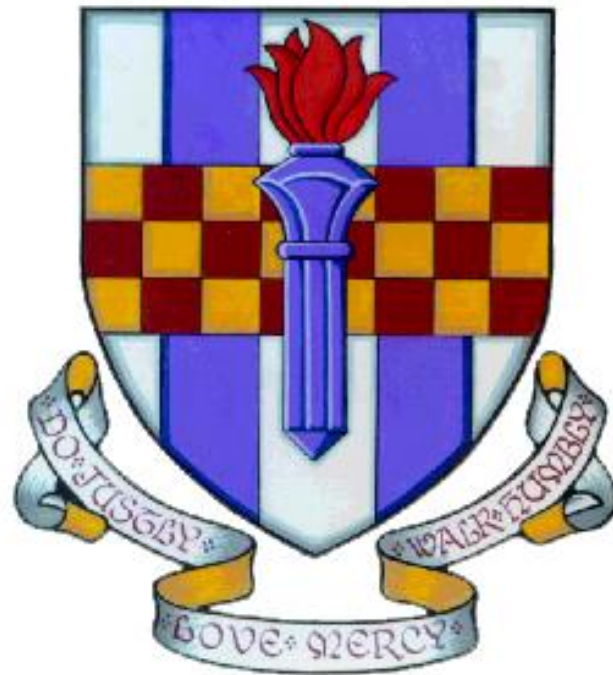


Kilmarnock Academy



S1-S2

Personalisation and Choice

Booklet

2015-2016

PART 1

SUBJECT DESCRIPTIONS

ART AND DESIGN

Course Content:

The subject offers activities which promote discovery, an understanding of how to produce new ideas, and a means of expressing creativity visually. Pupil individuality, problem solving and the ability to express themselves through a range of media and techniques are encouraged throughout the course.



Progression:

Pupils will progress through design and expressive art experiences and outcomes at levels 2, 3 and 4. This will allow presentation at National 3, National 4 or National 5 in S4.

Positive Destinations/Further Education:

Heriot Watt University (Galashiels – School of Textiles and Design), Glasgow School of Art, Duncan of Jordanstone University of Art and Design, Cardonald College, Edinburgh School of Art, Langside College – make up artistry.

Career Options:

Fine Art – Sculpture, Painting, Printmaking, Environmental Studies, Fine Art Photography, Stained Glass.



Design – Jewellery, Graphics, Illustration, Ceramics, Printer Textiles, Embroidery and Woven Textiles, Knitted Textiles, Interior Design, Product Design, Furniture, Animation, Theatre, Television and Film, Computer Graphics, Art and Design Historian, Art Conservation, Fashion Design.

BIOLOGY

The Biology course will run over two years.

In the S2 part of the course pupils will investigate the following topics:

- The structure and workings of the main body systems
- DNA and its uses
- Inheritance
- Reproduction



In the S3 section of the course, the topics covered will be:

- Biomes and biodiversity
- Energy and ecosystems
- Studying the environment
- Plants, photosynthesis and food production
- Human effects on the environment

In both years the course will be delivered using a variety of approaches, including research projects, experimental work, the use of IT and AV materials.

Assessment will be ongoing, with pupils having opportunities to practice and improve their research, scientific and mathematical skills. Scientific creativity is encouraged through the practice of experimental design. The course is interesting but challenging. Pupils need to commit to learning a large bank of knowledge.

This course will lead to National 3, 4 or 5 awards in S4.

Pupils wishing to work or study in the science field are recommended to study two science subjects.

BUSINESS

Why Business is the right choice for you!

Choosing to study Business Management in Business Education and IT Faculty allows you to gain access to many different career paths such as marketing, fashion, events management, engineering, international business and accountancy to name but a few.

Most college and university courses have a business component – so this course will be of great benefit to you. You will also get the opportunity to complete a simulation of running your own business!

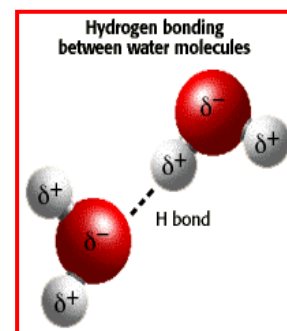
This course gives pupils an insight into today's business world and we will study how some very famous entrepreneurs built up their businesses. Our journey will take us through not only why there is a need for business and how the economy works but will also consider the areas of Marketing, Finance, Human Resource Management and Operations.

This course is not just about theory – you have to be able to say why you think a firm should make a particular decision, or discuss what you think a business should do. Therefore the best way to do that is to give you practical tasks such as undertaking a mock interview, making and selling products, creating TV and radio adverts etc.



