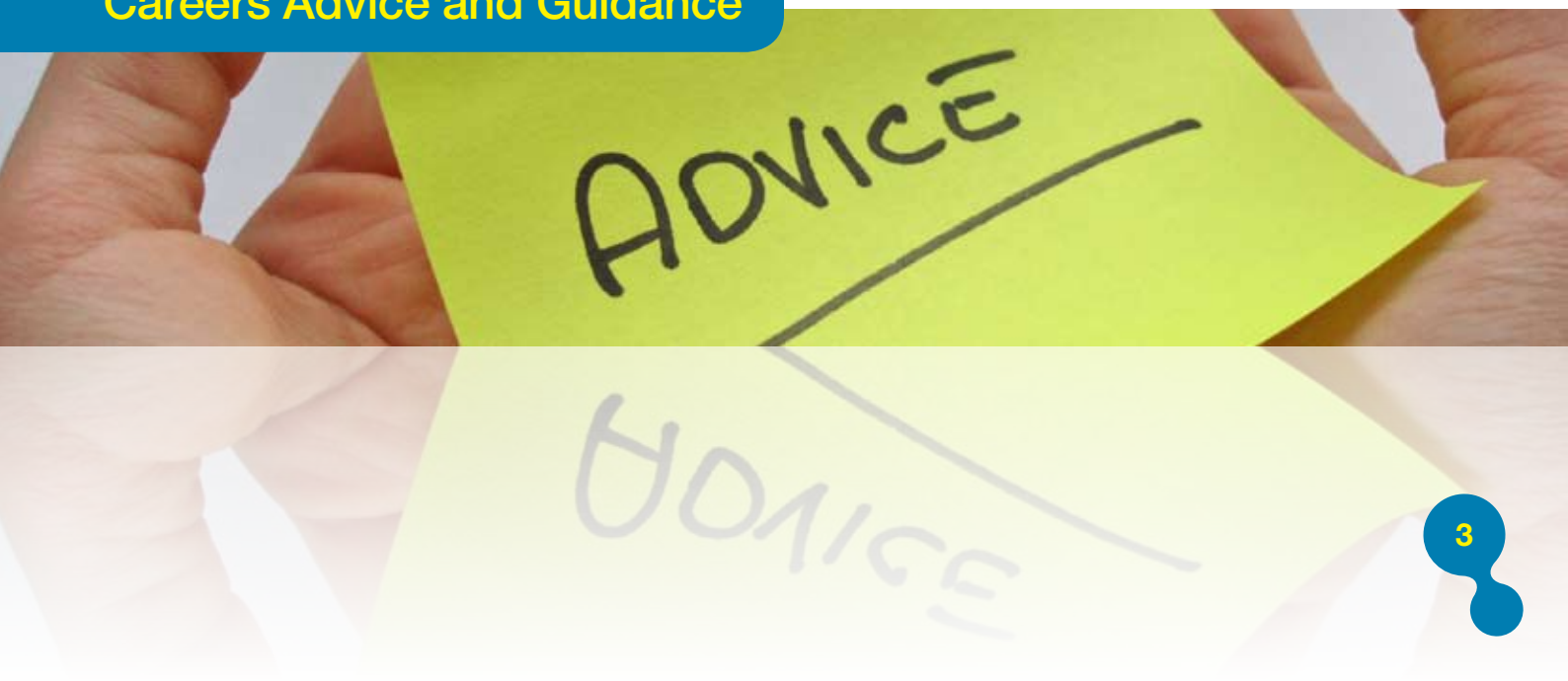
Students are encouraged to visit www.careerswales.com for information about option choices, courses, job and training vacancies and to record their achievements.

You can make an appointment with your Careers Adviser in school and contact details can be found on the careers notice board. Your Careers Adviser is usually available at parents' evenings as well.

You and your parents can also speak to a Careers Adviser at one of the Careers Wales centres which are open all year, including school holidays, and offer a service to people of all ages. Call freephone 0800 1830283 (textphone 01443 844950) to contact the nearest centre.



Careers Advice and Guidance





Courses and Host Schools

Applied Science

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Cyfarthfa

Mr A Beddoe

Course Description

The Applied Science AS course consists of one examination based on Health Science including topics such as the heart, lungs, MRI scans and Ultrasound, equal to 34% of total marks. The remaining 66% is coursework based. Pupils will carry out many experiments in forensics science such as chromatography, colorimetric techniques and calorimetry values. Pupils must

be prepared for taking ownership of their own learning, involving themselves in group projects and presentations. Pupils need to be motivated to write up their portfolios of their practical work, both in lessons and also in their own time. This is a new and very exciting and challenging course for students interested in careers in forensics science and health science.

Art & Design

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Bishop Hedley
Cyfarthfa
Penydre

Mr M Truefitt-Baker
Mr J Donovan
Mrs C Fry
Mrs J Childs

Course Description

Art & Design at AS and A2 allows students to develop individual skills and interests in the subject. Students are introduced to a range of techniques and processes in art to a more advanced level, and they then select and refine their work towards final outcomes. There is one coursework unit for each year, which is sketchbook and portfolio based (60%). This course suits students who enjoy being creative and experimental, and involves

investigating the work of artists, craft-workers and designers to support their studies. Students also undertake a practical examination (40%), in which they are given time to plan and prepare thoroughly. Art & Design provides a worthwhile imagination, fosters creativity and promotes personal and social development and is an appropriate foundation for further study of Art and Design or careers that require a creative input.





Courses and Host Schools

Biology

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Bishop Hedley
Cyfarthfa
Penydre

Mrs A Shires
Mr C Sykes
Mrs J Richards
Mrs B Davies

Course Description

The Biology course enables individuals to understand not only how the human body functions even at its most basic level, but also how organisms interact and depend upon one another in order for life to occur. Modules in the AS course include: Biochemistry, cell organisation, biodiversity and physiology of body system. These basic concepts are built upon in the

A2 year where topics studied include: metabolism, microbiology, homeostasis, environment, genetics and evolution. Practical work is a vital component of the course, forming 20% of the marks for the course; this includes the use of microscopes. A Level biology is an ideal course for anyone pursuing a career in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, genetics or agriculture.

