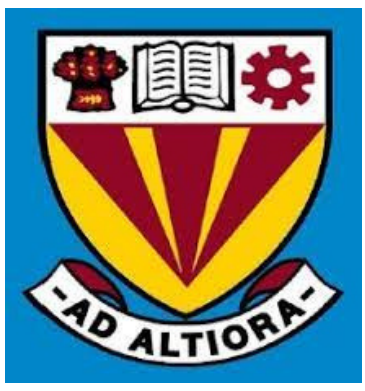
ANGUS ACADEMY Course Choice Booklet



Introduction

Angus Academy will offer a range of courses for senior phase students from next session, starting May 2024. It is a partnership which will enable all of our secondary schools to increase opportunities and ensure equity for young people in Angus in the senior phase.

The courses on offer are mainly Advanced Highers for students in S6, but there are some Higher courses that both S5 and S6 students can select. We hope to expand this offer in the future. The subjects that are on offer will either run in column B or D.

Column B will run on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Column D will run on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Each column will have one face-to-face teaching session and one virtual afternoon. The exact timings of these sessions will be confirmed at a later stage. Details of all the courses on offer can be found in this booklet.

In most schools students will also have one period for independent work associated with the chosen Angus Academy course. This will allow students to undertake elements of written coursework for submission. This will also be excellent preparation for the kind of independent research that young people are required to do if they go to university.

On each school's course choice sheet, you will see what courses are on offer and where they are on offer. Some Advanced Highers will still be delivered outwith the Angus Academy offer in home schools or via the TRIC.

Entry Requirements

Students who wish to opt for one of the Angus Academy courses should be on track to achieve an A/B pass at H/N5, as appropriate, in the same subject (in some cases similar subjects will be considered). There may also be specific entry requirements in the course guide.

If a course is over-subscribed the learner journeys of all of the young people who have opted for the course will be considered. Places on each course will be allocated fairly after consideration of learner journeys and will not simply be that the school delivering the course will be allocated spaces first.

Transport

Transport arrangements will be put in place to ensure that students are able to travel from their own school to the school where the Angus Academy offer is being delivered. Students will be returned to their home school by the end of the school day.

It is hoped that Angus Academy will offer exciting opportunities for the young people of Angus and is similar to schemes already run in other local authority areas. The hybrid model of delivery will encourage independence and help best prepare our young people for life beyond school.

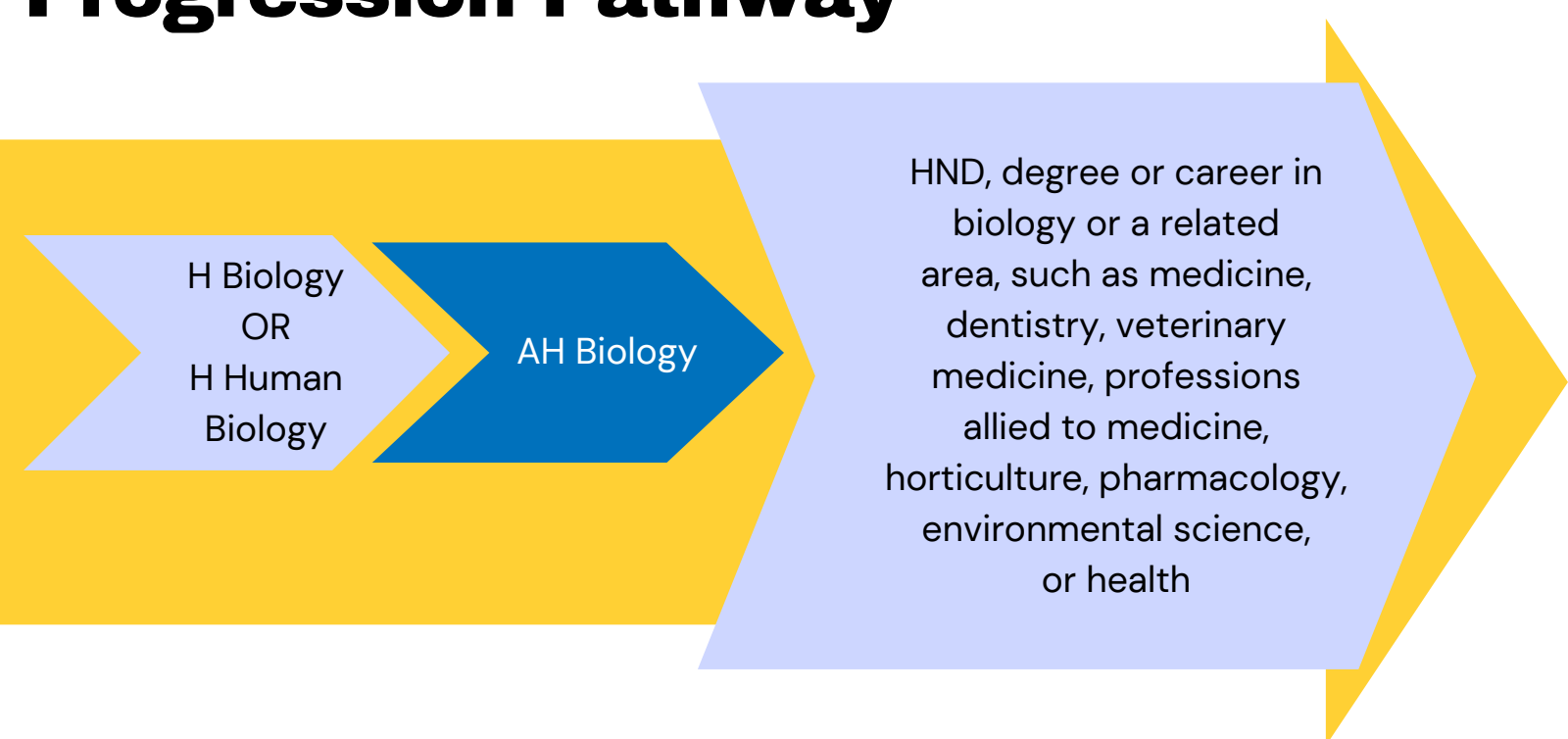
Summary of Courses Available

Course	Level	Column	Location
Biology	AH	B	Forfar Academy
Business Management	AH	ANY	TRIC
Chemistry	AH	D	Carnoustie High School OR Monifieth High School
Computing	AH	B OR ANY	Brechin High School OR TRIC
English	AH	B	Forfar Academy
French	AH	ANY	TRIC
Geography	AH	B	Brechin High School
History	AH	D	Forfar Academy
Maths	AH	B	Forfar Academy OR Monifieth High School
Modern Studies	AH	D OR ANY	Montrose Academy OR TRIC
PE	AH	B OR D OR ANY	Carnoustie High School OR Arbroath Academy OR TRIC
Physics	AH	B OR D	Carnoustie High School OR Forfar Academy
Spanish	AH	ANY	TRIC
Computing	H	B OR D	Carnoustie High School OR Brechin High School
Economics	H	D	Brechin High School
Politics	H	B	Monifieth High School

Biology

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

This course is composed of the following 3 Units

Cells and Proteins

Proteomics, protein structure, binding and conformational change; membrane proteins; detecting and amplifying a stimulus; communication within multicellular organism and protein control of cell division. The Unit includes important laboratory techniques for biologists.

Organisms and Evolution

Evolution; variation and sexual reproduction; sex and behaviour and parasitism. This Unit covers techniques for ecological field study.

Investigative Biology

This Unit builds on understanding of the scientific method from Higher 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.

Course Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass the Course assessment. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award at levels A-D. The Course assessment is externally assessed and composed of the following two components:

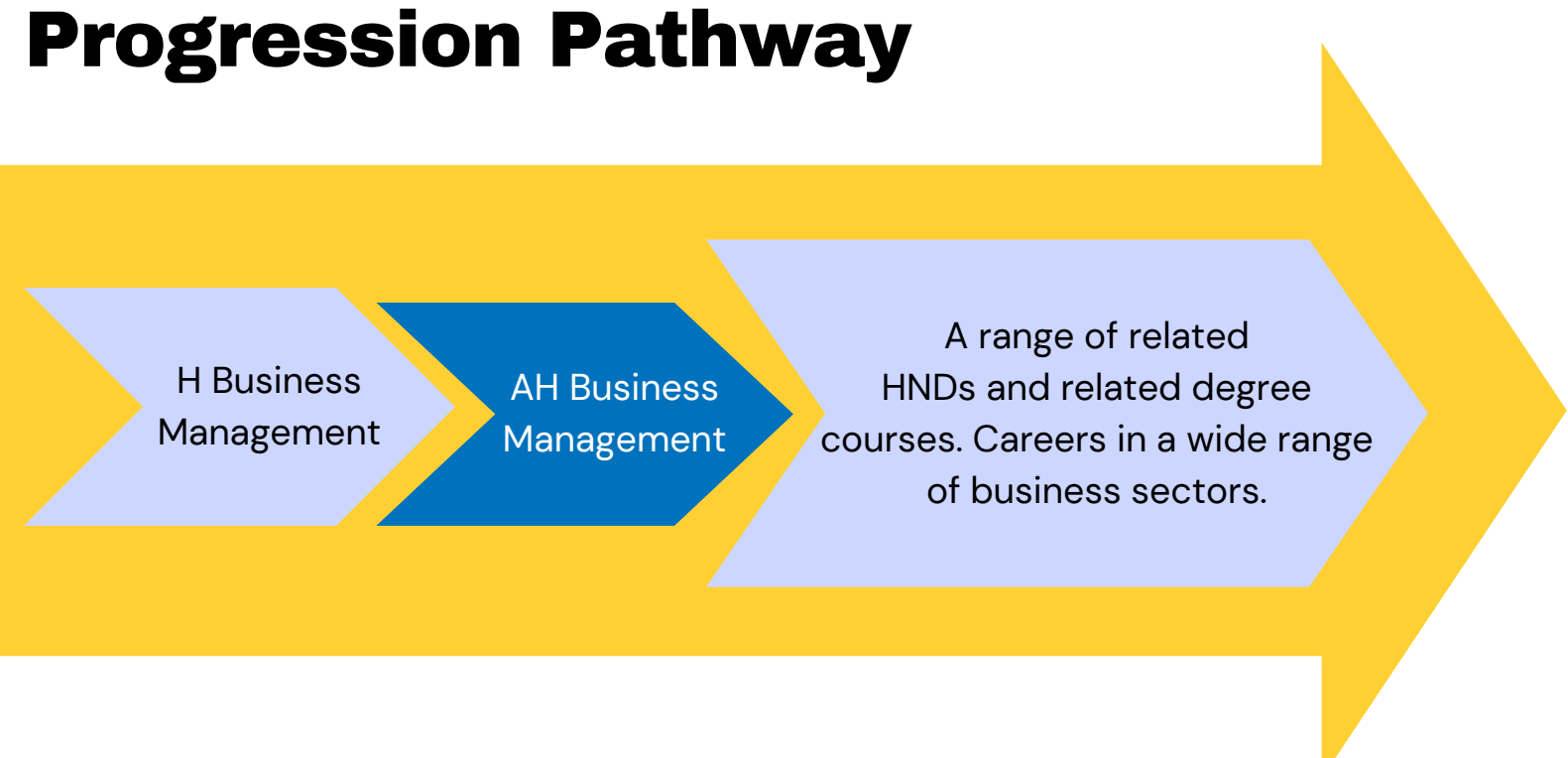
Course assessment structure:

