

Wallace High School



New S5/6: Course Choice Booklet

Curriculum for Excellence: Senior Phase
February 2025

THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

This Framework diagram has been produced to show the mainstream Scottish qualifications already credit rated by SQA and HEBs. However, there are a diverse number of learning programmes on the Framework, which, due to the limitations of this format, cannot be represented here. For more information, please visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk to view the interactive version of the Framework or search the Database.



SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications	Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12		Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11		Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10		Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9		Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8	Higher National Diploma	Professional Development Award	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate		Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher		Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5		Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Progression Award	SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3		
2	National 2, Awards		
1	National 1, Awards		

Introduction – Senior Phase (S5/6) Course Choice – February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

This booklet is designed to support the *best* choices for your child as they progress into the final years of the Senior Phase (S5-6) and their attempts to gain key qualifications that will allow them to access positive destinations, be that in university, college or the world of work. It is our hope that school has, to date, equipped your child with a broad set of skills and experiences, as well as qualifications. They now have the chance to select the subjects they wish to study to achieve their first set of Higher awards, or, for S6, their final key areas of study and experiential learning before they leave. Every individual is different, and our process allows *breadth* of study (for those still undecided about their career pathway) and focused *specialisation* (for example, the chance to focus on multiple sciences, social subjects, languages, technologies or the arts).

The increased personalisation and choice that has been available throughout school now culminates in this options process for S5/6. It should also be noted at this stage that we continue to make available an adaptable curriculum for our full range of pupils – from those with Additional Support Needs to those who now require college and vocational options. This is done with the focused intervention of Pupil Support.

This booklet provides up-to-date information on all individual subject areas available on our options form. The options within this booklet have been created to maximise possibilities for breadth *and* depth of study to satisfy our full range of pupils. We will do our utmost to ensure that pupils receive their desired five choices. ***This is, however, always subject to staffing and timetabling restrictions in any school.***

The information in this booklet should be considered alongside oral and written reports on your child's performance and information from any open/information evenings as well as your child's individual course choice discussions. The key is to make **evidence-based decisions** that give the greatest chance of continued **progression** and **success** for your child. The best advice for your child is **not** to make decisions based on what friends are doing; what teacher you may get; or what you want to study if all the evidence is that you will not succeed here. Such choices generally lead to dissatisfaction and unhappiness, as nothing is more frustrating than struggling to progress and achieve in an area you are 'stuck in' due to bad choices. **Do** make subject choices based on what you are strong in (have evidenced a good grasp of broad skills in); enjoy; and that will lead to progression into an area you may wish to study/work in beyond school. If you already have a focused plan on progression into a certain job or university course, check entry requirements etc. and ensure that your choices leave that path clearly open as you progress.

Pupils will select **five** options, which include strongly academic courses, more vocational options and, for S6, service options that will develop the individual, contribute to the school community and assist in providing a richer UCAS application/CV. The table on the opposite page illustrates how pupils move through levels from this point. Final level of presentation in the coming year (National 3 – Advanced Higher) will depend entirely on performance. I hope that the many inputs we have provided support good choices but if you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Pupil Support team for further advice. I wish your child every success in this exciting next stage of their education.

Scott Pennock, Head Teacher, February 2025

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February 2025

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ART & DESIGN

Higher

Purpose

The Higher Course has an integrated approach to learning, and includes a mix of practical learning and analysis of art and design practice. In the Course, learners will draw upon their detailed understanding of art and design work and practice as they experiment with using a range of selected art and design materials, techniques and/or technology to develop their own creative ideas. Learners will further develop a range of complex problem-solving skills, and a critical understanding of the impact of social, cultural and other external factors on artists' and designers' work and practice.

Recommended Entry

National 5 Grade A or B.

Course Details

The Course consists of two projects and a final written exam:

Art and Design: Expressive Activity

This project helps learners to develop in more detail their personal thoughts and ideas in visual form. In the project, learners will develop critical understanding of artists' working practices and the social and cultural influences affecting their work. They will select stimuli and produce investigative drawings and studies. They will develop and refine their expressive ideas and artwork, experimenting with and using a range of materials, techniques and/or technology in 2D and/or 3D formats in response to the stimuli.

Art and Design: Design Activity

In this project, learners will plan, research and develop creative design work in response to a design brief. They will develop their creativity, problem solving and critical thinking skills as they consider complex design opportunities, and work to resolve design issues and constraints. In the project, learners will develop critical understanding of designers' working practices and the social and cultural influences affecting their work. They will develop and refine their design ideas by experimenting with and using a range of materials techniques and/or technology in 2D and/or 3D formats.

Assessment

Exam: This consists of an SQA set exam, designed to allow the candidate an opportunity to show an understanding of Art and Design examples, and social and cultural factors that surround them. The candidate should also be able to convey a personal response to given examples of Art and Design works. Potential candidates should be aware they will, throughout the year, be set written essays and homework in preparation for this formal, academic exam.

Progression

Successful completion of this course may lead to Advanced Higher in:

Art & Design: (Enquiry: Expressive); Art & Design: (Enquiry: Design); Art & Design: (Enquiry: Research & Appreciation)

SGA at Higher in Art and Design

Education (HNC/HND/Degree); Employment; Training (VQ) in

- Art & Design
- Communications & Media
- Manufacturing Industries

ART & DESIGN

Advanced Higher

Purpose

To promote further knowledge and understanding of the visual arts and design, their historical development and contemporary applications; to develop and apply skills of practical investigation, media handling, problem solving and evaluation through expressive and design practical activities, linked to related contextual, evaluative and historical studies.

Recommended Entry

Entry is at the discretion of the Centre and as such, candidates are expected to have attained an A or a B pass at Higher level.

Course Details

The course is designed to allow the candidate to focus on developing a personal enquiry into either an expressive or design-themed folio. Whichever course is chosen, Design or Expressive, consists of two mandatory projects. The first, the Enquiry project, is the practical folio itself. Here, candidates should:

- identify and investigate an area or theme of personal significance, interest and relevance
- actively research a variety of sources and stimuli (visual and other) leading to imaginative personal response
- show sustained exploration and creative personal development of lines of thought and action
- draw directly at first hand, from three-dimensional sources, for clear purposes
- resolve ideas, feelings, thoughts and interpretation into finished artwork of variety and high quality
- communicate personal thoughts, feelings, ideas and interpretations through the production of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional visual forms
- develop ability and confidence in handling media, materials and processes

The second project is the Studies Unit. In this project, learners will work in a self-directed manner to investigate the working practices and approaches of others. They will critically analyse artists' or designers' work and practice, evaluating the impact of external factors on their creative choices. They will communicate informed and supported personal views, opinions and judgements on the designers' work. Potential candidates should be aware that this is a formal written response.

Assessment Requirements

Projects are assessed internally by your teacher in accordance with SQA guidelines. The course is assessed by external examinations, set and marked by the SQA.

Homework

Whilst no formal homework is set, potential candidates should be aware that they are expected to develop their folio both in and outside of school. A lack of self-instigated enquiry at this level is detrimental to the successful completion of the course.

Progression

- Application to Art College, University, Schools of Architecture, College of Fashion/Design.

BIOLOGY

National 5

Course Details

The Course develops skills of scientific inquiry, and analytical thinking, along with knowledge and understanding. These skills, knowledge and understanding of Biology are developed through a variety of approaches and in the context of each of the three main areas of the course. Candidates undertake practical activities in the classroom/local environment. Candidates research issues and communicate information related to their findings, which develops skills of scientific literacy.

The Course content includes the following areas of Biology:

Cell Biology: The key areas covered are: cell structure; transport across cell membranes; DNA and the production of proteins; proteins; genetic engineering; respiration.

Multicellular Organisms: The key areas covered are: producing new cells; control and communication; reproduction; variation and inheritance; transport systems – plants; transport systems – animals; absorption of materials.

Life on Earth: The key areas covered are: ecosystems; distribution of organisms; photosynthesis; energy in ecosystems; food production; evolution of species.

Assessment

Pupils will be given regular homework and progress will be monitored by regular assessments.

National 5 Assessed by an external exam at the end of the course and an assignment (worth 20% of the overall mark).

HUMAN BIOLOGY

Higher

Purpose

The Higher Human Biology course enables learners to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of human biology, and an understanding of human biology's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of human biology, including their impact on society and the environment. Learners also develop scientific enquiry and investigative skills, as well as scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation, in a human biology context.

Recommended Entry

While entry to this course is at the discretion of the Centre, in order to cope with the demands of the course we suggest that learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following:

- Minimum of a B pass in National 5 Biology and English is desirable

Course Details

The course has three areas of study:

Human Biology: Human Cells

Learners will develop knowledge and understanding through studying stem cells, differentiation in somatic and germline cells, and the research and therapeutic value of stem cells and cancer cells. The key areas of division and differentiation in human cells, structure and function of DNA, gene expression and the genome are covered. Analytical thinking and problem-solving skills will be developed in context, through investigation of DNA, the expression of the genotype, and protein production, which allows study of mutations and genetic disorders. DNA technology is covered, including sequencing and medical and forensic applications. In addition, learners will study metabolic pathways and their control, through enzymes, with emphasis on cellular respiration and the role of ATP.

Human Biology: Physiology and Health

Learners will develop knowledge and understanding by focusing on the key areas of reproduction and the cardiovascular system. By studying these systems, learners will be able to develop their problem-solving and analytical thinking skills. Reproduction covers hormonal control and the biology of controlling fertility, including fertile periods, treatments for infertility, contraception, ante-natal care and post-natal screening. Learners will also cover relevant tissues and circulation, and the pathology of cardiovascular disease, including the impact on society and personal lifestyle.

Human Biology: Neurobiology and Immunology

The Key Areas covered are: Divisions of the Nervous System and Neural Pathways, the Cerebral Cortex, Memory, Cells of the Nervous System and Neurotransmitters at Synapses, Non-Specific Body Defences, Specific Cellular Defences against Pathogens, Immunisation, Clinical Trials of Vaccines and Drugs.

Course Assessment

The course assessment covers the added value of the course.

Homework

Homework is highly structured, consisting usually of one formal piece of homework per week. Pupils can expect to spend 1-2 hours per week on homework plus time spent consolidating classwork.

Assessment

External assessment is based on:

- Two question papers, which requires learners to demonstrate aspects of breadth, challenge and application; learners will apply breadth and depth of skills, knowledge and understanding from across the course to answer questions in human biology.
- An assignment which assesses the application of skills of scientific inquiry and related human biology knowledge and understanding. It allows assessment of skills that cannot be assessed by a question paper; for example, handling and processing data gathered through experimental work and research skills.

Progression

This Course may provide progression to:

- Advanced Higher Biology
- Other qualifications in Biology or related areas
- Further study, employment and/or training

BIOLOGY

Advanced Higher

Recommended Entry

Higher Human Biology with a pass at A or B level.

Course Details

The course has three areas of study:

Biology: Cells and Proteins

This topic builds on understanding of the genome from Higher Human Biology. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of proteomics, protein structure, binding and conformational change; membrane proteins; detecting and amplifying a stimulus; communication within multi-cellular organism and protein control of cell division. The study of protein is primarily a laboratory-based activity, so the Unit includes important laboratory techniques for biologists.

Biology: Organisms and Evolution

This topic builds on understanding of selection in the context of evolution and immune response from Higher Human Biology. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of evolution; variation and sexual reproduction; sex and behaviour and parasitism. It covers the role of sexual reproduction and parasitism in the evolution of organisms. Biological variation is a central concept in this Unit and is best observed in the natural environment.

This topic covers suitable techniques for ecological field study. Methods of sampling and the classification and identification of organisms are introduced. Evolution is considered from the impact of drift and selection on variation. The study of sexual behaviour provides opportunities to use the techniques of ethology. There are many opportunities to explore the systems approach required for the understanding of parasite biology. In addition, there are many opportunities to explore wider ethical issues relating to the importance of scientific knowledge and its application in challenging social and economic circumstances.

Investigative Biology

This topic builds on understanding of the scientific method from Higher Human Biology. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the principles and practice of investigative biology and its communication. The Unit covers scientific principles and processes, experimentation and critical evaluation of biological research.

Learners will do this through the key aspects of the scientific method, literature and communication and ethics; pilot studies, variables, experimental design, controls, sampling and ensuring reliability; evaluating background information, experimental design, data analysis and conclusions. The collection of experimental data will provide an opportunity to develop planning and organising skills.

Assessment Requirements

- End of topic tests
- End of course external examination
- Project

Homework

As for Higher Human Biology, you can expect regular homework which will include research essays, data interpretation and some practical work.

Progression

- An HND/Degree in a Biology-based course or a related area
- A career in a Biology-based discipline or a related area

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Higher

Course Details

Business Management develops enterprise skills and attributes by providing opportunities to study a range of business and organisational contexts. Pupils learn the ways in which society relies on businesses and other organisations to satisfy its needs, and an understanding of how to use business information to interpret and report on overall business performance. The Course also looks at the impact that external influences can have on organisations and decision-making processes.