Business

Course Type **BTEC Diploma/
Subsidiary Diploma**
Level **3**
Exam Board **EDEXCEL**

Penydre
Cyfarthfa

Mrs B Davies
Ms R George

Course Description

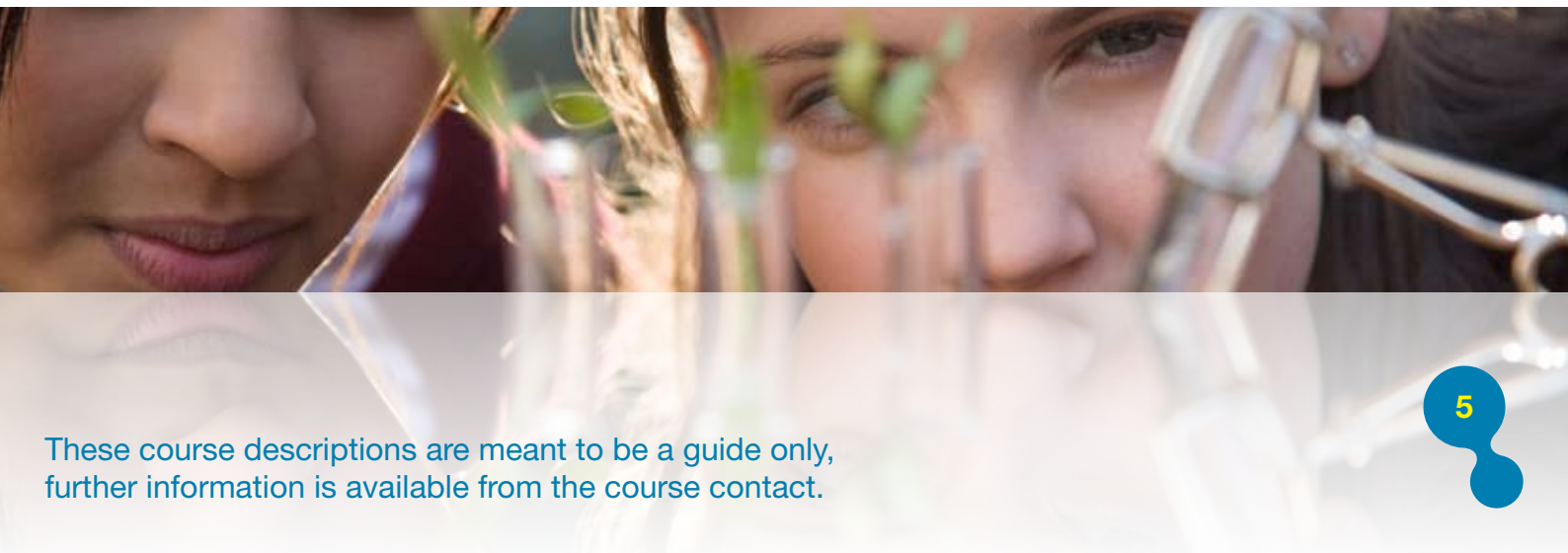
Please note that this course is offered as a Subsidiary Diploma at Cyfarthfa and as a Subsidiary Diploma or a Diploma at Penydre.

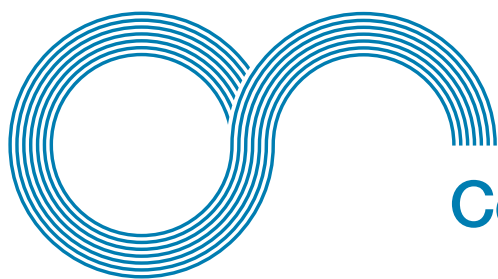
This is a two year modular course and is equivalent to one/two A levels (please see note above). The course is designed to enable learners to gain a nationally recognised vocationally specific qualification to enter employment or higher education. It provides opportunities for learners to develop a range of skills and techniques that are essential for successful

performance in a work setting. Students undertake four compulsory modules and two/eight optional modules. Compulsory modules are:

- Exploring Business Activity
- Investigating Business Resources
- Introduction to Marketing
- Effective People, Communication and Information

Assessment is by coursework in the form of projects, assignments and work experience.





Courses and Host Schools

Chemistry

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Cyfarthfa
Penydre

Mr N John
Mr D Price

Course Description

Chemistry is involved in every part of our daily lives – the industrial production of foods, medicines, electronics, fertilisers, metals, paints and dyes all involve chemistry. This is a modular AS and A2 course and modules studied include 'Controlling and Using Chemical Changes', 'Properties, Structure and

Bonding', 'Spectroscopy and Organic Chemistry' and 'Physical and Inorganic Chemistry'. Additionally, there are two practical units to follow. Students will attain the knowledge and skills relevant to a variety of careers including Medicine, Pharmacy, Forensic Science and Teaching.

