COLEG CYMUNEDOL
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"CCYD aspires to empower our community to be collaborative, resilient and reflective individuals who have the self-confidence to embrace challenge".

# 6th Form
Prospectus
2026-2027

# CCYD 6th Form Provision

We have a thriving sixth form at CCYD where our learners study a range of level 3 courses. We work closely with our partnership schools within Bridgend to offer a wide range of collaboration courses where our learners can travel to other venues to study courses. We also collaborate with Bridgend College who offer a range of day time as well as twilight courses in the evening. We have our Head of 6th Form Rhian Wilson who along with her team of staff support our sixth form learners through years 12 and 13.

Learners are supported with settling in to life in the sixth form, choosing the correct courses, careers advice and support in applying for universities. Alongside this academic support learners are all supported pastorally with issues they may face whilst in school.

During the 6th form we have a range of external visits and activities in house, ranging from careers fayres, apprenticeship events and university talks so that our learners can familiarise with life outside of education. This allows them to make informed decisions about their future.

Our standards at keystage 5 based on Alps Data shows a positive three year trend and an improving picture with subjects being graded outstanding / excellent.

We pride ourselves on these strong relationships which allows our learners to reach their true potential and become the happy and confident young people equipped for the wider world that we know they can become.

If you want to find out more or would like to visit the school please do no hesitate to contact us. Our learners take great pride in showing visitors around our school. For more information please visit our website: www.ccyd.co.uk

For further information on courses please visit the online prospectus and click on the CCYD link. Here you will find detailed information about each of the subjects and also links to pathways and careers guidance. www.bridgendpathways.co.uk

**For further enquires please contact either:**


Mrs Abigail Cole
Head Of 6th Form
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Or

Mrs Justine James
Assistant Headteacher - Curriculum, Teaching & Learning
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## Aims for our learners in 6th form at CCYD

• Be happy and enjoy attending school

• Develop the skills needed to go out into the workplace or chosen education pathway

• Be empowered to achieve and to be an independent learner and believe you can achieve

• Set high expectations for yourself and others

• Take Pride in everything you do

• Develop a positive and growth mindset

## What options are available in 6th form ?

Your timetable will be made up of the following:-

• 3 x AS Subjects
• Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales

Entry requirements:-

• 5 x A* - C grades at GCSE (including English or Maths)

To study AS Maths or Psychology a B grade in Mathematics is required

# Why should I continue studying post Year 11?

**There are many advantages to continuing your education into Sixth Form:**

- You will gain extra qualifications needed to access courses at Universities and Colleges.
- You will give yourself time to develop as a person, becoming more mature and enhancing the social skills necessary for the outside world.
- You will develop other important skills such as time management and independent study, showing admissions tutors and employers that you are adaptable and able to work using your own initiative.

**Continuing your education specifically in CCYD has the following benefits:**

- You know the school and the school knows you — familiar teachers and surroundings will help you settle quickly.
- Since we know in advance which courses are running and how many learners we will have, you will start your course in the first week of term — enrolment in our Sixth Form will only take a day.
- The majority of classes are small and run by experienced teachers.
- You will receive lots of support for your pathways to University or employment.
- Textbooks and many other resources are supplied by the departments.
- We have rooms for use only by Sixth Form students, complete with access to computers.
- There is excellent pastoral support in place to help you through any difficulties you may experience.
- You can access expert help and advice on what to do when you leave the Sixth Form.
- We provide many opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities outside the classroom to enrich your time with us.

# What qualifications do I need to get into Sixth Form?

**We aim to provide courses suitable for learners of all abilities. Our goal is for every student to succeed, and we will offer personalised guidance to help each individual choose the most appropriate programme of study.**

**To join the Sixth Form, all learners are expected to have a minimum of five GCSEs at Grade C or above. GCSEs, BTECs and the WBQ will all be taken into account when considering applications.**

We offer a range of Level 3 A Level–equivalent qualifications in the Sixth Form, some of which build on Level 2 courses studied at KS4. These include Sports, Public Services, Criminology, Engineering and Medical Science.

Entry requirements differ between subjects, but the minimum requirement for any course is a Grade C at GCSE in that subject. Learners are encouraged to speak directly with subject teachers for specific details.

Some departments may permit learners to begin an AS Level without having taken the subject at GCSE, provided there is clear evidence of ability in a related area.

