

Astudio TGAU Cymraeg Iaith yn YU Frenhines yr Elisabeth
Studying GCSE Welsh 1st Language at QE High School

CWESTIYNAU CYFFREDIN / FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Could you provide an overview of the content of the course?

A: Yes, here it is...

	mark / %	When?
Uned 1 / Unit 1		
Llafar (Oral Work)		
Task 1 - Cyflwyniad unigol ar sail ymchwil (Individual presentation on the basis of research)	40 (15%)	Bl.10/Yr.10
siarad am bwnc am 5-7 munud (speaking about a topic for 5-7 minutes)		
Task 2 - Ymateb a Rhyngweithio (Group Discussion - expressing opinion)	40 (15%)	Bl.11/Yr.11
trafod pwnc mewn grwp am tua 10m (discuss a topic in a group of 2/3 for 10 mins.)		
Uned 2 - Disgrifio, Naratif ac Esbonio (Description, Narrative & Explanation)		end of course
Darllen ac Ysgrifennu (Reading & Writing)		
papur 2 awr (2 hour paper) Adran A - Darllen a thasg golygu (Reading comprehension tasks & an editing task) Adran B - Ysgrifennu a thasg iaith (Writing task & a grammar task)	A - 30 (15%) B - 40 (20%)	

Uned 3 - Trafod, Perswâd a Chyfarwyddiadol (Discussion, Persuasion & Instruction)		end of the course
Darllen ac Ysgrifennu (Reading and Writing)		
papur 2 awr (2 hour paper) Adran A - Darllen (Reading comprehension tasks) Adran B - Ysgrifennu - 2 dasg (2 Writing tasks)	A - 30 (15%) B - 40 (20%)	

Q: Are there past papers available online?

A: Yes, on the WJEC website here: https://www.cbac.co.uk/cymwysterau/cymraeg-iaith-tgau/#tab_pastpapers

Q: Which Welsh dictionary do you recommend?

A: The **Gomer Welsh Dictionary** (ISBN: 9781843237853 (1843237857)) is a great investment for all the family and will see your pupil right through high school and beyond. However, it is rather expensive (£35.00) and in hardback.
<https://www.gwales.com/goto/biblio/en/9781843237853/>

A cheaper and more basic option is **The Welsh Learner's Dictionary** by Heini Gruffudd ISBN: 9780862433635 (0862433630) This is an easy to use reference book costing £6.95.
<https://www.gwales.com/bibliographic/?isbn=9780862433635&tsid=2>

Q: Where can I buy Welsh language books online?

A: Gwales.com

Gwales.com is run by the Welsh Books Council and will usually get any book that is in stock to you in a matter of days. Use the search facility on the website to find the book you are looking for.

Q: Which online Welsh dictionary do you recommend?

A: Firstly, please discourage your child from using **Google Translate**. GT produces clumsy and overly formal Welsh that is unnatural. It is easy

for teachers to spot when GT has been used. Use of GT for very simple words is acceptable but copying and pasting large paragraphs is not. Such use does not improve the skills of any student. There are now many brilliant Welsh Dictionaries online that do a much better job.

for English to Welsh – the best online dictionary is **Geiriadur yr Academi**. It provides idioms and sayings as well as technical and scientific terms too. www.geiriaduracademi.org

for Welsh to English / English to Welsh - try these

Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru www.geiriadur.ac.uk

Geiriadur Prifysgol y Drindod www.geiriadur.net

Q: Are there any other useful websites my child can use?

