



Wednesday 10th Sept 2025
Cardiff High School

Welcome to Middle School
Guide



Road map of the evening

- **How to be successful in middle school**
- **Wellbeing support**
- **GCSE Information**
- **Communication**



How to be successful in Middle School





What makes an effective GCSE student?



Present and Engaged

- Listens actively and contributes in lessons.
- Arrives on time, prepared with books, equipment and completed homework.

Respects the Learning Environment

- Respects teachers and classmates – doesn't disrupt learning or distract others.
- Follows instructions first time, contributing to a positive environment.

Takes Responsibility

- Asks for help when needed.
- Catches up on work if lessons are missed.

Organised and Proactive

- Keeps class work and booklets tidy.
- Looks at Class Charts and Google Classroom for homework and useful resources.
- Gets started quickly on tasks and stays on task in lessons.

Growth-mindset

- Views mistakes as a chance to improve, not a sign of failure.
- Acts upon feedback.
- Perseveres through tricky topics.

Curious

- Shows genuine interest in chosen subjects.
- Asks questions to deepen understanding.



How can parents and carers help?

POSITIVE START TO THE DAY

The night before

Encourage your child to pack their school bag and lay out uniform each evening.

Sleep Habits

Establish a healthy sleep routine with a sensible bedtime.

Breakfast

Try to ensure your child has a healthy breakfast to provide them with essential energy to start the school day. The canteen is open from 8am if pupils need to have breakfast in school.

STAY INFORMED

Class Charts

Check Class Charts regularly to stay informed of your child's day-to-day habits and homework assignments.

Parent Pay

Keep up to date with key notices and parental letters.

Attend information and progress evenings

These will give you support and guidance on your child's progress.

HOMWORK

Study space

Set up a suitable space for homework in a quiet area of the home.

Routines

Establish a good slot for evening homework, that fits around family activities but is not right after school or right before bed. Plan ahead!

Support

Encourage your child to use class resources/ Google Classroom or to ask for help.



What support is available?



During morning registration, form tutors are on hand to help with general questions or worries.



Subject teachers are available for help with lesson content.



The school uses Google Classroom and Class Charts to post homework assignments, deadlines and resources for learning and revision.



The Achievement Leader and Wellbeing and Achievement Officer can help with pastoral issues.



Nurture and school counselling are available for those who need additional wellbeing support. We also support our Young Carers.



The Learning Support Department can help with specific learning needs.

We also have links to a Careers Advisor.



Specific Wellbeing Resource Links

Click each of the hyperlinks below to access key websites and useful resources for support.



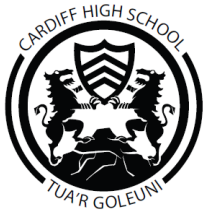
[The
Essential
Parents'
Guide to
Teen
Mental
Health](#)



[Young
Minds](#)



[Top Tips for
supporting
your child
through GCSEs](#)



FAQs



What will my child study?

What is NEA?

What are tiers of entry?

How do you assess achievement and progress?

How will I know how my child is doing as the year goes on?

How will I know if my child is working to the best of their ability?

What information is in an interim report?

What information is in a full report?



What do pupils need to do to achieve a place in Cardiff High Sixth Form?





What will my child study?

GCSEs

Mathematics (Double Award)

English (Double Award)

Science (Double Award)

Welsh

4 Option Subjects

Non-Examined Subjects

Games

PSE and Religious Education

Health and Wellbeing (form time)



What is NEA?

NEA stands for **Non Examined Assessment** and this is the term for what was previously referred to as **coursework** or **controlled assessment**.

These are assignments which take place under supervised conditions and contribute to final GCSE grades. While NEAs are carried out in school under classroom supervision, background and preparation work still needs to be done at home.

The majority of GCSE subjects will have an element of NEA and these will be completed throughout year 10 and 11 so it is important that pupils are in all of their lessons.



What are tiers of entry?

Some subjects are taught in tiers - foundation or higher.

Higher tier courses generally allow access to higher grades, however these courses are generally more demanding and cover more content.

The decision regarding which tier a student follows is made by the school on the basis of which course would afford the student the best learning experience and outcome.

