



Guide to S4 For Pupils and Parents

Session 2018 – 2019



Dear Student

Another school year and more decisions to make.

Hopefully you are nearing the end of a *successful* three years of secondary education. S1 to S3 are the Broad, General Education years, where you have experienced all of the Curricular Areas in the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence.

You started to specialise to some degree during S3 and you are now looking towards choosing the subjects you wish to follow to National Qualification level in the Senior Phase of your education (ie S4, 5 and 6)

I hope that S4 in particular and the Senior Phase in general, is a successful one for you.

M McGee
Head Teacher



Looking towards S4

At the end of S2, you reviewed how your learning had progressed and you made some decisions about a more personal programme of courses for S3.

You still followed all of the Curricular Areas, however, you elected to study particular areas in more depth.

There were a maximum of nine alternatives which included:-

- English, Mathematics, Modern Languages, PE
- A *Technologies* subject (CDT, HE, Business Education, Computer Education)
- An *Expressive Arts* subject (Art, Drama, Music)
- A *Social Studies* subject (Geography, History, Modern Studies)
- A *Science* subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- One further choice from the above four Areas

You are now faced with the decision as to which of these courses you now wish to continue into S4 and, perhaps, beyond.

As you will have been studying these subjects in some depth in S3, it makes sense to continue with the subjects that you have been having the most success in and, of course if you have a career in mind, which subjects will be most relevant to your particular situation. With this in mind, you should also look towards which subjects you wish to study in more depth in S5.

Although courses in S3 followed the Broad General Education, pupils started some of the preparation for S4 exams during S3. We then reduce the number of courses that you follow in S4. This gives courses more teaching time so that you will gain good quality qualifications.

Although you will be studying in classes with other S4 pupils only, you should think of the Senior Phase as a continuum of three years – S4 into S5 into S6 - during which you can progress through your chosen subjects and, perhaps, pick up one or two new ones on the way whether in S5 or in S6.



The SQA Qualifications and progression look like this:

S4	S5	S6
National 3 ↘		
National 4 ↘	National 4 ↘	National 4
National 5 ↘	National 5 ↘	National 5
	Higher ↘	Higher
		Advanced Higher

There are **no external Examinations** at **National 3 and 4** levels.
These will be internally assessed in school and externally moderated by SQA.

So what will your S4 curriculum look like?

You will continue with **RE** (2 periods), **PSE** (1 period) and **PE** (the amount of time will be dependant on whether you wish to study PE as a Core subject or for a National Qualification – see below).

These core subjects will help you grow as young adults. They will help develop your personal and social skills, as well as help you grow in spirituality and good citizenship towards others, and hopefully encourage a healthy lifestyle.

You will select **seven** courses leading to the new National Qualifications:-

You will continue to study **Mathematics** and **English** for 4 periods each week; still considered as very important subjects by Employers, Colleges and Universities.

You will select four further courses from those that you studied in S3. You will be given a new **Option Form** for this. Each course will have 4 periods per week.

A note of caution: Most S4 pupils return to school for S5, where five courses are studied. In choosing your subjects for S4, think of the five subjects that you will want to take in S5. This should be the basis for your choice.

The S4 Curriculum

In summary the S4 Curriculum looks like this.

Religious Education	2 periods per week
Physical Education	2 periods per week
Personal and Social Education	1 period per week
English	4 periods per week
Maths	4 periods per week
Choice A	4 periods per week
Choice B	4 periods per week
Choice C	4 periods per week
Choice D	4 periods per week
Choice E	4 periods per week
Total	33 periods per week

S4 is just the start of your journey through the SQA qualifications framework. You have three school years to help you make your mind up about where you want to go. If you can't study all of the things you want to in S4, pick them up in S5 or S6.

On the following page you will not only see the choices for S4 but the likely course choices for S5. This allows you to see how the choices you make for Nat 4 /Nat 5 progress to the next level either National 5 or Higher.

A word of caution for some courses. If you are studying Art, Computing, Chemistry or French at National 5 and wish to carry them on into Higher you must select them in the shaded columns. This ensures you will be in the right class for S5 when the time comes.

There is still time. We will support you all the way. Keep aiming high!

The Options for S4 and S5

S4 Choice

Choice A	Choice B	Choice C	Choice D	Choice E
4 ppw	4 ppw	4 ppw	4 ppw	4 ppw
Geography	Biology	Art	Administration	Chemistry
History	Chemistry	Drama	Business Management	History
Modern Studies	Physics	Music	Computing	French
	Environmental Science	French	Graphic Communication	Hospitality
	Practical Woodwork	Spanish	Hospitality	Computing
		PE	Design & Manufacture	Art

S5 Choice

Choice A	Choice B	Choice C	Choice D	Choice E
4 ppw	4 ppw	4 ppw	4 ppw	4 ppw
Geography	Biology	Art	Administration	Chemistry
History	Chemistry	Drama	Business Management	History
Modern Studies	Physics	Music	Computing	French
Maths	English	French	Graphic Communication	Hospitality
Media	ESOL	Spanish	English	PE
		Maths	ESOL	Neighbourhood
		PE		
Practical Electronics	Travel & Tourism	RMPS		
Sports Leadership	Metal Work	People in Society	Hospitality	Cakecraft

Courses

Art & Design

Why Choose Art & Design?

Art & Design gives you the opportunity to:

- take part in design and expressive activities
- develop creative design & expressive skills
- appreciate social & cultural factors that influence design and expressive practice
- use a variety of art media and techniques developing work in 2D and 3D
- study design and expressive art techniques, genres and the impact of creative choices on society



How is the course organized?

You will work on two main projects; a Design folio and an Expressive folio. For each you will produce a folio of practical and critical work. You will use a range of art media and techniques including paint, print and clay. In each unit you will study selected designers and artists gaining knowledge and understanding of the factors influencing them.

How are you assessed?

By the end of S4 you will have completed two Units and projects:

Unit 1: Design Activity

- designers and design techniques
- factors influencing designers work
- facts and opinions about designer's work
- produce creative design ideas using various design materials

Unit 2: Expressive Activity

- artists and techniques
- factors influencing artists work
- facts and opinions about artist's work
- produce creative expressive work using various materials and techniques
- evaluate skills in the creative process

Project work

- produce an expressive art piece
- produce a graphic design
- reflect on the visual qualities and effectiveness of the outcomes

How is the Course assessed?

At the end of S4, students working at National 5 level will sit an SQA exam and gain a course award.

Students working at National 4 level will gain a course award based on work produced in school.

