

Breadalbane Academy



**Senior Phase
Course Options
S4 - 6**

**Session
2019 - 2020**

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Foreword

Breadalbane Academy offers a range of educational opportunities for pupils entering our Senior Phase.

This course options booklet is part of a wider process designed to explain your future choices in the next stage of your education and development. It includes detailed information about all courses on offer at Breadalbane Academy next session (2019/20) and also explores the opportunities you will have to develop your potential in preparation for competing with others from around the country for a job, or a place at the college or university of your choice. Please read it carefully and talk to your friends, parents/carers and your teachers about the information it contains so that you can select the most appropriate options for the next stage of your education.

Making Appropriate Choices

You are approaching the next step in your Senior Phase at school and will soon have the opportunity to make your course choices for next session.

The subject areas you continue with next year may determine what opportunities are open to you later in life. Therefore, it is crucial that you take time to consider the different options carefully so that you can make choices that are right for you.

This booklet will help you to make sense of the process, as it details:

- Examinations & Awards
- Information regarding:
 - National Qualifications – Courses & Units
 - Scottish Baccalaureates
 - National Progression Awards
- Choosing your subjects
- Core subjects
- What things should I be thinking about when choosing subjects?

Pupil Support teachers have a particularly important role to play in assisting individual pupils to make appropriate choices. Parents are welcome to contact their child's support teacher to discuss any aspect of the course choice process.

Our support team members are: **Mr Davidson and Mrs Benning**, who will be overseeing the process and can be contacted at any time through the school office.

Examinations & Awards

All school-based examinations and awards are administered by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). The National Qualifications programme is the normal S4, S5 and S6 examination system.

National Qualifications cater for all abilities.

- National 4:** National 4 award is a pass or fail and provides a stepping stone for some pupils to progress to National 5. It is internally assessed with no external exam.
- National 5:** Provides a progression route for some pupils who have gained a pass at National 4 level. National 5 level courses may provide a stepping stone for some pupils to progress to Higher level courses in S5 and S6. Pupils in S6 who wish to broaden their range of qualifications may also select from the range of National 5 courses. Some National 5 level courses do not specify previous study of the subject as an entry requirement.
- Higher:** Higher level courses will be part of the curriculum for many pupils returning to S5. The general recommended entry requirement for all Higher level courses is a Grade A, B or C at National 5 level in the subject. (check individual course details).
- Advanced Higher:** These courses are offered mainly to those presently achieving grade A or B at higher level or who want to study the subject in greater depth. Advanced Highers are generally not required as an entrance qualification for University, but it can be an advantage for some universities and faculties. Advanced Higher Courses place a considerable emphasis on individual initiative and study with limited direct teacher tuition. It is a good introduction to the kind of study experienced at University.

The **progression routes** between these different courses are shown below with recommended entry requirements:

Level of study	Recommended entry qualifications
National 4  National 5  Higher Course  Advanced Higher Course	National 3 National 4 National 5 Grades A, B or C Higher Grades A or B

It would be unwise to study a course for which you don't have the recommended entry qualifications as you are unlikely to be successful in passing the examination at the end of the course. If you are uncertain whether you will be permitted to take a particular subject, discuss the matter with the principal teacher concerned.

Scottish Baccalaureates

The Scottish Science Baccalaureate and the Scottish Languages Baccalaureates consist of a coherent group of current Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications in science and languages respectively and are open to S6 pupils. But what makes a Scottish Baccalaureate unique is the Interdisciplinary Project.

The Interdisciplinary Project is an Advanced Higher Unit in which you apply your subject knowledge in realistic contexts. You carry out an investigation or practical assignment which is likely to involve you working outwith your school – in a college or university, or in a community or workplace setting. The Interdisciplinary Project will help you to develop and show evidence of initiative, responsibility and independent working. See www.sqa.org.uk for more information.

Foundation Apprenticeships

Foundation Apprenticeships are initiative introduced by the Scottish Government. They are 2 year courses and are open to S5 pupils only. They will support pupils to be career ready through the local work placements and real-life projects undertaken. Young people working towards a Foundation Apprenticeship will gain knowledge, skills and hands-on industry experience at college and with a local employer. They are an industry-recognised qualification set at SCQF level 6 which is equivalent to a Higher. If choosing to study a Foundation Apprenticeship, pupils are required to attend Perth College every Friday. The school will support this by allowing pupils to drop 1 column to allow extra study periods for their other 4 subjects.

Perth College UHI have delivered a presentation to all of our S4 pupils to provide them with full information on the range of Foundation Apprenticeship courses on offer. A full prospectus detailing all of these course is available via the school office or Guidance Teachers or alternatively all information can be accessed at www.perth.uhi.ac.uk/foundation-apprenticeships

Choosing your subjects

S4 Subject Choice – All S3 pupils will choose 5 subjects going into S4. All pupils will also study English and Maths in addition to their 5 personal choices. This can be a mixture of National 4, National 5, Skills for Work and Vocational courses.

S5 Subject Choice – All S4 pupils will choose 5 subjects going into S5. This can be a mixture of Higher, National 4/5, Skills for Work, Vocational and a Foundation Apprenticeship course.

S6 Subject Choice – All S5 pupils will choose 4 subjects going into S6. However, there is some flexibility depending on the number of Advanced Highers being taken. Those pupils who are choosing to undertake 3 Advanced Highers can have 2 study columns.

All S3-5 pupils have completed a ‘Straw Poll’ exercise was used to prepare the course option sheet which best meets all preferences and decide which courses can or cannot run due to levels of demand.

S3-5 pupils will all be interviewed by their Guidance Teacher to discuss their options fully. Parents/Carers are encouraged to attend these meetings, where possible. Further information about dates and how to arrange these meetings will be distributed shortly.

Please understand that the option sheet cannot meet all requests. You may need to think of a two year package to study all the subjects of interest to you, but in the first year, try to pick the subjects which you may wish to take onto Advanced Higher in S6.

- Further decisions about over-subscribed or non-viable classes will be made during April and May and all pupils that this affects will receive a brief interview about their choices.
- Any pupil who needs to review their choices in the light of examination results will receive an interview by their support teacher on return to school in August.

Core subjects

In addition to your National Qualifications all S4, S5 and S6 pupils will continue to develop wider achievement and vocational education within their timetable. In this way, pupils will build up a variety of qualifications and experiences to support them in accessing their chosen career route.

We have found that pupils who are successful in achieving positive destinations talk confidently and knowledgably about their:

- Personal skills
- Strengths
- Relevant experiences

Our curriculum allows us to embed these opportunities through our;

Core PSE

Core PE

Core RE

Senior Activities

Senior Activities provide all S5 and S6 pupils opportunities to develop a wide range of skills and additional qualifications ranging from level 4 to level 7.

What things should I be thinking about when choosing subjects?

1. Keep as many career options open as possible.
2. Don't choose a subject because your friends have taken it. You may need a subject for your chosen career and this will be more important in the long run than being in the same class as your friends
3. If you have a particular career, Further or Higher Education course in mind you should check the entry qualifications before choosing your subjects. The Careers Library, Careers Adviser and Guidance teachers will help you investigate recommended entry level. Be cautious. You would be well advised to choose subjects which keep open as many other options as possible. You may change your mind!
4. Don't be put off a subject just because other people are better at it than you. If you are genuinely interested in a subject or, need the subject for your career, then you ought to consider choosing it regardless of how well others do in the subject.
5. Although careers are an important consideration it may be appropriate to think about developing yourself in a new subject area. This is especially relevant to S6 pupils who already possess a good group of qualifications
6. Some pupils in the past have limited their choice as they have thought some subjects are for boys and others for girls. Don't limit your choice by this type of outdated thinking.
7. As university recommended entry levels have become more complicated, it is essential that you check with your chosen university as to those qualifications relevant to your course. Candidates for university entry often have to satisfy General Recommended entry level plus Faculty requirements and sometimes requirements of Departments. Before choosing your subjects for S5/6 you should check the entry qualifications for specific degree courses in the appropriate prospectuses. Applicants must also achieve Higher passes at certain levels which vary from one university to another. It should be noted that applicants who do not fulfil the going rates at the first sitting are required to obtain a higher level at a second sitting.
8. Candidates who require upgrading results in S6 to obtain entry may, in many cases, be allowed to try to obtain a good grade in Advanced Higher rather than repeat a Higher but pupils should consult individual departments within different universities to ascertain what their policy is before making a decision about subject choice in S6.

ENGLISH – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course

- To build on skills in reading, writing, talking, listening & critical thinking
- To develop in pupils an appreciation of literature.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- CfE Level 4

What content is included in this course?

- Analysis and Evaluation Unit (Reading and Listening)
- Creation and Production Unit (Writing and Talking)
- Literacy Unit
- Added Value Unit

What skills will I develop?

You will develop your language skills and critical appreciation of literature at a level beyond that already encountered in CfE Level 4. You will have a greater opportunity to work independently, plan your work and meet challenging deadlines.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will encounter the usual mixture of classroom practice in English: direct teaching; pair and group work; whole class discussion and independent research which will create a stimulating but challenging learning experience.

How will I be assessed?

The National 4 candidates will complete a portfolio of work that will be assessed by your teacher. This will involve a mixture of reading and responding to texts, giving presentations and writing your own work.

What are the homework requirements?

You will be given formal homework on a weekly basis. You will also have various longer term projects. In total, you should spend at least two hours at home on English per week.

What are the possible progression routes?

- National 5 English.

Certification anticipated in:

National 4 English is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4.

ENGLISH – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course

- To build on skills in reading, writing, talking, listening & critical thinking
- To develop in pupils an appreciation of literature.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- CfE Level 4

What content is included in this course?

- Analysis and Evaluation Unit (Reading and Listening)
- Creation and Production Unit (Writing and Talking)
- Literacy Unit
- Literature (including Scottish Set Texts)
- Folio (Creative and Functional Writing)

What skills will I develop?

You will develop your language skills and critical appreciation of literature at a level beyond that already encountered in CfE Level 4. You will have a greater opportunity to work independently, plan your work and meet challenging deadlines.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will encounter the usual mixture of classroom practice in English: direct teaching; pair and group work; whole class discussion and independent research which will create a stimulating but challenging learning experience.

How will I be assessed?

The National 5 English exam comprises of two papers: Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation (RUAE), in which you will read a previously unseen article and answer questions; and Critical Reading, where you will read an extract from one of the Scottish set texts and answer questions and also write a critical essay on a text you have studied in class. There is a writing folio to be submitted in March worth 30% of the final grade. Class teachers will continually assess pupils to ensure they are making adequate progress on the course. There is one Coursework Assessment: Performance – spoken language which is assessed on an achieved/not achieved basis.

What are the homework requirements?

You will be given formal homework on a weekly basis. You will also have various longer term projects. In total, you should spend at least two hours at home on English per week.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Higher English.

Certification anticipated in:

National 5 English is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

ENGLISH - HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

- To build on skills in reading, writing, talking, listening & critical thinking.
- To develop in pupils an appreciation of literature.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- National 5

What content is included in this course?

- Analysis and Evaluation (Unit 1)
- Creation and Production (Unit 2)
- Language skills
- Literature (including Scottish Set Texts)
- Folio (Creative and Functional Writing)

What skills will I develop?

You will develop your language skills and critical appreciation of literature at a level beyond that already encountered in National 5. You will have greater opportunity to work independently, plan your work and meet challenging deadlines.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will encounter the usual mixture of classroom practice in English: direct teaching; pair and group work; whole class discussion and independent research which will create a stimulating but challenging learning experience.

How will I be assessed?

There is an external exam consisting of two papers. Paper 1 is Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation based on an unseen passage. Paper 2 is Critical Reading: in Section 1, pupils read an extract from one of the set Scottish texts and answer questions and in Section 2, pupils write about a text studied during the course. There is also a folio of writing submitted to the SQA in March worth 30% of your final grade. There is one internal assessment: Performance – spoken language which is assessed on an achieved/not achieved basis.

What are the homework requirements?

You will be given homework on a weekly basis. This should take at least two hours of your time. However, on top of this, you must commit to spending time studying independently throughout the course.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Advanced Higher
- Higher English is accepted by all universities and colleges as an entry requirement and is an essential requirement for many.

Certification anticipated in:

Higher English is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6.

What are the aims of this course

- To build on skills in reading, writing & critical thinking
- To develop in pupils a critical appreciation of literature.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- Higher English pass at level A or B.

What content is included in this course?

- Unit 1: Analysis and Evaluation
- Unit 2: Creation and Production

What skills will I develop?

You will develop your linguistic skills and critical appreciation of literature at a level beyond that already encountered in Higher English. You will learn to work more independently and develop your own approaches to literature.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

There will be a mixture of classroom teaching and personal study with opportunities provided to conduct your own research – individually or as a group. As class sizes are small, lessons will follow more of a tutorial type format.

How will I be assessed?

Just as Higher English, each unit will be internally assessed on a pass/fail basis. In addition, there will be a question paper through which learners will write a critical response on drama or prose and undertake a textual analysis of an unseen poem and a portfolio which will contain two pieces of writing and a dissertation.

What are the homework requirements?

Your teacher will issue regular formal homework and this, together with your own personal study, means that you should be working for at least 3 hours at home per week.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Can be taken as part of the Language Baccalaureate course
- Advanced Higher English is accepted and highly valued by all university courses and is an excellent “stepping stone” between school and tertiary education.

Certification:

Advanced Higher English is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7.

FRENCH/GERMAN/SPANISH/GAELIC – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of the course?

- To build on skills in reading, writing, talking and listening.
- To develop literacy skills

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

The National 4 course is open to all S4/5/6 pupils who have shown competence in their previous language learning at Level 3.

What content is included in this course?

- **Understanding Language Unit** (*Listening and Reading*)
- **Using Language Unit** (*Talking and Writing*)
- **Added Value Unit**

Skills are developed within the contexts of **Society, Learning, Employability and Culture**.

What skills will I develop?

- Skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work
- Reading, Talking, Listening and Writing in French/German/Spanish/Gaelic
- Working with others and independent study
- Applying grammatical knowledge
- Presentation skills

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work to improve language proficiency.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed internally. Pupils must pass unit assessments – one each for Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing as well as the Added Value Unit.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

What are the homework requirements?

A large part of homework will be of a learning nature; vocabulary, verb structures and grammar. In addition, regular practice of reading will be required, as well as preparation for speaking tasks.

Pupils will be expected to undertake regular and independent revision, in addition to their set homework.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Achieving a pass at National 4 allows progression to the National 5 course.
- Alternatively, **further education** courses may be available at appropriate levels.
- Courses offered by **foreign language agencies** at appropriate levels.
- **Employment**, possibly making use of foreign language competence.

Certification anticipated in:

National 4 French/German/Spanish/Gaelic is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4.

FRENCH / GERMAN / SPANISH /GAELIC – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of the course?

The course offers learners the opportunity to develop and extend their ability to communicate using the four skills - listening, talking, reading and writing.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- National 4 French/German/Spanish/Gaelic **or**
- Competence demonstrated in previous language learning

What content is included in this course?

- **Understanding Language Unit** (*Listening and Reading*)
- **Using Language Unit** (*Talking and Writing*)

Skills are developed within the contexts of **Society, Learning, Employability and Culture**.

What skills will I develop?

- Skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work
- Reading, Talking, Listening and Writing in French/German/Spanish/Gaelic
- Working with others and independent study
- Applying grammatical knowledge
- Presentation skills

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work to improve language proficiency.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by assessments completed in class (talking and writing) as well as a final examination which will determine the learner's final grade (A-D).

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

What are the homework requirements?

A large part of homework will be of a learning nature; vocabulary, verb structures and grammar. In addition, regular practice of reading will be required, as well as preparation for speaking tasks. Pupils will be expected to undertake regular and independent revision, in addition to their set homework.

What are the possible progression routes?

- A successful candidate at Nat 5 will be able to progress to a **Higher Modern Languages** course.
- Alternatively, **further/higher education** courses may be available at appropriate levels, up to and including degree courses.
- Courses offered by **foreign language agencies** at appropriate levels.
- **Employment**, possibly making use of foreign language competence.

Certification anticipated in: Nat 5 French/German /Spanish/Gaelic is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

FRENCH / GERMAN / SPANISH /GAELIC – HIGHER

What are the aims of the course?

The Higher course offers learners opportunities to:

- listen, talk, read and write in French/German/Spanish/Gaelic
- develop the language skill of translation
- apply knowledge and understanding of French/German/Spanish/Gaelic more independently

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

National 5 in the relevant language.

Pupils with no previous knowledge of the language but have previously performed well in another language at Nat 5 or Higher level would be considered for this course. Please see Mr Reaper in the first instance.

What content is included in this course?

The contexts are the same as at National 5 level but are developed further at Higher level:

- **Society** (becoming an adult, teenage problems, the digital age, global citizenship)
- **Learning** (understanding yourself as a learner, choosing a university or college, lifelong learning)
- **Employability** (summer jobs, future employment, job opportunities)
- **Culture** (taking a gap year, living in a multicultural society, traditions of other countries)

What skills will I develop?

- Skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work
- Reading, Talking, Listening and Writing in French/German/Spanish/Gaelic
- Knowledge of detailed language required to translate French/German/Spanish/Gaelic accurately
- Working with others and independent study
- Applying grammatical knowledge and understanding
- Presentation skills

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work to improve language proficiency. Interactive language based websites are used to access news and events in the relevant language.

How will I be assessed?

The skill of talking will be assessed in school with this mark counting towards 25% of the final mark. A writing assignment completed in class and marked by SQA is worth 12.5%. There is also a final examination assessing listening, reading and writing which will determine the learner's final grade (A-D).

What are the homework requirements?

A large part of homework will continue to be of a learning nature; vocabulary, verb structures and grammar. In addition, regular practice of reading, listening and writing will be required, as well as preparation for speaking tasks. Pupils will be expected to undertake regular and independent revision, in addition to their set homework.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Advanced Higher
- Higher education courses at appropriate levels, up to and including degree courses.
- Courses offered by foreign language agencies at appropriate levels.
- Employment, possibly making use of foreign language competence.
- A Higher in one language allows you to start a wide range of new languages at university.

Certification anticipated in: Higher French / German / Spanish /Gaelic are allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6.

FRENCH/SPANISH – ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of the course?

The Advanced Higher course offers learners opportunities to:

- further develop the ability to listen and talk, read and write in French
- further develop grammatical knowledge
- develop independent learning and higher-order language skills
- develop the ability to plan and research, integrating and applying language skills

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Higher French pass at **A or B**

What content is included in this course?

The contexts are the same as at Higher level but are developed further at Advanced Higher level:

- **Society** (new family structures, gender equality, environmental issues)
- **Learning** (understanding yourself as a learner, choosing a university or college, lifelong learning)
- **Employability** (summer jobs, future employment, equality in the workplace)
- **Culture** (taking a gap year, living in a multicultural society, traditions of other countries)

What skills will I develop?

- Reading, Talking, Listening and Writing in French
- Knowledge of detailed language required to translate French accurately
- Independent study
- Applying grammatical knowledge and understanding
- Presentation skills
- Analysing and evaluating information

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work to improve language proficiency. Interactive language based websites are used to access news and events in the relevant language.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed internally as well as externally. SQA are currently reviewing assessment for session 2019-2020. There is a final examination which will determine the learner's final grade (A-D).

What are the homework requirements?

A large part of homework will continue to be of a learning nature; vocabulary, verb structures and grammar. In addition, regular practice of reading, listening and writing will be required, as well as preparation for speaking tasks. Pupils will be expected to undertake regular and independent revision, in addition to their set homework.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Higher education courses at appropriate levels, up to and including degree courses.
- Courses offered by foreign language agencies at appropriate levels.
- Employment, possibly making use of foreign language competence.
- A Higher in one language allows you to start a wide range of new languages at university.

Certification anticipated in: Advanced Higher French/Spanish are allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7.

MATHEMATICS – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course

This course aims to provide students with a broad mathematical understanding and to build on previous knowledge and understanding. In most cases, it is only S4 candidates, who have not yet met the standard for presentation at National 5 Mathematics, who are presented for this course.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Candidates must be secure in all aspects of Level 3 experiences and outcomes and have tackled some Level 4 work, particularly in algebra. Students who have focused on numeracy, money and measure outcomes in S3 will be presented for National 4 Applications of Mathematics instead.

What content is included in this course?

The course is structured in 3 units, covering topics which will develop skills in algebra, number, geometry, trigonometry and statistics.

What skills will I develop?

Students will develop numeracy skills with particular emphasis on fractions, decimals and percentages. They will further develop their skills in algebra, working with brackets, equations and formulae. Students will extend their knowledge of geometry and be introduced to basic trigonometry and its applications. Students will also develop their skills in problem solving and logical thinking.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The course is well supported by textbooks and other commercial resources. Some emphasis will be placed on independent learning, revision and consolidation. Students will be encouraged to work together to develop their understanding.

How will I be assessed?

Each unit has a formal assessment which must be passed. In addition, there is a final “Added Value” assessment which contains a non-calculator paper and 2nd paper in which calculators may be used. This is graded as pass or fail. One re-attempt will be allowed.

What are the homework requirements?

Students are expected to complete some work at home on set homework, revision and consolidation. A weekly quota of 1 – 2 hours should be considered a minimum commitment.

What are the possible progression routes?

A pass would allow progression to National 5 Mathematics or National 5 Applications of Mathematics.

Certification:

National 4 Mathematics is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 4.

MATHEMATICS – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course?