It is worth remembering that studying higher tier does not always equate to the attainment of higher grades. For example it is possible that a student studying foundation tier may attain a C grade, but had they studied higher, they may have achieved a D grade.



How do you assess achievement and progress?

Your child's progress will be guided by teachers as they continuously check their understanding, give feedback and provide opportunities to act on this feedback.

Each department has their own bespoke approach to assessment and feedback; it is a formative process and a dialogue between learners and their teachers.

Feedback will be in a combination of verbal, written and digital format. It enables pupils to reflect on a draft, a test or a piece of work and through constructive targets and suggestions, drive their understanding forward and make improvements.

Successful feedback requires input from learners as they re-draft, adapt or alter their thinking following it.



How will I know how my child is doing as the year goes on?

The change from year 9 to GCSE is challenging. In some cases, pupils are taking up new subjects; they are undertaking NEA for the first time; they are having to become more independent and to develop new skills, and ultimately they are preparing to sit GCSE examinations.

This academic pressure, together with all the other challenges and worries which are integral parts of every teenager's life, means that this can be a pressured time for both pupils and parents.

You will naturally be concerned that your child is performing to the very best of their ability and will want to know about their potential, their progress and their attitude to learning.



How will I know how my child is doing as the year goes on?

In order to support you and your child through this crucial first year of GCSE study, we provide a number of reports to parents:-

- An interim report in the first half term to highlight how they are settling into their subjects.**
- Parents and carers evening in January.**
- A full report in March.**



How will I know if my child is working to the best of their ability?

There is significant evidence that attainment at GCSE and beyond is strongly linked to prior attainment and this type of analysis can provide us with an idea of what we might reasonably expect of a pupil. This is not an estimate for a particular student - but indications of typical progress.

In the Spring Term of year 10 teaching staff will use this information together with their professional judgement and understanding of each individual student in order to set challenging, aspirational grade targets.



How will I know if my child is working to the best of their ability?

- Target grades are the grades we believe students might achieve by the end of year 11 *should they adopt a positive attitude to their learning, act on the advice offered by their subject teachers and take advantage of all the opportunities made available to them.*
- Targets are not fixed and may be updated during the two years.
- Via parents' evenings and reports throughout years 10 and 11, teaching staff will inform you how your son or daughter is progressing towards their target.



What information is in an interim report?

Interim reports are designed to provide a snapshot of current Conduct and Effort and will possibly serve to initiate discussion and intervention where necessary.

An interim report will provide assessment about a student's attitude to learning. For each subject, a pupil will be awarded a score for their Conduct and Effort according to the same criteria that was used in years 7-9.

We seek to encourage students to adopt a positive and resilient attitude to schools. In order to secure success and thrive, students need to be consistently ready and willing to learn. High levels of effort, participation and commitment will result in strong outcomes and valuable learning experiences.



What information is in an interim report?

	Conduct	Effort
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always very polite and respectful to everyone, teachers, visitors and other pupils Behaves very well throughout all lessons Always works very well, both individually and with others Supportive of other people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always tries their very best, even if they find something difficult Always concentrates very well throughout all lessons Always contributes very positively to activities Always shows that they want to do well Always shows that they care about their work
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally polite and respectful to everyone, teachers, visitors and other pupils Behaves well for nearly all lessons Works well both individually and with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally tries their best, even if they find something difficult Concentrates well throughout nearly all lessons Contributes positively to most activities Shows that they want to do well in nearly all lessons Shows that they care about their work in nearly all lessons
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually polite and respectful to others Usually behaves well, but occasionally needs reminding of the rules Usually works well both individually and with others, but occasionally needs reminding to follow instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually tries their best, but can be put off if they find something difficult Usually concentrates well, but occasionally needs reminding to focus Usually contributes to activities, but occasionally needs prompting to get involved Usually shows that they want to do well, but occasionally lacks motivation Usually shows that they care about their work, but occasionally needs reminding to take more pride in it
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes needs reminding to be respectful Sometimes needs reminding of the rules about behaviour Sometimes needs reminding to follow instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes tries their best Sometimes needs reminding to focus Sometimes contributes to activities Sometimes shows that they want to do well Sometimes shows that they care about their work
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Often needs reminding to be respectful Often needs reminding of the rules about behaviour Often need reminding to follow instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely tries their best and is often put off if they find something difficult Rarely concentrates well and often needs reminding to focus Rarely contributes to activities Rarely shows that they want to do well Rarely shows that they care about their work



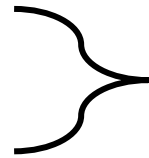
What information is in a full report?

