



Sixth Form Prospectus 2020-2021



CREDU A PHERTHY – BELIEVING & BELONGING
www.bassalegschool.com

Introduction

Dear Parent/Carer

I am delighted to present our sixth form prospectus for the new academic year 2020-21. Bassaleg School is thriving; we have a history of proven success throughout all key stages. We welcome large numbers back into our sixth form which we are very proud to say is inclusive of many students who have made a choice to join us from other schools. Post 16 provision is of the highest standard; not only do many of our students gain entry on to degree courses at Universities, apprenticeships and work placements throughout the UK but we also pride ourselves on the exceptional care, support and guidance which is provided and integral for students aspiring to realise their potential. Academically our sixth form students perform very well: the most recent A Level outcomes places the school above the local authority average in both the amount of students achieving 3 A Levels at grades A* - C, and 3 A Level grades at A* or A. In terms of progress made from GCSE, many subjects add significant value to pupil outcomes.

Students studying Post 16 at Bassaleg have the opportunity to engage in collaboration with Schools in the West of Newport. As such, alongside The John Frost School, St Joseph's High School and Newport High School, students will have a choice of over of 40 Level 3 courses and an expanding provision of Level 2 courses. The Post 16 offer is an extensive one, ensuring that students have sufficient choice at such a crucial point in their learning journey. To this end, it is vital that they are well-informed and supported by appropriate advice and guidance to help them make the right decision. Our current circumstances do mean that we have had to take a different approach to sharing information this year. With this in mind, we have arranged for subject information and videos to be put onto our school website. We've also put a link to a Google Form where you can ask subject specific questions directly to subject staff and they will address your questions in their subject videos. For information on our collaboration partners' courses please visit their websites.

I remember my sixth form experience with very fond memories; this was because I was fortunate to be part of a school which placed wellbeing at the heart of school priorities alongside aspiring for excellence in academic standards. As the new Headteacher of Bassaleg School, I feel incredibly proud to now lead a school which promotes exactly this ethos; sixth form students will have every opportunity to flourish and challenge themselves at Bassaleg, both academically and in a wider sense through being given opportunities to lead and become involved in a range of activities such as charity work and all aspects of student voice. Our current Head Student team for example are in the process of liaising with the local health board to try to secure funds to plan/ design and create a sensory environment for our school. In doing so, these passionate and very talented students have developed skills which no doubt will serve them well in whatever their chosen career path is. Promoting Health and Happiness@Bassaleg is something which I feel incredibly passionate about and an agenda which the sixth form team lead brilliantly.

Bassaleg Sixth Form is a dynamic community, led by an exceptionally skilled team of staff who will be happy to answer your questions and support your application.

Victoria Lambe, Headteacher



Welcome message from the Sixth Form Team

At the core of our ethos in Sixth Form is the belief that high standards and high expectations are the key to unlocking the potential of our young people. We aim to combine academic rigour and aspiration with a commitment to the well-being of all students in our care; we believe that entrusting our young people with opportunities to lead, to contribute and to grow is the best formula for producing outstanding candidates for university and the world of work.

With that aspiration in mind, we commit to engaging our students in productive and challenging lessons as well as to rewarding and meaningful extracurricular form time activities which enrich the student as well as the wider school community. The role a Sixth Former has in contributing to the tone and atmosphere of our wider school is enormous and we hope that our students see the value in making such a contribution. Indeed, the last academic year has seen an unprecedented number of Sixth Formers take the opportunity to lead activities and other school-based experiences, all of which has greatly enriched the school.

In terms of academic standards, as befits a school with a wealth of expertise at AS and A2 level teaching, our latest Welsh Government data for the academic year 2018/19 tells us that by the end of A level studies in Year 13, the average learner achieves an average of 80% of a grade higher across their academic portfolio than their GCSE outcomes would predict. This fact is recognised in the vast array and variety of destinations to which our students go - 75% of the current Year 13 cohort had at least one offer from a Sutton 30 university and 99% of pupils who made a university application have received at least one offer.

We believe that the Sixth Form will ascend to even loftier accomplishments in the next few years and we would welcome any pupil into our environment who is prepared to work, prepared to contribute and who has thought deeply about the next step in their academic career. We look forward to welcoming you for two years of what we are confident will be as rewarding as they are challenging.



