



# **GCSE Curriculum**

**2018-19**

# Key Stage 4 Curriculum

The core subjects in the Key Stage 4 Curriculum are:

- English Language (and Literature)
- GCSE Mathematics-Numeracy and Mathematics
- Science
- Welsh
- Welsh Baccalaureate Diploma
- PE



# Key Stage 4 English

GCSE English Language assessment:

2 Speaking and Listening Assessments 20%

2 Written Examinations 80%

GCSE English Literature assessment:

2 Controlled Assessments 25%

2 Written Examinations 75%



# Key Stage 4 English

## GCSE English Language

The 'priority' subject for all students.

All students will complete this course in Year 11.

No longer any tiering.

Key reading skills:

Comparison, analysis, inference, synthesis etc.

Key writing skills:

Argue, persuade, describe, narrate

There will be speaking and listening assessments in the summer term of Year 10.



# Key Stage 4 English

## GCSE English Literature

Texts:

Exam - *Heroes, An Inspector Calls, Of Mice and Men.*

Controlled assessment - *Romeo and Juliet*, poetry collection.



# The Three English Routes

Year 10

Year 11

Route A – English Language Only

Route B – English Literature

Route B – English Language

Route C – English Language

Route C – English Literature



# Route A

## GCSE English Language only

Two year course, focused on supporting students in mastering the requirements of this tougher GCSE.

There will be speaking and listening assessments in the summer term of Year 10.



# Route B

## GCSE English Literature and English Language

Designed for students who are capable of handling both GCSEs, but will benefit from a lower exam burden in Y11.

Official exams in January and May.

Controlled assessments in October and February.

Speaking and listening assessments in the summer term of Year 10.





# Route C

## GCSE English Literature and English Language

A two year course in both subjects, meaning all exams are sat in January or May/June of Year 11.

Controlled assessment in April.

Speaking and listening assessments in the summer term of Year 10.



**Mathematics**

**GCSEs**

**2018-20**



# Key Stage 4 Mathematics

## Assessment

All students will be sitting both GCSE Mathematics-Numeracy and GCSE Mathematics.

Examinations will take place in November Y11 and June Y11.

Each GCSE consists of two units: Unit 1 Non Calculator and Unit 2 Calculator.

There are no controlled assessments or coursework in KS4 Mathematics.

Students in set 1a will also have an opportunity to achieve a Level 2 qualification in Additional Mathematics in June Y11.



# Key Stage 4 Mathematics

**GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy** builds upon the numeracy covered at Key Stage 3 and will assess the mathematics that learners will need in their everyday lives, in the world of work and in other general curriculum areas. Questions will involve problem solving and will be set in a real life context.



# Key Stage 4 Mathematics

**GCSE Mathematics** will have an emphasis on those aspects of mathematics required for progression into mathematics or mathematically-related disciplines or employment routes. It will feature problems set both in real-world contexts and within mathematics itself and will encourage learners to employ and evaluate different mathematical techniques.



# Key Stage 4 Mathematics

## Tiers of Entry

There are 3 tiers of entry for KS4 Mathematics:

Higher Tier: Grades A\* – C

Intermediate Tier: Grades B – E

Foundation Tier: Grades D – G



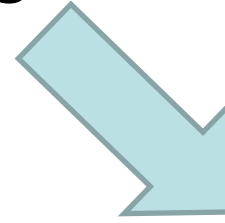
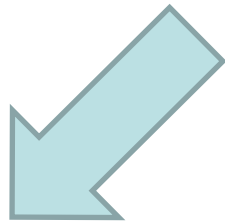
# Science GCSEs

2018-20



# How do the Science GCSE courses work?

**Year 10 Students**



## **Separate Sciences**

- 6 exams in all (1hr45 each)
- 3 practical assessments
- Separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics

## **Double Award Science**

- 6 exams in all (1hr15 each)
- 2 practical assessments
- Double Award GCSE in Science