A full report contains attitude to learning scores for Conduct and Effort, and much more subject specific detail about attainment, progress and areas for improvement.

Specifically:

Overall GCSE Target Grade

A Predicted Fine Grade



See following slides for details

Comments and Areas for Improvement

Subject specific comments about progress, areas of strength and also advice about how the pupil can make further progress in the future.



What information is in a full report?

Overall GCSE Target Grade

This represents an aspirational, challenging target for pupils to work towards.

Should they apply themselves fully and act upon all the guidance and advice offered, this is the grade we would hope they might eventually achieve, when they sit their exams at the end of year 11.

The target is not fixed, it could change over the course of years 10 and 11.



What information is in a full report?

A Predicted Fine Grade

This represents the grade the teacher believes this pupil will achieve when they sit their exams at the end of year 11, if they continue to work in the same way and make the same sort of progress as they are doing at the time of writing the report.

Teachers will use a variety of evidence to arrive at this grade. This will include the standard of the students' work, both during lessons and for homework assignments. In addition, teachers will draw evidence from the student's performance in any relevant assessments, NEA or exams completed to date.



What information is in a full report?

A Predicted Fine Grade

In order to provide some extra detail, these grades are divided into three to give an indication of how secure this predicted grade is at the time of writing. For example:-

B1	<i>The student is very secure in going on to achieve a B grade and there is scope for them to possibly achieve an A</i>
B2	<i>The student is reasonably secure in going on to achieve a B grade</i>
B3	<i>The student is demonstrating aspects of B grade potential, however, this prediction is not currently secure and there is a possibility of their grade dropping to a C</i>



What information is in a full report?

A Predicted Fine Grade

If the Target Grade and Predicted Fine Grade are similar, this suggests that the teacher believes that the student is on the **right path** and is likely to achieve this target as long as they **keep working in the same way**.

Where there is a gap between the Target Grade and the Predicted Fine Grade, this shows that the teacher believes that the student is capable of achieving the higher target, but that the student's current performance is not in line with this.

Something needs to change in order for them to achieve their target.



What do pupils need to do to achieve a place in Cardiff High sixth form?

The current academic entry requirement for 6th form study is a minimum of 5 GCSE qualifications at grade C or above. This criteria is subject to change and is reviewed annually.

For some subjects there may be specific requirements e.g. having studied the Higher Tier GCSE course.

In order to study a subject in year 12, students must have achieved a minimum of a C grade in the subject if it was studied at GCSE. Further information and advice about subject requirements will be available at the sixth form open evening which takes place in the Autumn Term of year 11.

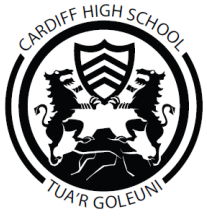


What do pupils need to do to achieve a place in Cardiff High sixth form?

Entry to the 6th form is not automatic, but is an application process.

Attaining a place is dependent on pupils having consistently demonstrated high standards of attitude, conduct, attendance and punctuality whilst in years 10 and 11.

Pupils who fail to uphold these standards may be placed on a targeted contract during year 11 and will be at risk of not securing a place in the sixth form and/or not being permitted to attend the year 11 Prom.



GCSE Information



New GCSEs – Key Information

The screenshot shows the WJEC website with a teal header. The main content area has a dark blue background with the title "National Qualifications: GCSEs" in white. Below the title, it states: "From September 2025, 14 to 16-year-olds in Wales will be able to take new GCSEs in a range of academic, creative and technical subjects." To the right of this text is a circular logo made of colorful dots. At the bottom, a white box contains the text: "What and how young people in Wales learn is changing with the introduction of the new Curriculum for Wales. Consequently, GCSEs in Wales are changing too."

