

SEREN

SYLFAEN ★ FOUNDATION

YEARS 8 - 11

The implementation of the Seren programme at Lewis School Pengam throughout the past year has been invaluable to our pupils. There is a progression route from the Seren Foundation to the Seren Academy which has created both aspiration and focused goals. All learners in the Seren Academy are applying to Russell Group Universities and 80% are applying to Oxbridge, with one Year 13 pupil achieving a place at the prestigious Harvard Law School. Without the support of Seren this would not have been possible.

Bethan Jenkins

Seren Coordinator, Lewis School Pengam

Through the pre-16 Seren programme, I was fortunate enough to be able to earn a place on the Cambridge Summer School for Law. The circumstances of lockdown dictated that I was physically unable to attend the summer school; but that is in no way to detract from this experience. As normality is ostensibly being restored, I can hope this programme will manifest into more opportunities for me in the future, particularly with universities as prestigious as Cambridge.

Joel Horsman

Year 12 Academy student, Lewis School Pengam



Joel Horsman

WHAT IS SEREN FOUNDATION?

The Seren Foundation is for students in years 8-11 at state schools across Wales and is designed to support studies, help learners build confidence, and to make informed choices about their A Level subjects and route to university if that's their ambition. It brings together young, like-minded people to share ambitions and aspirations through an extensive range of activities.

While the possibility of going to university might seem a long way away, particularly for students in Year 8 or 9, it's never too early to think about a dream career or the educational path that might be needed to get there.

This is where Seren Foundation can help...

The programme is designed to help you make informed decisions about GCSE and A Level choices and what subjects might be needed if you want to study a degree subject at university, and ultimately pursue your dream career. Activities will help explain higher education and the opportunities available after A Levels, and dispel myths about university study, especially at Oxford and Cambridge.

By opening links to academic experts and providing subject-specific seminars, workshops and guidance sessions, the Seren Foundation programme can help you develop valuable cognitive skills required for your GCSE and A Level studies such as analytical and critical thinking, reasoning, research, and problem solving. Resources and workshops have also been developed to enhance your personal skills such as communication and how to craft, present, and debate your ideas. And there are tools and techniques that you can utilise to help you handle any stress and anxiety you may be feeling about study and exams.

We encourage all Seren students to continuously explore subjects that are of particular interest, and to expand the boundaries of your knowledge around these interests, and being part of the Seren Foundation will help you do that.

“ Joel has worked exceptionally hard to receive such an opportunity. His Cambridge Summer School was something I saw him deeply engage with. Students from deprived areas and in conditions such as this are not given these types of opportunities. My wish is for more students to have access to opportunities similar to those offered in the Seren programme, namely in disadvantaged areas. I am extremely proud of the hard work and dedication Joel had put into his studies. ”

Jill Falconer, Parent of Joel Horsman