

Subject - Construction. Taught in conjunction with Coleg Sir Gar

Examining Board - WJEC.

Qualification – GCSE in Built Environment. Qualification approval No. C00/3965/5

Grades achievable – Grades reported on an eight point scale A* - G where A* is the highest Grade. Results not attaining the minimum standard for the award will be reported as U (Unclassified).

Why should I study this subject?

This qualification is suitable for learners who wish to gain an insight into a number of Construction related disciplines and subjects.

The trades that the learner will explore are Carpentry, Bricklaying and Plastering. It provides introductory practical skills together with a wide range of theoretical knowledge and understanding to work safely, plan basic construction projects as well as explore the process in the design of buildings.

What is the content of the course?

Unit 1 – Introduction to the built environment 35% of the GCSE

In this examined unit you will develop knowledge, skills and understanding in the ideas and concepts relating to the built environment. This will include the built environment life cycles, structures, materials, sustainability, careers and health and safety.

Unit 2 – Creating the Built Environment 40 % of the GCSE

This is a non- examined assessment unit with a choice of two pathways:

Designing the Built Environment - focus is on 2D and 3D drawing skills

Constructing the Built Environment – focus is on the development of 2 practical skills

You are required to select just one pathway.

The task in each pathway assesses your knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to identifying, interpreting and calculating information; writing success criteria; carrying out a range of techniques appropriate to the pathway and evaluating tasks.

Unit 3- Exploring the Built Environment 25% of the GCSE

In this non-examined assessment unit (NEA) you will develop knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the stages of the building life cycle; the stages and processes involved in the design, construction and value & use of the built environment.

Will I be taught in a particular set?

Learners will work in a mixed ability setting but will be interviewed prior to the start of the course to assess their interest and suitability for the course.

Learners will be based in the new Vocational Skills Centre at Bryngwyn or Ammanford Campus Coleg Sir Gar dependent on school, where they will attend a weekly 2 hour session.

Will I need to complete coursework or controlled tasks?

There will be continuous practical assessment throughout the course.

There will be written assessments for Units 2 and 3 and individual unit evidence will be recorded within a portfolio.

Is there an exam in this subject?

As well as course work and controlled tasks, there will be a 1.5 hour external exam on Unit 1 Introduction to the Built Environment.

Where Can I get further information? School head of year