- Question paper – 100 marks
- Project – 30 marks

Business Management

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The course has three areas of study:

The external business environment

Candidates develop a detailed knowledge and in-depth understanding of the effects of external influences on organisations operating at a multinational and global level. They gain an in-depth understanding of current issues affecting organisations in an economic, social and environmental context, and consider the effectiveness of various courses of action.

The internal business environment

Candidates expand their knowledge of both traditional and contemporary management theories used by organisations to maximise efficiency and evaluate theories relating to internal factors that influence the success of teams.

Evaluating business information

Candidates develop skills in evaluating a range of business information used by organisations to reach conclusions.

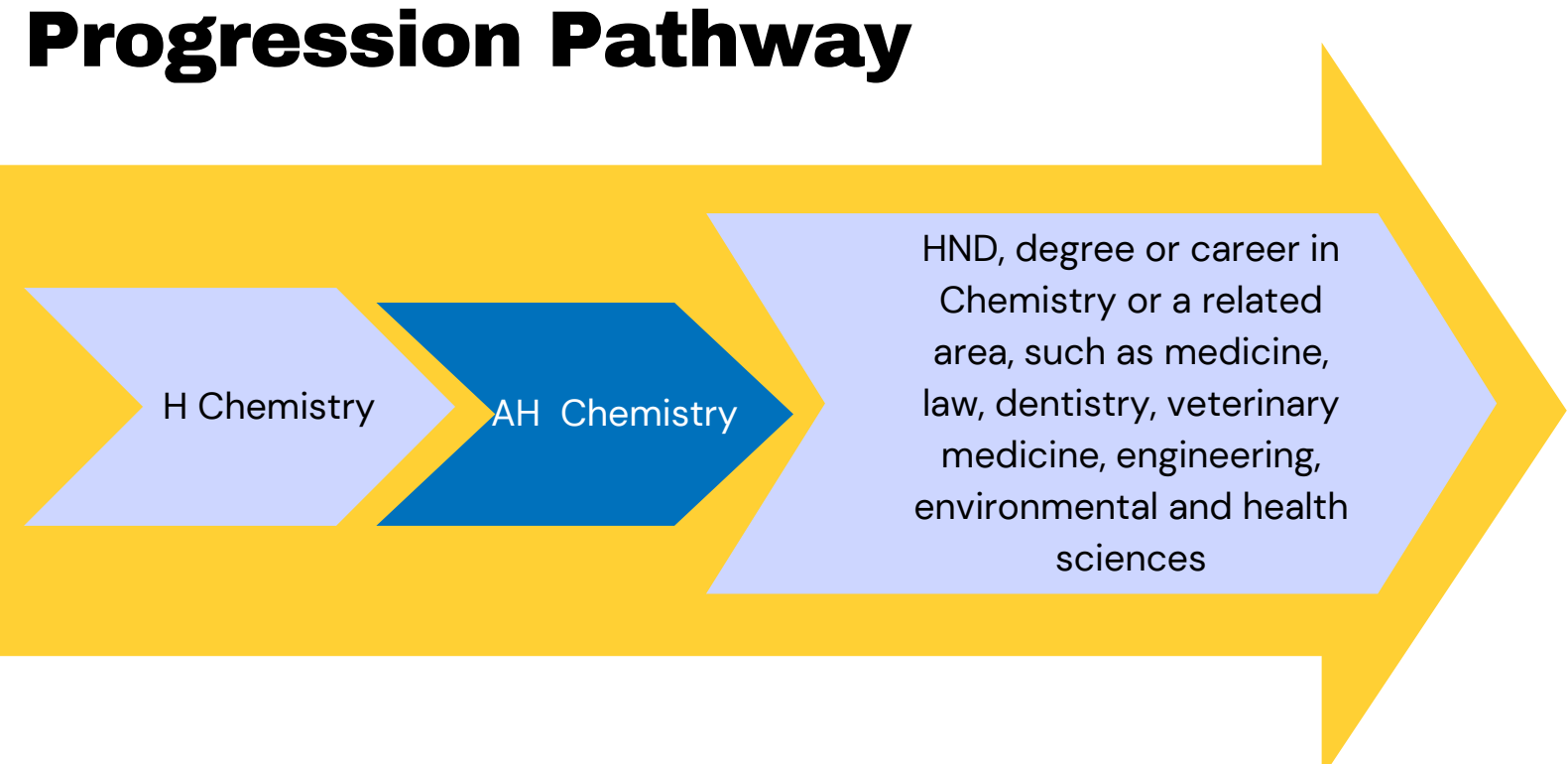
Course Assessment

The course assessment has two components totalling 120 marks:

- Question Paper – worth 80 marks (consisting of two sections, section 1 worth 10 marks, and section 2 worth 40 marks)
- Project – worth 40 marks.

Chemistry

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The course is comprised of three units:
Unit 1 - Inorganic Chemistry
Unit 2 - Physical Chemistry
Unit 3 - Organic Chemistry
Unit 4 - Researching Chemistry

Study at this level builds on previous knowledge and understanding of the physical and natural environments.

Throughout the course, concepts which have been introduced in the Higher course are developed, leading to deeper and broader understanding. The range of practical skills is also developed with many new techniques being introduced. The course also develops the skills of independent study and thought – particularly during the individual research project. The course is particularly suitable for candidates who wish to progress to degree courses either in chemistry or in subjects in which chemistry is a major component such as medicine, chemical engineering, and the environmental and health sciences.

Course Assessment

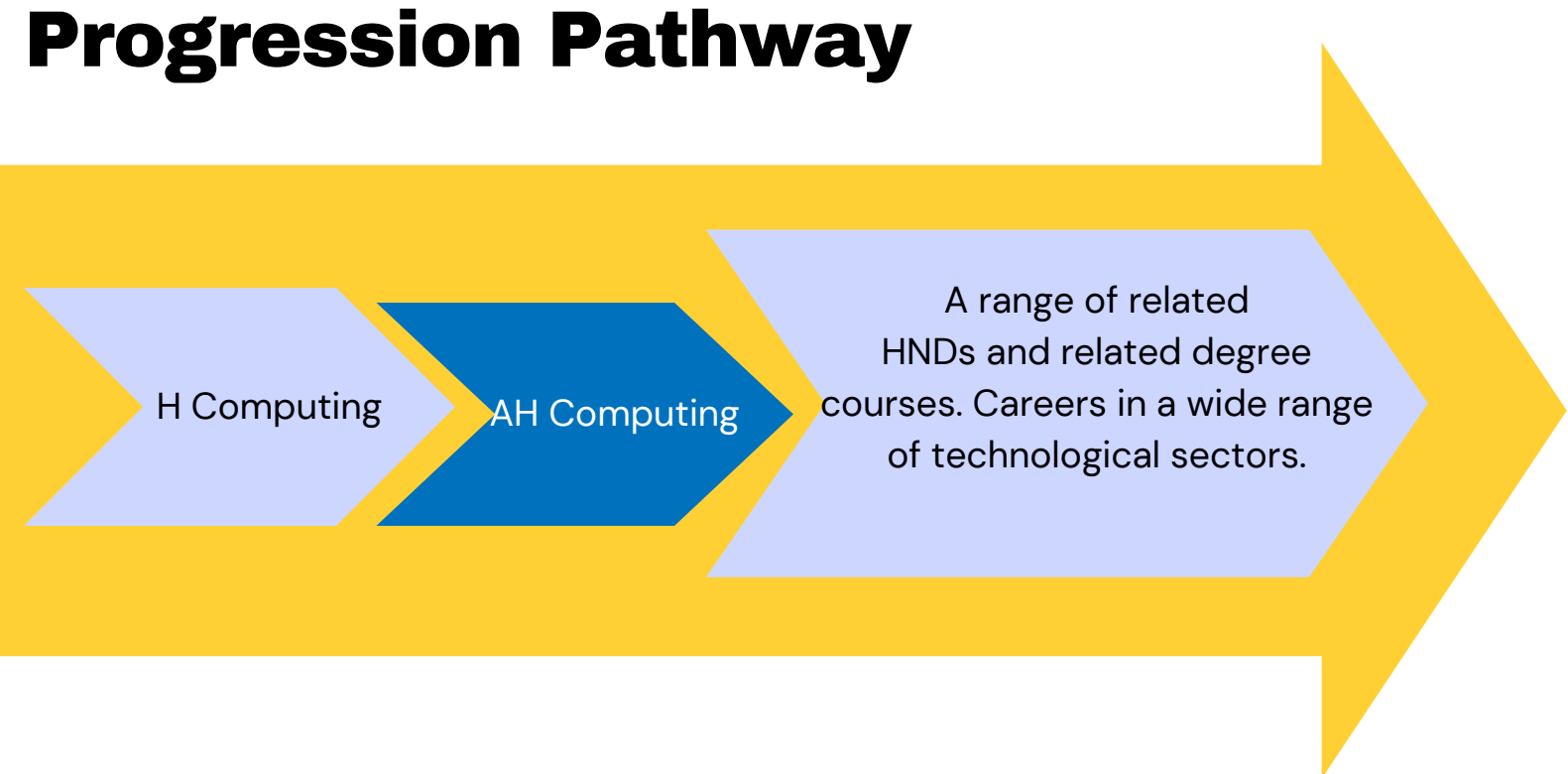
To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass the Course assessment. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award at levels A-D.

