

Year 9 Options 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The process of selecting Key Stage 4 option subjects is a key educational point for all learners. Further information will be made available to parents during the **Year 9 Information Evenings**, calendared as follows:

- **4:00 – 6:00 PM Monday 12st February at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School**
- **4:30 – 6:30 PM Tuesday 13st February at Barry Comprehensive School**

In order to not disadvantage any learners during this period of secondary education transformation within Barry, all subjects are initially offered to all learners across both sites. The form overleaf is an expression of interest from you and your son as to which **five** option subjects you may consider for further study moving into year 10.

This initial trawl of subjects will be used to design the final provision of option subjects offered on each of the two new secondary sites.

The core (non-option) curriculum for each learner will include:

- English Language
- Mathematics/Numeracy
- Science
- Welsh 2nd Language
- PE
- RE
- Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh Baccalaureate)

I would ask that you discuss the contents of this form with your son, with him returning it to school on Friday 15th December. Any learners who fail to return the form on that date will complete a form in school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Jones

Assistant Headteacher

Year 9 Option Trawl December 2017

Name: «Forename» «Surname» «Reg_Group»

Please circle which site you will be based on in September **Port Road (Barry Comp) / Merthyr Dyfan (Bryn Hafren)**

Please indicate the **five** subjects that you might be interested in taking in KS4 next year. Number your choices 1, 2, 3 and 4 with **number 1 being the subject you most want to study**. Choose a reserve subject marked **R**

<p>Art Art is an exciting practical subject with no written examination. You will explore a wide range of techniques, processes and materials in order to develop your skills. Areas include drawing, painting, textiles, printmaking, digital art and clay. Themes and materials can be adapted to your interests.</p>	
<p>Dance BTEC Dance (equivalent to one GCSE) is an exciting practical course with no written examination. It provides pupils with the chance to create dances and perform. A range of dance styles are covered, involving solos, duets and group pieces. Great fun for all abilities.</p>	
<p>Beauty Therapy This is worth 2 GCSE's and is a unisex qualification. Units studied are: Facial skincare for men and women; Manicure and pedicure treatments for men and women; Working in the industry; Health and safety; Client care and communication. Each unit has an on-line exam and a practical exam showing the procedures and techniques required in the salon industry</p>	
<p>Business Studies This course encourages learners to develop an entrepreneurial mind-set, with learning activities centred on: business activity; influences on business; business operations; finance; marketing and human resources. You will develop personal skills and attributes useful for careers in management, finance, economics, government, law and marketing.</p>	
<p>Child Development Child Development extends knowledge and understanding of the development and care of children from conception to the age of five years. It promotes an understanding of the social, emotional, physical and intellectual development of the child through the study of the family, community and parenthood.</p>	
<p>DT Product Design or DT Electronics Design Technology is about developing and making innovative products, reflecting current developments in industry. Pupils develop their skills in designing, planning, construction, graphical illustration and CAD/CAM through a series of focused tasks to develop, produce, evaluate and test a prototype product.</p>	
<p>Drama (Creative Arts) Drama and the creative arts is an exciting course where learners participate in the creation, development and performance of theatre through practical exploration. Content covers stage acting, design and direction, through to producing theatre reviews across musical theatre, community arts and TV/Film acting.</p>	
<p>French You will study 3 themes which are Identity and Culture, Wales and the World and Current and Future Study and Employment. Examinations assess the 4 skill areas of writing, reading, listening and speaking. The course enables learners to develop their ability to communicate confidently in French and to understand and respond to a rich range of authentic spoken and written material.</p>	
<p>Food Technology/Catering Food and Nutrition equips learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. The hospitality sector is one of the largest employers in Wales and the course develops the skills and knowledge needed to support progression towards either employment or further studies at post-16.</p>	
<p>Geography Geography involves the study of global natural and human processes. Topics include: landscape processes, global tectonics (volcanoes and earthquakes), weather hazards, population growth, migration, mega cities and the associated problems of sustainability. The course involves 2 written examinations (80%) and fieldwork (20%) leading towards a practical controlled assessment exam.</p>	
<p>Hair Services This is worth 2 GCSE's and is a unisex opportunity. Units studied are: Shampoo and condition the hair/scalp; The art of dressing hair; Scalp massage; Styling men's hair; Working in the industry; Health and Safety and Client consultation. Each unit has an on-line exam and a practical exam showing the procedures and techniques required in the salon industry.</p>	
<p>Health and Social Care Health and Social Care is a double award course that examines issues affecting the nature and quality of human life, including an appreciation of diversity and cultural issues. The course enables learners to develop a thorough investigation and evaluation of the health, social care and early years' sectors.</p>	