Chemistry

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Bishop Hedley

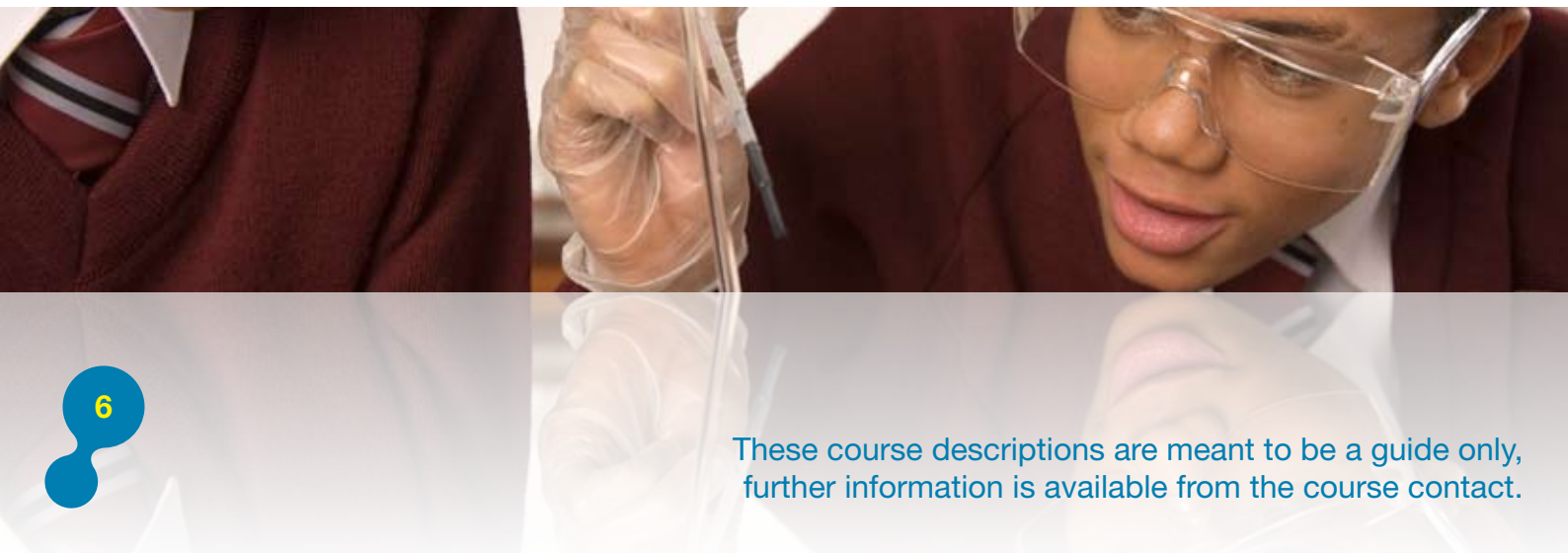
Dr B Timothy - Webber

Course Description

This is a modular AS/A2 course, comprising of two theory modules and two practical assessments in each year. The aim of the course is to encourage learners to develop their interest and enthusiasm for the subject; appreciate how Chemistry contributes to society and the economy; develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and to develop the skills and techniques

of data collection and analysis via practical work.

This specification provides a suitable foundation for the study of Chemistry, or related areas, through a range of higher education courses (e.g. Chemistry, Medicine and other medical professions, Biochemistry, Dentistry, Molecular Biology, Chemical Engineering) or direct entry into employment.





Courses and Host Schools

Chemistry

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **OCR**

Afon Taf

Mrs C Scott

Course Description

The aims of this course are to encourage candidates to:

- develop their interest in, and enthusiasm for chemistry, including developing an interest in further study and careers in chemistry;
- appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society;

- develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works
- develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of chemistry and how they relate to each other.

For further information on the modules offered please see Mrs Scott.

Computing

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf

To Be Confirmed

Course Description

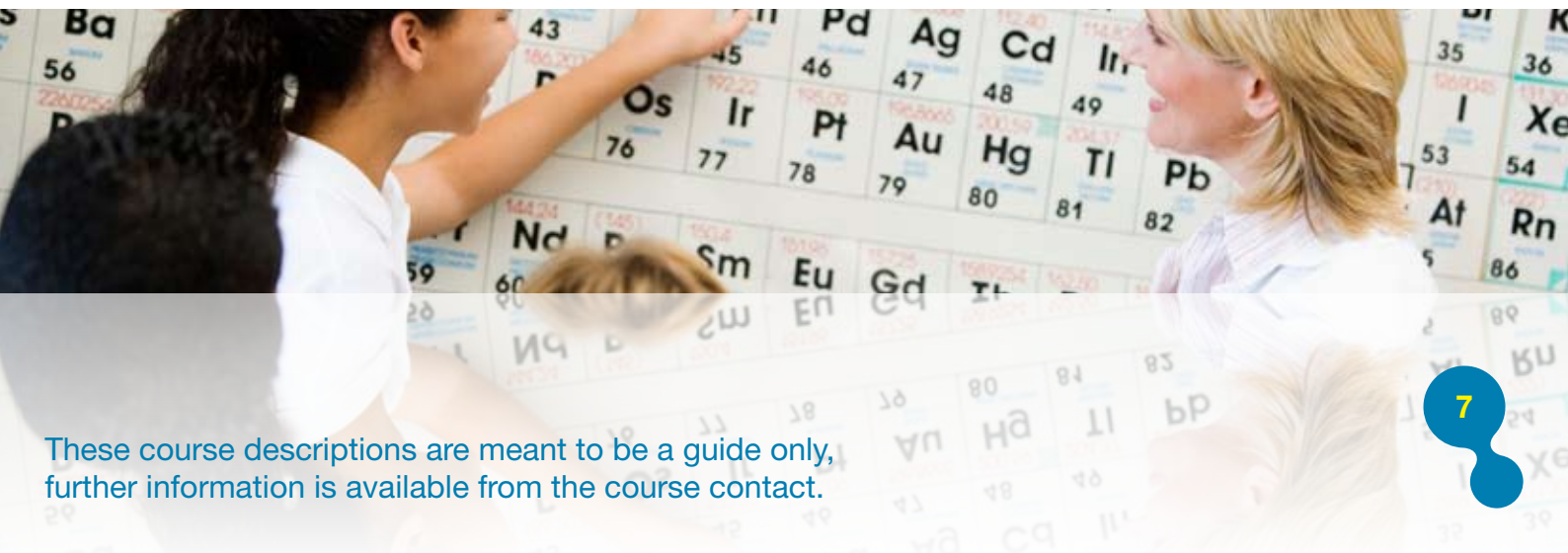
This course consists of two parts. Theory (65%) and practical (35%).

The theory part of the course involves acquiring knowledge and understanding of software, system development, data and applications. It is assessed by means of a written examination.

The practical part requires a student to analyse, design, develop software, document, test and evaluate a system.

It is not a requirement of the course to have a computer at home, nor to have done ICT GCSE. The course is modular and follows the WJEC syllabus.

Please note that this course will be taught jointly by Afon Taf and a member of staff from Merthyr Tydfil College, but all lessons will be held at Afon Taf.



These course descriptions are meant to be a guide only, further information is available from the course contact.



Courses and Host Schools

D & T Product Design

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Cyfarthfa

Mr J Davies

Course Description

The course offers a unique opportunity for candidates to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products in a range of contexts relating to their personal interests. Product design develops interdisciplinary skills and capacity for imaginative, innovative thinking, creativity and independence.

Design & Technology is essentially about identifying and solving real problems through design and make activities. The courses are predominantly project

based, allowing students to work in a variety of areas, including graphics, resistant materials and CAD. The excellent CAD/CAM facilities in the department are used extensively.

Students will be taught how to design creatively and sympathetically in relation to consumer needs and will employ the latest methods of modelling and manufacture. Industrial standard CAD software is at hand to assist in design development and product realisation.