The course is made up of five areas of study:

- Understanding Business
- Management of Marketing
- Management of Operations
- Management of People
- Management of Finance

Skills, knowledge and understanding developed by the Course

The following provides a broad overview of the subject skills, knowledge and understanding developed in the course:

- applying knowledge and understanding of the impact of business activities on society, in contexts which have complex features
- applying the ideas of ethical and effective business decision making to solve strategic business-related problems
- communicating relatively complex business ideas and opinions from a range of information relating to the effects of opportunities and constraints on business activity, some of which may be unfamiliar
- understanding how entrepreneurial attributes can help business development and risk management

Recommended Entry

Learners would normally be expected to have attained a pass in Business at National 5 level.

Assessment

An award is achieved by passing the SQA exam as well as a Course Assignment.

CHEMISTRY

National 5

Course Details

The Course develops scientific understanding of Chemistry issues and aims to develop learners' interest and enthusiasm for Chemistry through a variety of approaches to learning, with an emphasis on practical activities.

There are 3 areas of study:

Chemical Changes and Structures: examines atomic theory and how atoms combine.

Nature's Chemistry: investigates important everyday chemicals such as fossil fuels, foods and the wide range of consumer products obtained from plants.

Chemistry in Society: studies metals, modern materials such as plastics, and sustainable chemistry which researches the use of chemicals in society with an emphasis on economic and environmental issues.

Assessment

Pupils will be given regular homework and progress will be monitored by regular assessments.

A final written examination and a research assignment.

CHEMISTRY

Higher

Purpose

The main aims of the 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 enquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation in a chemistry 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 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

Recommended Entry

Entry to this course is at the discretion of the Centre, however, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following:

- National 5 Chemistry course at level A - C

Course Details

The course consists of four areas of study:

Chemical Changes in Structure

This topic covers the knowledge and understanding of controlling reaction rates and periodic trends, and strengthens the learner's ability to make reasoned evaluations by recognising underlying patterns and principles. Learners will investigate collision theory and the use of catalysts in reactions. Learners will explore the concept of electro-negativity and intra-molecular and intermolecular forces. The connection between bonding and a material's physical properties is investigated.

Research in Chemistry

This topic covers the key skills necessary to undertake research in chemistry. Learners will research the relevance of chemical theory to everyday life by exploring the chemistry behind a topical issue. Learners will develop the key skills associated with collecting and synthesising information from a number of different sources. Equipped with the knowledge of common chemistry apparatus and techniques, they will plan and undertake a practical investigation related to a topical issue. Using their scientific literacy skills, learners will communicate their results and conclusions.

Nature's Chemistry

This topic covers the knowledge and understanding of organic chemistry within the context of the chemistry of food and the chemistry of everyday consumer products, soaps, detergents, fragrances and skincare. The relationship between the structure of organic compounds, their physical and chemical properties and their uses are investigated. Key functional groups and types of organic reaction are covered.

Chemistry in Society

This topic covers the knowledge and understanding of the principles of physical chemistry, which allow a chemical process to be taken from the researcher's bench through to industrial production. Learners will calculate quantities of reagents and products, percentage yield and the atom economy of processes. They will develop skills to manipulate dynamic equilibria and predict enthalpy changes. Learners will investigate the ability of substances to act as oxidising or reducing agents and their use in analytical chemistry through the context of volumetric titrations. Learners will use analytical chemistry to determine the purity of reagents and products.

Course Assessment

The course assessment covers the added value of the course.

Homework

Homework is highly structured, consisting of at least one formal piece of homework per week. Pupils can expect to spend 1-2 hours per week on homework plus time spent consolidating classwork. Regular Supported Study is available.

Assessment

External assessment is based on:

- A question paper, which requires learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding and apply scientific inquiry, scientific analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- An assignment, which requires learners to carry out an in-depth study of a Chemistry topic. The topic will be chosen by the learner, who will investigate/research the underlying chemistry and the impact on the environment/society.

Progression

- to completion of an appropriate Group Award
- to Advanced Higher Chemistry
- to another Science subject at Higher
- to Higher Education: Degree and HND courses in chemistry and chemistry-related subjects such as environmental science, pharmacy, science and chemical engineering
- to employment including work-based training for SVQ Laboratory Operations

CHEMISTRY

Advanced Higher

Purpose

The purpose of the Advanced Higher Chemistry Course is to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of the physical and natural environments beyond Higher level. The Course builds on Higher Chemistry, continuing 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.

Recommended Entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the Centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- Higher Chemistry, pass at Grade A - C

Course Details

The course comprises three areas of study:

Inorganic and Physical Chemistry

Learners who complete the topic will be able to:

- apply skills of scientific inquiry and draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit to carry out an experiment
- draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit and apply scientific skills

Organic Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis

Learners who complete the topic will be able to:

- apply skills of scientific inquiry and draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit to carry out an experiment
- draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit and apply scientific skills

Researching Chemistry

Learners who complete the topic will be able to:

- apply skills of scientific inquiry and draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit to carry out an experiment
- apply skills of scientific inquiry and draw on knowledge and understanding to research, plan and carry out investigative practical work on a chosen chemistry topic

Assessment

All topics are internally assessed. Learners will draw on, extend and apply the skills they have learned during the Course. This will be assessed within a question paper and project, requiring demonstration of the knowledge, skills and understanding acquired from across the topics and how they can be applied in unfamiliar contexts and/or integrated ways.

External assessment is based on:

- A question paper under exam conditions, which requires learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding and apply scientific inquiry, scientific analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Progression

This Course may provide progression to:

- an HND/degree in a chemistry-based course or a related area
- a career in a chemistry-based discipline or related area

COLLEGE

Pupils interested in accessing a college course as part of their school experience in S5/6 should indicate this as an alternative option on their option choice form. The options for 2025 – 2026 are listed below:

- Accounting - Higher
- Arrival: Skills for Airlines and Airports
- Computing
- Construction
- Creative Industries
- Criminology
- Early Education and Childcare
- Engineering
- Film and Media
- Forensic Science
- Get ready for Nursing and Allied Professions
- Hair and Beauty
- Hospitality
- Professional Cookery
- Science Baccalaureate
- Social Services, Children and Young People
- Social Services and Healthcare
- Sound Production
- Uniformed & Emergency Services

- HNC Administration & IT (S6 applicants only)
- HNC Sports Coaching (S6 applicants only)

Foundation Apprenticeships

- FA Creative & Digital Media
- FA Engineering

Pupils will need to check the entry requirements for the courses before applying. You can find out more on the college website: Forth Valley College: School Partnership <https://www.forthvalley.ac.uk/ways-to-study/school-partnership/school-partnership/>

Assessment

Assessment will be on an ongoing basis in college.

Entry to these college places is dependent on a successful application and interview process. Pupils will receive support with applying after option choices are completed.

Pupils should speak with their Pupil Support Teacher or the Careers Adviser to find out the particular college options that may be suitable for them.

COMPUTING SCIENCE

National 5

Purpose

This course provides candidates with an understanding of the technologies and develops a wide range of practical skills that underpin our modern, digital world. The course also builds awareness of the importance of computing in meeting our needs today and for the future, in many fields including science, education, business and industry. Learners are introduced to an advanced range of computational processes, where they learn to apply a rigorous approach to the design and development process across a variety of contemporary contexts. They also gain an awareness of the important role that computing professionals play in meeting the needs of society today and for the future.

Recommended Entry

Completed S3 Computing course

Course Construction

The course has four areas of study:

Software Design and Development

The aim of this topic is to develop knowledge and understanding of advanced concepts and practical problem-solving skills in software design and development.

Computer Systems

In this topic learners develop their understanding of how data and instructions are stored and factors affecting system performance. They gain an awareness of the environmental impact of intelligent systems, as well as the security risks, precautions and laws that protect computer systems.

Database Design and Development

Learners develop knowledge, understanding and advanced practical problem-solving skills in database design and development.

Web Design and Development

Candidates develop knowledge, understanding and advanced practical problem-solving skills in web design and development.

Across all topics learners apply computational thinking skills to analyse, design, implement, test, and evaluate practical solutions, using a range of development tools.

Assessment

Assignment (31%)
External SQA Exam (69%)

Homework

This will consist of reading course material and completing written assignments reinforcing new topics.

Progression

- Higher Computing Science, Further Education or Employment

COMPUTING SCIENCE

Higher

Purpose

This course provides candidates with an understanding of the technologies and develops a wide range of practical skills that underpin our modern, digital world. The course also builds awareness of the importance of computing in meeting our needs today and for the future, in many fields including science, education, business and industry. Learners are introduced to an advanced range of computational processes, where they learn to apply a rigorous approach to the design and development process across a variety of contemporary contexts. They also gain an awareness of the important role that computing professionals play in meeting the needs of society today and for the future.

Recommended Entry

National 5 Computing Science

Course Construction

The course has four areas of study:

Software Design and Development

The aim of this topic is to develop knowledge and understanding of advanced concepts and practical problem-solving skills in software design and development.

Computer Systems

In this topic learners develop their understanding of how data and instructions are stored and factors affecting system performance. They gain an awareness of the environmental impact of intelligent systems, as well as the security risks, precautions and laws that protect computer systems.

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Web Design and Development

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Assessment

Assignment (31%)
External SQA Exam (69%)

Homework

This will consist of reading course material and completing written assignments reinforcing new topics.

Progression

- Advanced Higher Computing Science, Further Education or Employment

COMPUTING SCIENCE

Advanced Higher

Purpose

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 extending learners' depth and breadth of learning, providing opportunity for independent and investigative work, while encouraging teamwork and requiring candidates to develop and present a proposal for a computing-based project.

Recommended Entry

Higher Computing Science, attaining Grade A

Course Construction

The Course has four areas of study:

Software Design and Development

Learners develop knowledge, understanding, and advanced practical problem-solving skills in software design and development. They do this by using appropriate software development environments. Learners develop object-oriented programming and computational-thinking skills by analysing, designing, implementing, testing, and evaluating practical solutions and explaining how these modular programs work.

Database Design and Development

Learners develop knowledge, understanding and advanced practical problem-solving skills in database design and development. They do this through a range of practical tasks, using SQL to create and query relational databases. Learners apply computational thinking skills to analyse, design, implement, test, and evaluate practical solutions, using a range of development tools.

Web Design and Development

Learners develop knowledge, understanding, and advanced practical problem-solving skills in web design and development. They do this through a range of practical and investigative tasks. Learners apply computational thinking skills to analyse, design, implement, test, and evaluate practical solutions to web-based problems, using a range of development tools including HTML, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) and PHP.

Computer Systems

This content is designed to be delivered in the context of the other areas of study and not as a stand-alone area of study. Learners develop their understanding of how data is stored in hexadecimal form and how flags are used during the fetch-execute cycle. They become aware of the environmental impact of data centres and the security risks of code injections.

Assessment

Project Assignment (50%)
External SQA Exam (50%)

Homework

This Course provides a good preparation for learners progressing to further and higher education, as learners doing Advanced Higher Computing must be able to work with more independence and less supervision, especially with regards to their chosen project.

Progression

Further Education or Employment

CRIMINOLOGY

SCQF Level 5 National Progression Award (S6 only)

Purpose

The National Progression Award (NPA) introduces learners to criminology, including its history, the role of the media and crime prevention.

It develops knowledge and understanding of the way crime and criminal justice operates and provides bite-sized chunks of learning that are straightforward for centres to adopt and for learners to study.

It covers areas such as crime in the community and crime scenes.

Recommended Entry

Higher Modern Studies

Assessment

Assessment will be a combination of practical and knowledge assessments under closed and open book assessment conditions.

CUSTOMER SERVICE & PC PASSPORT

SCQF Level 5 National Progression Awards

This is a **dual award** course. Pupils will gain two awards which will develop both their customer service skills and IT administration skills, which is excellent preparation for the world of work.

Recommended Entry

Two of the most important skills in the modern workplace are customer service skills and professional IT administration skills. Since all workplaces interact with customers (face to face and virtually) and use modern technology, employers highly value job candidates who have experience and qualifications in both areas. This combined course teaches industry-standard approaches and equips pupils with practical skills that will be of both immediate and long-term benefit. Pupils who have previously studied this combined course said that it helped them secure part-time and full-time employment, enriched their senior timetable, gave an insight to the expectations of modern workplaces, and contributed to their entry into further and higher education.

Purpose

The Course consists of 2 combined NPAs (3 periods a week each).

The **NPA in Customer Service** allows learners to gain professional knowledge and practical skills for interacting with customers. Learners discover what makes great customer service, why this is important, and demonstrate their skills through written analysis exercises, role play and research tasks.

The **NPA PC Passport** provides learners with up-to-date knowledge and skills in a range of modern IT administration software, including Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel (some of the most popular administration packages used in workplaces worldwide). Learners demonstrate their skills through a series of task-based exercises, to prepare them for both the workplace and further study.