A green banner with the text "WJEC specifications now available" in bold. Below it, it says: "WJEC, the sole provider for GCSEs in Wales, has published subject specifications for Wave 1 GCSEs being taught in schools from September 2025." On the right side of the banner is a dark blue button with the text "Access the specifications" and a white arrow pointing to the right.

[WJEC website link](#)

The screenshot shows a news article on the WJEC website. The header includes the WJEC logo and navigation links like "Cymraeg", "Teach in England?", "About Us", "Useful Contacts", "Examine with us", and "Portal". The article title is "First wave of Made-for-Wales qualifications approved". The main image shows a group of diverse students in school uniforms. The article text includes: "Following a period of intense qualification development, we are delighted to announce that our specifications for the first wave of Made-for-Wales GCSEs and related qualifications have been approved by Qualifications Wales. These specifications are available to teach from September 2025." It also features a quote from Ian Morgan, WJEC's Chief Executive, and a list of 17 approved qualifications.

- GCSE Art and Design
- GCSE Business
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Core Cymraeg
- GCSE Cymraeg Language and Literature (Single and Double Award)
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE English Language and Literature (Single and Double Award)
- GCSE Food and Nutrition
- GCSE French
- GCSE Geography
- GCSE German
- GCSE History*
- GCSE Mathematics and Numeracy (Double Award)
- GCSE Music
- GCSE Religious Studies
- GCSE Spanish
- Level 2 Additional Core Cymraeg



New GCSEs – Key Information

What are the key changes to the new GCSEs?

Changes to the new GCSEs have been made on a subject-by-subject basis. As the qualifications regulator in Wales, we may make tweaks to GCSEs outside of any widespread reform in order to ensure they remain accurate and relevant to learners and the world we live in. As a result, some GCSEs have seen less change than others.

Teachers and learners can expect to see the following changes across the GCSEs:

- a move from linear to unitised assessment, or vice-versa
- an increase in non-exam assessment for some subjects
- a move to digital examination or on-screen assessment where relevant
- a change in the number of units within the GCSE





What does that mean for this year group?

Wave 1 Subjects New GCSEs -First Teaching From September 2025

English Language & Literature
Double Award

Maths & Numeracy
Double Award

Core Cymraeg

Art & Design

Business

Computer Science

Drama

French

Geography

Music

Religious Studies

Wave 2 Subjects September 2025 - Last Cohort of Existing Specifications

Double Award Science
Triple Science

Design and Technology

Digital Technology

History

Physical Education

Additional Maths



Subject Specific Assessment

Subject	Assessment Detail	NEA	Y10 External Exams	Y11 External Exams	
NEW GCSE English Literature and English Language GCSE Double Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Unit 1 - Written Examination (15%)Unit 2 - 2 x NEA tasks (20%) - 1 x written/1 x Oracy (audio-visual recording)Unit 3 - 2 x NEA tasks (20%) - 1 x written/1 x Oracy (audio-visual recording)Unit 4b - Written Examination (20%)Unit 5 - 2 x NEA tasks (20%) - 1 x written/1 x Oracy (audio-visual recording)Unit 6 - Written Examination (20%)Units 1, 2, 3, 4b, 5, 6 - Examinations marked in Year 10, 11	6 tasks mapped out throughout Y10 and Y11	Summer 26 Unit 1 Exam	Summer 27 Unit 4 Exam Unit 6 Exam	
NEW GCSE Mathematics & Numeracy Double Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3 papersUnit 1Unit 2Unit 3		Summer 26	Autumn 26 Unit 2 Exam Summer 27 Unit 3 Exam	
Triple Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Three in 4HLSL	NEW GCSE Core Cymraeg <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unit 1 - Oral Exam (25%)Unit 2 - Oral Exam (25%)Unit 3 - Written Exam (25%)Unit 4 - Written Exam (25%)	NEA	Y10 External Exams	Y11 External Exams
Double Award Science		NEW GCSE Art & Design <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unit 1 - Portfolio 60% final gradeUnit 2 - Externally Set Assignment 40% final grade	Preparation for oral exams throughout Y10 & Y11		Oct/Nov 26 Unit 1 Exam Feb 27 Unit 2 Exam Summer 27 Unit 3 Exam Unit 4 Exam
		NEW GCSE Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unit 1 - Written Exam 30%Unit 2 - NEA (15%)Unit 3 - Written Exam (30%)Unit 4 - NEA (25%)	Opening NEA throughout Y10 & Y11		Dec 26 Unit 1 Submission Spring 27 Unit 2 Exam
		NEW GCSE Computer Science <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unit 1 - Digital Exam (50%)Unit 2 - On-screen examination based on a pre-released brief (50%)	Unit 2 NEA in Y10 & Unit 4 NEA in Y11	Summer 26 Unit 1 Exam	Summer 27 Unit 3 Exam
		Design & Technology (DBT) Product Design <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unit 1 Written Exams (50%)Unit 2 NEA Project (50%)	Opening Unit 2 NEA from Spring 26 to March 2027 <td></td> <td>Summer 27 Unit 1 Exam Unit 2 Exam</td>		Summer 27 Unit 1 Exam Unit 2 Exam
		NEW GCSE Drama <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unit 1 - Practical Performance NEA (60%)Unit 2 - Practical Performance NEA (20%)Unit 3 - On-screen examination (20%)	Opening NEA throughout Y10 & Y11	Summer 27 Unit 1 Exam	Summer 27 Unit 3 Exam