The Course assessment is externally assessed and composed of the following two components:

- Question Paper – 100 marks
- Project – 30 marks

Computing Science AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The course provides a broad and challenging exploration of computing technologies, focusing on developing advanced programming and research skills. Candidates learn to apply a rigorous approach to the design and development process.

The course has four areas of study:

- software design and development
- database design and development
- web design and development
- computer systems

Course Assessment

The Course assessment is externally assessed and composed of the following components:

- Question Paper – 55 marks

The question paper has three sections. Section 1 is mandatory, and candidates have the option to complete either section 2 or section 3.

- Section 1: Software design and development — 35 marks
- Section 2: Database design and development — 20 markS
- Section 3: Web design and development — 20 marks

Project 80 marks

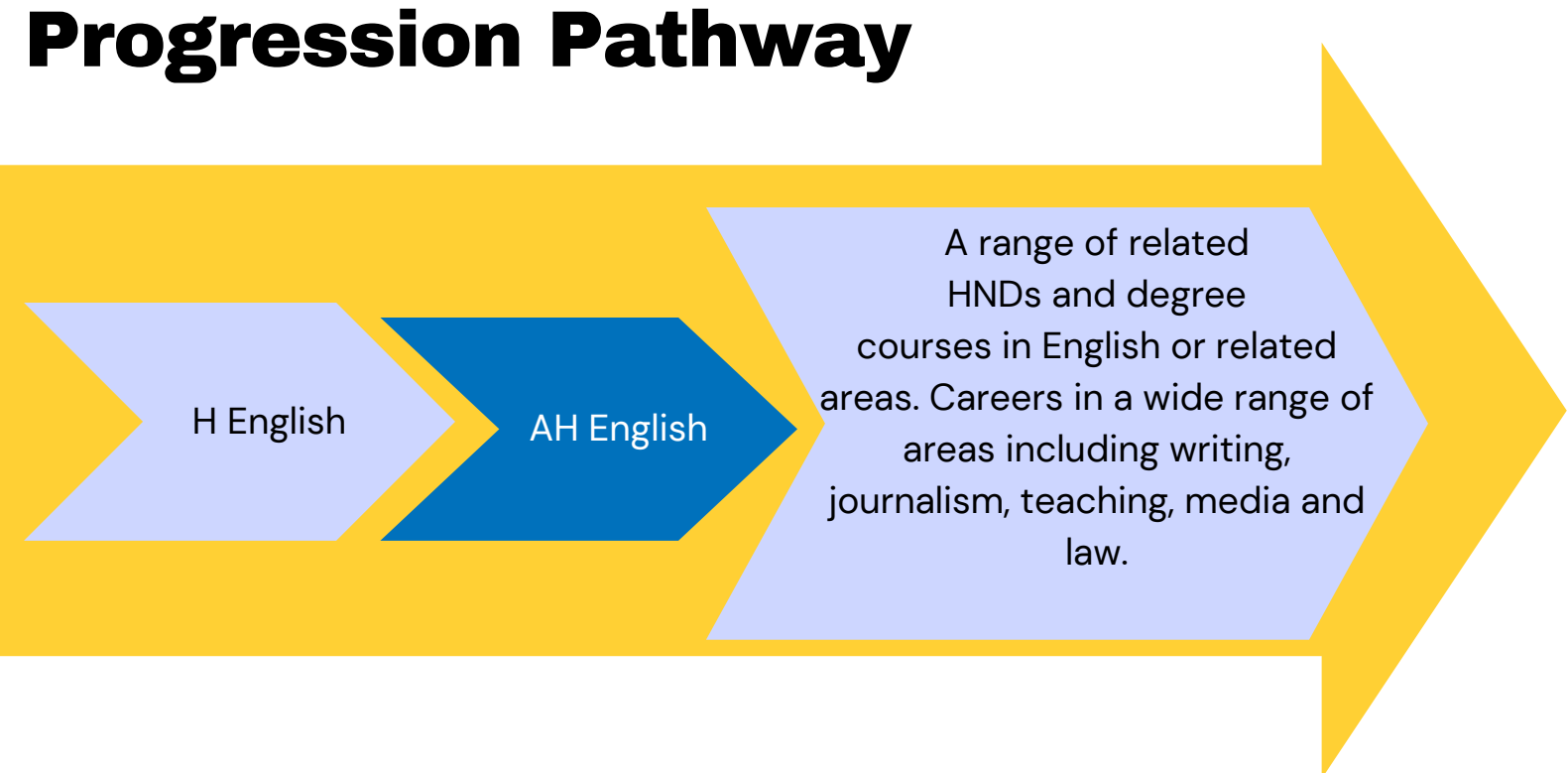
The project gives candidates the opportunity to:

- apply computational thinking to solve a complex computing problem
- analyse a complex problem within a computing science context
- design, develop, implement, test, and evaluate a digital solution to a complex problem
- demonstrate advanced skills in computer programming
- communicate understanding of complex concepts related to computing science, clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology

English

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The Advanced Higher English course is comprised of two units:
English: Analysis and Evaluation
Learners will provide evidence of their ability to critically respond to previously studied complex and sophisticated texts, and of their ability to carry out an independent study into an aspect or aspects of literature.
English: Creation and Production
Learners will provide evidence of their writing skills through the production of writing which demonstrates a range of skills necessary for the deployment of language to create effect.

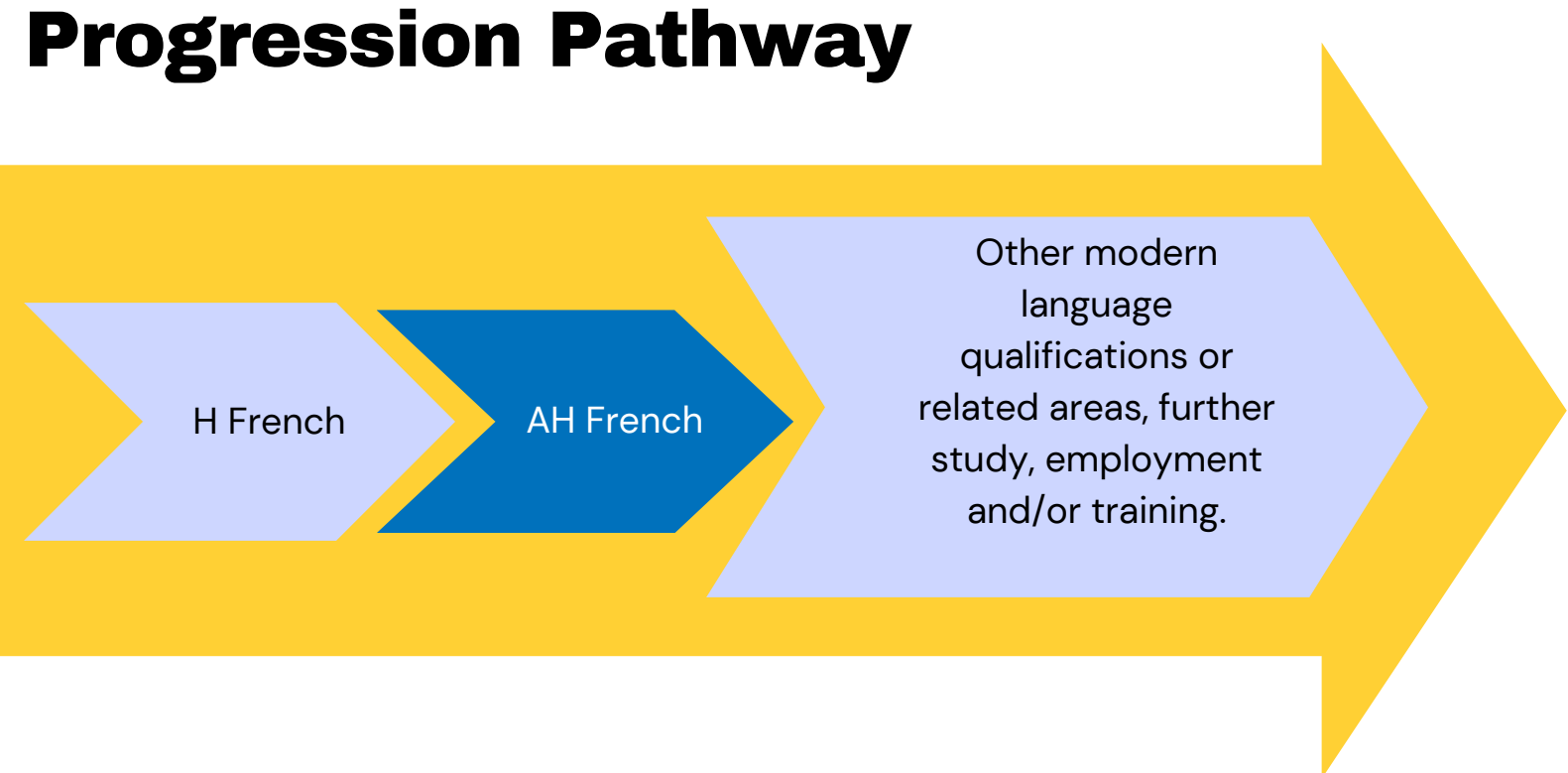
Course Assessment

The course will be graded A-D by the external assessment of:
• A two-part portfolio – total 60%
Part A: Dissertation – 30%
Part B: Writing – 30% (comprising two pieces of original writing)
• A two-part question paper – total 40%
Part A: Literary study – 20%
Part B: Textual Analysis – 20%

French

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The Advanced Higher French course consists of 3 units:

Understanding Language

Within the contexts of Society, Learning, Employability and Culture students have the opportunity to develop and extend their reading and listening skills

Using Language

In the same four contexts students develop and extend their talking and writing skills

Specialist study

Students develop and extend their planning, research, and analytical skills to undertake an independent study based on literature or media.

