**Higher English**

The Higher English course is open to pupils who have already achieved their National 5 English award and continues to build on the development of skills in the key areas of reading, writing, listening and talking.

The course currently has two different learning pathways:

* **Higher English Course Award**
* **Higher English Units only**

Your progress and attainment throughout the year will determine which pathway you will take.

**Higher English Course Award**

Much like in National 5, in order to achieve the course award you will have to:

* Submit a **folio** of writing
* Complete a **spoken language assessment**
* Sit a final **exam**

**Folio of Writing**

During the course of the year you will need to complete a folio of writing. This will be made up **two** essays of different genres, each worth up to 15 marks:

* **Creative** (Personal Reflective or Imaginative) max 1300 words

and

* **Discursive** max 1300 words

The folio will be sent away for external marking and will count for **30% of your final grade.**

**Spoken Language Assessment**

In order to progress to the final exam you will need to complete a Spoken Language assessment. This involves **either** the delivery of a solo presentation and responding to questions **or** taking part in an assessed group discussion.

This assessment is not graded, but will be marked as either **Passed** or **Not Achieved**. All pupils must pass the assessment in order to complete the course award.

**Exam**

The final exam is made up of two sections and will build on the work you have been studying all year in class.

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| **Section 1 – Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation** (1 hour 30 mins)  A close reading paper containing **2** **passages**. You will be asked to answer a series of questions on passage 1, as well as a final comparison question dealing with both passages 30 marks |
| **Section 2 – Critical Reading** (45mins + 45mins = 1hour 30mins)  Write one critical essay on a text studied in class from a list of unseen questions 20 marks  Answer a set of detailed questions on an extract from a Scottish text studied in class 20 marks  **NOTE**: The texts must be of different genres and you cannot use the same text twice |

**Final Grade**

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| At the end of the course you will be awarded a Grade from A to D made up from the following:  Folio (30) + Exam Section 1 (30) + Exam Section 2 (20+20) = 100% |

**Higher English Units Only**

Based upon your performance, you may be entered for the Units Only pathway. This will mean that you will NOT sit the final exam or submit a final folio, but will undertake the following internal unit assessments instead.

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| **Analysis and Evaluation Unit**  This unit looks at the skills of **Reading** and **Listening**. To complete the unit you will need to pass two internal assessments – one for each skill.  **Outcome 1 – Understand, analyse and evaluate detailed and complex written texts** (Reading)  You will read a previously unseen text and have to answer a series of questions correctly in order to pass.  **Outcome 2 – Understand, analyse and evaluate detailed and complex spoken language** (Listening)  You will listen to, or watch, a documentary/programme/video clip/film clip and answer a series of questions. |

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| **Creation and Production Unit**  This unit looks at the skills of **Writing** and **Talking**. To complete this unit you will need to pass two internal assessments – one for each skill.  **Outcome 1 – Create and produce detailed and complex written texts** (Writing)  You will be given a set task and asked to complete a piece of writing in a particular genre, e.g. a personal essay. This needs to be structured appropriately and show a strong understanding of written language.  **Outcome 2 – Take part in detailed and complex spoken interactions** (Talking)  You will be given a set topic/theme and you will need to complete either a solo presentation or a group discussion. In both cases, your teacher/classmates will also ask you questions which you will need to answer in order to complete the assessment. |