Aims

Throughout the year, pupils studying the combined course aim to:

- Develop skills and knowledge required for dealing effectively with customer needs, including customer dissatisfaction
- Develop enhanced communication skills and skills in working with others
- Develop research skills and an awareness of the importance of product knowledge in meeting customer needs
- Develop literacy, numeracy, communication and problem-solving skills in real-world simulations
- Skills in using modern computer administration software in word processing, spreadsheets and presentations
- Skills in using the shared aspects of this software by using the cloud-based features
- An understanding of how to get the best from this software
- An improved technical vocabulary relating to modern computer application software
- Develop practical skills and knowledge in delivering customer service through social media

Assessment

The two courses are made up of the following Units:

Customer Service Unit Assessments	PC Passport Unit Assessments
Communication Skills for Customer Service	Word Processing
Social Media for Customer Service	Presentations
Customer Service Product and Service Requirements	Spreadsheets

All Units will be assessed internally (no external exam).

Learners complete both of the above courses (Customer Service and PC Passport) in one academic year.

CYBER SECURITY

SCQF Level 5 National Progression Award

Purpose

The **NPA in Cyber Security** is designed to give students both theoretical knowledge and practical skills in the vitally important area of Cyber Security. As cybercrime becomes an increasing threat in modern business and personal internet use, demand for skills in this area is very high. Employment opportunities exist in both public and private sectors including Law Enforcement.

As the course develops a high degree of awareness of cyber threats is it also suited to any pupil who wishes to help protect themselves, their friends and their families from online crime.

The overarching aim of the award is to improve the skills pipeline in cyber security so that more young people consider a career in this area of skills shortage.

Recommended Entry

An interest in technology, crime & law and computer security issues.

Pupils will be required to sign up to a code of conduct given the nature of the skills being taught.

Course Construction

The course has three areas of study:

Data Security

Pupils will learn about the legal and ethical obligations around storing and sharing personal and business data. They are expected to explain the causes and effects of security breaches and learn skills to protect data against security breaches.

Digital Forensics

Pupils will gain an insight into the digital forensics process as used by law enforcement for investigating cybercrime. They will learn to apply relevant techniques in acquiring data and how to preserve and examine digital evidence.

Ethical Hacking

Pupils will learn about current tools and techniques used by ethical and malicious hackers to compromise computer systems. They must understand current legislation relating to computer crime and hacking. They will also learn to perform a routine penetration test on a computer system within a controlled environment.

Assessment

Internally assessed. Pupils will be expected to complete a number of theoretical and practical tests in each unit.

Homework

This will consist of reading course material and completing written assignments reinforcing new topics.

Progression

National 5/Higher Computing Science

DANCE

Higher

Purpose

This course will encourage learners to be inspired and challenged when developing technical dance skills, and performing, creating and appreciating dance. Learners will use theoretical knowledge to inform practice and develop understanding of a range of dance techniques and choreographic skills. Learners will develop an appreciation of a range of theatre arts and dance practice. They will also learn to evaluate their own work and the work of others. The skills that learners acquire by successfully completing the course will be valuable for learning, for life and for the working world.

The course allows learners to broaden and deepen their skills base and to widen their horizons regarding a range of vocations and careers.

Recommended Entry

Students would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following or by equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- National 5 Dance Course
- S1-3 Core PE

Course Details

This Course comprises three areas of study as follows:

- Dance: Technical Skills (Higher)
- Dance: Choreography (Higher)

Assessment

This Course includes 6 SCQF credit points to allow additional time for preparation for all course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the course.

The central theme of the course is to develop approaches to enhance performance through monitoring and evaluation.

The course has an integrated approach to learning and includes a mix of practical learning and knowledge and understanding. As learners develop their technical and choreographic skills, they will also learn to appreciate the work of dance practitioners and will use this knowledge to inform and influence their creative thinking and performance. They will apply technical skills in the performance of different dance styles. They will also experiment with a range of choreographic skills and learn how to apply them imaginatively in dance.

Progression

This Course may provide progression to:

- A range of dance-related National Progression Awards (NPAs), Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Higher National Diplomas (HNDs)
- Further Study, employment and/or training

DESIGN & MANUFACTURE

Higher

Purpose

The Higher course provides opportunities for learners to build up the necessary skills required to put together design proposals which encompass knowledge of design factors, materials and manufacturing processes. The Course combines elements of creativity and designing for aesthetic or visual impact with elements of designing for the practicalities of manufacturing. Creative design skills and an ability to communicate through manual sketching are imperative to allow learners to demonstrate their abilities in the use of idea generation techniques, interpreting drawings and diagrams, communicating design solutions and planning for manufacture. Pupils will build up an appreciation of the importance to a product of form, function, and performance. Using the knowledge of design factors pupils will be expected to develop strategies for the evaluation of products which will then lead into the refinement of their design solutions. The course is delivered as a series of design projects where pupils will be expected to demonstrate their knowledge of design for manufacture through completion of design folios.

Recommended Entry

National 5 Design & Manufacture (Grade A/B)

Course Details

The Course consists of two overarching topics – Design and Materials and Manufacture, in which learners will undertake a series of different projects. Learners will then be expected to complete a Course Assignment set by SQA, which accounts for part of the Higher grade:

Design and Manufacture: Design

This topic covers the processes of product design from brief to resolved design proposals and specification. It helps learners develop skills in initiating, developing, articulating and communicating design proposals for products. It allows them to gain skills and experience in evaluating design proposals in order to refine, improve and resolve them. It allows them to develop an appreciation of design concepts and the various factors that influence the design and manufacture of products.

Design and Manufacture: Materials and Manufacturing

This topic covers the processes of product design from design proposals to prototype. It allows learners to gain skills in planning and making models and prototypes. It helps learners to 'close the design loop' by manufacturing a set of design ideas. It allows them to develop an appreciation of manufacturing practicalities. It allows them to strengthen an appreciation of the various factors that influence the design and manufacture of products. It allows learners to consider the materials, manufacturing techniques and processes that would apply to a design proposal in an industrial/commercial context.

Assessment

The Course assessment involves a Design Assignment (completed in class time) and external exam which are both set and marked by the SQA.

Progression

Achievement of Higher Design & Manufacture should enable progress to:

Advanced Higher Design & Manufacture course

Further Education Courses in Design, Manufacturing, Engineering or related subjects.

ENGLISH

National 5

Purpose

The main purpose of this Course is to provide candidates with the opportunity to develop the skills of reading, writing, talking and listening in order to understand and to use language which is detailed in content. The Course offers candidates opportunities to develop and extend a wide range of skills.

As candidates develop their language skills, they will be able to process ideas and information more readily, apply knowledge of language in practical and relevant contexts, and gain confidence to use detailed language with clarity and purpose. Candidates develop analytical thinking and an understanding of the impact of language through the study of a wide range of texts.

Recommended Entry

Your teacher will recommend a National 5 course if you gain a pass at National 4.

Course Details

The Course provides learners with the opportunity to develop their listening, talking, reading and writing skills in order to understand and use language.

Learners will be provided with the opportunity to develop listening and reading skills in the contexts of literature, language and media. They will develop the skills needed to understand, analyse and evaluate detailed and complex texts, including Scottish texts.

Learners will also develop talking and writing skills in a wide range of contexts. They will develop the skills needed to create and produce detailed and complex texts in both written and oral forms.

Assessment

- Continuously assessed with a final written examination.
- The writing portfolio is to provide evidence of candidates' skills in writing for two different purposes: one broadly creative, and one broadly discursive.
- The Spoken Performance assessment requires pupils to prepare and present a talk, which is assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Homework

This course will involve a substantial commitment to homework -

- Reading and close analysis of literary texts
- Drafting and completion of writing pieces
- Completion of tasks in Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation
- Extensive revision of texts
- Preparation and practice of Spoken Performance

Progression

- Higher English

ENGLISH

Higher

Purpose

The main purpose of the Course is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop the skills of listening, talking, reading and writing in order to understand and use language effectively. The Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

Recommended Entry

Your teacher will recommend a Higher course if you gain an A or B pass at National 5.

Course Details

This Course provides learners with the opportunity to develop their listening, talking, reading and writing skills in order to understand and use language effectively.

Learners will be provided with the opportunity to develop listening and reading skills in the contexts of literature, language and media. Learners develop the skills needed to understand, analyse and evaluate detailed and complex texts, including Scottish texts.

Learners will also be provided with the opportunity to develop talking and writing skills in a wide range of contexts. Learners develop the skills needed to create and produce detailed and complex texts in both written and oral forms.

Assessment

- To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass relevant areas of study as well as the final exam. Grading attainment in the course award is determined by external assessment of the final exam and the writing portfolio, which contains two pieces: one broadly discursive and one broadly creative.
- The Spoken Performance assessment requires pupils to prepare and present a talk, which is assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Homework

This course will involve a substantial commitment to homework

- Reading and close analysis of literary texts
- Drafting and completion of writing pieces
- Completion of tasks in Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation
- Extensive revision of texts
- Preparation and practice of Spoken Performance

Progression

- Advanced Higher English

ENGLISH

Advanced Higher

Purpose

The purpose of this Course is to allow learners to pursue particular interests and strengths in more specialised areas of study. Performance at Higher is evidence of a high level of skill in the subject. At Advanced Higher learners will encounter considerable academic and personal challenges. This should assist greatly in personal development and with the requirements for independent study in Higher Education.

Recommended Entry

An A or B award at Higher.

Course Details

The course is made up of two mandatory areas of study:

English: Analysis and Evaluation

The purpose of this topic is to provide learners with opportunities to develop the skill of critically responding to complex and sophisticated texts by applying knowledge of the various ways by which meaning is created, and by understanding critical concepts and approaches.

English: Creation and Production

The purpose of this topic is to provide learners with the opportunity to extend and refine their writing skills through the production of different types of writing.

Assessment

The course assessment will take the form of:

- One question paper through which learners will write a critical response on drama, prose or poetry, and undertake a textual analysis of an unseen poem or extract from a range of genre, demonstrating an in-depth knowledge and understanding of complex and sophisticated literary text(s)
- A portfolio which will contain two pieces of writing
- Dissertation

Homework

Clearly, the many references to independent study above imply that homework is a course requirement. Most of the dissertation is completed independently in collaboration with the assigned staff tutor. It will also involve: Reading and close analysis of literary texts; drafting and completion of writing pieces; extensive revision texts.

Progression

English is a universal requirement and is thus relevant to all career areas. However, it is particularly important for and may lead to a career path in the following areas:

- Arts, Social Sciences and Religion
- Communications and the Media

ENGLISH – JOURNALISM

SCQF Level 6 National Progression Award (S6 only)

Purpose

The Journalism NPA is designed to focus on the key journalistic skills of research and writing. Pupils will have the opportunity to develop interview skills, feature writing, problem solving, whilst working with others.

Recommended Entry

This course is suitable for candidates who scored an A or a B at National 5 or Higher.

Course Aims:

- To provide an introduction to the activities involved in journalism
- To develop specific competencies in research and interview skills
- To develop specific competencies in writing feature content
- To allow the development of skills in a range of journalistic related disciplines including newswriting, page layout and design
- To provide a progression route to further study journalism
- To develop written communication skills
- To familiarise candidates with the job roles and functions within media industries
- To develop candidates' knowledge of the creative process through practical activity
- To develop candidates' creativity, employability and transferrable skills through engagement with creative production activity.

Assessment

This course is assessed internally through the submission of relevant course work.

Homework

This course will involve a substantial commitment to homework.

- Relevant research tasks
- Drafting and completion of writing pieces

Progression

- Journalism
- Various careers in the creative media industry

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

Higher

Purpose

This course is suitable for learners whose first or home language is not English. The ESOL qualification is recognised by colleges, universities and employers as a fully valid English qualification and is usually the better option for a young person with English as an additional language unless they have a particular interest in literature.

The course provides candidates with the opportunity to develop all aspects of their English language skills to a professional standard of detail and accuracy. Core aspects are grammar, syntax, vocabulary, spelling, punctuation, and the layout of texts for a variety of real life purposes such as emails, leaflets, essays, reviews, or presentations.

Everyday life, work and study are the contexts within the course and within each context, themes and topics can be personalised to meet the needs of candidates.

Course Details

ESOL for everyday life: The candidates develop the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking needed for everyday life in personal, social and transactional contexts. The broad social context is intended to support candidates who need to use English as the language of everyday communication. A wide range of different text formats such as newspaper articles, short stories, podcasts or travel journals are explored and attention is given to the skill of choosing the correct tone for any given context.

ESOL in context: The candidates develop the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking in the contexts of work and study. This part of the course focusses on the use of formal and academic English as required in the workplace and in higher education. Learners expand their formal vocabulary and learn to write discursive essays in a clearly structured format that supports their critical thinking skills. They also learn to participate effectively in topical discussions.

Assessment

- Final written examination with three papers: reading, writing and listening. This constitutes 70% of the overall grade.
- An internally assessed Performance Assessment of speaking and listening skills in the form of a topical discussion. This constitutes 30% of the overall grade.

Homework

This course will involve a substantial commitment to homework –

- Reading of and listening to a broad variety of texts
- Drafting and completion of writing pieces
- Revision of grammar and vocabulary
- Extensive revision of tasks
- Preparation and practice for Performance Assessment.

