

Exams and Qualifications at Childwall Abbey School

Childwall Abbey School is a special school for students aged 10-19 (school years 6-14). We have pupils at Key Stage 2 (year 6), Key Stage 3 (years 7-9), Key Stage 4 (years 10-11) and Key Stage 5 (Years 12-14).

Students at Childwall Abbey access the National Curriculum, but may need the content to be presented in more accessible forms, or more simply. All our students have a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health & Care Plan which outlines their individual support needs. Generally, our students require small class sizes, ready access to additional adults, differentiated teaching and lots of encouragement, to achieve. Most students join us with barriers to their learning which require specialist teaching and, in particular, alternative means of recording their knowledge and understanding, other than the written word.

Literacy and numeracy underpin all learning and these areas receive the greatest focus, in our school. We are aware that improved literacy invariably leads to greater success - be it academic, social, emotional or financial. It also significantly affects confidence and self-esteem.

When it comes to choosing examination courses for our students, the staff always seek accreditation which provides the greatest opportunity for success - with least emphasis on written end-of-year examinations. Consequently, the majority of the formal examinations on offer are coursework based - allowing the students to demonstrate their skills throughout their long courses (usually two year programmes of study). Students sit exams when they are ready, but generally this would be in Year 9 to year 14 - most often at the end of Year 11.

The following pages outline the formal provision, but also other opportunities that are available for students on an individual basis.

Subjects which must be taught - according to the New National Curriculum (from 2014)

* Personal, social, health & economic education (PHSE) is also taught throughout the school via ASDAN units

Key Stage 2	Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5
History	History		No compulsory subjects Our students follow a personalized learning programme, with opportunities for a range of academic accreditation plus Duke of Edinburgh, AoPE, CoPE and ASDAN awards
Geography	Geography		
Art & Design	Art & Design		
Design Technology	Design Technology		
Modern Foreign Languages	Modern Foreign Languages		
Music	Music		
Computing	Computing		
Physical Education (PE)	Physical Education (PE)	Physical Education (PE)	
Religious Education	Religious Education	Religious Education	
	Sex & Relationship Education (SRE)	Sex & Relationship Education (SRE)	
	Citizenship	Citizenship	
English	English	English	
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	
Science	Science	Science	

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-primary-curriculum>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-secondary-curriculum>

Accredited Qualifications Offered at Childwall Abbey School

GCSE		Entry Level Diploma (Entry Pathways)		Entry Level Certificate (Entry Pathways)		Entry Level Award (Entry Pathways)		Functional Skills		Various Awards	
Grades A*-G		Diploma		Level 1, 2 or 3		Level 2 or 3		All Levels		All Levels	
Subject	Exam Board	Subject	Exam Board	Subject	Exam Board	Subject	Exam Board	Subject	Exam Board	Subject	Exam Board
Maths	Edexcel			Maths	AQA			Maths	AQA		
Science	AQA			Science	AQA						
Art:	WJEC	Creative, Media & Performing Arts	WJEC	Health & Fitness	WJEC	Health & Fitness	WJEC				
		Preparation for Work	WJEC	Preparation for Work	WJEC	Preparation for Work	WJEC				
		Humanities	WJEC	Humanities	WJEC	Humanities	WJEC				
						English	OCR	English	OCR	various	Asdan
								Computer Studies	AQA	JSLA	Sports Council

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- Independent Living Skills, Duke of Edinburgh, AoPE & CoPE are introduced in Key Stage 5 (6th form).

* Creative, Media and Performing Arts (Entry Pathways) can include Media, Art, Music, Drama and other units of study.

* Preparation for Work (Entry Pathways) can include Technology, Hair & Beauty, PSE and other units of study.

* Humanities (Entry Pathways) can include History, Religious Education and French and other units of study.

- The majority of these course are expected to last two years, and generally begin at the start of year 10 (Key Stage 4), however, occasionally students begin coursework towards the end of Key Stage 3, in year 9.
 - Occasionally students access externally provided vocational opportunities, which are usually accredited e.g. NVQ.