Subject	Assessment Detail	NEA	Y10 External Exams	Y11 External Exams
NEW GCSE English Literature and English Language GCSE Double Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Written Examination (15%) Unit 2 - 2 x NEA tasks (10%) - 1 x written/1 x Oracy (audio-visual recording) Unit 3 - 2 x NEA tasks (10%) - 1 x written/1 x Oracy (audio-visual recording) Unit 4b - Written Examination (20%) Unit 5 - 2 x NEA tasks (20%) - 1 x written/1 x Oracy (audio-visual recording) Unit 6 - Written Examination (25%) Units 1, 2 and 3 must be completed in Year 10. Units 4b, 5 and 6 must be completed in Year 11. 	6 tasks mapped out throughout Y10 and Y11	<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 1 Exam	<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 4 Exam Unit 6 Exam
NEW GCSE Mathematics & Numeracy Double Award	3 compulsory written exam papers; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 (30%) Unit 2 (30%) Unit 3 (40%) 		<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 1 Exam	<u>Autumn 26</u> Unit 2 Exam <u>Summer 27</u> Unit 3 Exam
Triple Science	Three Separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry & Physics over two years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In each science there will be 2 separate module exams (45% each) In each science there will be a Practical Assessment (10%) Higher Tier - grades available are A* to D Foundation Tier - grades available are C to G 		<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 1 Biology Exam Unit 1 Chem Exam Unit 1 Physics Exam	<u>Jan/Feb 27</u> - Practical Unit 3 Exam <u>Summer 27</u> Unit 2 Biol Exam Unit 2 Chem Exam Unit 2 Phys Exam
Double Award Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two GCSEs in Science to be done over the two years of KS4 4 topic areas - Biology, Chemistry, Physics and How Science Works Higher Tier - grades available are A* to D: Foundation Tier - grades available are C to G (Tiers can be mixed) Exams for Biology 1, Chemistry 1 and Physics 1 are completed in Y10 Practical Assessments and Exams for Biology 2, Chemistry 2 and Physics 2 are completed in Y11 Combined score gives pupils 2 GCSEs in Science awarded at the end of Y11 No GCSE qualification is available at the end of year 10 		<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 1 Biol 1 Exam Unit 2 Chem 1 Exam Unit 3 Phys 1 Exam	<u>Jan/Feb 27</u> - Practical Unit 7 <u>Summer 27</u> Unit 4 Biol Exam Unit 5 Chem Exam Unit 6 Phys Exam

