



## Heolddu Comprehensive School

*Opportunity For All*

### **Early entry examinations**

At Heolddu we are very focussed on allowing each pupil to achieve their potential, and ensuring that all pupils gain the maximum number of qualifications. With this in mind we have a very successful early entry policy for our students.

The two main benefits are that examinations are now spread out over the two years of GCSEs and to allow pupils more than one attempt at passing an examination as required.

The decision as to whether a pupil is entered lies with the subject teacher and head of department. It will depend on the effort and standard of work of the pupils and whether they are at that right stage in terms of their academic development and their maturity.

As well as this because many GCSE syllabuses changing and becoming either more fluid or modular in nature pupils will often be required to sit unit examinations throughout year 10 and 11.

Here is a breakdown of some of the examinations pupils may encounter:

#### English

Pupils may be selected to sit English literature at the end of year 10 and language in November of year 11.

#### Mathematics

Pupils may be selected to sit at the end of year 10 in November of year 11. Successful pupils can go on to enter additional mathematics or begin A-Level modules early.

#### Science

Pupils sit a 1 modular GCSE course in year 10 with examinations in November, March and June.

Pupils then follow another linear GCSE in year 11 with all examinations taking place in June.

Pupils requiring re-sits from year 10 or wishing to improve their grade can do so in January of Year 11.

### Design Technology

Pupils will sit an examination at the end of year 10. If pupils pass they are not required to complete more theory work in year 11 and are free to concentrate on designing and completing a practical project.

### Catering

A two day practical examination takes place soon after Christmas in year 11. Pupils cook a dish to fit a brief (set by examination board in September of year 11)

- Before examination they must hand in written coursework including;
- Brief – stating the given brief
- Research – into the ingredients they will use
- Trials – performed on suggested dishes (including photographs)
- Reasons – for their chosen dish
- Order of work – a time log of what they will do in examination
- Nutritional analysis – of dish
- Shopping/equipment list

An evaluation will be written after the practical has taken place to be completed by first week of March in year 11.

### Law

Pupils sit a unit examination at the end of year 10.

### History

Selected pupils will sit an early entry examination at the end of year 10.

### Religious education

Selected pupils will sit an early entry examination at the end of year 10.

### Geography

Selected pupils will sit an early entry examination at the end of year 10.