



FORFAR ACADEMY

Senior Phase

Prospectus -

Highers & Advanced Highers

Personalisation and Choice Booklet

2020 – 2021



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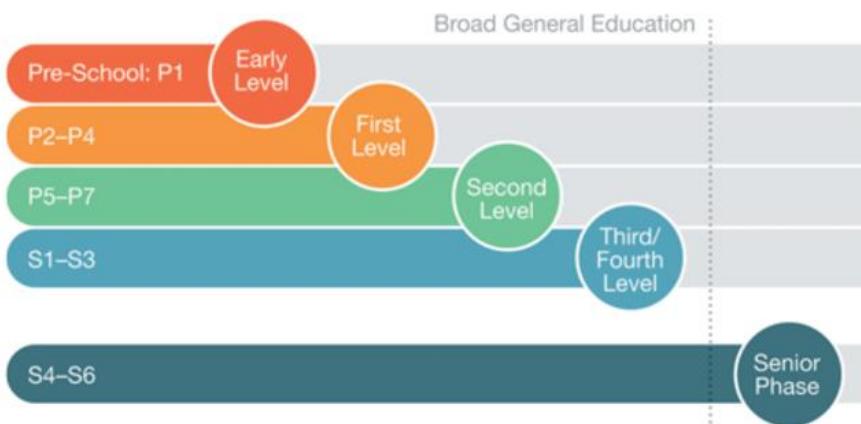


INTRODUCTION

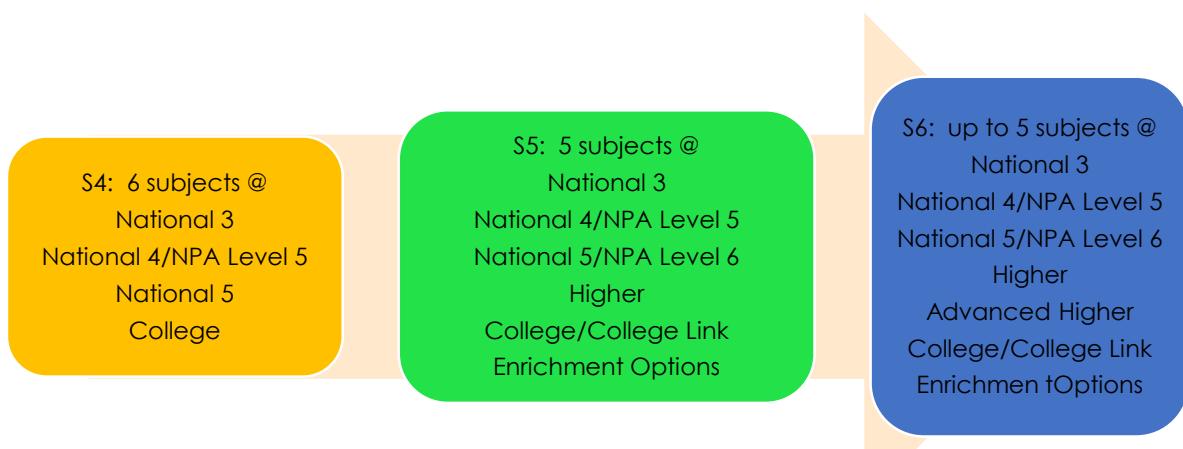
Students have already embarked on the Senior Phase in S4 where they made choices to study National qualifications. S5 and S6 allows students to further build their learner journey to either study to a higher level or broaden their curriculum. The Senior Phase journey at Forfar Academy has a clear purpose:

- To enable all students to undertake a range of national qualifications at the appropriate level to ensure post school progression into a positive destination.
- To further develop the knowledge, skills and qualities to support our students to take a meaningful and worthwhile place in society.
- To further develop the skills for life, learning and work.
- To experience opportunities for personal development and achievement.
- To experience challenge and success.
- To encourage an active and healthy lifestyle.
- To support planning for their future lives, careers and lifelong learning.

The Curriculum for Excellence levels from ages 3 – 18 are set out below:



Students in S5 and S6 will study courses at National 5¹, Higher or Advanced Higher level. There are also a number of achievement and personal development courses and experiences on offer. The number and range of subjects that students can study in the Senior Phase is set out below:



K Mohamed

Head Teacher

¹ Further information can be found in the Nationals Personalisation and Choice Booklet.



THE COURSE CHOICE PROCESS

In order to support pupils and families to make the best possible choice of learner journey, a number of important activities will take place:

- **SE class:** pupils will be shown how to access the course choice booklet from the school website.
- **Advice sessions with class and Principal Teachers:** staff will talk to pupils in every subject about the courses and subjects available and opportunities for progression.
- **Discussion at home:** we would ask all parents and carers to spend time reading this information booklet and talking about the **Key Questions**.
- **Course choice interview:** pupils will be invited to meet with their Principal Teacher Pupil Care & Support (PT PC&S). The **Learning Plan** booklet will be completed prior to and during this interview. At your interview you will discuss the list of **Key Questions** as well as information from teachers and your most recent school report. Parents are welcome to attend this meeting if they wish and can arrange this by contacting the relevant PCS teacher.
- **Course choice confirmation:** course choice information for around 500 senior phase pupils will be passed to the timetabling team who will endeavour to offer every single learner their first choice of options. Where this is not possible, the school will contact you to discuss alternatives.

KEY QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

When making preliminary choices you should consider several factors:

- What skills and qualities do I have?
- What am I interested in?
- What is my ideal learning environment?
- What job, course or career am I aiming for when I leave school?
- Which school based qualifications do I need to achieve my career plans?
- What are the entry requirements for each S5/6 course I am interested in?
- What do I expect to get in my final exams this year?
- What advice have I been given on this year's subject choices? And by whom?
- Am I being ambitious yet realistic in my plans?

CAREERS INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

The careers service, Skills Development Scotland, operates an excellent online help service, www.myworldofwork.co.uk, which all pupils have registered with. It includes extensive information on a wide range of jobs and careers. College and University courses often specify specific subjects at National 4, 5 or Higher level and you should research this carefully. The PC&S team will be able to help too, before and during the course choice interview. The school's link Careers Adviser, Lynn Melvin, leads our programme for the development of Career Management Skills and she is also available to support pupils and parents requiring specific or more detailed advice. Pupils can request an appointment through their PC&S teacher and parents / carers can get in touch with Lynn Melvin through the school office.