<p>History GCSE History covers several themes: <i>The Elizabethan Age</i>: lifestyles of the rich and poor, popular entertainment, religious problems and the defeat of the Spanish Armada; <i>USA</i>: immigration, racism, prohibition and the rise in organised crime; <i>Changes in Crime and Punishment</i>: including an element of Welsh History, the causes of crime and criminality over time and the changing ways of dealing with law and order; <i>Controlled Assessment</i>: Nazi Germany – students produce two pieces of coursework, focusing on different aspects of Hitler’s rise to power and life in Nazi Germany.</p>	
<p>ICT This course comprises 2 units: Developing Web Products (on-screen exam 25%) and Artwork and Imaging (internal project 75%). The first unit develops knowledge and skills to design, build and test effective web products and software, multimedia assets and navigation features. In the second unit you will design and create effective graphic products - exhibiting your work in an eportfolio.</p>	
<p>Music The music GCSE course consists of Performing, Composing and Listening. There are 4 Areas of Study these are Musical Forms and Devices, Musical Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music. Pupils will need to complete two performances, two compositions and complete the listening exam.</p>	
<p>Photography Photography is a coursework based, practical subject with no written examination. Year 11 pupils can choose their own areas of study and can explore a range of traditional wet, darkroom and digital processes in addition to creative approaches to photo manipulation such as collage, stitching and 3D constructions.</p>	
<p>PE/Sport Lessons will include both practical and theory aspects, exploring a range of diverse sporting activities. If you compete in a different sport outside school, you will be able to submit this activity as part of your practical examination. Theory lessons will include training, fitness, provision, participation and many social aspects in sport.</p>	
<p>Sociology Sociology is an excellent subject for those interested in their own culture and society. There is an external examination in year 10 and in year 11. The course units studied are socialisation and agencies of socialisation, research methods, families, differentiation and inequalities on modern Britain, research methods and crime and deviance.</p>	
<p>Spanish You will study 3 themes: Identity and Culture, Wales and the World and Current and Future Study and Employment. All examinations are sat in Year 11 in the 4 skill areas of writing, reading, listening and speaking. Teachers offer workshops after school and during the Easter holidays in order to support pupils.</p>	
<p>Triple Science Pupils follow separate Biology, Chemistry & Physics GCSEs. Pupils will sit 3 examinations at the end of each year and a Practical examination in Year 11. This option is for students who have a high level of Scientific and Mathematical ability and is an excellent foundation for further studies within Science at post-16. This course is advised for those who intend to pursue a Science qualification at University.</p>	
<p>Engineering Engineering is assessed with three units: <i>Unit 1</i> - 7hr design task focusing on engineering drawing principles and designing engineered products using manual and computer based design methods; <i>Unit 2</i> - 12hr make task using practical skills and techniques developed in the workshop; <i>Unit 3</i> - 90min written examination assessing knowledge and understanding of engineering principles.</p>	
<p>Computer Science This course comprises 3 units: <i>Understanding Computer Science</i>, <i>Computational Thinking</i> and <i>Software Development</i>. You will analyse problems through practical experience - designing, writing and debugging programs and learn the components that make up digital systems, how they communicate with one another and with other digital systems.</p>	
<p>Religious Studies Religious Studies provides opportunities to follow a course that balances knowledge of core beliefs, teachings and practices of the Christian and Jewish faith, understanding how they can be applied to philosophical and ethical themes. As well as studying religious beliefs pupils will explore aspects of religious and non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism.</p>	
<p>Geology Geology or Earth Science is a practical subject dealing with the study of Earth History. It involves the study of the materials that make up the Earth (minerals and rocks); the form and internal structure of the Earth and other rocky planets; the processes that take place inside and on the Earth’s surface (volcanoes, earthquakes, rivers, deserts etc.); and the changes that have affected life through the Earth’s long history (fossils such as dinosaurs and their evolution and extinction).</p>	
<p>Tourism The IVQ Tourism course covers the main issues that are facing both the leisure and tourism industries today. Pupils will study how and why the UK tourist industry has grown, focusing on the different organisations that provide leisure and tourism services and the legislation that has been put in place to help the industry grow. The focus of the course is very much on the skills required to work in the leisure and tourism industries.</p>	

Subjects will run based on pupil choices and the viability of subjects