

SKCC (Skills Challenge Certificate) – Year 10



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What is it?

You be doing this qualification if you are in year 10. You may know someone older that you who is doing/has done the Welsh Bacalaureate (WBQ). This is similar to that, but has had a recent “facelift” and a rename into the Skills Challenge Certificate. All the negative aspects have gone and all the best bits have been kept.

Is it compulsory?

As with nearly every other school in Wales, it is compulsory for all year 10 students.

Why will I be doing it?

Welsh Government introduced it around 10 years ago and almost all learners in Wales now study it. (They will all “have” to from next September) It will be a performance measure from next year (This means that like GCSE English and Maths, schools will be judged on their performance of students’ achievement with the Skills Challenge Certificate). It has been designed to provide you with skills that employers, colleges and universities are looking for in young people and this new specification was created and designed by them.

How will it help me in the future?

Not only does it contain the seven essential employability skills, if you go to sixth form you will have to study it again at Advanced level and then you can use it as UCAS points when applying to university and you can use the qualification to help you gain an apprenticeship. You can also make yourself very attractive to employers by proving that you are literate (including digitally literate), you can work with numbers and others, you are creative/innovative, you are self-motivated, you can think critically, you are well planned and organised and that you know how to solve problems. You may also have completed extensive contemporary research in the field/area of work you are applying for as part of your individual project.

Who will be teaching me?

Either Miss Lawrence (English), Mr Lewis (Science) Miss Haynes (MFL/Head of Yr 11), Mr Savory (Assistant Headteacher) or Mr Brenton (Drama/Head of WBQ). Although you will have more than one teacher in year 10.

What modules/areas/sections are included?

In year 10 you will learn/develop skills that prepare you for the following challenges:

- Community Challenge

- Global Citizenship Challenge
- Enterprise and Employability Challenge

This will be delivered on a carousel so you will be taught by 3 different teachers across the year.

Who can I speak to for help if I am struggling?

Your first point of contact is always your teacher but you can always make contact with Mr Brenton (Head of WBQ), the learning coach for KS4 (TBC) or the head of year 10 Miss Booton. However you subject teachers and form teachers can also help and you are advised to discuss your SKCC work with them.

Where can I find out more information?

There is a new specification being introduced for Yr 10 and Yr 12 but everything you need to know for your specification can be found [here](#). It is strongly advised that you click and read through the information on Qualifications Wales (the new qualifications body in Wales) about the Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh Baccalaureate) which can be found [here](#). All of which has been developed as part of the Welsh Government Review into qualifications that can be found [here](#). Although most useful of all is the snapshot of the qualification (with some easy watch videos) which can be found on the Qualified for Life website which can be found [here](#).

Are there any exams?

No, this it is all coursework but there are stages at the end of each “carousel” where there are controlled assessment conditions for the challenges. These are fairly formal and students will only have one chance to re-sit one challenge.

Is it anything to do with the Welsh Language?

Not at all (unless you, and/or your team want to make this a focus of one/all of your challenges).

I have heard a lot of universities and employers (particularly those outside of Wales) don't recognise or value this, is it true?

Completely untrue, many Welsh students would not have got into university without the WBQ/SKCC and we continually hear stories of universities recognising and valuing the WBQ/SKCC over other A-Level's. (Please see the videos on the links above) As the qualification is still in it's infancy some employers do not fully understand it, but there we would be surprised to hear any employer not looking for the skills of communication, working with others etc. from prospective employees. While some may not know the name, they know, recognise and value the elements and areas of study. The new specification gives us opportunities to work more with employers, colleges and universities and you will see many connections this including visits to and from employers and universities.