CHEMISTRY

In **S2** we will be **continuing** to work through the **level 3 National Science experiences and outcomes** which were started in **S1**, but only with the outcomes which apply to Chemistry. We will cover topics such as: Distillation, Filtration, Chromatography, Separation, Extracting metals and natural oils, Electrolysis, Decomposition, Acids and alkalis Environmental pollution, CSI investigations, Rates of reaction, Corrosion of metals. Experimental technique and writing up experiments
This will provide a suitable base for the pupil progressing to National level 3, 4 and 5 in S3 and S4



At National 4 we expect pupils to gain the knowledge and skill to pass the internal examinations based on the topics below and provide a suitable base for going onto National 5. Pupils are also expected to complete an assignment, a short report and detailed experimental write ups.

At National 5 we expect pupils to gain the knowledge and skill to pass an external exam worth 80% of the overall marks awarded based on the topics below and the course also provides a good base for progressing onto the new Higher examination in fifth year. Pupils are also expected to complete an assignment worth 20% of the marks for the external examination.

Chemistry: Atoms, Acids and Alkalis

Chemistry: Nature's Chemistry

Chemistry: Chemistry in Society

The Chemistry Qualifications are new and are intended to be more relevant helping the pupils realise where chemistry is used in society and how it affects the world.

Skills in investigation will be encouraged and developed.

The course also gives them a suitable base for training and science related work in the future.

ENGLISH

In S2 we will continue to work through the experiences and outcomes at level 2 and 3. Pupils will continue with all the different kinds of work they have been involved in in S1. They will continue to develop skills in reading, writing, talking and listening which will help them understand and use language, not just in English, but in all of the subjects across the curriculum.



Learners will write for a variety of purposes, analyse how language is used for particular effects and study books, plays and poems. The S2 course will prepare students for National 4 and 5 courses in S3 and S4.

FRENCH

Modern Languages are important for all sorts of things – holidays, meeting new people, future employment and further study. Did you know that you can earn an extra 10-15% on your salary if you are proficient in the use of a modern foreign language? Languages are being increasingly used on the internet and knowing another language can open up lots of new opportunities. English is NOT enough!



There is a great demand in the UK for language teachers and translators but language students can find employment in a wide variety of fields such as business services, manufacturing and banking and finance. As Arsène Wenger, Manager of Arsenal football club says, “I would like to take this opportunity to say how advantageous it can be...to have knowledge of foreign languages...I would have no hesitation in advising people of any age to learn another language.”

S2 French Course Content: The S2 course consists of relevant and up to date topics which reflect the interests of teenagers today. Topics such as town, travel, Paris, school and school subjects, food and drink and shopping in France give pupils a flavour of French culture as well as a basic competence in Speaking, Reading, Listening and Writing in French.

In S3 pupils will either begin to study at National 4 or National 5 level, depending on ability. Both courses offer opportunities to continue with further study of French.

Assessment: All pupils will be assessed in the skills of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening in the foreign language in classes set by ability. Authentic topic material is exploited and the use of ICT is encouraged.

GEOGRAPHY

Geography is an interesting, diverse and useful subject. It gives a valuable understanding of what makes our planet tick. Being a good Geographer means being interested in anything you see, hear or read about what is happening to places and environments, both locally and worldwide.



S2/S3 Course

In 2nd year Geography we will continue to work through the Level 3 experiences and outcomes by studying two topics. The first is Earth Forces in which pupils study the causes and effects of natural disasters throughout the world including, earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis.

The second is Climatic Regions where pupils learn about the people, animals and climate conditions of the rainforest, hot deserts and tundra regions.

As the pupils advance into S3 they will continue working on the Level 3 experiences and outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence and progress onto Level 4. The S3 course will focus mainly on the human environments in which pupils study Population, Development and Health, Urban and Farming through the use of case studies from countries such as Scotland, India and Brazil.

Why Geography?

In many ways Geography is a unique subject as it accepted as an entrance to some colleges and universities as both a Social Subject and a Science. The broad ranging nature of Geography is reflected in the types of careers to which Geography contributes e.g. tourism, surveying and meteorology. The transferable skills within the subject make Geography particularly attractive to employers.

HISTORY

The History course will help develop student skills in extended writing, enquiry, and evaluation of materials. Students are encouraged to research the past and develop a strong sense of how the past helped form who we are today. Development of leadership skills and teamwork are important aspects of the course.