Progression

- Further education

FASHION AND TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY

National 5, Higher

Course Details

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

- detailed textile construction techniques
- the ability to plan and make detailed fashion/textile items
- detailed knowledge of textile properties and characteristics
- detailed understanding of factors that influence fashion/textile choices
- detailed understanding of fashion/textile trends
- the ability to select, set up, adjust and use relevant tools and equipment safely and correctly
- detailed investigation, evaluation and presentation skills

Particular emphasis is placed on the development of practical skills and textile construction techniques to make detailed fashion/textile items, to an appropriate standard of quality. The Course will also help learners develop an understanding of textile properties, characteristics and technologies, item development, fashion/textile trends and factors that affect fashion/textile choice.

The Course has 3 projects:

Textile Technologies

This project provides learners with the opportunity to develop detailed knowledge and skills related to textile technologies. This includes the characteristics and properties of a range of textiles, and their uses. Learners will have the opportunity to make detailed fashion/textile items, to an appropriate standard of quality, using a pattern and a range of textile construction techniques. The project also provides learners with the opportunity to select, set up, adjust and use equipment and tools safely and correctly.

Fashion/Textile Item Development

This project provides learners with the opportunity to explore fashion/textile trends and the fashion/textile item development process. They will work with given briefs to develop solutions for detailed fashion/textile items based on those trends. Learners will plan and make detailed fashion/textile items, to an appropriate standard of quality, that take into account fashion/textile trends. The project also provides learners with the opportunity to select, set up, adjust and use equipment and tools safely and correctly.

Fashion and Textile Choices

This project 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. Learners will investigate the fashion/textile choices of consumers and develop solutions for items to meet these choices. They will justify detailed fashion/textile items with a focus on factors that affect fashion and textile choice.

Assessment

The learner will undertake a practical activity to integrate, extend and apply the skills and techniques from across the projects to produce a completed fashion/textile item, to an appropriate degree of accuracy. Learners will work to a given brief with limited support. Learners will demonstrate knowledge and understanding by evaluating their work. The task will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

Learners will also sit an externally marked written exam, assignment and complete a Practical Activity. These three components will combine to form a final grade.

GÀIDHLIG

National 5, Nàiseanta 5

Course Details

The Course provides pupils with the opportunity to develop their listening, talking, reading and writing skills in order to develop their understanding of the language and use the language.

Learners will be provided with the opportunity to develop listening and reading skills in the contexts of literature and language. They will develop the skills needed to understand, analyse and evaluate detailed and complex texts.

Learners will also develop talking and writing skills in a wide range of contexts. They will develop the skills needed to create and produce detailed and complex texts in both written and oral forms.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass the internal speaking assessment and writing assessment as well as the final exam. The writing folio will be externally assessed. Grading attainment in the Course award is determined by external assessment of the final exam and the grade of the speaking assessment and writing assessment.

Homework

This Course will involve a substantial commitment to homework –

- Reading and close analysis of literary texts
- Drafting and completion of writing pieces
- Completion of tasks in Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation
- Extensive revision texts
- Preparation of talk tasks
- Use of Gaelic out with school to develop their vocabulary and understanding of the language

Progression

Higher Gàidhlig

GÀIDHLIG

Higher / Àrd Ìre

Purpose

The main purpose of the Course is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop the skills of listening, talking, reading and writing in order to understand and use language effectively. The Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

Recommended Entry

Your teacher will recommend a Higher course if you gain an A or B pass at National 5 Gàidhlig.

Course Details

This Course is made up of two areas of study. The Course provides learners with the opportunity to develop their listening, talking, reading and writing skills in order to understand and use language effectively. The two units include the four language skills of listening, talking, reading and writing.

Gàidhlig: Analysis and Evaluation

The purpose of this area of study is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop listening and reading skills in the contexts of literature, language and media. Learners develop the skills needed to understand, analyse and evaluate detailed and complex texts.

Gàidhlig: Creation and Production

The purpose of this area of study is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop talking and writing skills in a wide range of contexts. Learners develop the skills needed to create and produce detailed and complex texts in both written and oral forms.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass the final exam. Grading attainment in the course award is determined by external assessment of the final exam and the internal speaking assessment.

Homework

This course will involve a substantial commitment to homework -

- Reading and close analysis of literary texts
- Drafting and completion of writing pieces
- Completion of tasks in Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation
- Extensive revision
- Preparation of talk tasks
- Use of Gaelic out with school to develop their vocabulary and understanding of the language

Progression

- Advanced Higher Gàidhlig

GÀIDHLIG

Advanced Higher / Àrd-Ìre Adhartach

Purpose

The purpose of this Course is to allow learners to pursue particular interests and strengths in more specialised areas of study. Performance at Higher is evidence of a high level of skill in the subject. At Advanced Higher learners will encounter considerable academic and personal challenges. This should assist greatly in personal development and with the requirements for independent study in Higher Education.

Recommended Entry

An A or B award at Higher.

Course Details

The course is made up of two mandatory areas of study.

Gàidhlig: Analysis and Evaluation

The purpose of this area of study is to provide learners with opportunities to develop the skill of critically responding to complex and sophisticated texts by applying knowledge of the various ways by which meaning is created, and by understanding critical concepts and approaches.

Gàidhlig: Creation and Production

The purpose of this area of study is to provide learners with the opportunity to extend and refine their writing skills through the production of different types of writing.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all areas of study as well as the final exam. Grading attainment in the course award is determined by external assessment of the final exam and the internal speaking assessment.

Homework

As this is Advanced Higher, it is important that anyone taking the subject works well independently, and working on the subject at home should be done regularly, even if it has not been set by the teacher. Homework will include, but is not limited to:

- Reading and close analysis of literary texts
- Drafting and completion of writing pieces
- Extensive revision of texts
- Preparation of talk tasks
- Use of Gaelic out with school to develop their vocabulary and understanding of the language

Progression

Gàidhlig opens the doors to a lot of different career paths. Although you may not go on to study Gàidhlig, it can be useful in many jobs, and helps you stand out from the crowd. The skills learnt in Advanced Higher Gàidhlig can be applied in many areas of further education, and will no doubt be useful for future jobs.

GEOGRAPHY

Higher

Purpose

The main aims of this Course are to enable learners to develop:

- a wide range of geographical skills and techniques
- an understanding of the complexity of ways in which people and the environment interact in response to physical and human processes at local, national, international and global scales
- understanding of spatial relationships and of the complexity of the changing world in a balanced, critical and sympathetic way
- a geographical perspective on environmental and social issues and their significance
- an interest in, understanding of, and concern for the environment and sustainable development

Recommended Entry

Learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following:

National 5 Geography Course (or for S6 pupils a relevant Social Subject at Nat5)

Course Details

The Higher Geography Course has three areas of study:

Geography: Physical Environments

Learners will develop mapping skills in geographical contexts. They will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the complex processes and interactions at work within physical environments on a local, regional and global scale. Key topics include: atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and biosphere. Personalisation and choice is possible through case studies and areas chosen for study, for example, the Lake District.

Geography: Human Environments

Learners will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the complex processes and interactions at work within urban and rural environments and the management of urban and rural land use change in developed and developing countries. Key topics include: population, rural land use change and management, urban change and management (e.g. comparing the growth of Glasgow and Mumbai).

Geography: Global Issues

Learners will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of complex global geographical issues which demonstrate the interaction of physical and human environments and the strategies adopted in the management of these issues. Key topics include: Development and Health, Global Climate Change.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass the Course assessment at the end of the year. The Course assessment is graded A-D.

Added Value Assignment:

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate challenge and application by demonstrating skills, knowledge and understanding within the context of a geographical issue.

Field Work:

The course includes a compulsory field trip to the Lake District National Park which includes a small charge (£10 - £15).

Homework

Homework is integral to the course and students will be required to complete regular exercises. In addition, students may be required to complete class work at home.

Progression

From the achievement of a Higher in Geography the student may be able to progress to:

- a course at an appropriate level in another Social Subject
- the HNC/HND award in further education
- to degree courses in higher education
- to employment where the knowledge and skills acquired in Geography prepare students for a wide variety of careers.

GEOGRAPHY

Advanced Higher

Purpose

The main aim of Advanced Higher Geography is to develop a detailed understanding of aspects of the contemporary world by using the concepts and techniques of geographical analysis.

Recommended Entry

Higher Geography with a pass at A or B level.

Course Details

The course consists of two areas of study:

Topic 1: Geographical Skills

- map skills
- graphical techniques
- statistical techniques

Topic 2: Geographical Issues

- evaluation of sources and viewpoints on current geographical issues

Assessment

Competencies will be assessed internally. An Added Value will be undertaken along with a final exam in May.

Field Work

The course requires a compulsory field trip to Lochramza field centre in Arran (£150).

Homework

Students will be required to carry out much of their research in their own time.

Progression

Advanced Higher Geography is regarded as very worthwhile preparation for tertiary education. Advanced Higher Geography offers a wide range of career opportunities.

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

Higher

Purpose

The Higher course provides learners with the opportunity to develop a wide range of graphic communication techniques relevant to varied sectors within industry. The course combines elements of manual sketching and preliminary planning, 3D computer aided modelling and production drawing, and promotional computer aided graphics. Learners will work through a series of tasks where they will use all of the course elements to produce graphic design proposals. These proposals should encompass knowledge of graphic design elements and principles, adherence to industry standards, and include additional technical detail of computer generated components and assemblies. The Course combines elements of creativity in graphic design and elements of understanding and interpretation of technical graphics used within engineering/construction/manufacturing sectors. Learners will experience a series of projects where they will use preliminary graphics to inform their final solutions which will then be completed using industry standard CAD/CAG software.

Recommended Entry

National 5 Graphic Communication (Grade A/B)

Course Details

2D Graphic Communication

Learners will develop their creativity and presentation skills within a 2D graphic communication context, allowing learners to initiate, plan, develop and communicate ideas graphically, using two-dimensional graphic techniques. Learners will develop a number of skills and attributes within a 2D graphic communication context, including spatial awareness, visual literacy, and the ability to interpret given drawings, diagrams and other graphics. Learners will evaluate the effectiveness of their own and given graphic communications to meet their purpose.

3D and Pictorial Graphic Communication

Learners will develop their creativity and presentation skills within a 3D and pictorial graphic communication context, allowing learners to initiate, plan, develop and communicate ideas graphically, using three-dimensional graphic techniques. Learners will develop a number of skills and attributes within a 3D graphic communication context, including spatial awareness, visual literacy, and the ability to interpret given drawings, diagrams and other graphics. Learners will evaluate the effectiveness of their own and given graphic communications to meet their purpose.

Assessment

The Course Assessment involves an Assignment and external exam which are both set and marked by the SQA.

Progression

Successful completion of this course may lead to:

Advanced Higher in Graphic Communication

Education (HNC/HND/Degree); Employment in
Art & Design
Computing & ICT
Construction
Engineering

HISTORY

Higher

Purpose

The main aims of the Course are to develop:

- a conceptual understanding of the past and an ability to think independently
- a range of skills including the ability to apply a detailed historical perspective in a range of contexts
- the skills of analysing various interpretations of historical sources and critically evaluating a variety of views
- an understanding of the relationship between factors contributing to, and the impact of, historical events.
- the skills of analysing, evaluating and synthesising historical information
- the skills of researching complex historical issues, drawing well-reasoned conclusions

Recommended Entry

Learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following:

National 5 History Course (or for S6 pupils a relevant Social Subject at Nat5)

Course Details

The course consists of three areas of study:

Historical Study: Scottish

Learners will develop techniques to evaluate a range of historical sources. Complex issues in Scottish history will be studied from the topic 'Impact of the Great War, 1914 -1928'. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of this area of historical study.

Historical Study: British

Learners will develop techniques to evaluate the impact of historical developments. Complex issues in British history will be studied from the topic 'Migration and Empire'. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of this area of historical study.

Historical Study: European World

Learners will develop techniques to evaluate the factors contributing to historical developments. Complex issues in European and world history will be studied from 'The USA 1918 – 1968'. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of this area of historical study.

Assessment

To gain this award of the Course, the learner must pass the Course assessment at the end of the year. The Course assessment is graded A-D.

Added Value Assignment:

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate challenge and application by demonstrating skills, knowledge and understanding within the context of an historical issue.

Homework

Homework is integral to the course and students will be required to complete regular exercises. In addition, students may be required to complete class work at home.

Progression

From the achievement of a Higher or Units in History the student may be able to progress to:

- a course in an appropriate level in another Social Subject
- the HNC/HND award in further education
- degree courses in higher education
- employment where the knowledge and skills acquired in History prepare students for a wide variety of careers.

HISTORY

Advanced Higher

Recommended Entry

Higher History with a pass at A or B level.

Course Details

Pupils studying Advanced Higher History will work through Section 7: Germany: from Democracy to Dictatorship 1918 -1939.

The Course will consist of a mixture of taught lessons, tutorial discussions and self-study, similar to any Arts Faculty course you are likely to study at College or University. You will be asked to write regular essays and complete assigned reading most weeks.

The main benefits gained from studying Advanced Higher History are vastly improved literacy skills. You will also source materials and books for study, to reason and argue your views with others, to discover the works of a wide variety of historians in the subject you choose, and generally to prepare you for the level of academic challenge and self-disciplined study which you will face at University.

