



**CATHAYS HIGH SCHOOL**  
YSGOL UWCHRADD CATHAYS  
**OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL**  
CYFLEOEDD I BAWB

## **Year 8 Assessment Information**

## **New Curriculum Subjects Overview**

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## CREATIVE

<p><b>Topic Overview</b></p>	<p>Year 8 Creative lessons are designed so that pupils develop the necessary skills to support them on their creative learning journey. The focus will be on pupils becoming imaginative and persistent learners. All creative lessons will provide opportunities for students to develop their creative abilities, regardless of the level of skill. All pupils will be given opportunities to participate in a variety of creative activities in a safe space which allows uncertainty and risk taking, so that pupils understand there is now wrong way to express creativity.</p> <p>Imaginative Learners will:          Imagine New solutions          Link Creative Ideas          Trust their Instincts</p> <p>Persistent Learners will:          Tolerating uncertainty          Sticking with difficulty          Daring to be different</p> <p>What Matters Statements for the Creative Area Are:          Exploring the Expressive arts is essential to developing artistic skills and knowledge and it enables learners to become curious and creative individuals          Responding and reflecting, both as artist and audience, is a fundamental part of learning in the expressive arts          Creating combines skills and knowledge, drawing on the senses, inspiration and imagination.</p>
<p><b>Ways to support your child at home</b></p>	<p><b>Art</b>          They will refine their drawing skills through a variety of different media, such as pencil, pen, chalk, paint and digital animation.          They will imagine new solutions to problems and develop their artistic instincts, developing these skills by linking ideas together.</p> <p><b>Drama</b>          They should revise material off Google Classroom          They should rehearse and memorise scripts          They could watch or listen to performances from a variety of formats. (Television, Films, Plays and Radio Shows)</p> <p><b>Music</b>          They must listen to a wide variety of music from different genres and styles.          They must revise Musical Elements and learn subject specific keywords and description words.          Try to use these to describe Music that they listen to at home.          They also has access to Google Classroom where they can revise and use resources from the classroom.</p>

# ENGLISH

<b>Topic Overview</b>	<p>Language: The Natural World Literature: Time: The Present Language: Fear Literature: Voices: From Different Backgrounds Language: Disaster Literature: The Development of English: Drama</p> <p>During English &amp; Literacy lessons pupils will focus on developing the four main skills: speaking and writing, reading and listening as well as digital and numeracy skills. Pupils will follow a new scheme of work this year which will allow them to develop a passion for both English language and literature and an appreciation for other languages and cultures from around the world. It will allow them to develop their communication skills and use these to understand the world around them and the people in it. All lessons will focus on the four main purposes as well the What Matters statements for the English &amp; Literacy Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Language connects us.</li><li>• Understanding languages is key to understanding the world around us.</li><li>• Expressing ourselves through languages is key to communication.</li><li>• Literature fires imagination and ignites creativity.</li></ul>
<b>Ways to support your child at home</b>	<p>Encourage them to read for pleasure, either by accessing reading materials on Sora app or by visiting a library.</p> <p>Encourage them to keep a reading log of what they have read and how they have engaged with the text.</p> <p>Encourage them to use the school library or the SORA online library regularly.</p> <p>Discuss what books are reading with you at how. Ask questions: what/who/where/when/why/how.</p> <p>They can start their own book club online/in person with friends to discuss what they have read.</p> <p>Encourage them to practise spellings regularly on Spellzone. They should aim for 15 minutes two or three times a week.</p> <p>Practise descriptive writing, talking about pictures and grammar using Pobble 365 website.</p> <p>Watch Newsround or the news and discuss the news stories.</p> <p>Create quizzes using Kahoot or Blooket, based on the topics being studied or books they have read.</p> <p>When completing a research or presentation task, encourage them to use their own words, rather than copying and pasting directly from the internet, so that they understand what they are writing and talking about.</p> <p>Encourage them to keep a vocabulary book of words they are unsure of when they are reading and help them to use a dictionary to find out the meaning of these words.</p> <p>Encourage them to keep a diary, paying close attention to punctuation, spelling and grammar.</p> <p>Watch film adaptations of any texts they are reading as a class or have read individually.</p> <p>Discuss the differences between print &amp; screen versions and the reasons behind this.</p> <p>Reading Lists for Yr 8: <a href="https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks3-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-8-pupils-ks3-age-12-13/">https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks3-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-8-pupils-ks3-age-12-13/</a></p>