Career Opportunities

As well as being a desirable qualification for some college and university courses, Art & Design is essential for many careers and very useful for a great many more. Typical careers include:

- Architect
- Product designer
- Graphic designer
- Teacher
- Web page designer
- Make-up artist
- Fashion designer



Administration & IT

The Administration and IT course is set out to develop the learners Administration and IT skills and, ultimately, enable them to contribute to the effective functioning of organisations. Administration is a growing sector which cuts across the entire economy and offers wide-ranging employment opportunities. Moreover, administrative and IT skills have extensive application not only in employment but also in other walks of life.



	National 4	National 5
Content	<p>Administrative Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation affecting employees • Good customer care and skills • Qualities and attributes required of administrators • Skills to organise and support small-scale events. <p>IT Solutions for Administrators Learners will use the following applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word processing • Powerpoint • Spreadsheets • Databases • DTP <p>Communication in Administration Learners will develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ability to use appropriate methods for gathering information • Produce this information showing awareness of its context, purpose and audience <p>Added Value Unit Students will use the skills and knowledge they have learnt throughout the course to produce a practical Administration and IT assignment.</p>	<p>The course has two areas of study:</p> <p>Administrative Theory in the Workplace Learners are introduced to the responsibilities of organisations, the skills/qualities and tasks (duties) of the administrative support function, and the impact of these in the workplace.</p> <p>IT Applications This area contains a significant practical component. Learners develop skills in IT, problem-solving, organising, and managing information. They select IT applications to create and edit business documents, gather and share information, and develop skills to communicate information. They will develop skills in using:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spreadsheets • Databases • Word-processing • Desktop publishing • Presentations • Electronic communication
Assessment	Internal	External assessment 42% Course assignment 58%
Minimum Entry Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 3 Administration and IT or relevant component Units • Level 3 Business or relevant component Units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National 4 or Level 4 Administration and IT or relevant component units • National 4 or Level 4 Business and IT or relevant component units
Homework	Theory homework per unit.	Theory homework per unit.

Why Choose Biology?

- Are you intrigued with the incredible variety of organisms that inhabit our planet?
- Can our global life-support system continue supporting an increasing human population?
- What lies ahead for the future of genetic engineering?
- What are clones and *transgenic* animals?

Biology is the scientific exploration of the vast and diverse world of living organisms; an exploration that will expand enormously in the 21st century. The study of Biology has an immediate relevance to our daily lives. It is important for everyone to develop an informed sense of how we may continue to fit into the complex ecology of our planet. Some of the greatest engineering feats of the future are likely to involve bioengineering projects and Biology.

Where Could A Biology Qualification Lead?

Biology is a relevant and often essential qualification in the following areas of work:

nursing; physiotherapy; radiotherapy; medicine; veterinary science; dentistry; laboratory technology; animal and plant breeding; psychology; pharmaceutical, horticultural, agricultural, environmental, water control, waste management, food, drink, and forestry industries. Biology is a useful science in many other careers.

Biology is a good choice as it combines very well with both Physics and Chemistry.

How is the course organised?

The course will be organised into 3 broad, general units. They cover:

- Cell Biology
- Multicellular Organisms
- Life on Earth

Within the three units pupils will undertake the outcomes at either National 3, National 4 or National 5 level.

What kind of things will you be doing?



Some of the Biology topics covered are human physiology, ecosystems, genetics, respiration, photosynthesis and enzymes. These are taught through a variety of experiences such as lab work, field work, microscope work, computer simulations and research. You will learn collaboratively, working with others to develop your understanding. There may be opportunities to participate in educational excursions and visits eg the Royal Botanic Garden

How will you be assessed?

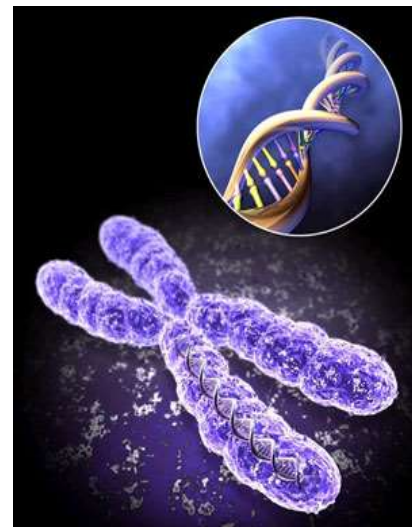
Assessment for Biology involves 4 elements:

- end of unit assessments (involving knowledge and skills questions)
- research task where pupils will research an aspect of Biology and its impact on society
- practical investigation

The fourth element is a value added unit where pupils will investigate an area of topical Biology and there will be a full course examination for National 5.

Homework Requirements

Homework will be set weekly to help you develop your understanding. Homework will take a variety of forms, including research, problem solving questions, communication tasks and revision for tests.



Business Management

Business Management introduces students to the dynamic, changing, competitive and economic environment of industry and commerce. It helps to develop skills in communicating and presenting business-related information, in a wide variety of formats to the various stakeholders of an organisation. These skills not only give students an understanding of their future place in the world of work, but as real life business contexts are widely used, students gain a greater understanding of the economic and financial environment in which businesses operate.



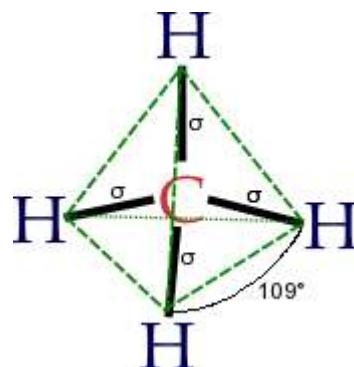
	National 4	National 5
Content	<p>Business in Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How small businesses operate Satisfying Customer Needs Different functional departments within businesses. <p>Influences on Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders Internal influences External influences <p>Added Value Unit Students will use the skills and knowledge they have learnt throughout the course to produce an assignment.</p>	<p>The course has five areas of study:</p> <p>Learners will develop skills, knowledge and understanding in the following areas:</p> <p>Understanding Business Enterprise and the role of different types of business organisations in society. Internal and external environments in which organisations operate, and the role of stakeholders in business.</p> <p>Management of Marketing The importance to organisations of having effective marketing systems. The processes and procedures organisations use to maintain competitiveness, and how marketing can be used to communicate effectively with consumers, maximising customer satisfaction.</p> <p>Management of Operations The importance to organisations of having effective operations systems. The processes and procedures used to maintain quality through the effective management of suppliers, inventory, and methods of production in an ethical manner.</p> <p>Management of People The issues facing organisations when managing people. The theories, concepts and processes relating to human resource management, and how employees contribute to the success of organisations.</p> <p>Management of Finance The issues facing organisations when managing finance. The basic theories, concepts and processes relating to financial aspects of business, when interpreting information to solve financial problems.</p>
Assessment	Internal	75% External assessment 25% Internal assessment
Minimum Entry Requirements	Level 3 Business or relevant component units.	National 4 or Level 4 Business course or relevant component units.
Homework	Theory homework every 1 to 2 weeks.	Theory homework every week.