Assessment Requirements

The Course is assessed by a question paper and dissertation. The question paper consists of Part A: Historical Issues and Part B: Historical Sources. Students will work on their dissertation throughout the year with guidance and supervision from their class teacher.

Homework

As indicated above, you will have essays and background reading to do each week. Some periods are reserved each week for reading studies, to help you keep up with the reading required for essays and source work. However you will be expected to read at home also.

Progression

To College or University

LABORATORY SCIENCE – SKILLS FOR WORK

National 5

Course Details

The Course provides a broad experiential introduction to Laboratory Science. Learners will explore a variety of industries and services, and career opportunities, in science laboratories locally, nationally and globally.

They will develop the basic practical skills and knowledge needed for working in a laboratory: measuring, weighing and preparing compounds and solutions; and Health and Safety requirements. Practical skills in microbiology, measuring radioactivity, chemical handling and laboratory instrumentation will be developed.

Learners will work with others to produce a plan to undertake a practical investigation to test scientific hypotheses. This will also involve reporting of the results, conclusions and evaluations of the investigation.

Throughout all areas of study, the Course emphasises the employability skills and attitudes valued by employers, which will help to prepare learners for the workplace. Learners will review their own employability skills, and will seek feedback from others on their strengths and weaknesses.

At SCQF Level 5, learners work alone or with others on straightforward tasks with support.

The Course comprises the following mandatory areas of study:

- Laboratory Science: Careers using Laboratory Science
- Laboratory Science: Working in a Laboratory
- Laboratory Science: Practical Skills
- Laboratory Science: Practical Investigation

Recommended Entry

Learners would normally be expected to have attained:

- National 4 Science
- National 4 or 5 in Biology, Chemistry or Physics
- National 4 Units in Biology, Chemistry or Physics
- National 5 Units in Biology, Chemistry or Physics

Assessment

There is no external assessment (exam) for this Course.

Learners must successfully complete each Unit to complete the Course.

The Units are internally assessed and externally verified by SQA.

APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS

National 5

Purpose

The purpose of the Applications of Mathematics Course is to motivate and challenge learners by enabling them to think through real-life situations involving mathematics and to form a plan of action based on logic.

The Course develops confidence in being able to handle mathematical processes and information in a range of real-life contexts. The Course also enables learners to make informed decisions based on data presented in a variety of forms.

The mathematical skills within this course are underpinned by numeracy and are designed to develop learners' skills in mathematical reasoning relevant to learning, life and work.

Recommended Entry

This Course is suitable for learners who have gained a qualification in National 3 or National 4 Applications of Mathematics.

Course Details

The Course is made up of three areas of study:

Numeracy

Learners who complete this topic will be able to:

- Use numerical skills to solve real-life problems involving money/time/measurement
- Interpret graphical data and situations involving probability, to solve real-life problems involving money/time/measurement

Managing Finance and Statistics

Learners who complete this topic will be able to:

- Use reasoning skills and financial skills linked to real-life contexts
- Use reasoning skills and statistical skills linked to real-life contexts

Geometry and Measures

Learners who complete this topic will be able to:

- Use reasoning skills and measurement skills linked to real-life contexts
- Use reasoning skills and geometric skills linked to real-life contexts

Assessment

- An award is achieved by passing the SQA exam.
- Some pupils (Christmas Leavers) will focus on achieving passes in Units rather than the final exam.

Progression

Progression from this course will be to employment or training. Please note this Course is not a suitable pathway to Higher Mathematics.

APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS

Higher

Purpose

The Higher Applications of Mathematics Course focuses on developing the mathematical and analytical skills required in society and for the future workforce. The Course develops candidates' mathematical literacy, problem solving skills and reasoning skills as they apply mathematics in real-life contexts. The skills, knowledge and understanding in the Course supports learning and further study and builds confidence in a wide range of curricular areas, such as humanities, social sciences, healthcare, and business.

Recommended Entry

Pupils should have achieved a pass in N5 Applications of Mathematics or N5 Mathematics.

Course Details

The Course enhances candidates' critical and logical thinking so that they can interpret, analyse and critically appraise statistical and mathematical information; simplify and solve problems; assess risk; and make informed decisions.

The Course aims to:

- equip candidates with the mathematical and statistical literacy skills they need for life, work and further study in a wide range of curricular areas
- develop candidates' financial literacy in real-life contexts
- show candidates how they can use appropriate digital technology to manipulate and model mathematical, statistical and financial information
- develop candidates' mathematical reasoning skills so that they can generalise, build arguments, draw logical conclusions, assess risk, and make informed decisions in familiar and unfamiliar situations
- develop candidates' range of mathematical skills so that they can analyse, interpret and present data and numerical information
- provide candidates with the skills to appraise quantitative information critically, considering modelling or statistical assumptions

Assessment

- Exam paper 72%
- Internal Statistics Project 28%

Progression

Progression from this course would be onto further study, employment or training. Universities now widely accept Higher Applications of Mathematics with the exception of Engineering or Architecture courses. Check with University admissions or Wallace Careers advisor for more information on this.

MATHEMATICS

National 5

Purpose

This Course will develop learners' ability to:

- Understand and use mathematical concepts and relationships
- Select and apply operational skills in algebra, geometry, trigonometry and statistics within mathematical contexts
- Select and apply skills in numeracy
- Use mathematical models
- Use mathematical reasoning skills to interpret information, to select a strategy to solve a problem, and to communicate solutions

Recommended Entry

Pupils should have achieved a Pass in National 4 Mathematics and see the Faculty Manager in person.

Course Details

The Course is made up of three areas of study:

Expressions and Formulae

The aim of this area of study is to develop skills including the manipulation of abstract terms, the simplification of expressions and the evaluation of formulae. The Outcomes cover aspects of number, algebra, geometry and reasoning.

Relationships

The aim of this area of study is to develop skills linked to mathematical relationships. These include solving and manipulating equations, working with graphs and carrying out calculations on the lengths and angles of shapes. The Outcomes cover aspects of algebra, geometry, trigonometry and reasoning.

Applications

The aim of this area of study is to develop skills linked to applications of mathematics. These include using trigonometry, geometry, number processes and statistics within real-life contexts. The Outcomes cover aspects of these skills and also skills in reasoning.

Assessment

An award is achieved by passing the SQA exam.

Homework: pupils are expected to dedicate at least an hour of homework and personal study per week from the start of the Course.

Progression

Progression from this course is to Higher Mathematics.

MATHEMATICS

Higher

Purpose

This Course will develop, deepen and extend the mathematical skills necessary at this level and beyond. Learners will acquire and apply operational skills necessary for exploring mathematical ideas through symbolic representation and diagrams. In addition, learners will develop mathematical reasoning skills and will gain experience in making informed decisions.

Recommended Entry

This Course is suitable for learners who are secure in their attainment of the National 5 Mathematics Course or an equivalent qualification.

Course Details

The Higher Course is made up of three areas of study:

Mathematics: Expressions and Functions

The general aim of this area of study is to develop knowledge and skills that involve the manipulation of expressions, the use of vectors and the study of mathematical functions. The Outcomes cover aspects of algebra, geometry and trigonometry, and also skills in mathematical reasoning and modelling.

Mathematics: Relationships and Calculus

The general aim of this area of study is to develop knowledge and skills that involve solving equations and to introduce both differential calculus and integral calculus. The Outcomes cover aspects of algebra, trigonometry, calculus, and also skills in mathematical reasoning and modelling.

Mathematics: Applications

The general aim of this area of study is to develop knowledge and skills that involve geometric applications, applications of sequences and applications of calculus. The Outcomes cover aspects of algebra, geometry, calculus, and also skills in mathematical reasoning and modelling.

Assessment

An award is achieved by passing the SQA exam.

Homework

Pupils are expected to dedicate 2 hours towards homework and personal study per week from the beginning of the course.

Progression

Progression from this course would be onto Advanced Higher in S6 or further study, employment or training.

MATHEMATICS

Advanced Higher

Purpose

Mathematics is important in everyday life. It helps us to make sense of the world we live in and to manage our lives. Using mathematics enables us to model real-life situations and make connections and informed predictions. It equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions. The course aims to:

- motivate and challenge candidates by enabling them to select and apply complex mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical situations
- extend candidates' skills in problem solving and logical thinking
- clarify candidates' thinking through the process of rigorous proof
- allow candidates' to interpret, communicate, and manage information in mathematical form, skills which are vital to scientific and technological research and development
- develop confidence in the subject and a positive attitude towards further study in mathematics and the use of mathematics in employment
- deliver in-depth study of mathematical concepts and the ways in which mathematics describes our world
- deepen candidates' skills in using mathematical language and exploring advanced mathematical ideas

The course is highly advised for any student considering engineering or any other maths related subject in Further Education. The course covers some of the content of First Year University maths courses.

Recommended Entry

Student will need to have attained a pass in Higher Maths at grades A or B.

Course Details

The Course content is grouped into three areas of study:

- Calculus
- Algebra, proof and number theory
- Matrices, vectors and complex numbers

Assessment

Course assessment is through two exam papers weighted as follows:

- non-calculator – 35 marks
- calculator – 80 marks

Unlike many Advanced Higher courses there is no assignment and assessment is through exam only

Progression

The Course may provide progression to:

- other qualifications in Mathematics or related areas
- further study, employment and/or training

MODERN LANGUAGES: FRENCH/SPANISH

National 5

Purpose

The main purpose of the Course is to develop the skills of reading, listening, talking and writing, in order to understand and use the language.

The Course offers learners opportunities to develop and extend a wide range of skills. In particular, the Course aims to enable learners to develop the ability to:

- Read, listen, talk and write in the modern language
- Understand and use the modern language
- Apply knowledge and understanding of the modern language

Recommended Entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the Centre, however, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skill, knowledge and understanding required by the following or by equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- National 4 French or Spanish course, or relevant component Units

Course Details

There are two areas of study:

Understanding Language

The purpose of this topic is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop reading and learning skills in the modern language, and to develop their knowledge and understanding of detailed language in the contexts of society, learning, employability and culture.

Using Language

The purpose of this topic is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop talking and writing skills in the modern language, and to develop their knowledge and understanding of detailed language in the contexts of society, learning, employability and culture.

Assessment

Continuously assessed with a Talking Performance exam during the year, a writing assignment and a final examination for Listening, Reading and Writing.

Progression

This Course may provide progression to:

- Other SQA qualifications in Modern Languages or related areas
- Further study, employment or training in the following areas:
 - Arts, Social Sciences & Religion
 - Hospitality, Catering & Tourism
 - Languages
 - Law

MODERN LANGUAGES: FRENCH/SPANISH

Higher

Purpose

This course provides learners with opportunities to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work, and it offers opportunities for personalisation and choice.

Recommended Entry

A pass at National 5, ideally at grade A or B for the best chance of success at this level.

Course Details

The course is made up of two areas of study to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of detailed and complex language in the context of society, learning, employability and culture:

Modern Languages: Understanding Language

Opportunity to develop and extend reading and listening skills in French.

Modern Languages: Using Language

Opportunity to develop and extend talking and writing skills in French.

Learners will also develop their skills, knowledge and understanding. These include:

- Reading, listening, talking and writing skills in French in the context of society, learning, employability and culture
- Knowledge and understanding of detailed and complex language required to understand and use French
- Knowledge and understanding required to apply the language skills of translation
- Applying grammatical knowledge and understanding

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the course are based on the SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*

- Employability, enterprise and citizenship
- Thinking skills

Assessment

Continuously assessed with a Talking Performance exam during the year, a writing assignment and a final examination for Listening, Reading, Translation and Writing.

Homework

Regular, written work will be required, both short exercises and essays on a regular basis. Pupils will have to revise classwork at home and learn vocabulary as well as revising grammar.

Progression

- Modern Languages Advanced Higher, or any relevant component units
- Scottish Baccalaureate in Languages
- Higher Modern Language in another modern language
- Modern Languages for Work Purposes Units
- Further study, training or employment – Language skills can be the career gift that keeps on giving: being able to speak, explain, and negotiate in another language makes you more employable, increases your confidence, and can lead to greater opportunities.

MODERN LANGUAGES: FRENCH/SPANISH

Advanced Higher

Purpose

This Course aims to enable learners to:

- further develop the ability to listen and talk, read and write in a modern language, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- further develop the ability to understand and use a modern language in a range of contexts
- further develop the language skills of translation
- further develop grammatical knowledge
- develop the ability to plan and research, integrating and applying language skills, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- develop independent learning and higher order language skills

Course Details

The Course is made up of three mandatory areas of study:

Understanding Language

The purpose of this topic is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop and extend reading and listening skills in the modern language, and to develop their knowledge and understanding of complex and sophisticated language in the contexts of society, learning, employability and culture.

Using Language

The purpose of this topic is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop and extend talking and writing skills in the modern language, and to develop their knowledge and understanding of complex and sophisticated language in the contexts of society, learning, employability and culture.

Specialist Study

The purpose of this topic is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop and extend planning, research and analytical skills in order to undertake an independent specialist study based on literature, or media, or language in work.