**Any learner who has not achieved at least a Grade C in English and/or Maths at GCSE will be required to resit the subject in Year 12. Resit lessons and support will be provided.**

## How many subjects will I study at AS Level?

All our Sixth Form students are expected to study a total of **3 AS Level or equivalent qualifications along with the Advanced Skills Bacalaurette Wales.**

To continue with a subject in Year 13, you must have achieved at least an E grade at AS Level. In Year 13 you must be studying a **minimum of 3 A Level or A level equivalency subjects.**

## How do I choose my subjects?

**Already decided on a university course?**
If you have a degree in mind, visit www.ucas.com and use the Search for Courses tool. This will show you which universities offer your chosen course, along with the subject requirements for each one.

**Not sure what to study after Sixth Form?**
Choose subjects you enjoy and feel confident in. Selecting a balanced mix of subjects will help keep your future options open. You can speak with the Head of Sixth Form or your Head of Year 11 for guidance on which subjects complement each other.

**Thinking about applying to Russell Group Universities?**
These universities are highly competitive. Visit www.informedchoices.ac.uk for advice on which subjects are recommended for different degree pathways.

## What help/support and guidance will I get?

**Support and expectations in the Sixth Form**
Most students move through Sixth Form without major issues, but we have strong systems in place to ensure you achieve your best. Your academic progress is reviewed regularly, and we maintain close communication with subject teachers, form tutors, and parents/carers so that support can be provided whenever needed. Attendance is monitored closely by the Head of Sixth Form, who will contact you and your parents/carers if there are any concerns. If at any point your attendance or progress becomes a problem, you may be placed in mentoring, put on a contract, or required to stay on school premises during study periods.

## What help will I get with University Applications?

You will be supported fully through the whole process, whether you are certain about what you want to do or have no idea at all. Applications are carried out electronically and full training and support is given for this. We encourage all students who apply to take advantage of Open Days and other visits, some of which we arrange for you. Help will be supplied with making choices, writing personal statements, preparing for University entrance exams and mock interviews will also be carried out if you wish. Those students applying for medicine or Oxbridge are provided with a wealth of additional support.

## What about Finances?

We fully support students' applications for the Educational Maintenance Allowance and many of our students are entitled to this means tested payment to help them stay on in full-time education. EMA is available for 16-18 year olds living in Wales, who want to continue their education after school leaving age. If you're eligible (it is based on parents'/carers income) you could get £40 a week, paid every two weeks. Guidance/support is given with attendance (high levels are expected!) to ensure you receive regular payments.

## What does the options process look like?

**Autum Term** - Assemblies from Team Leaders
- FREE choice selection of subjects

**Spring Term** - 6th Form + Post 16 Options Fair
- Option Column Selection

**GCSE Results Day** - Apply To 6th Form

# Subject Choices

Full details of all courses can be viewed at:- www.bridgendpathways.co.uk

## Art & Design

You will be encouraged to engage in a wide range of art and design materials and techniques and will be involved in a range of workshops looking at traditional and new media. You will learn a range of art and design disciplines, materials and techniques. This includes ceramic and print work, photography, ICT, painting and drawing. Learners go on to study architecture, graphic design, computer game design, ceramics, illustration, fashion design, surface pattern design and packaging design.

## Biology

Biology gives an insight into how plants and animals (including humans) work and interact. We look at social issues including humans influence on the environment, such as over fishing and ethical considerations raised in genetic engineering and gene therapy. Topics include basic biochemistry and cell organisation; biodiversity and physiology of body systems. Studying biology gives access to various careers in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, nursing and biochemical subjects.

## Business Studies

Develop your understanding of business organisations looking at finance, operations management, marketing and the business environment. Learn about the important role played by small businesses in the economy and the opportunities that exist for entrepreneurs, as well as the importance of established business and not-for-profit organisations in providing goods and services.

## Criminology

During your study of Criminology, a wide range of theories are studied in the course ranging from awareness of different types of crime to the role of the courtroom in administering justice. Criminology is a Level 3 Applied course run by the WJEC. You will consider and analyse issues such as what is the difference between criminal behaviour and deviance and what makes someone a murderer? You will complete two controlled assessments and two external exams across the two years. In year 12 you will study Unit 1: Changing awareness of crime and Unit 2: Criminological Theories. In year 13 you will study Unit 3: Crime Scene to courtroom and Unit 4: Crime and Punishment. An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, police force, social and probation work alongside roles in sociology and psychology

## Chemistry

Learn the language of chemistry, structure of matter and simple reactions, energy, rate and chemistry of carbon compounds. Explore physical, organic and inorganic chemistry. Chemistry is a long established and respected qualification that allows progression into a number of career areas. It is an excellent foundation for further study of chemistry, medicine, pharmacy, pharmacology or other sciences.