RETURNING TO THE SENIOR PHASE

Returning to the senior phase is a very important decision. For you to have a successful year you must:

- Meet all the course requirements.
- Display high standards of behaviour and set a good example for junior students.
- Have excellent attendance and timekeeping.
- Keep up to date with coursework and homework.
- Show commitment and perseverance when courses become challenging.
- Meet all course and assessment guidelines.
- Communicate well with your subject teachers and PC&S Teacher.
- Wear full school uniform (S6 pupils should wear the school blazer).

On return to S5 and S6 you will be asked to sign a Learning Agreement that will involve you meeting the above commitments. If you fail to honour your Learning Agreement you may be asked to leave school.

EDUCATIONAL MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES (EMAs)

The EMA is an allowance of £30 per week which can be paid to eligible young people who stay on in education after their 16th birthday. Non-compliance with all conditions of the Learning Agreement will jeopardise these payments. Pupils will be advised of any concerns with regard to this prior to action being taken.

An EMA paid to a pupil at school can be continued if the young person continues onto a course at College. Young people have to reapply for an EMA each year. It can be paid for a maximum of 3 years. The EMA payment is based on the level of household taxable income. Applications are available online from www.angus.gov.uk/ema

WIDER ACHIEVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

All students will be encouraged to develop leadership skills by undertaking personal development activities that will be on offer throughout the school session. S6 pupils will have the opportunity to support younger pupils through activities such as paired reading, the buddy system and peer support. They can also apply to become a school prefect, giving them the opportunity to support the wider school community.

S6 pupils have the opportunity to select Citizenship as one of their options in any column. This allows students to work closely with staff in the departments to support younger pupils in their learning. Through this students also have the opportunity to gain a Saltire Award for volunteering.

All S5/6 students can choose enrichment courses which will feature as part the enrichment column on the timetable. All S5 pupils must choose courses that add up to 4 periods in total.

S6 pupils may choose enrichment options but this will depend upon their course choice overall. In some of the options there will be SQA units/awards on offer as a part of the chosen course.

Where a student has not completed National 5 Numeracy/Literacy or is not doing National 5 Maths/English this session, National 5 Numeracy/Literacy MUST be chosen.

Pupils should rank their choices from the enrichment column 1-4, with choices 1 and 2 being the preferred courses, so that there are back-up choices in the event of any course not running or over-subscription.

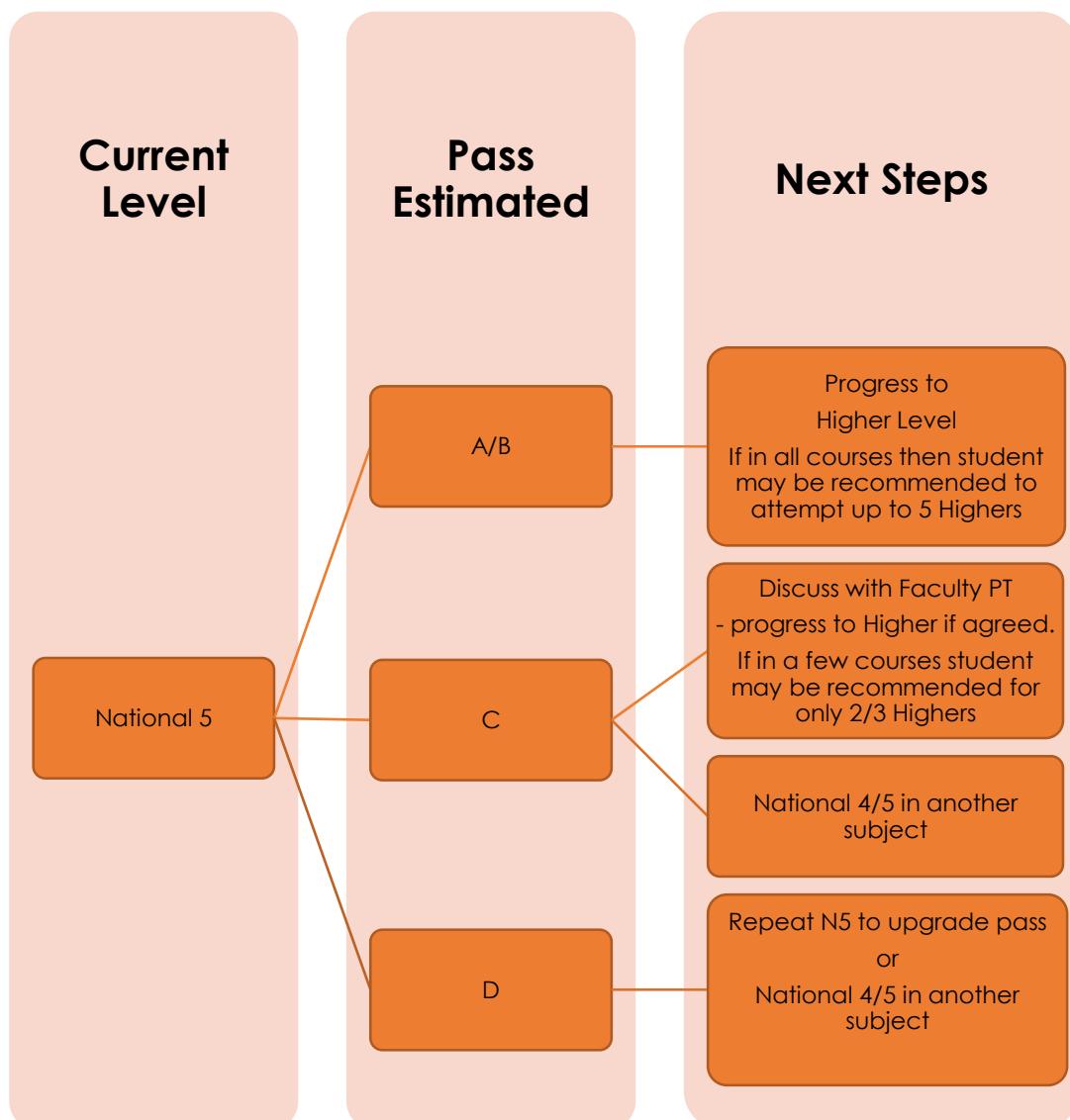
More information on the enrichment opportunities on offer can be found on the school website.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSES

Access to Higher courses is generally available to students who have achieved National 5 A or B in that subject. A pupil who has achieved a National 5 C may be considered for a Higher course where there is clear evidence that they did not perform as well as expected at National 5, that the course is clearly required as part of the student's planned learning journey however this will always be subject to agreement from the relevant Principal Teacher of Faculty. Only pupils who are estimated at achieving 5 A/B passes at National 5 should consider attempting 5 Highers. A pupil who has achieved a National D pass will not be eligible for studying at Higher level but may consider trying to upgrade their National 5 pass and if successful could attempt the Higher the following year.