Qualifications and Credit Framework

Qualifications that use the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) rules are made up of units. This provides flexible ways to gain a qualification. Each unit has a credit value which tells you how many credits are awarded when a unit is completed. The credit value also gives an indication of how long it will normally take you to prepare for a unit or qualification. One credit will usually take about 10 hours of learning.

Units build up to qualifications. There are 3 different types of qualification in the QCF: Award, Certificate and Diploma. Awards can be achieved with 1 to 12 credits; for a Certificate you need 13 - 36 credits and for a Diploma you need at least 37 credits. Units and qualifications are each given a level according to their difficulty, from Entry level to level 8. The title of a qualification will tell you its size and level.

If a qualification includes a unit that you have already been awarded, you can use the unit you have already taken towards that qualification. Units awarded by different awarding bodies can be combined to build up qualifications.

The National Qualifications Framework

Qualifications that do not meet the rules of the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) are developed to fit the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). The NQF provides an indication of the relative demand of different qualifications.

Qualifications in the NQF are grouped together according to their difficulty. They are given a level from entry level to level 8. The levels are based on the standards of knowledge, skill and competence needed for each qualification. Qualifications at the same level can be very different in terms of content and the length of time they take to complete. The levels of the NQF and QCF can be seen on Ofqual's comparing qualifications page. Ofqual website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofqual>

Level	National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Qualifications Examples	Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) Qualifications Examples
Entry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Entry level certificates ▪ Skills for Life at Entry level 	Entry level Vocational Qualifications (VQs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Entry level awards, certificates and diplomas ▪ Foundation Learning Tier pathways ▪ Functional Skills at Entry level
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GCSEs graded D-G ▪ National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) at level 1 ▪ Key Skills level 1 ▪ Skills for Life ▪ Foundation Diploma 	Level 1 VQs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BTEC awards, certificates and diplomas at level 1 ▪ Functional Skills level 1 ▪ OCR Nationals ▪ Foundation Learning Tier pathways
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GCSEs graded A*-C ▪ NVQs at level 2 ▪ Level 2 VQs ▪ Key Skills level 2 ▪ Skills for Life ▪ Higher Diploma 	Level 2 VQs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BTEC awards, certificates and diplomas at level 2 ▪ Functional Skills level 2
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AS/A levels ▪ International Baccalaureate ▪ Key Skills level 3 ▪ NVQs at level 3 ▪ Cambridge International Awards 	Level 3 VQs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BTEC awards, certificates and diplomas at level 3 ▪ BTEC Nationals ▪ OCR Nationals

For more information see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofqual>

<http://register.ofqual.gov.uk/>

General overview of points score values

GCSE	points	JSLA	points	Functional Skills	points
A*	58				
A	52				
B	46			Level 2 (L2) <i>(equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$ GCSE grade B)</i>	23
C	40				
D	34				
E	28				
F	22			Level 1 (L1) <i>(equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$ GCSE grade E/F)</i>	12.5
G	16				
Entry Level					
Entry Level Diploma ELD	28-34				
Entry Level 3 ELC3	14			Functional Skills Entry Level 3 (FL3) <i>(equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$ ELC 3)</i>	7
Entry Level 2 ELC2	12	JSLA	6.25	Functional Skills Entry Level 2 (FL2) <i>(equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$ ELC 2)</i>	6
Entry Level 1 ELC1	10			Functional Skills Entry Level 1 (FL3) <i>(equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$ ELC 1)</i>	5
Entry Level Award ELA	6-7				