Pupils choosing History will study three further areas looking at people, past events and societies where they will build upon their experiences leading to positive outcomes and develop a greater understanding of Scotland and its place in the world.

Course Content:

European History: The Holocaust

This area of study considers a major social and political event and students will assess the impact this had upon people's lives.

World History: The USA

This area of study will look at the development of the USA including colonisation, slavery, indigenous peoples and civil war.

Scotland 1830 to 1930

This area of study continues from S1 and looks at major changes that have occurred in our country and how these changes have had an effect upon people. Social and political factors and technological change are some of the aspects covered.

Assessment:

There will be ongoing assessment throughout the course,

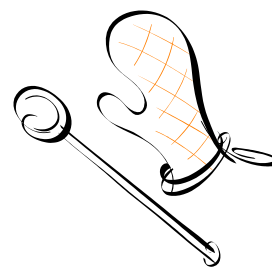
Progression:

Pupils can study national 4 or 5 in S4 then Higher in S5/6

Careers:

Most managerial and professional jobs recognise that History gives an excellent grounding in the techniques of research and report writing. Further to this employers benefit from the presentational skills, teamwork and emphasis on literacy that students experience in the course.

HOME ECONOMICS



The S2 Home Economics course will cover level 3 Health and Wellbeing and Technology outcomes.

The course will include the following:-

- Practical Cookery
- Diet and Health
- Food Safety
- Evaluating Food packaging

S3 Home Economics will cover level 4 Health and Wellbeing and Technology outcomes.

The course will include:-

- Practical Cookery
- Healthy Eating Advice
- Food and Health Policy and its impact on individuals
- Food Safety
- Legal requirements for food packaging
- Basic legal rights for the consumer.

ICT - ADMIN & IT



The study of this course will not only equip candidates with the level of competence required for using a range of software packages but will also enable them to apply their use to various administrative functions carried out in organisations.

The Admin & IT course is one which has proven very useful to students in the past by teaching them a number of key skills which would equip them well for a wide number of jobs.

- Everyone needs ICT skills whatever the job/rank they aim for
- Everyone needs to have problem solving, numeracy and oral/written communication skills
- Administration gives students a core skill

What does the course involve?

The main purpose of this course is to develop your admin and IT skills so that you can contribute effectively to your workplace. The main aims of the course are to:

- develop understanding of administration in the workplace and the main laws that affect employees
- understand the importance of good customer care in an organisation
- develop excellent IT skills and use them to carry out administrative tasks
- develop your organisational skills for example to plan and organise events such as meetings

At National 5 level, the course is assessed by a 4 hour practical coursework which is completed in class – there is no theory element.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is important in our everyday life, allowing us to make sense of the world around us 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.



Mathematics plays an important role in areas such as science or technologies, and is vital to research and development in fields such as engineering, computing science, medicine and finance.

In S2 all pupils will continue to build on the experiences and outcomes covered in both Primary school and in S1. By the end of S2 all pupils will have had the opportunity to access all the topics in level 3 Maths and Numeracy. There will also be opportunities to access some of the level 4 outcomes towards the end of the academic year. Pupils could be introduced to some of the more technical aspects of Maths such as Pythagoras or the purpose and importance of Pi. There will be 4 or 5 class tests to enable both pupils and staff to gauge the progress being made.

In S3 the pupils will continue to experience the breadth of the Mathematics and Numeracy Experiences and Outcomes but, depending on progress, they will have many more opportunities to access level 4 topics. This ensures they are creating a solid foundation for whichever national qualifications they pursue during the course of S4, S5 and S6.

MODERN STUDIES

The S2 Modern Studies course comprises three main units of work: A Case study of Ethnic Minorities in the USA; Rights and Responsibilities in the USA and China; and, finally, A Case Study of a recent International Crisis.

The S2 course allows pupils to exercise a degree of choice in what they study.



S2 Modern Studies covers the following Curriculum for Excellence Level 3 Outcomes and Experiences:

- I can explain why a group I have identified might experience inequality and can suggest ways in which this inequality might be addressed.
- I have compared the rights and responsibilities of citizens in Scotland with a contrasting society and can describe and begin to understand reasons for differences.
- Having considered responses to a recent international crisis, I can contribute to a discussion of the effectiveness of the responses.

Pupils will also continue to develop their skills of enquiry and will have the option of continuing to study Modern Studies in S4 at Access 3, National 4 or National 5 level.