Course Assessment

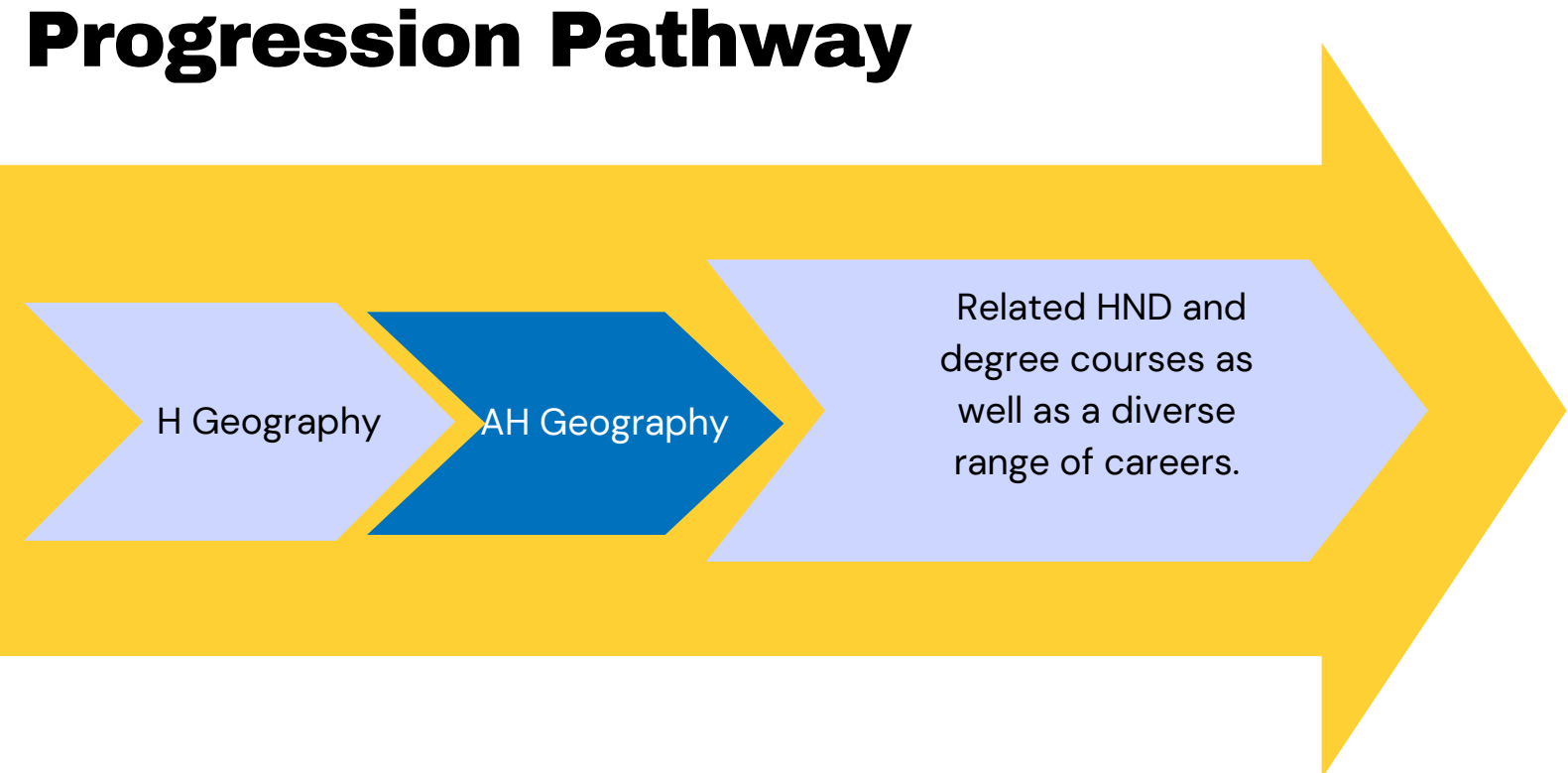
The course assessment will comprise:

- A Reading and Translation paper worth 50 marks
- A Listening and Discursive writing paper worth 70 marks
- A Talking performance marked by a Visiting Examiner worth 50 marks (completed in February or March)
- A portfolio (the final product of the work done on a literary or media topic). This is worth 30 marks and is sent off to the SQA for assessment by them before the Easter break.

Geography

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The Advanced Higher qualification in Geography aims to give learners an in-depth understanding of complex ideas about how the world works. The course provides learners with the chance to carry out their own research on geographical issues of interest to themselves, with an emphasis on fieldwork.

Course Assessment

There will be 2 elements that are externally assessed:

Question Paper 50/150

• The exam comprises 3 topics looking at:

Question 1 - Map Interpretation

Question 2 - Gathering and Processing Techniques

Question 3 - Geographical Data Handling

Folio 100/150

• Geographical Study

• Geographical Essay

There will be 2 internal unit assessments:

Geographical Skills

Developing a range of geographical methods and techniques. These include mapping skills, graphical techniques, and a wide range of statistical techniques for gathering, analysing, and interpreting geographical data.

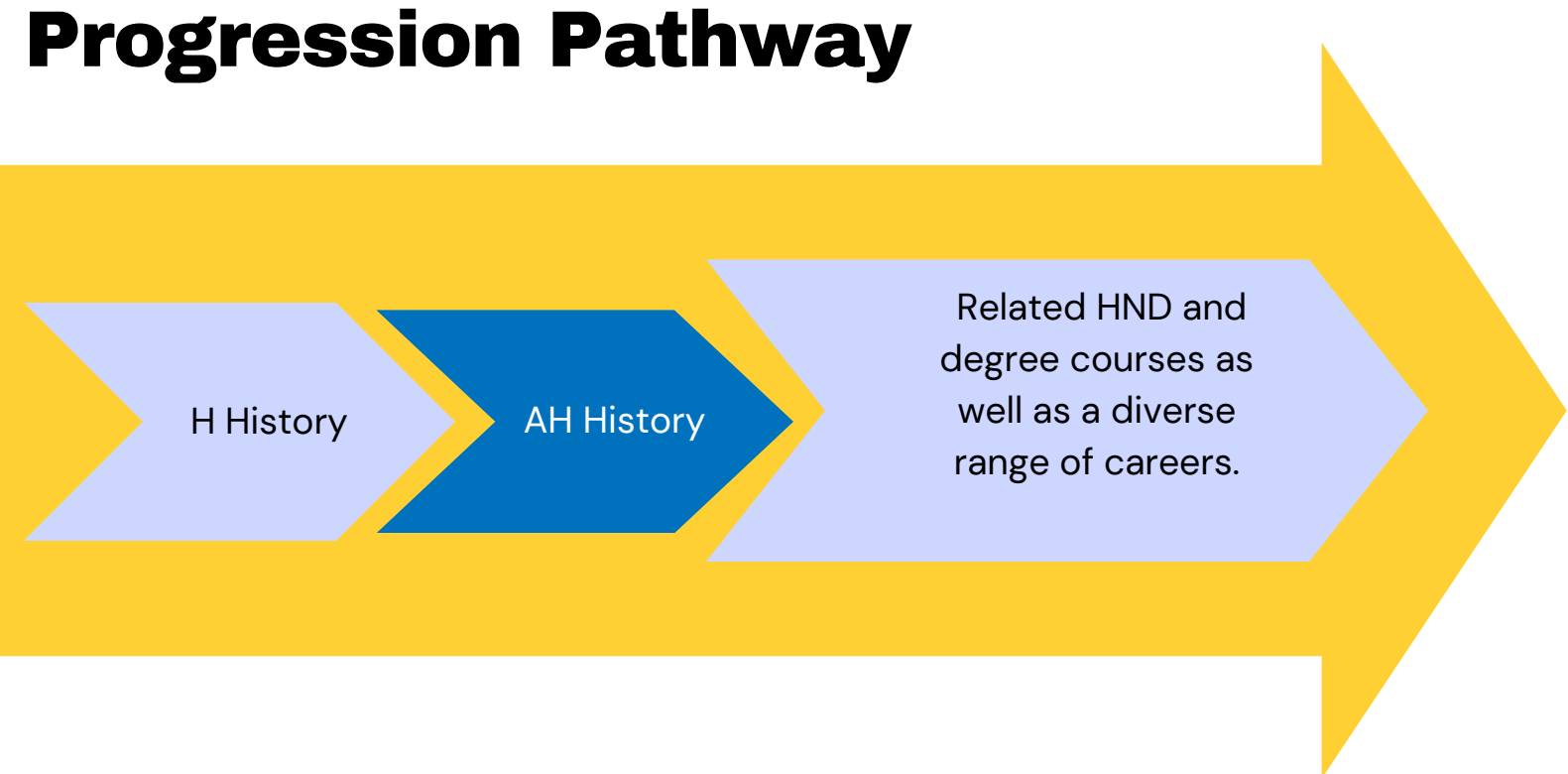
Geographical Issues

Developing critical thinking and the ability to evaluate viewpoints using evidence from a wide range of sources on complex, current geographical issues.