Why Choose Chemistry?

The chemistry course in S4 is designed to help you understand the ideas and concepts which make sense of the everyday importance of chemistry in the modern world.

Choosing to continue to study chemistry at National 5 level in S4 will lead to a solid grounding in the knowledge and skills you need to progress through the subject at Higher and Advanced Higher level.

You will be taught using experimental work which is an integral part of the course, helping to develop understanding and knowledge as well as your practical skills.



Where Could a Chemistry Qualification Lead?



Chemistry is the central science and a good understanding of chemistry will be a great advantage to you if you have an interest in a career in any science based field.

(Chemistry combines well with both Biology and Physics.)

Examples of careers involving Chemistry are forensic scientist, environmental scientist, physiotherapist, doctor, cosmetic scientist, food scientist, nurse, dentist, food scientist, nuclear scientist, vet, molecular biologist, chemical engineer, science teacher....

How is the course organised?

The course will be organised into 3 broad, general units. They cover:

- Chemical Changes and Structure
- Nature's Chemistry
- Chemistry in Society

Within the three units pupils will undertake the outcomes at either National 3, National 4 or National 5 level.

What kind of things will you be doing?

You will develop skills and an awareness of ethical and environmental issues in a local and worldwide context and gain an understanding in how chemistry is involved in the cause, effect and resolution of these issues. Chemists will develop analytical skills through investigating new materials and energy sources and learn about the application of chemistry through everyday products such as cosmetics, fuel and food.

How will you be assessed?

Assessment for Chemistry involves 4 elements:

- end of unit assessments (involving knowledge and skills questions)
- research task where pupils will research an aspect of Chemistry and its impact on society
- practical investigation

The fourth element is a value added unit where pupils will investigate an area of topical Chemistry and there will be a full course examination for National 5.

Homework Requirements

Homework will be set regularly to help you develop your understanding. Homework will take a variety of forms, including research, problem solving questions, communication tasks and revision for tests.

Computing Science

Computing Science is vital to everyday life; it shapes the world in which we live and its future. These courses highlight how computing professionals are problem-solvers and designers, and the far-reaching impact of information technology on our environment and society. They help learners to understand computational processes and thinking.

They are designed for learners who are considering further study or a career in computing science including Robotics, Software Engineering, Medical Imaging, Web Design, Entertainment Technologies, Networking, Business Information Systems, Computer Gaming and Digital Forensics. They also develop skills for all learners which can be transferred to any employment area.



National 4	National 5
	The course has four areas of study:
Software Design & Development Learners will develop basic computational thinking and programming skills by creating programs in LiveCode and explaining how these programs work.	Software design and development Learners will develop skills through a range of practical tasks using appropriate software development environments. This develops their programming and computational-thinking skills by implementing practical solutions.
Information System Design & Development Learners will design and develop information systems through a range of practical and investigative tasks. Learners will implement practical solutions using a range of development tools, eg Database, Multimedia and Web Creation.	Computer systems Learners will develop an understanding of how data and instructions are stored in binary form and basic computer architecture. They gain an awareness of the environmental impact of computing systems and security precautions that can be taken to protect computer systems.
Added Value Unit Learners will create a digital solution which will draw on and apply skills and knowledge of software and information systems design and development.	Database design and development Learners will develop skills in database design and development, through a range of practical tasks. This allows learners to apply computational-thinking skills using a range of development tools such as SQL.
	Web design and development Learners will develop skills in web design and development, through a range of practical tasks. This allows learners to analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate practical solutions to web-based problems, using a range of development tools such as HTML, CSS and Javascript.
Assessment Internal	Assessment External assessment 69% Course Assignment 31%
Entry Requirements Level 3 Computing Science	Entry Requirements National 4 or Level 4 Computing Science
Homework Once a week	Homework Once a week

Why Choose Design & Manufacture?

The National 4/5 course will give you an opportunity to develop more advanced designing and making skills. You will work on more complex and exciting design problems and learn more about commercial product design, industrial processes and their impact on society.

think up
ideas



How is the course organised?

You will work on a series of product design assignments. For each project you will produce a design folio then make the product. You will use a wider range of materials including wood, metal and plastics. In each project you will study design theory and gain knowledge of tools, materials, school workshop processes and industrial processes.

How are you assessed?

By the end of S4 you will have completed two Units and projects:

Unit 1: Design

Assessment will be based on the design folios and design theory class tests.

Unit 2: Materials & Manufacture

Assessment will be based on the manufactured items as well as knowledge of materials & processes class tests.

Project work

Assessment will be based on a design and manufacture project that students choose from a bank of options.

How is the Course assessed?

At the end of S4, students working at National 5 level will sit an SQA exam and gain a course award.

Students working at National 4 level will gain a course award based on work produced in school.



Career Opportunities

As well as teaching you useful life skills Design & Manufacture can lead to college and university courses. Design & Manufacture is essential for some careers and very useful for a great many more. Typical careers include:

- product design
- furniture design
- industrial design
- engineering
- technician services
- craft trades



make or model
the solution(s)

Drama

About The Course

The course uses an integrated approach to learning which develops practical skills as well as knowledge and understanding of drama. As learners develop their creating skills, they will also learn how to use a range of drama skills. They will experiment with presenting through portrayal of character and by using a range of production skills.



The course is split into three sections.

- **Drama Skills** challenges pupils to work collaboratively to explore a theme/issue, employ research skills and the drama process to present a drama presentation.
- **Theatre Production Skills** allows pupils to learn about key theatre production roles and how different practitioners (eg lighting designer, stage manager etc.) work together to produce a successful performance.
- The **Added Value** unit challenges the pupils to use the skills developed throughout the course to produce a theatre performance to a professional level.

The National 5 course is similar to **National 4** but a higher and more creative standard of work is expected.

Assessment

Pupils will complete internal assessments for each section – both extended written responses and practical assessments must be passed in order to complete the course.

Teachers will complete Observational Checklists throughout and pupils will maintain logbooks which will include personal/group research, design plans, and other tasks to support learning and teaching.

Teachers will regularly meet with pupils individually to provide meaningful feedback and target set for the future.



Exam Information

As part of the third section, **National 4** students will create, present and evaluate a drama demonstrating the skills they have acquired throughout the course. This will be internally assessed.

National 5 students will also create a final performance for assessment but will also have to sit a written question paper which will be externally assessed. The course is broken down as 60% for a final practical assessment and 40% for the written exam.