A Guide to the Qualifications Offered at Childwall Abbey School

Student's age	School year	Key Stage	Accreditation / Qualifications currently offered	National Qualifications Framework	
				Level	Point Score
10-11	6	2	Asdan Awards		
11-12	7		Asdan Awards & Arts Award Discover & Explore		
12-13	8	3	Asdan Awards & Arts Award Discover & Explore		
13-14	9		Some long-term coursework may begin - see below		
14-15 15-16	10 & 11	4	<p>GCSE (Grades A*-C) Art, Science & Maths Functional Skills (Level 2) Computing, Maths, English</p> <p>GCSE (Grades D-G) Art, Science & Maths Functional Skills (Level 1) Computing, Maths, English College courses on an individual basis</p> <p>Entry Pathways Diploma Preparation for Work: Media & Performing Arts, Humanities</p> <p>Entry Level qualifications: (Entry Level 1, 2 & 3) in English, Maths, ICT, Science</p> <p>Entry Pathways Certificate Preparation for Work: Media & Performing Arts, Humanities; Health & Fitness</p> <p>Entry Pathways Award Preparation for Work: Media & Performing Arts; Humanities; Health & Fitness</p> <p>Junior Sports Leadership Award JSLA</p>	<p>Level 2 58-40</p> <p>Level 2 23</p> <p>Level 1 34-16</p> <p>Level 1 12.5</p> <p>Entry Diploma 3 34</p> <p>Entry Diploma 2 28</p> <p>Entry Level 3 14</p> <p>Entry Level 2 12</p> <p>Entry Level 1 10</p> <p>Entry Level 3 14</p> <p>Entry Level 2 12</p> <p>Entry Award 3 7</p> <p>Entry Award 2 6</p> <p>- 6.25</p>	

			Functional Skills <u>Entry Level 1, 2 & 3</u> Computing, Maths, English	Functional Skills Entry Level 1-3	5-7
Student's age	School year	Key Stage	Accreditation / Qualifications currently offered	National Qualifications Framework	
				Level	Point Score
16-17	12	5	<p>6th formers may continue with any of the above qualifications &</p> <p>A full range of Asdan Awards</p> <p>College courses on an Individual basis</p> <p>Award of Personal Effectiveness (AoPE)</p> <p>Level 1 Food Hygiene Certificate</p> <p>Duke of Edinburgh Awards: Bronze and Silver</p>	<p>(see chart below for details of points)</p> <p>Level 2 Level 1</p>	<p>(see chart below for details of points)</p> <p>23 12.5</p>
17-19	13-14	5	<p>A full range of Asdan Awards</p> <p>College courses on an Individual basis</p> <p>Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE)</p> <p>Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate</p> <p>OCR BTEC Nationals</p> <p>Duke of Edinburgh Awards: Silver & Gold</p>	<p>(see chart below for details of points)</p> <p>Level 2 Level 1</p>	<p>(see chart below for details of points)</p> <p>46 25</p>

ASDAN

ASDAN is a charitable social enterprise with awarding body status, providing courses to thousands of schools, colleges, training providers and youth centres across the UK and beyond.

Programmes and Qualifications offer flexible ways to accredit personal and social education, skills development and enrichment activities, mainly for the 11-25 age group.

ASDAN is approved as an **Awarding Organisation** for qualifications within the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), and the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF), regulated by **Ofqual**.

ASDAN programmes and qualifications are also recognised by the **Department for Education**. When ASDAN qualifications were given formal GCSE equivalence and included in league tables from September 2004, inevitably this gave ASDAN a heightened status and credibility in the world of education.

The Tomlinson Report (October 2004) highlighted ASDAN as an example of good practice in relation to the accreditation of wider activities, and this still has significance today. The Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency, makes reference to ASDAN in a number of reports in which ASDAN has been a key contributor, notably "Ways to Accredit Generic Learning", which can be downloaded here: www.asdan.org.uk

GCSE Comparability: All ASDAN's qualifications contribute points towards the performance tables.