## Applied Science BTEC L3

BTEC Level 3 Applied Science is ideal for learners who have an interest in the practical application of science in society. The BTEC course focuses less on traditional exam-based routes and provides a balance between coursework and exam-based assessment. In Year 13 we have an optional unit that will be one of, Astronomy and Space Science and Applications of Organic Chemistry. The Level 3 BTEC provides learners of all abilities a route into many science opportunities in industry or further education.

## Design & Technology

This course allows you to develop your experience in areas such as resistant materials, graphics, textiles technology and product design. You will look at identifying market needs and opportunities for new products, initiating and developing design solutions, making and testing prototypes and realisation and commercial manufacture. This course provides opportunities to go on to study or work in architecture, engineering, medical aid designer, product design degree, teaching, army engineering officer.

## Drama (Offered in collaboration)

Learn practical theatre making and the theoretical understanding of drama and theatre. Develop performing and/or design skills as appropriate to your interests, choose from: sound design, lighting design, set design and / or costume design (including hair and make-up).

## Engineering BTEC L3

BTEC Level 3 Engineering covers a broad variety of roles and it involves the application of scientific principles and practical knowledge to transform ideas and materials into products and systems safely and support them during your lifetime. This qualification has a focus on a broad range of engineering specialist areas. You will study: engineering principles and mathematics, health and safety, teamwork and interpreting and creating computer-aided engineering drawings, design and manufacture of products.

## Electronics (Offered in collaboration)

This course will ensure that you have the electronic and mathematical knowledge and electronic engineering skills to solve problems. This will enable you to appreciate how many problems in society can be tackled by the application of the scientific ideas in the field of electronics using engineering processes. The scope and nature of your study will be coherent and practical. The practical work will allow you to see the theoretical knowledge contained in the specification in action and to gain greater understanding of the knowledge in a practical context.

## English Literature

The study of English Literature allows you to develop an abundance of skills including, but not limited to, communication, critical thinking, creativity, and innovation. It is a highly regarded A level and very rewarding for those dedicate the effort required to succeed. The course requires a great deal of independent reading and so students need to consider this before choosing the course. The course is split into 5 units, 2 of which are studied for external examination in Year 12 and 3 units studied in Year 13.

## Film Studies (Offered in collaboration)

Explore mainstream Hollywood cinema with films taken from different genres, analyse audience response to films. Film Research 7 Creative Projects.

## Geography

Geography is the bridge between the physical and social sciences. It provides broad education and excellent problem solving and analytical skills. Geography offers progression into a diverse range of careers and geography is considered as both a science and an arts subject. It can be studied on its own or in a combination with a very wide range of subjects at degree level in higher education.

## History

During the course you will develop your interest in and enthusiasm for history and an understanding of its intrinsic value and significance. You will have opportunities to develop your understanding of past events and develop the ability to ask questions about the past. During year 12 you will complete a period study looking at REVOLUTION AND NEW IDEAS IN EUROPE c.1780-1881, you will also complete a depth studying looking at THE PRESSURE ON THE MONARCHY AND THE DRIFT TO CIVIL WAR, c.1625-1642. During year 13 you will be studying THE AMERICAN CENTURY c.1890-1990 and CIVIL WAR, COMMONWEALTH AND PROTECTORATE c.1642-1660. You will also complete an independent non-examined assessment focusing on historical interpretations. History can gain you entry into a wide range of careers: television, radio, journalism, the police force, medicine, law, social work, the civil service and politics.

## Health and Social Care and Childcare

The course is designed to develop knowledge and understanding of how to promote and support the Health and Wellbeing and resilience of people in Wales. It looks at initiatives and legislation to enable a healthier Wales. Following on into year 13, there are the options to study the growth and development of children or adults. Health and social care and childcare is the ideal route for a future career in the Health, social care or childcare sector.

## ICT - BTEC L3

Equivalent to 1 A level, this qualification is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information, alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

## Law (Offered in collaboration)

You will develop and understanding of the English legal system in a range of units such as: The Common Law System, Legal Values, Human Rights and Morality, the Criminal and Civil Process, Access to Justice and the European Union and much more.

## Mathematics

A Level Mathematics involves the study of Pure Mathematics as well as Mechanics and Statistics. It encourages learners to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, mathematics and to recognise its importance in their own lives and to society.