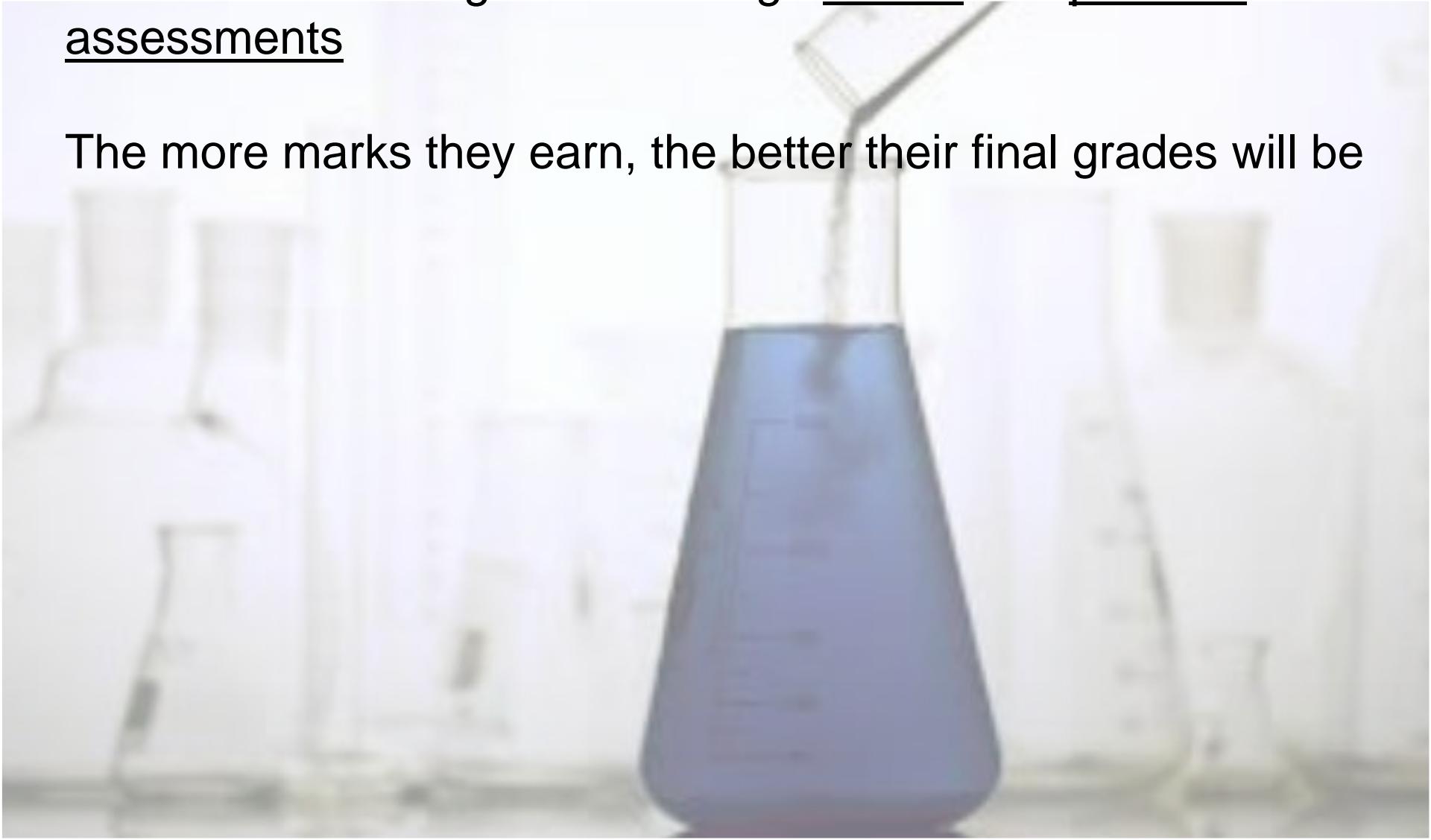
**Both courses are suitable preparation for A level**



# How do the Science GCSE courses work?

It's all about earning marks through exams and practical assessments

The more marks they earn, the better their final grades will be



# e.g. Double Award Science



- Three exams in year 10 45%
- Three exams in year 11 45%
- Two practical assessments in year 11 10%

Total Mark  
/800

UMS total	Subject Award
720	A*A*
680	A*A
640	AA
600	AB
560	BB
520	BC
480	CC
440	CD
400	DD
360	DE
320	EE
280	EF
240	FF
200	FG
160	GG



# e.g. Separate Sciences



- Exam in year 10 45%
- Exam in year 11 45%
- Practical assessment in year 11 10%