- For the practical assessment, pupils will choose a production role from Acting, Directing or Design and will take responsibility for this area for a final performance.
- In May, pupils will complete a written exam which challenges pupil's knowledge and understanding of drama, ability to self evaluate and respond to an unseen stimulus

Homework

Regular homework will be issued. This could be in a range of forms from written, personal research, completion of logbooks or revising for unit tests. However homework may take the form of learning lines from a script or preparing for a specific production role. Pupils must understand that working at home is an essential element of the course and is key to success at both National levels.

Possible Careers

In addition to obvious careers in the entertainment industry, the course design allows pupils to develop a broad range of skills for learning, life and work such as personal learning skills, thinking skills. The course encourages self-discipline, perseverance, planning and the ability to identify areas for improvement. All of these are valuable skills which attract prospective employers.

Clear and effective communication skills are so important for your success not only in school but also in life and work. This year you will develop all of the skills required for communication: Reading, Writing, Listening and Talk in a variety of engaging ways.



National 4	National 5
<p>Internal Assessment</p> <p>Analysis and Evaluation</p> <p>Outcome 1 – Reading for UAE</p> <p>Outcome 2 – Listening Assessment</p>	<p>Internal Assessment</p> <p>Talking: Group Discussion/Presentation</p>
<p>Internal Assessment</p> <p>Creation and Production</p> <p>Outcome 1 – Piece of Writing</p> <p>Outcome 2 – Talking: Group Discussion/Presentation</p>	<p>External Assessment</p> <p>Folio:</p> <p>2 pieces of writing – 1 discursive/1 creative submitted to the SQA</p> <p>SQA Exam in May:</p> <p>Paper 1 - Reading for UAE</p> <p>Paper 2 - Critical Reading</p>
<p>Added Value Unit</p> <p>Apply language skills to investigate a chosen topic:</p> <p>Read 2 straightforward texts</p> <p>Select relevant information</p> <p>Evaluate texts</p> <p>Present findings: written piece (700 words)</p> <p>Answer questions</p>	
<p>Homework</p> <p>Your teacher will set you work to enhance your learning that you have experienced in class.</p> <p>The time that you spend on homework will depend on the unit of work that you are undertaking. Homework may consist of creating an essay or a presentation or finishing off work that was not completed in class.</p> <p>You should aim to develop your own skills at home through reading a variety of different text. This may take the form of novels, short stories, plays, poems, comics, letters, websites, blogs, podcasts, films, manuals or newspaper and magazine articles.</p>	

ESOL - English for Speakers of Other Languages

This qualification is for pupils whose first language is not English and it assesses Reading, Writing, Listening and Talking. The topics covered are relevant to everyday work, study and social situations. Students will study a wide range of topics covering everything from current world affairs to aspects of their daily lives. The course will be offered at levels National 4 and National 5.

The course is ideal for students who find English challenging because they are bilingual and are still developing their English. Often, bilingual pupils perform better in ESOL than they do in the English. The course is delivered in school so there is no need to travel to other schools/colleges.

The ESOL qualification is widely accepted by universities and it is accepted as an equivalent of the English qualification for many courses. It may be worthwhile to check university websites to check different course acceptance criteria in relation to ESOL.

Finally, S4 pupils will have the opportunity to continue ESOL in S5/6 at National 5 or Higher level.

	National 4 & 5 — ESOL
Entry Point	English as an Additional Language Consultation with SfL/EAL
Course Details	<p>The Course offers opportunities to develop and extend a wide range of skills. In particular, the Course aims to enable learners to develop the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> read, write, listen, and speak, in English <input type="checkbox"/> understand and use English language <input type="checkbox"/> apply knowledge and understanding of English language <p>These skills will be taught by exploring the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> everyday life <input type="checkbox"/> work <input type="checkbox"/> Study
National 4 All Internal Course Assessment	Internal assessments in: listening, speaking, reading and writing
National 5 External Exam Details	<p>Component 1: listening; reading and writing</p> <p>Component 2: speaking and listening</p>

Why Choose Environmental Science?



Science is all around us. All of the food that we eat and the wildlife that we enjoy has all grown and exists within a very delicately balanced ecosystem. The materials that we use for buildings, bridges and our everyday gadgets have all come from our environment. Our environment is constantly changing and we have to ensure that we look after our environment to ensure that the resources that we use and enjoy will be there for years to come. Environmental Science is a course that teaches us about living things and how they depend on each other, the materials that we use for our lives every day and how we look after our planet and its resources. Through the course you also develop many of the skills needed for the world of work, with numeracy and problem solving being at the heart of Science.

Where Could An Environmental Science Qualification Lead?

Developing a wider understanding of Science is hugely valuable. Qualifications in Environmental Science provide a foundation for many practical courses and apprenticeships in fields such as mechanics, environmental monitoring, microbiological manufacturing and catering.

How is the course organised?

The course will be organised into 3 broad, general units. They cover

- Living Environment
- Earth's Resources
- Sustainability

Within the three units pupils will undertake the outcomes at either National 2, National 3 or National 4 level.



What kind of things will you be doing?

Environmental Science is taught through a variety of experiences. You will undertake experiments using both traditional and modern experimental techniques; you will learn collaboratively, working with others to develop your understanding; you will undertake research and computer simulations will be used to help you visualise what we cannot see.



How will you be assessed?

There are no whole course assessments for Environmental Science. Assessment is undertaken through regular short tasks and questions. A portfolio of success is built up over the year, assessing each aspect of the course. Pupils also undertake an investigation.

Homework Requirements

Homework will be set weekly to help you develop your understanding. Homework will take a variety of forms, including research, problem solving questions and communication tasks.

Why Choose Graphic Communication?

Graphic Communication gives you the opportunity to:

- develop more complex manual technical drawing skills
- develop more complex computer graphics skills
- produce a graphic presentation of a commercial product
- develop a knowledge of the use of graphic communication in industry



How is the course organized?

You will work through a series of drawing topics. At the end of each topic you will do a mini project demonstrating the use of the type of graphic in commerce or industry.

How are you assessed?

By the end of S4 you will have completed two Units and projects:



Unit 1: 2D Graphics

- orthographic views
- geometric drawing
- engineering drawing
- colour illustration techniques
- DTP

Unit 2: 3D Graphics

- Oblique, isometric & planometric views
- Perspective sketching
- 3D computer modelling
- 3D promotional graphics

Project work

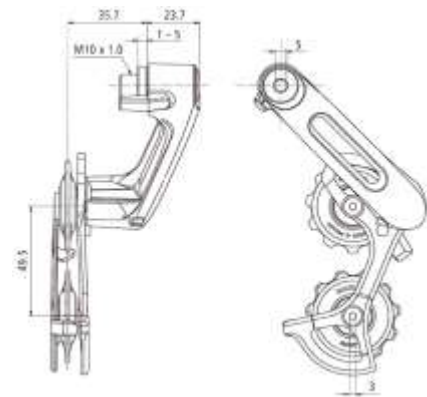
- 2D and 3D computer aided drawing (CAD)
- Desk top publishing (DTP)
- Knowledge of use of CAD in industry



How is the Course assessed?