Drama

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Cyfarthfa
Penydre

Mrs J James
Mrs A Matthews

Course Description

Drama is offered for study to provide students with the opportunity to acquire the understanding, knowledge, skills and personal confidence needed to participate fully in society. The course gives students a route to follow towards higher education and careers in theatre, film and the media. It is also designed to inform and develop an appreciation of drama in performance, both as participants

and spectators. There are opportunities within the specification for developing and generating evidence for the assessment of all Key Skills. There are opportunities throughout the course for seeing plays and experiencing theatre in varied ways. This is a varied course demanding commitment to class and extracurricular activities.





Courses and Host Schools

Economics

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Bishop Hedley

Mrs G Jones

Course Description

Economics is a social science which deals with the problem of 'scarcity'. Fundamentally, scarce resources means that choices have to be made about what to make and what to buy. The AS Economics course covers the following:

- The Basic Economic problem of scarcity
- Demand and supply and prices
- Elasticities of demand and supply
- Market failure and the need for government intervention
- National Income and Expenditure
- Determination of output, employment and price levels
- Government macroeconomic policies including

fiscal, monetary, supply side and exchange rate policies.

At A2, students study Competitive Behaviour, Macroeconomics and Globalisation. Clearly Economics lends itself to current affairs and students will learn to appreciate the economic events which are relevant today. Indeed, there can be no better time to study Economics! There is no coursework in this subject whether at AS or A level. The AS course consists of 2 external examinations. EC1 is a short question paper which tests economic theory. EC2 is a Data response paper followed by a choice of 2 essays out of a total of 6. Students are provided with departmental theory and work booklets and a core text book.

Engineering

Course Type **BTEC Subsidiary Diploma**
Level **3**
Exam Board **EDEXCEL**

Merthyr Tydfil
College

Mr S France

Course Description

The BTEC Subsidiary Diploma in Engineering, which is equivalent to one A Level, provides students with training and education that is suitable for progression to Higher Education and/or further professional training and employment.

The course structure consists of two mandatory

units plus optional units. The range of specialist units available allows students to focus on their interests or explore new areas, such as computer aided drafting. Mandatory units include elements of Mathematics and Science. A pass at C or above in GCSE mathematics is desirable.



Courses and Host Schools

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Bishop Hedley
Cyfarthfa
Penydre

English

Miss A Stanton
Mrs L Mackie
Mrs K Batchelor
Mr G MacPherson

Course Description

The AS course provides an introduction to the discipline of literary studies and presents opportunities for reading widely and making creative and informed responses to each of the major literary genres: poetry, prose and drama. The A2 course extends these studies by developing students' techniques of analysis, evaluation and comparison of texts.

The course opens up a wealth of careers as students are required to consider individual, moral, ethical, social, cultural and contemporary issues. Students must be self motivated, be able to work independently and within a group. Students should also be prepared for extensive reading as they are expected to read around the subject to inform their interpretation of texts.

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Bishop Hedley

Mrs L Jenkins
Mrs E Howfield

French

Course Description

The aim of the course is to prepare students to use the language for practical communication and to gain an insight into the contemporary culture and society of France. It builds on the skills acquired at GCSE, i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing as well as extending students' range of vocabulary, expression and grammatical knowledge. Lessons are informal with communication skills being of the utmost importance. Resources used

include textbooks, magazines, newspapers, T.V., I.T and DVD to enhance study. The study of a language complements other programmes of study. An AS or A2 level in French will assist entry into University for a whole range of courses. Language skills are now invaluable in the world of work and can greatly assist entry to careers in a wide range of fields.



Courses and Host Schools

Geography

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Cyfarthfa

Mr T Hill
Mrs S Taylor

Course Description

Geography is a broad subject that enables students to gain an understanding of the world around them through putting theories into practice and using ideas from science and the humanities to explain and predict our changing world. The course provides an opportunity to study modern geography and topics include climate change and

population change as well as aspects of physical geography.

It is a suitable subject for many areas of employment and higher education and students will attain the knowledge and skills required for a variety of careers such as teaching, environmental science, geology, surveying and town and country planning.

Health & Social Care

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Merthyr Tydfil
College

Mrs N Meek

Course Description

There are two Mandatory Units studied for AS:

Unit 1 - Promoting Quality Care and Communication

This introduces learners to factors affecting the quality of life. Content includes principles of care, caring skills and techniques, communication and barriers to communication and rights and responsibilities of providers and individuals.

