



PERFORMING ARTS
HEALTH & WELLBEING

LANGUAGES, LITERACY & COMMUNICATION
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY HUMANITIES

THE WORLD AROUND US
MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY

YEAR 7 PROJECTS



INTRODUCTION

As you receive your child's first set of progress reports, I would like to take this opportunity to explain more about our year 7 projects.

A lot of the information below is already on the school website in the Curriculum section, and if you would like to know more about any aspect of the projects, please contact the school.

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WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECTS?

The projects serve two main purposes. The first is to help pupils make the transition between primary and secondary education.

The projects are taught by Year 7 tutors. By spending 10 lessons a week on top of their registration periods with their tutor groups, pupils become better acquainted with their fellow classmates and form tutor where they will have someone to turn to from the start.

Spending a part of the day working on specific subjects and then another part on thematic project work is more akin to a day at primary school, and means that pupils don't have to move around their new school as much.



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECTS?

The second purpose of the projects is to strengthen and develop the skills that pupils need to succeed in the secondary curriculum.

Whichever areas the pupils would like to specialise in later in their education career, it is essential that they have a good grasp of skills such as communication, numeracy, and digital literacy skills. Developing skills such as problem solving, working with others and persevering is also important for their success in life and the world of work.

The pandemic has once again strengthened our desire to work on these skills as pupils missed out on opportunities to develop them at the end of their primary education. Some pupils have had little opportunity to speak Welsh, and so there is plenty of emphasis on discussing, collaborating and presenting information through the medium of Welsh.

THE PROJECTS IN ACTION

During the year, the pupils will take part in 7 projects, with each one leaning towards one of the six curriculum areas of learning. Each class starts off with their tutor's project before moving on to the next one every 5 weeks.

	Term 1	Term 1	Term 2	Term 2	Term 2 & 3	Term 3	Term 3
7A	Languages, Literacy & Communication	Humanities	Health & Wellbeing	The World Around Us	Performing Arts	Science & Technology	Mathematics & Numeracy
7B	Mathematics & Numeracy	Languages, Literacy & Communication	Humanities	Health & Wellbeing	The World Around Us	Performing Arts	Science & Technology
7C	Science & Technology	Mathematics & Numeracy	Languages, Literacy & Communication	Humanities	Health & Wellbeing	The World Around Us	Performing Arts
7D	Performing Arts	Science & Technology	Mathematics & Numeracy	Languages, Literacy & Communication	Humanities	Health & Wellbeing	The World Around Us
7E	The World Around Us	Performing Arts	Science & Technology	Mathematics & Numeracy	Languages, Literacy & Communication	Humanities	Health & Wellbeing
7G	Health & Wellbeing	The World Around Us	Performing Arts	Science & Technology	Mathematics & Numeracy	Languages, Literacy & Communication	Humanities
7H	Humanities	Health & Wellbeing	The World Around Us	Performing Arts	Science & Technology	Mathematics & Numeracy	Languages, Literacy & Communication

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Introduction:

How do you survive a trek from Cardiff to Wrexham?

In this project, you will have an opportunity to become a healthy and confident individual who eats healthily, develops and strengthens their mental and physical wellbeing and understands how to find help if needed. You will also give advice to others about this.

Take part in some superb experiences:

- ‘Wellness Wednesdays’ – Practical tasks outside of the classroom
- Create and record a podcast to give advice to others on how to live a healthy life.

How to prepare:



Scan here to
research healthy diets!



In this project you will learn...:

- Learn how to plan a walk from one destination to the other by calculating the distance
- Learn about what kind of nutrition you need to live a healthy life.
- Create a nutritious snack.
- Learn about mental health and people’s behaviours towards it.
- Become a healthy individual by studying and developing healthy coping strategies
- Look at how to promote emotional wellbeing.
- Take part in some practical activities every Wednesday e.g. yoga sessions, first aid sessions, walking.
- Work in groups to plan, practice, and record a podcast providing information about emotional wellbeing and coping strategies.