Assessment

In the Course, Added Value will focus on:

- Challenge
- Application – learners will provide evidence of their listening and talking, reading and writing skills, and their ability to understand and use the modern language in a range of contexts.

The Course Assessment will take the form of:

- Two question papers, through which learners will demonstrate their reading, translation, listening and discursive writing skills in the modern language.
- A performance, through which learners will demonstrate their talking skills in the modern language
- A portfolio, written in English, through which learners will demonstrate their analytical skills in relation to literature or media or language in work, within the context of the modern language.

Progression

Includes opportunities for vertical and lateral progression to careers in:

- Business; Diplomatic Service; Education; Interpreting; Law; Media; Tourism; Translating
- Language skills can be the career gift that keeps on giving: being able to speak, explain, and negotiate in another language makes you more employable, increases your confidence, and can lead to greater opportunities.

MODERN LANGUAGES FOR LIFE & WORK AWARD

Higher, National 5, or Level 4, Level 3

Course Details

The general purpose of this Course is to study one language or two languages in practical and relevant contexts for life and work, and to identify, develop and demonstrate employability skills.

In particular, the Modern Languages for Life and Work Award aims to enable learners to:

- develop listening and talking skills in one or two modern languages in the contexts of life and work (including reading skills at SCQF Level 4)
- develop knowledge of one or two modern languages in the contexts of life and work
- develop employability skills

The Course offers many opportunities for personalisation and choice. A choice of languages is available for this course, including French, Spanish and possibly Italian or Mandarin. The language or languages studied will be chosen according to pupils' interests and staff availability. Contexts for learning, assessment tasks and learning styles are other areas which can be personalised by learners.

Recommended Entry

This Award is a broad-based qualification suitable for all learners. It provides sufficient flexibility to enable learners to achieve in different ways and at a different pace.

Prior learning in the subject is not essential, although the Award provides opportunities for learners to build on prior learning experienced in a broad, general education, or in a modern languages qualification at a lower SCQF level.

There are three Units:

Modern Languages for Work Purposes

The purpose of this Unit is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop basic skills in talking and reading needed to communicate in any vocational context using the language studied. It encourages learners to reflect on skills required for employability.

Modern Languages for Life

This Unit develops basic skills in listening and talking in practical and relevant interests using the language studied. Learners explore the culture and everyday life in countries where the modern language is used.

Building Own Employability Skills (National 3 or 4) and Leadership (National 5 or Higher)

This Unit provides learners with the opportunity to acquire the skills needed in order to gain employment. These skills include finding out about job opportunities and employers, and the skills needed to apply for a job.

Assessment

Pupils will be given regular homework and the Course is internally assessed through the four skills in Listening, Reading, Writing and Talking, over the three Units.

Progression

This Course may provide progression to:

- Other SQA qualifications in Modern Languages or related areas
- Further study, employment or training in the following areas: Arts; Social Sciences and Religion; Hospitality; Catering & Tourism; Languages; Law.

Language skills can be the career gift that keeps on giving: being able to speak, explain, and negotiate in another language makes you more employable, increases your confidence and can lead to greater opportunities.

MODERN STUDIES

Higher

Purpose

The main aims of Modern Studies are to enable learners to develop:

- a range of research and evaluating skills
- understanding of the democratic process and complex political issues
- understanding of complex social and economic issues at local, Scottish, national and international levels and ways of addressing needs and inequalities
- understanding of different views about the extent of state involvement in society
- understanding of the nature and processes of conflict resolution
- understanding of the importance of human and legal rights and responsibilities and their application in different societies

Recommended Entry

Learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following:

National 5 Modern Studies Course (or for S6 pupils a relevant Social Subject at Nat5)

Course Details

The Course has three areas of study:

Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom

Learners will study topics such as: the United Kingdom constitutional arrangement including the role of the Scottish Parliament and other devolved bodies and the impact of UK membership of the European Union; the study of political institutions and processes; voting systems and their impact; the impact of a range of factors which affect voting behaviour; and the ways in which citizens are informed about, participate in, and influence the political process.

Social Issues in the United Kingdom

Learners have a choice of social issues: contexts for study will focus on Social Inequality. In the social inequality context, learners will focus on a contemporary aspect of social inequality in the UK and Scotland as well as the impact on a group in society.

Modern Studies: International Issues

Learners have a choice of international issues: contexts for study will focus on either a political and social/economic study of a major world power (e.g. South Africa) **or** the study of a significant contemporary world issue (e.g. Global security). World powers may be chosen from members of the G20 group of countries, including the European Union but excluding the United Kingdom. The study of a world issue will focus on a significant recent issue or conflict which has a global impact.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass the Course assessment at the end of the year. The Course Assessment is graded A–D.

Added Value Assignment

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate challenge and application by demonstrating skills, knowledge and understanding within the context of a political issue. The assignment will have 30 marks (approximately 33% of the total mark).

Homework

Homework is integral to the course and students will be required to complete regular exercises. In addition, students may be required to complete class work at home and keep up to date on current affairs.

Progression

From the achievement of a Higher in Modern Studies the student may be able to progress to:

- a course at an appropriate level in another Social Subject
- the HNC/HND award in Further Education
- degree courses in Higher Education
- employment where the knowledge and skills acquired in Modern Studies prepare students for a wide variety of careers.

MODERN STUDIES

Advanced Higher

Recommended Entry

Higher Modern Studies with a pass at A or B level.

Course Details

Pupils studying Advanced Higher Modern Studies will work through Section 2: Law and Order and Research Methods, which includes studying the topics of: Understanding Criminal Behaviour, Society's Responses to Crime and Social Science Research Methods and Issues.

Assessment

The Course is assessed by a question paper and dissertation. Pupils will work on their dissertation throughout the year with guidance and supervision from their class teacher.

Homework

As indicated above, you will have essays and background reading to do each week. Some periods are reserved each week for reading studies, to help you keep up with the reading required for essays and source work. However, you will be expected to read at home also.

Progression

To College or University

MUSIC

Higher

Purpose

The Higher course provides candidates with a broad practical experience of performing, creating and understanding music. It enables them to work independently or in collaboration with others, and can help them to plan and organise, to make decisions, and to take responsibility for their own learning.

The Course aims to enable candidates to:

- broaden their knowledge and understanding of music and musical literacy by listening to music and identifying level-specific music concepts, signs and symbols
- create original music using compositional methods
- perform music

Course Details

Performing Skills

Candidates demonstrate their performing skills by presenting a prepared programme of music on two instruments or one instrument and voice. The following aspects of performance are assessed:

- melodic accuracy and/or intonation
- rhythmic accuracy
- maintaining tempo and flow of the music
- conveying mood and character
- instrumental or vocal tone
- dynamics

The programme of music must be designed to allow the candidate to demonstrate a sufficient level of technical and musical skills at the appropriate grade level (Grade 4 or above).

Composing Assignment

The assignment draws on candidates' skills, knowledge and understanding of music composition. The composition must show use of harmony, along with at least three of the following elements of music: melody; rhythm; timbre; structure.

Candidates show their understanding of these elements of music through creative and effective development of a range of musical ideas and compositional methods. They also self-reflect on their own original music and identify areas for improvement.

Understanding Music

Candidates draw on skills in aural discrimination and perception, knowledge and understanding of level-specific music concepts, music literacy and analysis of music. These skills are developed throughout the Course.

Assessment

The course is externally assessed by the SQA.

The performance element is assessed in February/March.

Progression

Successful completion of the course may lead to:

- Advanced Higher Music
- HNC or HND courses in Music
- Degree courses in Music

MUSIC

Advanced Higher

Course Structure

The Advanced Higher Music course has an integrated approach to learning and combines practical learning and understanding of music. Candidates draw upon their understanding of music styles and concepts when performing and creating music. Candidates experiment with and use music concepts in creative ways, within a range of compositional methods, as they compose or arrange music and reflect on their creative choices. Through listening, they develop knowledge and understanding of a variety of music styles and concepts, and signs and symbols used in music notation. Candidates develop their performing skills on one instrument or voice through regular practice and reflection. Candidates must also:

- Perform on a second contrasting instrument or
- Compose a portfolio of music

The Course aims to enable candidates to:

- broaden their knowledge and understanding of music and musical literacy by listening to music and identifying level-specific music concepts, signs and symbols
- create original music using compositional methods
- perform music

Course Details

Performing Skills

Candidates demonstrate their performing skills by presenting a prepared programme of music on two instruments or one instrument and voice. The following aspects of performance are assessed:

- melodic accuracy and/or intonation
- rhythmic accuracy
- maintaining tempo and flow of the music
- conveying mood and character
- instrumental or vocal tone
- dynamics

The programme of music must be designed to allow the candidate to demonstrate a sufficient level of technical and musical skills at the appropriate grade level (Grade 5 or above).

Composing Assignment

The assignment draws on candidates' skills, knowledge and understanding of music composition. The composition or arrangement must show use of all of the following elements of music: melody; harmony; rhythm; structure; timbre.

Candidates show their understanding of these elements of music through the creative and effective development of a range of musical ideas and compositional methods. They reflect on their own original music and identify areas for improvement. They also analyse a chosen piece of music.

Understanding Music

Candidates draw on skills in aural discrimination and perception, knowledge and understanding of level-specific music concepts, music literacy and analysis of music. These skills are developed throughout the Course.

Portfolio Option

The portfolio option allows candidates to further demonstrate their skills, knowledge and understanding of music composition and/or arranging. The compositions and/or arrangements must show use of all of the following elements of music: melody; harmony; rhythm; structure; timbre.

Candidates show their understanding of these elements of music through the creative and effective development of a range of musical ideas and compositional methods. They also reflect on their own original music and identify areas for improvement.

The concepts in the course build on previous knowledge and understanding of concepts in Music courses at lower SQCF levels. Candidates are expected to have a secure understanding of the concepts at National 3, National 4, National 5 and Higher levels. In addition to knowledge and understanding of those specific to Advanced Higher.

Assessment

The course is externally assessed by the SQA.

The performance element is assessed in April/May.

Progression

Successful completion of the course may lead to:

- HNC or HND courses in Music
- Degree course in Music

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Higher

Purpose

The purpose of the Higher Music Technology Course is to enable learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of music technology, and of music concepts, particularly those relevant to 20th and 21st century music, and to engage in the development of technical and creative skills through practical learning. This Course will provide opportunities for learners to develop their interest in music technology and to develop skills and knowledge relevant to the needs of the music industry.

The aims of the Course will enable learners to:

- develop skills in the use of music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio.
- use music technology creatively in sound production in a range of contexts.
- develop skills in musical analysis in the context of 20th and 21st century musical styles and genres
- develop a broad understanding of the music industry, including an awareness of the implications of intellectual property.
- critically reflect on own work and that of others.

Course Structure

The Course consists of the following three topics:

Music Technology Skills

In this topic, learners will develop a range of skills and techniques relating to the creative use of music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio. Learners will explore a range of uses of this technology through practical activities.

Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music

In this topic, learners will develop knowledge and understanding of 20th and 21st century musical styles and genres, and an understanding of how music technology has influenced and been influenced by 20th and 21st century musical developments. Learners will develop a broad understanding of the music industry, including an awareness of the implications of intellectual property rights.

Music Technology in Context

In this topic, learners will use music technology skills in a range of contexts which may include live performance, radio broadcast, composing and/or sound design for film, TV themes, adverts, and computer gaming.

Assessment

To gain Higher Music Technology, learners must complete class projects at Higher level and pass the Course assessment (Assignment and Question Paper).

- Evidence of learning throughout the year, may be oral, observational, a diary or blog or presentations, podcasts, answers to questions, and may be stored in an e-portfolio. Digital recordings of performances will be included.
- The Course Assessment consists of a written question paper, worth 30% (exam marked by SQA) and an assignment, worth 70% of overall grade in which learners will demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills by planning, implementing and evaluating a completed sound production. The Course Assessment is graded A-D.

Progression

Successful completion of the course may lead to:

- HNC or HND in Music Technology
- Careers in TV, events management, sound production, radio, media

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Advanced Higher

Purpose

Candidates develop and extend their knowledge and understanding of music technology concepts and relevant music concepts where appropriate. They develop technical and creative skills through practical learning. The course provides opportunities for candidates to develop their interest in music technology and to develop skills and knowledge relevant to the needs of the sound production and creative industries.

Course Structure

The Course has two areas of study:

Sound recording and the creative industries

Candidates further develop knowledge and understanding of sound recording within the creative industries. They choose contexts for learning and research key music technology skills, techniques and processes that are used in the creative industries. Candidates develop skills in project management and research-based learning, gaining knowledge and understanding of their chosen contexts.

Music technology skills

Candidates further develop and extend a range of skills and techniques relating to the creative use of music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio. Candidates develop new skills relevant to their chosen contexts through investigation and research, for example, in advanced sound design techniques, advanced synthesis and extensive programming of effects.