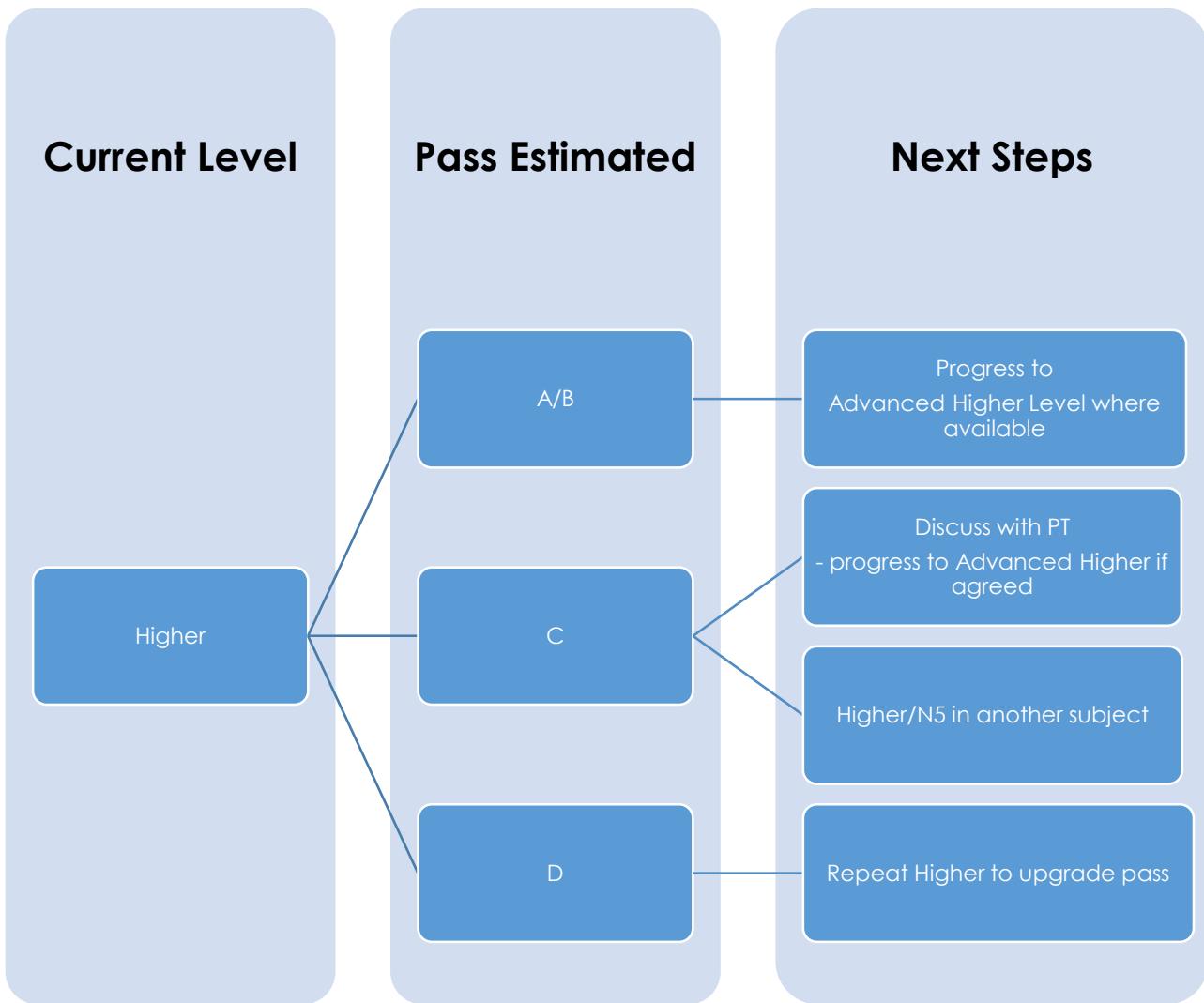
Consideration may be given to students entering a Higher subject that they may not have done at National 5 level provided they have National 5 passes at A/B in relevant subject areas that suggest this course would be suitable for them. The school will make the final decision as to whether students meet the entry requirements in this case and, as above, students would have to be signed off by PT Faculty.





ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSES

Students who are estimated to pass Higher level courses with an A/B can progress to Advanced Higher level where it is available. Students may also choose to another Higher course. If this is a Higher with no prior attainment in the subject this must be agreed by the Faculty PT and there must be evidence of a suitable level of attainment in National 5 Maths and/or English. S6 pupils wishing to choose Higher Philosophy or Higher Psychology must be on track to pass Higher English in S5.



Students should remember that level 6 and 7 courses are available as part of a blended learning approach in partnership with Dundee and Angus College as outlined at the end of this booklet.

The following section outlines the Higher and Advanced courses we will be offering for the next session. More detailed information can also be accessed from the SQA website.



EXPRESSIVE & PERFORMING ARTS

Art and Design



Courses in Art & Design are broad based qualifications which are suitable for pupils ranging from those who have a general interest in Art & Design to those with a strong interest in developing and extending their applied skills and understanding in this subject. The skills and qualities that learners gain throughout the course will be valuable for learning, life and work.

Pupils will develop and deepen:

- Analytical drawing skills
- Media handling skills in a range of contexts
- Knowledge and understanding of the Design process
- Knowledge and understanding of social and cultural factors influencing Art & Design
- How to reflect both verbally and in written forms on their own work and that of others
- How to develop research skills

Course Content

The 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 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.

Expressive Activity

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

Design Activity

In this unit 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 Unit, learners will develop critical understanding of designers' working practices and the social and cultural influences impacting 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.

Homework

Pupils are expected to undertake between 1 and 2 hours of homework a week depending on their level of study. This may involve practical, research or written work and is intended to support the development of classwork as well as revision.

Assessment

Candidates undertaking National 5 and Higher will study both Expressive and Design elements. These courses consist of two mandatory Units where pupils investigate and develop ideas relating to their chosen themes and contexts. Pupils will also work on an Expressive and a Design Portfolio and a written exam with work relating to that undertaken in their Unit. Units are internally assessed on a pass or fail basis. Portfolios are externally assessed by the SQA as is the written exam. Course 8 assessment is graded A-D.