# MATHS

<p><b>Topic Overview</b></p>	<p>Unit 1 - How accurate can you be: Place value, number calculations, rounding, estimation and money.</p> <p>Unit 2 - Into the unknown: Number properties and algebra.</p> <p>Unit 5 - Discovering angles: Angle rules, measuring and drawing angles, time, bearings and transformations.</p> <p>Unit 3 - Have you had your fair share: Fractions, percentages, ratio, proportion and probability.</p> <p>Unit 6 - Analyse Me: Drawing graphs and data handling.</p> <p>Unit 4 - Shape it up: Unit conversions, properties of shape, area, perimeter and volume.</p> <p>The full list of topics can be found here: <a href="https://www.cathayshigh.co.uk/about-us/our-subjects/mathematics-numeracy/">https://www.cathayshigh.co.uk/about-us/our-subjects/mathematics-numeracy/</a></p> <p>During Mathematics &amp; Numeracy lessons pupils will focus on developing the five main proficiencies: Conceptual understanding, communication using symbols, fluency, logical reasoning and strategic competence as well as literacy and digital skills.</p> <p>Pupils are following a new scheme of work this year which will allow them to develop a passion for Mathematics &amp; Numeracy whilst linking their learning to the real world around them. All lessons will focus on the four main purposes as well the What Matters statements for the Mathematics &amp; Numeracy Area which make reference to number, algebra, geometry and statistics.</p> <p>In Mathematics, a pupil's progress within their progression step will be measured using the following descriptors:</p> <p>Beginning: Pupils have been introduced to the topic and are beginning to understand the basic concepts.</p> <p>Developing: Pupils understand the basic principles of the topic and are starting to develop their understanding.</p> <p>Securing: Pupils have a strong basic understanding of the topic and are able to replicate mathematical procedures.</p> <p>Advancing: Pupils have a secure understanding of the topic and are starting to tackle more advanced problems.</p> <p>Excelling: Pupils have an excellent understanding of the topic and can apply their knowledge in context.</p>
<p><b>Ways to support your child at home</b></p>	<p>Use Mangahigh regularly to recap the content they have learnt in class and to develop her fluency with the Maths skills learnt.</p> <p>They can access this website by using their Google login.</p> <p>They should use the list of topics on our school website to know which topics they need to learn, in order to develop through each of the progression steps.</p> <p>This list of topics can be found here: <a href="https://www.cathayshigh.co.uk/about-us/our-subjects/mathematics-numeracy/">https://www.cathayshigh.co.uk/about-us/our-subjects/mathematics-numeracy/</a>.</p> <p>To achieve the highest possible outcome in a progression step ("excelling"), pupils need to not only understand all of the skills in that progression step, but they need to be able to apply these skills to different contexts and worded problems.</p>

## SCIENCE

<p><b>Topic Overview</b></p>	<p>The topics pupils will cover this year are:            Energy (Powering Wales)            Processes of Life            The Periodic Names &amp; Natural Resources            Properties of Waves            Environment            Chemistry In Action            Conservation Field Trip</p> <p>During Science lessons pupils have focused on developing four main skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The writing up of a fair test experiment.</li> <li>● Developing and applying numeracy skills to Science problems.</li> <li>● Collaboration in paired and grouped work.</li> <li>● “Speaking like a scientist”.</li> </ul> <p>All lessons focus on the four main purposes, as well as the What matters statements for the Science area which are summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being curious.</li> <li>• How living things support each other in the world around us.</li> <li>• How materials are used to help us live better lives.</li> <li>• How machines work and how they may be improved.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ways to support your child at home</b></p>	<p>In order to further their knowledge and enthusiasm for science, they should spend time using resources such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BBC Bitesize KS3 Science Website</li> <li>2. The Science Google site which can be accessed through the Student Resource Centre on the school website.</li> <li>3. Books, magazines, TV programmes such as those by Professor Brian Cox and Sir David Attenborough, or YouTube videos from channels such as Kurzgesagt, Bright Side and FuseSchool.</li> <li>4. Suitable website/books:            Horrible sciences books - <a href="https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/horrible-science">https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/horrible-science</a>            Catalyst magazine (<a href="http://www.nationalstemcentre.org.uk/catalyst">www.nationalstemcentre.org.uk/catalyst</a>)            Sciencemag.org            Discovermagazine.com            Popsci.com            KS3 revision guides from CGP            Bad science series            BBC operation ouch            500 things you should know about science            Richard Hammond blast lab            BBC bitesize</li> </ol>

## TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL

<b>Topic Overview</b>	<p>Topics covered this year</p> <p>Food Technology Textiles Product Design Computer Science Digital Skills</p> <p>These were delivered on a rotation system throughout the year. Each project lasted approximately half a term.</p> <p>During Technology and Digital lessons pupils have focussed on developing four main skills: Investigating and researching Designing and testing Computational thinking Evaluating</p> <p>During Technology and Digital lessons pupils have focussed on developing the four main skills. Pupils will follow a new scheme of work this year which will allow them to develop their problem solving skills.</p> <p>All lessons will focus on the four main skill areas as well the What Matters statements for the Technology and Digital area: Being Curious and searching for answers Design thinking and engineering Computation</p>
<b>Ways to support your child at home</b>	<p>Food and Textiles- Practice key skills like weighing, measuring, chopping, hand sewing, cutting, tying knots.</p> <p>Product Design - They should aim to refine their design skills, use the google classroom resources. Practice sketching using a 3 dimensional style of drawing (3 point perspective, Isometric)</p> <p>Computer Science- Download Python and practice key skills. Use of online video tutorials using Python for beginners. See Google Classroom resources. Online website tutorials e.g. W3schools; to practice coding skills in Python</p> <p>Digital Skills-data handling, creating spreadsheets and graphs</p>

# HUMANITIES

<b>Topic Overview</b>	<p>This year pupils will follow our Year 8 scheme of work that has been developed in line with the new Curriculum for Wales.</p> <p><b>In History, pupils in Year 8 study the following units of work:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The historical impact of empires with a focus on the Roman, Mali, Mongol and British Empires</li> <li>- The experiences of enslaved Africans during the period of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade</li> <li>- The causes and impact of migration - from Roman times to the present day</li> <li>- Cathays High School and the local community - 100 years of change</li> </ul> <p><b>In Religion, Values &amp; Ethics, pupils in Year 8 study the following units of work:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Important religious beliefs and practices in Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism.</li> <li>- The diversity and importance of religious communities in Wales.</li> </ul> <p><b>In Geography pupils in Year 8 study the following units of work:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Population densities around the world &amp; government population policies</li> <li>- Causes and effects of migration - USA/Mexico and United Kingdom</li> <li>- The development of high-income and low-income countries</li> <li>- Factors affecting development</li> <li>- The causes and impacts of globalisation</li> <li>- Geography of crime</li> </ul> <p>Pupils will also work on a research and presentation homework project on a global challenge related to the study of Humanities subjects, and present their findings to the class. During the final half term of Year 7 they will work on a Humanities group presentation project focussed on aspects of global citizenship. This includes learning about: historic and contemporary issues related to tackling gender inequality; rainforests and sustainability; the impact of globalisation and fair trade.</p>
<b>Ways to support your child at home</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read more widely about humanities subjects at home, particularly the topic areas we will cover during Year 8.</li> <li>2. Throughout the year, pupils will be completing a research and presentation project on a global issue related to Humanities subjects. To support this:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ask your child regularly to show you the research they have done and explain what they have found out.</li> <li>- Look at the tasks they have been set on Google Classroom and encourage them to complete these to the best of their ability.</li> <li>- Help them to learn and practice their presentation.</li> <li>- Support them to identify clear, accurate and relevant websites to help with their research.</li> <li>- Help them to select, refine and summarise key information from their research so that they avoid copying and pasting information that they haven't properly understood.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>



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|  | <p>3. Monitor your child's planner regularly and ask them about any homework set, including revision or preparation for any assessments.</p> <p>4. Get in touch with class teachers if you have any questions or queries - email Mr Taylor (<a href="mailto:gtaylor@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk">gtaylor@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk</a>), including your child's form and I will pass on communications to the relevant class teacher.</p> |
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# LANGUAGES