## Further Mathematics

A Level Further Mathematics is designed to broaden and deepen the mathematical knowledge and skills developed when studying A Level Mathematics. It may be studied alongside or after taking A Level Mathematics and provides a stimulating experience for those who enjoy the subject.

## Media Studies

The Media Studies A Level is an amazing opportunity to learn about what role the media plays in contemporary culture, society and politics. You will gain a deep understanding of how to apply theory, a skill that is well-recognised by universities, all whilst exploring topics like advertising music, news in an online age, contemporary film and also creating your own exciting media productions. Media Studies will often be seen as its own subject at university as well as being part of joint honours degrees. This is an exciting and unique opportunity to study a modern subject in a modern environment. If you require any further information about this course please contact: *joshua.simpson@ccyd.org.uk*

## Music BTEC L3

This course offers learners the opportunity to develop their practical musicianship skills through a variety of solo and ensemble tasks and workshops. With over 20 units to choose from, the course content is very flexible, allowing us to accommodate learners' strengths and preferred musical tastes. All assessments are tailor-made to suit each cohort and aim to develop learners' musical awareness through practical work, written assessment and self-evaluation. The course is continually assessed over a two year period, with no external examination. All work is formally assessed and graded and samples of learners' work are examined annually by an external moderator. The BTEC Level 3 course serves as an ideal stepping stone to further education at college or university and has become a firmly recognised and well-respected qualification. It gives learners the opportunity to develop individual musicianship and technique, whilst developing a wide range of employability skills including communication, teamwork, problem solving, organisation, resilience and learning for life.

## Physics

At AS level, you will learn about motion, energy, matter, electricity and light. At A2 level you will also explore oscillations and nuclei along with one optional unit such as alternating currents, medical physics, the physics of sport or energy and the environment. A level Physics gives access to various careers in medicine, dentistry, engineering, computing, electronics and the telecommunications industry.

## Psychology

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and of human behaviour. You will learn the 5 main psychological approaches and study classical research from psychologists such as Raine. You will study many different behaviours including criminal behaviour, addiction and bullying. You will also conduct your own psychological research in year 13 and will need to be confident in maths. Studying psychology allows access to various careers in counselling, social work, medicine and education.

## Public Services - BTEC L3

This course is aimed at those looking for a career in the Police, Fire, Ambulance and Prison Service. It is also directed at those interested in the military including the Army, Royal Air Force and Navy. This is a theory based course providing a standard of education equivalent to an AS/A Level and will promote your understanding of citizenship and diversity, government policies, leadership and teamwork as well as looking at the important role that the Public Services carry out in the UK and worldwide.

## Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics offers students at A level the opportunities to engage with fundamental, open ended questions. You will grapple with questions that humanity has explored for thousands of years, while also evaluating the views of some of history's most important philosophers and theologians. You'll develop your own ideas and arguments, and develop your reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. You'll learn through a variety of methods including debates, independent study and textual analysis. Often, you will discuss and explore topics that are controversial and challenging. After two years, you will certainly be a confident, mature, critical thinker with excellent transferable skills that are highly valued by universities and employers.

## Medical Science

Medical Science is the science of dealing with the maintenance of health and the prevention and treatment of diseases. It is for learners who are interested in careers related to healthcare and medical research. Medical scientists are at the forefront of healthcare services, as they are vital in the diagnosis of disease, determining the effectiveness of treatments and searching for new cures.

## Computer Science

In this increasingly technological age, a study of computer science, and particularly how computers are used in the solution of a variety of problems, is not only valuable to the learners but also essential to the future well-being of the country. Computer science integrates well with subjects across the curriculum. It demands both logical discipline and imaginative creativity in the selection and design of algorithms and the writing, testing and debugging of programs; it relies on an understanding of the rules of language at a fundamental level; it encourages an awareness of the management and organisation of computer systems; it extends the learners' horizons beyond the school or college environment in the appreciation of the effects of computer science on society and individuals. For these reasons, computer science is as relevant to a learner studying arts subjects as it is to one studying science subjects.

## Sociology

Sociology allows you the opportunity to develop an understanding of changing British society as well as opportunities to learn about sociological methods and research. The choice of topics can be used to support vocational studies such as health and social care, nursing and social work. It is also a suitable foundation for the study of sociology or a related area of higher education course such as criminology or law. You will be offered a choice of topics that include families, youth culture, the community, education, religion, mass media, crime, politics, health and disability, social divisions and world sociology.