At the end of S4, students working at National 5 level will sit an SQA exam and gain a course award.

Students working at National 4 level will gain a course award based on work produced in school.



Career Opportunities

As well as being a desirable qualification for some college and university courses, Graphic Communication is essential for many careers and very useful for a great many more. Typical careers include:

- industrial draughting
- engineering
- graphic design
- architectural and building services
- product design
- interior design

About the course

Geography in S4 will build on what you have learned in S1-3. You will continue to look at the Physical and Human environments as well as a range of Global Issues. You will develop a range of Geographical skills and techniques and be given opportunities to carry out fieldwork.



What you will study:

National 4 & 5 consist of 3 units:

1. Physical Environment

Location of rivers and limestone landscapes; key features of these landscapes; land use and management of these landscapes; weather.

2. Human Environment

Developed and developing world cities; world population distribution and change; issues and changes in rural and urban landscapes

3. Global Issues

Climate Change & Health



Homework

All pupils will be issued with regular homework. This may take the form of revision of class work; research tasks; practice questions and independent fieldwork.



National 4 Assessment

Internal – one assessment per unit.

External – none

Added Value unit – individual research project which is internally marked under guidance from the SQA

National 5 Assessment

Internal – regular end of unit assessments

External –

i. Question paper worth 80 marks

ii. Assignment write-up on a topic you have prepared beforehand worth 20 marks.

Examination Information

National 4 has no final exam – the course is pass/fail based on the internal assessments.

National 5 has a final SQA exam and an assignment. Pupils are awarded a grade A-D based on a total mark of 100 from these two.

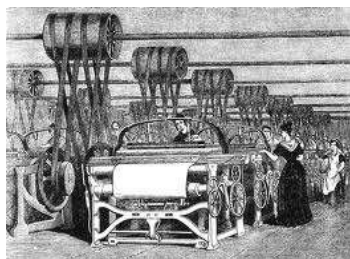
Careers with Geography –

Accountancy & Finance * Armed Forces
 * Health & Education * Retail Management
 * Urban Planning * Engineering
 * Tourism & Sport * Law
 * Advertising & Market Research
... and lots more!

History

About the course?

History in S4 will build on what you have learned in S1-3. You will continue to look at a range of Historical issues, drawn from Scottish, British as well as European and World themes. You will develop a range of Historical skills and techniques and be given opportunities to carry out research based topics.



What you will study:

National 4 & 5 consist of 3 units:

1. The Era of the Great War, 1900-1928

Scots on the Western Front

Domestic impact of war: Society and Culture

Domestic impact of war: Industry and Economy

Domestic impact of war: Politics

2. Changing Britain, 1760-1900

Health and housing; industry – textile factories and coal mines; transport – canals and railways; pressure for democratic reform up to 1884.

3. Hitler and Nazi Germany 1919-1939

Weimar Germany; Nazi rise to power; Nazi control of Germany; Nazi social and economic policies.



Homework:

All pupils will be issued with regular homework. This may take the form of revision of class work; practice questions and independent research based assignments.

National 4 Assessment

Internal – one assessment per unit

External – none

Added Value unit – individual research project which is internally marked under guidance from the SQA.

National 5 Assessment

Internal – regular end of unit assessments

External –

- i. Question paper worth 80 marks
- ii. Assignment write-up on a topic you have prepared beforehand worth 20 marks.

Examination Information

National 4 has no final exam – the course is pass/fail based on the internal assessments.

National 5 has a final SQA exam and an assignment. Pupils are awarded a grade A-D based on a total mark of 100 from these two.

Careers with History

- * Archaeologist
- * Researcher
- * Civil Service
- * Insurance and Risk
- * Advertising & Market Research
- * Armed Forces
- * Retail Management
- * Publishing
- * Law
- ... and lots more!**

Hospitality; Practical Cookery

Why Practical Cookery?

This course is suitable for pupils with a genuine interest in cookery and the food industry and aims to develop your practical skills.

The course provides progression to other SQA qualifications, further study, employment or training.

The main purpose of this course is to develop your practical cookery skills and knowledge of and understanding of ingredients.

We cook almost every lesson; this is a very practical course set against industry standard. It is physically demanding and we work at a very fast pace.

Results are immediate and of course you get to take all the food home!

What does the course involve?

The National 5 course comprises 3 areas.

The National 4 course comprises 3 units:

Cookery Skills, Processes and Techniques

You will develop your cookery skills, food preparation techniques and ability to follow cookery processes.

You will develop an understanding of the importance of safety and hygiene and the ability to follow safe and hygienic practises at all times.

Understanding and Using Ingredients

You will develop your knowledge of ingredients and their uses.

You will also learn about sustainability, the responsible sourcing of ingredients and the impact your choices have on health and wellbeing.

You will learn to develop the ability to select and use a wide range of appropriate ingredients in the preparation of dishes and to do so safely and hygienically.

Organisational Skills for Cooking

You will develop your planning, organisation and time management skills.

You will plan, produce dishes and meals for specified occasions working safely and hygienically. You will also evaluate the process and the product.

Assessment

National 4 units are assessed on a pass/fail basis within school and may be assessed unit by unit or by combined assessment.

Both courses will be assessed by means of practical exam with an SQA verifier. The National 5 course will also have a written exam.

Homework

Homework will be based on practical work and research.

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A CHARGE OF £66.00 ASSOCIATED WITH THIS COURSE. THIS CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS THE COST OF SOME OF THE INGREDIENTS AND CONTAINERS.

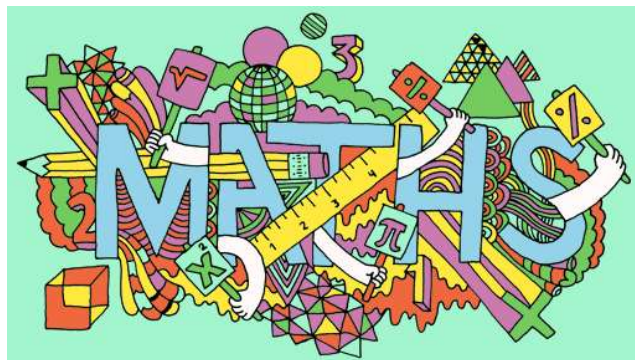


Introduction

All students in S4 will continue to study Mathematics in S4. There are 3 levels of course being offered. Our students will study at a level which builds upon their prior attainment in S1 to S3.