This course aims to provide students with a broad mathematical understanding and to build on previous knowledge and understanding.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Candidates must be secure with all aspects of Level 4 experiences and outcomes or have passed National 4 Mathematics. S4 candidates will have experienced some National 5 topics in S3 as part of their broad, general education. It is likely that candidates choosing this course in S5 will have completed some National 5 Maths work during S4. S5 candidates who have not done so would be recommended to choose National 5 Applications of Mathematics instead.

What content is included in this course?

The course is structured in 3 units, covering topics which will develop skills in algebra, number, geometry, trigonometry and statistics.

What skills will I develop?

Students will learn about different types of numbers and how to manipulate them. They will further develop their skills in algebra and apply them to new areas such quadratics, functions and graphs. Students will extend their knowledge of trigonometry and its applications. Students will also develop their skills in problem solving and logical thinking.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The course is well supported by textbooks and other commercial resources. Some emphasis will be placed on independent learning, revision and consolidation. Students will be encouraged to work together to develop their understanding.

How will I be assessed?

The department uses a mixture of topic tests and more demanding mixed assessments to provide feedback throughout the course. In January, students will tackle a prelim covering at least 2 units of work. A late prelim will be given in March which matches the format of the final exam: a non-calculator paper and 2nd paper in which calculators may be used. If S4 candidates are unable to complete these assessments successfully, they will have the opportunity to gain an award at National 4 level.

What are the homework requirements?

Students are expected to complete a reasonable of work at home on set homework, revision and consolidation. A weekly quota of 2 – 3 hours should be considered a minimum commitment.

What are the possible progression routes?

A pass at grade A or B would allow progression to Higher.

Certification:

National 5 Mathematics is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 5.

MATHEMATICS - HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

This course aims to prepare students for the study of maths, science or engineering at university by building on the mathematical knowledge and skills developed at National 5 level.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

A National 5 Mathematics pass at A or B grade is recommended.

It should be noted that a C pass in National 5 is not a strong basis for progression to this level. It should also be made clear that any pass in National 5 Applications of Mathematics does not provide a progression route to Higher.

What content is included in this course?

The course is structured in 3 units, covering topics which will develop skills in algebra, calculus and trigonometry.

What skills will I develop?

Students will further develop their skills in algebra and apply them to new types of functions. Students will extend their knowledge of trigonometry and its applications and will study calculus for the first time.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The course is well supported by textbooks and other commercial resources. There are many sources of help online for study at this level. A heavy emphasis will be placed on independent learning, revision and consolidation.

How will I be assessed?

The department uses a mixture of topic tests and more demanding mixed assessments to provide feedback throughout the course. In addition, students will sit a prelim on approximately two thirds of the course in January, and late prelim in March, which matches the format of the final exam.

What are the homework requirements?

The demands of this course are considerable, with students being expected to complete a good deal of work at home. A weekly quota of 3 – 4 hours should be considered a minimum commitment.

What are the possible progression routes?

A pass at grade A or B would allow progression to Advanced Higher.

Certification:

Higher Mathematics is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 6.

MATHEMATICS – ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

This course aims to prepare students for the study of maths, science or engineering at university by building on the mathematical knowledge and skills developed at Higher.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

A Higher pass at grade A or B is recommended.

What content is included in this course?

The course is structured in 3 units, covering 15 topics which will develop skills in algebra, calculus, number theory and proof.

What skills will I develop?

Students will learn about different types of numbers and how to manipulate them. They will further develop their skills in algebra and apply them to new areas such as sequences and series and formal proof. Students will extend their knowledge of calculus and its applications.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The course is well supported by textbooks and other commercial resources. There is access to the online Scholar system for additional help. A heavy emphasis will be placed on independent learning, revision and consolidation.

How will I be assessed?

Each unit has a series of topic tests which will give candidates feedback on their basic skills. In addition, a two-hour exam covering approximately two thirds of the course will be given in January. A late prelim will be given in March which will cover the full course. The course award is based entirely on the final exam. It is likely that the format of the paper will change slightly in 2020, but these changes have not yet been published.

What are the homework requirements?

The demands of this course are considerable, with students being expected to complete a good deal of work at home. A weekly quota of 4 – 5 hours should be considered a minimum commitment.

What are the possible progression routes?

This course would facilitate progression to the study of mathematics, or any other STEM subject, at University.

Certification:

Advanced Higher Mathematics is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 7.

APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course

This course aims to provide students with a practical mathematical understanding for life and work, and to build on previous knowledge and understanding.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Candidates must be secure with all aspects of Level 3 experiences and outcomes or have passed National 3 Applications of Mathematics.

What content is included in this course?

The course is structured in 3 units, covering topics which will develop skills in number, shape, measurement, statistics and managing money.

What skills will I develop?

Students will learn about different ways to earn, spend, borrow and save money. They will measure and calculate length, area and volume and use scale drawings and plans. Students will learn how to calculate and manage risk, find averages and collect, organise and analyse data. Students will also develop their skills in problem solving and logical thinking.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Some aspects of the course are covered by textbooks and other commercial resources, others will be tackled through cooperative, practical projects where students are encouraged to work together to develop their understanding. Some emphasis will be placed on independent learning, revision and consolidation.

How will I be assessed?

Each unit has a formal assessment which must be passed. In addition, there is a final “Added Value” assessment which contains a non-calculator paper and 2nd paper in which calculators may be used. This is graded as pass or fail. One re-attempt will be allowed.

What are the homework requirements?

Students are expected to complete some work at home on set homework, revision and consolidation.

What are the possible progression routes?

This course is designed as a preparation for life and work outside school, but a pass can also lead on to Applications of Mathematics at National 5 level. Please note that these courses do **not** provide progression to Higher Mathematics.

Certification:

National 4 Applications of Mathematics is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 4.

APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course

This course aims to provide students with a practical mathematical understanding for life and work, and to build on previous knowledge and understanding.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Candidates must be secure with Level 4 experiences and outcomes or have completed National 4 Applications of Mathematics or National 4 Mathematics. This course is available S5/6 students only.

What content is included in this course?

The course is structured in 3 units, covering topics which will develop skills in number, shape, measurement, statistics and managing money.

What skills will I develop?

Students will learn about different ways to earn, spend, borrow and save money. They will measure and calculate length, area and volume and use scale drawings and plans. Students will learn how to calculate and manage risk, find averages and collect, organise and analyse data. Students will also develop their skills in problem solving and logical thinking.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Some aspects of the course are covered by textbooks and other commercial resources, others will be tackled through cooperative, practical projects where students are encouraged to work together to develop their understanding. Some emphasis will be placed on independent learning, revision and consolidation.

How will I be assessed?

The department uses a mixture of topic tests and more demanding mixed assessments to provide feedback throughout the course. In January, students will tackle a prelim covering at least 2 units of work. A late prelim will be given in March which matches the format of the final exam: a non-calculator paper and 2nd paper in which calculators may be used.

What are the homework requirements?

Students are expected to complete some work at home on set homework, revision and consolidation. A weekly quota of 2 – 3 hours should be considered a minimum commitment.

What are the possible progression routes?

This course is designed as a preparation for life and work outside school, and is the highest level of award in Applications of Mathematics. Please note that this course does **not** provide progression to Higher Maths. Candidates who wish to study further maths could choose the National 5 Mathematics course or the stand alone Higher unit on Statistics.

Certification:

National 5 Applications of Mathematics is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 5.

BIOLOGY – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course?

The **National 4 Biology course** is designed for pupils who wish to find out how Biology, the study of living organisms, plays a crucial role in our everyday existence, and is an increasingly important subject in the modern world. Advances in technologies have made this varied subject more exciting and relevant than ever.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have shown competence in their previous science studies.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including; **Cell Biology, Multicellular Organisms and Life of Earth.**

What skills will I develop?

The main aims of this Course are to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of Biology
- develop an understanding of Biology's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of Biology in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills in a Biology context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials and use them safely in practical scientific activities
- develop problem solving skills in a Biology context
- use and understand scientific literacy, in everyday contexts, to communicate ideas and issues
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in Biology

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed internally. Pupils must pass 3 knowledge based tests (including problem solving skills), complete a research task, investigation and added value unit.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **pass** at National 4 would allow progression to the **National 5** course.

Certification anticipated in:

National 4 Biology is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 4.

BIOLOGY – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course?

The **National 5 Biology course** is designed for pupils who wish to find out how Biology, the study of living organisms, plays a crucial role in our everyday existence, and is an increasingly important subject in the modern world. Advances in technologies have made this varied subject more exciting and relevant than ever.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have shown competence in their previous science studies, such as a PASS at National 4 Biology or relevant component units.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including; **Cell Biology, Multicellular Organisms and Life of Earth.**

What skills will I develop?

The main aims of this Course are for learners to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of Biology
- develop an understanding of Biology's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of Biology, including the impact these could make in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation, in a biological context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials and use them safely in practical scientific activities
- develop planning skills
- develop problem solving skills in a Biology context
- use and understand scientific literacy to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in Biology
- develop skills of independent working

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through an external examination and an assignment. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination** (100 marks in a 2.5 hour test) **and the assignment** (20 marks completed under exam type conditions).

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **C grade** or above at National 5 would allow progression to the **Higher Biology** course.

Certification anticipated in:

National 5 Biology is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 5, Grade A – D.

BIOLOGY – HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The **Higher Biology** course develops major biological concepts that make the subject an important and fundamental area of investigative science. It provides a general basis for further study or employment within areas related to Biology. The course develops a more thorough understanding of the biological concepts covered in the National 5.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils must have achieved an award in **National 5 at grade A-C**. However the recommended route for progression to a one year Higher course is an A or B grade at National 5.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including **DNA and the Genome, Metabolism and Survival and Sustainability and Interdependence**.

What skills will I develop?

The main aims of this Course are for learners to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of Biology
- develop an understanding of Biology's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of Biology, including the impact these could make in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation, in a biological context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials and use them safely in practical scientific activities
- develop planning skills
- develop problem solving skills in a Biology context
- use and understand scientific literacy to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in Biology
- develop skills of independent working

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work, skills development, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through an external examination and an assignment. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination** (120 marks completed within 3 hours of examination split over two papers), **and the assignment** (20 marks completed under exam conditions).

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per week**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **C grade** or above at Higher would allow progression to the **Advanced Higher Biology** course. The AH course is designed for well motivated pupils that work well independently.

Certification anticipated in:

Higher Biology is allocated 24 credit points at SCQF level 6, Grade A - C

ADVANCED HIGHER BIOLOGY

The aims of the course are to:

- develop a critical understanding of the role of Biology in scientific issues and relevant applications, including the impact these could make on the environment/society.
- extend and apply knowledge, understanding and skills of biology.
- develop and apply scientific inquiry and investigative skills, including planning and experimental design.
- extend and apply problem solving skills in a biology context.
- extend and apply skills of independent/ autonomous working in biology

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For entry to this course pupils would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by achieving a Higher Biology (grade A – C).

What content is included in this course?

The course consists of three units: **Investigative Biology, Cells and Proteins and Organisms and Evolution.**

The course provides pupils with the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the cell by studying key roles of proteins within the cell. This understanding of cellular processes is then related to physiological function. At the whole organism scale the course explores how sexual reproduction and parasitism are main drivers of evolution. This allows pupils to develop a deeper understanding of the mechanism of evolution, the biological consequences of sexual reproduction and the biological inter-relationships involved in parasitism. The course provides a deeper understanding of laboratory and fieldwork techniques, and in carrying out a biological investigation the pupil has the opportunity to produce an extended piece of scientific work.

What skills will I develop?

Through the course pupils will develop important skills, attitudes and attributes related to biology, including: developing scientific and analytical thinking skills in a biological context; developing understanding of biological issues; and acquiring and applying knowledge and understanding of biology. These skills will enable learners to develop an informed and ethical view of complex issues.

Pupils will be able to develop their communication and collaborative working skills and be able to apply critical thinking in new and unfamiliar contexts to solve problems. This will enable learners to become scientifically literate citizens, who are able to make rational decisions that are based on evidence and interpretation of scientific information.

The further development of scientific skills and experience acquired in previous learning will extend the pupils capability to embark on independent investigative work, and by designing and carrying out their own investigation candidates will increase their scientific literacy and develop skills for learning, life and work

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The Course will be externally assessed within a **question paper and a project**, requiring demonstration of knowledge, skills and understanding acquired from across the Units and how they can be applied in unfamiliar contexts. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination and the project.**

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per week**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding. There is a much greater emphasis on independent learning and pupils are expected to complete background research and reading.

What are the possible progression routes?

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- Further/higher education such as doing HNCs, HNDs or degree programmes. Examples of further and higher education programmes that learners doing the course might progress into include medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, professions allied to medicine, horticulture, pharmacology, environmental science and health.
- Advanced Higher Biology provides good preparation for learners progressing to further and higher education as candidates must be able to work with more independence and less supervision.
- For many candidates the progression will be directly to employment or work based training programmes. Examples of employment opportunities and training programmes are careers in the health sector, agricultural science, education, environmental science.

Certification:

Advanced Higher Biology is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 7.

What are the aims of this course?

The **National 4 Chemistry course** is designed for pupils who wish to gain an overview into the exciting world of atoms and chemicals.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have shown competence in their previous science studies.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including; **Chemical Changes and Structures**, **The Nature's Chemistry** and **Chemistry in Society**.

What skills will I develop?

The main aims of this Course are to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of chemistry
- develop an understanding of chemistry's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of chemistry in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills in a chemistry context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials, safely, in practical scientific activities
- develop problem solving skills in a chemistry context
- use and understand scientific literacy, in everyday contexts, to communicate ideas and issues
- ♦ develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in chemistry

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed internally. Pupils must pass 3 knowledge based tests (including problem solving skills), complete a research task, investigation and added value unit.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **pass** at National 4 would allow progression to the **National 5** course.

Certification anticipated in:

National 4 Chemistry is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 4.

CHEMISTRY – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course?

The **National 5 Chemistry course** is designed for pupils who wish to begin a detailed study into the exciting world of atoms and chemicals.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have shown competence in their previous science studies, such as a PASS at National 4 Chemistry or relevant component units.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including; **Chemical Changes and Structures**, **The Nature's Chemistry** and **Chemistry in Society**.

What skills will I develop?

The aims of this Course are for learners to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of chemistry
- develop an understanding of chemistry's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of chemistry, including the impact these could make in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills in a chemistry context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials, safely, in practical scientific activities
- develop planning skills
- develop problem solving skills in a chemistry context
- use and understand scientific literacy, in everyday contexts, to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in chemistry
- develop skills of independent working

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through an external examination and an assignment. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination** (100 marks in a 2.5 hour test) **and the assignment** (20 marks completed under exam type conditions).

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **C grade** or above at National 5 would allow progression to the **Higher Chemistry** course.

Certification anticipated in:

National 5 Chemistry is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 5, Grade A – D.

CHEMISTRY – HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The **Higher Chemistry** course is designed for pupils who wish to continue their study of Chemistry

to a higher level. It allows pupils to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of chemical processes.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils must have achieved an award in **National 5 at grade A-C**. However the recommended route for progression to a one year Higher course is an A or B grade at National 5.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including: **Chemical Changes and Structures, The Nature's Chemistry and Chemistry in Society**.

What skills will I develop?

The main aims of this Course are for learners to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of chemistry
- develop an understanding of chemistry's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of chemistry, including the impact these could make in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation, in a chemistry context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials, use them safely in practical scientific activities, including using risk assessments
- develop planning skills
- develop problem solving skills in a chemistry context
- use and understand scientific literacy to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in chemistry
- develop skills of independent working

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through an external examination and an assignment. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination** (120 marks completed within 3 hours of examination split over two papers), **and the assignment** (20 marks completed under exam conditions).

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set **a minimum** of one homework per week. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a C grade or above at Higher would allow progression to the **Advanced Higher Chemistry** course. The AH course is designed for well motivated pupils that work well independently.

Certification anticipated in:

Higher Chemistry is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 6, Grade A - C

CHEMISTRY – ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

The purpose of the course is to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of the physical and natural environments beyond Higher level. The Course continues to develop the underlying theories of chemistry and the practical skills used in the chemistry laboratory. The Course also develops the

skills of independent study and thought that are essential in a wide range of occupations.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

The Course is suitable for learners who are secure in their learning of Higher Chemistry. The Course emphasises practical and experiential learning opportunities, with a strong skills-based approach to learning. It is designed for all learners who can respond to a level of challenge, especially those considering further study or a career in chemistry and related disciplines. It is expected leaners will have a pass (grade A-C) in Higher Chemistry.

What content is included in this course?

The course consists of three units: **Inorganic and Physical Chemistry; Organic Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis and Researching Chemistry**. The Course will develop a critical understanding of the role of chemistry in scientific issues and relevant applications, including the impact these could make on the environment/society. It aims to further develop an understanding of scientific literacy, using a wide range of resources, in order to communicate complex ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices.

What skills will I develop?

The Course aims to enable learners to:

- extend and apply knowledge, understanding and skills of chemistry
- develop and apply the skills to carry out complex practical scientific activities, including the use of risk assessments, technology, equipment and materials
- develop and apply scientific inquiry and investigative skills, including planning and experimental design
- develop and apply analytical thinking skills, including critical evaluation of experimental procedures in a chemistry context
- extend and apply problem solving skills in a chemistry context
- extend and apply skills of independent/autonomous working in chemistry

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The Course will be externally assessed within a **question paper and a project**, requiring demonstration of knowledge, skills and understanding acquired from across the Units and how they can be applied in unfamiliar contexts. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination and the project.**

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per week**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding. There is a much greater emphasis on independent learning and pupils are expected to complete background research and reading.

What are the possible progression routes?

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- HND/degree programmes in a chemistry-based course or a related area, such as medicine, law, dentistry, veterinary medicine, engineering, environmental and health sciences
- careers in a chemistry-based discipline or related area, or in a wide range of other areas, such as oil and gas exploration, renewable energy development, engineering, technology, pharmaceuticals, environmental monitoring, forensics, research and development, management, civil service and education

Certification:

Advanced Higher Chemistry is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 7.

PHYSICS – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course?

The **National 4 Physics course** is designed for pupils who wish to gain an overview into the world of physics and how it is applied in modern society, from engineering to transport.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have shown competence in their previous science studies.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including; **Dynamics and Space**, **Electricity and Electronics** and **Waves and Radiation**.

What skills will I develop?

The main aims of this Course are to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of physics
- develop an understanding of physics' role in scientific issues and relevant applications of physics in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills in a physics context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials, safely, in practical scientific activities
- develop problem solving skills in a physics context
- use and understand scientific literacy, in everyday contexts, to communicate ideas and issues
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in physics

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed internally. Pupils must pass 3 knowledge based tests (including problem solving skills), complete a research task, investigation and added value unit.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **pass** at National 4 would allow progression to the **National 5** course.

Certification anticipated in:

National 4 Physics is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 4.

PHYSICS – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course?

The **National 5 Physics course** is designed for pupils who wish to begin a detailed study into the exciting applications of physics in our modern world from grand scale astronomy to the microscopic scale where physics can be applied to understand the particles and waves around us. Applications such as astronomy, transport, flight, medicine, engineering (mechanics and electronic) will be

considered.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have shown competence in their previous science studies, such as a PASS at National 4 Physics or relevant component units.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of six key areas of study: **Dynamics; Space; Electricity; Properties of Matter; Waves and Radiation.**

What skills will I develop?

The aims of this Course are for learners to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of physics
- develop an understanding of physics' role in scientific issues and relevant applications of physics, including the impact these could make in society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills in a physics context
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials, safely, in practical scientific activities
- develop planning skills
- develop problem solving skills in a physics context
- use and understand scientific literacy, in everyday contexts, to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in physics
- develop skills of independent working

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through an external examination and an assignment. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination** (135 marks in a 2.5 hour test) **and the assignment** (20 marks completed under exam type conditions).

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **two homeworks per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **C grade** or above at National 5 would allow progression to the **Higher Physics** course.

Certification anticipated in:

National 5 Physics is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 5, Grade A – D.

PHYSICS – HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The **Higher Physics course** is designed for pupils who wish to continue their study of Physics to a higher level. It allows pupils to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of physics and its applications from quantum theory to the universe.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils must have achieved an award **in National 5 at grade A-C.**

However the recommended route for progression to a one year Higher course is an A or B grade at National 5.

What content is included in this course?

The course is composed of three units of study including; **Our Dynamic Universe, Particles and Waves and Electricity.**

What skills will I develop?

The main aims of this Course are for learners to:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of physics.
- develop an understanding of physics' role in scientific issues and relevant applications of physics, including the impact these could make in society and the environment.
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills.
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation, in a physics context.
- develop the use of technology, equipment and materials, safely, in practical scientific activities, including using risk assessments.
- develop planning skills.
- develop problem solving skills in a physics context.
- use and understand scientific literacy to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices.
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in physics.
- develop skills of independent working.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through an external examination and an assignment. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination** (155 marks completed within 3 hours of examination split over two papers), **and the assignment** (20 marks completed under exam conditions).

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per week**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **C grade** or above at Higher would allow progression to the **Advanced Higher Physics** course. The AH course is designed for well motivated pupils that work well independently.

Certification anticipated in:

Higher Physics is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 6, Grade A - C

PHYSICS – ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

The purpose of the course is to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of Physics beyond Higher level and give them invaluable experience of applying this to familiar and unfamiliar contexts. This will develop core problem solving skills in pupils beyond the higher course that can be

transferred to other subject disciplines.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

The Course is suitable for learners who are secure in their learning of Higher Physics. The Course emphasises practical and experiential learning opportunities, with a strong skills-based approach to learning. It is designed for all learners who can respond to a level of challenge, especially those considering further study or a career in physics, engineering and related disciplines. It is expected leaners will have a pass (grade A-C) in Higher Physics.