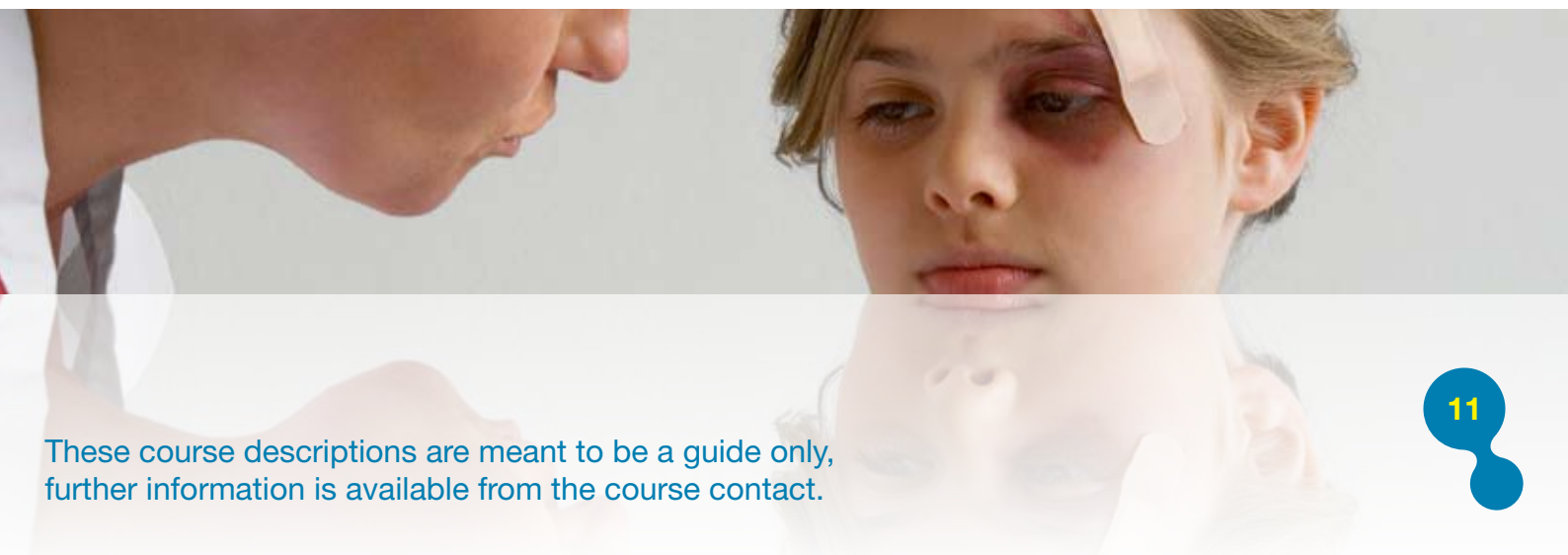
Unit 2 - Promoting Good Health

This module enables learners to gain knowledge and understanding of the factors that influence an

individual's health and well being. The content of the unit includes perspectives on health and well being, preventative measures to avoid ill health, job roles within health promotion and techniques used within health promotion.

Assessment involves learners completing 1 external examination for Unit 1 and coursework assessment for Unit 2.

For further information on the Units that are available in Year 13 please contact the relevant subject teacher at the College.





Courses and Host Schools

Health & Social Care

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **OCR**

Bishop Hedley

Miss E Evans

Course Description

This is a Single Award course. In Year 12 pupils follow the Applied AS level course, and complete three units of work:-

- Unit 1 - Promoting Quality Care;
- Unit 2 - Communication in Care Settings;
- Unit 3 - Promoting Good Health.

In Year 13 pupils study three further units, leading to the Applied A level:-

- Unit 4 – Care Practice and Provision;
- Unit 5 – Understanding Human Behaviour and Development;
- Unit 6 – Mental Health Issues.

Assessment involves pupils completing two external exams (Units 1 & 5), and four coursework tasks (Units 2, 3, 4 & 6).

Health & Social Care

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Penydre

Mrs K Evans

Course Description

There are two Mandatory Units studied for AS:

Promoting Quality Care and Communication – this introduces students to factors affecting the quality of life. Content includes principles of care, caring skills and techniques, communication and barriers to communication and rights and responsibilities of providers and individuals.

Promoting Good Health – This module enables students to gain knowledge and understanding

of the factors that influence an individual's health and well being. The content of the unit includes perspectives on health and well being, preventative measures to avoid ill health, job roles within Health Promotion and techniques used within Health Promotion.

For further information on the Units that are available in Year 13 please contact the relevant subject teacher in school.



Courses and Host Schools

History

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **AQA**

Bishop Hedley

Dr P Price

Course Description

This is a modular course. Two modules are studied at AS level and a further two units at A2, which includes a Personal Study. William the Conqueror, Henry II, Richard the Lionheart, King John and Saladin are some of the historical characters studied. Students will carry out a number of research

activities, give presentations, evaluate a variety of sources/documents and write essays. Students will also visit higher education institutions. History provides an excellent qualification for a variety of careers such as law, journalism, the media and teaching.

History

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

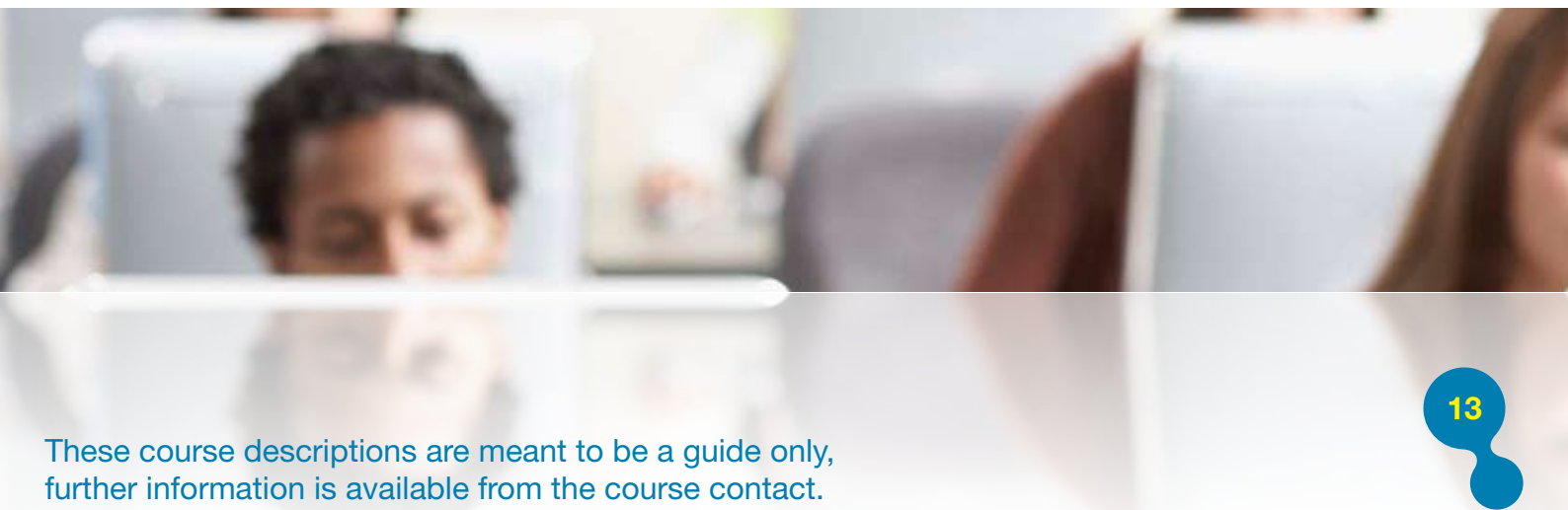
Afon Taf
Cyfarthfa
Penydre

Ms S Blackmore
Mr H Thomas
Ms S Llewellyn

Course Description

History is vital to understanding the world in which we live. History develops the skills vital to many careers: research skills, communication skills, information processing, evaluating and making informed judgements. History is first for careers in TV and the Media, Journalism, Law, Business, Politics, Management, Police, Civil Service and many more. Follow in the footsteps of Jonathan Ross, Gordon

Brown, Dermot Murnaghan and even Borat! A variety of teaching methods are used and students are expected to read widely, make notes, evaluate evidence, use the Internet and write essays. Due to the variation between schools of topics on offer it is important that prospective students discuss the exact course modules with the relevant member of staff in school.