EXPRESSIVE & PERFORMING ARTS

Drama



It is a common misconception that taking Drama means that you only want to be an actor; this is quite simply not true. The transferable skills taught in Drama have multiple uses in the workplace and Universities are keen on pupils who have taken Drama as many of their courses increasingly require presentation, public speaking and role play skills.

Course Content

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

Through creating and presenting drama, evaluation skills will also be developed as learners evaluate their own skills and progress, and that of other learners. Learners will also consider the cultural values, identities and ideas which influence drama.

Each of the component Units of the Course is designed to provide progression to the corresponding Unit at Advanced Higher.

Drama Skills

In this unit, learners will apply complex drama skills and develop ways of communicating thoughts and ideas to an audience. They will learn how to respond to stimuli, including text. They will also learn how to portray character in a range of ways and explore form, structure, genre and style when creating and presenting drama.

Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural influences on drama. They will also learn how to evaluate their own progress and that of other learners.

Production Skills

In this unit, learners will explore and apply complex production skills. Learners will learn how to respond to stimuli, including text, to communicate ideas for a production. They will develop ideas and production skills within their chosen production roles.

Homework

Pupils are expected to undertake a minimum of 1 - 2 hours homework per week. This will include essential exam style practice, with pupils completing model responses and essay writing tasks. Pupils will also be expected to revise course notes, learn lines and complete research - all of which is intended to support the development of class work.

Assessment

Candidates must complete the 2 mandatory units - Production Skills and Devising. Successful completion of these units will lead on to a written (40% of total award) and practical exam (60% of total award) which are externally assessed by the SQA.



EXPRESSIVE & PERFORMING ARTS

Music



The following courses are broad-based qualifications. They are suitable for learners with a general interest in music. The courses could also provide a pathway for those who want to progress to higher levels of study. The skills that learners gain throughout the courses will be valuable for learning, life and work.

Course Content

The Higher Music course helps learners to develop and extend their interest in music, and to develop performing skills on their two selected instruments or on one instrument and voice. The course also provides opportunities for learners to develop composing skills and broaden their understanding of music concepts and styles.

The course contains three components: Question Paper, Performance – Instrument 1, and Performance – Instrument 2.

The Advanced Higher course enables learners to develop skills in performing, creating, understanding and analysing music. It enables learners to develop and extend their applied music skills in challenging contexts and to develop greater depth of understanding of music through listening.

To achieve the course, learners must successfully complete the three mandatory units, and the course assessment.

Higher & Advanced Higher Courses are graded A-D.

Homework

Pupils are expected to undertake between 1 and 2 hours of homework a week depending on their level of study. This may involve practical, research or written work and is intended to support the development of classwork as well as revision.

Assessment

Higher Performance: 60% of overall grade.

- Pupils are to select two instruments, or instrument and voice.
- Pupils will be expected to perform a 12 minute programme to a visiting examiner in February/March.

Advanced Higher Performance: 60% of overall grade.

- Pupils are to select two instruments, or instrument and voice.
- Pupils will be expected to perform an 18 minute programme to a visiting examiner in May.

Higher & Advanced Higher Question Paper: 40% of overall grade.

- Pupils will sit an Understanding Music exam in May/June which will be assessed externally marked



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Physical Education



The Physical Education courses aim to enable the learner to:

- engage in physical activities, in preparation for a healthy and fulfilling lifestyle
- build capacity to enhance effective performance through participation in physical activities
- develop knowledge and understanding of the principles and factors underpinning and impacting on physical activity
- reflect on, and assess, performance

Course Content

The main purpose of the course is to enable learners to develop, demonstrate and evaluate performance. 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.

Each unit of the course enables the learner to develop specific skills, knowledge and understanding, which will be integrated and applied in the course assessment.

The course has two mandatory units:

Performance Skills

In this unit, 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. The Unit offers opportunities for personalisation and choice through the selection of physical activities used for learning and teaching.

Factors Impacting on Performance

In this unit, learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of mental, emotional, social and physical factors that impact on personal performance in physical activities. Learners will consider how these 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 personal development plans, modify these and justify decisions relating to future personal development needs.

Homework

Homework will be given on a regular basis and will be used to supplement the work being completed in class. Pupils will be expected to undertake practical activity in their own time.

Assessment

The learner will be assessed by 2 single performances in different activities and an exam question paper.



LITERACY & LANGUAGES

English



Students will study prose, drama, poetry, media and non-fiction. They will examine techniques employed and write critical evaluations of the texts studied. In addition to this, students will also have the opportunity to improve Talking and Listening skills.

Course Content

Our Higher and Advanced Higher courses in English will enable and encourage candidates to further develop their language skills in reading, writing, talking and listening. Although these essential skills can be dealt with and treated separately, often the most effective and natural teaching and learning approaches will allow for them to be integrated.

Classes will experience a range of contemporary and classic literature. Students will study a variety of texts in different genres and further develop their critical essay writing skills.

Opportunities will be given for candidates to explore the expression of their thoughts and feelings, their creativity and their imaginations. This could be part of work done towards the portfolio – writing.

At Advanced Higher pupils will complete a folio of creative writing and a dissertation on two texts of their choosing.

Homework

Homework will be given on a regular basis and will be used to support and assess the work being completed in class. Pupils will be expected to undertake most of the work for their Writing Folio at home.

Assessment

English is assessed via a combination of an internal assessment and an externally assessed exam and writing folio.



LITERACY & LANGUAGES

French, German and Spanish



The languages courses focus on the topic areas of society, learning, employability and culture and the learning is linked to the pupils' own interests in real life situations in order to encourage purposeful conversation, personal involvement and genuine exchanges of information. Pupils are encouraged to communicate about things which interest them.

Course Content

This course is made up of two mandatory units. The course provides learners with the opportunity to develop their reading, listening, talking and writing skills, in order to understand and use a modern language. The two units, taken together, include the four language skills of reading, listening, talking and writing.

The structure of the units enables learners to focus on the skills required to understand and use a modern language, and to integrate reading, listening, talking and writing skills across the units. Each unit also offers opportunities for learners to focus on particular skills.

Understanding Language

The purpose of this unit 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 detailed and complex language in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture.

Using Language

The purpose of this unit 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 detailed and complex language in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture.

Homework

Homework will be given on a regular basis and will be used to support and assess the work being completed in class.

Assessment

Modern Languages will be assessed via a combination of an internal assessment and an externally assessed exam and writing assessment.



MATHEMATICS AND NUMERACY

MATHEMATICS



The Higher Mathematics course enables learners to select and apply mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical situations. Learners interpret, communicate and manage information in mathematical form.