History

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

'Germany: from democracy to dictatorship, 1918–39

A study of the changing nature of political authority; the reasons for changes; and the consequences of the changing character of political authority.

The creation of the Weimar Republic, including: military defeat; the November Revolution and the Treaty of Versailles; social and political instability; economic crisis and hyperinflation.

A period of relative stability, including: currency reform and the Dawes plan; social welfare provision; the Stresemann era in foreign affairs.

The collapse of the Weimar Republic, including: economic depression and mass unemployment; the weakening of democracy; Brüning to Schleicher; the rise of Nazism; Hitler and the Nazi takeover of power.

The transformation of post-Weimar society, including: Nazi consolidation of power in Germany; Nazi social and racial policies; Nazi economic and foreign policies; resistance and opposition.

Course Assessment

The dissertation: The dissertation will allow learners to apply research analysis and evaluation skills as they investigate a complex historical issue. 50 marks.

The Question Paper (3 hours): The question paper is marked out of 90. It will be divided into two sections:

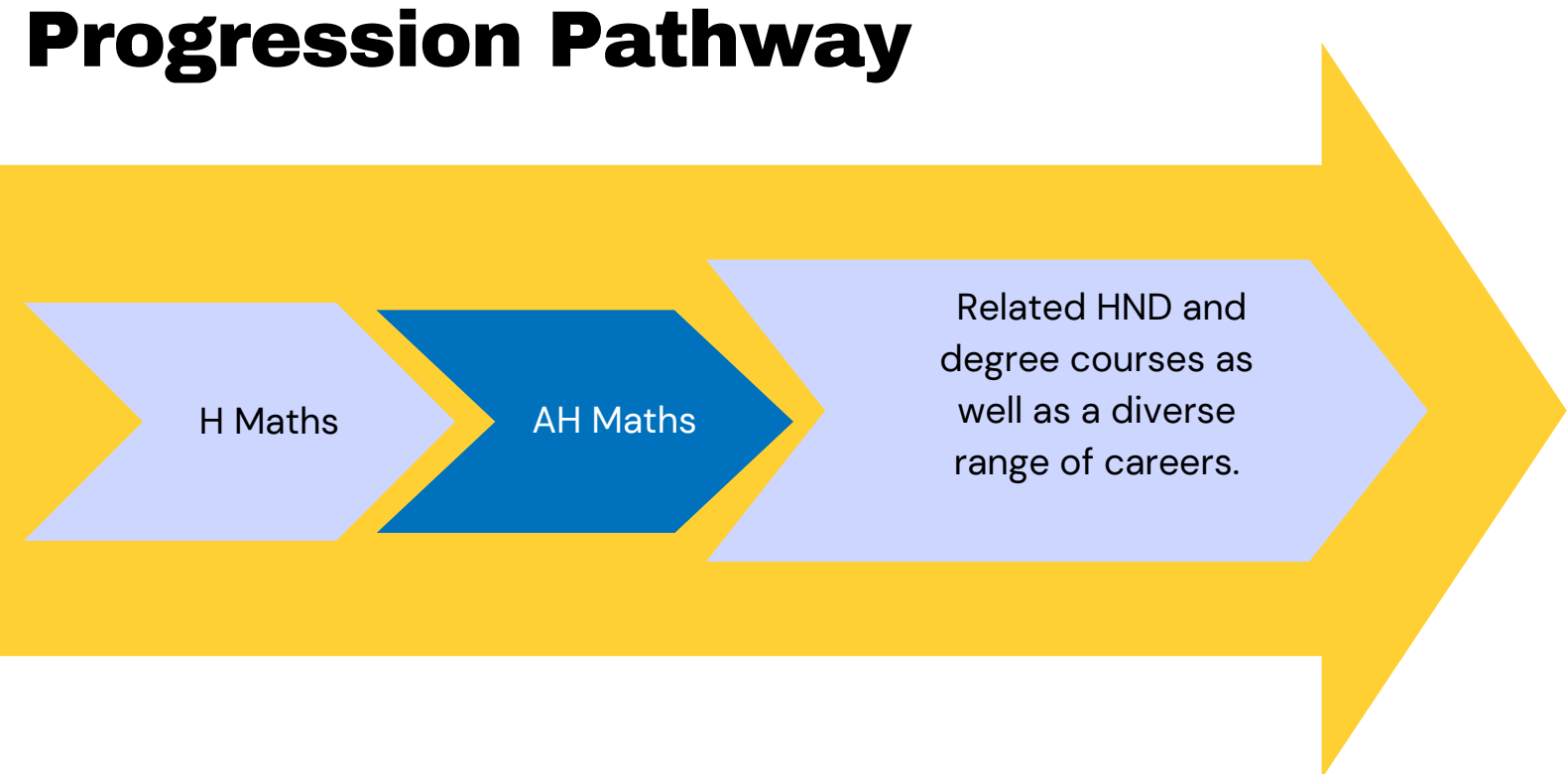
• Historical Issues - 50 marks. This Section will be made up of extended response questions requiring the learner to draw on the knowledge and understanding and skills acquired during the Course.

• Historical Sources - 40 marks. This Section will be made up of extended response questions requiring the learner to draw on the knowledge and understanding and skills acquired during the course and apply these to unseen historical sources.

Maths

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The Advanced Higher Mathematics course develops, deepens and extends the mathematical skills necessary at this level and beyond.
Throughout this course, candidates acquire and apply operational skills necessary for exploring complex mathematical ideas. They select and apply mathematical techniques and develop their understanding of the interdependencies within mathematics.
Candidates develop mathematical reasoning skills and gain experience in making informed decisions.

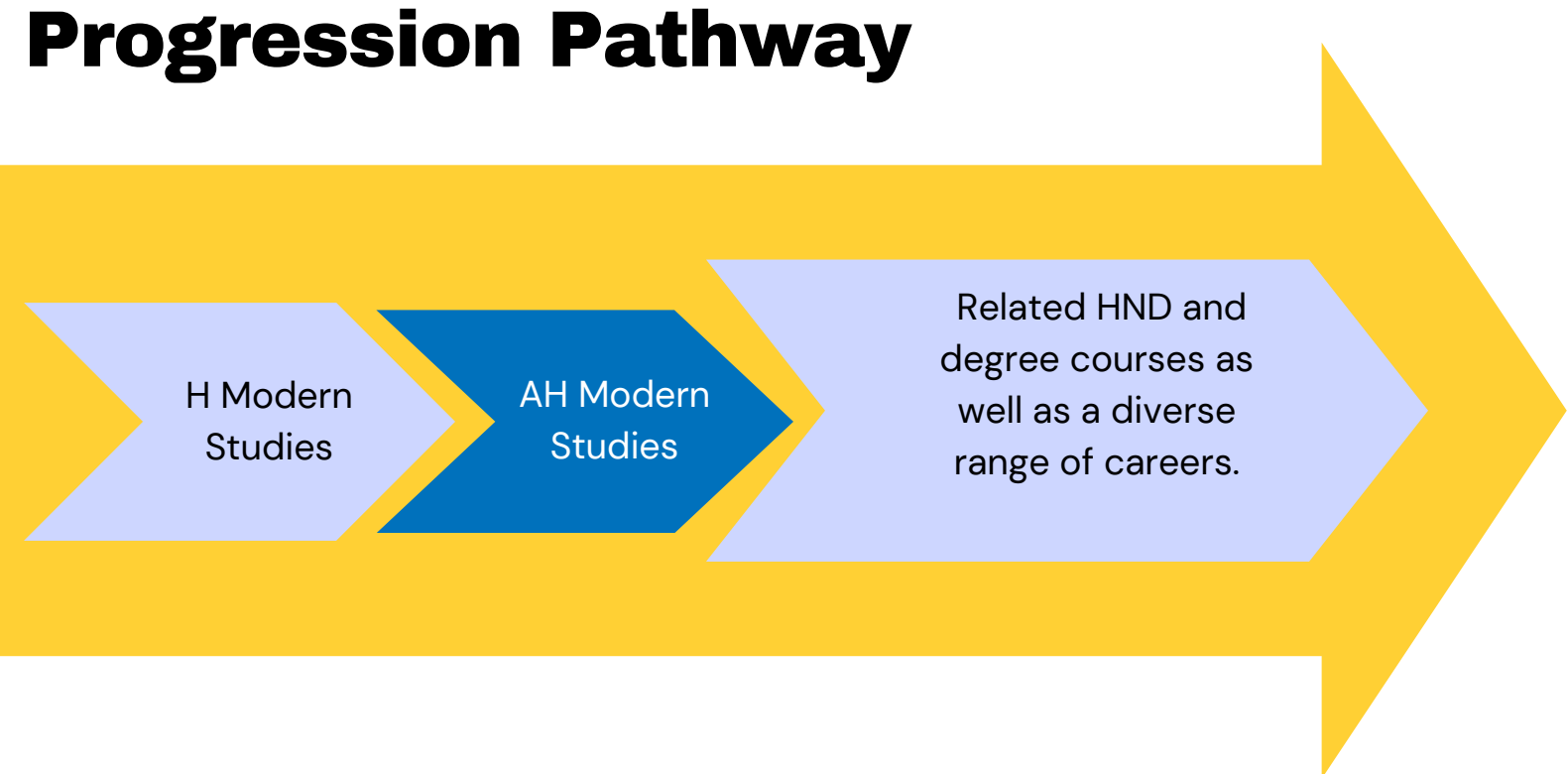
Course Assessment

Question paper 1 (non-calculator) 35 marks
This question paper allows candidates to demonstrate the application of mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding from across the course. Candidates must not use a calculator.
Question paper 2 80 marks
This question paper assesses mathematical skills. Candidates may use a calculator.
This question paper gives candidates an opportunity to apply numerical, algebraic, geometric, trigonometric, calculus, and reasoning skills.