A: Yes – dozens and dozens. Here’s just a few:

HWB – resources for all subjects (in both Welsh and English)	https://hwb.gov.wales/
CBAC/WJEC – information about exams	https://www.wjec.co.uk/
Wikipedia – Welsh version of Wikipedia - generally reliable	https://cy.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hafan
S4C Clic – watch S4C programmes wherever you are	https://www.s4c.cymru/clic/
Gwales.com - Buy Welsh books and e-books online	https://www.gwales.com/intro/
GCSE Bitesize Revision Website – but useful in KS3 too	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z8w76sg

Urdd Gobaith Cymru - largest youth group in Europe	https://www.urdd.cymru/cy/
BBC Cymru Fyw – Online news and events	https://www.bbc.co.uk/cymrufyw
Golwg360 – Online news & magazine	https://golwg.360.cymru/
Radio Cymru – listen again available online	https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/live:bbc_radio_cymru
The AthroCymraeg channel on Youtube is Mr Mason’s channel where there are many useful videos and links for GCSE Welsh students.	https://www.youtube.com/user/AthroCymraeg

Q: Is there a Welsh spellchecker app?

A: Yes. It can be purchased as an app or there is a free online version (link below) that allows checks on one large paragraph at a time.

<https://www.cysgliad.com/cysill/arlein/?locale=en>

Q: Is my child allowed to use a spellchecker for his/her homework?

A: Yes indeed, unless they have specifically been told not to for some reason. The Cysill Welsh spellchecker offer choices and can help children improve their grammar, mutations and spelling.

Q: Are there any ‘apps’ in Welsh?

A: Yes. Many. Urdd Gobaith Cymru has made an app called ‘ApArdal’ that tells you which activities in Welsh are in your area. ‘Ap Gwilym’ helps you rhyme in Welsh poetry. Search your app store for ‘Cymraeg’.

Q: How often should my child be reading in Welsh at home?

A: At present it's common for most pupils to read very little Welsh at home. We really need to improve this. But reading should be something to be enjoyed so the answer to the question '*How often?*' is '*As much as they want to*'. But at least once or twice every week would be a start. Reading about sport on a news site can be as good as reading a novel. Reading outside of school is crucial if your child is to develop their vocabulary and get a good grade at GCSE where reading is a key skill.

Q: How can I help my child read at home if I don't speak Welsh?

A: Ask them to explain what the difficulty is to you in English. If it's just one word, help them look it up. Sometimes just reading on a little bit more can help. Also remember that often not every word needs to be understood to enjoy a story or article. We all often skip words we don't know in English.

If a book is too difficult for your child, ask them to speak with their Welsh teacher who will help them choose a more suitable book. Choosing a book that is interesting but challenging is very important. If you have any other questions on this please get in touch.

Q: How can I help my child choose a suitable Welsh book to read?

A: See the ***Welsh Dept. 1st Language Reading List***. Also you could look at the Gwales.com website and read the reviews for the books. They offer an advanced search for children's books in both Welsh and English.

Q: How can I help my child with their Welsh?

A: The best way to help your child is for you to learn Welsh too. It's never too late. Enrol in a night class or use an app like Duolingo and go for it. We're here to help you too. Otherwise use the online resources and advice online (see list of websites above).

Q: I was told that you cannot be Dyslexic in Welsh, is this true?

A: No. Dyslexia is a term that describes the difficulties that some people's brains have when reading or writing. Dyslexia can impact on

understanding any written language. This is because our brains aren't naturally hard-wired to read and write, only to speak. If you think your child's dyslexia has not been diagnosed by the time they have reached Yr10 please get in touch.

There is growing evidence to suggest that learning to read first in a more phonetic language like Welsh or German can help avoid some of the difficulties of dyslexia at an early age.

Q: Should my child use ICT to produce a piece of homework?

A: Yes, if they can. **Google Docs** or **MS Word** should be used for writing. **Google Slides** or **MS Powerpoint** should be used for presentations.

Q: How do you get the ^ on 'w' and 'y' in Welsh on the PC?

A: On Microsoft Word, use **INSERT > SYMBOL** and find any character you need. (see back page of this booklet).

Q: How do you get the ^ on 'w' and 'y' in Welsh on Google Classroom?

A: On GC, use **INSERT > SPECIAL CHARACTERS** and type in the character you need e.g 'w' and press ENTER. Then click on the accented character you need e.g. 'ŵ'.

Q: How do you get the ^ on 'w' and 'y' in Welsh on Apple devices?

A: On an imac or iphone, use **INSERT > SPECIAL CHARACTERS**