Candidates consolidate and extend skills in:

- selecting and using appropriate audio input devices and sources
- planning, applying and justifying microphone placement techniques, including stereo techniques
- designing and constructing the signal path for multiple inputs
- setting input gain and monitoring levels
- overdubbing and editing tracks
- applying and justifying the use of creative and corrective equalisation and dynamics processing
- creatively using time domain, modulation and other effects
- applying a wide range of mixing techniques and editing a minimum of three takes into a single take (comping)

Candidates develop further skills and knowledge in:

- mastering
- advanced compression techniques (including side-chain and multi-band compression) and their common usage
- MIDI sequencing and virtual instruments (VIs)

Course Assessment

The course does not have a final exam; the whole mark is based on a final assignment that is worth 130 marks. There are two parts to the assignments: there is a research project worth 40 marks that is a 3000 word dissertation researching an area of Music Technology and putting this into the candidate's chosen context. The second part of the course assessment is the production project that is worth 90 marks. This is where the candidate takes their research and uses this to record a full song with many different recording techniques. The candidates will then mix and master the song. All of the evidence of this needs to be fully documented in a written log.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT/WELLBEING/RELIGION, BELIEF AND VALUES AWARDS

SCQF Level 5 & 6

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SCQF Level 5 & 6

Course Details

This course has four mandatory areas of study:

Personal Development: Self Awareness
Personal Development: Self in Community
Personal Development: Self and Work
Personal Development: Practical Abilities

Our Personal Development Awards aim to help learners become more independent and to develop their potential as contributing members of their societies. Learners will develop self-reliance, self-esteem and confidence through supported and independent learning. Personal Development Awards are available at SCQF levels 5 & 6.

WELLBEING AWARD SCQF Level 5

Course Details

Health and Wellbeing: Exploring Wellbeing

The general aim of this Unit is to explore what it means to have a sense of personal wellbeing. Differing views of mental, emotional, social and physical health and wellbeing will be considered and compared. Learners will develop an understanding of wellbeing as a holistic concept, influenced by individual, social, global and environment factors. Learners will undertake an investigation into wellbeing and present their findings in a suitable way.

Health and Wellbeing: Improving Wellbeing

Learners undertake an activity aimed at improving the wellbeing of themselves and/or others. They will set targets and carry out a plan for improving wellbeing and evaluate and review the planned activity. This will include a review of how the activity has impacted upon their personal wellbeing.

RELIGION, BELIEF AND VALUES AWARD SCQF Level 5 & 6

Purpose

The purpose of this Award is to encourage learners to explore and reflect on their personal faith or values. Learners will deepen their understanding of faith or values through practical engagement in the local, national or global communities.

Course Details

Investigating Religion and Belief

Learners will analyse and reflect on a chosen topic involving religion or religious belief. They will develop knowledge and understanding of the topic by reflecting on relevant religious and other viewpoints, and their personal faith or values. They will have the opportunity to discuss and debate the topic they are investigating.

Values in Action

Learners will put their faith or values into action through active engagement in the community. This may be achieved through a wide range of settings and contexts. Learners will record the activity they have taken part in. They will think critically and reflect on how it contributes to their understanding of their faith or values.

The learner will be required to provide evidence of:

- Active engagement in their local, national or global community
- An explanation and analysis of how the activity demonstrated their faith or values
- Reflection and critical analysis of how the faith or values they have put into action compare with relevant religious viewpoints and viewpoints independent of religious belief

Assessment

There is no external assessment (exam) for this Course.

Learners must successfully complete each Unit to complete the Course.

The Units are internally assessed and externally verified by SQA.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Higher / NPA Level 5

Purpose

The Course encourages learners to be inspired and challenged by visually representing their personal thoughts and ideas through the medium of photography. Using an integrated approach to learning, learners will plan, develop and produce imaginative photographs. They will also develop their appreciation of photographic work and practice.

The aims of the Course are for learners to:

- communicate personal thoughts, feelings and ideas using photography
- develop technical and creative skills in using photographic media, techniques and processes
- develop knowledge and understanding of a range of photography practice
- develop skills in problem solving, critical thinking and reflective practice
- analyse the impact of social and cultural influences on photographers and their work

Pupils should have a prior interest in photography and should be aware of the technical aspects of using a Digital SLR camera.

Recommended Entry

National 5 Art & Design, Graphic Communication

Course Details

The Course is made up of two main areas of assessment: Image Making and Contextual Imagery which is delivered through a range of coursework projects.

Image Making

In this topic, evidence will be required to show that the learner can analyse the factors influencing photographers and their work. Learners will also be required to evidence use of a range of camera skills and photographic processes for specific effect and their ability to produce effectively composed photographs, manage files and output images.

Contextual Imagery

In this topic, evidence will be required to show that the learner has knowledge and understanding of the range of social and cultural factors that have influenced photographers and their work. Learners will develop their applied use of a range of photographic processes. They will plan for and compose images before producing and presenting a range of creative photographic work and skills.

Assessment

Pupils spend the summer and autumn terms building technical and creative skills by working through coursework-based projects to meet Higher standards.

They spend December to April producing a Practical Project worth 77% of their final grade.

There is a written exam that makes up the other 23% of their final Higher grade.

Candidates may be entered for an NPA in Photography if the requirements of the Higher course are deemed too demanding.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Higher

Purpose

The main purpose of the Course is to enable learners to develop, demonstrate and evaluate movement and performance skills for effective performance in a range of challenging contexts. Learners will use evaluation and analysis to develop and apply strategies, techniques and skills that will enable them to build on and enhance their performance.

Recommended Entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the Centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- National 5 Physical Education Course

Course Details

The Course at Wallace High School involves performance in **swimming** and **basketball or football** throughout the academic session. Full participation in both these activities is a mandatory part of the course.

The Course has two areas of study:

Physical Education: Performance Skills

Learners will develop a broad and comprehensive range of complex movement and performance skills through a range of physical activities. They will select, demonstrate, apply and adapt these skills, and will use them to make informed decisions. They will also develop their knowledge and understanding of how these skills combine to produce effective outcomes. Learners will develop consistency, precision, control and fluency of movement. They will also learn how to respond to and meet the demands of performance in a safe and effective way. This area of study offers opportunities for personalisation and choice through the selection of physical activities used for learning and teaching.

Physical Education: Factors Impacting on Performance

Learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of the factors that impact on personal performance in physical activities. Learners will consider how mental, emotional, social, and physical factors can influence effectiveness in performance. They will develop knowledge and understanding of a range of approaches for enhancing performance and will select and apply these to factors that impact on their personal performance. They will create development plans, modify these and justify decisions relating to future personal development needs.

Progression

- an Advanced Higher course in Physical Education
- an HNC/HND in associated subject areas
- a degree in Physical Education
- degree courses in associated subject areas
- a career in amateur/professional sport or dance
- employment in the fitness, health, leisure and recreation industries
- employment in sports/dance development

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Leadership Award and Volunteering Award SCQF Level 5 & 6

Purpose

The Leadership Award develops knowledge of leadership skills, styles and qualities. It is designed for learners who take or plan to take a leading role in their activities.

Available at SCQF Levels 5 and 6, the Award allows individuals to build self-confidence and self-esteem and encourages learners to respect the cultures and beliefs of others working alongside them.

Recommended Entry

This Award may appeal to a wide range of candidates, including:

- S5 and S6 pupils involved in leadership activities or who wish to develop leadership skills
- College students wishing to develop leadership skills
- Trainees preparing for employment
- Employees studying as part of a CPD programme
- Individuals involved in voluntary activities

Course Details

The Award at either Level consists of two areas of study.

Whether a candidate achieves at SCQF Level 5 or SCQF Level 6 depends on the amount of support they receive, their level of participation, their level of understanding and the level of maturity displayed.

At Wallace High School, the key focus for this Award will be centred on Sports Leadership and Volunteering. Wallace High School pupils will be given the opportunity to gain national governing sports awards such as the SFA Early Touches and SRU Rugby Ready coaching qualifications as part of this course.

Leadership: An Introduction (20 hours)

Candidates carry out research to find out about leadership styles and the skills and qualities found in effective leaders. Candidates are required to produce a report on their findings and evaluate their own potential for leadership.

Leadership in Practice (40 hours)

Candidates take a leading role in an activity. They will prepare to carry out the activity by considering the factors involved, such as resources, people, time and potential risks. Candidates then carry out the activity, monitoring progress and making changes as needed. At the end, candidates review their experience, drawing conclusions about themselves as a leader.

Progression

This Award may provide progression to:

- SCQF Level 6 from Level 5
- The Personal Development Award at SCQF Level 6
- Employment
- Career progression

PHYSICS

National 5

Course Details

Physics employs a wide range of teaching strategies including practical work and applications to maximise pupil learning.

There are 3 areas of study:

Dynamics and Space: studies space exploration, cosmology, and forces and motion.

Waves and Radiation: examines the electromagnetic spectrum, sound engineering and the characteristics of light and nuclear radiation.

Electricity and Properties of Matter: studies how heat and light interact and how electrical energy has become an important factor in everyday life.

Assessment

Pupils will be given regular homework and progress will be monitored by regular assessments.

A final written examination.

Learners are also required to complete a research project on how Physics has impacted on the environment and society.

PHYSICS

Higher

Purpose

This course has been designed to articulate with and provide progression from the National 5 Physics course. Through a deeper insight into the structure of the subject, the Course aims to provide, reinforce and extend the knowledge and understanding of the concepts of physics and related problem solving skills and practical abilities acquired at the National 5 level by providing a deeper insight into the structure of the subject. The course endeavours to provide learning experiences leading to the acquisition of worthwhile knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Recommended Entry

While entry is at the discretion of the Centre, students would normally be expected to have attained a National 5 Physics award at level A - C.

Course Details

The course comprises four areas of study:

Physics: Our Dynamic Universe

The general aim of this topic is to develop skills of scientific inquiry, investigation and analytical thinking, along with knowledge and understanding of our dynamic universe. Learners will apply these skills when considering the applications of our dynamic universe on our lives, as well as the implications on society/the environment. This can be done by using a variety of approaches, including investigation and problem solving.

This topic covers the key areas of kinematics, dynamics and space-time. Learners will research issues, apply scientific skills and communicate information related to their findings, which will develop skills of scientific literacy.

Physics: Particles and Waves

The general aim of this topic is to develop skills of scientific inquiry, investigation and analytical thinking, along with knowledge and understanding of particles and waves. Learners will apply these skills when considering the applications of particles and waves on our lives, as well as the implications on society/the environment. This can be done by using a variety of approaches, including investigation and problem solving.

This topic covers the key areas of particles and waves. Learners will research issues, apply scientific skills and communicate information related to their findings, which will develop skills of scientific literacy.

Physics: Electricity

The general aim of this Unit is to develop skills of scientific inquiry, investigation and analytical thinking, along with knowledge and understanding of electricity. Learners will apply these skills when considering the applications of electricity on our lives, as well as the implications on society/the environment. This can be done by using a variety of approaches, including investigation and problem solving.

This topic covers the key areas of electricity, and electrical storage and transfer. Learners will research issues, and apply scientific skills and communicate information related to their findings, which will develop skills of scientific literacy.

Assignment

This topic offers opportunities for collaborative and for independent learning. Learners will develop knowledge and skills associated with standard laboratory apparatus and in the recording and processing of results. The communication of findings will develop skills in scientific literacy. The assignment is completed under SQA conditions during class time and is worth up to 20% of the final grade.

Homework

Homework is in the form of regular exercises set throughout the course, completion of any class work and preparation for end-of-topic tests as part of the internal course assessment. Students can expect regular homework as well as ongoing supported study.

Assessment

External assessment is based on:

- Assignment
- A question paper under exam conditions, which requires learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding and apply scientific inquiry, scientific analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Progression

- to Advanced Higher Physics
- to degree, HND or HNC in science, mathematics, computing or engineering field
- to completion of a Group Award
- to employment in science, mathematics, engineering, technology or related area.

PHYSICS

Advanced Higher

Purpose

The Advanced Higher Physics Course has been designed to articulate with and provide progression from the Higher Physics Course. Through a deeper insight into the structure of the subject, the Course aims to provide an opportunity for reinforcing and extending the candidate's knowledge and understanding of the concepts of physics and developing the candidate's skills in investigative practical work. The purpose of the Course is to build on the knowledge and skills developed by the learner in the Higher Physics Course and to use their mathematical knowledge and skills to analyse and solve problems in real-life contexts.

Recommended Entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the Centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- Higher Physics, attaining Grade A - C

Course Details

The course comprises four mandatory areas of study:

Physics: Rotational Motion and Astrophysics

Learners who complete this topic will be able to:

- apply skills of scientific inquiry and draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit to carry out an experiment/practical investigation
- draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit and apply scientific skills

Physics: Quanta and Waves

Learners who complete this topic will be able to:

- apply skills of scientific inquiry and draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit to carry out an experiment/practical investigation
- draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit and apply scientific skills

Physics: Electromagnetism

Learners who complete this topic will be able to:

- apply skills of scientific inquiry and draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit to carry out an experiment/practical investigation
- draw on knowledge and understanding of the key areas of this Unit and apply scientific skills

Investigating Physics

Learners who complete this topic will be able to:

- apply skills of scientific inquiry and draw on knowledge and understanding to research, plan and carry out investigative practical work on a chosen physics topic

Assessment

All topics are internally assessed. Learners will draw on, extend and apply the skills they have learned during the Course. This will be assessed within a question paper and project, requiring demonstration of the knowledge, skills and understanding acquired from across the Units and how they can be applied in unfamiliar contexts and/or integrated ways.