Mr J Clayton-Jones
Assistant Headteacher

Mr D Powell
Director of Sixth Form

Senior Leadership Team

Head Teacher

Miss V Lambe

Deputy Head Teachers

Mrs C Batten and Mr M Maughan

Assistant Head Teachers

Mr M Batten, Mr J Clayton-Jones, Mr D Sheldon

Sixth Form Leadership Team

Director of Sixth Form

Mr D Powell

Deputy Director of Sixth Form

TBC

Assistant Director of Sixth Form

Mrs M Hurn

SLT Link

Mr J Clayton-Jones

School Support Officer for Sixth Form

Mrs J Wheatley

Curricular Directors Of Standards

Educational Needs - Mr D McCullough

Art & Design - Mrs L Pattimore

Biology - Dr A Jones

Business & Social Science – Mrs H Greenway

Chemistry - Mr A Pearce

English - Miss K Elkins

Geography - Mrs L Kirkham

History - Mrs N Bowen

ICT - Mr R Eaton

Mathematics - Mr T Hall

Modern Foreign Languages – Mrs C Singh

Music - Mr C Keates

Physical Education - Mr J Thomas

Physics - Mrs P Colebrook

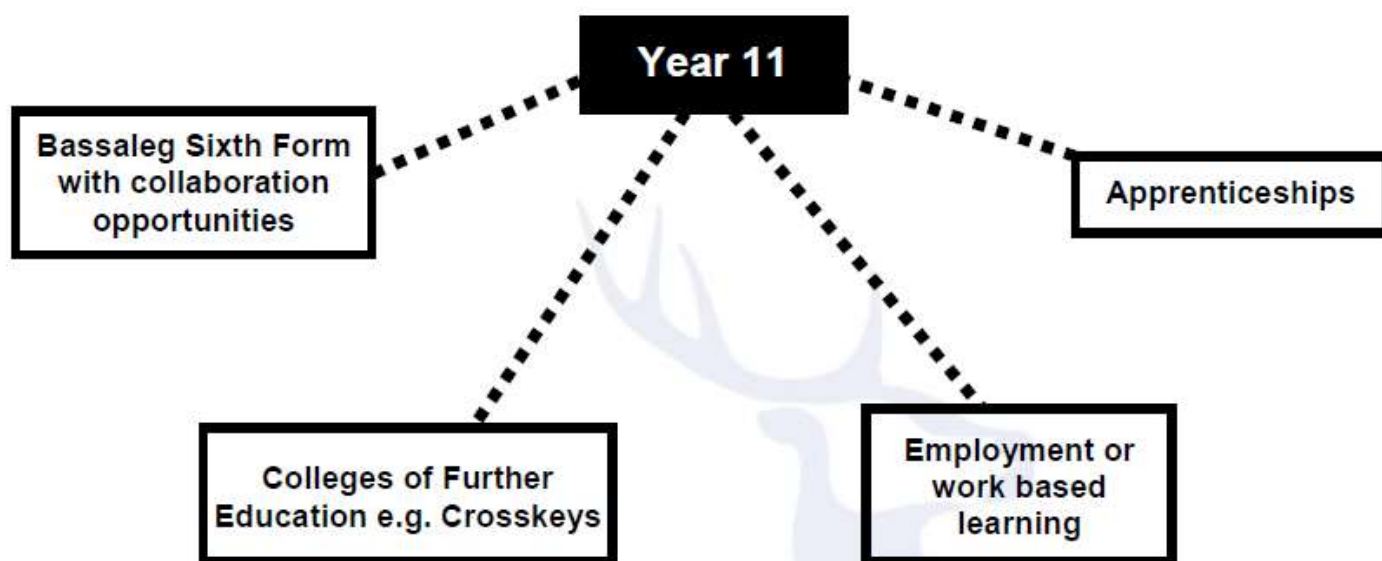
Religious Studies - Mrs T Simmonds

Welsh - Mrs E Williams

Welsh Baccalaureate - Mrs H Greenway

What are my Choices?