Modern Studies

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

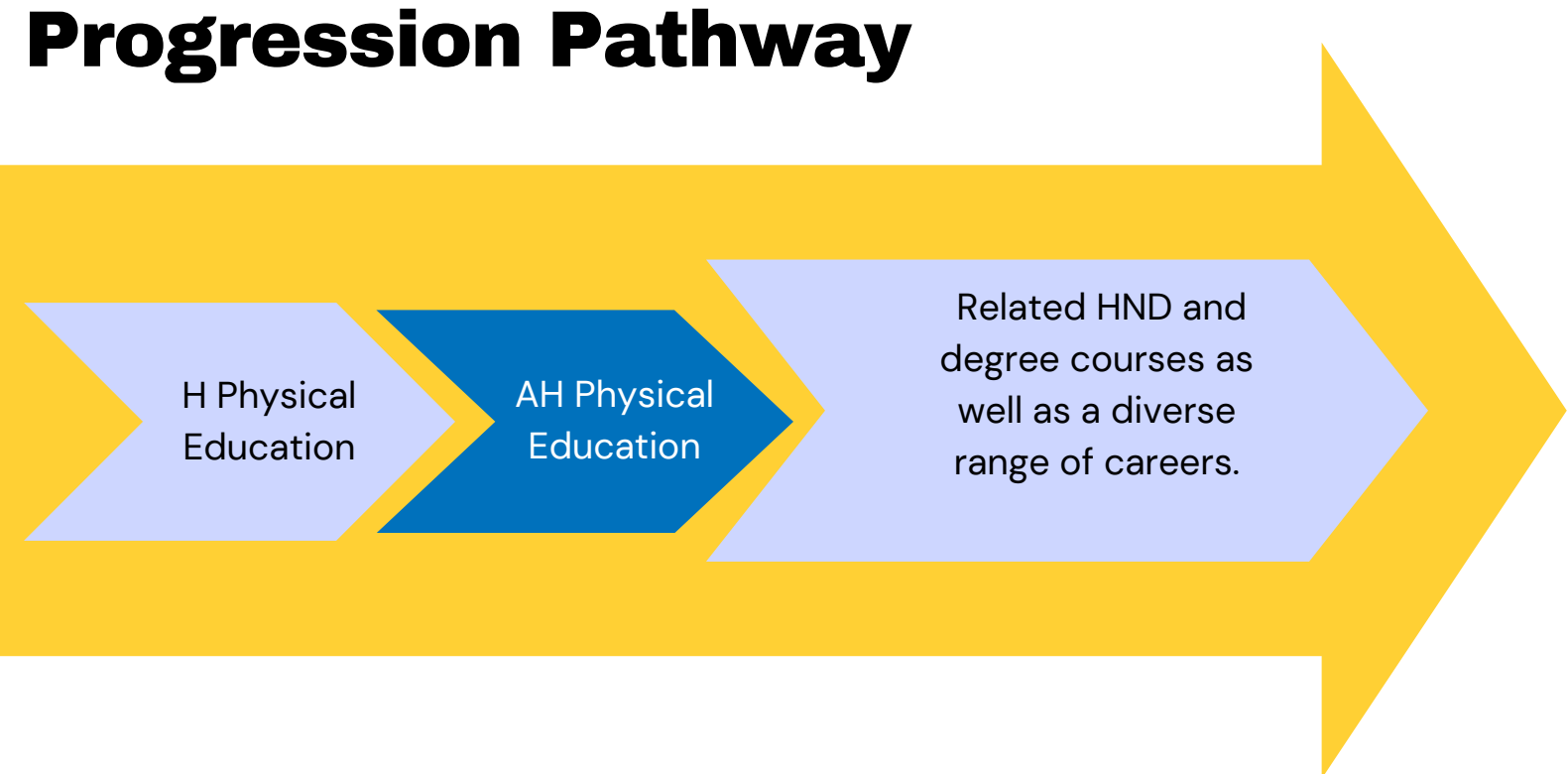
Unit 1: Social Issues: Law and Order and Social Research Methods
Context A- Understanding criminal behaviour:
A) Definitions, measurements and perceptions of crime.
B) Contemporary relevance of theories of criminal.
C) Social and economic impact of criminal behaviour.
Context B- Responses by society to crime:
A) Contemporary relevance of theories of punishment.
B) Preventative responses to crime.
C) Criminal justice responses to crime.
Research Methods:
A) Qualitative and quantitative social scientific research methodology.
B) Source evaluation.
Unit 2: Researching Contemporary Issues
Pupils conduct independent primary and secondary research on a law and order topic, developing the investigative skills of planning, researching, analysing, and presentation through the production of a 5000 word dissertation.

Course Assessment

To gain a full award for this course, pupils must achieve all the component units of the course (internally assessed) as well as an external assessment. The external assessment comprises an externally set and assessed question paper and the dissertation. In addition, pupils must pass internal assessments throughout the course relating to the content of Units 1 and 2.

Physical Education AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The main purpose of the Course is to research and analyse factors which underpin and impact on performance.
Learners will use this knowledge to develop their own performance or that of others. This will involve:

- Independent academic-research into factors impacting performance
- Investigating your own performance or that of others
- Planning and implementing a Performance Development Plan (PDP)
- Reviewing and evaluating the success of your PDP

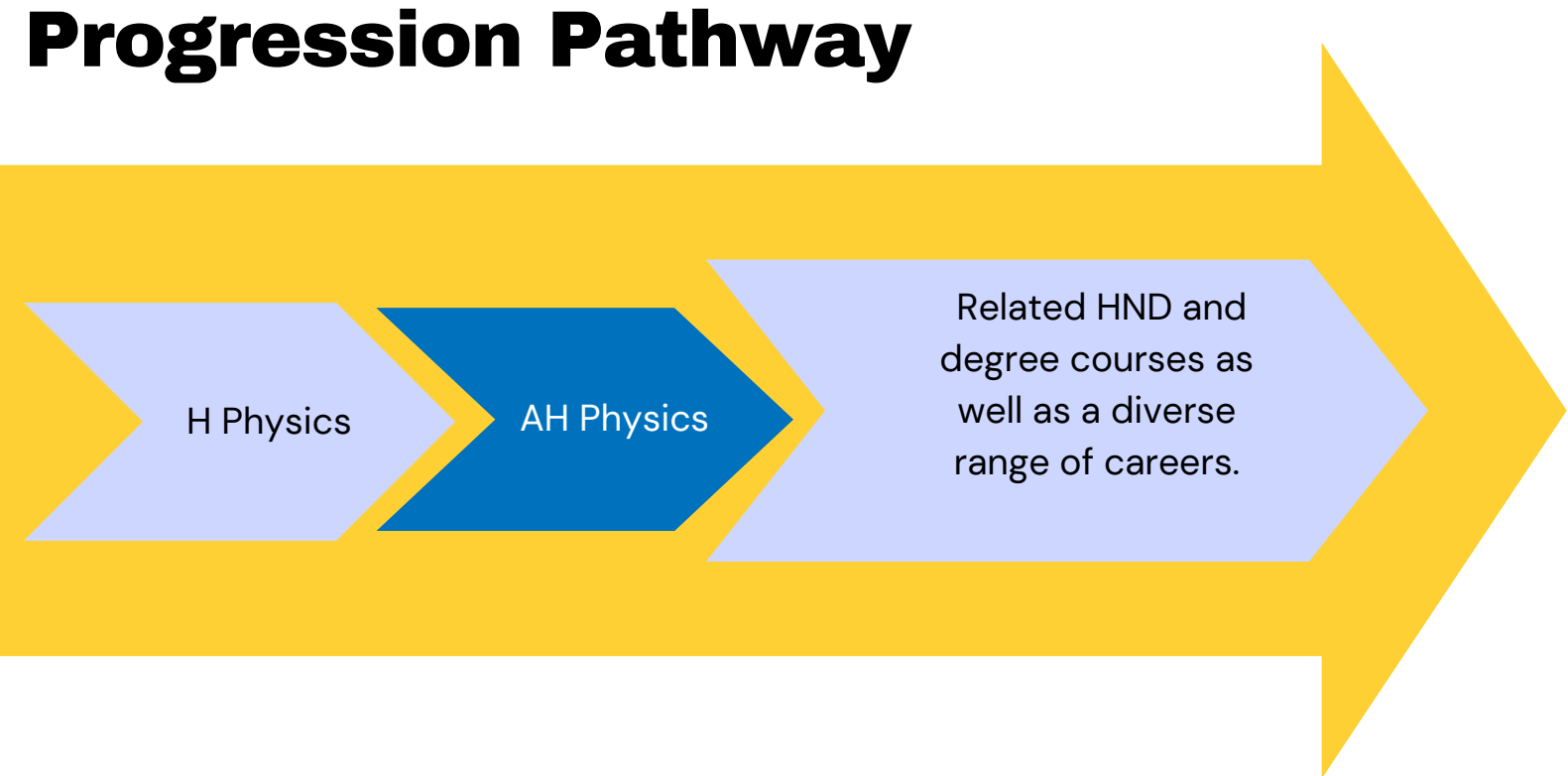
During the course, learners will also understand how to develop consistency of performance in challenging environments and become proficient in their ability to analyse and apply strategies and techniques to make appropriate decisions about their personal performance.
Advanced Higher PE is mainly classroom based. Pupils will gather data and complete their PDP in the activity they are involved with outside of school. There will be some practical lessons throughout the year.