Qualification	Levels	Performance points		Links to other programmes & qualifications
Award of Personal Effectiveness (AoPE)	Level 1 Level 2 Level 3	12.5 23 42		Short Courses & CoPE ASDAN Bronze, Silver, Gold Universities Award
Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE)	Level 1 Level 2 Level 3	25 (equivalent to GCSE grade E-F) 46 (equivalent to GCSE grade B) 105		ASDAN Bronze, Silver, Gold Universities Award & Key Steps & PSD & AoPE Short Courses & Customised accreditation
Wider Key Skills Improving Own Learning and Performance Working with Others Problem Solving	Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4	18.8 per skill 34.5 per skill 63 per skill 63 per skill		ASDAN Bronze, Silver, Gold Universities Award Short Courses & Employability PSD & CoPE & AoPE
Community Volunteering Qualifications (CVQ)	Level 1 Level 2 Level 3	Award: 12.5 Award: 23 Award: 42	Certificate: 25 Certificate: 46 Certificate 63	ASDAN Bronze, Silver, Gold Universities Award Short Courses
Award in Volunteering at an Event:	Entry 3 Level 1 Level 2	3.5 6.25 11.5		
Employability Qualifications	Entry 2 Entry 3 Level 1 Level 2 Level 3	Award: 6 Award: 7 Award: 12.5 Award: 23 Award: 42	Certificate: 12 Certificate: 14 Certificate: 25 Certificate: 46 Certificate 63	Short Courses PSD & CoPE Workright Diplomas in Life Skills Wider Key Skills
Skills for Life/Basic Skills/ Adult Literacy and Numeracy (ALAN)	Level 1 Level 2	12.5 per skill 23 per skill		These qualifications may be developed through any programme or qualification
Personal and Social Development (PSD)	Entry 1 Entry 2 Entry 3 Level 1 Level 2	Award: 5 Award: 6 Award: 7 Award: 12.5 Award: 23	Certificate: 10 Certificate: 12 Certificate: 14 Certificate: 25 Certificate: 46	Personal Progress ASDAN Bronze, Silver, Gold Short Courses Key Steps Diplomas in Life Skills
Entry 1 Qualifications in Personal Progress	Entry 1	Award: 5 Certificate: 10 Diploma: 40		New Horizons & Workright Transition Challenge & Diplomas in Life Skills Towards Independence Literacy and Numeracy in Everyday Life
Diplomas in Life Skills	Entry 1 Entry 2 Entry 3	40 48 56		Personal Progress PSD Employability

Functional Skills (AQA)

Functional Skills

- Earn additional points on the Achievement and Attainment Table (opposite)
- Motivate students through interesting and highly relevant content, reflecting today's challenges
- Are manageable for exam centres
- Provide students with practical skills they can use in further education, work and everyday life
- Could be provided as a precursor to GCSE
- Develop transferable skills
- Require minimal extra work for teaching, as functional elements are already included in the new English, ICT and Mathematics GCSE specifications

Functional Skills performance points towards the Achievement and Attainment Table (ATT)

Level 2*	23
Level 1*	12.5
Entry 3	7
Entry 2	6
Entry 1	5

*The points for Level 1 and 2 are in addition to points allocated for other qualifications such as GCSEs and Diplomas.

Functional Skills assessment:

- Provides realistic contexts, scenarios and problems
- Specifies tasks that are relevant to the context
- Requires application of knowledge, skills and understanding for a purpose
- Requires problem solving
- Assesses process skills and the outcome of their application in different contexts.

Assessment design and certification:

- Each assessment is designed to assess a single level
- At Levels 1 and 2 (L1/L2), assessment is externally set and marked (except English in Speaking, Listening and Communication)
- At Entry 1, 2 and 3 (E1/E2/E3), assessment is externally specified and internally marked by the teacher
- Not graded - the result will be 'pass' or 'ungraded' (U).

JUNIOR SPORTS LEADER AWARD (JSLA)

at Childwall Abbey School

Information for parents

JUNIOR SPORTS LEADER AWARD (JSLA)

The Junior Sports Leader is designed to provide a starting point for young people, over 14 years of age who want to develop their sports leadership skills.