There are four different learning pathways open to you:



This prospectus is designed to help those joining us for the first time in Year 12.

What are the Entry Requirements?

You need to achieve a minimum of 5 full GCSEs or Level 2 Equivalent (including Welsh Baccalaureate) at A*-C grade to study A levels at Bassaleg.

Specific entry requirements for subjects can be found on the Bassaleg School website under courses. Please note that entry requirements can vary and are at the discretion of the school.

Re-enrolment into Year 13 from Year 12 will be conditional on a pupil achieving at least two passes at grade E in AS level examinations. In line with our collaboration schools, we do not accept pupils re-sitting Year 12 unless in exceptional circumstances, to be defined by the school.

How many A Levels do you recommend I take?

How many AS levels you study in addition to Welsh Baccalaureate will depend on how many GCSEs you have and at what grade.

We generally use the following approach to guide discussions in the interview and enrolment procedure:

- Welsh Baccalaureate plus 4 AS levels - we will only consider this in the minority of cases (which we define as 8 A* or above in full course GCSE) and we generally do not recommend this academic profile. We prefer pupils to concentrate on a smaller number with the intent to attain the highest marks in their subjects.

- Welsh Baccalaureate plus 3 AS levels - we recommend this pathway for pupils whose prior achievement at GCSE includes 9 full course GCSE passes, with these generally being a mixture of As and Bs. This might vary for individual subjects such as Further Mathematics or Chemistry.
- Welsh Baccalaureate plus 2 AS levels - we recommend this pathway for pupils whose prior achievement at GCSE includes 5-9 full course GCSE passes, with these generally being characterised as mostly Bs and below.

We have developed these recommendations after careful analysis of outcomes at A level, as well as consideration of Welsh Government recommendations about total volume of entries, and by reference to the requirement of most universities of 2 full A levels to accompany Welsh Baccalaureate in the instances when Welsh Baccalaureate is accepted as an equivalent to A level.

What options could I choose?

Please also remember that our Newport West Collaboration partner schools also offer courses which Bassaleg students can enrol for allowing them to study at Bassaleg and another school and also offering them a wider choice of subjects. We offer free transport to get our students to lessons in other schools and all our timetables run together to allow this collaboration to happen. Normally we would hold a joint options evening but this is not currently possible so please visit the websites of St Joseph's RC High School, Newport High School and The John Frost School to see the courses they offer.

Please refer to our website for our current options pathway document, please note that this is constantly evolved and we will always ensure the most up to date version is here:

<https://www.bassalegschool.com/options>

What is Welsh Baccalaureate and do I have to do it?

It is compulsory for all Year 12/13 to take Welsh Baccalaureate if they wish to be a student at this school.

The revised and more rigorous Welsh Baccalaureate is based on a Skills Challenge Certificate, which will be graded, together with supporting qualifications. The primary aim is to enable learners to develop and demonstrate an understanding of and proficiency in essential and employability skills: Communication, Numeracy, Digital Literacy, Planning & Organisation, Creativity & Innovation, Critical Thinking & Problem Solving and Personal Effectiveness. The emphasis is on applied and purposeful learning and the qualification provides opportunities for assessment in a range of real life contexts, through three Challenge Briefs and an Individual Project.



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

What contribution am I expected to make to the school community as a member of 6th Form?

- Reading Buddies – to support Year 7 pupils with reading practice during form time
- Science Buddies – To support Year 10 pupils with building science skills and revision
- Maths Buddies – To support Year 9/10 pupils with building maths skills
- Wellbeing Ambassadors – To provide a safe space and peer support for pupils experiencing emotional or relationship difficulties during lunchtime
- Talktime – To provide opportunities for Year 9 pupils to be confident and effective oral communicators through activities in form time.
- Physical Health – To plan coordinate and facilitate a programme to promote physical health and exercise for Year 9 pupils
- Common Room Committee – coordination and maintenance and smooth running of the 6th Form spaces
- Prefect Team – to be a role model and ambassador which includes carrying out certain job roles including and to help out during the school's Health & Happiness events for charity.



Head Students Maddie Conlan and Matthew Turner with Miss Lambe

What other extra curricular opportunities are there in 6th Form?