MUSIC

Course Content

Music in second and third year will involve developing skills on two chosen instruments or one instrument and voice. Students will also learn how to compose their own music by



building on theoretical knowledge. They will experience various musical styles including Scottish, Blues & Jazz, Film Music, Musicals, Baroque, Classical and the most up to date Pop Music. Pupils will learn how to identify Musical concepts through exploring these genres. The course offers the potential for extending a wide range of skills and will be both challenging and enjoyable. This course will cover all outcomes and experiences giving a smooth transition to formal assessment at National 4 & 5.

Assessment

Pupils will develop the ability to evaluate their own work and identify areas for improvement. This will cover performing, composing and listening. The teacher will also assess work completed on both instruments following set criteria. Compositions will be completed in various styles. There will be listening assessments for each of the topics.

Music Technology

In the Music Technology course, learners develop skills in the use of music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio, and in the analysis of 20th and 21st century music styles and genres. Learners use music technology creatively in sound production and develop a broad understanding of the music industry.



Learners will be involved in creating a radio “jingle”, news/weather broadcasting and other media activities, creating and inputting sound foley, sfx (sound effects), music and dialogue into an animation, film or game clip.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum areas include:

- Personal, Interpersonal and Team Skills
- Citizenship and Community Awareness
- A Community Based Project
- Entrepreneurship and Enterprise
- Preparation for the World of Work



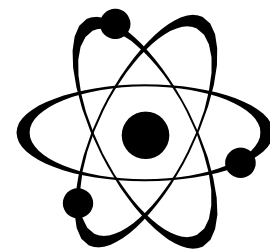
The young people working in Personal Development benefit from some extremely positive outcomes such as improved confidence and self-esteem, enhanced communication and organisational skills, and improved leaver destinations.

PHYSICS

The S2 Physics course will cover Level 3 Physics outcomes.

The S2 part of the course will include:-

- The study of Matter
- Forces
- The Electromagnetic Spectrum
- Space and Astronomy



The S3 part of the course will cover Level 4 Physics outcomes.

The three topics which need to be covered in S3 and S4 are:-

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

These topics will lead into the S4 awards, National 3, National 4, National 5.

The Physics course requires pupils to be competent in Mathematics as it involves a lot of calculation work.

Pupils wishing to work or study in the science field or engineering field are recommended to study Physics and Mathematics.

PRACTICAL WOODWORKING

Entry requirement:

No specific entry requirements at National 4 & 5 apart from an interest in craft and making objects from wood.



Rationale:

The course is of a practical nature, is workshop-based and provides many skills which are appropriate to a wide range of applications. The Course will develop skills in marking-out, cutting, shaping and finishing wood based materials, as well as adjusting and maintaining a range of hand tools. Apart from giving an insight into industrial practice, such studies help with the development of self-confidence, manual dexterity and control, perseverance, maturity and spatial awareness.

Course content:

The course comprises of three units: Bench Skills 1 (Flat Frame Construction), Bench Skills 2 (Carcase Construction), and Machining and Finishing. The Bench Skills units include developing experience of reading and interpreting drawings, marking out, and manufacturing using common hand tools. Pupils will make a range of woodworking joints.

They will also learn how to apply practical skills and adopt safe working practices in the use of common machine and power tools for the manufacture of a finished machined product.

Assessment:

To gain the course award, the candidate must achieve a pass in all component Units as well as the Course Assignment. The Course project will be internally assessed and externally verified.



Progression:

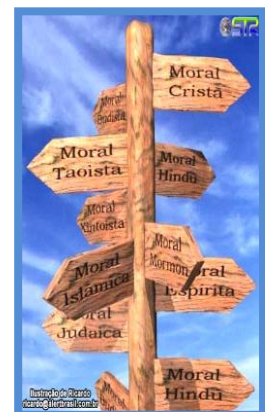
Pupils who study this course often have an interest in traditional skill based jobs like joinery, plumbing, electrician, stone masonry, motor engineering etc. but it is also taken frequently by scholarly pupils who seek a respite from their more academic subjects. They often find the work enjoyable and therapeutic.

In S5, pupils can experience the Practical Metalworking course at National 4& 5 which follow a similar format as this course with bench skills and machine skills being developed this time with metal, most often mild steel.

RELIGIOUS MORAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES

In S2 we will be continuing to work through level 3 experiences and outcomes for Religious and Moral Education. The focus in S2 is on "Other World Religions" and moral issues.

As RMPS is a core subject all pupils in third year will start on level 4 outcomes. This will be aligned with National 4 and 5 qualifications.



All pupils will have the opportunity to gain the full qualification of National 4 or 5 by the end of S4.

