

# Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate

#### Overview

The new Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate (SCC) has been introduced to learners at ages 16 to 19. It's new format has been designed to help learners develop and enhance the skills they will need for Higher Education, employment and life.

The Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate and overarching Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate (obtained when students achieve their Advanced supporting qualifications, GCSE Mathematics / Numeracy and English Language) will be universally adopted by all educational establishments in Wales. The new SCC will offer flexibility and inclusivity to all learners and will be studied alongside the learner's traditional choices at AS and A Level, or Vocational Qualifications. 360 hours will be allocated for the completion of the SCC.

The revised Skills Challenge Certificate will be internally and externally rigorously assessed. It will be graded, ensuring that hard work, effort, commitment and high performance are better rewarded and recognised by higher education and employers. Th Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate (SCC) has been given the same UCAS tariff points as an A Level. In Wales, 100% of Universities will include the Advanced SCC in their offers.

The SCC is primarily about the development and assessment of essential skills such as Literacy, Numeracy, Digital Literacy, Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Planning and Organisation, Creativity and Innovation and Personal Effectiveness.

#### Assessment



## Examining Board WJEC/CBAC

#### **Requirements**

The Skills Challenge Certificate at National Level ( $A^* - C$ ) and Welsh Baccalaureate at Key Stage 4 would be an advantage.

# Departmental Staff – Advanced Level

Mr. R. Evans (Standards Leader) Ms B. Jones (Assistant Headteacher – LM) Miss S. Davies (Curriculum Support & Teacher) Mrs M. Robinson (Teacher)

# What the experts say...

" From our perspective, we expect students who come to Oxford to be independent thinkers, highly motivated and flexible. I truly believe that the new qualifications from Wales, especially the refocused and strengthened Skills Challenge Certificate, will help develop students in that direction." Dr Samina Khan: Oxford University

## **Course Outline**

Specifications and delivery models are progressively being refined and adjusted. Our school will continue to liaise closely with the Welsh Government, Regional Consortia and the WJEC, to ensure that the delivery of the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate is consistent with other schools throughout Wales.

**Year 12** - Learners will engage in the Enterprise and Employability Challenge, Community Challenge and Global Citizenship Challenge.

**Year 13** – Learners will engage in the Individual Project, Community Challenge and Global Citizenship Challenge.

Learners will develop and use these acquired skills. These skills will be assessed by the completion of an Individual Project (50%) and three Skills Challenges:

Enterprise and Employability Challenge (20%) Global Citizenship Challenge (15%) Community Challenge (15%)

The Individual Project and Skills Challenges will all be graded A\* - E, to strengthen the qualification and to reward learners who achieve high standards. Completion of these four sections will result in completion and achievement of the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate.



# Career and Progression Opportunities

The new Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate and overarching Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification, is recognised and accepted by universities throughout the UK as an entry qualification. The new Advanced SCC has strengthened this position. The more radical changes that have been introduced, will develop and assess the skills that universities profess, that all learners require for learning, work and life.

The Welsh Government and WJEC have invested heavily in improving the extensive SCC programme and consultation with UK universities has been extensive. Feedback has been very positive about the new specifications.

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