

Welsh Baccalaureate

What is the Welsh Baccalaureate?

Everyone will be taking the Welsh Baccalaureate course in Year 10. The course adds a new dimension to your other subjects and courses. It encourages you to be more independent and adds 'real life' experiences to your school life and studies.

The qualification proves you have developed the Key Skills considered important by employers and universities. It also shows you have furthered your personal and social education, undertaken individual research, gained work experience and participated in a community project.

The Welsh Baccalaureate combines interesting experiences and projects that help you to develop as an individual, and will equip you for your next steps – for work, for sixth form and later on for university or college and ultimately for life as an adult.

What do I have to do to get the qualification?

The Welsh Baccalaureate works alongside your other qualifications. This means some parts of the Welsh Baccalaureate course will be covered in topics you will already be studying with some of your other subjects.

The five components of the Core Programme are:

- **Key Skills** – the Key Skills are Communication, Application of Number, ICT, Working With Others, Problem Solving and Improving Own Learning and Performance. You develop these through your Options and the four components below.
- **Wales, Europe and the World** – your chance to learn more about Wales and its relationship with Europe and the world. This includes a language module at a level suitable for you.
- **Work-Related Education** – includes work experience and taking part in a team enterprise activity to help you understand how businesses work.
- **Personal and Social Education** – helps you explore issues in the modern world: family, health, relationships, citizenship and sustainable development. It also includes an activity in the local community.
- **Individual Investigation** – an opportunity for you to carry out personal research into an area of interest from your optional studies or the Core programme.

Will it mean more exams?

There is no Welsh Baccalaureate 'examination' over and above the examinations for your other option subjects. You compile evidence of your competency in the Key Skills and submit it for assessment.

You also present an Individual Investigation on an aspect of the Core (Wales, Europe and the World; Personal and Social Education; or Work-related Education) which interests you. This develops your skills in collecting information, analysing it and presenting it in a meaningful way.

If you would like more information about the Welsh Baccalaureate course you can speak to:

Mrs C Hawke-Jones in L10

Mr S Cutler in the Sixth Form Careers Office

You can also look on the official Welsh Baccalaureate web site: www.wbq.org.uk