Subject	Assessment Detail	NEA	Y10 External Exams	Y11 External Exams
NEW GCSE Core Cymraeg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 – Oral Exam (25%) Unit 2 – Oral Exam (25%) Unit 3 – Written Exam (25%) Unit 4 – Written Exam (25%) 	Preparation for oral exams throughout Y10 & Y11		<u>Oct/Nov 26</u> Unit 1 Exam <u>Feb 27</u> Unit 2 Exam <u>Summer 27</u> Unit 3 Exam Unit 4 Exam
NEW GCSE Art & Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Portfolio 60% final grade Unit 2 - Externally Set Assignment 40% final grade 	Ongoing NEA throughout Y10 & Y11		<u>Dec 26</u> Unit 1 Submission <u>Spring 27</u> Unit 2 Exam
NEW GCSE Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Written Exam 30% Unit 2 - NEA (15%) Unit 3 - Written Exam (30%) Unit 4 - NEA (25%) 	Unit 2 NEA in Y10 & Unit 4 NEA in Y11	<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 1 Exam	<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 3 Exam
NEW GCSE Computer Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 – Digital Exam (50%) Unit 2 - On-screen examination based on a pre-released brief (50%) 			<u>Summer 27</u> Units 1 Exam Unit 2 Exam
Design & Technology (D&T) Product Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 Written Exam (50%) Unit 2 NEA Project (50%) 	Ongoing Unit 2 NEA from Spring 26 to March 2027		<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 1 Exam
NEW GCSE Drama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Practical Performance NEA (40%) Unit 2 - Practical Performance NEA (30%) Unit 3 - On-screen examination (30%) 	Ongoing NEA throughout Y10 & Y11		<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 3 Exam

Subject	Assessment Detail	NEA	Y10 External Exams	Y11 External Exams
NEW GCSE French	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Oracy (30%) Unit 2 - NEA - Reading and Writing (15%) Unit 3 – Listening Exam (20%) Unit 4 - Reading and Writing Exam (35%) 	<u>Spring & Summer 27</u> Unit 1 Unit 2		<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 3 Exam Unit 4 Exam
NEW GCSE Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Exam (30%) Unit 2 - Fieldwork NEA (25%) Unit 3 - Exam (30%) Unit 4 - DME NEA (15%) 	<u>Autumn 25</u> Unit 2- Fieldwork <u>Autumn 26</u> Unit 4	<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 1 Exam	<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 3 Exam
Hist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 – Exam (25%) Unit 2 - Exam (25%) Unit 3 - Exam (30%) Unit 4 - NEA (20%) 	Ongoing NEA Unit 4 throughout Y10 & Y11	<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 2 Exam	<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 1 Exam Unit 3 Exam
Digital Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 -On Screen Exam (40%) Unit 2 - NEA (40%) Unit 3 - NEA (20%) 	Ongoing NEA Unit 2 &3 throughout Y10 & Y11		<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 1 Exam
NEW GCSE Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Performing NEA (32.5%) Unit 2 - Composing NEA (32.5%) Unit 3 - Appraising Digital Exam (35%) 	Summer 26 – Spring 27 Units 1 & 2 NEA	<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 1 NEA Performance	<u>Autumn 27</u> Unit 1 NEA Performance <u>Summer 27</u> Unit 3 Exam

Subject	Assessment Detail	NEA	Y10 External Exams	Y11 External Exams
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 - Theory Exam (50%) • Unit 2 - Practical NEA (50%): Learners will be assessed as a performer in three different activities. One as a performer in an individual sport, one team sport and one other (individual or team). One of the activities will be a major activity which will have a personal fitness programme (PFP) linked to the activity <p>GCSE pupils are expected to attend extra-curricular clubs and participate regularly in their assessed activities .</p>	Ongoing NEA Units 2 &3 throughout Y10 & Y11		<p><u>Jan/Feb 27</u> Practical NEA Moderation & Marks Submitted</p> <p><u>Summer 27</u> Unit 1 Exam</p>
NEW GCSE RS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 - Written exam (30%) • Unit 2 - NEA (20%) • Unit 3 - Written Exam (30%) • Unit 4 - NEA (20%) 	Ongoing NEA Units 2 &4 throughout Y10 & Y11	<u>Summer 26</u> Unit 1 Exam	<u>Summer 27</u> Unit 3 Exam

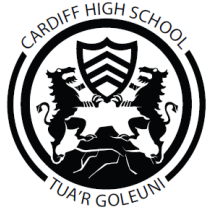


Find your subjects...

Be clear on how they are assessed...

Ask questions.

