**Advanced Higher Modern Languages**

**Candidate Guide**

Advanced Higher Courses in French, Spanish and Mandarin provide good preparation for learners progressing to further and higher education, as you must be able to work with more independence. This eases the transition to further/higher education. By the end of the course you will be able to understand complex and sophisticated written and spoken language; and communicate successfully applying grammatical knowledge and understanding.

The topics studied fall into four broad themes:

* Society
* Learning
* Employability
* Culture

Here are examples of topics you may study -

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| * New family structure / marriage
* Gender equality
* Social influences and pressures
* Living in a multicultural society
* Social issues
* Environmental issues
* Human rights
* Higher / Further Education
* Immigration/prejudice/racism
* Impact of the digital age
* Media
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**Course structure**

This Course is made up of three mandatory Units:

* Understanding Language
* Using Language
* Specialist Study

You will complete four internally assessed unit assessments

**The Course assessment**

It will take the form of:

* two **question papers**, through which you will demonstrate your reading, translation, listening and discursive writing skills in the modern language
* a **performance**, through which you will demonstrate your talking skills in the modern language
* a **portfolio**, written in English, through which you will demonstrate your analytical skills in relation to literature or media or language in work within the context of the modern language

**Course assessment structure**

Component 1 — Question paper: Reading and Translation 50 marks

Component 2 — Question paper: Listening 30and Discursive Writing40 70 marks

Component 3 — Talking Performance 50 marks

Component 4 — Portfolio 30 marks

**Total marks 200 marks**

**Component 1 - Reading and Translation**

You will read one written non-fiction text in the modern language. You will respond to questions about the text in English, and translate a specified section of the text from the modern language to English.

**Component 2 —Listening and Discursive Writing**

You will listen to one monologue in the modern language and respond to questions worth 10 marks.

Then you will listen to one conversation between two people in the modern language and respond to questions worth 20 marks.

You will write one essay using complex and sophisticated language from a choice of four titles.

**Component 3 — Performance: Talking**

You will talk about the themes and topics studied throughout the course. You will take part effectively in a natural conversation, lasting approximately 20 minutes. Visiting Assessors will carry out the assessment.

**Component 4 — Portfolio**

This portfolio will give you an opportunity to analyse literature or media within the context of the modern language. You will produce one piece of writing in English. This will be submitted to SQA for external marking.

Remember: A language is for life, not just for exams!!

It is bound together with the people, culture, food, history, art, literature…..

So if you immerse yourself in the language this year, your enjoyment of it will increase!