What content is included in this course?

The course consists of four units: **Rotational Motion and Astrophysics; Quanta and Waves; Electromagnetism and Researching Physics**. The Course will develop a critical understanding of the role of physics in scientific issues and relevant applications. It also sets the scene of up to the minute research to give you an understanding of the current advances in physics. It aims to further develop an understanding of scientific literacy, using a wide range of resources, in order to communicate complex ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices.

What skills will I develop?

The Course aims to enable learners to:

- extend and apply knowledge, understanding and skills of physics
- develop and apply the skills to carry out complex practical scientific activities, including the use of risk assessments, technology, equipment and materials
- develop and apply scientific inquiry and investigative skills, including planning and experimental design
- develop and apply analytical thinking skills, including critical evaluation of experimental procedures in a physics context
- extend and apply problem solving skills in a physics context
- extend and apply skills of independent/autonomous working in physics
-

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work, experimental design and data analysis. Content will also be delivered by means of weekly lectures to give you an experience of the styles of learning beyond school.

How will I be assessed?

The Course will be externally assessed within a **question paper and a project**, requiring demonstration of knowledge, skills and understanding acquired from across the Units and how they can be applied in unfamiliar contexts. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination and the project.**

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per week**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding. There is a much greater emphasis on independent learning and pupils are expected to complete background research and reading.

What are the possible progression routes?

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- HND/degree programmes in a physics-based course or a related area, such as physics, astronomy, engineering, environmental and health sciences. The problem solving and numeracy skills developed are applicable in a huge array of further education programs
- careers in a physics-based discipline or related area, or in a wide range of other areas, such as research physicist, astronomer, engineer (for example aeronautical engineering), renewable energy development, technology, environmental monitoring, research and development, management, civil service, education. Additionally the analytical and

numeracy skills developed in the course are highly valued with employers, leading to careers in accountancy and risk assessment (actuary).

Certification:

Advanced Higher Physics is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 7.

Scottish Science Baccalaureate / Interdisciplinary project

The aims of this unit are to:

This Unit aims to develop pupil's skills and abilities as independent learners. The prime focus of this Unit is the development of generic and cognitive skills through a science based project. The project is designed to encourage pupils to draw on many areas of learning from across the curriculum and

to make connections between science and the world in which they live, learn and work.

It should also encourage partnership working between different providers to help pupils access different learning environments. All of these features will encourage the pupil's awareness of the value and transferability of these skills and in turn, will support the pupil's transition into Higher/Further Education and the workplace.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

The Scottish Science Baccalaureate requires two, different eligible Science Courses, at **least one of which must be at Advanced Higher level**. Pupils may choose two Core courses, or one Core course and one Broadening course from the following lists:

Core courses

Biology*
Chemistry*
Environmental Science
Human Biology
Physics*

Broadening courses

Computing Science*
Design and Manufacture*
Engineering Science*
Graphic Communication*
Geography*
Psychology

* Currently available nationally at Advanced Higher level

What content is included in this course?

The mandatory components of the Science Baccalaureate are:

Interdisciplinary Project Unit	Advanced Higher	SCQF level 7	(16 SCQF points)
2 eligible Courses	Advanced Higher	SCQF level 7	(64 SCQF points)
1 eligible Course	Higher	SCQF level 6	(24 SCQF points)

One of the above Courses **must** be Mathematics* (or Mathematics of Mechanics* or Statistics*) and this may be at Higher or Advanced Higher level. Components **do not** have to be completed in the same academic year, for example a Higher course completed in S5 can contribute.

What skills will I develop?

Pupils will develop and demonstrate the following generic and cognitive skills across the three stages of the project:

- ◆ **application:** of subject knowledge and understanding
- ◆ **research skills:** analysis and evaluation
- ◆ **interpersonal skills:** negotiation and collaboration
- ◆ **planning:** time, resource and information management
- ◆ **independent learning:** autonomy and challenge in own learning
- ◆ **problem solving:** critical thinking; logical and creative approaches
- ◆ **presentation skills**
- ◆ **self evaluation:** recognition of own skills development and future areas for development

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The project, which must involve a science based investigation or practical assignment, will

explore and bring out the relevance of science in one or more of the following broad contexts:

- ◆ employability
- ◆ enterprise
- ◆ citizenship

Pupils will carry out the project following three stages:

Stage 1 -Negotiate and plan a science based Interdisciplinary Project.

Stage 2 -Carry out and evaluate the Interdisciplinary Project.

Stage 3 - Review and evaluate the process of his/her own learning.

How will I be assessed?

Evidence of achievement should be organised in a folio or e-portfolio which contains five mandatory pieces of evidence. These are:

- ◆ project proposal
- ◆ project plan
- ◆ presentation of project findings/product
- ◆ evaluation of project
- ◆ self-evaluation of generic/cognitive skills development

Evidence in the folio may be presented in any suitable recorded format including e-evidence.

Evidence may be gathered at appropriate points throughout the Unit in unsupervised conditions.

Certification:

Criteria for award of Distinction

The Scottish Science Baccalaureate with Distinction will be awarded to candidates who achieve:

Grade A in one Advanced Higher eligible Course

Grade A in one other component

Grade B or above in all other components

Criteria for award of Pass

Candidates who achieve at least Grade C in all mandatory components and who do not meet the criteria for Distinction will be awarded a Pass in the Scottish Science Baccalaureate. The Interdisciplinary Project Unit will be graded A, B or C.

Science - National 4

What are the aims of this course?

The purpose of the **National 4 Science** course is to develop learners' curiosity, interest and enthusiasm for science in a range of contexts. The skills of scientific inquiry and investigation are integrated and developed throughout the Course. The relevance of science is highlighted by the study of the applications of science in everyday contexts.

This course is suited to pupils that would find a National 4 discrete science course more challenging, or for pupils wishing to continue their study of science at a more basic level. This course **cannot** be taken if a **discrete science** has already been chosen.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils will have to have attained the skills and knowledge required by one or more of the following or by equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

National 3 Science Course or relevant component Units; National 3 Biology; National 3 Chemistry, National 3 Environmental Science or National 3 Physics Courses.

What content is included in this course?

The Course has four mandatory Units including an Added Value Unit. The course content units are composed of three units of study including **Applications of Science, Human Health and Fragile Earth**. Pupils will also engage in research and investigation tasks that contribute to their overall performance within the course.

What skills will I develop?

The course further develops elements of knowledge and understanding of science, problem-solving and practical abilities. This includes:

- demonstrating knowledge and understanding of science by making statements, describing information, providing explanations
- applying knowledge of science to familiar situations, interpreting information and solving problems
- planning and safely carrying out experiments/investigations to illustrate effects
- using information handling skills by selecting, presenting and processing information

Independent learning and study skills are also developed throughout the course.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on practical work, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

All three units will be internally assessed. They can be assessed on an individual unit basis or by using other approaches which combine the assessment for more than one unit. This will be on a pass/fail basis.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework exercise per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding and may also include pupils' carrying out research tasks as part of homework activities.

What are the possible progression routes?

This Course or its Units may provide progression to other qualifications in Science or related areas, for example progression onto National 4/5 Biology, Chemistry or Physics. It also proved progression onto further study, employment or training related to Science.

Certification anticipated in:

To achieve the National 4 Science Course, learners must pass all of the required Units, including the Added Value Unit. The course is worth a total of 24 SCQF Credit points, made up from three end of unit assessments and a pass in the Added Value Unit.

Environmental Science – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course?

The course develops learners' interest and enthusiasm for environmental science in a range of contexts, as well as their investigative and experimental skills. Environmental science takes a problem solving approach to attempt to develop solutions that prevent or reverse environmental deterioration and aim for sustainable practices.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

There are no entry requirements at National 4, but studying Core Environmental Science in S3 is advisable. Environmental Science includes aspects of the other three sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and Geography.

What content is included in this course?

The course has 3 content based units:

The living environment – how organisms interact; how they adapt to their environment; the impact of population growth on an environment (both human and non-human); the impact of natural events on the environment; the impact of human caused events on the environment.

2. **Earth's resources** – the responsible use of earth's resources; fossil fuels; alternative energy sources; the implications of using fossil fuels; changes in the earth's atmosphere.
3. **Sustainability** – importance of natural resources and how humans use them; how agriculture affects the environment; society's energy needs; the importance and issues with transport.

What skills will I develop?

The course will develop learning, life and work skills including: number processing; measurement; information handling; applying knowledge to new situations; analysing and evaluating.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work (including outdoor learning)**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

There are 3 assessment tests (one for each unit). In addition to the assessment tests, at National 4 level there will be one research assignment (**Added value Unit**) and one report on a research investigation within the course.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Pupils passing National 4 Environmental science can progress to National 5 Environmental science or related areas including Geography, Biology, Chemistry or Physics. Pupils may also progress to employment or training.

Certification anticipated in:

National 4 Environmental Science is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 4.

Environmental Science – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course?

The course develops learners' interest and enthusiasm for environmental science in a range of contexts, as well as their investigative and experimental skills. Environmental science takes a problem solving approach to attempt to develop solutions that prevent or reverse environmental deterioration and aim for sustainable practices.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have achieved the fourth curriculum level or the National 4 Environmental Science course or equivalent qualifications and/or experience prior to starting this course. Pupils may also progress from relevant biology, chemistry, physics, science or geography courses (National 4 level).

What content is included in this course?

Living environment - The key areas covered are: investigating ecosystems and biodiversity; interdependence; human influences on biodiversity.

Earth's resources - The key areas covered are: an overview of Earth systems and their interactions; the geosphere; the hydrosphere; the biosphere; the atmosphere.

Sustainability - The key areas covered are: an introduction to sustainability; food; water; energy; waste management.

What skills will I develop?

The course will develop learning, life and work skills including: number processing; measurement; information handling; applying knowledge to new situations; analysing and evaluating.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. There is an emphasis on **practical work (including outdoor learning)**, experimental design and data analysis.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through an external examination and an assignment. **The grade achieved is based on the final examination** (100 marks in a 2.5 hour test) **and the assignment** (20 marks completed under exam type conditions).

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set a minimum of **one homework per key area**. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding.

What are the possible progression routes?

Achieving a **C grade** or above at National 5 would allow progression to Higher Environmental science or related areas including Geography, Biology, Chemistry or Physics. Pupils may also progress to employment or training.

Certification anticipated in:

National 5 Environmental Science is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 5, Grade A – D.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT – National 4 & 5

What are the aims of this course

Business Management is relevant to everybody – no matter what route their lives take. We all come into contact with business on a daily basis, from using public transport, to buying something in a shop or when watching TV. Business has a powerful influence and impact on us, the economy and the world.

This course will enable you to understand how businesses operate and the activities they undertake. It will also help develop your employability and enterprise skills.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

If you are going into S4 you will have completed the core Business Masterclass in S3. ***However, if you are going into S5/6 you will be able to pick up this subject as a “crash” with the understanding that you will need to carry out additional private study to ensure you have secure knowledge of the entire course***

What content is included in this course?

Course Details: This course has 3 units

Understanding Business *This unit looks at:*

- The role of business, goods & services, factors of production, wealth creation, sectors of industry, types of business organisations, aims & objectives, customer satisfaction, business influences and stakeholders

Management of Marketing and Operations *This unit looks at*

- Methods of market research and their costs and benefits, stages in the product life cycle, elements of the marketing mix (price, place, product and promotion) and ways ICT can be used to contribute to effective marketing
- Factors to consider when choosing a suitable supplier, consequences of under or over stocking, production methods, how to ensure high quality in production practices and outlining how technology can be used to effective operational activity

Management of People and Finance *This unit looks at*

- Stages in the recruitment process, methods of training and their costs and benefits, examining methods of motivating staff and outlining their costs and benefits and current employment legislation
- Sources of finance and their costs and benefits, interpreting a breakeven chart, interpreting a cash budget and identifying cash flow issues (and appropriate solutions) and preparing a simple profit and loss account

What skills will I develop?

The course promotes the development of problem solving and decision making skills within a business setting. You will also develop your research, communication and analytical and evaluative skills as you apply your knowledge and understanding of the theory of business

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Active and open ended learning activities such as research, case studies and presentation tasks
- Use of real-life contexts including business news to exemplify your skills, knowledge & understanding
- ICT including web-based resources, multi-media (eg youtube & video clips) and Office 10 business software (word, spreadsheets, powerpoint etc)
- Field trips, visits and input by external contributors

How will I be assessed?

- For National 4 there are two internal units and there is also an added value unit (researching a small business) to complete.
- To attain the National 5 qualification you will need to complete the course assessment – an external exam worth 90 marks and an assignment (completed in class and at home - worth 30 marks).

What are the homework requirements?

- Homework will be issued on a weekly basis.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Higher Business Management or relevant component units
- Further study, employment and/or training

Certification: National 5 Business Management is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT – HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

The study of Business Management develops an awareness of the key elements of management within the context of the business as a whole. It has been devised to enable you to develop an enquiring mind in relation to business activity within the UK economy and also on a global scale. Not only is this course extremely useful if you intend pursuing a business or management related college or university course, but it will also arm you with the first tools necessary to become effective employees and possibly entrepreneurs of the future.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Ideally you will have already passed Business Management at National 5. Additionally, by the time you start this course you will have passed your Higher English or have passed National 5 English and be working towards the Higher

***** Please note, many previous pupils have studied Higher Business Management as a “crash” with NO previous business experience and attained A’s and B’s. This Higher has a great deal of content & theory and so you need to be skilled in research and written work to cope with the demands of the course. Students looking to “crash” this subject should be in S6*****

What content is included in this course?

Course Details: This course has 3 units

Understanding Business *This unit looks at:*

- Sectors of industry, types of business organisations, business objectives, internal & external factors that affect decision making, business structures and stakeholder interest, conflict and resolution.

Management of Marketing and Operations *This unit looks at*

- Market research, the “marketing mix” - product, price, place & promotion (Marketing)
- Stock management, production methods, quality and the costs/benefits of fair trade activities, environmental responsibility and operating ethically (Operations)

Management of People and Finance *This unit looks at*

- Recruitment & selection of staff, training, motivation and leadership (Human Resources)
- Sources of finance, financial records (including cash budgets, profit & loss accounts and balance sheets) and financial analysis

For all topics you will also look at how businesses use technology to support the different functions

What skills will I develop?

The course promotes the development of problem solving and decision making skills within a business setting. You will also develop your research, communication and analytical and evaluative skills as you apply your knowledge and understanding of the theory of business

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Active and open ended learning activities such as research, case studies and presentation tasks
- Use of real-life contexts including business news to exemplify your skills, knowledge & understanding
- ICT including web-based resources, multi-media (eg youtube & video clips) and Microsoft Office business software (word, spreadsheets, powerpoint etc)
- Field trips, visits and input by external contributors
- Discussion and informed debate

How will I be assessed?

- The exam in May is a mixture of case study and knowledge based questions worth 90 marks.
- There is a Business Assignment worth 30 marks which is completed in class.

What are the homework requirements?

- Homework will be issued on a weekly basis.
- There is also an expectation that you will thoroughly revise everything you have learned in class.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Advanced Higher Business Management or relevant component units
- Further study, employment and/or training

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT – ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

The study of Business Management develops an awareness of the key elements of management within the context of the business as a whole. It has been devised to enable you to develop an enquiring mind in relation to business activity within the UK economy and also on a global scale. Not only is this course extremely useful if you intend pursuing a business or management related college or university course, but it will also arm you with the first tools necessary to become effective employees and possibly entrepreneurs of the future.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Ideally you will have already passed Business Management at Higher. Additionally, by the time you start this course you will have passed your Higher English or have passed National 5 English and be working towards the Higher

What content is included in this course?

Course Details: This course has 3 units

The External Business Environment *This unit looks at:*

The effects of external influences on organisations operating at a multinational and global level.

The Internal Business Environment *This unit looks at:*

Traditional and contemporary management theories used by organisations to maximise their efficiency. internal factors that influence the success of teams.

Evaluating Business Information *This unit looks at:*

Evaluating a range of business information used by organisations to reach conclusions. The analysis and evaluation of business information, based on a research project carried out on a topic from the Course.

What skills will I develop?

The course promotes the development of problem solving and decision making skills within a business setting. You will also develop your research, communication and analytical and evaluative skills as you apply your knowledge and understanding of the theory of business

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Active and open ended learning activities such as research, case studies and presentation tasks
- Use of real-life contexts including business news to exemplify your skills, knowledge & understanding
- ICT including web-based resources, multi-media (eg youtube & video clips) and Microsoft Office business software (word, spreadsheets, powerpoint etc)
- Field trips, visits and input by external contributors
- Discussion and informed debate

How will I be assessed?

- The exam in May is a mixture of case study and knowledge based questions worth 80 marks.
- There is a Business Assignment worth 40 marks which is completed in class.

What are the homework requirements?

- Homework will be issued on a weekly basis.
- There is also an expectation that you will thoroughly revise everything you have learned in class.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Further study, employment and/or training

Geography – N4/5

What are the aims of this course

This course progresses on from the level 4 People and Place Outcomes. It will develop the knowledge and skills pupils gained during S1-S3 and will give the pupils the chance to discover more about the world around them and their place within it. The aim is to offer the pupils a rich and varied experience within the classroom and also out in the field. The course covers local, national and international issues and encourages pupils to see the links that exist between these different areas of our world. The interrelationship between people and the environment around them is a key principle that underpins all that we do.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils need to have completed a range of outcomes at level 4 in social subjects.

What content is included in this course?

Course Details: This course has 3 mandatory units and an assignment.

Physical environments

- River landscapes
- Limestone landscapes
- Weather

Human environments

- Agriculture in one more economically and one less economically developed country
- Settlement in one more economically and one less economically developed country
- Population in one more economically and one less economically developed country

Global issues

- Climate change
- Impact of human activity on the natural environment

Assignment

- Pupil driven research exercise focussed on one of the areas we have studied in class.

What skills will I develop?

Pupils will develop skills in communication, research and analysis, presentation, personal expression, political awareness, evaluation, teamwork, and a whole range of other useful life skills.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Class discussion and debate
- Case studies
- Internet research
- DVD's and online video clips
- Textbooks
- Past paper practice
- Teacher led questions & additional theory via power point
- Group work and cooperative learning.

How will I be assessed?

- There will be assessment throughout the course covering each unit.
- A Prelim in January / February 2020.
- An Assignment based on a field work exercise.
- Homework will be regularly issued and marked.

What are the homework requirements?

- Homework will be issued regularly and in a variety of formats.
- There is also an expectation that pupils will thoroughly revise everything they have learned in class.

What are the possible progression routes?

From N4/5 Geography you can progress to any of the Higher social subjects as some of the key skills will be interchangeable.

Certification:

N4/5 Geography= SCQF level 4/5.

Geography : Higher

What are the aims of this course

Higher Grade Geography is concerned with investigating the real world. Examining how physical systems interact with human activities. We aim to examine, analyse and connect the natural and human dimensions of the earth. We hope to give the pupils a greater understanding and appreciation of the world out with the bounds of Highland Perthshire. Hopefully identifying the role we all have to play in bigger picture.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

While entry is at the discretion of the department, students would normally be expected to have attained:

- National 5 Geography Pass.
- National 5 pass at band 1-4 in other Social Subjects or Environmental Science.
- Pupils will need to have decent writing skills as assessment is primarily written.

If you are unsure then please get in touch with department.

What content is included in this course? (this should include component units)

The course consists of three units and an added-value assignment. This is a similar structure to the N5 Geography course.

Geography: Physical Environments

The four sub-sections are –

- *Atmosphere*: the characteristics and effects of the atmosphere on global and regional scales.
- *Hydrosphere*: the hydrological cycle, Hydrographs.
- *Lithosphere*: the development of regional landscapes, processes of slope formation.
- *Biosphere*: soils, vegetation.

Geography: Human Environments

The three sub-sections are –

- *Population geography*: demographic systems, population change, migration.
- *Rural geography*: agricultural systems, rural landscapes, rural change.
- *Urban Geography*: urban systems, functions and structures, urban change.

Geography: Global Issues

We will study 2 of a possible 5 global issues

Option 1-Global climate change

Option 2-Development and Health.

Geography: Assignment

This is a detailed investigation employing a wide range of skills and accounts for 27% of the total mark.

What skills will I develop?

Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills including research, evaluation and presentation, IT, mapping and statistics and analysis of complex systems in the physical and human worlds.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The department uses a wide range of learning and teaching approaches – ICT, power points, discussions, videos, books, report writing, mind mapping etc. However more emphasis is placed on case studies in Higher than in National 5. **This year there will be a two day residential activity focussed on introducing, practicing and utilising the Geographical methods and techniques required for the Assignment.**

How will I be assessed?

Units are assessed internally by your teacher in accordance with SQA guidelines. All three Unit's outcomes must be achieved before sitting the final external exam

External assessment is based on an SQA paper and a controlled assessment relating to the Assignment

- Externally assessed question papers worth 160 marks, split over two papers
100 marks in paper one (covering Physical and human environments)
60 marks in paper 2 (covering global issues and a skills question)
- Assignment write up worth 30 marks **1 hr 30 mins**

What are the homework requirements?

One exam style question every 2 weeks with continuous revision of notes throughout the year.

What are the possible progression routes?

Students who achieve Higher Geography may progress to:

- Advanced Higher Geography
- Higher Modern Studies or Higher History
- Further Education and Higher Education

For relevant employment or training opportunities see Advanced Higher for types of jobs.

Certification:

The Higher Course in Geography is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6.

