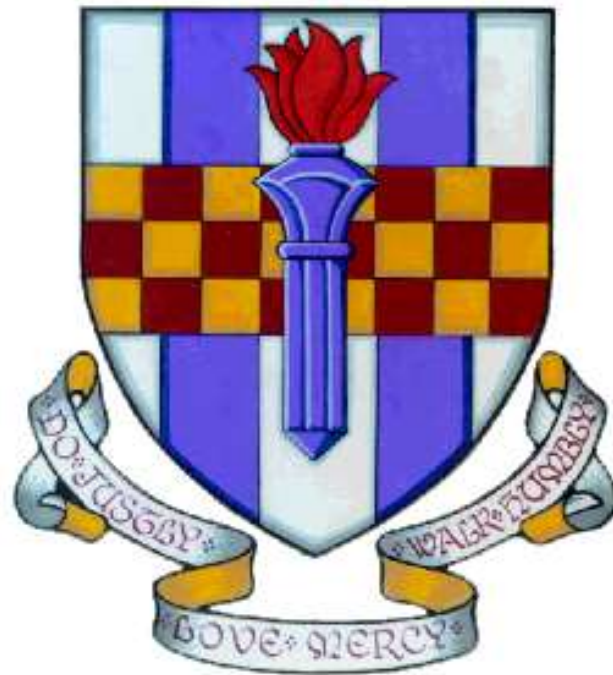


# Kilmarnock Academy



S2

Specialisation Booklet  
2017-2018

## 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

In S2 we will be **continuing** to work through the **level 3 Science experiences and outcomes** started in S1. We will cover the Biology topics called “Planet Earth” and “Biological systems”. These are wide-ranging and very interesting topics. We will also be investigating the latest discoveries and developments in Biology.



In S3 we will cover more Planet Earth topics at Level 4.

Over the course of the two years we will carry out a number of dissections and a wide variety of experiments; do research projects and share our findings through presentations, posters and talks. We will also visit local parks to carry out field work.

If pupils choose to carry on with the subject they can expect to receive a National 3, National 4 or National 5 award in Biology in S4.

Biology can be studied with Chemistry or Biology.

## 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!

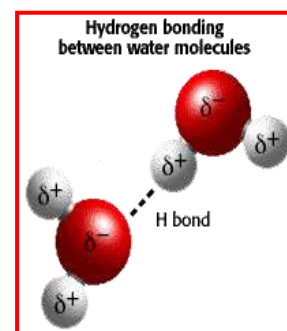
This course gives pupils an insight into today's business world and we will study how some very famous entrepreneurs built up their businesses. Our journey will take us through not only why there is a need for business and how the economy works but will also consider the areas of Marketing, Finance, 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 pupils will continue to work through the level 3 Science experiences and outcomes started in S1. They will discover the important 'Processes of the Planet' from the Planet Earth topic. They will also be investigating some of the important 'Materials' that have such a big impact on our everyday life. They will also be investigating the latest discoveries and developments in Chemistry.



The S3 work will cover more Planet Earth and Materials topics at Level 4. During the course pupils will carry out large numbers of experiments both individually or as part of a group. There will be exciting demonstrations and the chance to be involved in a number of research projects. They will have the opportunity to share their findings through presentations, posters and talks.

If pupils choose to carry on with Chemistry in S4, the work they have done in S2 and S3 will lead them on to an award at National 3, National 4 or National 5 in S4.

Chemistry can be studied with Physics or Biology

## **ENGLISH**

In S2 we will continue to work through the experiences and outcomes at level 2 and 3 and 4. 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. Reading fiction and quality non-fiction will develop a good broad vocabulary – vital for success in the senior school!

## **FASHION AND TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY**



Students will learn the basic skills required to make fabric items. They will be shown how to create a number of embroidery stitches such as running; back; blanket stitch and French knots, using embroidery needles and threads.

Students will be given the opportunity to experiment with and learn about the properties of fabrics, create textured paper samples as well as research a given theme, develop ideas for a fashion/textile item and make the item either by hand or by using a sewing machine.



## **FRENCH AND SPANISH**

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 build on their knowledge of the foreign language and the topics studied will lead to qualifications at National 4 or National 5 level. Topics include family and friends, advantages and disadvantages of digital technology, holidays, health and fitness and plans for the future.

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 which is happening to places and environments, both locally and worldwide.



### **S2/S3 Course**

In 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Natural 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 on a case study of Brazil and the topic of Rivers before studying Settlement.

## 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, handling sources and evaluation of materials. Students are encouraged to research the past and develop a strong sense of how that past helped form who we are today.



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.



## **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.

## **Scotland in the Great War**

## **Slavery and freedom in the USA**

## **Rise of Hitler**

These three courses offer a taster of future study in History

## **Assessment:**

There will be ongoing assessment throughout the course, with an exam in S3

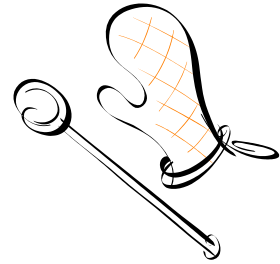
## **Progression:**

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?**

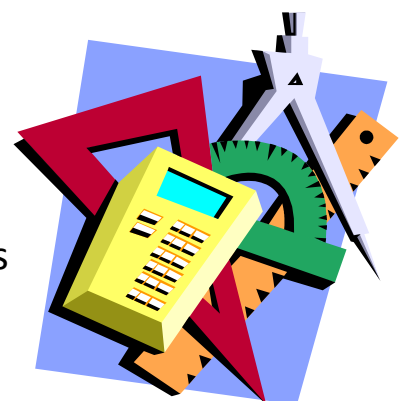
The main purpose of this course is to develop your admin and IT skills so that you can contribute effectively to your workplace. The main aims of the course are to:

- 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.