Assessment:

1. Creating a healthy snack recipe
2. Your work in groups in creating a podcast.

Effort Grade	Achievement Grade
A = Excellent	1 = Achieved the success criteria to a high standard
B = Good	2 = Achieved most of the success criteria
C = Satisfactory	3 = Achieved some of the success criteria
CH = Lack of effort	4 = Did not achieve the success criteria for the task

HUMANITIES

Introduction:

What is it like for a refugee to come to Wrexham?

In this project, you will have an opportunity to become a principled, informed citizen who shows empathy to others, and you will gain more of an understanding about some of the problems in the world around us. You will also be given an opportunity to create digital materials within a group setting.

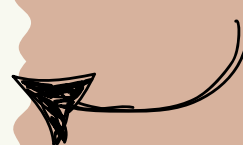
Take part in some superb experiences:

- Classroom debate about a refugee's experience
- Plan, film and edit a short film about a refugee's time in Wrexham

How to prepare:



Read about a refugee's experience!



In this project you will learn...:

- Learn about what is a refugee.
- Practice skimming and scanning and taking notes to gather information about refugees in Wales.
- Express your opinions as part of a classroom debate
- Practice appreciation skills of sources by looking back in time.
- Consider the feelings of a refugee by showing empathy and maturity.
- Create a monologue from a refugee's point of view and look at the features of a monologue
- Practice your calculation skills by working out how long it takes a refugee to reach Wales.
- Learn about prejudice, discrimination and racism and how we can become ethical citizens by exploring these topics.
- Work together in groups to plan, film and edit a short video that shows a refugee's journey to Wales. All elements of the project will need to be included in the video.

Assessment:

1. Reading and gathering information
2. Your maturity and empathy when discussing a serious topic
3. Your teamworking skills in practicing and presenting the final video.

Effort Grade	Achievement Grade
A = Excellent	1 = Achieved the success criteria to a high standard
B = Good	2 = Achieved most of the success criteria
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LANGUAGES, LITERACY & COMMUNICATION

Introduction:

What sort of approaches can we use to hit a target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050? In this project, you will have a chance to become a creative contributor who has an awareness of national events held in Wales and beyond. You will begin to understand more about minority languages and Wales's position as a nation.

Take part in some superb experiences:

- Practical work where you will create a board game
- Develop your digital skills by creating an exciting new website

How to prepare:



Read this article about some of the world's minority languages



In this project you will learn...:

- Research one of the Welsh Government's ideas of a million of Welsh language speakers by 2050.
- Learn about the history behind some of Wales's most interesting place names.
- Consider what are the benefits of being multi-lingual and the impact it has on brain development.
- Start to think about how do people learn a new language
- Work with others to create a creative new game to help learners with the Welsh language.
- Research linguistic games online
- Start familiarizing yourself with Google Sites to build a website
- Work independently to design and create a website that promotes the Welsh language and gives advice to other learners.

Assessment:

1. Your teamworking skills as you create a game for language learners
2. Planning and creating a website for Welsh language learners

Effort Grade	Achievement Grade
A= Excellent	1 = Achieved the success criteria to a high standard
B = Good	2 = Achieved most of the success criteria
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MATHS & NUMERACY

Introduction:

Why should I invest in your business?

In this project, you will have an opportunity to become an ambitious and capable learner who can use creativity and numeracy skills to create a business in a real-life situation.

Take part in some superb experiences:

- Present well-known mathematicians to the class
- 'Dragon's Den' Presentation

How to prepare:



Watch this clip from
'Dragon's Den'



In this project you will learn...:

- Research well-known mathematicians while discovering some connections to Wales
- Look at what makes effective teamwork
- Learn about business and the different types of businesses in the Wrexham area
- Create a market research to find out what will be popular
- Learn about the different advertising methods for businesses
- Look at the financial side of things
- Find out what a budget is and create a personal budget for a business
- Work together to present your business to the class in the form of a 'Dragon's Den' pitch
- Attempt to persuade the panel to be selected as the chosen business.