Geography : Advanced Higher

What are the aims of this course

The course is designed so that pupils are given the opportunity to research topics of their choosing. These opportunities allow pupils to become skilled at analysis of both data collected in the field and written articles. Advanced Higher Geography provides a sound base from which to pursue further or higher education as well as enhancing pupils general education and personal development.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

An A or B pass in Higher Geography and a mature attitude to independent study. Pupils without a pass in Higher Geography will have to discuss their entry with the Geography and Guidance Departments. The most important requirement though is enthusiasm.

What content is included in this course? (this should include component units)

The course consists of three compulsory 40 hour units plus 40 hours flexible time.

Geographical Methods and Techniques (40 hours)

This unit enables you to build on the skills and methods which are developed throughout the Geography curriculum from Standard Grade to Higher. A large emphasis is placed on analysis of data and pupils will be expected to use statistical techniques such as standard deviation, Pearson Product etc.

Geographical Study (40 hours)

In this unit you are required to plan, research and analyse a topic in depth and present your findings in no more than 25 pages (there is no word count limit).

Geographical Issues (40 hours)

This unit deals with the analysis of key geographical issues from the Environmental Interactions unit of Higher Geography. You will be required to study one of these, and produce a critical evaluation.

What skills will I develop?

Planning, researching, analysing, report writing, statistical techniques, critical evaluation of resources, ICT, graphing and sampling techniques.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Pupils are given their first taste of Higher Education. Initially pupils will be taught all the necessary techniques in order to carry out a detailed analysis of two subject areas. Beyond this we are attempting to get pupils to research on their own and use the teacher to bounce ideas off and point them in the right direction of useful resources and techniques.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 — externally assessed question paper 50 marks.

Component 2 —externally assessed project-folio 100 marks consisting of a Geographical Study — 60marks and a Geographical Issue — 40marks. In addition to these, pupils will have to develop and demonstrate a range of mandatory skills and Knowledge over the course of the year. [More info on course assessment](#).

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils will have reports throughout the year to complete however the main emphasis is the completion of both their Geographical Study based on their own fieldwork and their Geographical Issue. Both have an unlimited word count.

What are the possible progression routes?

Pupils will be developing higher order skills that are transferable both into further education at University or college or into the world of work .In a number of Universities Geography is accepted as an arts, social science or science subject. This means that there is a very wide range of directions that this qualification can lead into. Potential employment utilising Geographical knowledge and skills include:

The Oil industry, Urban Planner/Community Development, Cartographer, GIS Specialist, Climatologist, Transportation Management, Environmental Management, Agricultural industries, Researcher, Marketing (to name but a few).

Certification:

The Advanced Higher Course in Geography is allocated 32 SCQF points at SCQF level 7.

History - National 4 and National 5

What are the aims of this course?

In History, learners develop their understanding of the world by learning about other people and their values, in different times, places and circumstances. The course encourages pupils to develop an openness to new ideas and helps them to understand the world in which they live and the forces which have shaped the world today.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils will have to have followed History courses in S1 and S2 and should have displayed a genuine interest in the subject. The ability to write clearly is very important. At National 5, pupils will be required to learn their work, write detailed answers and to integrate historical sources. At National 4 clear written work and the ability to meet deadlines is very important. A disciplined approach to study will be very useful.

What content is included in this course?

Both National 4 and 5 follow the same mandatory course content, but will be assessed in different ways.

- Scottish:- Migration and Empire, 1830-1939
- British:- Changing Britain, 1760-1807
- European/World:- Hitler and Nazi Germany, 1919-1939

What skills will I develop?

The course further develops elements of knowledge and understanding of History, report writing and analytical skills. This includes: -

- Developing and applying skills, knowledge and understanding.
- Commenting on the origin and content of historical sources.
- Commenting on the impact of historical developments and the factors which contributed to them.
- Making judgements to form a conclusion.
- Organising work in a logical and coherent manner.
- Researching and selecting relevant information to answer a specific question.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used including individual work, group work and cooperative activities. Pupils will have to make notes when required and research themes in history using computers, databases, documentary evidence and books. National 5 pupils will need to learn their work.

How will I be assessed?

National 4: Pupils sit a unit assessment on each of the three areas of study, plus an Added Value Unit where there is more freedom of choice. Pass or fail is dependent on pupils meeting the marking criteria. There is no examination. There are no grades, just Pass or Fail.

National 5:

- Pupils sit three unit assessments which are more demanding than those at National 4.
- They also sit an external examination on the course content which is marked by the SQA.
- They write a previously prepared Assessment Task of their own choice [essay] under test conditions with the help of one side of notes – marked by the SQA.

At National 5, success in the externally marked components will be the most important factor in establishing whether a pupil has passed. Pupils will be graded A – D, with A – C being a pass.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils can expect to be set homework each week. They will be expected to meet these deadlines. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding and may also include pupils' carrying out research tasks as part of homework activities.

What are the possible progression routes?

This Course or its Units may provide progression to other qualifications in History or related areas, for example progression onto National 5, Higher and in the future Advance Higher. Higher and Advanced Higher History are highly respected qualifications by the universities because of the academic rigor they require.

Certification anticipated in:

The unit assessments will help staff to decide whether pupils sit National 4 or National 5. Those entered for National 5 must show that they can write developed answers with a good range of

supporting evidence. They must also show that they have mastered higher order skills of document analysis and have the ability to learn their work.

To achieve the **National 4 History Course**, pupils must pass all of the required Units, including the Added Value Unit. The course is worth a total of 24 SCQF Credit points, made up from three end of unit assessments and a pass in the Added Value Unit.

To achieve the **National 5 History Course**, pupils must pass all of the required Units, an external examination and the externally assessed Assessment Task. This is in line with National 5 assessments in other subjects.

National 5 learners will also have produced a National 4 Value Added Unit as a fall back in case they do not pass National 5. The content is the same as the Assessment Task.

HISTORY - HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The aims of Higher History are to acquire breadth and depth in the knowledge and understanding of historical themes and to develop skills of explaining historical developments and events, evaluating sources and drawing conclusions.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- National 5 History

- a Course in another social subject at National 5 might be appropriate.

What content is included in this course?

The course consists of 3 parts:

Historical Study: Britain 1851 -1951

Europe and the World: USA 1918-1968 OR The Cold War 1945-1989

Special Topic: Scotland and the Impact of the Great War, 1914 -1928

What skills will I develop?

Students are encouraged to think critically for themselves. They will learn to write clear, structured essays and to compare, analyse and evaluate information.

[Critical Thinking at Higher (SCQF level 6) Planning and Organising at Higher (SCQF level 6)]

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A degree of independent learning is required and students should read around the topics. Class discussion, Power Point presentations, DVD, note making and practice answers are all part of the learning experience. Essay writing skills will be developed and document analysis will be further enhanced.

How will I be assessed?

There are three components: two question paper and an assignment, both of which are marked by the SQA.

Paper I is marked out of 44 and consists of two essays – one on Britain and one on the USA.

Paper II consists of 4 document based questions and is marked out of 36.

The assignment is marked out of 30 and is based on research skills and a degree of personal choice. This assignment is written in school and then marked by the SQA.

What are the homework requirements?

Students will be set essays from past papers and questions from document papers to practice the skills needed to pass the examination successfully. Students should expect homework each week.

What are the possible progression routes?

University; a career in the Law; the Armed Forces – particularly those seeking a commission; Journalism; Teaching; Archaeology; Museums; Tourism; any career where you are required to analyse and evaluate information and write a report based on your findings.

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- Advanced Higher History or other subjects at Advanced Higher
- A Higher National programme in Social Sciences
- A higher education Course
- Training or employment

Certification:

Higher History is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6.

HISTORY – ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The aims of Advanced Higher History are to acquire breadth and depth in the knowledge and understanding of historical themes and to develop skills of explaining historical developments and events, evaluating sources and drawing conclusions.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- Higher History at grades A and B.
- A course in another social subject at National 5 grades A and B might be appropriate.

What content is included in this course?

- The course covers the creation of the Weimar Republic in Germany at the end of the First World War.
- The Treaty of Versailles and its implication for the new republic.
- The economic difficulties of the 1920s including the hyper-inflation of 1923.
- Economic recovery prior to the Wall Street Crash.
- The rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party.
- The creation of dictatorship 1933-1939, e.g. the Night of the Long Knives, the roll of the SS.

What skills will I develop?

Students will be expected to read around the subject and isolate different points of view to support or challenge an argument.

Students will have the opportunity to study a topic in-depth, thus extending their knowledge and understanding of a period of history which shaped the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

Students will continue to develop key skills of analysis and evaluation.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A degree of independent learning is required and students should read around the topics. Class discussion, Power Point presentations, DVD, note making and practice answers are all part of the learning experience. Essay writing skills will continue to be developed and document analysis will be further enhanced.

How will I be assessed?

One Examination Paper = 3 hours = 90 marks

Section A: Extended Response questions [2 essays out of a choice of 5] = 50 marks

Section B: Historical Sources – [3 document questions similar to those at Higher] = 40 marks

Project [dissertation] = 50 marks – open book – a vital part of the course.

Total = 140 marks

What are the homework requirements?

Students will be set essays from past papers and questions from document papers to practice the skills needed to pass the examination successfully. Students should expect homework each week.

What are the possible progression routes?

University; a career in the Law; the Armed Forces – particularly those seeking a commission; Journalism; Teaching; Archaeology; Museums; Tourism; the wider heritage industry; Politics and Local Government and the Diplomatic Service, Also, any career where you are required to analyse and evaluate information and write a report based on your findings.

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- University – a degree in History, or related subjects, or to support new skills required for non-related degree subjects.
- A higher education course at college.
- Training or employment.

Certification:

Advanced Higher History is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7.

MODERN STUDIES – National 4/5

What are the aims of this course

This course will develop the knowledge and skills pupils gained during S1-S3. Progressing on from level 4 People and Society outcomes the course will give the pupils the chance to discover more about society in the UK. How it is governed and organised, How do we select and manage our representative. We will look at Crime and Law in the UK and evaluate its effectiveness. We will also look at Global issues ranging from the work of the UN through to terrorism.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

You need to have completed a range of outcomes at level 4 social studies (Modern Studies, Geography or History) or the equivalent in Environmental science.

Pupils should be aware that the assessment of this course is primarily written so a decent level English is a benefit. If you have any questions/ concerns regarding entry then please get in touch with the department.

What content is included in this course?

Course Details: This course has 3 mandatory units and an assignment

Democracy in Scotland and the UK

- We will look at the political structures in the UK and Scotland
- Electoral systems in use in the UK
- Political participation

Crime and law in the UK

- Rights and responsibilities in the UK
- The law
- How it is enforced

International issues:

- The UN: what does it do? How does it do it? Is it successful?
- Global conflict and terrorism

Assignment

- Pupil driven exercise focussed on one of the areas we have studied in class

What skills will I develop?

Pupils will develop skills in communication, research, personal expression, political awareness, evaluation, teamwork, sense of humour and a whole range of other useful life skills

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Class discussion and debate
- Case studies
- Internet research
- DVD's and online video clips
- Textbooks
- Past paper practice
- Teacher led questions & additional theory via power point
- Group work

How will I be assessed?

- There will be assessment throughout the course.
- There will be assessment opportunity in January / February 2020.
- Specific pieces of assessed work
- Homework will be regularly issued and marked.

What are the homework requirements?

- Homework will be issued regularly and in a variety of formats
- There is also an expectation that you will thoroughly revise everything you have learned in class.

What are the possible progression routes?

From N4/5 Modern Studies you can progress to any of the Higher social subjects as some of the key skills will be interchangeable.

Certification:

National 4/ 5= level 4/5 SCQF point s=24)

MODERN STUDIES - HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

This course will build on and expand pupils' political understanding of the world. It will deal with local, national and international issues whilst explaining and enhancing the pupils understanding of their role in each of these areas. We will look at political systems within the UK, social issues in the UK and look in depth at one of the G20 countries. The assignment will give pupils the chance to investigate any of these areas to a much greater depth whilst developing key learning skills. It is

hoped that this course will challenge pupils to look beyond their local environment. They will develop an understanding of how they can play a role and influence decision making processes in Scotland and beyond.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

You need to have already passed a social subject at Nat 5. It is also preferable if you have a good pass in English as the assessment is dependent on your ability to express yourself clearly and in an organised manner.

Should this not apply to you but you are still interested then you need to come and speak to a member of the Modern Studies department.

What content is included in this course?

Course Details: This course has 3 mandatory units and an assignment

Democracy in Scotland and the UK

- We will look at the political structures in the UK and Scotland
- Electoral systems in use in the UK
- Political participation

Social inequality in the UK

- Where does inequality exist in the UK
- Why does it exist and who is affected
- What has been done to reduce inequality

International powers: China

- We will look at social, political and economic change in China
- Chinas increasing role on the world stage
- What role China may play in the future

Assignment

- Pupil driven exercise focussed on one of the areas we have studied in class

What skills will I develop?

Pupils will develop skills in communication, research, personal expression, political awareness, evaluation, teamwork, sense of humour and a whole range of other useful life skills

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Class discussion and debate
- Case studies
- Internet research
- DVD's and online video clips
- Textbooks
- Past paper practice
- Teacher led questions & additional theory via power point
- Group work

How will I be assessed?

- There will be assessment throughout the course.
- There will be assessment opportunity in January / February 2020.
- Specific pieces of assessed classwork
- Homework will be regularly issued and marked.

What are the homework requirements?

- Homework will be issued regularly and in a variety of formats
- There is also an expectation that you will thoroughly revise everything you have learned in class.

What are the possible progression routes?

From Higher Modern Studies pupils may progress to any of the other social subjects at Higher level. At present there is no Advanced Higher on offer.

Certification:

Higher Modern Studies = SCQF level 6 (24 SCQF points)

Sociology – HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The course is suitable for all candidates who are interested in finding out more about the world we live in through investigating the relationship between society and the individuals who live in it.

Candidates should be interested in developing a deeper understanding of the social world in which we live. The course provides opportunities for candidates to develop confidence in researching and analysing evidence to explain human social experiences and social issues.

T

he course provides candidates who progress from National 5 Sociology with the breadth, challenge and application required to develop their research and thinking skills, and their knowledge of sociology.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

National 5 Modern Studies A-B and/or any other N5 social science A-B

National 5 English

What content is included in this course?

In this course, pupils will study the following units:

Human society

Candidates develop an understanding of the sociological approach to studying human societies. This is achieved by developing and using analytical skills to investigate sociological approaches to studying society, the research methods used, and the relationships that exist among individuals, groups and institutions, as viewed from different sociological perspectives and theories.

Culture and identity

Candidates develop the ability to use sociological concepts, theories and research to investigate features of culture and identity in a changing social world. They consider their own and others' cultural experiences to develop an understanding of cultural identity and diversity.

Social issues

Candidates develop the ability to evaluate and apply sociological theories and to use research evidence to develop sociological understanding of contemporary social issues. They develop skills in using a range of sources, including research evidence, to justify points of view.

What skills will I develop?

- an understanding of society through gaining knowledge and understanding of sociological perspectives, theories and concepts
- the ability to challenge common-sense explanations about human social behaviour using sociological understanding and evidence
- an understanding of cultural and social diversity, including the significance of relationships among individuals, groups and institutions in a changing social world
- an understanding of the role of sources of information, research evidence and research methods used in sociology
- research skills, including the ability to select, organise, analyse and evaluate information
- thinking and communication skills used in sociology

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

How will I be assessed?

Externally assessed question paper 80 marks

Section 1: Human society

Section 2: Culture and identity

Section 3: Social issues

Candidates have 2 hours and 40 minutes to complete the question paper.

And

Assignment worth 30 marks

What are the homework requirements?

Regular homework will involve pupils undertaking research, further reading and exam preparation through the completion of sample questions assessing specific skills and knowledge.

What are the possible progression routes?

- other qualifications in sociology, social studies, social sciences, or related areas
- further study, employment and/or training

Certification:

Higher Sociology level 6 (24 SCQF credit points)

ART & DESIGN – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course

Art & Design provides opportunities to develop aesthetic understanding, creativity and visual awareness, knowledge and appreciation. It encourages candidates to use a range of media and technology to understand, appreciate and respond to their world. The course promotes creative thinking, encourages independent thought, initiative, innovation, problem solving and the development of personal opinions.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils who are secure at Level 3 or have achieved National 3 in Art & Design

A pre-requisite to doing National 4 is Literacy secure at Level 2

Pupils who have not previously taken a certificate course in Art & Design would be considered.

What content is included in this course?

Expressive: (Drawing, Painting) (Unit) Pass/Fail (**Practical Portfolio**) Pass/Fail

Design: (Product, Jewellery, Textile/Fashion (Unit) Pass/Fail (**Practical Portfolio**) Pass/Fail

Art & Design Studies: (Critical Evaluation and Historical Context) Pass/Fail

What skills will I develop?

Observational drawing, development of ideas, working with different media and techniques, problem solving, following a design process, critical evaluation, knowledge and understanding of art terminology, historical movements and their characteristics, literacy.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Expressive and Design – Practical demonstrations and tasks, experimentation with media and materials. These units are linked with the study of artists and designers

Art & Design Studies – Illustrated Lectures, co-operative learning, looking at art & design work, mind mapping, critical evaluation, note-taking and essay writing.

How will I be assessed?

Practical units are internally marked

There are no external examinations. The written element for Art & Design Studies is internally assessed.

What are the homework requirements?

Regular homework is set for pupils to clarify what is learnt in class in Art & Design Studies and practical work. Research for practical units, practical tasks set to reinforce class work and working in sketchbooks.

What are the possible progression routes?

National 5 Art & Design

Employment or training

Certification anticipated in:

National 4 Art and Design is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4.

Core Skills component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4.

Reviewing and evaluating at SCQF level 4.

ART & DESIGN – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course

Art & Design provides opportunities to develop aesthetic understanding, creativity and visual awareness, knowledge and appreciation. It encourages candidates to use a range of media and technology to understand, appreciate and respond to their world. The course promotes creative thinking, encourages independent thought, initiative, innovation, problem solving and the development of personal opinions.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils who are secure at Level 4 or have achieved National 4 in Art & Design
A pre-requisite to doing National 5 is Literacy secure at Level 3

What content is included in this course?

Expressive: (Drawing, Painting) (**Practical Portfolio**) assessed by SQA

Design: (Product, Jewellery, Textile/Fashion) (**Practical Portfolio**) assessed by SQA

Art & Design critical paper: SQA Written Examination assessed by SQA

What skills will I develop?

Observational drawing, development of ideas, working with different media and techniques, problem solving, following a design process, critical evaluation, knowledge and understanding of art terminology, historical movements and their characteristics, literacy.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Expressive and Design – practical demonstrations and tasks, experimentation with media and materials. These are linked with the study of artists and designers. Pupils work on 2 portfolios of work that are submitted to the SQA from development from a folio of work in each area. The written exam focuses on knowledge and understanding of artists and designers and their related field of art. These are delivered through Illustrated Lectures, co-operative learning, mind mapping, critical evaluation, note-taking and essay writing.

How will I be assessed?

Practical Expressive and Design folio's are sent to SQA for External marking.

There is a written exam Paper for Art & Design which is also externally assessed by SQA.

What are the homework requirements?

Regular written homework is set for pupils to clarify what is learnt in class and research for Art & Design Studies. Research for practical units, practical tasks set to reinforce class work and working in sketchbooks.

What are the possible progression routes?

Pupils who achieve an A or high B at National 5 can be considered to progress to Higher Art & Design.

Certification:

National 5 Art and Design is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

Core Skills component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5.

ART & DESIGN –HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

Art & Design provides opportunities to develop aesthetic understanding, creativity and visual awareness, knowledge and appreciation. It encourages candidates to use a range of media and technology to understand, appreciate and respond to their world. The course promotes creative thinking, encourages independent thought, initiative, innovation, problem solving and the development of personal opinions.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils will need to achieve an A or a high B at National 5 or equivalent. It is a prerequisite to be secure at Level 4 for literacy. Pupils who have not previously taken a certificate course in Art & Design or achieved this entry level will find the standard and level of work expected at Higher level very demanding.

What content is included in this course?

Expressive folio: (Drawing, Painting) (**Practical Portfolio**) assessed by SQA

Design folio: (Product, Jewellery, Textile/Fashion) (**Practical Portfolio**) assessed by SQA

Art & Design Studies: (Critical Evaluation and Social, Cultural and Historical Context) SQA Written Examination

What skills will I develop?

Observational drawing, development of ideas, working with different media and techniques, problem solving, following a design process, critical evaluation, knowledge and understanding of art terminology, historical movements and their characteristics, literacy.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Expressive and Design – practical demonstrations and tasks, experimentation with media and materials.

Art & Design Studies – Illustrated Lectures, mind mapping, critical evaluation, note-taking and essay writing.

How will I be assessed?

Both Expressive and Design Practical portfolios are externally assessed by the SQA.

There is a written exam Paper 2 for Art & Design Studies.

What are the homework requirements?

Regular written homework tasks are set for pupils to clarify what is learnt in class, and research for Art & Design Studies. Research for practical units, practical tasks set to reinforce class work and working in sketchbooks. Revision for NABs and Prelim exam.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Advanced Higher (A or B at Higher will be considered, C (only in exceptional circumstances, and will be discussed with Art & Design staff and DHT)
- Further Education programmes
- Higher Education programmes
- Training or employment.

Certification:

Higher Art and Design is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6.