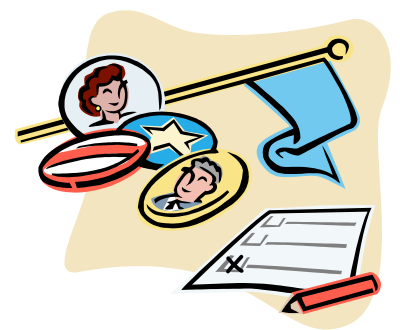
Mathematics plays an important role in areas such as science or technologies, and is vital to research and development in fields such as engineering, computing science, medicine and finance.

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 most pupils will have had the opportunity to access a large number of the topics in level 3 Maths and Numeracy. During the year the pupils will sit 4 or 5 class tests to enable both pupils and staff to gauge the progress being made. In S3 pupils will follow a course which builds on their achievements in S2.

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**

Modern Studies is a subject which is unique to the Scottish secondary school curriculum and is concerned with the study of local, national and international issues from a social, political and economic perspective.



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 and pupils will be assessed against the Level 3 experiences and outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence.

As pupils advance into S3 they will continue working on Level 3 experiences and outcomes and progress onto Level 4. The S3 course will focus mainly on *Africa and Development* and *Globalisation and Interdependence*.

Pupils will also develop their skills of enquiry and carry out a research project in preparation for the added value unit in S4.

Pupils will have the option of continuing to study Modern Studies in S4 at National 4 or National 5 level.

### Why Modern Studies?

Many college and university courses and most managerial and professional jobs recognise that Modern Studies gives an excellent grounding in the techniques of research and report writing. Furthermore, employers benefit from the presentational skills, teamwork and emphasis on literacy that students experience from studying this subject.

## 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**

The purpose of the S2-S3 Music Technology Course is to enable learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of music technology and of musical concepts, particularly those relevant to 20th and 21st century music. Learners will engage in the development of technical and creative skills through practical learning. This Course will provide opportunities for learners to develop their interest in music technology and to develop skills and knowledge relevant to the needs of the music industry.



Units of work include:

### **Radio Broadcast**

In this unit, pupils compose a company jingle using GarageBand and Protools, write a script detailing weather and competitions and import their favourite songs to create a broadcast.

### **Town Trail**

Pupils participate in a town trail of Kilmarnock and create an audio tour guide for a visitor to the town. Places of interest include: Dean Castle, Howard Park and Burns Monument. Pupils use the information from the trip and record their own tour guide using microphones, Protools and sounds effects.

### **Studio Recording**

Pupils will record their favourite music in the studio, using instruments and microphones and edit the audio using Protools.

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Personal Development is a subject which allows pupils to work to their personal strengths and concentrate on improving their personal weaknesses. This is done by working usually in pairs or in groups in a variety of activities.



This year the 2PD class have spent a lot of time working with the bikes – learning how to maintain a bike and how to ride it safely. The class went on a mini expedition in October. The activities vary from year to year depending on class size and staff availability.

It is important that pupils learn to work with others just as it is important to have the confidence to work alone. Acquiring confidence is a major part of Personal Development. This is important for everyone not just a few.

Communication, perseverance, problem solving and decision making are equally important and we try to involve everyone in the class at every stage.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION



In S2 everyone will continue to get two periods of compulsory PE. In these two periods we will continue to spend time working on fitness and skill development in a wide range of activities as we continue to work through the levels and significant aspects of learning.

There is also the choice to get an extra three periods of PE a week on top of the compulsory two. In these extra periods we will start to look at how emotional, social and mental factors can have an impact on performance.

We will spend time designing training programmes and will look at what makes top athletes and sportspeople so successful in their activities. We will also spend extra time in the PE department further improving our practical performance and fitness in activities which are most commonly done in the certificated classes.

## **PHYSICS**

**In S2** pupils will continue to work through the level 3 Science experiences and outcomes started in S1. The S2 Physics course will cover the Level 3 Physics outcomes.

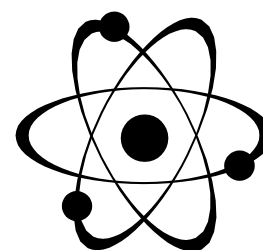
These include:-

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 will be covered in S3 are:-

Electricity and Energy

Waves and Radiation

Dynamics and Space

The course will incorporate enjoyable experimental work illustrating many of the principles of Physics; research and report projects and the study of topical physics. This will give pupils a chance to investigate some of the most recent and exciting developments in Physics.

If pupils choose to continue with Physics in S4, they will work towards getting a Physics award at National 3, National 4 or National 5 Physics. Physics can be studied with either Chemistry or Biology.



## **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 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 continue to work on experiences and outcomes as part of the broad general education.

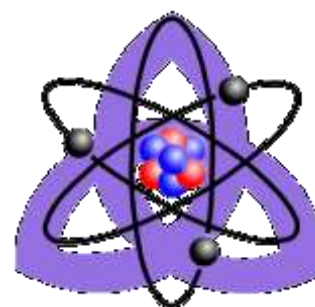
All pupils will have the opportunity to gain the full qualification of National 4 or 5 by the end of S4.



## **SCIENCE**

Pupils who choose Science will study a variety of General Science topics in S2 and S3. These will cover Level 3 and 4 outcomes.

The topics include Heat, Biotechnology, Chemical Reactions, Health and Technology and Space.



Pupils will take part in a variety of experiments and other practical activities. Their scientific literacy and numeracy will grow through doing research projects, graphs and other number work. They will continue to develop and improve the skills that will prepare them for the world of work.

This course is SQA accredited and pupils should progress towards achieving SQA awards in National 3 and 4 Science.

## **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.