Subject	Assessment Detail	NEA	Y10 External Exams	Y11 External Exams
NEW GCSE English Literature and English Language GCSE Double Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Written Examination (15%) Unit 2 - 2 x NEA tasks (10%) - 1 x written, 1 x audio Unit 3 - 2 x NEA tasks (10%) - 1 x written, 1 x audio Unit 4b - Written Examination (20%) Unit 5 - 2 x NEA tasks (20%) - 1 x written, 1 x audio Unit 6 - Written Examination (25%) Units 1, 2 and 3 must be completed in Year 10 Units 4b, 5 and 6 must be completed in Year 11 			
NEW GCSE Mathematics & Numeracy Double Award	3 compulsory written exam papers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 (30%) Unit 2 (30%) Unit 3 (40%) 			
Triple Science	Three Separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry & Physics. In each science there will be 2 separate written exams. In each science there will be a Practical Assessment. Higher Tier - grades available are A* to E. Foundation Tier - grades available are E to G.			
Double Award Science	Two GCSEs in Science to be done over 4 topic areas - Biology, Chemistry, Physics & Earth Science. Higher Tier - grades available are A* to E. Foundation Tier - grades available are E to G. Exams for Biology 1, Chemistry 1 and Physics 1 are completed in Year 10. Combined score gives pupils 2 GCSEs. No GCSE qualification is available at the end of Year 11.			
NEW GCSE Core Cymraeg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Oral Exam (25%) Unit 2 - Oral Exam (25%) Unit 3 - Written Exam (25%) Unit 4 - Written Exam (25%) 	Preparation for oral exams		Oct/Nov 26 Unit 1 Exam Feb 27 Unit 2 Exam
NEW GCSE Art & Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Portfolio 60% Unit 2 - Externally Set Task 40% 			
NEW GCSE Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Written Exam (30%) Unit 2 - NEA (15%) Unit 3 - Written Exam (30%) Unit 4 - NEA (25%) 			
NEW GCSE Computer Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Digital Exam (50%) Unit 2 - On-screen exam (50%) 			
Design & Technology (D&T) Product Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 Written Exam (50%) Unit 2 NEA Project (50%) 			
NEW GCSE Drama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Practical Performance (30%) Unit 2 - Practical Performance (30%) Unit 3 - On-screen exam (40%) 			
NEW GCSE French	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Oracy (30%) Unit 2 - NEA - Reading and Writing (15%) Unit 3 - Listening Exam (20%) Unit 4 - Reading and Writing Exam (35%) 			Spring & Summer 27 Unit 1 Unit 2
NEW GCSE Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Exam (30%) Unit 2 - Fieldwork NEA (25%) Unit 3 - Exam (30%) Unit 4 - DME NEA (15%) 			Autumn 25 Unit 2 - Fieldwork NEA Summer 26 Unit 1 Exam
Hist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Exam (25%) Unit 2 - Exam (25%) Unit 3 - Exam (30%) Unit 4 - NEA (20%) 			
Digital Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - On-Screen Exam (30%) Unit 2 - NEA (40%) Unit 3 - NEA (20%) 			
NEW GCSE Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Performing NEA (30%) Unit 2 - Composing NEA (30%) Unit 3 - Appraising Digital Music (40%) 			
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Theory Exam (50%) Unit 2 - Practical NEA (50%): Learners will be assessed as a performer in three different activities. One as a performer in an individual sport, one as a performer in a team sport and one other (individual or team). One of the activities will be a major activity which will have a personal fitness programme (PFP) linked to the activity. GCSE pupils are expected to attend extra-curricular clubs and participate regularly in their assessed activities. 	Ongoing NEA Units 2 & 3 throughout Y10 & Y11		
NEW GCSE RS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 - Written exam (30%) Unit 2 - NEA (20%) Unit 3 - Written Exam (30%) Unit 4 - NEA (20%) 	Ongoing NEA Units 2 & 4 throughout Y10 & Y11		Summer 26 Unit 1 Exam Summer 27 Unit 3 Exam



Middle School Timeline



Timeline: Year 10 2025-26

Year 10

September - Welcome to Middle School: Introduction to GCSE years

October - Interim Report: How are things going?

January - Parents and Carers Evening

March - Exam Information Evening: Key information about the forthcoming exams and plans for revision

March - Full Reports

May/June - External GCSE Examinations in some subjects

August - Results Day: These results together with results from any internal assessments and teacher feedback will all be analysed to ensure that the best support and challenge processes are put in place for every pupil at the start of year 11.



