KIRKCALDY HIGH SCHOOL

KIRKCALDY
- HIGH SCHOOL -

2026

STUDY SUPPORT

KIRKCALDY HIGH SCHOOL STUDY SKILLS 2026

This resource has been specifically prepared to support both pupils and parents with studying and exam preparation. Below you will find some general study advice as well as links to key revision methods.

Throughout this booklet you will find detailed information for each subject as well as more targeted links. Use the Table of Contents on the next page to direct you to your own subjects. Click the subject to direct you to the correct page. Links are also provided throughout the document which will direct you to the best revision methods selected by your teacher. Please make best use of these.

GENERAL STUDY TIPS
✓ Find a quiet place to study – free from distractions. This will allow you to focus fully.
✓ Organise your notes & resources so they're easy to find.
✓ Make a plan and deal with one thing at a time.
✓ Put your phone down!
✓ Try different study techniques to find what suits best. **Notes – Textbooks – Mind Maps – Flashcards – Sample Answers – Past Papers** ✓ Splitting topics up into colours works well.
✓ Ask someone to test you – create flashcards & test your knowledge.
✓ Remember to take breaks, cramming information won't stick!
✓ Exercise, Eat Well & get a good sleep.. remember to drink plenty water.
✓ It's normal to get stressed – ask for help if you need it.
✓ Marking Schemes are available on the SQA website but these won't tell you how to answer the question. Ensure you know the command words for your subject and how to answer what your being asked.

KEY LINKS FOR MAJORITY SUBJECTS
SQA – Course Specifications, Past Papers & Key Info
Achieve Learning
Scholar
Bright Red
BBC Bitesize

Online Study Resources - Wakelet

Here you'll find detailed instructions on how to join & use all the resources listed above.

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FACULTY OF BUSINESS EDUCATION & COMPUTING

ADMINISTRATION & IT

RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes, Teachers PowerPoints + Practical Tasks to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
N5 WAKELET - https://wakelet.com/wake/Up8g8m31_gXM0ypUuk_xI
HIGHER WAKLET - https://wakelet.com/wake/mGfLDVQ_kDuhNdGT18Pei
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5	Monday 1st March 09:00-13:00
Higher	Thursday 18th March 09:00-11:30
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Tuesday 27th April 13:00-15:00
Higher	Tuesday 27th April 13:00-14:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	
Unit Assessments – Unit by unit basis (at the end of each topic) – Completed by March	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request from your teacher.
Revision packs will be issued by the Department to be returned after the Final Exam Textbooks can be borrowed from the Department and returned after the Final Exam

TOP TIPS
✓ **Consistency** is key – make sure fonts, sizing, spacing etc is how it should be.
✓ Ensure **good attention to detail** – we're looking for professional documents.
✓ Ensure nothing is cut off on your print outs – always check print preview and again check print outs.
✓ Read the question over, mark off instructions as you complete them to save you getting confused.

COMMAND WORDS	
IDENTIFY, LIST, NAME, GIVE OR STATE	Present in a brief form.
OUTLINE	Identify key features and provide a brief description.
SUGGEST	Put forward a recommendation or advise on a possible course of action.
DESCRIBE	Provide a detailed description and try to use examples where possible.
JUSTIFY	Give good reasons to support suggestions or explain the reasons for your suggestion. Advantages only.
COMPARE	Demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the similarities and/or differences between things, features, methods or choices.
DISCUSS	Consider carefully the strengths and weaknesses in an argument; for and against. Give **both** advantages & disadvantages.
EXPLAIN	Give a detailed description and then an example of the impact of some course of action.
DISTINGUISH	Identify the differences between two or more factors - what makes them different or separate from each other.

SPECIFIC ADVICE	
WORD PROCESSING	**DATABASE**
Letter Layout – Ref, Date, Address Block, Salutation, Main Body, Close, Enclosures **Agendas** – Notice of Meeting + Agenda: Apologies, Minutes of Previous Meeting, Matters Arising then Any other business (AOB or AOCB) and Date & Time of Next Meeting **Forms** – Use a table!! **Functions** – F5 Find & Replace, Ctrl + X to Cut, Ctrl + C to Copy, Ctrl + V to Paste, Windows + Shift + S to Screenshot.	**Tables** – Remember to put your initials in the title. Ensure data isn't cut off when printing. **Forms** – Only print selected records. **Queries** – Carefully check criteria. Remember to print ensuring nothing cut off. **Reports** – Create a query first. Ensure relevant title and insert logo in top right hand corner.
SPREADSHEETS	**COMMUNICATIONS**
Formula – SUM, COUNT, MAX, MIN, AVERAGE, SUMIF, COUNTIF, VLOOKUP, HLOOKUP, % CHANGE, NESTEDIF **Charts** – Ensure correct data selected and include relevant Titles. Pie Charts should have a Legend & relevant Data Labels. **Printing** – Value View with Gridlines, Formula View with Gridlines, Row & Column Headings showing Formula. Ensure Formula View isn't cut off.	**Email** – Ensure correct layout, remember to include attachments and print from SENT box. If High Priority remember to print from Screenshot. **E-Diary** – Ensure correct view for print & resize margins. Remember to print Agenda also. **Tasks/To Do Lists** – Remember to insert your name as a task at end. **Presentation** – Use slide master, ensure consistency across slides, print in correct layout