Course Content

Higher

Expressions and Functions

The aim of this unit 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.

Relationships and Calculus

The aim of this unit 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.

Applications

The aim of this unit 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.

Advanced Higher

Unit 1 – Methods in Algebra and Calculus

The outcomes cover partial fractions, standard procedures for both differential calculus and integral calculus, as well as methods for solving both first order and second order differential equations. The importance of logical thinking and proof is emphasised throughout.

Unit 2 – Applications of Algebra and Calculus

The outcomes cover the binomial theorem, the algebra of complex numbers, properties of functions, rates of change and volumes of revolution. Aspects of sequences and series are introduced, including summations, proved by induction.

Unit 3 – Geometry, Proof and Systems of Equations

The outcomes cover matrices, vectors, solving systems of equations, the geometry of complex numbers, as well as processes of rigorous proof.

Homework

Study at home is an integral and valuable feature of the course. It may take the form of completing work begun in class, a specific exercise issued, reading through notes or completing past paper questions.

Assessment

At both Advanced Higher and Higher level pupils are assessed informally at the end of each block and following completion of the course will be presented for an external SQA exam.

SCIENCES

Biology



The Higher Biology course offers a broad and up-to-date selection of concepts and ideas relevant to the central position of life science within our society. Learners develop deeper understanding of the underlying themes of biology — evolution and adaptation; structure and function; genotype and niche — and the scale of topics ranges from molecular through to whole organism and beyond.

Course Content

Higher

There are 3 units which are assessed internally, a course assignment that is SQA marked and an external exam. To gain an overall award, pupils must pass all three units.

Unit 1 DNA and The Genome. This includes the study of: Structure and Replication of DNA, Gene Expression, Differentiation in Multicellular Organisms, Evolution and Genomics and Genomic Sequencing

Unit 2 Metabolism and Survival. This includes the study of: Metabolism and Enzymes, Control of Metabolic Pathways, Cellular Respiration, Maintaining Metabolism, Maintenance of Metabolism during Environmental Change, Growth and Metabolism of Micro-organisms, Genetic Control of Metabolism

Unit 3 Sustainability and Interdependence. This includes the study of: Science of Food Production, Photosynthesis and Energy Transfer, Breeding Plants and Animals for Food, Crop Protection, Animal Welfare, Inter-relationships and Dependence, Social Behaviour and Biodiversity.

Coursework: Biology Assignment

Advanced Higher

There are 3 units which are assessed internally, a course assignment that is SQA marked and an external exam. To gain an overall award, pupils must pass all three units.

Unit 1 Cells and Proteins

Unit 2 Organisms and Evolution

This unit is split into two sections: Field Techniques for Biologists and Organisms.

Field Techniques includes: Health and Safety, Sampling Wild Organisms, Identification and Taxonomy, Monitoring Populations, Measuring and Recording Animal Behaviour

Organisms includes: Evolution, Variation and Sexual Reproduction, Sex and Behaviour, Parasitism.

Unit 3 Investigative Biology

This unit will help the pupils to understand Scientific Investigations and Research.

This unit includes: Scientific Principles and Processes, Experimentation, Critical Evaluation of Biological Research.

Coursework: Practical Project Investigation (usually conducted at Millport Marine Station on a class residential trip).

Homework

Issued on a regular basis to help consolidate learning.

Assessment

3 unit assessments

Course work - Assignment at Higher and Project Investigation at Advanced Higher

Prelim Assessment – Jan/Feb

Final External Exam – May



SCIENCES

Chemistry



Chemistry, the study of matter and its interactions, contributes essential knowledge and understanding across all aspects of our lives. Chemistry explains the links between the particulate nature of matter and the macroscopic properties of the world. Chemistry research and development is essential for the introduction of new products. The chemical industry is a major contributor to the economy of the country.

Course Content

Higher

There are 4 units, a course assignment that is SQA marked and an external exam.

Unit 1 Chemical Changes and Structure

In this area, topics covered are: controlling the rate; periodicity; structure and bonding.

Unit 2 Natures Chemistry

In this area, topics covered are: ester, fats and oils; proteins; chemistry of cooking; oxidation of foods; soaps, detergents and emulsions; fragrances; skin care.

Unit 3 Chemistry in Society

In this area, topics covered are: getting the most of reactants; equilibria; chemical energy; oxidising and reducing agents; chemical analysis.

Unit 4 Researching Chemistry

Coursework: Chemistry Assignment

Advanced Higher

The Advanced Higher Chemistry course develops learners' knowledge and understanding of the physical and natural environments beyond Higher level. The Course builds on Higher Chemistry and continues to develop the underlying theories of chemistry, and the practical skills used in the chemistry laboratory.

There are 4 units which are assessed internally, a course assignment that is SQA marked and an external exam. To gain an overall award, pupils must pass all four units.

Unit 1 Inorganic and Physical Chemistry

Unit 2 Organic Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis

Unit 3 Researching Chemistry

Coursework: Chemistry Assignment

Homework

Regular homework, as determined by the class teacher, is given using a variety of questions including past paper style questions.

Regular revision of classwork is expected at this level.

Assessment

Course work - Assignment at Higher and Project Investigation at Advanced Higher

Prelim Assessment – Jan/Feb

Final External Exam – May

Each unit will be assessed regularly throughout the year, this will include check tests and end of unit assessments.



SCIENCES

Physics



The Higher and Advanced Higher Physics courses allow learners to understand and investigate the world in an engaging and enjoyable way. They develop learners' ability to think analytically, creatively and independently, and to make reasoned evaluations. The Courses provide opportunities for learners to acquire and apply knowledge, to evaluate environmental and scientific issues, to consider risk, and to make informed decisions. This can lead to learners developing an informed and ethical view of complex issues. Learners will develop skills in communication, collaborative working and leadership, and apply critical thinking in new and unfamiliar contexts to solve problems.

Course Content

Higher

There are 4 units, a course assignment and an external exam both of which are marked by the SQA.

Unit 1 Our Dynamic Universe: Motion, Gravitation, Special Relativity and Expanding Universe

Unit 2 Particles and Waves: Standard Model, Nuclear, Interference, Refraction and Spectra

Unit 3 Electricity: Electrical sources and circuits, Capacitors and Semiconductors.

Unit 4 Researching Physics: Plan an experiment and carry out research to back up your result

Advanced Higher

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.

There are 4 units which are assessed internally, a course assignment (Project Report) that is SQA marked and an external exam. To gain an overall award, pupils must pass all four units.