The syllabus is designed to develop general skills which can be applied to a variety of sporting activities, as well as contributing to personal and social education. It is a practical qualification in which candidates should demonstrate knowledge and understanding mainly through physical competence rather than written work. The candidate's ability as a competent leader is assessed by observation, rather than by written assessment.

The Junior Sports Leader Award can be used to compliment the requirements of parts of Key Stage 4 of the National Curriculum for Physical Education.

Most importantly, the Junior Sports Leader Award provides a fun course for young people to participate in and to give them an insight into the enjoyment one can gain through sports leadership.

On top of this, it is a nationally recognised qualification.

Information for students

JUNIOR SPORTS LEADER AWARD (JSLA)

Why do JSLA?

JSLA is run through your regular PE lessons and extra sessions off site. It will give you the knowledge to lead and coach groups of people. Those who are interested in sports coaching or teaching will find what you learn to be really helpful.

Who can do JSLA?

Everyone can take this qualification whatever your sporting ability. The course does not look at how you perform in sports, but whether you are able to lead them. You will soon pick up the skills needed, even if you do not feel very confident to do this, at the moment.

What qualification will I gain?

On completion of the course you will gain the Junior Sports Leader Award, (JSLA), which allows you to lead small groups of people in sporting activities.

What will I study?

The JSLA is a practical qualification and encompasses areas such as 'Health and Fitness', 'Fair Play in Sport', and 'Decision Making through Officiating', as well as organisational and communication skills.

During the course you will learn all about leadership. You will learn to identify good leaders and recognise examples of good leadership. You will gain an understanding of the role of a leader and motivator, a teacher, someone who is approachable. You will also get to apply these skills to sporting situations. You will develop your communication and organizational skills. You will plan a sports activity session and lead it to a group of other students, and you will gain experience of being an official in a selection of sports activities, all with the aim of developing important transferable skills.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is practical and done throughout the course. You will have to lead a number of sessions, including at least one sports session and one fitness session. You will also do group work - applying leadership and communication methods.

JSLA ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Leaders should demonstrate the following qualities and skills in order to complete the assessment for the Junior Sports Leader Award. They must organise a minimum of four, 15 minute sessions.

The leaders will be assessed according to the criteria below.

1 = below average 2 = fair 3 = good 4 = excellent

They must achieve at least 2 'good' grades in each category.

ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Relationship with pupils | 1 2 3 4 |
| 2. Control / Management of group | 1 2 3 4 |
| 3. Knowledge of activity | 1 2 3 4 |
| 4. Variety of activities used in session | 1 2 3 4 |

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Uses the names of group members | 1 2 3 4 |
| 2. Voice projection | 1 2 3 4 |
| 3. Use of praise/encouragement | 1 2 3 4 |
| 4. Verbal/Non verbal communication | 1 2 3 4 |

UMPIRING SKILLS AND FAIR PLAY

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Sets simple easy to follow rules | 1 2 3 4 |
| 2. Abides by rules set when umpiring | 1 2 3 4 |
| 3. Insists on good attitude within group | 1 2 3 4 |

Future opportunities

The skills you will gain during this course will transfer across to all careers. You will learn methods of communication and how to work with people. You will also be able to use the skills in sport specific careers. These include sports coaching, sports management, the leisure industry - including work within a sports centre and gym.

Following JSLA there are a number of further courses you could follow. You could take up one of the academic courses such as A-Level Sport or BTEC Sport, or you could progress your experience of leadership through CSLA or HSLA courses.

The **Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership (JSLA)** provides the ideal starting point for candidates aged 13 years and over who wish to develop their leadership skills.

The **Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership** gives candidates the chance to develop their organisation, motivation and communication skills, whilst focusing on positive role models in sport, how to mentor others, and how to use leadership skills in a variety of settings.

The **Level 2 Award in Community Sports Leadership (CSLA)** enables successful candidates to lead groups of people in sport/activity within the community.

The **Level 3 Certificate in Higher Sports Leadership (HSLA)** enables successful candidates to lead un-supervised groups of people in sport and recreational activities. It builds upon the skills and experience gained through the Level 2 Award in Community Sports Leadership and the Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership.