If you are asked to design a poster/leaflet/certificate/ticket/wristband etc.. ensure you include:

- 2 different fonts
- 2 different styles – bold, italic, underline
- 2 different font sizes – title or heading should be much larger
- 2 graphics or pictures

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes, Teachers PowerPoints + Practical Tasks to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
N5 WAKELET - https://wakelet.com/wake/QfD-_c1dbtmuEf0l5U3kJ
HIGHER WAKLET - https://wakelet.com/wake/OCDZUUMYt5-0_Hbe1fqr9
ADVANCED HIGHER WAKELET - https://wakelet.com/wake/rW3AJvJWTcAI893a3jqEd
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5 + Higher	Completed in class before Christmas Holidays
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Thursday 13th May 09:00-10:30
Higher	Thursday 13th May 09:00-11:15
Advanced Higher	Thursday 13th May 09:00-11:45
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	
5 x Unit Assessments (3 x for Adv Higher) issued at the end of each topic – Completed by March	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher.
Revision packs will be issued by the Department to be returned after the Final Exam Textbooks can be borrowed from the Department and returned after the Final Exam

TOP TIPS
✓ **Command Words** are key - Make sure you know the subjects command words inside and out. If you don't know how to answer questions correctly, you will struggle to achieve a good grade.
✓ **Pace Yourself** - Do a little revision every week. Don't try to cram it all in a few days before an assessment/prelim/exam. It might help the test you have tomorrow, but you probably won't remember it a few weeks or months later.
✓ **Retrieval Practice** - Try creating flash cards or completing the graphic organisers given to you by the department. The more you practice going over something, the better you will be able to recall it when you need to.

COMMAND WORDS	
IDENTIFY, GIVE, OR NAME	Present in a brief form.
STATE OR OUTLINE	Present & give small description.
DESCRIBE	Give a **detailed** description.
EXPLAIN	Give a detailed description & say **this means that** to explain the impact on the business – good or bad.
JUSTIFY	Give advantages **only**.
DISCUSS	Give **both** advantages & disadvantages.
COMPARE	Compare two different points & use **whereas**…
DISTINGUISH	Demonstrate knowledge & understanding of the differences between methods, features or choices.

SPECIFIC ADVICE

UNDERSTANDING BUSINESS

Factors of Production: Land, Labour, Capital & Enterprise
Sectors of Industry: Primary, Secondary, Tertiary, Quaternary (**all end in RY**)
Sectors of Economy: Private (Privately Owned), Public (Government Owned), Third (Charities & Social Ent)
Types of Business: Remember Ownership, Control, Decision Making, Advantages & Disadvantages
Objectives: How do they affect the business
External Factors: PESTEC – how do they affect the business & their decisions
Internal Factors: Finance, HR, Technology
Stakeholders: Interest, Influence & Impact on the Organisation

MARKETING	OPERATIONS
Market Research **Types**: Desk & Field Market Research **Methods**: Hall Tests, Focus Group.. **Marketing Mix:** 4/7 P's **Product Life Cycle:** Intro, Growth, Maturity, Decline **Pricing:** Factors to consider & strategies – Premium.. **Place:** Factors to consider – transport links etc.. **Promotion:** Strategies – Coupons, Loyalty Cards etc..	**Suppliers:** Factors to consider when choosing – price, quality, location etc.. **Stock Control**: Max, Min, Reorder Level **Understocking & Overstocking:** Costs & Risks **Methods of Production**: Job, Batch Flow **Quality**: Assurance, Control, Quality Material etc.. **Ethics & the Environment**: Waste reduction etc..
HUMAN RESOURCE	**FINANCE**
Recruitment Stages: Identify, Analysis, Description, Person Spec & Advertise – it stops here! **Selection Stages**: Applications/CV's, Testing, Interviews, References, Appointment & Contracts **Training**: Induction, On the Job, Off the Job **Motivating & Retaining:** Financial & Non Financial **Legislation:** H&S, Nat Min Wage, Equality..	**Sources of Finance:** Bank Loan, Savings etc **Break Even:** Fixed/Variable Costs **Cash Budgets:** Cash Flow Issues, Consider solutions **Income Statement:** Identify profit/loss, provide solutions