ART & DESIGN - ADVANCED HIGHER EXPRESSIVE

What are the aims of this course

Expressive provides opportunities for a pupil to study in depth, an area of personal interest and area of the visual arts. This body of work allows pupils to personalise an in depth folio of work based on a specific theme. This allows them to develop and deepen their knowledge and understanding in this particular area. It is an intensive and enjoyable programme of study which can be used as an entry requirement and part of their portfolio submission for Art College. This level of study is excellent preparation for creative courses of study in art, design and architecture at further and higher education.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have achieved a minimum grade B at Higher Art & Design, although pupils who achieve a C pass can be considered depending on their motivation and commitment. There is the possibility of studying stand-alone units if a pupil has the ability but no prior qualifications. They will need to discuss this with staff and provide evidence.

What content is included in this course?

Expressive Enquiry: A practical portfolio of research, development and final outcomes with a Statement of Intent submitted to the SQA for external assessment.

Expressive Studies: A report from the investigation and research of a selected area of Expressive Art of personal interest that is related to practical work.

What skills will I develop?

The Advanced Higher expressive course encourages persistence, resilience, creativity, independent self-directed study, initiative to make informed creative decisions.

Art Studies: This research informs practical work, and allows pupils to look in depth at artists relevant to their area of the visual arts to complement and inform practical work by developing knowledge of materials, techniques and processes, critical evaluation, knowledge and understanding of visual arts language and terminology, historical movements and their characteristics. Report writing skills are developed as pupils record their findings and display evidence of critical and creative thinking.

Practical Folio: This allow pupils to work from a self-directed expressive theme, following a creative process, by developing their observational and experimental capabilities, initiating and developing their ideas, learning and working with different media and techniques, problem solving issues as they arise, reflecting and evaluating their own work to refine their thought processes through sketches and developments. Final outcomes are created by the pupil to a high standard of finish.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Expressive Folio: practical demonstrations and tasks, independent working, experimentation with media and materials, use of sketchbooks.

Art Studies: Illustrated Lectures, mind mapping, critical evaluation, note-taking and essay writing.

How will I be assessed?

All work is submitted to the SQA for external assessment. There are no exams at this level of study.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils will be expected to complete about 2 hours per week independent work. This may include written homework, research for Folio and Design Studies, practical tasks and working in sketchbooks.

What are the possible progression routes?

This course or its Units may provide progression to:

- Further Education programmes
- Higher Education programmes
- Training or employment.

Certification anticipated in:

Advanced Higher Design is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7.

ART & DESIGN - ADVANCED HIGHER DESIGN

What are the aims of this course

Design provides opportunities for a pupil to study in depth, an area of personal interest and area of design. This body of work allows pupils to personalise an in depth folio of work based on a specific theme. This allows them to develop and deepen their knowledge and understanding in this particular area. It is an intensive and enjoyable programme of study which can be used as an entry requirement and part of their portfolio submission for Art College. This level of study is excellent preparation for creative courses of study in art, design and architecture at further and higher education.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

For this course, potential pupils would be expected to have achieved a minimum **grade B at Higher Art & Design**, although pupils who achieve a C pass can be considered depending on their motivation and commitment. There is the possibility of studying stand-alone units if a pupil has the ability but no prior qualifications. They will need to discuss this with staff and provide evidence.

What content is included in this course?

Design Enquiry: A practical portfolio of research, development and final outcomes with a Statement of Intent submitted to the SQA for external assessment.

Design Studies: A report from the investigation and research of a selected area of design of personal interest that is related to practical work.

What skills will I develop?

The Advanced Higher design course encourages persistence, resilience, creativity, independent self-directed study, initiative to make informed creative decisions.

Design Studies: This research informs practical work, and allows pupils to look in depth at designers relevant to their area of design to complement and inform practical work by developing knowledge of materials, techniques and processes, critical evaluation, knowledge and understanding of design language and terminology, historical movements and their characteristics. Report writing skills are developed as pupils record their findings and display evidence of critical and creative thinking.

Practical Folio: This allow pupils to work from a self-directed design brief and follow the design process, by developing their research capabilities, initiating and developing their own design ideas, learning and working with different media and techniques, problem solving issues as they arise, reflecting and evaluating their own work to refine their design proposals through sketches and working models. Final outcomes are manufactured by the pupil to a high standard of finish.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Design Folio: practical demonstrations and tasks, independent working, experimentation with media and materials, use of sketchbooks.

Design Studies: Illustrated Lectures, mind mapping, critical evaluation, note-taking and essay writing.

How will I be assessed?

All work is submitted to the SQA for external assessment. There are no exams at this level of study.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils will be expected to complete about 2 hours per week independent work. This may include written homework, research for Folio and Design Studies, practical tasks and working in sketchbooks.

What are the possible progression routes?

This course or its Units may provide progression to:

- Further Education programmes
- Higher Education programmes
- Training or employment.

Certification anticipated in:

Advanced Higher Design is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7.

National Progression Award (NPA) - PHOTOGRAPHY

What are the aims of this course

The new National Progression Awards in Photography will develop knowledge and understanding in practical photography. The Awards are aimed at those who want to explore their interest in photography and perhaps take it to a more advanced level.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Although there is no compulsory entry requirement it is advisable that Pupils have completed

National 5 Art and Design.

What content is included in this course?

There are four mandatory units for NPA Photography

1. Understanding Photography – Technical skills and Exposure
2. Photographing People – Portraiture, Composition and Lighting
3. Photographing Places – Landscape, Composition and Using Perspective
4. Working with Photographs – Digital Editing, selection and presentation.

What skills will I develop?

Pupils will develop understanding of photography in everyday use including:

- The creative processes involved within photography/creative media
- Developing basic knowledge and understanding of practical skills when working with photographs
- Understanding of how to create good images when photographing people and places
- Critical thinking skills

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A combination of teacher led workshops, independent enquiry, group tasks, and presentation tasks.

How will I be assessed?

Units are assessed internally at Pass/Fail.

What are the homework requirements?

Independent enquiry and research tasks will be issued regularly to support class work.

What are the possible progression routes?

Pupils can progress to Higher Photography

Further training or Education in Photography/Art and Design

Certification:

NPA in Photography is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4 and 5.

PHOTOGRAPHY – HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The Higher Photography Course enables learners to communicate personal thoughts, feelings and ideas using photography, and to develop technical and creative skills in using photographic media, techniques and processes. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of a range of photography practice, and analyze the impact of social and cultural influences on photographers and their work.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

NPA level 5 photography OR National 5 Art & Design.

What content is included in this course?

In this course, pupils will study the following areas:

Pupils develop knowledge and understanding of camera techniques and controls. They analyse factors which influence photographers and their work. Applying their knowledge of light and image formation when creating photographic images and use creative techniques and processes for effect
Manage and organise data, information and images.

Pupils experiment with photographic techniques, technology and processes. Learning to plan, produce and present photographic images in different styles and genres. Evaluating own photographic images and their use of imaging techniques in their work.

What skills will I develop? Emphasis is on skill development and application

Pupils will develop practical skills in photography, expanding their knowledge and understanding of photographic media, camera techniques and processes. They will produce investigative research before planning, developing and realising their own ideas for their own photographs. Pupils will be required to demonstrate technical photography skills and show imaginative and personal creative responses when photographing a variety of subjects. They will also evaluate their own and others photographic work and practice. They will develop the opportunity to express themselves through photography in visually imaginative ways.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The course is practical and experiential with an integrated approach to learning.

How will I be assessed?

Pupils receive their course award grade from a folio of practical photography work which is worth 77% of the overall course award and a written exam which is worth 23% of the overall course award. Both components are externally assessed by the SQA.

What are the homework requirements?

Research for practical units, practical tasks set to reinforce class work and working in sketchbooks.

What are the possible progression routes?

Progression opportunities to study Advanced Higher Art: Expressive Photography or other qualifications in photography, art, design or related areas, or enter further study, employment or training.

Certification:

Higher Photography is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6.

DRAMA – NATIONAL 4 / 5

What are the aims of these courses?

National 4 and National 5 Drama help you to develop an appreciation of drama forms and mediums; production skills; staging, performance and scripts. Drama improves your personal and social development: working with others helps you to learn patience, tolerance, self-discipline and respect. You will also improve your self - confidence, self-awareness, concentration and communication skills, as well as your performance skills and production theory. This is an excellent course for students interested in a career in the world of theatre, media; public relations, teaching, social sciences and so on.

What are the recommended entry levels / criteria for these courses?

National 4 Drama

CfE Secure Level 3 Drama

National 5 Drama

- A pass in National 4 Drama

Note: This course will particularly benefit those pupils who have participated in Drama Masterclasses and/or extra-curricular Drama activities within school.

What content is included in these courses?

Both National 4 and National 5 Drama develop the candidate's knowledge and understanding of drama skills and production skills, which for National 5 pupils will be assessed in a formal written exam and performance exam at the end of the course, but which are internally assessed at National 4 level.

The National 4 and National 5 courses focus on the skills of exploring, acting, devising and using production skills in a variety of dramatic contexts.

1. Drama Skills –pupils will explore a range of stimuli for inspiration and drama explorative strategies to develop performance skills. Pupils will devise and perform a short, original piece of drama and take responsibility for writing and directing a section of their drama.

2. Production Skills – pupils will explore a variety of theatre arts, including acting, lighting, sound, costume, set design, make-up, props or stage management. Pupils will then apply this knowledge to a set text and they will perform in a group production.

What skills will I develop?

We will explore a range of drama explorative strategies and dramatic techniques; drama forms and mediums, theatre production skills/theatre arts and study dramatic extracts.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will experience working both in the Drama Studio for practical work and in the classroom for theory work. You will encounter a mixture of classroom practice in Drama: direct teaching; pair and group work; whole class discussion and independent research.

How will I be assessed?

National 4

The final National 4 course pass/fail award is internally assessed by the school and verified by the SQA. The course is assessed internally by the teacher and verified by the SQA.

National 5

Pupils will sit an SQA written examination paper (40% of final grade) and an examination performance (60% of final grade) which is assessed by a visiting SQA examiner. Pupils can choose to be assessed as an actor or a designer in the final performance exam.

What are the homework requirements?

The course requires a significant amount of study time in and out of school. Assignments will vary according to the topic of study and will include essays, dramatic commentaries, evaluations, background reading and research, learning lines, drawing plans and performance rehearsals.

What are the possible progression routes?

- National 4 Drama students can progress to National 5 Drama
- National 5 Drama students can progress to Higher Drama
- Further study, employment and/or training

Certification anticipated in Intermediate 2 Drama:

National 4 Drama is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4.

National 5 Drama is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

DRAMA - HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

This course is designed for anyone who has an interest in Drama, whether from an academic, vocational or personal point of view. It is designed to give you knowledge and understanding of many aspects of drama, including an appreciation of theatre forms and styles, theatre practitioners and drama plays/scripts. In addition, the course aims to develop your production theory e.g. lighting, sound, costume and so on. You will increase your experience of theatrical performance, as well as develop knowledge of the social/historical/theatrical contexts of plays. You will develop your

self-awareness, self-confidence and social and communication skills.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- National 5 Drama at a grade A-C OR
- National 5 English at a grade A-C

What content is included in this course?

Higher Drama develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of drama and performance in its many facets, focusing on acting, directing and group work skills. The course also develops your knowledge of production theory, such as lighting, sound, hair costume & set design etc.

1. Drama Skills – practical group work where a significant theme or issue is explored to create a performance piece. Individuals take on a director's responsibility for a section of the devised production, which is performed in front of an audience. They will also learn how to develop character in a range of ways and develop understanding of form, structure, genre and style when creating and presenting drama. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural influences on drama. They will also learn how key evaluation skills.

2. Production Skills – learners will learn about the staging and production aspects of drama e.g. lighting, sound, set design, props and costume and so on, as well as the different types of performance spaces. Learners will study short extracts of script and then perform in a small, short group production, where they can choose to be assessed on their acting skills or on their performance of a production role.

What skills will I develop?

- responding to text, including stimuli, when creating drama
- developing knowledge and understanding of social and cultural influences when creating drama
- exploring drama form, structure, genre and style
- gaining knowledge and understanding of production skills e.g. lighting, sound, costume, make-up
- working with others to share and use drama ideas and to use production skills when presenting.
- using evaluative skills within the creative process

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will experience working both in the Drama Studio for practical work and in the classroom for theory work. You will encounter a mixture of classroom practice in Drama: direct teaching; pair and group work; whole class discussion and independent research.

How will I be assessed?

Pupils will sit an SQA written examination paper (40% of final grade) and an examination performance (60% of final grade) which is assessed by a visiting SQA examiner. Pupils can choose to be assessed as an actor, a director or a designer in the final performance exam.

What are the homework requirements?

The course requires a significant amount of study time in and out of school. Assignments will vary according to the unit of work and will include essays; evaluations; background reading and research; creating cue sheets and design plans; learning lines and performance rehearsals.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Higher Drama can lead to Advanced Higher Drama – an excellent 'stepping stone' to F. E.
- Higher Drama is accepted by many universities and colleges as an entry requirement and is an essential requirement for any Performing Arts FE Qualifications.

Certification anticipated in Higher English:

Higher Drama is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6.

DRAMA – ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

This course is designed for pupils who have studied Drama at Higher level and who wish to specialise either in acting, production or direction. It is designed to give you in-depth knowledge of a range of theatre practitioners, methodologies and practices, as well as to study a wide range of theatrical texts and playwrights. In addition, the course aims to develop your drama skills and

increase your experience of theatrical performance. You will also develop your research skills, to research specialist areas of drama that you are particularly interested in, as well as researching the work of key theatre practitioners.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- Higher Drama at grade C+

What content is included in this course?

Advanced Higher Drama develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of theatre practitioners, theatre history and drama techniques focusing on acting, production skills, directing and research.

1. Drama Skills – practical group work where a significant theme is explored to create a performance. The devised work must be influenced by the work/methodologies of at least one theatre practitioner e.g. Brecht or Artaud etc. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural influences on drama. Learners will also learn key evaluation skills.

2. Production Skills – learners will explore the practises of a range of theatre practitioners and perform in a group production, where they can choose to be assessed on their acting skills, directing skills or on their performance of a theatre production role. Learners will also study a range of theatrical texts, before selecting one to develop for performance/production.

What skills will I develop?

- developing knowledge and understanding of social and cultural influences when creating drama
- exploring drama form, structure, genre and style, using the influences of key theatre practitioners e.g. Brecht or Artaud.
- gaining knowledge and understanding of production skills e.g. lighting, sound, set design, costume and so on.
- developing research skills, to research key theatre practitioners and specialist Drama topics

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will experience working both in the Drama Studio for practical work and in the classroom for theory work. You will encounter a mixture of classroom practice in Drama: direct teaching; group work; class discussion & independent research. **Note:** large parts of the course will be self-directed & take the form of self-study. Learners must be prepared to conduct/ organise their own research.

How will I be assessed?

There is no final written exam for this course. There will be a performance exam (60% of final grade) which is assessed by a visiting SQA examiner. Learners can choose to be assessed as an actor, a director or a designer in their final performance exam. There will also be a final project dissertation (40% of final grade) which is externally assessed by the SQA. The dissertation will be about a specialist area of drama that is of particular interest to the learner.

What are the homework requirements?

The course requires a significant amount of study time in and out of school. Assignments will vary according to the unit of work and will include essays, dramatic commentaries, evaluations, background reading and research, learning line, drawing plans and performance rehearsals.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Advanced Higher Drama is accepted by many universities and colleges as an entry requirement and is an essential requirement for any Performing Arts FE Qualifications.
- Advanced Higher Drama is highly valued as a qualification by employers.

Certification anticipated in Higher English:

Higher Drama is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7.

MUSIC – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course

To develop skills/interests in **Performing, Listening and Composition** through the exploration of a wide variety of musical styles.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- Pupils who have enjoyed participating in class performances activities in the BGE (S1-3)

- Pupils who want to further develop performing skills on 2 instruments (this includes voice)
- Pupils who want to participate in the musical life of the school
- Pupils who are prepared to continue practice at home

What content is included in this course?

The course consists of 3 elements: **Performing Skills, & Understanding Music.**

What skills will I develop:

Performing: Pupils will gain experience on 2 instruments (**grade 2 standard** or equivalent) or instrument/voice. They may play/sing solo and/or in a group in a wide variety of styles. In addition, pupils will be asked to complete an online practice diary, reflecting on their skills weekly, via Google Classroom.

Composing: Pupils will be given the opportunity to develop composing skills in a variety of styles, including traditional and classical, through to rock and film soundtrack. They will be encouraged to make full use of music technology, including the recording studio and midi/notation software.

Understanding Music: Pupils will listen to a wide variety of music, including Scottish, world, jazz, rock and classical. For assessment purposes, they will be asked to identify specific features, demonstrate an understanding of music literacy and show an awareness of cultural influences.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- ✓ Pupils practise/compose/record either individually or in small groups,
- ✓ Extensive use will be made of new ICT resources to record and research.
- ✓ Students will be expected to take a degree of individual responsibility for their learning.
- ✓ It is an expectation that senior phase pupils contribute to the musical life of the department, by joining an ensemble, (e.g. choir, ukulele club, school band, pipe band, ceilidh band, rock group) and want to participate in Performing Arts community events.

How will I be assessed?

Evidence is gathered through completed classwork, and compiling recordings of your playing.

You will be asked to give a live performance of 8mins on both instruments/voice.

What are the homework requirements?

- ✓ Students will be required to practise regularly at home and/or in the department at lunchtime.
- ✓ Online diaries are to be completed at home
- ✓ Further research and music literacy tasks will be set, as appropriate.

What are the possible progression routes?

Students may progress to **National 5**, although, if necessary, there is flexibility to allow movement between course levels within an academic year. It may also be possible to pursue a particular interest in **Music Technology**.

Certification:

National 4 Music is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 4.

MUSIC – NATIONAL 5

What are the aims of this course

To develop skills/interests in **Performing, Listening and Composition** through the exploration of a wide variety of musical styles.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- Pupils who are playing pieces at/or working towards grade 3 level on 2 instruments/voice
- Pupils who have enjoyed participating in class performances activities in the BGE (S1-3)

- Pupils who want to participate in the musical life of the school
- Pupils who are prepared to continue practice at home
- Pupils who have achieved National 4 Music course

What content is included in this course?

Performing – Developing performing skills on your 2 chosen instruments, compiling recordings, logging progress and sharing your achievements with others

Composing – Composition assignment Writing a piece of music and submitting a recording, score/performance plan with written reflection

Understanding Music – Learn how to describe a range of musical styles, using musical vocabulary and understand basic notation and symbols.

Externally assessed

- 25% Instrument 1
- 25% Instrument 2
- 15% Composition assignment
- 35% Understanding Music Paper

What skills will I develop?

Performing:

Pupils will gain experience on 2 instruments (at minimum **grade 3** standard or equivalent) or instrument/voice. They may play/sing solo and/or in a group in a wide variety of styles. In addition, pupils will be asked to provide evidence of critical reflection on their performances.

Composing: Pupils will write one complete piece of original music between. They will submit a recording, score/plan and reflection to the SQA for marking in March. Pupils will be encouraged to make full use of new music technology equipment, including the MacBook digital audio workstations, fully equipped recording studio and Sibelius notation software.

Understanding Music: Pupils will listen to a wide variety of music, including Scottish, world, jazz, rock and classical. For assessment purposes, they will be asked to identify specific features, demonstrate an understanding of music literacy and show an awareness of cultural influences.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Pupils practise/compose/record either individually or in small groups

Extensive use will be made of new ICT resources to record and research.

Pupils will be expected to take a high degree of individual responsibility for their learning.

It is an expectation that senior phase pupils contribute to the musical life of the department, by joining an ensemble, (e.g. choir, ukulele club, school band, pipe band, ceilidh band, rock group) and want to participate in Performing Arts community events.

How will I be assessed?

- All elements are now externally assessed.
- An SQA assessor will examine pupils performance skills in Feb/March time
- (8min programme)
- Composition assignment is sent for marking in March
- A listening paper is sat in May/June

What are the homework requirements?

Students will be required to practise regularly at home and in the department at lunchtime.

Online diaries are to be completed at home

Further research and music literacy tasks will be set, as appropriate.

What are the possible progression routes?

Students may progress to **Higher**. It may also be possible to pursue a particular interest in **Music Technology**.

Certification:

National 5 Music is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 5.

MUSIC - HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

To develop skills/interests in **Performing**, **Listening** and **Composition** through the exploration of a wide variety of musical styles.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- ✓ Students who obtain a secure pass at National 5 in Music performance

- ✓ Student who are currently working towards **grade 4** standard on 2 instruments/voice, with a good understanding of music literacy and some experience composing.
- ✓ Students who have actively contributed towards Performing Arts events/activities

What content is included in this course?

The course consists of 3 elements: **Performing, Composing** and **Understanding Music**

Externally assessed

- 25% Instrument 1
- 25% Instrument 2
- 15% Composition assignment
- 35% Understanding Music Paper

What skills will I develop.

Performing: Pupils will gain experience on 2 instruments (at minimum grade 4 standard or equivalent) or instrument/voice. They may play/sing solo and/or in a group in a wide variety of styles. In addition, pupils will be asked to provide evidence of critical reflection on their practice, via a weekly diary.

Composing: Pupils will compose an original piece of music, which will form their Assignment. They will be encouraged to make full use of new music technology equipment, including the MacBooks, making use of the Recording studio and notation software “Sibelius” on PCs.

Understanding Music: Pupils will listen to a wide variety of music, beginning at the Renaissance period through to 21st century, tracking the development of the orchestra through baroque, classical, romantic, modern. For assessment purposes, they will be asked to identify specific features, demonstrate an understanding of music literacy and show an awareness of cultural influences.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Pupils practise/compose/record either individually or in small groups, while listening is the only whole-class activity. Extensive use will be made of Internet and ICT resources. Pupils will be expected to take a high degree of individual responsibility for their learning.