Courses and Host Schools

ICT

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Bishop Hedley

Mr R V Williams

Course Description

The course consists of four modules, Information Systems (IT1), Presenting Information Task (IT2), Use and impact of ICT (IT3) and a Relational Database Project (IT4). IT1 and IT3 are assessed by

examination, while IT2 and IT4 are practical tasks. At AS and A level, the examination accounts for 60% of the final assessment and the project work 40%.

Information Technology

Course Type **BTEC Subsidiary**
Diploma

Penydre
Cyfarthfa

Mrs B Davies
Mr M McCarthy

Level **3**
Exam Board **EDEXCEL**

Course Description

This is a practical, work-related, modular course for students aiming for a career as an ICT practitioner or technician and is also suitable for those wishing to progress to Higher Education. It provides students with the opportunity to develop a range of skills, techniques and personal qualities essential for successful performance in a working life.

There are two Mandatory Units:

- Communication and Employability Skills for IT
- Computer Systems

Students study a further four optional units. For more information please see Mr Morgan at Penydre or Mr McCarthy at Cyfarthfa.



Courses and Host Schools

Law

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Penydre

Mrs D Price

Course Description

There are two modules in the AS course:

Understanding Legal Values, Structures, and Processes (50% of the final mark)

Understanding Legal Reasoning, Personnel and Methodology (50% of the final mark)

There are two modules in the A2 course:

Understanding Substantive Law – Freedom, the State and the Individual

Understanding Law in Context – Freedom, the State and the Individual

Mathematics

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Bishop Hedley
Cyfarthfa
Penydre

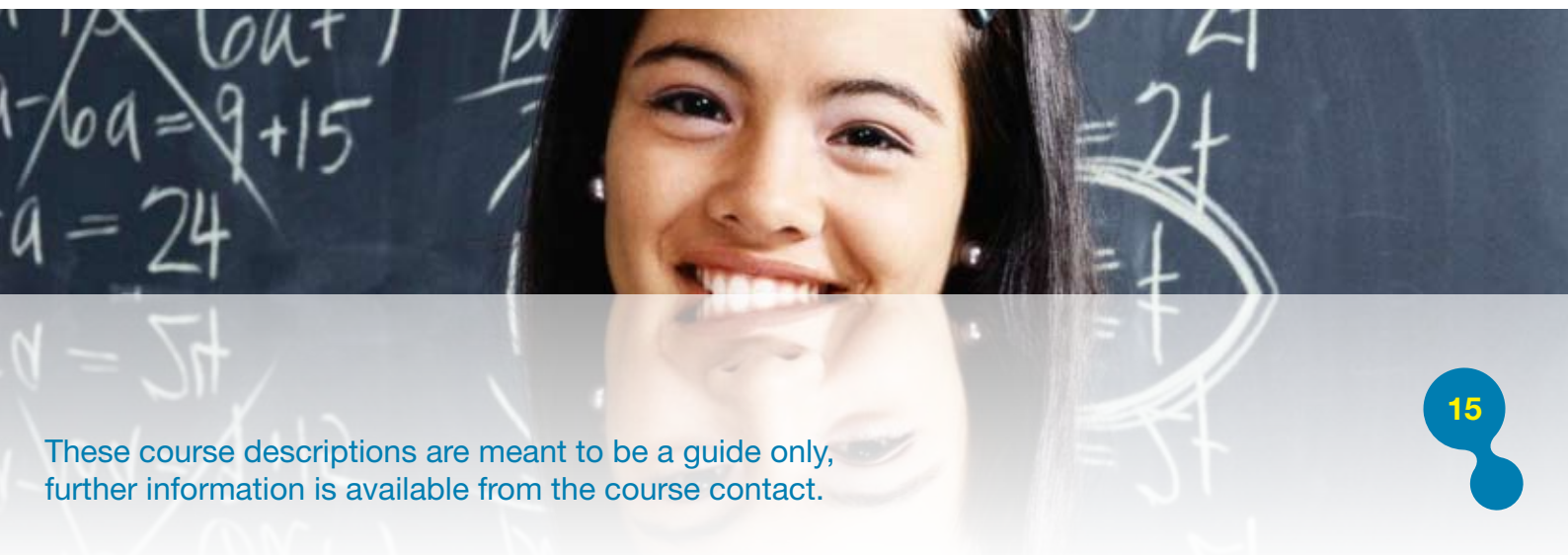
Mr N K Duffy
Mr H Williams
Mr D Dwyer
Mrs C Price

Course Description

The Mathematics course promotes rational thinking and encourages learners to process data clearly and accurately. These skills are highly valued by employers. An awareness of the relevance of Mathematics to other fields of study will also be outlined. Therefore, pupils may look to the future

with a wide range of career options to choose from.

The course is divided into 3 elements: Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics. All pupils will study Pure Mathematics, but have a choice of Statistics or Mechanics.



These course descriptions are meant to be a guide only, further information is available from the course contact.



Courses and Host Schools

Mathematics - Further

Course Type **AS/A**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Cyfarthfa

Mr D Dwyer

Course Description

Further Mathematics is an AS/A Level qualification which broadens and deepens the mathematics covered in AS/A Level Mathematics. Any students wishing to take a mathematics-rich degree (this covers a very wide range of academic areas – Mathematics, Engineering, Sciences, Computing, Finance/Economics etc) will benefit enormously from taking Further Mathematics to at least AS

Level. Further Mathematics introduces new topics such as matrices and complex numbers that are vital in many mathematics-rich degree courses. The course is divided into 3 elements: Further Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics. All pupils will study all 3 elements. For information about Further Mathematics, please contact Mr D Dwyer at Cyfarthfa High School.

Media Studies

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf

Mr M Jones

Course Description

This is a modular AS/A2 course and through the study of a range of media texts, students will explore key concepts such as representation, narrative and genre. Emphasis will be placed on developing knowledge and understanding of the media industries, e.g. film, music and advertising.