Total mark for each subject  
/400

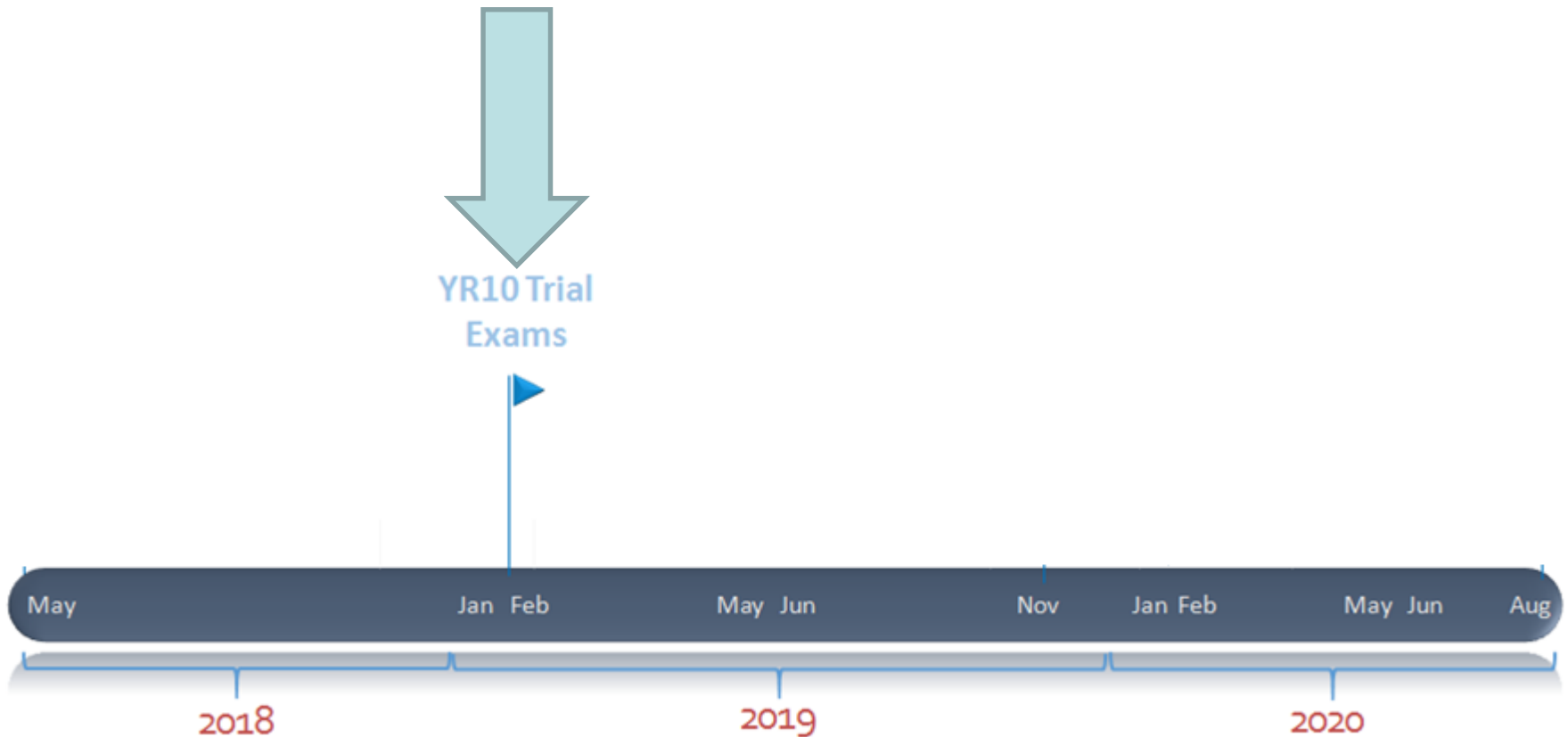
<b>UMS total</b>	<b>A*</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Subject Award</b>	360	320	280	240	200	160	120	80

# Timescales

# Next milestone to aim for?

## Yr 10 Trial Exams in Jan/Feb 2019

- Being well prepared sets them up to succeed this summer
- We will use the results here to judge progress and make initial decisions about tiers of entry (higher/foundation)



How important is year 10?

**VERY!!!**

**45%** of the marks come from year 10 exams.

They are **external exams**, marked by the WJEC exam board

The success in year 11 is **set up by hard work and good results in year 10**

# GCSE Welsh

GCSE Welsh is assessed through examinations in April 2019 and May 2020.

There are no controlled assessments or coursework.

A listening exam will be sat in April of year 10, an oral exam in April 2020 and two writing and reading exams in May 2020.



# Welsh Baccalaureate

All students in Year 10 and 11 follow the Skills Challenge Certificate in order to achieve the Welsh Baccalaureate.

Students complete three challenges and an Individual Project which focuses on developing employability skills:

Skills Challenge Certificate components	Weighting	Assessed Skills	Internal Assessment	External Moderation
Individual Project	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Planning and Organisation</li><li>• Critical Thinking and Problem Solving</li><li>• Digital Literacy</li></ul>	✓	✓
Enterprise and Employability Challenge	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creativity and Innovation</li><li>• Personal Effectiveness</li><li>• Digital Literacy</li></ul>	✓	✓
Global Citizenship Challenge	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Critical Thinking and Problem Solving</li><li>• Creativity and Innovation</li></ul>	✓	✓
Community Challenge	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Planning and Organisation</li><li>• Personal Effectiveness</li></ul>	✓	✓





# Key Stage 4 Option Subjects

All students are studying 3 subjects from the options menu.

Some of these courses are BTEC or vocational courses and are assessed mainly through coursework assignments with some examinations.