<b>Topic Overview</b>	<p>Pupils in year 8 will follow a new scheme of work this year which is in line with the new curriculum for Wales. The main themes covered this year will be:</p> <p><b>Welsh</b>          -Holidays – There will be a particular focus on learning about the culture of other countries and pupils will complete a research project at the end of the topic.          Food and shopping          Technology          Media – This topic will have a particular focus on Welsh films, TV programmes and Welsh actors.          Wales and the world – This will focus on what it means to be Welsh, famous landmarks, symbols, foods and events such as the Eisteddfod and St David’s day.</p> <p><b>Spanish</b>          - School - A focus on giving opinions on school subjects and school.          - Holidays - A focus on learning about countries from around the World and learning about their culture and languages.          - Technology - Learning how to form an opinion on different technologies and the advantages and disadvantages it can bring.          - Media - A particular focus on vocabulary based upon TV, film and music genres, whilst expressing opinion.          - Spain and Spanish speaking countries - Spanish and Latin American culture which includes famous landmarks, festivals and traditions.</p>
<b>Ways to support your child at home</b>	<p>It would be beneficial for pupils to begin to deepen their understanding of the Welsh language and Welsh culture by reading articles online and from the resources available in class at home. We have a number of books and magazines in school that pupils could take home to read. They would also benefit from further reading around the topics studied in class.</p> <p>There are a number of additional resources on our Languages Google site and posted regularly on Google classroom.</p> <p>The main themes covered in Year 8 will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Me and my culture (This topic allows pupils to develop an understanding of other cultures as well as the culture of Wales/Spain. They also learn how to introduce themselves in the target language)</li> <li>- Family ( Pupils will be able to describe their family, family traditions, celebrations and religions in Welsh/Spanish)</li> <li>- School ( During this topic pupils learn to express their opinions on their school as well as learning how schools in Patagonia and Spain are different.</li> <li>- Area ( Pupils learn about famous landmarks in Wales/Spain, they will learn about certain elements of the history of Cardiff as well as being able to describe their areas in Welsh/Spanish.)</li> <li>- Leisure time</li> </ul> <p>To develop their literacy skills pupils should aim to read articles and to watch at least two TV programmes in Welsh/Spanish weekly. This will deepen her understanding of the language as well as help tune into a variety of dialects.</p> <p>Learning a language requires consistency. Therefore, it would be beneficial if pupils could utilise the following apps/websites regularly in order to develop their skills outside of the</p>

	classroom. -Learn Welsh.net -Quizlet -Quizziz -GCSE pod -S4C clic -BBC bitesize. -Dualingo
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## HEALTH & WELLBEING

<p><b>Topic Overview</b></p>	<p>During Health and Wellbeing (Physical Education and Wellbeing) lessons pupils will focus on becoming more independent with their physical literacy and developing their leadership skills as well as their knowledge in relation to physical health, mental health and emotional wellbeing. This involves students taking part in a wide range of physical activities which include individual sports and team sports. These sports will cover invasion games, striking and fielding, creative activities and health related fitness.</p> <p>Pupils will follow a new scheme of work this year in Wellbeing lessons which will allow them to develop knowledge and understanding related to the following topics: relationships and feelings and violence, safety and support, Rights, gender and equality and power and social justice and ethical citizens, Substance misuse and careers. As a Health and Wellbeing area, we want our students to develop a passion for physical activity that stays with them throughout their life. All lessons will focus on the four main purposes as well the What matters statements for the Health and Wellbeing area:</p> <p>Developing physical health and well-being has lifelong benefits.          How we process and respond to our experiences affects our mental health and emotional well-being.          Our decision-making impacts on the quality of our lives and the lives of others.          How we engage with social influences shapes who we are and affects our health and well-being.          Healthy relationships are fundamental to our well-being.</p>
<p><b>Ways to support your child at home</b></p>	<p><b>PE</b>          Come with the correct equipment for all activities, whether indoors or outdoors.          Participate in extracurricular activities and maybe look to join a local sports team.          Focus on improving tactical awareness during game play by watching sports on TV.          Encourage children to spend more time being active outside rather than on technology. If in walking or cycling distance from then school, encourage active transport as a way of getting to and from school.</p> <p><b>Wellbeing</b>          ·Discuss the school day with students, reflecting on engagement and friendships.          ·Monitor the use of Google Classroom to ensure students are keeping up with homework.          ·Encourage students to talk about topics studied in Wellbeing e.g. Healthy Eating.</p>