Assessment:

1. Your work designing a business and all its elements
2. Working with others to present the idea to the class in the form of a 'Dragon's Den' pitch.

Effort Grade	Achievement Grade
A = Excellent	1 = Achieved the success criteria to a high standard
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PERFORMING ARTS

Introduction:

To what extent does an individual shape a country's identity?

In this project, you will have an opportunity to become an enterprising and creative contributor by practicing skills that will allow you to work independently and within a group. You will also have an opportunity to create digital materials and have a chance to practice your performance skills.

Take part in some superb experiences:

- Drama tasks in the Drama Studio
- Opportunity to present the final task as a live performance

How to prepare:



Have a look at the unit's
vocabulary game!



In this project you will learn...:

- Learn about a person's identity and the type of things that contribute towards a person's identity.
- Plan, create and edit a video of your favourite thing in the world
- Work independently on a digital task
- Study Wales and Wrexham's identity
- Use your reading and research skills to gather information at an information fair on individuals from Wales
- Look at how two artists from Wales express their identity
- Use your listening skills to create a homework task
- Plan, create and improve a piece of written work
- Have a look at the traditional and modern music of Wales
- Use a computer-based program to compose digital music
- Work in groups to create a 5-minute final presentation about an individual who has influenced Welsh identity. All elements of the project will need to be included in the presentation.
- Learn how to evaluate your work.

Assessment:

1. Your video of your favourite thing in the world
2. Evaluation of Ogwyn Davies's work
3. Working with others in a group, as well as practicing and presenting the final task.

Effort Grade	Achievement Grade
A = Excellent	1 = Achieved the success criteria to a high standard
B = Good	2 = Achieved most of the success criteria
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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Introduction:

Am I a scientist?

In this project, you will have an opportunity to become an ambitious and capable learner, who makes effective use of data and undertakes scientific investigations. You will develop your creativity skills by adapting and solving problems.

Take part in some superb experiences:

- Plan and complete experiments by yourself
- Present the results at a Science Fair

How to prepare:



Practice your scientific vocabulary



In this project you will learn...:

- Learn about science by discovering scientific methods.
- Practice your research skills by gathering information about well-known scientists.
- Use various methods to collect data including measuring the temperature, time, distance and current.
- Understand how to use data effectively, presenting it in a variety of ways, as well as analysing and evaluating data.
- Develop a scientific curiosity when planning and carrying out practical experiments independently and within a group.
- Work together in groups to plan, complete and evaluate the project's final experiment.
- Practice your presentation skills at a Science Fair showing the results of the experiment.

Assessment:

1. Collecting and analysing data from practical experiments.
2. Teamworking skills in creating a scientific investigation and a final presentation.

<i>Effort Grade</i>	<i>Achievement Grade</i>
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STUDY SKILLS & LANGUAGE REFRESHER

Introduction:

In the first two weeks, you will have an opportunity to become an ambitious, capable learner who is ready to cope with the challenges you may face in a secondary school. You will be introduced to the school and any questions you may have will be answered.

Take part in some superb experiences:

- Your chance to prepare ahead for your own career after leaving Ysgol Morgan Llwyd

How to prepare:



Watch this video about starting secondary school!



In this project you will learn...:

Study Skills:

- About the standards and expectations of Ysgol Morgan Llwyd
- How to organise yourself and how to create a study plan
- How to ensure a positive growth mindset
- Appropriate reading skills for tests and exam situations
- How to make notes
- Where to go if you need help

Language Improvement:

- Consider what needs to be noted down in your book at the beginning of each lesson
- Ensure that you are confident in noting down the date correctly
- How to read tenses correctly
- To make appropriate use of 'ti' or 'chi' (you) in Welsh
- How to remove English idioms from your written work
- How to answer questions correctly.