Modules studied at AS are:

- Media Representations and Responses
- Media Production Processes

Modules studied at A2 are:

- Media Investigation and Production
- Media – Text, Industry and Audience



Courses and Host Schools

Music

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Bishop Hedley
Cyfarthfa

Mr P Lewis
Mrs R Stokes-Thomas

Course Description

Students will have the opportunity to make music on their own and with others via Performing, Appraising and Composing. Students will study a variety of musical styles throughout the two years from Western Classical Music, Art Music and Popular Music to Jazz. There are numerous

opportunities to develop both practical and composition skills during the course and ICT plays a vital role in developing this creativity via the Composition element.

Please note that this course is taught jointly between Bishop Hedley and Cyfarthfa.

Physical Education

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Cyfarthfa

Mr A Rosser

Course Description

The course is divided into 4 units, two units at AS and two at A Level.

AS Units

Improving Performance in Physical Education:

This part of the course allows students the opportunity to improve their practical performance and enhance their coaching or officiating skills.

Active Lifestyles and Physical Education:

External assessment – structured questions plus one question requiring extended writing.

PE2 focuses on opportunities and pathways available to those taking part in sport. The analysis of physical, psychological and technical impacts on those participating as well as understanding the role that nutrition plays in sports performance.



Courses and Host Schools

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **WJEC**

Cyfarthfa

Mr A Rosser

Physical Education (cont.)

Course Description

A2 Units

Refining Performance in Physical Education:

This involves an Internal assessment and investigative research. At A2 students can further develop their role in one area - either performing, coaching or officiating - it allows greater competency and specialism.

Performance, Provision and Participation in Physical Education:

This includes an external assessment.

The focus in the written paper is on refining sporting performance and enhancing and maintaining health.

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **OCR**

Afon Taf

Mrs S Carter

Physical Education

Course Description

The focus of the course is on participation and performance in physical activity as part of a balanced, active and healthy lifestyle. The specifications of the course require and enable students to achieve the subject criteria aims by:
Increasing their physical competence;

Developing their involvement and effectiveness in physical activity;

Enabling them to become informed and discerning decision makers in relation to their and others' involvement in physical activity.

Courses and Host Schools



Physical Education

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **AQA**

Bishop Hedley

Mr D Jones

Course Description

This course is divided into 4 units, two units at AS and two at A2.

AS Units

Opportunities for and the effects of leading a healthy and active lifestyle

This is an examined module covering the application of theoretical knowledge to a practical situation.

Analysis and evaluation of physical activity as a performer and/or in an adopted role/s

This is an internally assessed unit. Candidates perform, analyse and evaluate the execution of core skills/techniques in isolation and in structured practice as either a player/performer and in an adopted role or two adopted roles.

A2 Units

Optimising performance and evaluating contemporary issues within sport

This is an examined module covering 3 areas: how exercise physiology can optimise performance; how application of psychological knowledge can optimise performance; contemporary influences in sport and their impact on the performer.

Optimising practical performance in a competitive situation

This is an internally assessed unit. Candidates perform, analyse and evaluate their own performance, identify areas of performance that they could improve, and suggest causes and appropriate corrective measures.





Courses and Host Schools

Physics

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC / AQA**

Afon Taf (WJEC)
Cyfarthfa (WJEC)
Penydre (AQA)

Miss J Owen & Mrs L Stokes
Mr A Beddoe
Mr D Lockett

Course Description

A Level Physics prepares students for work in a variety of highly skilled and well paid employment opportunities of civil, mechanical, aeronautical, electrical and electronic engineering, as well as more traditional research opportunities in medical physics, astronomy and the nuclear industry. The WJEC course covers the following topics, Motion Energy & Charge, Waves & Particles, Oscillations & Fields, Electromagnetism, Nuclei, Medical Physics, and Energy.

The AQA course covers:

AS Level

- Particles, quantum phenomena and electricity
- Mechanics, materials and waves
- Investigative and practical skills in AS Physics

A2 Level

- Fields and further mechanics
- Nuclear and thermal physics plus option modules
- Investigative and practical skills in A2 Physics

Psychology

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **EDEXCEL**

Bishop Hedley

Miss N Michael

Course Description

Psychology is the study of the mind and behaviour. The discipline of psychology embraces all aspects of the human experience — from the functions of the brain to the environments in which humans and other animals develop; from child development to ageing.

This course provides a basis for the study of Psychology and related subjects, including work in the health and care sectors, sports management, media and business studies and has been

designed to provide a suitable foundation for the study of Psychology or a related area of study at further or higher education and/or preparation for future employment. All assessment units require the candidate to exhibit essential skills developed through Psychology, i.e. the ability to identify, understand and evaluate key critical concepts and issues from psychological theory and methodology.



Courses and Host Schools

Religious Studies

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Bishop Hedley
Cyfarthfa

Ms S Blackmore
Mrs S J Hopkins
Mrs S Henderson

Course Description

Afon Taf – The AS course comprises two areas of study:

Introduction to Biblical Studies (New Testament) – this is a study of the incarnation and the resurrection narratives.

Introduction to Western Religions (Judaism) – this module covers the study of Jewish beliefs and practices.

The A2 course comprises two further areas of study: Western Religion (Judaism) – this module builds on the areas studied at AS and introduces new themes, e.g. anti-semitism

Human Experience – the Synoptic Element – this provides the opportunity to study a specified theme, drawing on the knowledge and skills gained throughout the course.

Bishop Hedley - At AS there are 2 modules of study;

Introduction to Religion in Contemporary Society
Introduction to Religious Ethics

Through the course, students will be given the opportunity to examine how religious beliefs and practices affect society, in such cases as Euthanasia

and the media. The ethics module covers 3 ethical theories – namely Natural Law, Situation Ethics and Utilitarianism. Learners then apply these theories to topical issues such as homosexuality and marriage and divorce.

At A2 students further develop their knowledge of Ethics with 2 more ethical theories – Virtue theory and Kantian ethics. The applied section of this module is War and Peace, and Genetic Engineering.

The last module is Religion and Human Experience which explores beliefs of life, death and life after death. Students will be required to apply knowledge from previous modules to this unit and make links.

Cyfarthfa - Religious Studies provides students with an understanding of the world around them and its many cultures. It also provides an opportunity to explore the meaning of existence and the presence of God in the world. Modules studied include the existence of God, the problem of evil, ethical theories, sex and relationships, war and abortion. Students will attain the knowledge and skills relevant to a variety of careers including medicine, journalism, law, teaching and nursing.