There are numerous extra-curricular activities available to Sixth Form Students such as:

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Music and Drama Productions
- Seren Network
- Year and School Council
- Health & Happiness@Bassaleg and much much more.....



What facilities are there available to me?

The most striking difference between a Year 12 and a Year 11 timetable, apart from fewer subjects, is the fact that for the first time a Year 12 student will have time for independent study.

The ability to study independently is a necessity for success on a Level 3 course. Students are given explanation and direction, and are then expected to work on their own in order to consolidate what they have already learned or to find new, supplementary information. Therefore, you cannot afford to waste this “non-contact time” for it is designed as an essential part of the course not as a rest period.

We have a variety of areas which are available to all 6th Formers:

- School Library
- F9 – computer room
- Common room
- Study Room
- Hoffi Coffi

What financial support could there be available to me?

Education Maintenance Allowances (EMA) is available to students in Years 12 and 13 and all current information is available via their website at www.studentfinancewales.co.uk there is a entry requirement which is fully explained on their website. This allowance should not be confused with the Local Authority Maintenance Allowance, which is separate and remains available; students can apply for both.

What is the admission process for students new to the school?

The admission process is open to any Year 11 pupil (inside or outside our catchment area, internal or external students), the only students who cannot apply are those who already attend one of our collaboration schools. Please visit our website for information on our options, welcome videos and a link to our electronic application forms. www.bassalegschool.com/sixthform

What is the 6th Form uniform?

- Tailored Black Skirt (e.g. pleated or pencil) or
- Black tailored trousers
- Black blazer with school badge
- White shirt
- Sixth Form Tie (available from the Finance Office)
- All black sensible shoes (leather style, no canvas material, no trainers)
- Black socks or tights

The Following items are not acceptable, hoodies, jeans, leggings, jeggings, stiletto heels. Students are expected to have conventional hairstyles. One pair of stud earrings in the lobe of the ear is permitted.



What dates should I be made aware of?

Year 11 Students

- Options and open evening slides and videos available on our website from 5th February.
- Complete Sixth Form Application Form by - 30th April 2021
- Guidance Interviews – towards the end of May and June
- Sixth Form Trial days - beginning of July
- GCSE Results Day - Thursday 19th August 2021
- Sixth Form Enrolment Day - first week of September
- 6th Form induction day - first week of September
- Year 12 studies commence second week in September

Year 12 students

- AS results day – 12th August 2021
- Year 13 re-enrolment day - first week in September

Year 13 students

- A Level results Day – 12th August 2021

How will I be supported in my choices after 6th Form?

During your time at Bassaleg, you will receive guidance and support on a range of options for when you complete Year 13.

For students who are thinking of applying to university, there will be a wealth of information about topics such as choosing courses (UCAS and unifrog), student finance (Student Finance Wales) and stretch & challenge activities (Seren project).

For students exploring alternative options, we will provide opportunities to explore apprenticeships (unifrog) and careers (Careers Wales www.careerswales.com). These sessions will be delivered in form on a weekly basis and will also be delivered throughout the two years by the Sixth Form team.

What are the contact details of the school?

Bassaleg School
Forge Lane
Bassaleg
Newport, NP10 8NF

Telephone: 01633 892191
Fax: 01633 894699

Email: bassaleg.school@newport.gov.uk
Web: www.bassalegschool.com

Chief Education Officer

Mrs S Morgan
Local Education Authority
Newport City Council
Civic Centre
Newport, NP20 4UR
Telephone: 01633 656656

School Governors

Chair, Cllr Mr David Williams
Vice Chair, Mrs Alison Huckle

Appointed by Local Government

Councillor D Williams
Councillor M Cornelious
Councillor R White
Councillor C Evans
Councillor Y Forsey
Community Members
Mr J Watts
Mrs A Huckle
Mr A Evans
Mr S Rayer
Mr S Bowen

Parents' Representatives

Mr P Booth
Mr C Watson
Mrs E Kenward
Mr S Pithers - appointed 2020
Mrs B Mungur-Bundhoo - appointed 2020
Dr A Seymour - appointed 2020

Teachers' Representatives

Mrs T Simmonds
Miss R Murray

Staff Representative

Mr T Lewis