GCSE courses are assessed through examinations and controlled assessments.



# Key Stage 4 Option Subjects

There are GCSE module examinations in May/June 2019 in the following subjects:

- Health & Social Care
- IT
- Welsh
- History
- Skills
- BTEC Media
- BTEC Performing Arts



# Controlled Assessment

Controlled assessments are undertaken by students in lessons under controlled conditions. They are assessed by teachers but moderated by external examiners.

Students will be asked to prepare work for controlled assessments at home but all assessed work must be completed in lesson under supervised conditions.

Students will record controlled assessment dates and results in their diary



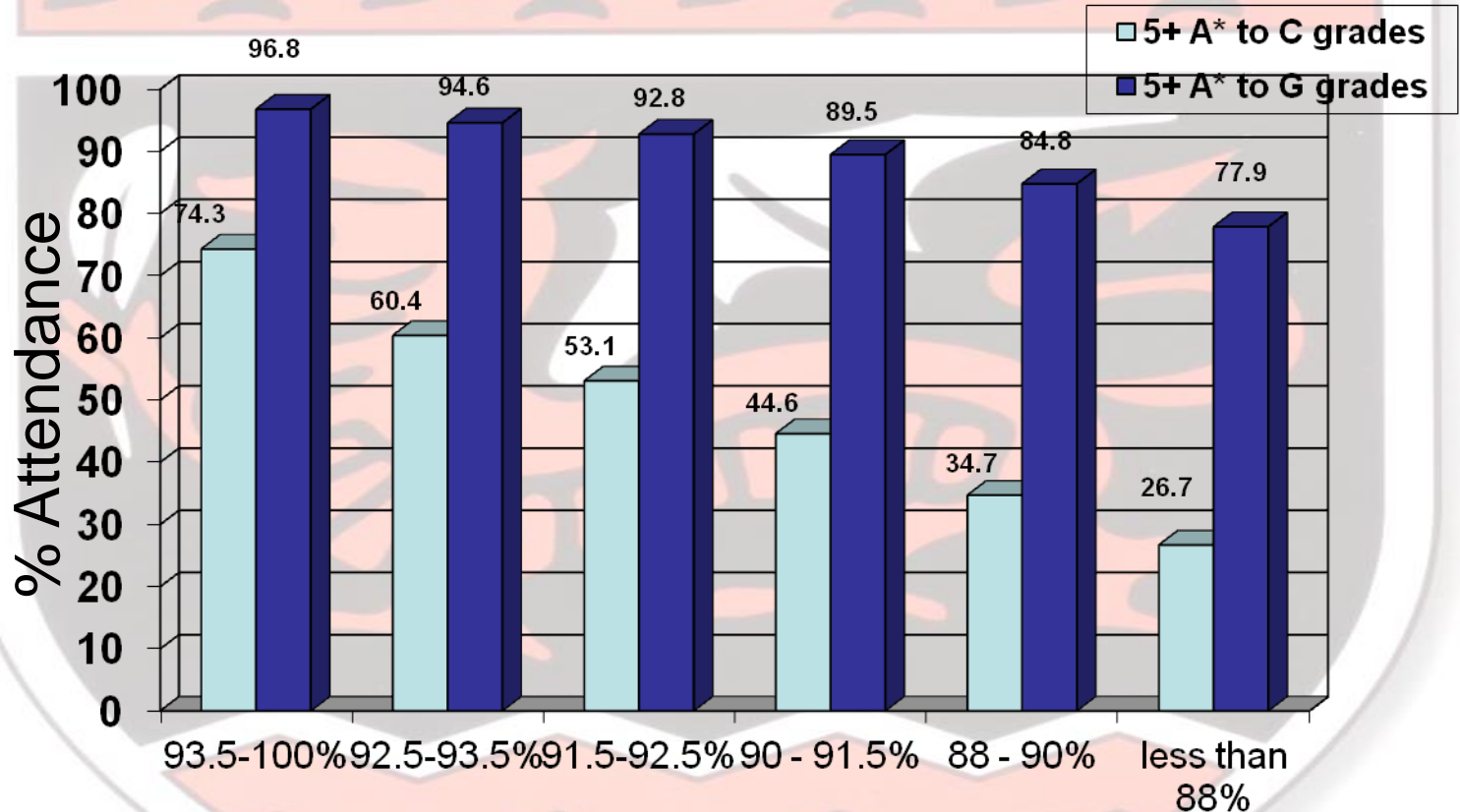


# Practicalities





# Link between Attendance & Attainment



The more a pupil is missing from school, the fewer A\* - C or A\* - G grades they will achieve.



# Dates for your Diary

Year 10 Trial Examinations:

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January to Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Year 10 Parents' Evening:

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