Unit 1 Rotational Motion and Astrophysics: Kinematics, Rotational Motion, General Relativity etc.

Unit 2 Quanta and Waves: Quantum Theory, Simple Harmonic Motion, Polarisation etc.

Unit 3 Electromagnetism: Fields, Circuits and Electromagnetic Radiation

Unit 4 Investigating Physics: Plan experiments and carry out research to back up your results

Homework

Higher

Regular revision of classwork. Past paper questions at the end of each section in each unit; usually translates to weekly/fortnightly depending on the length of the section.

Advanced Higher

Constant revision of classwork. Private research for Investigating Physics Unit and Project Report.

Assessment

Higher

4x tests spaced throughout the first two units (final unit is spent focussing on Assignment and Researching Physics) made-up of past paper questions.

Advanced Higher

End of Unit Tests (SQA)



SOCIAL SUBJECTS

Geography



"Geography is the subject that holds the key to our future" Michael Palin

The Higher Geography course develops learners' understanding of our changing world and its human and physical processes in local, national, international and global study contexts. Opportunities for practical activities including fieldwork are encouraged, so that learners can interact with their environment.

Course Content

Physical environment

Develop OS Map skills in coastal and glacial units. Develop KU of the processes and interactions at work in a range of physical environments. At Higher level this includes in-depth study of topics, such as, Lithosphere, Biosphere, Hydrosphere and Atmosphere.

Human environments

Develop Research skills; interpret and analyse data; develop knowledge of processes and interactions at work within human environments. At Higher level this includes in-depth study of Rural Land Degradation, Population and the management of Urban Change.

Global Issues

Develop skills in geographical date presentation techniques; develop knowledge of the processes and interactions at work within global environment. At Higher level this includes in-depth study of Health and Development and River Basin Management.

Advanced Higher Geography

Geographical Skills- mapping skills, graphical and a range of statistical techniques for analysing and interpreting data. Investigating skills whilst researching; techniques to source, collect and record information; independent fieldwork; techniques to present findings and evaluating research methodology.

Geographical Issues - Critical thinking and the ability to evaluate sources and viewpoints on current

Homework

In Geography homework will provide pupils with essential exam style practice ahead of the final exam. Over and above the demands of homework tasks pupils will also be expected to regularly revise class notes at home, complete additional past paper questions and further their own knowledge by completing background reading. There will also be some research tasks that are compulsory as they form part of the internal assessment element of the course.

Assessment

Pupils must pass an external exam. Paper I (100 marks) comprises the Physical and Human sections. Paper II (60 marks) comprises Global Issues and Geographical Skills. Pupils must also complete a course assignment worth 27% of their overall grade. The assignment is an opportunity for pupils to showcase their best work regarding data collection, processing and interpretation skills.

Advanced Higher Assessment – Pupils must pass all internal assessments, an external exam and a course assignment worth 66% of their overall award.



SOCIAL SUBJECTS

History

"We cannot escape history and neither can we escape a desire to understand it." Anonymous



Course Content

Britain 1851-1951:- This unit will focus on essay writing skills. Pupils will develop knowledge and understanding of the development of the UK into a modern democracy and the development of the role of the state in the welfare of its citizens. This involves in-depth study of: The progress Britain made towards becoming a democracy 1867-1928, the main reasons why women achieved the vote, why the Liberal government 1906-1914 introduced reforms, how effective the Liberal reforms were at solving the problem of poverty and the effectiveness of the Labour reforms 1945-51 at meeting the needs of the people.

The Impact of the Great War 1914-28: This unit will focus on source skills. Pupils will evaluate, compare and put sources into their historical context. Pupils will develop knowledge and understanding of conflict and its political, social, economic and cultural effects. This involves in-depth study of the impact of Scots on the Western Front, the domestic impact of war on society and culture, the impact of war on industry and economy and the impact of war on politics.

Germany 1815-1939: This unit will focus on essay writing skills. Pupils will develop knowledge and understanding of the Growth of Nationalism in 19th Century Germany leading to unification and the development of extreme nationalism after 1918. This involves in-depth study of: reasons for the Growth of Nationalism 1815-1850, obstacles to German unification, why unification was achieved in 1871, the main reasons they Nazis achieved power in 1933 and why the Nazis were able to stay in power 1933-39.

Advanced Higher –

Germany: from Democracy to Dictatorship, 1918-39.

Historical Study – Pupils will engage with the views of a range of historians, analyse issues to sustain a coherent line of argument and draw well-reasoned conclusions supported by detailed evidence. Pupils will achieve this through essay writing. Pupils will also develop their ability to evaluate a wide range of historical sources which have some complex features, taking into account their provenance, content and historical and historiographical contexts.

Homework

In History homework will provide pupils with essential exam style practice, in terms of, essay writing and source questions. Over and above the demands of homework tasks pupils will also be expected to regularly revise class notes at home, complete additional past paper questions and further their own knowledge by completing background reading.

Assessment

Pupils must pass an external exam which comprises two papers. Paper I is the essay paper where pupils complete two 22 mark essays. Paper II contains one explain question and three source questions and is marked out of 36. Pupils must also complete a course assignment worth 27% of their overall grade. The assignment is an opportunity for pupils to showcase their best essay writing skills.

At Advanced Higher level pupils will complete an external exam. This paper comprises two 25 mark essays and three sources questions ranging from 12 to 16 marks each. Pupils must also complete a dissertation that is worth 36% of their overall grade.



SOCIAL SUBJECTS

Psychology (S6 only)



"Don't become a mere recorder of facts, but try to penetrate the mystery of their origin." Ivan Pavlov (1849-1936) The Higher Psychology course enables learners to use appropriate psychological concepts, theories, research methods and evidence to investigate and analyse internal and external influences on human behaviour in a range of different contexts.

Course Content

This course develops pupils' understanding of psychology as the scientific study of the mind and behaviour.

Individual Behaviour – Pupils will analyse individual behaviour by investigating two topics. The course content will cover at least three psychological approaches (biological, cognitive and psychoanalytic) to demonstrate an understanding of individual behaviour from different psychological points of view.