## Sport BTEC L3

The course aims to develop a range of transferable skills as well as knowledge and understanding of Sport. The course covers theoretical elements such as; Anatomy and Physiology, Nutrition, Fitness testing and training, Legal factors and Psychology. There are also various practical elements including; coaching, officiating, leadership, planning events, performance analysis and conducting a range of tests and evaluations. The course is assignment based and the tasks vary from presentations and written reports to video evidence of practical activities. This course provides UCAS points for pupils to continue to further education and helps to prepare students for employment in a range of sport linked vocations for example: Sports Coach, Development Officer, Teacher, Sports Therapist, Personal Trainer, Analyst, Professional Sports Person, Physiotherapist or a Sports Psychologist.

## Welsh

Welsh A level will be offered to all learners. This year, we will be trialling the hybrid model. This means that during your Welsh lessons, you will go to a designated room and log into Microsoft Teams and be taught by two designated teachers online based in different schools. You will be taught online with other learners in other schools so you will not be on your own. You will have mostly online lessons but you will meet the designated teachers each half term and have face to face lessons with them. As well as this, you will have one hour with Miss Winters in your school who will help support you with your A Level studies.

## WJEC Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales

From September 2023 a new qualification called the 'Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales' will be taught in Sixth Forms across Wales. This is a Level 3 qualification which is made up of three units referred to as projects.

These projects are as follows:
Global Community Project (NEA - 25%)
Future Destinations Project (NEA-25%)
Individual Project (NEA - 50%)

This qualification promotes learning both inside and outside of the classroom, providing learners with opportunities to select their own areas of study whilst advancing a range of core and wider skills. This qualification helps learners develop complex skills, attributes and behaviours and provides experiences which enable them to be better prepared for their future destination, whether higher education, apprenticeships, training or employment.

## Note:-

Whilst we endeavour to run as many subjects as possible at CCYD sometimes we are unable to deliver a subject due to low uptake or staffing constraints. This means that the subject can be accessed at one of our collaboration schools during the day time. Transport is provided and coordinated by us.

# What our learners say about 6th form at CCYD

***Daisy Griffiths, Head Learner.***

*Transitioning from Year 11 to Sixth Form exposes you to an entirely new side of education. Not only does an individual enter a very unique academic stage where you learn to mature and adapt to a new environment, but they also learn the value of respect, independence, and most importantly – individuality. As an individual who has always aspired to be a part of Sixth Form, I can confidently confirm that it is utterly exceptional. Even prior to my Sixth Form journey, the support was nothing short of amazing throughout the A-level decision making process. Deciding on 3 subjects to study for 2 years is not straightforward, but with the efforts made by the wonderful staff, it made everything that much easier. Some of these include: open evenings, choices assemblies, taster days and much more, it made the process entirely uncomplicated and even enjoyable. Even as I enter into my second year at Sixth Form, I can comfortably vouch that this support has been maintained and even elevated throughout. The professional relationships that a student will develop with their subject teachers are entirely unique and they truly become the individuals that you can lean on and learn from. The community at CCYD is second to none. From our sporting teams to our wonderful on-stage performers, we truly are a community of scope and success. As a community, we embrace creativity, academic excellence, resilience and ambition. These are values held highly at our school, so naturally our teachers at CCYD reflect the standards and ethos that they encourage their pupils to adopt every single day. As a school community, we truly live up to our motto of "Taking Pride."*

***Cariad Evans, Head Learner.***

*Deciding whether to stay on at school or go to college is an important decision. By choosing to stay at CCYD for the next two years, you will have access to unwavering support from teachers and pastoral leaders in a wide range of ways whether it be help with university applications or classwork. The typically smaller class sizes means that the sixth form feels more like a community and allows for more assistance and excellent guidance. If you do decide to attend sixth form at CCYD you will be given the opportunity to apply to be a part of the headteam. This is an incredibly valuable experience and you will be able to plan major events within the school year such as fundraisers for Children In Need and the Year 13 prom in the summer. Planning such events and being a part of the head team as a whole, will afford you with the ability to develop a wide range of skills and invaluable experience to put in your UCAS and future job applications. While the transition between GCSE and A level can be challenging, it is also highly rewarding as you will be given the opportunity to study your favourite subjects in much more depth and detail. If you choose to continue your studies at our school you will work in an environment which is inspiring and nurturing as you discover more about yourself and topics that you are passionate about.*

At CCYD, our Head Team are outstanding role models who lead with enthusiasm, embody our school values, and help drive our school forward. They are a credit to both CCYD and the wider community.

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