The levels of study will be:

- National 3 Applications of Mathematics
- National 4 Mathematics
- National 5 Mathematics



Course Organisation

Each course is organised into units each covering a number of different mathematical topics. All units will:

- Motivate and challenge learners by enabling them to select and apply mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations
- Equip learners with the skills needed to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems and make informed decisions.

Assessment

In all courses there will be an assessment at the end of each unit. Passes in these units will receive credit from the SQA but the requirements to achieve an overall award are:

- For an overall award at National 3 Applications of Mathematics all the unit assessments must be passed. There is no final exam. Students who are making good progress will be given the opportunity to attempt some units at National 4 Applications of Mathematics.
- For an overall award at National 4 all the unit assessments must be passed then an internal exam passed. The overall result for the course will not be graded but will simply be pass or fail.
- For an overall award at National 5 there is an external exam. The overall result for this course will be graded.

It is SQA policy that students may only have two attempts at unit assessments unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Homework

Students will be expected to do two main types of homework

- Formal; at least one exercise per topic. This will be usually be checked by the teacher.
- Routine; revising for tests, completing classwork, etc.

Calculators

At National 4 and 5 having your own scientific calculator is essential.

Next Steps

In S5/6 students can continue to study Mathematics. The level of study is dependent on prior achievement. To study at National 5 level students will have achieved an overall award at National 4 and to study at Higher students will have achieved an overall award at National 5.

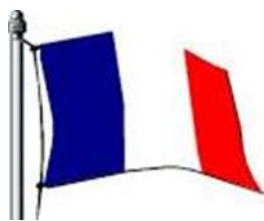
Modern Languages

Why choose Modern Languages?

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.” –Nelson Mandela



- **Languages for life**
Being able to speak another language is a demonstrable life skill and is a skill highly valued by employers.
- **Communication skills and adaptability**
Learning how to interact with speakers of other languages means you are less likely to be stuck in one mode of thinking.
- **Cultural Awareness**
Understanding other cultures helps build relationships with others.



Course Overview

The course will build on learning and language skills from previous years. We will cover topics in the context of **Society, Education, Employability and Culture** with the opportunity to partake in language trips.



Languages for Life and Work Award for those who want to study a language but not at certificate level. It aims to develop learners' language and employability skills, through studying modern languages in practical and relevant contexts for life and work.

Assessment

National 4

Internal

Learners will be required to provide 1 piece of evidence in all 4 skills- Reading, Writing, Listening, Talking, using straightforward language.

National 5

Course Assignment

Learners will provide evidence of their Writing skills, by producing a piece of writing in the modern language. Learners will plan, create and self-correct the piece, thereby allowing pupils to develop more independence.

The Course Assessment will take the form of a performance (presentation and conversation) through which learners will demonstrate their Talking skills, and two question papers through which learners will demonstrate their Listening, Reading and Writing skills, in the modern language.

Career Opportunities

Interpreter
Teacher- Secondary/Primary
Translator
Journalist
International aid/development worker
Logistics and distribution
Tour manager
Sales manager

Homework

Revise vocabulary and grammar 3 times a week
Written homework once a week

About the course

Modern Studies in S4 will build on what you have learned in S1-3. You will continue to look at Politics and Social Issues in the UK as well as the USA. You will develop a range of Modern Studies skills and techniques and be given opportunities to carry out your own research.

What you will study:

National 4 & 5 consist of 3 units:

1. Democracy in Scotland and the UK

UK Government; Scottish Government; participation in politics; the media; rights and responsibilities in society.

2. Social Issues

Crime: types of crime; causes of crime; the impact of crime on individuals and communities

Tackling crime: the role of the police; the criminal justice system in Scotland and different courts; sentencing, juvenile justice.

3. International Issues

USA: socio-economic and political study of the USA, including contemporary issues.



Homework:

All pupils will be issued with regular homework.

This may take the form of revision of class work; practice questions and independent research tasks.

There will also be an expectation that pupils will keep up to date with current affairs.

National 4 Assessment

Internal one assessment per unit

Added Value unit – individual research project which is internally marked under guidance from the SQA.

National 5 Assessment

Internal regular end of unit assessment

- i. Question paper worth 80 marks
- ii. Assignment write-up on a topic you have prepared beforehand worth 20 marks.

Examination Information

National 4 has no final exam – the course is pass/fail based on the internal assessments.

National 5 has a final SQA exam and an assignment. Pupils are awarded a grade A-D based on a total mark of 100 from these two.

Careers with Modern Studies

- * Law
- * Accountancy & Finance
- * Police
- * Armed Forces
- * Health & Education
- * Politics
- * Primary Teaching
- * Social Policy
- * Advertising & Market Research
- * Tourism & Sport

... and lots more!

About the course

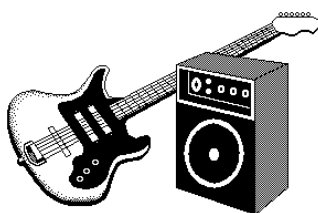
Through music, learners have rich opportunities to be creative and to experience inspiration and enjoyment. Performing and creating music will be the prominent activities for all learners. Through these activities they develop their vocal and instrumental skills, explore sounds and musical concepts, and use their imagination and skills to create musical ideas and compositions. They can develop their understanding and capacity to enjoy music through listening to musical performances and commenting on them. They use ICT to realise or enhance their composition and performance, and to promote their understanding of how music works.

Although the courses are split into several units they can be divided into three areas: Understanding Music, Performing and Composing. In Understanding Music, pupils will broaden their knowledge of music by listening to and analysing music from a wide range of styles, including those from other cultures. They will apply this learning in Composing where they will complete a series of short projects to create original pieces of music using a variety of approaches. In Performing, pupils will learn two instruments (or one instrument and voice) and they will participate in classroom performances throughout the year.

A wide range of learning and teaching approaches is used in the department. These include whole class teaching, group activities, ICT presentations and individual work. The course is designed to allow many opportunities for collaboration and active learning.

Assessment

A continuous assessment approach will be used throughout the course. Pupils will take part in assessed classroom performances throughout the year and their composition work will be continually monitored using observational checklists. Their understanding of music will also be evaluated through the use of questioning techniques, discussions and listening tests.



At National 4 level pupils will be required to pass units in Understanding Music, Composing Skills and Performing Skills. These will be internally assessed and will be subject to verification by the SQA.

In National 4 only, pupils will also be required to pass an internally assessed Added Value Unit in Music Performance where pupils will prepare and perform a programme of music on both of their instruments (or one instrument and voice). National 4 courses are not graded.