Sleep, dreams and sleep disorders: We all need and experience sleep. The course covers the nature of sleeping from investigating the sleep cycle, research, theories of why we sleep to a scientific analysis of the process of sleeping. Dream and dream content are analysed and evaluated and pupils will learn about various theories and research. Sleep disorders, including circadian rhythm sleep disorders, demonstrate the application of psychology in real life in order to form a more comprehensive understanding of these conditions. **Psychopathology:** Psychological disorders and their treatments are investigated in this topic. Pupils learn about possible reasons and explanations for abnormal behaviours and mental health issues. Psychology attempts to provide answers based upon research methodology and diagnostic tools to classify and enhance treatments and techniques. **Research Methods** – Pupils will be able to understand and evaluate the research process and research methods used in psychology. They will achieve this through studying the stages of the research process; this will include both experimental and non-experimental procedures. The rationale behind how these methods are conducted is an essential component of the course and provides knowledge of how operational psychologists gather information.

Social behaviour – Pupils will examine how interaction with others shapes social behaviour. They will investigate psychological explanations for social behaviour using research evidence to analyse how the thoughts, feelings and behaviours of individuals are influenced by their social environment. **Conformity and Obedience-** Pupils study why social influence can alter our behaviour often resulting in the voluntary loss of our own freedom. Aspects of the topic include types of conformity, factors affecting how and why conformity occurs and how we can develop strategies to resist social pressure or coercion. Pupils will study the aims, methods, results and conclusions of at least two relevant psychological studies. Non-

Verbal Communications: Language is an essential component of communication yet humans can also communicate in other ways. In this topic we examine body language, facial expression and paralanguage. Pupils will study the aims, methods, results and conclusions of at least two relevant psychological research studies.

Homework

Homework will be issued regularly and often. This will take the form of revising notes, background reading, and completion of written exercises including research-based work. Class work must be reviewed at home on a daily basis in addition to any set homework. An average total time of approximately 2-3 hours each week of home study is expected.

Assessment

At Higher level pupils will complete regular assessments in class based upon course content. There is an external exam which covers all four topics outlined above. Students will also write a Course Assignment in their own time which is worth 40 marks. This is assessed externally by the SQA and allows pupil to demonstrate the various skills they have learned throughout the course.



TECHNOLOGIES

Admin and IT



Administration is a growing sector which cuts across the entire economy and offers wide-ranging employment opportunities. Pupils will develop:

- a basic understanding of administration in the workplace;
- an understanding of good customer care and its benefits;
- IT skills and use them to perform administrative tasks whilst acquiring the skills to plan, organise and support events.

The course contains a significant practical element, which involves experiential learning and uses real-life contexts which makes it relevant to the world of work. The course is unique in enabling pupils to work towards industry standard IT in an administration-related context.

Course Content

Administrative Theory and Practice - enable learners to develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of administration in, and the impact of IT on, the workplace.

IT Solutions for Administrators - develop learners' skills in IT, some of them advanced, and in organising and managing information in administration-related contexts. Learners will develop the ability to utilise a range of functions, some of them advanced, of IT applications covering word processing, spread-sheets, databases, or emerging equivalent technologies, and to use them to analyse, process and manage information in order to create and edit relatively complex business documents.

Communication in Administration - enable learners to develop a range of IT skills, some of them advanced, for research and communicating complex information to others.

Homework

Pupils will be given homework on a regular basis including the completion of class tasks, revision materials and preparation for assessment. Pupils are also expected to go over class work on a regular basis. A minimum of one hour per week should be spent on homework with additional time spent when preparing for assessments. All unit resources and homework can be accessed through pupil Glow accounts.

Assessment

Informal assessment will take place at the end of each topic.

SQA formal assessment will take place at the end of the course where the learner will be assessed by a combination of a question paper and a practical ICT assignment.



TECHNOLOGIES

Business Management



Business plays an important role in society. We rely on businesses and entrepreneurs to create wealth, prosperity, jobs and choices. The purpose of the course is to develop pupils' understanding of the way in which businesses operate in the current dynamic, competitive and economic environments and to encourage entrepreneurial attitudes.

Pupils will develop:

- enterprising skills by participating in activities in realistic business situations;
- knowledge and understanding of business terms and concepts;
- an understanding of financial awareness in a business context;
- an awareness of the systems used to ensure customer satisfaction and how external influences impact on organisations.

Course Content

Unit 1 - Understanding Business - learners will extend their understanding of the ways in which organisations in the private, public and third sectors operate.

Unit 2 - Management of People and Finance - learners will develop skills and knowledge that will deepen their understanding and critical awareness of the issues facing organisations in the management of people and finance.

Management of Marketing and Operations - learners will extend their knowledge that will deepen their understanding of the importance to organisations of having effective marketing and operations systems.

Homework

Students may be asked to complete activities at home during the teaching of a topic. Formal homework in the form of exam-standard questions will also be issued at regular intervals.

Assessment

Informal assessment will take place at the end of each topic.

SQA formal assessment will take place at the end of the course where the learner will be assessed by a combination of a Business Management question paper and a business-related assignment.



TECHNOLOGIES

Computing Science



Computing science is vital to everyday life — socially, technologically and economically; it shapes the world in which we live and its future. Computing is embedded in the world around us, from systems and devices in our homes and places of work, to how we access education, entertainment, transportation and communication.

The aims of the course are to enable pupils to:

- introduce and develop aspects of computational thinking across a range of contemporary contexts
- develop knowledge and understanding of key facts and ideas in computing science
- apply skills and knowledge in analysis, design, implementation and testing to a range of digital solutions
- communicate computing concepts clearly and concisely using appropriate terminology
- develop an understanding of impact of computing science in changing and influencing our environment and society

Course Content

Software Design and Development - the general aim of this Unit is to develop knowledge and understanding of advanced concepts and practical problem-solving skills in software design and development through appropriate software development environments. Learners will develop programming and computational thinking skills by designing, implementing, testing and evaluating practical solutions and explaining how these programs work.

Website Design and Development - which is designed to allow pupils to develop a better understanding of the whole process of creating a website from the bottom up. Pupils will learn how to design Wireframe prototypes, layout and style using CSS and add interactive elements using JavaScript.

Database Design and Development - will give pupils the skills needed to create and maintain relational databases. Pupils will also learn how to create SQL queries and other things such as forms and reports.

Computer Systems - is a general overview of how a computer works and covers areas such as the Processor and modern contemporary computing concepts.

Homework

Pupils will be given homework on a regular basis including the completion of class tasks, revision materials and preparation for assessment. Pupils are also expected to go over class work on a regular basis.

Assessment

Informal and formal assessment of each unit takes place. The learner will be assessed through a combination of an assignment and a question paper.



TECHNOLOGIES

Engineering Science



The Higher Engineering Science Course provides a broad and challenging exploration of engineering. Learners extend and apply knowledge and understanding of key engineering concepts, principles and practice; understand the relationships between engineering, mathematics and science; and apply analysis, design, construction and evaluation to a range of engineering problems with some complex features.

