

Welcome from the Headteacher

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda!

Welcome Back! I hope that our Year 11 pupils return to YBA feeling refreshed and ready to learn. They are now in the final stages of their learning journey with us at YBA before starting their post-16 education. This term and the next are very important stepping stones to their future success and the staff and community at YBA are here to support all pupils on achieving their potential. I wish all pupils in Year 11 at YBA every success in the up-coming months.

Adele Slinn, Headteacher

Year 11 Steps-To-Success

On Thursday 19th December Year 11 pupils received their Mock Exam Results via our YBA Brown Envelope Day. During this event pupils were asked to reflect upon how these results made them feel and consider what they might do differently before their External GCSE's commence on the Wednesday 7th May 2025. During this event pupils learnt about the difference between a fixed mindset and a growth mindset.

“A growth mindset is when students understand that their abilities can be developed.”

(Dweck, 2014).

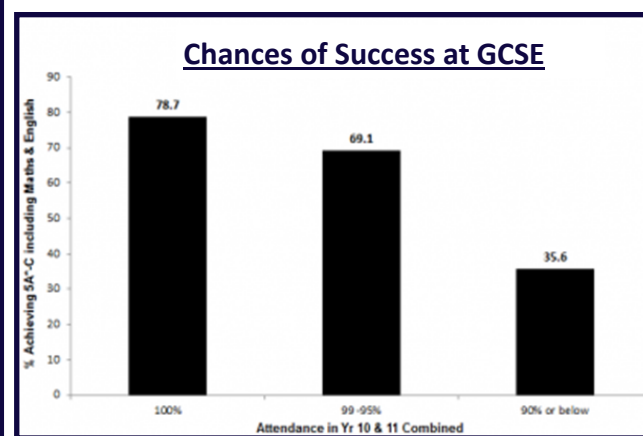
Whether a student holds a fixed mindset or growth mindset significantly impacts their learning experience—from primary school to secondary school. Students that hold a fixed mindset give up when they can't solve a problem and admit defeat. This can be detrimental to students' future efforts and leads to limited student growth. With a growth mindset, students continually work to improve their skills, leading to greater growth and ultimately, success. We want all pupils at YBA to have a growth mindset and be the successful young people they deserve to be.

To support YBA pupils to DREAM. REACH. ACHIEVE. we have introduced the Year 11 Steps-to-Success programme. Here you will find information and guidance on how to help your son or daughter with their revision in the build up to the Summer GCSE exams.

<http://www.ysgolbrynalyn.co.uk/curri/year-11-steps-to-success-202425/>

Excellent Attendance is Key to Success.

Regular and punctual attendance of pupils at school is both a legal requirement and crucial to a pupil's success. There is a clear link between attendance and high achievement. If pupils are not in lessons they cannot learn.



Key Dates This Term:

Year 11 Parents' Evening: Thursday 16th January 2025.

NEA Science Assessments: Double: 27/1/25-3/2/25 and Triple: 27/1/25—10/1/25.

(Worth 10% Final Grade)

Mock Exam 2: Wk 10th February 2025.

Welsh Oracy Exams: 24/3/25—27/3/25

Health and Well-being

Year 11 can be a stressful time for pupils and exams can make them feel anxious and stressed. At YBA we have a number of staff that can support your child with their health and well-being.

Your child's form tutor should always be your first point of contact regarding any concerns or the Head of Year—Mr Will Beddoes. They can then support by signposting/arranging next steps as needed. The more we are made aware of any concerns, the better it is for YBA staff to support individuals further.

Creating strong positive relationships with the staff at YBA is key to nurturing and supporting your son's or daughter's mental health.

Further information on how YBA supports Pupils' Wellbeing can be found via this link: [Wellbeing - Ysgol Bryn Alyn](#)

Wales Post-16 Education and Training: Many pupils in Year 11 should now be thinking about: What next, after YBA. There are now many options available to pupils—college, work, apprenticeships. It is important that pupils decide what is the best next steps for them. Further information regarding the range of opportunities available can be found via the Careers Wales website.

<https://careerswales.gov.wales/>

Please note that pupils at YBA are currently studying Level 2 qualifications. When choosing their next steps any courses should be Level 2 or above.

YBA also has an in-house Careers Advisor— Mandy Williams - who is available to provide advice and guidance. If you think this might benefit you please make an appointment.



“
SOME PEOPLE
DREAM OF
SUCCESS WHILE
OTHERS WAKE
UP AND WORK.
”

YBA is a No Phone Zone from Monday 1st January 2025.

Following extensive research and surveying of our pupil, parent and staff population our New Mobile Phone Device Policy will come into force on Monday 1st January 2025.

We very much hope that this change to our policy will benefit all our pupils' mental health, and increase time for social interaction, learning and laughter.



Passport to Prom.

The year 11 Prom is Thursday 3rd July at the Ramada Hotel, Wrexham.



Passport to the Prom

Thursday 3rd July 2025
Ramada Plaza, Wrexham

Full Name: _____
House: _____
Form Teacher: _____



Students began their prom passport on 2nd December. They need to obtain 40 stamps to pay their deposit by 11th April 2025. 80 stamps need to be obtained to pay the whole balance (TBC).

Students must have a positive score of 100 behaviour points.

They will get stamps from teachers or form tutors by doing the following:

- Wow cards - 2 Stamps
- GCSE POD watching 10 pods - 1 Stamp
- Attendance of 96 or above each week - 1 Stamp
- B4L each half term - 5 stamps.

All other decisions regarding admittance to the Prom will be at the discretion of the Head Teacher and, as all other decisions made at school, individual circumstances will always be taken into account.

Dream. Reach. Achieve.

YEAR 11

Thursday 21st
August 2025

GCSE RESULTS DAY



PROM
3/7/2025

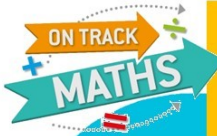
Yr11 Study
Leave Begins
DATE ?

GCSE Exams
Begin
7/5/2025

NEA Coursework
Deadlines - 30/4/25



May Half-term
Revision



English/Maths/
Science
Interventions



Easter
Revision

TERM
3

8
Days
To Exams

MAT Achievement
Sessions

Check Edulink and the YBA
website for details of holiday
revision opportunities.
[Exam Information 2024/25 -
Ysgol Bryn Alyn](#)

Exam Stress
Workshop

Form Time
Revision
Strategies

Welsh Oracy
Exams
24/3/25—
27/3/25



MOCK
Exams 2
FEB. 25

Check Edulink for tar-
geted REACH sessions
for A*/A pupils.

YBA



Prom
Passport

Parents
Evening
16/01/25

NEA Science
Assessments

English/Maths
Interventions

MOCK
EXAMS
Start
SOON

Next Steps
Drop Down
Day 1/25

121
Days
To Exams

TERM
2

Check Edulink and the YBA
website for details of
After school revision
opportunities.
[Exam Information 2024/25
- Ysgol Bryn Alyn](#)

Brown
Envelope Day
19/12/24

School
Photographs
6/12/24

MOCK
Exams 1
NOV. 24

Steps to
Success

Form Time
Revision
Strategies

Check out this link:

[https://
www.ysgolbrynalyn.co.uk/
curriculum/year-11-steps-
to-success-202425/](https://www.ysgolbrynalyn.co.uk/curriculum/year-11-steps-to-success-202425/)

GCSE Numeracy
Exams
5/11/24 - 7/11/24



Core
Evening
10/10/24

244
Days
To Exams

TERM
1

School Year
Starts



English/Maths
Interventions



KEY EVENTS

YBA ACHIEVE SUPPORT