Main Exam Dates and Deadlines

	Level	Subject	Unit Code	Exam Board	Type of exam	Duration	Date	Time
GCSE	GCSE	Maths	1MA0	Edexcel	Formal exam	1hr 45mins (Non-Calc)	May 17	tba
	GCSE	Maths	1MA0	Edexcel	Formal exam	1 hr 45mins (Calculator)	May 17	tba
	GCSE	Science	BIOLFP1	AQA	Formal exam	2 hours	May 17	
	GCSE	Science	CHFP1	AQA	Formal exam	2 hours	May 17	
	GCSE	Science	PHYFP1	AQA	Formal exam	2 hours	May 17	
	GCSE	Science	SCA4FP1	AQA	Formal exam	1hr 30mins (practical)	May 17	tba
	GCSE	Art	4000	WJEC	Basic Art & Design	External assessor	Jun 17	any
Functional Skills	Level 2	Maths	4368	AQA	Maths	1h 30m	May 17	tba
		ICT	4528	AQA	ICT	2 hours	May 17	tba
		English	09499	OCR	Reading	1 hour	Throughout the year	tba
		English	09499	OCR	Writing	1 hour		tba
		English	09499	OCR	Speaking, Listening & Communication	Controlled assessment		any
	Level 1	Maths	4367	AQA	Maths	1h 30m	May 17	tba
		ICT	4527	AQA	ICT	2 hours	May 17	tba
		English	09498	OCR	Reading	1 hour	Throughout the year	tba
		English	09498	OCR	Writing	1 hour		tba
		English	09498	OCR	Speaking, Listening & Communication	Controlled assessment		any
Entry Pathways	Diploma	Creative, Media & Perf Arts	6004	WJEC	Media, Art, Music, Performance	Coursework Submission	May 17	any
		Preparing for Work	6003	WJEC	Technology, Hair & Beauty, PSE	Coursework Submission	May 17	any
		Humanities	6005	WJEC	Geography, RE, History, MFL	Coursework Submission	May 17	any

Main Exam Dates and Deadlines

	Level	Subject	Unit Code	Exam Board	Type of exam	Duration	Date	Time
Entry Level	Entry Level 1, 2 & 3	Science	5948	AQA	Science	Coursework Submission	May 17	any
		Maths	4930	AQA	Maths	Coursework Submission	May 17	any
		English	R392	OCR	English	Coursework Submission	May 17	any
Entry Pathways	Entry Level 2 & 3	Humanities	6005	WJEC	Geography, RE, History, MFL	Coursework Submission	May 17	any
		Preparing for Work	6003	WJEC	Technology, Hair & Beauty, PSE	Coursework Submission	May 17	any
		Healthy Living & Fitness	6011	WJEC	Sports, Swimming, Trampoline	Evidence Submission & External assessor	May 17	any
		Creative, Media & Perf Arts	6004	WJEC	Media, Art, Music, Performance	Evidence Submission & External assessor	May 17	any
Functional Skills	Functional Skills Entry Level 1-3	ICT	4911, 4912, 4913	AQA	ICT	Controlled assessment	May 17	any
		Maths	4931, 4912, 4933	AQA	Maths	Controlled assessment	May 17	any
		English	09495, 09496, 09497	OCR	Reading; Writing; Speaking, Listening & Communication	Controlled assessment	Throughout the year	any
JSLA	-	Junior Sports Leadership Award	-	Sports Council	PE	Evidence Submission & External assessor	Jun 17	any

For further details please the relevant exam board web pages:

Assessment & Qualifications Alliance (AQA) <http://aqa.org.uk/>

Welsh Joint Education Council (WJEC) <http://www.wjec.co.uk>

Education & Excellence (Formerly known as Pearson Edexcel) (EdExcel) <http://qualifications.pearson.com>

Oxford Cambridge and RSA (OCR) <http://www.ocr.org.uk/>