



Options Programme

Argoed High School
2017

Objectives of this evening

- Receive information about the KS4 choices process, the new qualifications in Wales, the Careers Wales online system and key dates
- Find out about the guidance that the pupils will receive
- Check what subjects are part of the compulsory core and what option subjects are available
- Consider any implications of choosing options



Vision

*Learning together,
working together,
succeeding together*

Key Dates

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Introduction to pupils and booklet issued | February 14th |
| Parents' information evening | February 28th |
| Year 9 subject evening | March 14th |
| Final deadline for option choices to be completed | March 24th |

New qualifications in Wales

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy (2 GCSEs)
- Welsh Baccalaureate
- Double Award Science
- GCSE Welsh Full Course

Why are qualifications changing?

- Emphasis on strengthening language and number skills
- Builds on the LNF at key stage 3
- To equip young people with the skills needed in the modern workplace

The impact on choices at Argoed

- Greater curriculum time given to compulsory courses (the core), including GCSE Welsh and the Welsh Baccalaureate.
- Students can make up to 3 choices from the options.

GCSEs required for different routes

| Medicine Edinburgh University | Apprenticeship at Airbus | Primary Teaching John Moores University |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Average applicant has 6A*.• Top 3rd of applicants have 8-11 A*. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Six GCSEs at Grade C or above in Maths, English and Science (Core and Additional or Double Award).• If GCSE Science has been taken as separate subjects, one of the qualifications gained must be in Physics. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is a government requirement that all Trainee Teachers have attained grade B in GCSE English language, Maths (or equivalent), and for Early Years and Primary, GCSE Science. |

Use of Careerswales.co.uk

- Students have been issued usernames
- Information and guidance on website
- Information from option booklet online
- Students will be asked to fill in options online via:-

www.careerswales.com



What is Careerswales.com?



Career Search

Use Career Search to find out more about a job. Includes wages, where the jobs are, vacancies and much more.

For example.. Bricklayer or Accountant

Need some ideas? [Let us help you get started](#)

1 **Tools and Resources** 2 3

Vacancy Search ▶

My Future ▶

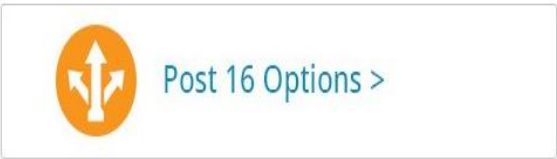
Career+ ▶

Get Inspired





You are here: [Home](#) > [Tools and Resources](#) > [Options](#)



Contact us:  Phone: [0800 028 4844](tel:0800 028 4844)  Mobile: [029 2090 6800](tel:029 2090 6800)  Email  Webchat

Useful information

- [About Careers Wales](#)
- [Privacy](#)
- [Freedom of Information](#)
- [Support](#)
- [Our Cookie Policy](#)
- [Terms and Conditions](#)

Our Site

- [Your Career](#)
- [Jobs and Training](#)
- [Education and Courses](#)
- [My Future](#)
- [Employers](#)
- [Professionals](#)
- [Year 9 Options](#)
- [Learning Pathway Plan](#)
- [14 to 19 Networks](#)

Tools

- [Apprenticeships](#)
- [Jobs Growth Wales](#)
- [Career+](#)
- [Work Experience Database](#)
- [Courses in Wales](#)
- [Leaflets](#)
- [CV Builder](#)
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-  [Job vacancies](#)



Year 9 Options

[Wales Home](#)

[Options in my school?](#)

[Subjects and courses](#)

Year 9 Options

During year 9 you will be able to choose the subjects and courses you wish to study in years 10 and 11. We can help you get ready to make your subject and course choices for Year 10 and 11



Need some help?

We have plenty of advice information on the site to help you make good choices. Take a look at our 'tools and resources' section. You can access these sections at any time.

How can I choose my subject and courses on line?

- Log in and select 'My Options' to access information about your school.
- Your tutor or head of year will give you your log in details during year 9.

What happens in my school?



Soon your school will be getting you ready to choose the courses for Year 10 and 11

Choosing subjects and courses



Find out about the different types of courses and subjects you can and will study

My options



Select the options you want to study online

Are You Ready?



Are you ready to make your choices for Year 10 and 11?

Making decisions



Find out about making decisions through our holiday game

More information

[Choosing a subject or course at 14](#)

[Get some career ideas here](#)

[Need help making your decision?](#)

Choosing options for Key Stage 4

Factors to consider:

- ☑ Choose subjects you **enjoy**
- ☑ Choose subjects you are **good at**
- ☑ Find out which subjects you need if you have a chosen **career** in mind
- ☑ Keep your **options open** by making a balanced choice

Don't:

- ❌ Choose a subject because your friend is taking it
- ❌ Reject a subject because you think it's 'for girls' or 'for boys'
- ❌ Choose or reject a subject because you like or dislike a teacher
- ❌ Choose a subject only because you think it will be easy
- ❌ Choose a new subject without finding out more about it
- ❌ Decide at the last minute

The Core:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics - 2 GCSE's
- Science – 2 GCSE's
- Welsh * New Full Course GCSE
- Religious Education (short course)
- PE
- PSE
- WBQ

The Welsh Baccalaureate

All Year 10 will follow **The Welsh Baccalaureate** course as well as their chosen route.

It is the equivalent of a GCSE and involves four challenges:

- **Global citizenship**
- **Enterprise and employability**
- **Community**
- **Individual project**

The combined outcomes of the four components will determine whether students gain the National (L2 award) or the Foundation (L1 award)

The Options

| Route 1 | Route 2 | Route 3 | Route 4 |
|--|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Choose options from open options block | Single Sciences + 2 options | Vocational Skills Based Course ASDAN CoPE | Personalised curriculum |

Option subjects

- Art and Design
- Geography
- Business
- German
- History
- French
- Mandarin
- ICT
- Tourism
- D+T Food technology
- D+T Product Design
- Music
- Drama
- Physical Education
- Engineering
- Computer Science
- Health & Social Care

Personalised Curriculum

- Based on individual need
- Partnerships with external providers including Coleg Cambria and the Army
- Students will have a modified timetable

Subjects are available according to:

- Sufficient take-up for each option subject to make it viable
- Some subjects may be oversubscribed
- Pupils have been advised to have a **reserve option**

What to do next

■ Discuss:

- ✓ At home
- ✓ In school
- ✓ Careers Wales Advisor
- ✓ Online – www.careerswales.co.uk

Thank you and please do
not hesitate to contact us
should you require further
information