How will I be assessed?

All elements are externally assessed.

- An SQA assessor will examine pupils performance skills in Feb/March time (12min programme)
- Composition assignment is sent for marking in March
- A listening paper is sat in May/June

What are the homework requirements?

- ✓ Students will be required to practise regularly.
- ✓ Regular written/listening tasks will be set.
- ✓ Online diaries to be kept up-to-date

What are the possible progression routes?

Students may progress to **Advanced Higher**. It may also be possible to pursue a particular interest in Music Technology to broaden understanding and acquire new recording and editing skills.

Performing Arts qualifications are highly regarded by universities and employers, as performance develops the whole person and rich interpersonal skills, with well documented research linking creating and performing skills with high achievement and success.

Certification:

Higher Music is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 6.

MUSIC - ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

To develop skills/interests in **Performing, Listening** and **Composition** through the exploration of a wide variety of musical styles and experiences.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- A secure pass at Higher level Music performing at grade 4 or above
- Participation in musical ensembles in school/central groups
- Ability to undertaking Independent study and research

What content is included in this course?

The course consists of 3 elements: **Performing, Composing and Understanding Music** (Listening, music literacy and Analytical Music project).

What skills will I develop?

Performing: Pupils will gain experience on 2 instruments (at minimum grade 5 standard or equivalent) or instrument/voice. They may play/sing solo and/or in a group in a wide variety of styles. In addition, pupils will be asked to provide evidence of critical reflection on their performances.

Composing: Pupils will be given the opportunity to develop composing skills in a variety of styles, including traditional and classical, through rock to soundtrack. They will be encouraged to make full use of music technology, including the recording studio and midi/notation software.

Understanding and Analysing Music:

Advanced Higher pupils are required to submit an essay or give a presentation, commenting on 2 pieces of their choice, discussing the composer's style and compositional techniques. Comments must be made on cultural and social factors of the time. Pupils will listen to a wide variety of music, including Scottish, world, jazz, rock and classical. For assessment purposes, they will be asked to identify specific features, demonstrate an understanding of music literacy and show an awareness of cultural influences.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Pupils practise/compose/record either individually or in small groups, while listening is the only whole-class activity. Extensive use will be made of Internet and ICT resources. Students will be expected to take a high degree of individual responsibility for their learning.

How will I be assessed?

- An SQA assessor will examine pupil's performance skills (16min programme)
- Analytical Music project is submitted to the teacher, and required by SQA for verification
- 2 original Compositions are required, currently submitted to teacher
- A listening paper is sat in May/June

What are the homework requirements?

Students will be required to practise regularly. In addition, regular written/listening tasks will be set.

What are the possible progression routes?

Students may progress to **Courses in Further/Higher education.**

Carers may be linked to Performing and Composing, film music, music journalism, music education and community outreach, public relations and events management, music administrator, advertising in radio and television, working with professional arts organisation, Instrument manufacture, technician, Music health and well-being, community workshops. Performing Arts qualifications are highly regarded by universities and employers, as performing music develops the whole person and rich interpersonal skills, with well documented research linking creating and performing skills with high achievement and success.

Certification:

Advanced Higher Music is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 7.

NATIONAL 4/5 MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

What are the aims of this course?

To develop technical and creative skills through practical learning.

To develop knowledge and understanding of music technology and musical concepts, particularly

those relevant to 20th and 21st century music.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- An interest in creating and recording music
- Enjoys working with musicians and spending time planning and recording music technology projects
- An interest in computers and audio equipment
- Enjoys listening, in detail, to different styles of music.
- There are no requirements to play an instrument, as you will be learning how music is recorded and produced. However skills on keyboard/voice/guitar would be advantageous for some project work.

What content is included in this course?

At all levels the course consists of 3 areas: **Music Technology Skills, Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music** and **Music Technology in Context**.

What skills will I develop?

Music Technology Skills: Pupils will develop a range of skills and techniques relating to the creative use of music technology hardware and software. Pupils will explore a range of uses of this technology through practical activities.

Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music: Pupils will develop knowledge and understanding of 20th and 21st century musical styles and an understanding of how music technology has influenced and been influenced by 20th and 21st century musical developments. Pupils will also develop a broad understanding of copyright and the music industry.

Music Technology in Context: In this Unit, pupils will use music technology skills in a range of contexts such as live performance, radio broadcast, audio books, multi-track recording, sound design/film foley for animation/film, TV themes and computer gaming.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

There will be a combination of whole-class, small group and individual teaching/activities. Extensive use will be made of new MacBook Digital Audio Workstations, recording equipment resources and other relevant technology. Students will be expected to take a high degree of individual responsibility for their learning.

How will I be assessed?

At all levels, 3 units must be passed and are assessed internally. National 5 and Higher complete the **course assessment**, pupils will draw on and apply the skills, knowledge and understanding they have developed during the course. These will be assessed through a **question paper** and externally mark coursework. The question paper will assess concepts relating to music technology and 20th and 21st century music. Coursework will demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge and skills to plan, implement and evaluate a completed creative sound production. It will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

N4 – Completed Music technology skills tasks and listening assessment (Pass/Fail)

N5 –2 Projects 70%+ Question paper (30%)

What are the homework requirements?

For homework, pupils will be expected to **regularly use departmental technology resources at lunchtimes and/or afterschool**. This time will be invaluable for completing recording sessions and completing project work.

Online paperwork - logging progress

Regular listening/revision tasks will also be set.

What are the possible progression routes?

Higher Music Technology

Sound engineering at College

Certification:

National 4 Music Technology is allocated a PASS/FAIL credit points at SCQF Level 4
National 5 Music Technology is graded A-D allocated 24 credit points at SCQF Level 5.

HIGHER MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

What are the aims of this course?

To develop technical and creative skills through practical learning.

To develop knowledge and understanding of music technology and musical concepts, particularly those relevant to 20th and 21st century music.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

- National 5 Music Technology B or above
- An interest in creating and recording music
- Passion for developing more advanced recording skills and using creative FXs and processes.
- Organising musicians and spending time planning and recording music technology projects
- An interest in computers and audio equipment
- Enjoys listening, in detail, to a wide range of styles of music.
- There are no requirements to play an instrument, as you will be learning how music is recorded and produced. However skills on keyboard/voice/guitar would be advantageous for some project work.

What content is included in this course?

At all levels the course consists of 3 areas: **Music Technology Skills, Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music and Music Technology in Context.**

What skills will I develop?

Music Technology Skills: Pupils will develop a range of more advanced recording skills and techniques relating to the creative use of music technology hardware and software. Pupils will explore a range of uses of this technology through practical activities.

Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music: Pupils will develop knowledge and understanding of 20th and 21st century musical styles and an understanding of how music technology has influenced and been influenced by 20th and 21st century musical developments. Pupils will also develop a broad understanding of copyright and the music industry.

Music Technology in Context: An independent assignment (70%) that demonstrates Higher Music technology skills, this piece of work is planned, implemented and evaluated by each candidate and will display a high degree of creativity and care. Assignment work must feature stereo recording techniques, a range of sophisticated FXs and processes, precise editing skills and a range of live recordings. Specific requirements and guidelines will be agreed by the teacher and SQA marking schemes.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Independent learning

Collaborative learning

1:1 teacher feedback sessions

Whole class music lectures

Working out with timetabled lessons to use facilities / recording session at lunch afterschool.

How will I be assessed?

70% Higher Assignment (Easter)

Question paper (Summer)

What are the homework requirements?

For homework, pupils will be expected to **regularly use departmental technology resources at lunchtimes and/or afterschool**. This time will be invaluable for completing recording sessions and completing project work.

Online paperwork - logging progress

Regular listening/revision tasks will also be set.

What are the possible progression routes?

This course may provide progression to: Further study in Music Technology, Creative Digital media and Creative industry related areas, employment and/or training. Employment may lead to the areas of production of music, composing, recording, sound engineering, recording industry, music business, theatre arts companies, touring productions, facility arena and club management, events management, film music, Foley artist, music journalism, music education, public relations in advertising, radio and television advertising, music merchandising, technician. Performing Arts qualifications are highly regarded by universities and employer, developing the whole person gaining rich interpersonal skills, with well documented research linking creating and performing skills with high achievement and success.

Certification:

Higher Music Technology is graded A-D and allocated 24 credit points at SCQF Level 6

ADMINISTRATION & IT – NATIONAL 4 & 5

What are the aims of this course

Administration supports the effective running of organisations and offers wide ranging employment opportunities. The course is designed for those who are interested in developing their IT, administrative and Event Management skills.

This course will help you develop a range of essential skills that will stand you in good stead regardless of the career path you eventually choose. It is also extremely useful in other walks of life. For example, being organised and being able to produce professional looking documents could be extremely useful for producing coursework at college/university or when you are applying for jobs.

National 4 and 5 are similar courses but National 5 has more content and IT difficulty. At National 5 there is **no external IT or theory exams**. To gain a National 5 qualification you need to complete an IT assignment (in class) and pass all the outcomes.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

*****There are no entry requirements for this course***** but you need to have an interest in IT and the world of work. Depending on how well you cope with the workload will determine which level you can be entered for.

What content is included in this course? Course Details: This course has 3 mandatory units

IT Solutions for Administrators *This unit covers*

- Using spreadsheet applications (formatting, functions & formulae and charts)
- Using database applications (searching & sorting information, populating & editing, presenting & printing information to a professional standard)
- Using word processing applications (creating & editing business documents, creating & editing tables, integrating data from other IT applications and merging information from a spreadsheet or database)

Communication in Administration *This unit covers*

- Searching for and extracting information from the Internet (browsers, search engines, hyperlink, copy information from web to word, favourites/bookmarks and printing information)
- Creating and amending existing powerpoint presentations to a professional standard
- Using desktop publishing to produce business documents
- Using e-mail, e-diary and emerging technologies (eg blogs, podcasts, websites and social media)

Administrative Practices *This unit covers*

- Tasks, skills and qualities of an administrative assistant
- Customer care
- Health, safety and the security of people, property and information
- Organising and supporting events

What skills will I develop?

The course promotes the development your IT skills, using technology for communication and research, event management, solving problems and team work

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Active and open ended learning activities such as research, case studies and presentation tasks
- Use of real-life contexts including business scenarios to exemplify your skills, knowledge & understanding
- ICT including web-based resources, multi-media (eg youtube & video clips) and Office 10 business software (word, spreadsheets, databases, desktop publishing and powerpoint)
- Teamwork to organise and co-ordinate a real event (decided by you)

How will I be assessed?

- There will be an assessment opportunity (prelim) in January
- The final grade will include an IT project (completed in class) and a practical exam in May.
- National 4 is completed through internal assessments including an Added Value Unit.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework will be issued on a regular basis; due to the assessment arrangements of the course there will be a greater focus on homework during the later stages of the course.

What are the possible progression routes? The National 5 course or its components may provide progression to;

- Higher Administration and IT course or relevant component Units
- Further study, employment or training

ADMINISTRATION & IT – HIGHER

What are the aims of this course

The course is designed for those who are interested in the management aspects of administration and advanced uses of IT, in particular improving your skills in the main business software packages (Excel, Access, & Word). You will also get the opportunity acquire skills in Event Management.

The course is a blend of applied, experiential learning and related theory and uses real-life contexts, which makes this course relevant to the world of work. Its uniqueness lies in enabling you to work towards industry standards in IT whilst developing your knowledge and understanding of current administrative practices. The course also takes into account emerging technologies such as social media and the impact they can have on organisations.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

The recommended entry to this course is to have already attained National 5 Administration & IT and National 5 Mathematics. ***However, as there is limited opportunity to study this subject lower down in the school, it is possible to take this Higher as a "crash"***. If the Higher proves to be too challenging then there is the option to work towards the National 5 qualification instead.

What content is included in this course?

Course Details: This course has 3 units

IT Solutions for Administrators *This unit should enable you to:*

- Develop your skills in IT to organise and manage information in administration related contexts
- Be able to use a variety of business software to analyse, process and manage information in order to create and edit relatively complex business documents.

Communication in Administration *This unit should enable you to:*

- Develop a range of IT skills for research and communicating information to others
- Develop an understanding of barriers to communication and how to overcome them as well as how to maintain the security and confidentiality of information.

Administrative Theory and Practice *This unit should enable you to:*

- Acquire an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the factors contributing to effectiveness of the administrative function such as strategies for effective time and task management, effective team working, customer care and workplace legislation
- Analyse the role and importance of human resource management in business.

What skills will I develop?

The course promotes the development of your IT skills, using technology for communication and research, event management, solving problems and team work

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Active and open ended learning activities such as research, case studies and presentation tasks
- Practical experience using the main software business packages in business related tasks
- Team work for event management
- Textbooks & course notes
- Teacher led questions & additional theory via power point
- Past paper practice
- DVD's / You Tube to demonstrate theory

How will I be assessed?

There will be an assessment opportunity (prelim) in January

The final grade will include a theory exam paper and an IT project (completed in class).

What are the homework requirements?

Homework will be issued on a regular basis; due to the assessment arrangements of the course there will be a greater focus on homework during the later stages of the course.

What are the possible progression routes?

Advanced Higher is not available in this subject but a Higher pass in this subject will give you an excellent understanding of IT and Administrative procedures which will be of benefit if in whatever career you embark on

COMPUTING SCIENCE – NATIONAL 4

What are the aims of this course:

This course aims to introduce and develop aspects of computational thinking and to develop knowledge and understanding of key facts and ideas in computing science. Candidates will apply skills and knowledge in analysis, design, implementation and testing to a range of digital solutions and develop an understanding of the impact of computing science in changing and influencing our environment and society

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

The Course is designed to build on prior learning from within the broad general education in S1-3.

What content is included in this course?

Software Design and Development: Learners will develop basic computational thinking and programming skills through practical tasks using Scratch or Visual Basic.

Information System Design and Development: Learners will implement practical solutions using Microsoft Access to create databases and HTML to create web-based information systems. Learners will also develop an understanding of basic computer hardware, software, and security issues through a range of practical and investigative tasks.

Computing Science Assignment (Added Value Unit): This Unit requires the learner to apply skills and knowledge from the other Units to analyse and solve an appropriate challenging computing science problem.

What skills will I develop?

Programming skills, independent working and thinking, working with others, problem solving, collaborative working, research and presentation

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- active learning
- development of problem solving skills and analytical thinking skills
- practical investigation and inquiry
- appropriate and effective use of technology,
- building on the principles of Assessment is for Learning
- collaborative learning and independent thinking.

How will I be assessed? All Units are internally assessed and contain practical and written elements. They will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

What are the homework requirements?

Regular homework is given to reinforce knowledge gained throughout the year.

What are the possible progression routes?

A pass at this level would enable progression to National 5 Computing Science.

Certification:

National 4 Computing Science is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 4.

What are the aims of this course:

This course aims to introduce and develop aspects of computational thinking and to develop knowledge and understanding of key facts and ideas in computing science. Candidates will apply skills and knowledge in analysis, design, implementation and testing to a range of digital solutions and develop an understanding of the impact of computing science in changing and influencing our environment and society.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

A pass in National 4 Computing Science or completion of Level 4 knowledge and skills from the S3 Core class in Computing Science.

What content is included in this course?

Significant changes were made to the course content in 2017/18. The course now comprises four main sections:

Software Design and Development

Candidates cover knowledge and skills in designing, implementing and testing programs through tackling a number of practical programming tasks. They build on prior programming skills and use Visual Basic to create simple windows applications.

Information System Design and Development

Candidates cover knowledge and skills in designing, implementing and testing databases through tackling a number of practical tasks. They use Microsoft Access to create relational databases and learn to use SQL to create queries to sort and search for information stored.

Web Design and Development

Candidates cover knowledge and skills in designing, implementing and testing web pages through tackling a number of practical tasks. They use HTML, CSS and Javascript to create interactive, multi-media systems.

Computer Systems

Candidates learn about basic computer architecture, how data is stored on computer systems, their environmental impact, security risks and associated precautions and current laws that apply to computer systems.

What skills will I develop?

Programming skills, independent working and thinking, working with others, problem solving, collaborative working, research and presentation skills.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- active learning
- development of problem solving skills and analytical thinking skills
- practical investigation and inquiry
- appropriate and effective use of technology,
- collaborative learning and independent thinking.

How will I be assessed?

There is continuous assessment throughout the course. The course award is determined via a practical assignment, covering knowledge and skills across the course is, which is worth 50 marks and is externally marked, and a final exam which is worth 110 marks.

What are the homework requirements?

There is a written piece of homework most weeks, with ongoing learning homework after each class.

What are the possible progression routes?

A pass in National 5 Computing Science provides progression to Higher Computing Science in S5 or S6.

Certification:

National 5 Computing Science is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 5.

COMPUTING SCIENCE – HIGHER

What are the aims of this course:

This course aims to develop further aspects of computational thinking and to develop knowledge and understanding of key facts and ideas in computing science. Candidates will apply skills and knowledge in analysis, design, implementation and testing to a range of digital solutions and develop an understanding of the impact of computing science in changing and influencing our environment and society. This course is designed for candidates who are interested in further study in the subject or a career in Computing Science.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Learners would be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following National 5 Computing Science Course gaining an A or B award.
Due to the skills based nature of this course, it is not suitable for candidates who have not completed the National 5 course.

What content is included in this course?

The course covers 4 main topics.

Software Design and Development

Candidates cover knowledge and skills in designing, implementing and testing programs through tackling a number of practical programming tasks. They build on prior programming skills and use Visual Basic to create simple windows applications.

Database Design and Development

Candidates cover knowledge and skills in designing, implementing and testing databases through tackling a number of practical tasks. They use Microsoft Access to create relational databases and learn to use SQL to create queries to sort and search for information stored.

Web Design and Development

Candidates cover knowledge and skills in designing, implementing and testing web pages through tackling a number of practical tasks. They use HTML, CSS and JavaScript to create interactive, multi-media systems.

Computer Systems

Candidates learn about more advanced computer architecture and how data is encoded, encrypted and compressed on computer systems. They will learn about their environmental, social and legal impacts, security risks and associated precautions.

What skills will I develop?

Programming skills, independent working and thinking, working with others, problem solving, collaborative working, research and presentation skills.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- Active learning through a series of practical tasks
- Group discussion
- Independent enquiry

How will I be assessed?

There is continuous assessment throughout the course. The course assessment is comprised of an externally parked practical assignment worth 50 marks and a formal, written exam worth 110 marks.

What are the homework requirements?

There will be significant pieces of written homework most weeks with ongoing learning homework after each class.

What are the possible progression routes?

A pass in Higher Computing Science provides progression to Advanced Higher Computing Science in S6 or a Computing Science related course of study in further or higher education.

Certification:

Higher Computing Science is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 6.

COMPUTING SCIENCE – ADVANCED HIGHER

What are the aims of this course?

The purpose of the course is to build on the knowledge, understanding and practical skills developed by the learner in the Higher Computing Science Course, and to provide a useful bridge towards study of computing science and other disciplines in higher education. This is achieved by consolidating and extending learners' depth and breadth of learning, providing opportunity for independent and investigative work, and requiring candidates to develop and present a proposal for a computing-based project.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Learners would be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following Higher Computing Science Course and gaining an A or B award.

What content is included in this course?

The course is liable to change significantly in 2019/20 as a result of similar changes to the Higher and National 5 courses over the last two years. These changes have not yet been published. It is likely, however, that skills in creating software, web pages and databases will be developed further, with a greater degree of integration across the topics.

What skills will I develop?

Advanced programming skills, independent working, planning and thinking, problem solving, collaborative working, research and presentation skills.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Advanced Higher will be offered, essentially, as a student led, tutor supported course.

How will I be assessed?

The course assessment will be based on an externally marked project, and a formal, written exam, but the balance of marks is yet to be published. Historically, marks have been allocated on a 3:2 ratio, with the majority being allocated to the project.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework will be candidate led, with tutor guidance. Its purpose will be to ensure the coursework is covered sufficiently, and that the project deadlines are met.

What are the possible progression routes?

A pass in Advanced Higher Computing Science provides progression to a Computing Science related course of study in further or higher education.

Certification:

Advanced Higher Computing Science is allocated 32 SCQF credit points at SCQF Level 7.

What are the aims of this course

The course enable learners to:

- develop skills in graphic communication techniques, including the use of equipment, graphics materials and software
- extend and apply knowledge and understanding of graphic communication standards, protocols, and conventions where these apply
- develop an understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

An interest in enhancing your graphic communication skills.

What content is included in this course?

On completing the Course, learners will have developed skills in 2D and 3D graphics, as well as pictorial graphics. They will be able to apply these skills in order to produce graphics that require relevant visual impact and graphics that transmit information.

What skills will I develop?

These include

- replicating basic, familiar and some new graphic forms in 2D, 3D and pictorials
- initiating and producing simple preliminary, production and promotional graphics in straightforward, familiar and some new contexts
- initiating and producing simple informational graphics in straightforward, familiar and some new contexts
- visual literacy by interpreting simple but unfamiliar graphic communications
- spatial awareness in straightforward but unfamiliar 2D, 3D and pictorial graphic situations
- using standard graphic communication equipment, software and materials effectively for simple tasks with some complex features
- knowledge of graphic communication standards, protocols and conventions in straightforward but unfamiliar contexts
- applying design skills, including creativity, when developing solutions to simple graphics tasks with some complex features
- the ability to take initiative in evaluating work in progress and completed graphics, and applying suggestions for improvement in presentation
- knowledge of a range of computer-aided graphics techniques and practice
- knowledge of colour, illustration and presentation techniques in straightforward, familiar and some unfamiliar contexts
- knowledge and understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for this subject, pupils will be required to complete an **assignment** and an **examination paper**. The assignment will require pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge developed in this course. Evidence will be produced through the pupil's response to a given brief. This represents 33% of the final grade. The examination represents the remaining 67%.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course.