Exam Information

In National 5 only, an SQA examiner will visit the school to assess a performance given by each pupil on both of their instruments (or one instrument and voice). This performance will be worth 50% of their final grade. Pupils have to complete a composing assignment which is worth 15% of the final grade. Pupils will also be required to sit a question paper to test their knowledge of music concepts, notation and styles. This question paper will be set and marked by the SQA and will be worth 35% of the final grade.

Homework

Pupils will be required to practise their instruments (or instrument and singing) outwith class time on a regular basis and this will constitute a large time commitment from pupils. They will also be given notation, concept and analysis homework from time to time. Most of the composition work will be completed in school but pupils may sometimes be asked to complete tasks they have started in class as homework.

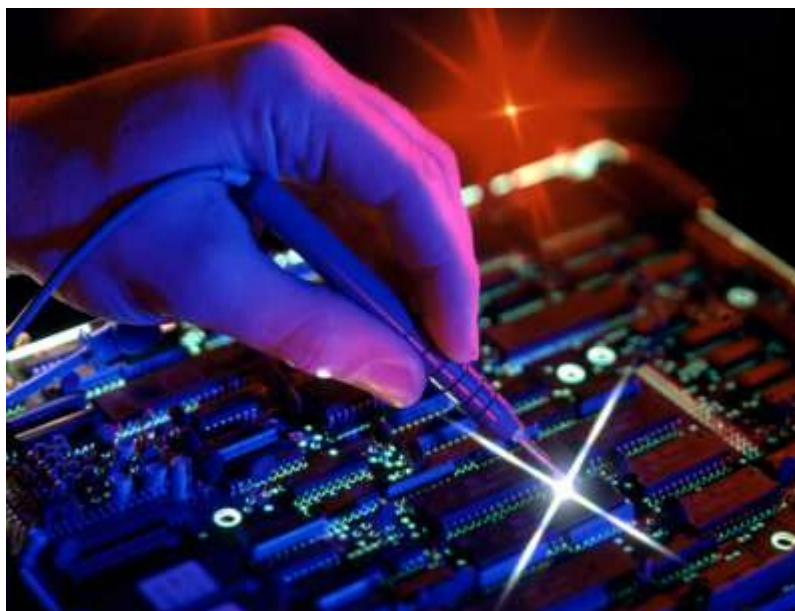
Possible Careers

In addition to obvious careers in the music, the course design allows pupils to develop a broad range of skills for learning, life and work such as personal learning skills, thinking skills and using ICT. Regular performing develops self-confidence and sustaining a practice routine on an instrument or voice requires self-discipline, perseverance, planning and the ability to identify areas for improvement. All of these are valuable skills which attract prospective employers.

Practical Electronics: Circuit Construction

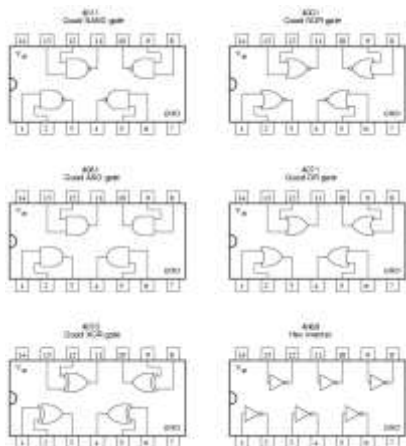
Why Choose Electronics?

Electronics impact greatly on our everyday lives. From our mobile phones to our laptops to our simple calculators, electronic circuits drive them all and they are invaluable in today's society but how do they work? How are electronic circuits constructed? This course provides an insight into the world of electronics. You will learn how simple electronic circuits are constructed and will have the opportunity to build circuits, developing techniques such as soldering. This course will lead to a National 4 unit qualification in circuit construction.



Where Could An Electronics Qualification Lead?

Through an understanding of electronic circuits and their construction opportunities would be opened up in the world of electronic engineering. The skills and knowledge developed could lead to jobs with companies manufacturing or repairing electronic devices, many of which are located throughout central Scotland.



How is the course organised?

The course will be taught with a focus on the development of skills. Pupils will learn how to identify components and then build circuits on proto-boards, strip-boards and printed circuit boards. Pupils will also learn to test their circuits so they can identify and repair faults. They will learn and develop their skills as they work through a series of assessed tasks.

Within these sections pupils will have the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge necessary for a unit award at National 4 level in circuit construction.

What kind of things will you be doing?

The course will be taught through a variety of experiences. There will be many opportunities for practical experience through the construction of circuits from pre-fabricated electronics boards and from individual circuit components. There will also be opportunities for developing the skills required to test circuits using digital meters.

How will you be assessed?

Assessment will be through a combination of photographic evidence of their circuits and teacher observation.



About the course

National 4 - People & Society

People and Society is a flexible and inter-disciplinary course offering learners the opportunity to study themes, issues and topics. Learners gain a range of skills which will enhance opportunities to engage positively in society, as well as knowledge and understanding of society and their place in it. Skills covered are investigating skills, comparing and contrasting and decision making. The Theme you will study will be **CONFLICT**.

What you will study:

1. Comparing and Contrasting:

The Assassination of John F Kennedy

Who was JFK and what his Presidency was like; The assassination of President Kennedy; The search for a killer; The case against Lee Harvey Oswald; Lee Harvey Oswald's early life; The death of Lee Harvey Oswald; The Warren Report; Evidence relating to the rifle used in the assassination; Eye-witness testimony; The Conspiracy Theory.

2. Investigating: Global Terrorism

Definitions of terrorism; Causes of terrorism; Different terrorist groups that exist now and in the past; Key events and their background; Types of terrorist attacks and their consequences; Government responses to terrorism; Attitudes about terrorism; How terrorism has changed.

3. Making Decisions: Why did women gain the vote?

The status of women in 1900; Why women wanted the vote; Why people were against women having the vote; The different groups which campaigned for votes for women; The tactics used by each group; How the government and the general public reacted to the militant campaigns; Why the campaigns stopped; What part women played in World War One; When women achieved the vote and on what terms; Whether the vote actually improved women's lives.

National 4 Assessment

Internal – one assessment per unit

External – none

Added Value Unit – individual research project which is internally marked under guidance from the SQA.

Examination Information

National 4 – No final exam. The course is pass/fail based on the internal assessments.



Physical Education

About the Course

The purpose of this course is to develop, demonstrate and improve your practical skills in physical activities. You will develop knowledge and understanding that you will be able to apply in order to improve your overall performance in a number of activities. The course is largely practically based which means you will acquire much of this knowledge and understanding through participating in the activities. You will be required to do classroom based work at times.

Through this course you will also have the opportunity to develop team-building skills and enhance your ability to compete, co-operate and collaborate.