Course Assessment

Project: Learners will complete a 5,000 word dissertation that will be submitted to the SQA for marking. This is worth 70% of the final grade. To be successful in this area of the course learners must have a strong background in written subjects (recommended A or B in Higher English or similar subject).
Learners will be assessed in an activity of their choosing. This will make up 30% of the final grade.The assessment will take place in a single, one-off assessment that takes place in a challenging or competitive environment. Learners should already be participating in a sport(s) at a high level, outside of school.

Physics

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

This course is composed of the following four Units:

Rotational Motion and Astrophysics

Develop and apply concepts and principles in a wide variety of situations involving angular motion, rotational dynamics, and angular momentum.

Quanta and Waves

Develop and apply concepts and principles in a wide variety of situations involving quantum theory and waves.

Electromagnetism

Develop and apply concepts and principles in a wide variety of situations involving electromagnetism.

Investigating Physics

This unit offers opportunities for independent learning set within the context of experimental physics.

Learners will identify, research, plan and carry out a physics investigation of their choice.

Course Assessment

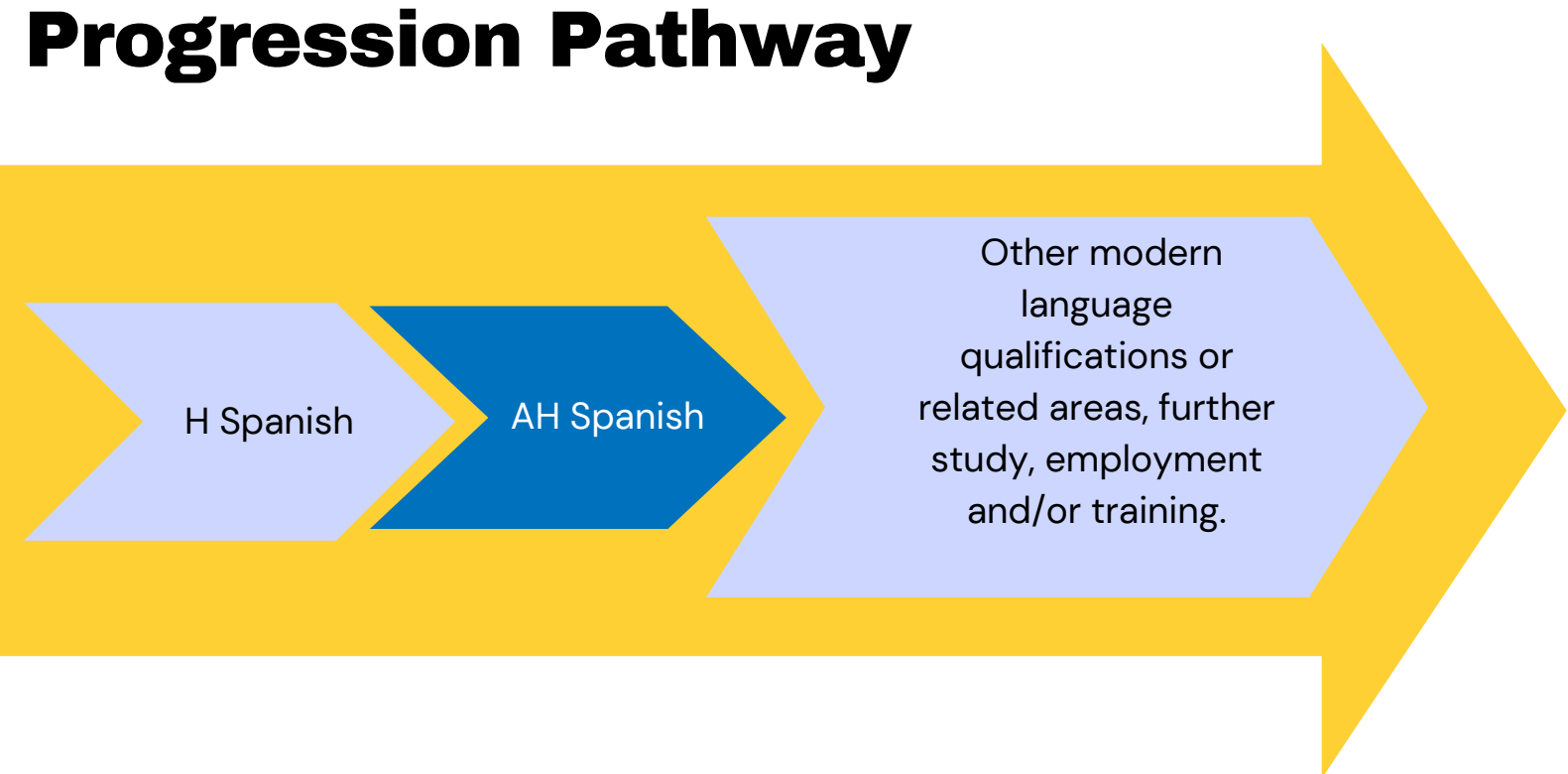
Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award at levels A-D. The Course assessment is externally assessed and composed of the following two components:

- Component 1 — question paper 100 marks.
- Component 2 — project 30 marks.

Spanish

AH

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The Advanced Higher Spanish course consists of 3 units:

Understanding Language

Within the contexts of Society, Learning, Employability and Culture students have the opportunity to develop and extend their reading and listening skills

Using Language

In the same four contexts students develop and extend their talking and writing skills

Specialist study

Students develop and extend their planning, research, and analytical skills to undertake an independent study based on literature or media

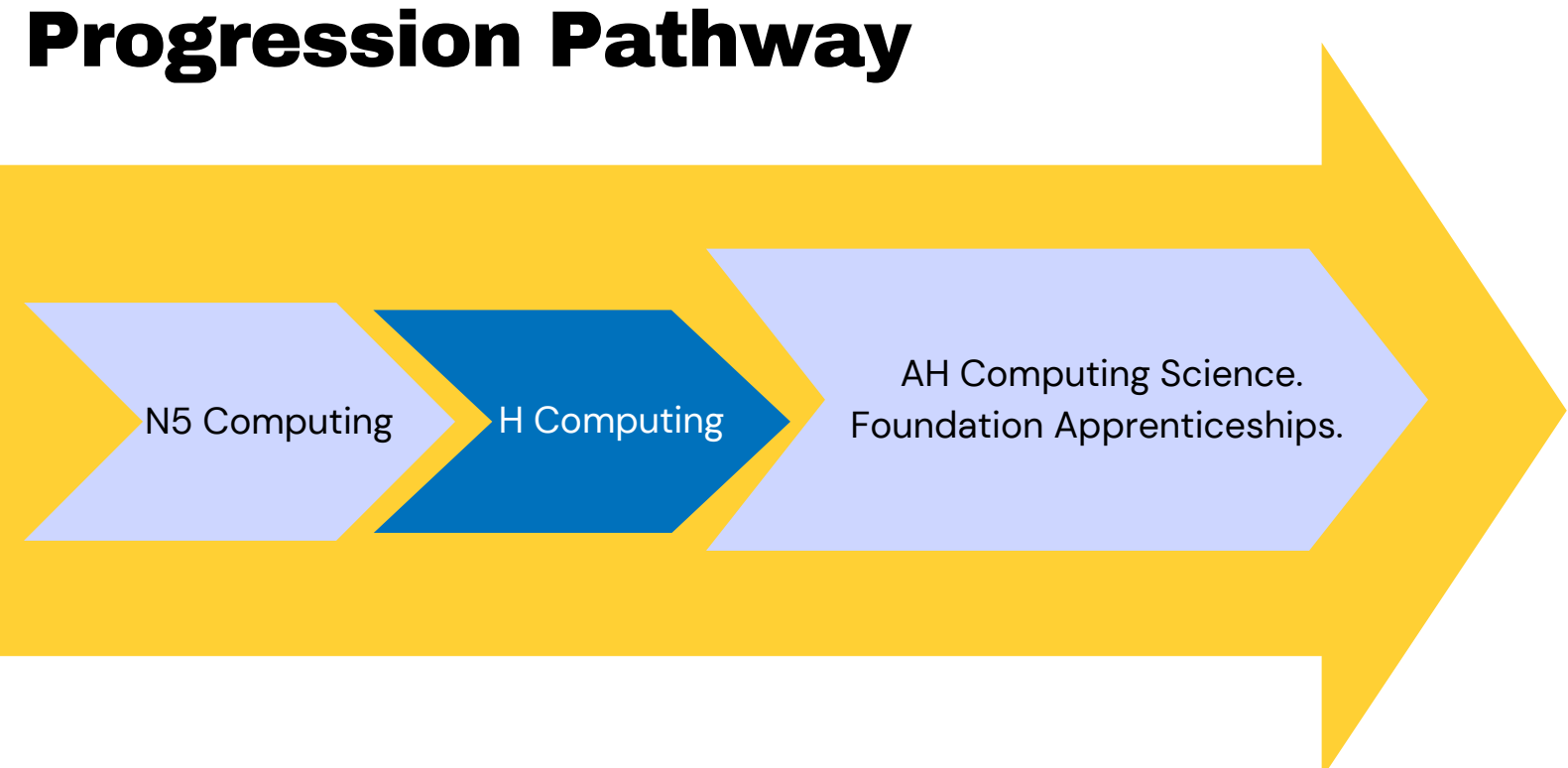
Course Assessment

The course assessment will comprise:

- A Reading and Translation paper worth 50 marks
- A Listening and Discursive writing paper worth 70 marks
- A Talking performance marked by a Visiting Examiner worth 50 marks (completed in February or March)
- A portfolio (the final product of the work done on a literary or media topic). This is worth 30 marks and is sent off to the SQA for assessment by them before the Easter break.