Course Content

Engineering Contexts and Challenges

This Unit provides a broad context for the Course. It contributes to developing a deep understanding of engineering concepts by exploring a range of engineering problems with some complex features, and their solutions. This Unit allows the learner to explore some existing and emerging technologies and challenges, and to consider implications relating to the environment, sustainable development, and economic and social issues.

Electronics and Control

This Unit explores an appropriate range of key concepts and devices used in electronic control systems, including analogue, digital and programmable systems. Skills in problem solving and evaluating are developed through simulation, practical projects and investigative tasks in a range of contexts.

Mechanisms and Structures

This Unit develops a deepening understanding of mechanisms and structures. Skills in problem solving and evaluating are developed through simulation, practical projects and investigative tasks in a range of contexts.

Homework

Homework will be issued on a regular basis throughout the course.

Assessment

End of year question paper and coursework.



TECHNOLOGIES

Graphic Communication



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

Learners are encouraged to exercise imagination, creativity and logical thinking. They will develop an awareness of graphic communication as an international language.

They will find that the skills they acquire by successfully completing this Course will be invaluable for learning, for life and for the world of work.

Course Content

2D Graphic Communication

This Unit helps learners to develop their creativity and presentation skills within a 2D graphic communication context. It will allow 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

This Unit helps learners to develop their creativity and presentation skills within a 3D and pictorial graphic communication context. It will allow 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.

Across both Units, learners will develop an understanding of how graphic communication as an activity, and graphic technologies by their use, impact on our environment and society.

Homework

Homework will be issued on a regular basis throughout the course.

Assessment

End of year question paper and coursework.



COLLEGE COURSES

Dundee and Angus



Pupils can mix some of their school time with time at Dundee and Angus College through our partnership agreement. The amount of time at college depends on the course selected. The following pages outline a number of different opportunities and further information is available on the school and college websites. More information is also available in the Dundee and Angus College Senior Phase Offer Booklet 2020 – 2021 on the school website.

When choosing to study a course delivered at Dundee and Angus College it is important to understand the commitment to travel to the location. All transport will be funded by Angus Council Transport and it will either be via public bus service, Scotrail train service or a combination of both. It may be necessary to leave home earlier than usual and get home later than usual due to the times of the transport. It may also be necessary to be able to make your own way to the closest bus stop/train station.

Courses by Subject Area

Construction and Building Services

Skills for Work Construction Craft courses – Monday and Wednesday **or** Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at Kingsway: pupils can choose the Monday and Wednesday slot **or** Tuesday and Thursday for these courses.

Preparation for Plumbing and Preparation for Electrical will run over four afternoons at Kingsway: pupils choosing either of these courses must attend on **all** of the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday slots

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
Skills for Work: Construction Crafts National 4			
Skills for Work: Construction Crafts National 5			
Preparation for Electrical National 4			
Preparation for Plumbing National 4			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Civil Engineering (Two year programme only)	Brechin		Grove

Engineering

Automotive Skills National 4 course - Monday and Wednesday **or** Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at Kingsway: pupils can choose the Monday and Wednesday slot **or** Tuesday and Thursday for these courses.

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
Skills for Work: Automotive Skills National 4			
Skills for Work: Engineering Skills National 4			
Skills for Work: Engineering Skills National 5			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Engineering (Two year programme only)			

Landbased and Animal Care

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
National Progression Award (NPA) in Rural Skills at SCQF Level 5 – Animal Care			
National Progression Award (NPA) in Rural Skills at SCQF Level 4 - Horticulture			
National Progression Award (NPA) at SCQF Level 5 - Modern Agriculture			
Dig and Dine (Horticulture and Professional Cookery) Level 4 (subject to SQA approval)			

Science

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
National Progression Award (NPA) Practical Science at SCQF Level 5			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Science and Technology (One and two year programmes available)	Arbroath High School		

**Social Sciences**

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
National 5 Psychology			
Higher Psychology Level 6	On site delivery by arrangement in Angus only		
National Progression Award (NPA) Criminology at SCQF Level 6			
Professional Development Award (PDA) Psychology at SCQF Level 7			
Professional Development Award (PDA) Criminology at SCQF Level 7			

Children and Young People

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
Skills for Work: Early Education and Childcare National 4			
Skills for Work: Early Education and Childcare National 5			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Early Learning and Childcare (One and two year programmes available)			

Health and Social Care

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
Skills for Work: Health Sector National 5			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Health and Social Care (One and two year programmes available)			

Sport and Fitness

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
Skills for Work: Sport and Recreation National 5			

Hospitality and Professional Cookery

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
National Progression Award (NPA) Professional Cookery at SCQF Level 4			
Skills for Work: Hospitality National 5			
SVQ Hospitality Service at SCQF Level 5			
National Progression Award (NPA) Hospitality at SCQF Level 6			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Food & Drink Manufacturing (One and two year programmes available)			

Hair and Beauty

These courses will be offered on Monday and Wednesday **or** Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at Kingsway: pupils can choose the Monday and Wednesday **or** Tuesday and Thursday for these courses.

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
VTCT: Extended Award in Hair and Beauty Skills (Level 1)			
VTCT: Extended Award in Hair and Beauty Skills (Level 2)			

**Computing and Creative Media**

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
National Progression Award (NPA) in Web Design at SCQF Level 5			
National Progression Award (NPA) Cybersecurity at SCQF Level 6			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Creative and Digital Media (One and two year programmes available)			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Networking and Cyber Security (One and two year programmes available)			
Foundation Apprenticeship – Software and Application Development (One and two year programmes available)			
HNC Computing (this course runs over two years)			

Art and Design

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
National Progression Award (NPA) in Photography at SCQF Level 5			
National Progression Award (NPA) in Digital Media at SCQF Level 5			

Performing Arts

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
National Progression Award (NPA) in Dance at SCQF Level 5			

English Language Teaching and Training

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
Professional Development Award (PDA) Introduction to Tutoring English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) at SCQF Level 6			

Business, Administration, Retail, Events and Tourism

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
National Progression Award (NPA) in Business and Marketing at Level 5			
National Progression Award (NPA) Events at SCQF level 6			
Foundation Apprenticeship in Business (One and two year programmes available)			
Professional Development Award (PDA) in Information Technology in Business at SCQF level 7			

Accounts

	Arbroath	Gardyne	Kingsway
Foundation Apprenticeship in Accounting (One and two year programmes available)			
Professional Development Award (PDA) in Management Accounting at SCQF Level 7			