National 4/5 PE provides progression to other SQA qualifications and is suitable if you have an interest in and enthusiasm for sport or if you are considering further education or a career in the sport/leisure industry. Pupils will be presented at either National 4/5 depending on the level of their attainment in coursework, assessments and practical performance.



What does the course involve?

The course consists of two areas at National 5 and three areas at National 4:

Area/Unit 1: Physical Education: Performance

This area is designed to improve your level of performance in a number of Physical activities/sports. Activities will be decided depending upon the interests of the class.



Area/Unit 2: Physical Education: Factors Impacting on Performance

This area explores factors which impact on engagement and performance in physical activities. You will investigate how you can improve your performance in one physical activity through the development of two of the four main factors: PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL. You will reflect on and monitor your progress. At National 5 level, you will create a portfolio of evidence which will be submitted to SQA for external marking. The purpose of the portfolio is to provide evidence of the process involved in planning for personal performance development. This portfolio could include evidence in a variety of formats such as:- a logbook, diary, development record or photographic/video evidence.

Area/Unit 3: Physical Education: Practical Activity (National 4 only)

In this area you will have the opportunity to apply your skills and knowledge previously gained to further improve your performance in one activity.



Assessment

Area/Unit 1: Performance

You will be required to **demonstrate** a basic range of performance skills in **two** activities. (at National 4 level)

Unit 2: Factors Impacting on Performance

This will be assessed through **discussion** and **written** tasks. At National 5 this will include more formal written assessments and your portfolio of evidence. The portfolio will contribute to 50% of your overall grade.

Unit 3: Practical Activity (National 4 only)

This will be assessed through **practical activities** which allow you to show the extent to which you can **apply** the knowledge and skills you have gained in the above two areas.

At **National 5** level you will complete two performance assessments which will contribute to 50% of your overall grade.

Possible Careers

Following courses in Physical Education can lead to a variety of careers such as Professional Sportsperson, PE teaching, Sports Coaching, Sports Physiotherapy, Sports Analyst, Leisure Management, Armed Forces, Police Service and the Fire Service.

Why Choose Physics?

Physics is a fascinating and enjoyable subject which is highly sought after by universities and employers. It is the Science which drives many advances that make our everyday lives comfortable and interesting – internet, mobile communication, animations, cinema, flight, medical physics and so on. Understanding Physics is made even easier when studied alongside either Chemistry or Biology.

There are a lot of discoveries still being made in Physics and various aspects of Physics are regularly discussed in the media. The S4 Physics course will help you to understand the issues discussed in the media and how they apply to your life.

Where Could A Physics Qualification Lead?

Physics is valuable for leading into a huge number of well paid professions. In addition to feeding into careers in technological research, engineering and physics, it is also very useful for further study in medicine, dentistry, chemistry, music, music technology and many more. You would also be taught essential skills and understanding necessary for work as an electrician or a mechanic.

How is the course organised?

The course will be organised into 3 broad, general units. They cover

- Electricity and Energy
- Waves and Radiation
- Dynamics and Space

Within the three units pupils will undertake the outcomes at either National 3, National 4 or National 5 level.



What kind of things will you be doing?

Physics is taught through a variety of experiences. You will undertake experiments using both traditional and modern experimental techniques; you will learn collaboratively, working with others to develop your understanding; you will undertake research and computer simulations will be used to help you visualise what we cannot see. You may also have the opportunity to undertake visits to see Physics in use in industry.

How will you be assessed?

Assessment for Physics involves 4 elements:

- end of unit assessments (involving knowledge and skills questions)
- research task where pupils will research an aspect of Physics and its impact on society
- practical investigation

The fourth element is a value added unit where pupils will investigate an area of topical Physics and there will be a full course examination for National 5.

Homework

Homework will be set weekly to help you develop your understanding. Homework will take a variety of forms, including research, problem solving questions, communication tasks and revision for tests.



Why Choose Woodworking Skills?

The course will give you the opportunity to develop more advanced woodworking skills.

You will manufacture a series of projects covering a range of construction techniques.

Course Content

Flat-frame Construction

- care and safe use of hand tools
- construction of basic frame joints
- flat frame construction project (for example coffee table etc)

Carcass Construction

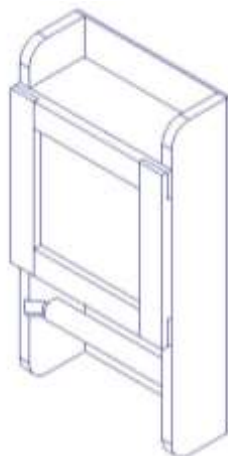
- knowledge of natural & manufactured materials
- construction of basic carcass joints
- carcass construction project (for example, CD/DVD rack etc)

Machining & Finishing

- safe use of fixed machine tools
- safe use of portable power tools
- working to recognised safety procedures
- wood turning (lathe) project (for example, bedside lamp, towel rail etc)

Course Project

Manufacture of a given product using all of the techniques used in the Units (for example, kitchen storage unit etc)



How is the course organized?

Each project has a set of working drawings that you will work from. All the craft techniques that you need to learn will be practised before the start of each Unit.

Most of the time will be spent in a craft workshop doing practical activities. Learning how to work in a safe and careful manner will have a very high priority. You will be instructed in the use of hand and power tools and be expected to use them safely under supervision.

How is the Course Assessed?

Each Unit is assessed against set criteria, in class, and is awarded on a pass fail basis.

At National 4, the Course is assessed using the Course Project.

At National 5, the Course is assessed using the Course Project and a written exam.

The Unit assessments and the Course Project are externally verified by the SQA.

Career Opportunities

As well as teaching you useful life skills, Woodworking Skills can lead to College courses and apprenticeships in the joinery and building trades.



Religious Education in the Catholic School is distinctive because of its focus on the faith development of young people within the context of a faith community. Its main purpose is to assist young people to make an informed, mature response to God's call to relationship.

This Is Our Faith is the National Curriculum for Excellence syllabus for Roman Catholic schools. It provides core learning under eight strands of faith which young people experience from Primary 1 through to S6. In addition to the core curriculum there are opportunities for certification in Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies in S5/S6. Religious Education is designed to engage pupils in an educational process which will:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith
- Nurture respect for other Christian traditions and world religions
- Experience opportunities for spiritual growth
- Acquire skills of reflection, discernment and moral decision-making
- Commit to beliefs, values and actions in a positive response to God's invitation to faith.

Learners will also engage with 'Called to Love' which is the Catholic Church's education programme for sex and relationships.

Assessment of knowledge and understanding and skills will be ongoing throughout the course.

As well as academic and spiritual formation, there are opportunities for participation in the spiritual life of the school. Class liturgies, opportunities for prayer and reflection and retreats are a central part of the RE curriculum.