What are the possible progression routes?

Higher and Advanced higher Graphic Communication.

What are the aims of this course

The aims are to enable learners to develop:

- ◆ skills in graphic communication techniques, including the use of equipment, graphics materials and software
- ◆ creativity in the production of graphic communications to produce visual impact in meeting a specified purpose
- ◆ skills in evaluating the effectiveness of graphics in communicating and meeting their purpose
- ◆ an understanding of graphic communication standards protocols and conventions, where these apply
- ◆ an understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils will need a National 5 or equivalent in Graphic Communication, or have a committed attitude to complete a Higher course.

What content is included in this course?

The Course provides opportunities for learners to initiate and develop their own ideas graphically. It allows them to develop skills in reading and interpreting graphics produced by others. Learners will continue to develop graphic awareness in often complex graphic situations thus expanding their visual literacy.

What skills will I develop?

- replicating familiar and some new graphic forms with some complex features in 2D, 3D and pictorial representations
- applying recognised graphic communication standards, protocols and conventions in straightforward but unfamiliar contexts
- initiating, planning and producing preliminary, production, promotional, and informational graphics in both familiar and new contexts, with some complex features
- applying graphic design skills, including creativity, when developing solutions to graphics tasks with some complex features
- understanding the application of colour, illustration and presentation techniques in a broad range of graphics contexts
- critically reviewing graphics work as it progresses and evaluating completed task work suggesting strategies for improvement
- extending visual literacy by interpreting unfamiliar graphic communications — some with complex features or combinations of views
- extending graphic spatial awareness in unfamiliar 2D, 3D and pictorial graphic situations including those with complex features
- selecting, managing, and using graphic communication equipment, software and materials effectively across tasks
- understanding a broad range of computer-aided graphics techniques including commercial/industrial practice
- an informed understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on the environment and society

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The qualification is largely learner-centred and includes practical and experiential learning opportunities. Because the world of graphic communication covers such a wide variety of styles and modes of communication, there is a broad scope for personalisation and choice within the Course for each learner.

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for this subject, pupils will be required to complete an **assignment** and an **examination paper**. The assignment will require pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge developed in this course. Evidence will be produced through the pupil's response to a given brief. The breakdown is that the assignment represents 36 % of the final grade. The examination represents the remaining 64%.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course.

What are the possible progression routes?

Advanced Higher Graphic Communication. Courses in the building industry. Architecture, design based courses at College and University. Graphic artist. Autocad operator etc.

Advanced Higher Graphic Communication

What are the aims of this course

The aims are to enable learners to develop:

- skills for enquiry, research and evaluation in the commercial contexts of graphic communication
- critical understanding of the impact of advanced graphic communication technologies and activities on our environment and society
- skills in applying graphic communication design principles and techniques in the various contexts of commercial activity
- skills in the use of software applications in producing creative, meaningful and effective graphic items and solutions to contextualised problems and challenges
- skills in creatively applying graphic presentation work and animation techniques to satisfy the needs of commercial activities and those of their audiences
- the ability to demonstrate independence in learning and thinking

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils will need to achieve an A or a high B at Higher or equivalent in Graphic Communication or Art. Pupils who have not previously taken a certificate course in Graphic Communication or achieved this entry level will find the standard and level of work expected at Advanced Higher level very demanding.

What content is included in this course?

The Course is designed for all learners who can respond to a level of challenge including, but not limited to, those considering further study or a career in graphic design, computer-aided design and draughting, publishing and graphic promotional activities or electronic and moving graphic media-related disciplines. It provides sufficient breadth, flexibility and choice to meet the needs of and intended pathways for all learners with enquiring and disciplined minds.

What skills will I develop?

These include

- developing and presenting effective graphic communications which support and inform business, industrial and/or built environment sectors
- investigating, evaluating and skilfully applying common and contemporary technologies and techniques in the production of graphic communications which support technical activities
- the development of knowledge and understanding of the role of graphic communication activities in meeting audience requirements
- analysing often complex features of graphic communications which support and inform business activities
- ethical, social and environmental considerations in the development and production of graphic communications
- knowledge and understanding of the key concepts that support the planning, design and production of technical, and commercial and visual media graphics
- a critical understanding of the impact of graphic communication activities on our environment and society
- ability to plan, manage and undertake a significant graphic communication project

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The qualification is largely learner-centred and includes practical and experiential learning opportunities. Because the world of graphic communication covers such a wide variety of styles and modes of communication, there is a broad scope for personalisation and choice within the Course for each learner.

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for this subject, pupils will be required to complete an **assignment** and an **examination paper**. The assignment will require pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge developed in this course. Evidence will be produced through the pupil's response to a given brief. This will represent 50 % of the final grade. The examination will represent the remaining 50%.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course; this is coupled with the need to produce a folio of work and practical models that are scrutinised by the Qualification Authority.

What are the possible progression routes?

Advanced Higher Graphic Communication.

Courses in the building industry. Architecture, design based courses at College and University. Graphic artist. Autocad operator etc.

What are the aims of this course

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to develop:

- skills in design and manufacturing models, prototypes and products
- knowledge and understanding of manufacturing processes and materials
- an understanding of the impact of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Students should have an interest in enhancing practical abilities, coupled with a genuine interest in developing their design understanding.

What content is included in this course?

On completing the Course, the learners will have developed design skills, as well as skills in making models, prototypes and/or products. Learners will also acquire knowledge and understanding of materials and manufacturing processes.

What skills will I develop?

These include

- applying knowledge and understanding of research techniques
- analysing information
- applying knowledge and understanding of idea generation techniques
- applying knowledge and understanding of design factors
- applying knowledge and understanding of graphic techniques
- applying knowledge and understanding of modelling techniques
- applying knowledge and understanding of planning techniques
- applying knowledge and understanding of evaluation techniques
- applying knowledge and understanding of tools, materials and processes
- applying knowledge and understanding of manufacturing techniques
- knowledge and understanding of commercial manufacture
- knowledge and understanding of the impact of a range of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The Course is largely learner-centred and includes practical and experiential learning opportunities. The world of design and manufacturing covers a broad spectrum of experiences. Some products are designed to create an emotional or visual impact; others are more functional in their requirements. These facts allow the Course to be flexible in nature and allow scope for personalisation and choice for each learner.

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for this subject, pupils will be required to complete an **assignment** and an **examination paper**. The assignment will require pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge developed in this course. Evidence will be produced through the pupil's response to a given brief. This represents 56 % of the final grade. The examination represents the remaining 44%.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course.

What are the possible progression routes?

- Higher Design and Manufacture Course
- and, ultimately, for some, to employment, apprenticeships and/or training in design and/or manufacturing related fields

What are the aims of this course

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to develop:

- skills in design and in refining design proposals
- practical skills in the planning and development of models and prototypes
- skills in evaluation and research
- knowledge and understanding of manufacturing processes and materials
- an understanding of the impact of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils need to achieve a good pass at National 5 or equivalent in Design and Manufacture, Graphic Communication or Art. Pupils who have not previously taken a certificate course in the Technology Department or achieved this entry level will find the standard and level of work expected at Higher level very demanding.

What content is included in this course?

The Course is practical, exploratory and experiential in nature. It combines elements of creativity and designing for visual impact with elements of practicalities and an appreciation of functionality.

What skills will I develop?

These include

- researching and evaluating existing product types
- selecting and using a range of research techniques and evaluating their usefulness
- selecting and applying a range of idea generation techniques
- writing a detailed specification based on function and performance
- applying a range of creative design skills when refining and resolving product design tasks which encompass a range of key design factors
- selecting and using graphic techniques to visually represent design solutions, justifying the chosen selection of techniques
- selecting, using and evaluating a range of simple modelling and manufacturing techniques to represent design ideas in three dimensions
- planning a manufacturing process and analysing its effectiveness
- selecting and using a range of tools, equipment, software and materials in designing, making and testing models and prototypes
- evaluating their own design proposals and associated manufacturing practicalities, and applying suggestions for improvement
- a broad understanding of the impact of a range of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society
- critically evaluating a range of factors that influence the design and manufacture of products
- understanding of a broad range of industrial and commercial manufacturing processes and the properties and uses of materials

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The Course is largely learner-centred and includes practical and experiential learning opportunities. The world of design and manufacturing covers a broad spectrum of experiences. Some products are designed to create an emotional or visual impact; others are more functional in their requirements. These facts allow the Course to be flexible and allow scope for personalisation and choice for each learner.

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for this subject, pupils will be required to complete an **assignment** and an **examination paper**. The assignment will require pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge developed in this course. Evidence will be produced through the pupil's response to a given brief. The breakdown that the assignment represents 53 % of the final grade. The examination represents the remaining 47%.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course.

What are the possible progression routes?

Courses in the building industry. Architecture, design based courses at College and University etc.

What are the aims of this course

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- apply knowledge and understanding of key engineering facts and ideas
- understand the relationships between engineering, mathematics and science
- apply skills in analysis, design, construction and evaluation to a range of engineering problems
- communicate engineering concepts clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology
- develop an understanding of the role and impact of engineering in changing and influencing our environment and society

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Mathematical ability must be good. It would be advantageous to have completed the electronics masterclass.

What content is included in this course?

The Course enables learners to develop: a range of technological skills, including skills in analysis and problem solving, design skills, skills in the use of equipment and materials, and skills in evaluating products and systems.

What skills will I develop?

These include

- analysing engineering problems
- designing, developing, simulating, building, testing and evaluating solutions to engineering problems in a range of contexts
- investigating and evaluating existing and emerging technologies
- communicating engineering concepts clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology
- knowledge of the many types of engineering
- knowledge of the wide role and impact of engineering on society and the environment
- knowledge of the workings of a range of engineered objects
- knowledge and understanding of key concepts related to electronic and microcontroller-based systems, and their application
- knowledge and understanding of key concepts related to mechanical, structural and pneumatic systems, and their application
- knowledge of the relevance of energy, efficiency and sustainability to engineering problems and solutions
- applying engineering knowledge and skills in a range of contexts

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

On completing the Course, learners will have developed skills in analysis and problem solving, engineering design, the use of equipment and materials, and evaluation. Course activities also provide opportunities to enhance generic and transferable skills in planning and organising, working independently and in teams, critical thinking and decision making, research, communication and self- and peer- evaluation, in a technological context.

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for this subject, pupils will be required to complete an **assignment** and an **examination paper**. The assignment will require pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge developed in this course. Evidence will be produced through the pupil's response to a given brief. This represents 31 % of the final grade. The examination represents the remaining 69%.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course.

What are the possible progression routes?

Higher and Advanced higher Engineering science.

What are the aims of this course

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- extend and apply knowledge and understanding of key engineering concepts, principles and practice
- The understand the relationships between engineering, mathematics and science
- apply analysis, design, construction and evaluation to a range of engineering problems with some complex features
- communicate engineering concepts clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology
- develop a greater understanding of the role and impact of engineering in changing and influencing our environment and society

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils will need to achieve a good pass at National 5 or equivalent in Mathematics and Engineering Science or Physics. Pupils who have not achieved this entry level will find the standard and level of work expected at Higher level very demanding.

What content is included in this course?

The Course enables learners to develop and extend a range of technological skills, including skills in analysis and problem solving, design skills, skills in the use of equipment and materials, and skills in evaluating products and systems.

What skills will I develop?

These include

- analysing engineering problems with some complex features
- designing, developing, simulating, building, testing and evaluating solutions to engineering problems in a range of contexts
- investigating and evaluating existing and emerging technologies
- communicating engineering concepts clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology
- knowledge and understanding of the many types of engineering
- knowledge and understanding of the wide role and impact of engineering on society and the environment
- knowledge and understanding of the workings of a range of engineered objects
- knowledge and understanding of key concepts related to electronic and microcontroller-based systems, and their application
- knowledge and understanding of key concepts related to mechanical, structural and pneumatic systems, and their application
- knowledge and understanding of the relevance of energy, efficiency and sustainability to engineering problems and solutions
- applying engineering knowledge, understanding and skills in a range of contexts

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

On completing the Course, learners will have developed greater skills in: analysis and problem solving, engineering design, the use of equipment and materials, and evaluation. Course activities also provide opportunities to enhance generic and transferable skills in planning and organising, working independently and in teams, critical thinking and decision making, research, communication and self- and peer- evaluation, in a technological context.

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for this subject, pupils will be required to complete and pass an **assignment** and an **examination paper**. The assignment will require pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge developed in this course. Evidence will be produced through the pupil's response to a given brief. The breakdown is that the assignment represents 31 % of the final grade. The examination represents the remaining 67%.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course.

What are the possible progression routes?

Advanced Engineering science, HNC / HND, Degree courses in Engineering, construction, electronics, mechanical, control engineering etc.

What are the aims of this course

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- extend and apply knowledge and understanding of key engineering concepts, principles and practice through independent learning
- understand and apply the relationships between engineering, mathematics and science
- develop skills in investigation and research in an engineering context
- analyse, design, construct and evaluate creative solutions to complex engineering problems
- communicate advanced engineering concepts clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology
- develop an informed understanding of the role and impact of engineering in changing and influencing our environment and society, including ethical implications

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils will need to achieve an A or a high B at Higher or equivalent in Mathematics and Engineering Science or Physics. Pupils who have not achieved this entry level will find the standard and level of work expected at Advanced Higher level very demanding.

What content is included in this course?

The Course enables learners to develop and extend a range of engineering skills, including skills in analysis and problem solving, application of mathematical processes, creative design skills, and skills in evaluating products and systems. The Course also enables learners to develop and extend knowledge and understanding of advanced engineering concepts and processes, and the ability to apply these to a variety of problems; and an awareness of the impact of engineering on society and the environment.

What skills will I develop?

- researching and investigating complex engineering problems
- designing, developing, simulating, building, testing and evaluating solutions to complex engineering problems in a range of contexts
- applying mathematical techniques to analyse and solve engineering problems
- communicating complex engineering concepts clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology
- knowledge and understanding of the wide role and impact of engineering on society and the environment, including ethical implications
- in-depth knowledge and understanding of aspects of electronic and microcontroller-based systems, and their application
- in-depth knowledge and understanding of aspects of mechanisms and structures, and their application
- knowledge and understanding of the relevance of energy, efficiency and sustainability to complex engineering problems and solutions
- applying engineering knowledge, understanding and skills in a range of contexts
- ability to plan, manage and implement a challenging engineering project

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

On completing the Course, learners will have developed greater skills in: analysis and problem solving, engineering design, the use of equipment and materials, and evaluation. Course activities also provide opportunities to enhance generic and transferable skills in planning and organising, working independently and in teams, critical thinking and decision making, research, communication and self- and peer-evaluation, in a technological context.

How will I be assessed?

To gain an award for this subject, pupils will be required to complete an **assignment** and an **examination paper**. The assignment will require pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge developed in this course. Evidence will be produced through the pupil's response to a given brief. The breakdown is still under review by the SQA but it is expected to be similar to Higher where the assignment represents 56 % of the final grade. The examination represents the remaining 44%.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course; this is coupled with the need to produce a folio of work and practical models that are scrutinised by the Qualification Authority.

What are the possible progression routes?

Advanced Engineering science, HNC / HND, Degree courses in Engineering, construction, electronics, mechanical, control engineering etc.

HOSPITALITY – National 4 and National 5

What are the aims of this course:

The course, which is a combination of practical and written work, develops a range of cookery skills and food preparation techniques, as well as planning, organisational and time management skills, in hospitality-related contexts.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

It is recommended that S4 pupils have studied the core Masterclass in Home Economics and should be aspiring to achieve a national 5 in English.

For S5/5 pupils, it is available to all who have a genuine interest in developing their knowledge and skills.

What content is included in this course?

- Cookery Skills, Techniques and Processes: This unit aims to develop learners' cookery skills, food preparation techniques and their ability to follow cookery processes
- Understanding and Using Ingredients: This unit aims to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of ingredients from a variety of different sources and their uses.
- Organisational Skills for cooking: This unit aims to develop learners' organisational and time management skills. Learners will acquire the ability to follow recipes and time plans to produce dishes, with minimal guidance, and to work hygienically and safely.

What skills will I develop?

- Food preparation techniques and cookery processes to make a range of dishes
- Food safety and hygienic practices in the kitchen
- Selecting, weighing and measuring, using appropriate ingredients to make, garnish or decorate dishes
- Following recipes in the preparation of dishes
- Producing dishes, taking into account the number of portions and presenting them appropriately

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- The course is based on 60% practical work and 40% written tasks.
- Working with industry partners to develop skills for working within the hospitality sector.

How will I be assessed?

- National 4 will be assessed by completing the 3 mandatory units and the Added value unit.
- National 5 will be externally assessed by completing a written exam and planning booklet and internally assessed Practical Activity which will be to prepare and cook a 3 course meal for 4 people.

What are the homework requirements?

Carrying out practical activities at home if possible, completing written tasks such as time plans and exam style questions.

What are the possible progression routes?

Careers in the Hospitality and Tourism industry.

Related further/higher education courses.

Certification:

Hospitality: National 5 is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

HEALTH AND FOOD TECHNOLOGY – NATIONAL 5 / HIGHER/AH

What are the aims of this course?

Health and Food Technology provides an opportunity to study the relationships between health, nutrition, and the functional properties of food, lifestyle choices and consumer issues. This course develops an awareness of informed food and dietary choices that can have a positive effect on the health of learners and enable them to advise others. Learners also develop a range of skills and applications of food preparation techniques, although it is more academic than practical.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Aspiring for English at National 5 level.

For the Higher course, Health and Food Technology and English at National 5.

Advanced Higher – Health and Food Technology and English at Higher.

What content is included in this course?

Courses at National 4 and 5 consist of the following:

- **Food for Health**
Develop learners' knowledge and understanding of the relationship between food, health and nutrition; dietary needs for individuals at various stages of life and explain current dietary advice. Through practical activities, the learner will produce and reflect on food products which meet individual needs.
- **Food Product Development**
Allow learners to develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties of ingredients in food and their use in developing new food products; the stages involved in developing food products and, through a problem-solving approach, produce a food product to meet specified needs. Learners will also develop and apply knowledge and understanding of safe and hygienic food practices.
- **Contemporary Food Issues**
Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of consumer food choices; explore factors which may affect food choices and develop knowledge and understanding of contemporary food issues; consider technological developments in food and organisations which protect consumer interests; food labelling and how it helps consumers make informed food choices. Learners will apply knowledge and skills in practical contexts.

What skills will I develop?

- Problem solving skills related to a range of health, food, nutrition and consumer needs
- Organisational skills necessary to plan, prepare and evaluate products and processes
- Technological skills related to food production
- Practical food preparation skills
- Decision making skills related to current consumer issues

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- The learning will be taught through both practical and theory lessons.
- There will be times when you will be working individually on research topics to complete the course assessments.
- Visits to industry to develop experience real life approaches and support to areas of study such as product development

How will I be assessed?

- At National 5 and Higher the learner will also be required to undertake a practical Assignment to integrate extend and apply the skills and techniques from the units above. Learners will work to an SQA given brief, which will allow the task to be sufficiently open and flexible to allow personalisation and choice. This is externally assessed and worth 50% of the overall course grade.

- Question Paper which carries the other 50% of the marks
- Advanced Higher learners will be required to complete a research project of their choice relevant to the course. This is worth 60% of the overall course grade.
- Question Paper which carries the other 40% of the marks

What are the homework requirements?

- Learning of the work before each unit assessment
- Regular homework exercises relevant to ongoing topic and to develop exam technique.
- Research work required for the Course Assessment

What are the possible progression routes?

Relevant courses of study at degree level, including Nursing, Dietetics and Food, Health and Nutrition related subjects. Home Economics and Primary Teaching.

Certification:

Higher Health and Food Technology is allocated 24 SCQF points at SCQF level 6.

FASHION AND TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY – National 5 / Higher

What are the aims of this course?

To develop the practical skills, construction techniques and knowledge and understanding which support fashion/textile related activities.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

National 5 English is preferred.

What content is included in this course?

There are 3 main areas of study::

- Fashion and Textile Technology: Textile Technologies. This unit provides learners with the opportunity to develop detailed knowledge and skills related to textile technologies.
- Fashion and Textile Technology: Fashion and Textile Development. This unit provides learners with the opportunity to explore fashion/textile trends and the fashion/ textile item development process.
- Fashion and Textile Technology: Fashion and Textile Choices. This unit provides learners with the opportunity to develop and apply their knowledge and understanding of a range of factors affecting the fashion and textile choices of consumers.

The learner will also be required to undertake a Practical Activity to integrate, extend and apply the skills and techniques from the above units.

- Practical Activity: Learners will work to a given brief, which will allow the task to be sufficiently open and flexible to allow personalisation and choice.

What skills will I develop?

- Textile construction techniques
- Planning and making skills
- Handling of tools and equipment safely
- Investigation, presentation and evaluation skills

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

- This is a practical based course and this activity will form the main part of the course
- There will be theoretical aspects to this course.

How will I be assessed?

- Completing a written exam.
- Completing the Practical Activity to an appropriate degree of accuracy

What are the homework requirements?

- Learning of the work before each unit assessment
- Regular homework exercises relevant to ongoing topic and to develop exam technique
- Research work required for the Practical Activity

What are the possible progression routes?