Assessment:

1. Your understanding of study skills by completing a short test
2. Simple grammar rules

Effort Grade	Achievement Grade
A= Excellent	1 = Achieved the success criteria to a high standard
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THE WORLD AROUND US

Introduction:

How do we take care of the world around us?

In this project, you will have an opportunity to become an ethical and knowledgeable citizen, who is mindful of the environment and knows how to manage the risks that come with practical work. You will spend time inside and outside the classroom.

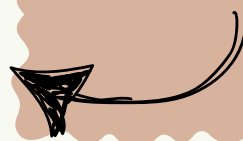
Take part in some superb experiences:

- Present ideas on how to transform YMLL
- Become a teacher for the day!

How to prepare:



Why not catch up with one of these episodes of 'Garddio a Mwy' on S4C?



In this project you will learn...:

- Start taking notice of the world around us at Ysgol Morgan Llwyd.
- Learn how to work safely in an outdoor space.
- Think of different ways to transform the school and gather the views of your peers about your favourite idea.
- Discover the journey of a plant's life
- Attempt to plant plants yourself by experimenting where and in what they are planted.
- Research the history of Alfred Russel Wallace, a famous naturalist from Wales.
- Discover more about various environmental heroes such as Greta Thunberg and David Attenborough.
- Create your own environmental hero.
- Become a teacher for the day!
- Work together to deliver a lesson on an element of the environment. The lesson will last between 5-10 minutes.

Assessment:

1. Information Fair for transformation ideas
2. Group work where you will deliver a lesson to the class on an element of the environment.

Effort Grade	Achievement Grade
A = Excellent	1 = Achieved the success criteria to a high standard
B = Good	2 = Achieved most of the success criteria
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SUMMARY OF THE PROJECTS

Science - *How important is science in problem solving?*

In this project, there are ample opportunities for pupils to carry out practical laboratory work to find out how to design and carry out tests to solve problems. The emphasis is on criminology as the pupils use forensic science techniques to solve a criminal problem and present their evidence in a court case. The project provides an opportunity to develop scientific and numeracy skills while also encouraging independent thinking and problem solving.

Language - *How to achieve a million Welsh speakers by 2050?*

This project is underpinned by the Welsh government's aim of securing one million Welsh speakers by the year 2050. As well as taking a look at the history of the Welsh language, there is an opportunity to think about the purpose and benefits of learning a new language and the challenges we face in doing so. The emphasis is on developing all aspects of pupils' literacy skills; speaking, reading and writing. Creative skills are needed to devise a game to help learn Welsh and digital skills are developed as the pupils create a website for Welsh learners.



SUMMARY OF THE PROJECTS

Health and Wellbeing - *Could you survive for six weeks with Bear Grylls?*

Survival skills are central to this project and include things such as orienteering, first aid and decision making. In addition, pupils are taught how to look after their physical and mental health. Various tasks look at elements such as diet, sleep, growth mindset and coping with problems. 'Wellness Wednesday' is a fun opportunity to improve fitness and understand the importance of regular exercise to health and well-being. At the end of the project, the pupils use what they have learned to navigate an orienteering and obstacle course and to present information regarding health and well-being.

Humanities - *What would it be like to move to Wrexham as a refugee?*

This project introduces the pupils to the theme of refugees. The historical aspects of the theme are explored before turning to the refugee situation in Syria. This provides pupils with an opportunity to look at the geographical aspects of the country and a refugee's journey to Wales. Pupils are given an opportunity to see Wrexham through a stranger's eyes, and learn more about the local history. When considering a refugee's experience, an opportunity is given to discuss aspects of human rights, prejudice and racism, as well as empathy for others. In this project, there is an emphasis on developing map reading and reading skills as well as evaluating other sources and opinions. The highlight of the project will be producing a video communicating what they have learnt throughout the process.

SUMMARY OF THE PROJECTS

Numeracy - Are you the next Alan Sugar?

