

### Curriculum Intent

*'The expert at anything was once a beginner.'* Helen Hayes

Constructing the Built Environment offers students a learning experience that focuses their education through applied learning. The course is vocational in outlook with students acquiring and applying knowledge, skills and understanding through tasks based on real life situations in the construction industry. Throughout the course students learn how to carry out the tasks to the required professional standard.

The course is based around the work-related concept of 'plan, do, review' where students are taught the processes of planning, constructing and evaluating set construction tasks. Students will develop a broad appreciation of work in construction and the built environment and will be encouraged to make full use of the wide range of opportunities available to them in further education, apprenticeships and employment whilst taking into account the improving local economy and labour market.

### Year 10 and 11 (KS4) Constructing the Built Environment

In year 10 students will have opted to take a vocational course within this part of the department. This course continues through until the end of year 11 and is a new offer to the students in the last year replacing the D and T GCSE qualification. During the last year the facilities have been modified to help students work in a more realistic work situation; especially for painting and decorating. Students can study a Construction course that offers them a wide range of diverse post 16 opportunities. These include architecture, plumbing, painting and decorating, electrical work, joinery as well as many other trades or professions in the construction industry. The course outline is explained below.

### Eduqas Constructing the Built Environment Level 1&2

Eduqas Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Constructing the Built Environment has been designed to develop in students the skills needed for progression from Key Stage 4 and GCSE learning to further education, employment and training.

The successful completion of this qualification, together with other equivalent qualifications, such as in maths and the sciences, could provide the student with opportunities to access a range of qualifications including GCE, apprenticeships, vocationally related and occupational qualifications. These include:

- Level 3 Eduqas Applied Diploma in Professional Construction Practice
- Level 2 qualifications in construction, including specialist areas such as plumbing, bricklaying and carpentry Apprenticeships in construction.

All students will be required to study about the construction industry through three different units.

These are assessed in the following format:

Unit 1 Safety and security in construction (externally assessed at the end of year 10)

Unit 2 Practical construction skills (internally assessed during year 10 and 11)

Unit 3 Planning construction projects (externally assessed at the end of year 11)

### Teaching Sequence

In year 10 students will develop a range of skills and techniques to help them with Unit 2 of the course. This will be interleaved with Unit 1 theory throughout the year to help embed knowledge and understanding of the theory part of the course so that constant testing and assessments can be carried out to check for good student progress and understanding of work covered.

### Unit 2

This is the practical element and these skills will include:

- Joinery
- Painting and Decorating
- Electrical.

These will be tested during year 10 and 11 where students will be given a set scenario to complete. The scenario has to be agreed by Eduqas and is the same task for all students.

The practical construction skills section (Unit 2) also includes written work to support the set task e.g. plan the stages of the making process and costings with a written evaluation report.

### Term 1a and Term 1b (Y11)

Students will study the work needed for the end of Unit final examination for Unit 3 (Planning Construction projects) Students will work on describing the activities of those involved in construction projects. This will be done by them researching the roles using text materials and the internet. This is taught in Year 11 as it is the final unit that is assessed in June. Unit 3 will be interleaved with Unit 2 Electrical installation practical tasks. Students will practice the techniques of electrical installations of a ring main, socket, switches and bulb holder in order to master the skills and techniques for Task 2 of Unit 2. This will be assessed during term 1b. The electrical unit is taught here as the skills are harder than that of the joinery tasks and students are more mature about their work and outlook.

During term 1b, students will be given Unit 2 examination set task 2 (Electrical Installation). Students will plan the work and then carry out the practical task independently as much as possible under supervised controlled exam conditions.

### Term 2a (Y11)

During term 2a, students will be given Unit 2 examination set task 3 (Painting and Decorating) Students will plan the work and then carry out the practical task independently as much as possible under supervised controlled exam conditions. This assessment task has been left until last as it is quicker (and in lots of respects easier) than the other tasks to complete. The pressures students are under at this time with demands across the curriculum make this unit less demanding on them practically.

### Term 2b 3a and 3b (Y11)

Students will return to preparations for Unit 3 examination during this half term. Topics such as Three Phases of a build assignment will be considered and how planning is sequenced for the projects. This is left until this point as it is the more difficult section of the unit and builds on all work covered on other tasks/units. Students will then spend the remainder of the year revising both Unit 1 and Unit 3 in preparation for the June exams. Unit 1 having to be taken by Y11 in June due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



Students will work on topics covered throughout these units, attempting practice examination questions to improve mastery of the units and identify areas of weakness or any misconceptions students may have.

Unit 1 and 3 examinations will then take place in June 2021

### **ASSESSMENT**

The full assessment details of the course and nature of the award are explained below.

WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Constructing the Built Environment is assessed through a combination of internal and external assessment.

#### **External assessment**

**Unit 1:** (Covered in Year 10) Safety and security in construction is externally assessed. Details of the external assessment are as follows:

- 60-minute examination;
- Total of 60 marks
- Online assessment
- Short and extended answer questions, based on stimulus material and applied contexts
- Each question will have an applied problem-solving scenario
- Each paper will assess all learning outcomes. Assessment criteria will be sampled in each series available in the summer of each year
- Students are allowed one re-sit opportunity.
- The highest grade will contribute towards the overall grade for the qualification
- Graded Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit and Level 2 Distinction.

### Internal assessment

The following unit is internally assessed:

**Unit 2:** (Through year 10 and 11) Developing construction projects

The following principles apply to the assessment of internally assessed units:

- Units are assessed through summative controlled assessment
- Controls for assessment of each internally assessed unit are provided in a model assignment
- Each internally assessed unit must be assessed independently. Students may produce a piece of evidence that contributes to assessment criteria for more than one unit. This is acceptable provided it can be clearly attributed to a specified assessment criterion and has been produced under the appropriate controlled conditions for each unit
- Performance bands are provided for Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit and Level 2 Distinction.

Evidence from students must clearly show how the student has met the standard for the higher grades and only simple generic feedback from the teacher is allowed under the regulations of the examination.

**Unit 3:** (Covered in Year 11) Planning construction projects is externally assessed. Details of the external assessment are as follows:

- 120-minute examination
- Total of 60 marks
- Online assessment
- A series of tasks, based on stimulus material and applied contexts
- Each task will have an applied problem-solving scenario
- Each paper will assess all learning outcomes. Assessment criteria will be sampled in each series Available in the summer of each year
- Students are allowed one re-sit opportunity. The highest grade will contribute towards the overall grade for the qualification
- Graded Level 1 Pass, Level 2 Pass, Level 2 Merit and Level 2 Distinction.