Timeline: Year 11 2026-27

Year 11

September - Year 11 are closely monitored at the start of their final year in GCSE. Intervention strategies are implemented where appropriate.

October - Parents and Carers Evening

October / November - Sixth form Open Evening and application process

January - Full Reports

January/Feb - Some subjects practical exams and moderation

March - Exam Information Evening

May - Start of GCSE Examinations and CHS Revision Programme

August - Results Day and Sixth Form Registration



Timeline: Other Parental Engagement Events 2025-26

October - Learning and Teaching and Curriculum

December - Wellbeing and Achievement

January - Supporting Learning and Skills

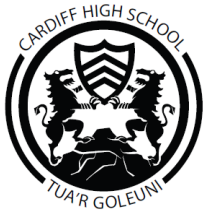
Further information about these events will be made available nearer the time.





Supporting your Child's Wellbeing





Communication



Communication

www.cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk

Please sign up for ParentPay to get instant updates of important school information and details about school events.



Google Classroom will be used by teachers to share resources, homeworks and key information.



Cardiff High School

Llandennis Road

Cardiff

CF23 6WG



Telephone:

029 20 757 741



Follow CHS and also individual teachers, departments and groups on X

Search for **@officialCHS**





Useful Contacts



Ms L Waters

**Head of Middle School
(Years 10 and 11)**

WatersL67@hwbcymru.net



Mrs K Price

**Achievement Leader
for Year 10**

PriceK247@hwbcymru.net



Mr S. Jones

**Wellbeing Officer for
Middle School**

JonesS6249@cardiffhigh.
cardiff.sch.uk



Mrs K Holmes

Attendance Officer

HolmesK46@hwbcymru.
net



Useful Contacts



Mrs A Yarrow

**Deputy Headteacher:
Wellbeing and
Achievement**

YarrowA@hwbcymru.net



Mrs M Bennett

**Assistant
Headteacher:
Wellbeing and
Achievement**

**BennettM15@hwbcymru.
net**



Miss N O'Neil

Headteacher's PA

OneilN6@hwbcymru.net



Mrs M Dolan

**Additional Learning
Needs Coordinator**

DolanM8@hwbcymru.net



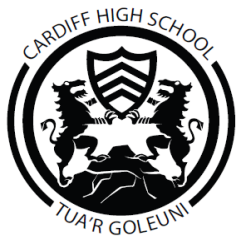
Communication: Departments

English	Ms. N. Mason (MasonN37@hwbcymru.net)
Maths	Mr. J. Nicol (NicolJ@hwbcymru.net)
Science	Ms. S. Isaac (IsaacS171@hwbcymru.net)
Biology	Mrs. C. Grennan (GrennanC1@hwbcymru.net)
Chemistry	Mrs. C. Williams (WilliamsC370913@hwbcymru.net)
Physics	Miss. R. Best (BestR19@hwbcymru.net)
Art	Mrs. H. Penny (PennyH10@hwbcymru.net)
Business	Mr. A. Williams (WilliamsA2108@hwbcymru.net)
Computer Science	Ms. A. Saif (SaifA16@hwbcymru.net)
Design Technology	Mr. L. Powell (PowellL356@hwbcymru.net)



Communication: Departments

Digital Technology	Mr. G. Bills (BillsG1@hwbcymru.net)
Drama	Mrs. H Todd (ToddH13@hwbcymru.net)
French	Ms A. Hales (HalesA4@hwbcymru.net)
Geography	Mrs. S. Evans (SavageS@hwbcymru.net)
History	Mrs. J. Toye (ToyeJ@hwbcymru.net)
Music	Mr. D. Leggett (LeggettD1@hwbcymru.net)
PE	Mr. D. Curnow (CurnowD@hwbcymru.net)
Religious Studies	Mrs. L. James (JamesL96@hwbcymru.net)
Welsh	Mrs. L. Evans (EvansL237@hwbcymru.net)
Health & Wellbeing	Mrs. E. Tumelty (TumeltyE@hwbcymru.net)



**Thank you for
your support**

Diolch am dy gymorth