The numeracy project introduces year 7 pupils to the world of business and entrepreneurship. They will have the opportunity to look at issues such as budgets, marketing and market research. There will be an emphasis on teamwork as groups come up with a product to sell and think about how best to put their ideas into action. The highlight of the project will be presenting the idea to the rest of the class or selling it at a fair. The emphasis is on numeracy skills and applying what they have learned in their mathematics lessons to a real-life context. Effective communication is vital to the success of the task.

Performing Arts - To what extent do individuals shape a country's identity?

Drama, Music and Art are expertly combined in this project as pupils are led to think about their identities, what makes them unique and the influence of their countries and localities on them. Pupils are given an opportunity to study how Welsh artists and composers as well as other famous Welsh people express their identities. Central to the final presentation of the project are the presentation and performance skills of the pupils.

A great deal of work has gone into creating these projects and I would like to thank our project leaders for their work in designing useful and fun projects to ensure that year 7 pupils enjoy the experience of moving to a secondary school.

MOVING FROM ONE PROJECT TO ANOTHER

The pupils will move on to a new project every six weeks. At the end of each project, they will have the opportunity to record their progress in their 'Success Booklet' which encourages them to consider how their skills are developing, what they have achieved and the skills they will need to focus on during the next project.

Each project leader will share information about the pupils with the next project leader in question, discussing their individual needs and how they learn best.



ASSESSING PUPILS' WORK AND PROGRESS

While other subjects continue to use achievement levels to record pupil achievement, the projects provide an opportunity to move towards the new Curriculum for Wales approach to assessment. This new approach to assessment will be more holistic and focused on pupil development through the 'Progression Steps'. There are 5 progression steps from the ages of 3-16, with progression descriptions for each step within the six areas of learning. We estimate that most year 7 pupils will be working at or towards the stage of progression step 3. In the recently published Go4School short report, the key below is used:

In progress (Ar waith) – *The pupil has not yet been assessed in this skill.*

Beginning to develop (Dechrau Datblygu) - *beginning to develop some features of progression step 3.*

Developing (Datblygu) – *developing confidence on features from progression step 3.*

Certain (Sicr)- *several features of progression step 3 are unquestionably demonstrated.*

Excel (Rhagori) - *exceeds elements of progression step 3 and aspires towards step 4.*

As stated above, each project focuses on specific skills, therefore it is not our intention to try to assess everything in each subject. The pupils' academic achievement will continue to be assessed in the traditional subjects on the pupils' timetable.



EVALUATING THE PROJECTS

During the School Monitoring Week in late November, emphasis was placed on evaluating the value and success of the projects to date. Each pupil had the opportunity to give their views in a questionnaire and a discussion was held with year 7 class representatives.

The Senior Management Team had the opportunity to scrutinise schemes of work, lessons, and pupils' work, and a discussion was held with the project leaders. The response was very positive with most pupils saying they enjoyed the projects, a minority saying they enjoyed them a little, and no one saying they didn't enjoy them at all.

Feedback confirms that the projects have helped the pupils settle into school life with both pupils and tutors agreeing they know each other well by now. The emphasis on discussing and working together has helped pupils get to know each other and regain their confidence in using the Welsh language.

Moving forward, we would like to make the pupils more aware of the skills being developed and strengthen the ability of pupils and tutors to assess their progress in those skills.



WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN YEAR 8?

As we start planning the timetable for year 8, our intention at the moment is to continue to offer projects on the pupils' timetable, but to a lesser degree, with approximately 3-4 lessons per week.

We would like to develop projects that focus on themes that do not feature prominently in the content of 'traditional' subjects, for example personal finance; careers and the world of work; politics; coding and more. We will seek the views of pupils, staff, parents, education specialists and employers when deciding on the content of the projects, their purpose and methods of teaching and assessment.

YOUR VOICE

If you would like to make any comments on our current projects, or, if you have any ideas for future projects, please contact us via email at bocspost@ysgolmorganllwyd.wrexham.gov. We would appreciate your feedback, both positive and constructive.



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