



# Year 12

**Mountain Ash Comprehensive School**

# Post-16 Options Choices 2018-19:

- 1. Introduction** (Mr D Mead)
- 2. Year 12/13 at MACS** (Mrs S Richards)
- 3. Coleg-y-Cymoedd** (Mr Martin Jones)
- 4. Pupils' perspectives** (Kieron Thomas, Jesseowen Griffiths, Evan Thomas)
- 5. Key Dates** (Mr D Mead)

# Returning to Year 12/13

- All courses in Years 12 and 13 are delivered via a consortium of schools including MACS, Aberdare Community School and St John the Baptist School.
- 
- FREE Travel between MACS and your host schools will be provided by CVC (Cynon Valley 16+ Consortium).
- Buses will leave MACS and your host schools promptly at:
  - 8.40 am (before am registration)
  - 11.00 am

# A variety of courses are available within the CVC Consortium:

- **Level 1** Courses (equivalent to D-G at GCSE) – College/Hen felin
- **Level 2** Courses (equivalent to A\*- C at GCSE) – College/Hen felin
- **Level 3** Courses– CVC Schools
  - Level 3 vocational courses (equivalent to AS and A Level) – e.g. Music BTEC, Applied Science, BTEC Science, BTEC IT, Business Studies, Public Services, ( All equivalent to 1 A level) Sports Studies (equivalent to 2 A levels);
  - Level 3 AS/A2 courses
- **Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification** (Welsh Bacc) – **All** students must study the Welsh Bacc as part of education post-16.

# Course requirements.

- You must have 5 GCSE's grade C or above to return to 6<sup>th</sup> form, or the equivalent.
- You need to have a C grade in Maths and English.
- Most courses have a minimum grade requirement (see options brochure or speak to a member of staff).
- Sciences and Maths A levels require a minimum of a B grade at GCSE Science/Maths.
  
- You can do it! Work hard from now!

# Uniform

- Black blazer (compulsory)
- Black trousers or skirt (of a reasonable length, plain, with no obvious decoration)
- White shirt or blouse
- Senior school tie (available from Merlin or Mountain Ash Embroidery)
- Black outer coat
- Black shoes
- No piercings



# Educational Maintenance Grant (EMA)

- EMA is for 16 to 18 year olds living in Wales, who want to continue their education after school leaving age. If you're eligible, you could get £30 a week, paid every two weeks.
- Before you apply for EMA there are few things you will need to check to make sure you qualify.
  - Date of Birth - you must be 16-18 years old on 31 August 2019
  - Course - you must be studying at a participating school or college on an 'eligible' course
  - Household Income - this must be below a certain level to receive EMA
  - Nationality and Residency – If you are a UK citizen living in Wales you should be eligible for EMA
- Application forms available for download from:

[www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/ema](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/ema)

# Why study level 3 qualifications??



- A Levels, AS Levels and Level 3 vocational qualifications e.g. BTEC are qualifications that you can choose to take after your GCSEs.
- They are very well regarded by universities, employers and apprenticeship schemes.
- A Levels will give you a chance to find out about your GCSE subjects in greater depth or you can choose to study one of the subjects that many schools and colleges only offer at A Level such as Law, Economics or Psychology.
- They are good preparation if you are thinking of going onto higher education (university), planning on doing an apprenticeship, or if you are not sure of your career plans, as they can keep your options open.



# Extra-curricular Activities

- Seren Hub – extension classes for MAT pupils (achieving 5 A\* at GCSE) aiming to attend top universities.
- Talks from representatives of various universities.
- Talks from companies that run apprenticeship schemes.
- Meetings with the Careers Adviser.
- Fundraising e.g. Children in Need.
- Leadership roles e.g. groups/mentoring with younger pupils.
- Links with Botswana, visit to Auschwitz, trip to Amazon/Yukon with British explorer society.
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3l19uo7WW\\_8&t=8s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3l19uo7WW_8&t=8s)

# Key Dates:

- **Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> November** - Parents talk on Post-16 Choices 2018-19. Initial trawl of subject choices.
- **Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December** – Interim Report 1 issued.
- **December 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>** – Year 11 Assessment Week.
- **January 2019** – Option Blocks created. Draft option forms distributed.
- **February 6<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Final option forms and options booklets distributed.
- **February 7<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Year 11 Individual Interviews.
- **February 15<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Year 11 Final Reports issued.
- **March 14<sup>th</sup> 2019 - YEAR 11 OPTIONS EVENING**
- **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March** – Options forms returned.
- **May/June 2019** - Timetable drawn up based on final choices.