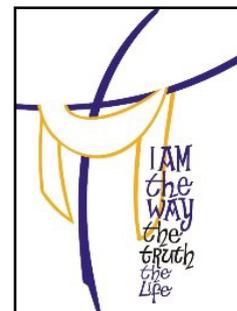


## Timetabling the Key Stage 4 National/Foundation Welsh BaccaLaureate Qualification

St Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School is an oversubscribed, successful, co-educational 11-16 shared faith comprehensive school.

Suzanne Arnall is the Welsh BaccaLaureate Co-ordinator within the school.



### How have you timetabled the Welsh BaccaLaureate this year?

We had 3 collapsed timetable days when the pupils were in year 9, to deliver the teaching and learning of the Enterprise and Employability Challenge. We had a further 15 collapsed timetable days throughout year 10, to deliver the teaching and learning of the Community Challenge, plus the assessment of the 3 Challenges. In addition, we have 1 hour per fortnight during 'PSE' to deliver the teaching and learning of the Global Citizenship Challenge.

All of the above were planned in the summer term of 2015 and highlighted in the staff calendar.

### Why and how did you chose this model?

We chose this model due to curriculum constraints of being a faith school, timetabling full course RE GCSE along with full course Welsh GCSE.

We currently have 3 option lines and did not want to reduce this, nor did we want to take curriculum time from core subjects.

### How it is working so far?

We are generally very pleased with this model. The pupils really enjoyed the Enterprise and Employability Challenge, which was completed in term 1. The pupils are currently working on the Global Citizenship Challenges and the Community Challenge. We expect the end of term to be very intense!

### Have you encountered any issues with this model?

If we have any problems, I believe they may be in term 3, when 2 assessments will be completed.

Staff are concerned about the number of collapsed timetable days, therefore this will need to be revisited. A number of meetings are being held this term to address concerns and consider strategies to assist subject leaders with planning for collapsed timetable days.

### What will you change about Welsh Baccaulaureate timetabling in the future?

The aim is to reduce the number of collapsed days, but taking them off the calendar too soon will make it more difficult to get them back on in the future, if needed. We expect more teaching and learning of the skills to occur in subjects, for example, Humanities, IT, Technology and English. This is already being organised; our current year 9 have had one hour per fortnight (from History and Geography) to complete the teaching and learning of the Global Citizenship Challenge. This has been partially successful, but will continue next year.

### What key advice would you give to other centres?

- I am very pleased that we have gone with this model and it is something I would recommend.
- We have 3 members of staff with a TLR for each Challenge, they assess everything, so there is no standardisation of marking needed.
- The delivery must be very well organised, with plenty of planning in the beginning.
- We are more able to handpick staff to deliver skills on collapsed timetable days, although we are not sure how long staff will be willing to give up their time. Glyndwr University have also committed staff from their Business Faculty to deliver some Enterprise Skills in Year 9.

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*The revised Welsh Baccaulaureate KS4 National/Foundation qualification was introduced from September 2015. Entries for the three Challenges can be submitted either for the January or June Series during the two years of the course. The Individual Project entries must be submitted during the second year of the course in either the January or June series. Further information can be found on the WJEC website at [www.wjec.co.uk/welshbaccaulaureate](http://www.wjec.co.uk/welshbaccaulaureate).*