Degree courses in:

Fashion Design; Textile Design; Marketing; Applied Consumer Studies; Textile Technology; Clothing Design and Technology etc.

Certification anticipated in:

National 5 Fashion & Textile Technology is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

Physical Education – National 4/5

What are the aims of this course?

The course aims to enable candidates to:

- ◆ develop the ability to safely perform a comprehensive range of movement and performance skills
- ◆ understand factors that impact on personal performance in physical activities
- ◆ build capacity to perform effectively
- ◆ develop approaches to enhance personal performance
- ◆ monitor, record and evaluate performance development

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

A genuine interest in all areas of P.E. Excellent participation in P.E S1-S3.

It is beneficial for pupils to excel in at least two activities.

What content is included in this course?

The course will include 4 Periods a week with 1 period each week a Theory lesson within a classroom. Over the year pupils will learn about the 4 factors that impact performance. Through each activity pupils will Investigate, Analyse, Develop and review their performance through the four factors (Mental, Emotional, Social and Physical).

What skills will I develop?

The skills, knowledge and understanding that learners acquire by successfully completing this Course are transferable to learning, to life and to the world of work.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches will be utilised across a range of experiences. Pupils will also use ICT to enhance their learning experience within PE.

How will I be assessed?

National 5

Course Assessment – Candidates will participate in two “One off” performances which counts towards 50% of final Grade at national 5

Portfolio – 50% of final Grade at National 5

National 4

Course Assessment one off performance – Pass or Fail

Performance skills – Pass 2 activities at National 4 level.

Factors Impacting Performance unit – Pass or Fail

What are the homework requirements?

Homework will be given out when appropriate to add depth or consolidate learning completed in the class. It is expected pupils remain active out with school.

What are the possible progression routes?

Progression is possible from Nat 4 to Nat 5 and from Nat 5 to Higher but at least a grade B pass is necessary at Nat 5.

Certification: National 5 or National 4

Physical Education – Higher

What are the aims of this course?

The main purpose of this Course is to develop and demonstrate a broad and comprehensive range of complex skills in challenging contexts. Learners will develop the ability to use strategies to make appropriate decisions for effective performance. They will also analyse a performance, looking specifically at the impact of mental, emotional, social and physical factors, understand what is required to develop it and then apply this knowledge to their own performance.

By actively participating in physical activities, learners will demonstrate initiative, decision-making and problem-solving. They will experience a range of roles and responsibilities, and this will enable them to develop their interpersonal skills. The Course also provides an opportunity to support the way that individual attitudes, values and behaviours are formed as physical education contributes to social, mental and emotional development.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils would have achieved an A or B at National 5 PE.

It is highly recommended that pupils will have or be participating in Higher English.

It is beneficial that pupils will excel in at least 2 activities

Pupils must come with an excellent attitude to work hard and fully participate in all activities.

What content is included in this course?

The course will include 5 Periods a week with 2 periods each week within a classroom. Over the year pupils will develop a deep knowledge about the 4 factors that impact performance. Through each activity pupils will Investigate, Analyse, Develop and review their performance through the four factors (Mental, Emotional, Social and Physical).

What skills will I develop?

The skills, knowledge and understanding that learners acquire by successfully completing this Course are transferable to learning, to life and to the world of work.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

A range of learning and teaching approaches will be utilised across a range of experiences. Pupils will also use ICT to enhance their learning experience within PE.

How will I be assessed?

Course Assessment – Pupils will be required to pass this element which will count towards 50% of the overall grade.

Performance skills – Pupil must be able to perform at Higher level in at least 2 activities.

Exam – The Exam will count towards 50% of the overall grade.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework will be given out when appropriate to add depth or consolidate learning completed in the class. This will generally be completed online. It is expected pupils remain active out with school.

What are the possible progression routes?

Progression is possible from Higher into Advanced Higher PE. Otherwise, pupils can participate in the Sport and Recreation course.

Certification: Higher PE – National 6

Physical Education – Advanced Higher

What are the aims of this course?

The main purpose of the Course is to research and analyse factors which underpin and impact on performance, and use this knowledge to develop their own performance or that of others. To do this effectively, learners will engage in research and undertake independent investigative work, and develop skills of analysis, evaluation, and communication.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Candidates wishing to select Advanced Higher should have achieved at least a Higher PE at Grade B and have passed Higher English.

Pupils should also have a specialist activity which they excel in.

What content is included in this course?

During the Course, learners will also understand how to develop consistency of performance in challenging environments and become proficient in their ability to analyse and apply strategies and techniques to make appropriate decisions about their personal performance.

What skills will I develop?

The Course has six broad and inter-related aims to enable learners to:

- investigate and evaluate how a range of factors impact on performance
- understand and apply methods to develop performance
- develop independent research and investigation skills to analyse how skills, techniques and strategies combine to produce effective performance
- select and apply a range of movement and performance skills, by making informed decisions during high-level performance
- carry out high-level personal performance in a selected physical activity
- analyse and evaluate the process of performance development

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Learning at this level within PE involves a lot of self-discipline and taking greater ownership for your own learning and development.

How will I be assessed?

Physical Education: Performance Skills – must pass one activity at Advance Higher level

Physical Education: Factors Impacting on Performance – must be completed to pass course

Course Assessment:

Performance – A one off performance will take place on an activity of your choice and marked out of 30.

Project – this is a self-study piece of work which involves pupils investigating their performance as well as accessing academic literature to enhance their knowledge. This is sent to the SQA and marked out of 70.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils will have on going homework to develop their knowledge and investigate areas of theory.

What are the possible progression routes?

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- Higher National Diplomas in areas such as sports science, sports coaching, or health and fitness
- degrees in areas such as physical education, physical activity and health, sport and exercise science, health promotion, or sports psychology
- further study, employment and/or training related to personal training or health promotion

Certification: Advanced Higher PE (Level 7)

N4 Automotive Skills and Safe Road User

What are the aims of this course

The aims of the Automotive Skills Course at SCQF level 4 are to:

- Develop an awareness of the range of career opportunities within the automotive industry.
- Develop an understanding of good working practices.
- Develop an awareness of relevant health and safety issues.
- Develop a positive and responsible attitude to work.
- Encourage candidates to apply their knowledge and understanding of automotive by using the skills of evaluation and problem-solving in a vocational context.
- Develop awareness of candidates' individual strengths and weaknesses in relation to the requirements of automotive, and to reflect on how this affects their employability.
- Prepare candidates for further learning opportunities, study and training for employment in the automotive and related industries.

The aims of the Automotive Safe Road User at SCQF level 4 are to:

- Develop responsible, careful and considerate attitudes and behaviour towards road use.
- Understand the impact that other road users have on them and the impact that they may have on other road users.
- Understand the key elements of the Highway Code.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

No specific knowledge is required to embark on these Awards.

What content is included in this course?

- **The Garage** – Introduces candidates to the structure and organisation of the retail automotive industry and the range of job roles and responsibilities within it. The unit also provides a basic introduction to some health and safety legislation applicable to vehicle service and repair workshops.
- **The Technician** – Candidates will use a range of common hand tools as well as more specialised tools and equipment. They will also learn the names, functions and serviceability of automotive components while engaged in practical activities and gain basic knowledge of working safely in an automotive engineering environment.
- **The Car** – This unit introduces candidates to basic safety checks, wheel changing and valeting as carried out by technicians in the automotive industry.
- **The Vehicle Modification Project** – Candidates will carry out a modification project.
- **Developing Positive Road User Attitude** – Candidates will assess how the attitudes and behaviours of themselves and others can affect safe road use.
- **Understanding How to Use the Roads** – Candidates will have the opportunity to consider a range of aspects related to preparing and undertaking a journey by road.

What skills will I develop?

Practical experiences of carrying out basic vehicle checks are included as well as the specific skills involved in removing and replacement of components and mechanisms.

Central to the content are the generic employability skills valued by employers in the automotive sector.

The safe Road User course will enable Candidates to develop the life skill of being a safe, effective and considerate road user with the positive attitude and behaviour towards others which this entails.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Candidates will experience a variety of learning and teaching methods including working with others, completing case studies, practical work, observation and commenting on video clips.

How will I be assessed?

Candidates work will be continually assessed in a variety of ways and feedback on progress will be shared throughout. Both courses have assessment booklets that are completed within class. The Safe Road User course has an online assessment in addition to the booklet.

What are the homework requirements?

Homework is ongoing throughout the course; this is coupled with the need to be aware of the Highway Code to pass the digital test at the end of the Safe Road User Unit.

What are the possible progression routes?

Candidates may progress to courses offered at college with the Automotive Skills qualification. If a Candidate successfully completes the Safe Road User course they will be eligible to sit an abridged version of the DVSA Theory Test

HAIRDRESSING – National 4 / 5

Introductory Statement

This course is delivered in partnership with Perth College within the hairdressing and beauty salon located on site at the Breadalbane Community Campus. Students work with both college lecturers and local professionals to achieve this qualification.

The Course content provides a broad, experiential introduction to hairdressing. The focus is on experiencing the salon environment and the development of vocational skills, knowledge and understanding. Practical experience of general salon duties, reception skills, communication and customer care is included. Specific skills in shampooing, conditioning, basic scalp massage, drying hair, colouring hair and cutting hair are developed. Current fashion trends are identified from a variety of sources, with candidates having the opportunity to experiment to produce an image which reflects these trends.

Emphasis throughout all Units is on the employability skills and attitudes which will help to prepare candidates for the workplace.

Aims & Objectives

Skills for Work Courses are designed to help candidates to develop:

- Skills and knowledge in a broad vocational area
- Core Skills: literacy, numeracy, ICT, problem solving and handling relevant equipment
- an understanding of the workplace and expectations of employer and employee
- positive attitudes to learning
- skills and attitudes for employability including teamwork, individual contribution in groups and allowing candidates to experience the feeling of job satisfaction.

A key feature of these Courses is the emphasis on **experiential learning**. This means learning through practical experience and learning by reflecting on experience.

Learning through practical experience

- learning in real or simulated workplace settings
- learning through role play activities in vocational contexts
- carrying out case study work/many visits to areas of interest
- planning and carrying out practical tasks and assignments.

Course Content

- **Hairdressing: Working in a Salon Environment**

Candidates will develop an understanding and experience the working environment of a trainee hairdresser. They will learn about current relevant health and safety, risk assessment, carry out general salon duties, maintain the salon environment and develop reception skills. Candidates will evaluate their own performance in employability skills and attitudes identified by employers as important in hairdressing and set goals for improvement in order to enhance their employability profile.

- **Hairdressing: Salon Skills**

Candidates will learn to carry out practical tasks in customer care, as well as maintaining a safe and hygienic work area. They will also learn more specific skills in shampooing, conditioning, conditioning treatments, basic scalp massage, drying and finishing techniques. This will be done in a realistic context, with emphasis on developing general employability skills such as following instructions carefully, seeking feedback and using this to improve skills.

- **Hairdressing: Introduction to Colour**

This Unit introduces candidates to hair colouring. Candidates will gain an understanding of the colouring process and will learn how to prepare for, mix, apply and remove hair colour. Candidates will also have the opportunity to review their employability skills profile.

- **Hairdressing: Creative Trends**

The Unit focuses on encouraging an awareness of current fashion trends and the expression of creativity. Candidates will have an opportunity to identify current

fashion trends from a variety of sources. They will then plan, prepare for and produce a style on a mannequin head which interprets these. Candidates will have an opportunity to use existing skills and develop new skills. This Unit will enable candidates to take responsibility for their own performance, express their creativity, build confidence, consolidate skills and gain an understanding of how current fashion trends influence hair styling to produce a total look.

Skills Developed

Applying tradition classroom learned topics to the ‘working world’. Practical skills are developed while considering the areas outlined. One of the main areas of concentration is on social skills required to be accepted and successful in the workplace.

Assessment

Regular Assessment by Teachers, Associated Tutors, verified by local experts and certificated by the SQA. Some written assessment is required but much of the assessment is based on practical skills. NAB completion is an essential part of the course.

Sport and Recreation (Level 5) & Uniformed and Emergency Services (Level 4)

What are the aims of this course?

Sport and Recreation' allows pupils to gain experience in the main practical activities involved in carrying out a support role in a sports and recreation environment. Pupils will learn about planning, setting up and delivering activity sessions, assisting with setting up, dismantling and checking equipment and resources. The course will also develop Employability Skills and provide the pupils with opportunities to learn about the industry and further education courses. The course is verified by the SQA and an Award at SCQF Level 5 presented to successful candidates. The course is of a very practical nature with supportive written work being completed in the classroom sessions.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils should have an interest in Sport and have performed well in PE since S1. It would be beneficial for pupils to achieve a National PE pass at level 4 or 5.

What content is included in this course?

Skills for Employment: pupils will learn about interacting with customers, staff and others. How to communicate appropriately, be responsive and establish and maintain relationships.

Assist with Activity Sessions: pupils will learn about the planning and delivery of activity sessions using appropriate resources while taking into account Health and Safety procedures. They will also learn about reviewing and evaluating sessions.

Dealing with Facilities and Equipment: pupils will learn about setting up and taking down equipment, checking for faults, cleaning and tidying of activity areas and personal protective equipment.

Personal Fitness: pupils will learn how to identify their fitness baseline, plan and organise their own ongoing physical training plan, setting both short and long-term personal goals, before putting the physical training plan into action.

What skills will I develop?

Skills for Work Courses are designed to help candidates to develop:

- Skills and knowledge in a broad vocational area
- Core Skills: literacy, numeracy, ICT, problem solving and handling relevant equipment
- an understanding of the workplace and expectations of employer and employee
- positive attitudes to learning
- skills and attitudes for employability including teamwork, individual contribution in groups and allowing candidates to experience the feeling of job satisfaction.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Learning through practical experience

Learning in real or simulated workplace settings

Learning through role play activities in vocational contexts

Carrying out case study work/many visits to areas of interest

Planning and carrying out practical tasks and assignments.

How will I be assessed?

Pupil work will be continually assessed in a variety of ways and feedback on progress will be shared throughout.

Continuous assessment of classwork and unit test scores will be used by Teachers.

What are the homework requirements?

- Some homework will be given when appropriate throughout the year.

Certification: National 5 – Sport and Recreation and National 4 – Uniformed Services

Skills for Work: Laboratory Science - National 5 (S5/6 only)

What are the aims of this course?

This Course focuses on developing generic employability skills needed for success in the workplace through a variety of practical experiences in the laboratory science area. There is considerable flexibility of topics and contexts to facilitate personalization and choice for learners and to allow new and stimulating contexts for learning to be built into the Course.

The general aims of the Course are to:

- allow pupils to experience vocationally-related learning
- provide pupils with an introduction to working in a laboratory
- encourage pupils to foster a good work ethic, including time management, a positive attitude and other relevant employability skills and attitudes
- provide opportunities to develop a range of core skills through practical experience in a vocational environment
- encourage pupils to take charge of their own learning and development

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

There is no recommended level for entry onto this course; therefore successful entry is at the discretion of the department. **This course is only available for pupils in S5/6.**

What content is included in this course?

The Skills for Work Course in Laboratory Science consists of four mandatory Units:

1. **Careers using Laboratory Science**
2. **Working in a Laboratory**
3. **Laboratory Science: Practical Skills**
4. **Practical Investigation**

What skills will I develop?

The course is designed to provide pupils with opportunities for developing:

- skills and knowledge in a broad vocational area
- core skills of communication, numeracy, ICT, problem solving and working with others
- an understanding of the workplace and a positive attitudes to learning
- skills and attitudes for employability

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

Teaching/learning programmes will include some or all of the following:

- learning in real or simulated workplace settings
- learning through role play activities in vocational contexts
- carrying out case study work
- planning and carrying out practical tasks and assignments

The course will provide a range of teaching, learning and assessment styles to motivate candidates to achieve their full potential.

How will I be assessed?

There is no external assessment for this Course. Learners must successfully complete each Unit to achieve the Course. The Units are internally assessed by school and externally verified by SQA.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils are set homework as and when it is appropriate to the lesson content. This could include written tasks, learning or consolidation of knowledge and understanding and may also include pupils' carrying out research tasks as part of homework activities.

What are the possible progression routes?

Successful learners may progress to National Courses or Units; Further/higher education; vocational training or employment.

Certification anticipated in:

To achieve the National 5 Skills for Work Laboratory Science course, learners must pass all of the required Units. The course is worth a total of 24 SCQF Credit points at level 5.

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE (Skills for Work) – National 5

What are the aims of this course?

Skills for Work Courses are designed to help candidates to develop:

- Skills and knowledge in a broad vocational area
- Core Skills
- An understanding of the workplace
- Positive attitudes to learning
- Skills and attitudes for employability.

A key feature of these courses is the emphasis on **experiential learning**. This means learning through practical experience and learning by reflecting on experience.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

English is preferred at Nat 5 level (but not essential).

What content is included in this course?

- Development and Wellbeing of Children and Young People
- Play in Early Learning and Childcare
- Working in early Learning and Childcare
- Care and Feeding of Children and Young People

These units cover all aspects of early learning and childcare from birth to 16.

What skills will I develop?

You will develop the skills, qualities and attitudes required to work successfully with Children.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will experience working in the classroom; researching topics; team work and working in Childcare placements.

- learning in real or simulated workplace settings
- learning through role play activities in vocational contexts
- carrying out case study work
- planning and carrying out practical tasks and assignments.

How will I be assessed?

There are three mandatory internally assessed units and an additional unit of the centres choice.

What are the homework requirements?

There is a great deal of research and individual work to be done at home, especially regarding the assessed units.

What are the possible progression routes?

This course will form an important part of the menu of provision for those who wish to follow a career in the childcare sector.

- Childcare courses at Perth College. HNC and HND
- Teaching
- Nursing
- Midwifery

Certification:

National 5 is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

RURAL SKILLS NPA (National Progression award)

What are the aims of this course

This course is designed for S4/5/6 pupils, over 1/2 years, with areas covered to help to secure points to allow entry into agricultural, forestry, livestock, and recreational grass courses in the future.

The course introduces pupils to all aspects of agriculture and rural industries based in our local area and further afield.

Pupils can choose to investigation and undertake placements in a wide range of rural industries, again, located in the local area.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Pupils who have studied the Nat 4, Rural Skills for Work course will have some advantages but it is not essential. Having enjoyed success at NAT 4/NAT 5 English will help considerably. Pupils need to have to have an interest in working outdoors in the rural setting. The course requires considerable resilience and a sound 'work ethic'.

We want pupils to be working on placements with local partners so pupils need to be prepared to 'get their hands dirty'

What content is included in this course?

The pupils will undertake 3 units

Unit 1 is their rural business investigation: This is a focussed and detailed study of a local rural business.

The **other two units** that pupils undertake can, to a greater or lesser extent, be chosen by the pupils from. They can follow areas of study from 8 'routes' as identified by the sqa

- Agriculture
- Animal care
- Equine studies
- Estate skills
- Fisheries management
- Forestry
- Gamekeeping
- Horticulture

What skills will I develop?

Practical Work Skills associated with these areas of study further supplemented by report writing, practical maths and problem solving. Employability Skills and Investigation Techniques also major in this course. The pupils will also gain experience in preparing for and working outdoors while learning about health and safety in a rural setting.

The rural business investigation also includes the understanding and administration of a rural business.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The course is very practical but this is dependent on pupils and staff organising, with partners, suitable placements. There are periods of time that we will make use of ICT to investigate job roles, qualifications and to look at academic studies. The nature of the course requires the pupils to be driven and keen to learn more about their chosen area of study.

How will I be assessed?

Internal and External verification. Pupils will record their progress in a portfolio of work and these will address the range of outcomes outlined in the SQA guideline for the course. The aim is to have qualified, experienced, experts from local rural industries to oversee and support much of the course with an SQA verifier visiting to ensure all standards are being met.

What are the homework requirements?

Diary events are recorded and parts of the Investigations will be completed individually and will be considered as homework exercises with support being offered during classroom sessions...

What are the possible progression routes?

SCQF Level 6 courses are delivered at various Scottish Rural University Colleges (see SRUC websites) e. Elmwood, Barony, Aberdeen and Thurso.

The courses follow on from the SPA SCQF Level 5 as offered at Breadalbane Academy relate to occupational areas and are linked to National Occupational Standards.

Certification:

SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

Retailing (Skills for Work) – National 5

What are the aims of this course?

Skills for Work Courses are designed to help candidates to develop:

- Skills and knowledge in a broad vocational area
- Core Skills
- An understanding of the workplace
- Positive attitudes to learning
- Skills and attitudes for employability.

A key feature of these courses is the emphasis on **experiential learning**. This means learning through practical experience and learning by reflecting on experience.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

English is preferred at Nat 5 level (but not essential).

What content is included in this course?

- Working in retailing
- Maintaining, storing and replenishing stock
- Satisfying customer needs
- Planning and implementing a retail event

What skills will I develop?

You will develop the skills, qualities and attitudes required to work successfully within a retail setting.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will experience working in the classroom; researching topics; team work and visiting retail outlets:

- learning in real or simulated workplace settings
- learning through role play activities in vocational contexts
- carrying out case study work
- planning and carrying out practical tasks and assignments.

How will I be assessed?

There are four mandatory internally assessed units – there is no external exam. This course is not graded but is pass/fail at National 5 level.

What are the homework requirements?

There is a great deal of research and individual work to be done at home, especially regarding the assessed units.

What are the possible progression routes?

This course will form an important part of the menu of provision for those who wish to follow a career in the retail sector. On successful completion of the course, you may progress to the following:

- Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) in Retail Skills at SCQF level 5
- Modern Apprenticeships in Retail
- National Certificate in Retailing

Certification:

National 5 is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5.