TECHNICAL - DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING

Rationale:

The two main aims of the design and manufacturing course are to further develop a pupil's craft skills and their understanding of product design. Pupils will advance their appreciation of how, why, and where common materials are used. They will discover how everyday products are designed as well as how to design their own prototype product that they will manufacture in the workshop.



Course content:

Pupils will learn about material properties through the manufacture of craft models. Models will incorporate the use of manufactured and natural wood, metals, and plastics, and involve manufacturing processes such as wood and metal turning, aluminium casting, forging, plastic vacuum forming, fitting and general bench work.

Modern manufacturing techniques, such as laser cutting and computer numerically controlled routing, can now be taught alongside the equally important traditional craft methods at Kilmarnock Academy.

The implementation of design principles and problem solving skills will be further developed from S1 through the expanded teaching of the design process. Pupils are instructed on manual sketching and rendering skills as well as making mock up models to produce concept ideas. They improve and finalise these ideas to produce a design solution through the use of industry standard solid modelling software. Pupils learn how to display their design work using desktop publishing software.

Progression:

Pupils will progress through craft, manufacturing and design experiences and outcomes at levels 2, 3 and 4. This will allow presentation in Design and Manufacture at National 3, National 4 or National 5 in S4.

Design and Manufacture is aimed at pupils considering further or higher education.

TECHNICAL - GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION**Rationale:**

Communication is by the use of graphics and, in particular, by the use of technical graphics in construction, engineering and consumer contexts.



The creation (manually and computer generated) and interpretation of drawings are generic skills useful in employment and as life skills in a world where communication increasingly relies upon graphics.

Course content:

Pupils will develop knowledge and a practical application of sketching and drawing everyday items in orthographic and pictorial projections and creating colour illustrations, using both manual and computer-aided methods. Candidates will develop an understanding of how to use graphics to communicate more clearly and effectively. Candidates will also be made aware of the need for clear and accurate drawings and will gain knowledge of relevant British Standards.

Computers will be used in learning and teaching and candidates will work with computer-aided draughting (CAD) and desktop publishing

packages, thus widening their appreciation of the role of information technology within Graphic Communication and the world today. In addition, candidates will have the opportunity to develop analytical thinking and creativity.

The Course makes a significant contribution to developing technological capability.

Progression:

Pupils will progress through graphic communication experiences and outcomes at levels 2, 3 and 4. This will allow presentation at National 3, National 4 or National 5 in S4.

PART 2

SUBJECT CHOICE

1. The choice of science subjects is very important. Physics and Chemistry are useful subjects, both individually and in combination. For some careers, Chemistry and Biology are a preferred combination e.g. some branches of Laboratory Technology, Dietetics. In general, Biology should not be taken as a substitute for Chemistry. However, Higher Biology is required for Medicine at Glasgow University.

2. Courses in Chemistry, Physics and Biology will be offered at National 3, National 4 and National 5. Pupils will be advised by the Departments which level will be most suited to their needs and abilities.

3. Although a National pass in a language other than English is not in itself an essential requirement for many jobs, it is often a necessary condition of entry to certain courses in Higher education, e.g. many University courses.

4. Art or Music is essential for related Vocational Courses e.g. Schools of Art or Architecture, Colleges of Music. These subjects are useful for some other careers too e.g. teaching (primary), speech and drama, photography, etc.

5. Pupils considering Technician apprenticeships in building or engineering should remember that suitable combinations of subjects are important. The most essential are English, Mathematics and Physics. Design and Manufacturing and Graphic Communications are beneficial with National passes at levels 4 or 5.

6. Pupils who wish to become craft apprentices (e.g. fitters, welders, millers, turners, joiners, bricklayers, plumbers etc) are all advised to take Maths, Design and Manufacturing, Graphic Communications, English and a suitable science subject. Although National exam passes are not always formal requirements, competition is so fierce for the places available that good National passes in some of the above subjects would be an advantage.

7. Art and Design is essential for entry into Specialist Courses e.g. Art and Design Colleges. There are many other careers where qualifications in Art and Design are beneficial. e.g. Art Administration, Art historian, Promoter, Events Organiser, Architecture, Publishing, Museums, Conservation and Restoration, Community Arts, Colour analyst, Advertising, Marketing, Product/Engineering, Retailing Buyers (Retailers), Fashion Forecasters, Landscape Architecture, Nursery Nurses, Childminders, Primary School Teachers, Hairdressing, Antiques, Catering, Multi Media.

8. Pupils seeking Engineering careers via university will nearly always require Maths and Physics. Design and Manufacture and Graphic Communication will also be beneficial to engineering and architecture courses.