External assessment is based on:

- A question paper under exam conditions, which requires learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding and apply scientific inquiry, scientific analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Progression

This Course may provide progression to:

- an HND/Degree in a Physics-based course or related area
- a career in a Physics-based discipline or a related area

POLITICS

Higher (S6 only)

Purpose

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

- a range of research and evaluating skills
- the ability to analyse political ideas, events, issues, parties and electoral performance
- knowledge and understanding of significant political concepts and ideologies
- knowledge and understanding of the complexity of political systems through comparative study
- breadth and depth in their knowledge and understanding of individual rights, duties and citizenship

Recommended Entry

The course is open only to learners in S6. Learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following:

National 5 Modern Studies Course (or relevant Social Subject at NAT5)

Course Details

The Course has three areas of study:

Politics: Political Theory

Learners will draw balanced conclusions about the nature and relevance of political concepts such as power, authority and legitimacy, within a variety of political systems. This will be achieved through the study of a range of political ideologies from across the political spectrum. Learners will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of at least two political ideologies and relevant political theorists, for example, comparing the UK and the USA's political system.

Politics: Political Systems

Learners will compare and contrast the political processes of different political contexts. They will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the role of constitutions and the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government, and adopt a comparative approach, for example, the study of the powers of the Scottish Parliament and its relationship with the UK.

Politics: Political Parties and Elections

Learners will interpret and evaluate electoral data relevant to UK political parties. They will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the ideas and issues within a political party in the UK and how these and other factors have impacted on their electoral performance.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass the Course assessment at the end of the year.

Added Value Assignment:

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate challenge and application by demonstrating skills, knowledge and understanding within the context of a political issue.

PRACTICAL COOKERY

National 5

The course in Practical Cookery is designed to offer further development of practical skills and understanding appropriate to food preparation and cookery. It will enable candidates to:

- use food preparation techniques and cookery processes in the preparation of a range of dishes
- understand the importance of food safety and hygiene, and working safely and hygienically
- select, weigh, measure and use appropriate ingredients to prepare and garnish dishes
- understand the importance of sustainable ingredients
- understand current dietary advice relating to the use of ingredients
- follow recipes in the preparation of dishes and carry out an evaluation of the product
- demonstrate planning, organisational and time management skills
- produce dishes, taking into account the number of portions and the cost or portion size, and present them appropriately

The course has been designed primarily as a practical course and aims to provide the development of techniques and skills required for food production appropriate to domestic and hospitality situations. The aims include:

- the development of practical skills and associated underpinning knowledge
- the development of an awareness of how recipes can be adapted to produce healthier dishes
- an insight into the potential of preparing selected international dishes

The benefit of achieving this course award is best summed up as follows:

- the practical nature of all the units contained within the course provides the development of craft and practical skills
- the recommended integrated approach within and across units provides an insight into working within the food production section of the hospitality industry where many processes happen simultaneously
- the course encourages the development of research and information seeking skills and puts the results gained into practice
- the course helps to develop numeracy, communication and planning skills

The course consists of three areas of study and an external exam. The areas of study are:

- Cookery Skills, Techniques and Processes
- Understanding and Using Ingredients
- Organisational Skills for Cooking

These courses are internally assessed but can be subject to verification from SQA Examiners.

The external exam is one hour long and will be externally marked by SQA.

PRACTICAL METALWORKING

National 5

Purpose

The National 5 Practical Metalworking course provides opportunities for candidates to gain a range of theoretical and practical metalworking skills relating to tools, equipment, processes and materials. They also develop skills in reading and interpreting working drawings and related documents as well as an understanding of health and safety.

The course is practical, exploratory and experiential in nature. It engages candidates with technologies, allowing them to consider the impact that practical technologies have on our environment and society.

Through this, they develop skills, knowledge and understanding of:

- metalworking techniques
- measuring and marking out metal sections and sheet materials
- safe working practices in workshop environments
- practical creativity and problem-solving skills
- sustainability issues in a practical metalworking context

Recommended Entry

Due to the level of skill required, candidates will be required to already have a good level of workshop competency, and therefore, have already achieved a National 5 pass in Practical Woodworking or Design and Manufacture. Course entry without this experience will be at the discretion of the department.

Course Details

This course develops skills in three main areas. Each area provides opportunities for candidates to understand safe working practices, sustainability issues, and good practice in recycling within a workshop environment. Each area of study covers a different set of metalworking skills. All areas include skills and associated knowledge in measuring, marking out, cutting and joining techniques. The areas of study are:

Bench skills

Candidates develop skills, knowledge and understanding in the use of metalworking hand tools, bench-fitting work, routine sheet-metal work, measuring and marking out, involving complex features. Candidates develop their ability to read and use drawings and diagrams depicting both familiar and unfamiliar metalwork tasks.

Machine processes

Candidates develop skills, knowledge and understanding in the use of metalworking machines, equipment, related processes, materials, measuring and marking out, involving complex features.

Fabrication and thermal joining

Candidates develop skills, knowledge and understanding in fabrication, forming and joining of metalwork components with some complex features. Candidates develop skills in thermal joining techniques and in measuring and marking out.

Assessment

Candidates will undertake a practical assignment set by SQA, which will be completed in class and internally assessed. This assignment will be worth 100% of the overall course grade. Candidates will sit an external exam set by SQA, which will be worth 30% of the overall course grade.

RELIGIOUS, MORAL & PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES

Higher

Purpose

The main aims of the course are to enable learners to:

- develop the ability to critically analyse, reflect on and express reasoned views about religious, moral and philosophical questions and their impact
- extend and develop a range of skills, including investigating religious, moral and philosophical questions and responses, critical analysis, evaluation and the ability to express detailed, reasoned and well-structured views
- develop in-depth factual and abstract knowledge and understanding of beliefs, practices and sources related to world religions
- develop in-depth factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of religious, moral and philosophical questions and responses to them

Recommended Entry

Entry to this course is at the discretion of the Centre, however, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following:

- Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies course or relevant component units at National 5
- a Social Subject at an equivalent level, e.g. History or English at National 5

Course Details

This course comprises three areas of study:

World Religion

Learners will develop skills to interpret and comment on the meaning and context of sources related to the religion selected for study. They will develop in-depth, factual and abstract knowledge and understanding of the impact and significance of religion today through studying some key beliefs, practices and sources found within Buddhism and the contribution these make to the lives of followers.

Morality and Belief

Learners will develop skills to evaluate and express detailed reasoned and well-structured views about contemporary moral questions and responses. They will develop in-depth, factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of contemporary moral questions and religious and non-religious responses. The religious viewpoints studied must be from one of the world's six major religions, exploring gender issues and relationships.

Religious and Philosophical Questions

Learners will develop skills to critically analyse religious and philosophical questions and responses. They will develop in-depth, factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of these. Religious viewpoints studied is Christianity, exploring the origins of life and the universe.

Homework

All courses will require students to undertake regular homework. This is necessary if students are to keep up with course work and to enable them to obtain a good pass in the Course.

Assessment

During the SQA Exam diet – Question Paper 1 and Question Paper 2

By March - Assignment

Strathclyde University Law School - "I can say with absolute certainty that, not only the substantive content of RMPS but in addition, the development of a student's critical faculties, are amongst the most desirable qualities sought by universities and employers." - Dr Christopher McCorkindale.

Progression

On attaining a course at Higher in Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies, students may progress to:

- a course at the same level in a related subject
- a degree or further education course in Theology or Social Sciences
- general entrance to a university or college
- vocational training or employment
- this course may also form part of one or more Scottish Group Awards

SCHOOL APPRENTICESHIP

Purpose

The purpose of this course is to equip students with the relevant skills, experience and qualifications to achieve a Modern Apprenticeship.

Recommend Entry

National 4 qualifications.

Course Details

The course will focus on 4 different industries: Care (Childcare/Adultcare), Construction, Hospitality, Uniformed and Emergency Services. Learners will select the industry which they would like to study further.

Care

Pupils will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and insight into the Care sector. Pupils will link with local partnership nurseries and nursing homes where they will gain work experience working with children from 0 - 5 years old or adults. They will gain an understanding of the Curriculum for Excellence, health and safety and everyday running of a nursery or nursing home. Through work experience pupils will gain SQA Awards.

Pupils will also work within the classroom for 3 periods a week working on employability skills, CVs, interview skills, Heartstart and Health and Safety.

Construction

Pupils will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and insight into the Construction Industry. Pupils will link with local partnership Stirling Community Enterprise and Robertson Construction, where they will gain work experience developing their practical skills, understanding and following health and safety on site and the different roles within the construction industry. Through work experience pupils will gain SQA Awards.

Pupils will also work within the classroom for 3 periods a week working on employability skills, CVs, interview skills, CSCS card/SECTT, Health and Safety and Heartstart.

Hospitality

Pupils will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and insight into the Hospitality sector. Pupils will link with local partnership, The Dunblane Centre, where they will gain work experience in their new café. Pupils will have the chance to work within the kitchen, they will also work within the cafe serving customers, and they will gain knowledge in Barista Skills. Pupils will also have the chance to gain knowledge into the business side of the industry. Through work experience they will also gain SQA Awards.

Pupils will also work within the classroom for 3 periods a week working on employability skills, CVs, interview skills, Barista Skills Award, Food Hygiene certificate and Heartstart.

Uniformed and Emergency Services

Pupils will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and insight into the Uniformed and Emergency Services. Pupils will link with local partnerships to gain work experience and have an understanding of the different roles within Uniformed and Emergency Services. Through work experience pupils will gain SQA Awards.

Pupils will also work within the classroom for 3 periods a week working on employability skills, CVs, Interview skills, Health and Safety and Heartstart.

Assessment

Exam :

Construction: This consists of an SQA set exam, designed to allow the candidate an opportunity to show an understanding of Health and Safety, which is a key requirement within the Construction Industry.

Construction Skills Certificate Scheme (CSCS card) is a set exam, designed to allow the candidate an opportunity to show they have the knowledge and skills to be able to work on a construction site.

Scottish Electrical Charitable Training Trust (SECTT test) is a set exam for those pupils wishing to pursue a career as an electrician, designed to allow the candidate an opportunity to show they have the knowledge and skills to become an electrician.

Hospitality and Care: The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS) provides approved elementary and intermediate level food hygiene courses. The elementary course is a basic course aimed at all food handlers. Designed to allow the candidate an opportunity to show an understanding of food hygiene.

Barista Skills Award (SQA Award): Pupils will work through documentation and have an understanding of the process and history of Barista Skills. Pupils will put their training into practice to produce a variety of hot and cold drinks using the appropriate equipment and following all guidelines.

Potential candidates should be aware they will, throughout the year, be set revision for assessments for these examinations.

Progression

Successful completion of this course may lead to a Modern Apprenticeship/College/full-time employment.

SCOTTISH STUDIES

SCQF Level 5, SCQF Level 4

Course Details

This course provides opportunities for learners to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of Scotland - in terms of its people, languages (for example Scots and Gaelic), society, culture, natural environment and heritage – and to make connections across the curriculum.

There are four Units of study:

Scottish Studies: Scotland in Focus. This is a mandatory Unit.

Learners must then complete three Units from the following groups:

Society and the Environment – Geography, Physical Environments, History, Historical Study, Scottish.

Business, Industry & Employment – Travel and Tourism, Scotland

Assessment

Pupils will be given regular homework and progress will be monitored by regular assessments. Learners must pass all of the required Units at National 4. All Units will be internally assessed and National 5 pupils will sit a final exam.

S6 Advanced Higher courses taught remotely

The following **Advanced Higher** courses are available through Stirling Council's Advanced Higher online offering. The delivery of each course will be coordinated and led from one of the Stirling secondary schools. Remote learning classes will be composed of pupils from all seven Stirling secondary schools. Wallace High learners will work independently through courses from a study class in Wallace High School. These courses are offered remotely as usually there is not enough of a demand to run the courses in individual schools, but across Stirling Schools class sets can be formed.

This model of learning allows a wider choice of Advanced Higher options for S6 learners. However, this style of learning demands personal commitment and a very disciplined approach to independent learning. Choosing one of these Advanced Highers is recommended only if the subject is likely to be an area of study in further education and a grade A or B has been achieved at Higher grade.

Online Advanced Higher subjects available are:

Business Management

School Leading Delivery: McLaren High School

Computing Science

School Leading Delivery: Stirling High School

Key Information:

- No pupils physically attend class; all lessons are delivered remotely and worked through by learners on Chromebooks
- Online Advanced Highers can be taken in any column
- Recorded webinars are provided for learners to watch and work through tasks
- Tasks are provided to reflect content covered in webinars
- There will be a minimum of 3 Google Meets per term for the online class – the period will change per meeting so as not to impact significantly on the young person's timetable. These will be compulsory sessions.
- Assessments and prelims can be completed in the learner's own establishment