These course descriptions are meant to be a guide only, further information is available from the course contact.



Courses and Host Schools

Sociology

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level 3
Exam Board **AQA**

Bishop Hedley

Miss E Evans

Course Description

The following topics are studied at AS level:

Culture and Identity;
Health with Research Methods.

Assessment at AS involves taking two external exams.

At A2 level the units studied are:

Mass Media;
Crime and Deviance with Sociological Theory and Methods.

A further two external exams will be taken at A2 level.

Sport

Course Type **Subsidiary Diploma**
Level 3
Exam Board **EDEXCEL**

Penydre

Mr M Jacklin

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the sector for students looking to build a career in sport within one of its occupational areas, e.g. sport development, exercise and fitness and coaching and leadership.

Units studied in Year 12 are 'Principles of Anatomy and Physiology in Sport', 'Physiology of Fitness',

Assessing Risks in Sport'.

Optional units offered in Year 13 are 'Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise', 'Practical Team Sport', 'Outdoor Adventurous Activity', 'Leadership in Sport'.

For further information on the units on offer, please see Mr M Jacklin.

Courses and Host Schools



Welsh 2nd Language

Course Type **AS/A2**
Level **3**
Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Bishop Hedley

Mr S Baber
Mrs E Walters

Course Description

The Welsh A2 level courses are modern and exciting with the main emphasis on developing oral skills to a good level of fluency. There are three main units of study in the first year for the AS level; Media and Film, a personal project with a Welsh theme and use of the Language and Poetry. For pupils wishing to gain a full A level, there are a further three units of study; Drama and Media, short stories and translation, use of the Language and Poetry. Certainly, studying Welsh at A level enables students to compete in a new jobs market

where, since the 1995 Welsh Language Act, the knowledge of Welsh is essential. Students gain valuable skills for the future such as translation, research skills and oral presentation. On the other hand, if any student simply wants to become fluent in the language of their own country and broaden their outlook of Welsh heritage and culture, then this is a good enough reason itself to follow a very sociable course. Please Note: This course is taught jointly between Afon Taf & Bishop Hedley.

These course descriptions are meant to be a guide only, further information is available from the course contact.



Courses and Host Schools

Welsh Baccalaureate

Course Type **Intermediate/
Advanced Diploma**

Level **2 / 3**

Exam Board **WJEC**

Afon Taf
Bishop Hedley
Cyfarthfa
Penydre

MrJ Dugdale
Mrs E Howfield
Mr D Hines & Mrs S Taylor
Mrs J Childs

Course Description

The Welsh Baccalaureate is an exciting qualification that adds a valuable new dimension to the subjects and courses already available for students.

The qualification combines personal development with existing qualifications such as A levels, BTEC's and NVQ's to make one wider award that develops work based competencies and helps to make a new recruit more effective.

The programme of study is made up of **Core** and **Options**. The **Core** has the following components:

Work Related Education

Individual Investigation – a research project of the student's choice.

Wales, Europe and the World – putting Wales in

context.

Personal & Social Education

Essential Skills – Communication, Application of Number, ICT, Working with Others, Problem Solving and Improving Own Learning and Performance.

The **Options** are the subjects and courses, e.g. A levels, BTEC, NVQ qualifications that make up a students complete programme of study. In addition, all students work with a personal tutor who provides overall support and guidance. The Welsh Baccalaureate adds to the value of established qualifications, but does not replace them.

The Advanced level Welsh Baccalaureate is equal to 120 UCAS points (grade 'A' at A level).



Merthyr Tydfil College

Merthyr Tydfil College offers a broad range of courses in the following Programme Areas:

Business & Management
Computing
Office Technology
Art & Design
Performing Arts
Construction
Engineering
Media Studies
Motor Vehicle Engineering
Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy
Holistic Therapies
Caring and Health
GCSE/A Levels
Sports Studies
Uniformed Public Services
Adult Basic Education
Independent Living Skills
Welsh for Adults
Access to Higher Education

If you want further information, please request a copy of our prospectus by :

Telephoning **0800 1693825** (Freephone)

Or returning the slip below:

Merthyr Tydfil College

Name :

Address :

.....

..... Post Code :

Address to : Student Services, Merthyr Tydfil College Prospectus, Freepost, Merthyr Tydfil CF48 1BR
(no stamp required)



Frequently Asked Questions

How will I travel between venues?

Free transport will be provided for students travelling between venues. The timetable has been arranged so that travelling takes place during break and lunch times. However, students must ensure that they turn up at the correct time and may be required to bring a packed lunch if travelling during the lunch break.

Will I have to wear my school uniform if I attend lessons at other venues?

Yes, you will still be required to wear your school uniform.

How many courses can I take?

Students are strongly advised to discuss their course choices with teachers and school based Careers Adviser. The number of courses that students are advised to take generally depends on GCSE results. However, all students are expected to take the Welsh Baccalaureate.

What are the pastoral care arrangements?

Your home school will continue to have responsibility for your pastoral care, although the host venue will also have responsibility for your health and safety whilst you are there.

How will my progress be monitored?

Arrangements have been made between the schools and college so that student progress and attendance is monitored and regularly fed back to the home school.

Where can I get further information on courses?

You can obtain more information on a course from the host school or the college, including information on entry requirements which may differ between institutions and courses.



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Afon Taf School

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Geography	History	Mathematics
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Bishop Hedley School

Art & Design	Biology	Chemistry
Economics	English	French
Health & Social Care	History	ICT
Mathematics	Music	Physical Education
Psychology	Religious Studies	Sociology
Welsh 2nd Language	Welsh Baccalaureate	

Cyfarthfa School

Applied Science	Art & Design	Biology
Business	Chemistry	D & T Product Design
Drama	English	Geography
History	Information Technology	Mathematics
Mathematics - Further	Music	Physical Education
Physics	Religious Studies	Welsh Baccalaureate

Penydre School

Art & Design	Biology	Business
Chemistry	Drama	English
Health & Social Care	History	Information Technology
Law	Mathematics	Physics
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Merthyr Tydfil College

Engineering	Health & Social Care
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Notes

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Merthyr Tydfil 14-19 Learning Pathways Post 16 Provision



Merthyr Tydfil
14-19 Learning Pathways