Computing Science

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The Course enables learners to develop an extended range of computing and computational thinking skills, including skills in analysis and problem-solving, design and modelling, developing, implementing, testing, and evaluating digital solutions across a range of contemporary contexts.
The Course has two mandatory Units:

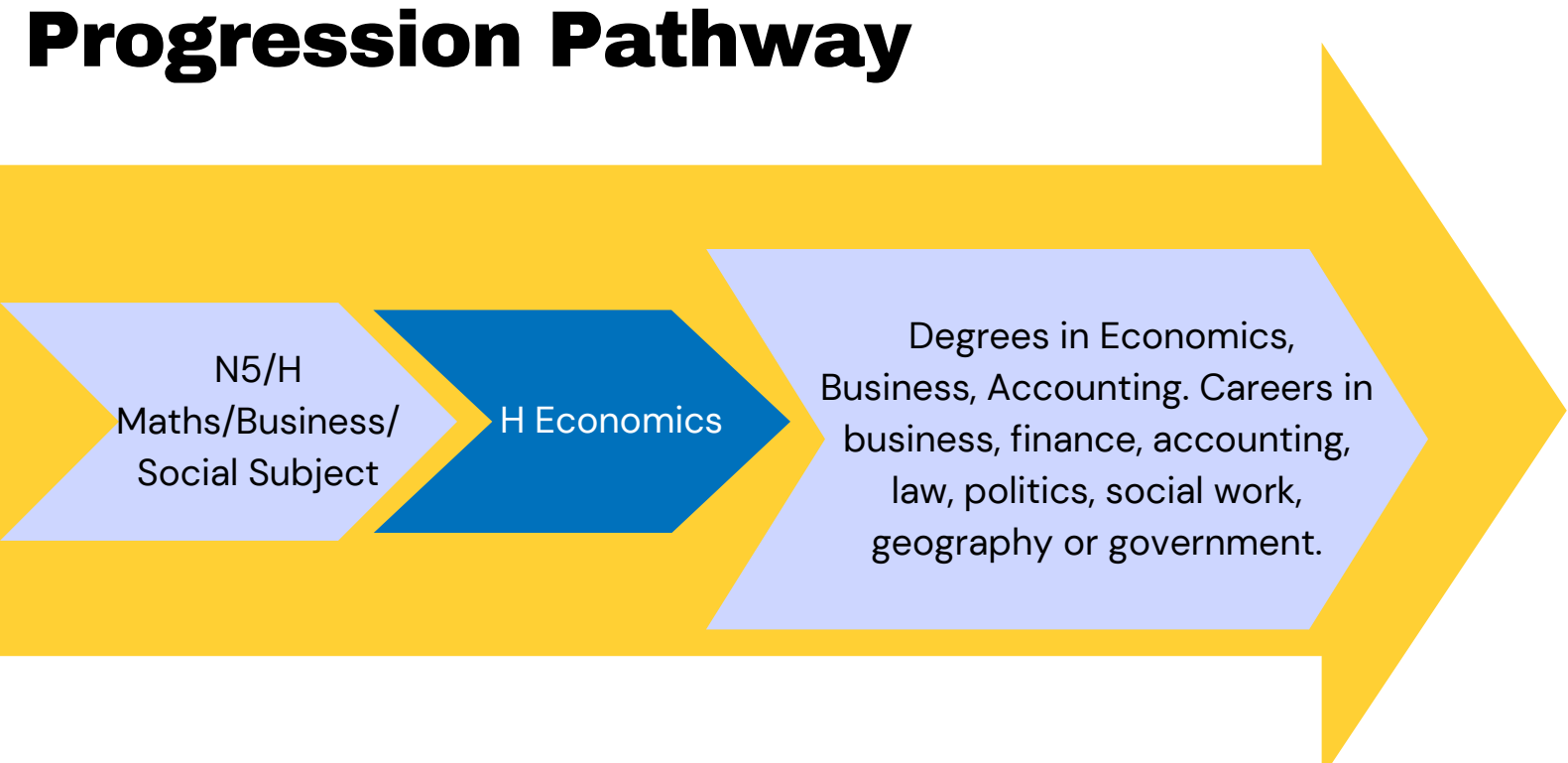
- Software Design and Development (Computational constructs, Data types and structures, Testing and documenting solutions, Algorithm specification) and
- Information System Design and Development (Database and Web based structures, Media types, Coding and testing

Course Assessment

The learner will be assessed by a combination of a question paper worth 90 marks and an assignment worth 60 marks. Learners will apply knowledge and skills to solve an appropriately challenging computing science problem. The question paper introduces breadth to the assessment.

Economics

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The course consists of three areas of study:

Economics of the market

Candidates develop their understanding of how to analyse the basic economic problem. They examine and analyse how demand and supply drives resource allocation and economic production.

UK economic activity

Candidates develop their understanding of how to analyse government income and expenditure. They evaluate the role of the public and private sectors in the economy. Candidates develop the ability to assess the policies and other methods used by the UK government to achieve its economic aims.

Global economic activity

Candidates develop their understanding of how to analyse the global nature of economics. They explore global trade and its importance to the UK economy. Candidates examine economic features and impacts of developing countries, emerging economies, global institutions and the EU.

Students should be on track to achieve a National 5 A/B in Maths to take this subject.

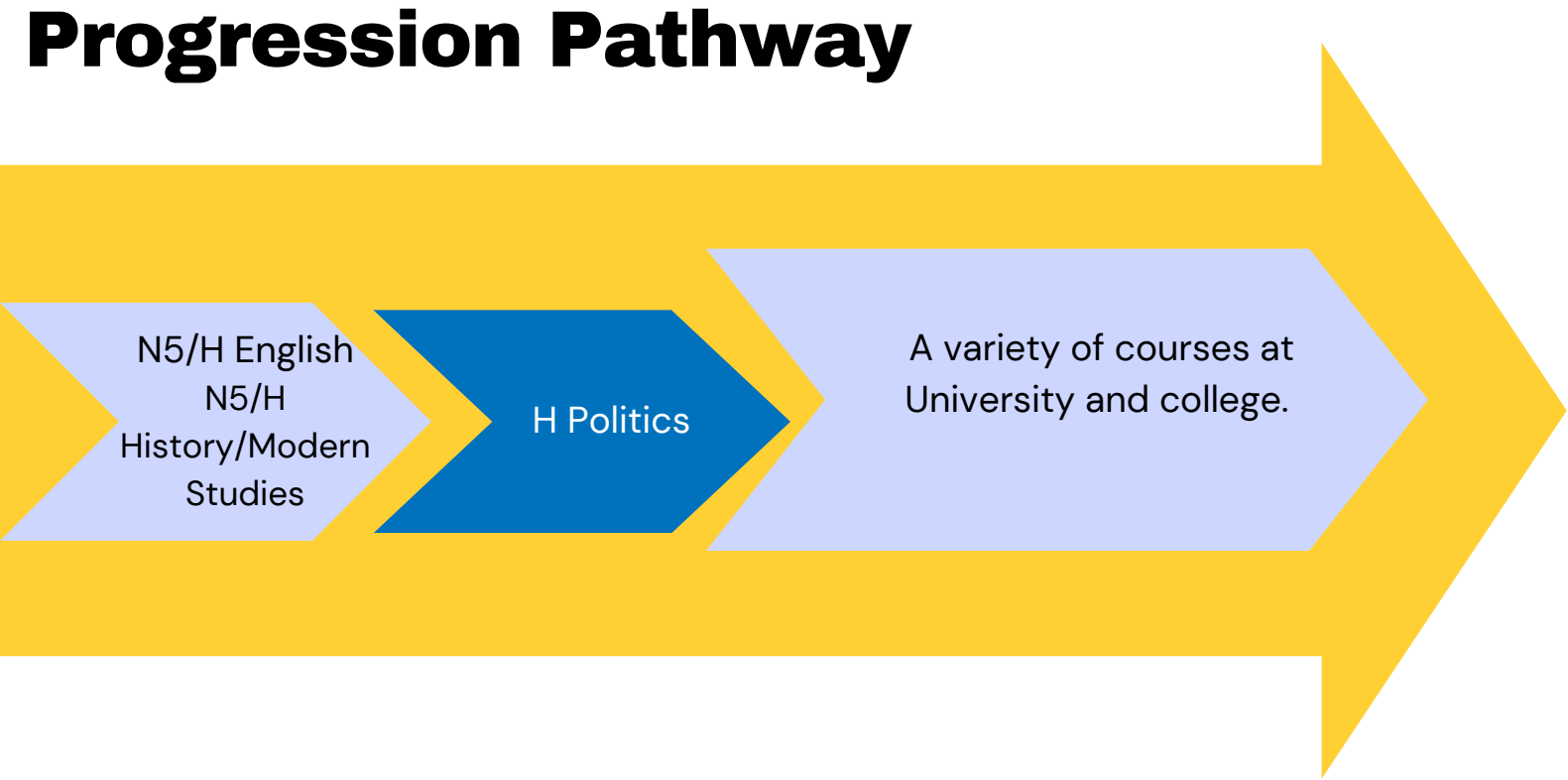
Course Assessment

Question paper - 90 marks

Assignment - 30 marks. This will be sent to the SQA for marking.

Politics

Progression Pathway



Course Outline

The course consists of three areas of study: Political theory, Political systems, and Political parties and elections. There is considerable flexibility in the contexts that can be studied within each area to allow for personalisation and choice.

Students must be on track to pass N5 English at A or B as a minimum entry requirement.

Course Assessment

Question paper 1 52 marks

The question paper has three sections:

Section 1: Political theory

Section 2: Political systems

Section 3: Political parties and elections.

Question paper 2 28 marks

This question paper enables candidates to demonstrate the following skills:

- comparing information about political theories, systems and parties
- interpreting, evaluating and synthesising a wide range of electoral data

Assignment 30 marks

The assignment asks candidates to:

- identify a political issue that invites discussion and debate
- research a political issue using a range of sources of information
- show detailed factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of a political issue
- communicate information from, and refer to, political sources
- analyse and synthesise information in a structured manner
- draw a detailed and reasoned conclusion, showing an awareness of different points of view.