Technology Questions

Always ensure you mention the actual technology and how it's used or related to the department.
Marketing: Social Media, Websites, QR codes **Operations**: CAM, CAD, Email, Barcodes **HR**: Email, Ediary, Video Conferencing, Internet to post Job Adverts **Finance**: Spreadsheets, Online Banking, EPOS

COMPUTING SCIENCE
RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes + Practical Tasks to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
N5 BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zfs3kqt
HIGHER BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zxmh34j
SCHOLAR – ACCESS IN GLOW

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5	Expected completion date: 10th March at the latest
Higher	Expected completion date: 14th April at the latest
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Thursday 27th May 09:00-10:30
Higher	Thursday 27th May 09:00-11:00
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above. Remember a Pen/Pencil for all exams. Calculators required for Higher.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ **Revisit Topic Booklets & Past Paper Questions** - Describes all areas of the course - Make sure you have read and understood these. Past paper questions can be found at the end of each topic booklet. ✓ Use the marking instructions to understand alternative accepted answers.
✓ **Create Study Plans** - Trying to study everything the night before the exam does not work. You should allocate study time in blocks of 30 minutes and start to study as soon as you start the course.
✓ **Read the paper** - Carefully read the exam paper taking careful note of mark allocation and what command/key words are being used (**see below**).

COMMAND WORDS	
IDENTIFY, GIVE, NAME OR STATE	Only a short answer is expected, this will be a single word or phrase.
DESCRIBE	Give a full answer. Refer to the context given in the question instead of providing a generic response — use the number of marks available as a guide to how many points you should make in your answer. “provide a statement of characteristics/features. This will be more than an outline or a list. It may refer to a concept or process. Candidates must make the same number of factual/appropriate points as there are marks available in the question.”
EXPLAIN	Give a full answer. Refer to the context given in the question instead of providing a generic response — use the number of marks available as a guide to how many points you should make in your answer. “must relate cause/effect/relationships between things clearly, in the context of the question.
WRITE CODE	Your solution should be in recognisable code. Marks are awarded based on how you solve the problem, not the accuracy of the syntax of your code. Write Code “must be recognisable code, not prose nor a diagram.”
DESIGN – SOFTWARE DEV	“..... Using a design technique of your choice” In software design and development, you can use any recognised design technique. Marks are awarded for how you solve the problem, not for how you have used the technique. For example, you will not be penalised for the incorrect shape of box in a flowchart or structure diagram.
DESIGN – WEB DEV	You will be asked to draw and complete designs using a specified technique. Marks are awarded for your understanding of the concepts, not for how you show these. There are many ways to label a wireframe design, as long as it is clear. Check the SQA appendix 10 ‘interface design’. Design: “must be a design technique appropriate to the problem. Marks awarded regardless of errors in the technique if the intention of the design is clear”.

FACULTY OF DESIGN, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

DESIGN & MANUFACTURE

RESOURCES

Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5, Higher + Advanced Higher	Ongoing from January to April 2027 (Deadline TBC)
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Tuesday 20th May 13:00-14:45
Higher + Advanced Higher	Tuesday 20th May 13:00-15:15
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
On request

TOP TIPS
✓ **Focus on Context** - Relate answers to the specific scenario in the question (e.g., materials or processes described in the design proposal).
✓ **Write Clearly & Accurately** - Avoid vague terms like "strong," "easy," or "cheap" unless further detailed. Use subject-specific vocabulary (e.g., mortise gauge, parallel turning, vacuum forming).
✓ **Use Sketches when required** - Label sketches clearly and ensure they are relevant to the question.

COMMAND WORDS	
STATE OR NAME	Provide a brief, specific answer.
OUTLINE	Give a short explanation or list the main points.
DESCRIBE	Provide more detail, explaining features or characteristics.
EXPLAIN	Show cause-and-effect relationships or justify a point.

SPECIFIC ADVICE	
MATERIALS + PROCESSES	When naming materials (e.g., plywood, MDF), choose the most suitable for the context provided. For processes like cutting, drilling, or forming, reference specific tools (e.g., marking gauge, pillar drill) and include safety considerations.
WORKMANSHIP + JOINT TECHNIQUES	For questions about joints or machining, describe the steps in logical order, ensuring all required tools are mentioned (e.g., marking out with a try square and mortise gauge for tenons). Suggest alternatives where requested, and ensure answers are valid (e.g., dowel joints, halving joints).
MAUFACTURING STEPS	Include essential steps for precision (e.g., setting depth stops or aligning material properly). Highlight ways to ensure high-quality finishes (e.g., using progressively finer sandpaper or applying appropriate finishes like varnish).
EVALUATING MATERIALS	When outlining reasons for material suitability, provide specific properties that match the product's requirements (e.g., stainless steel for its corrosion resistance in splashbacks).
SUSTAINABILITY	Include methods that relate to reducing environmental impact (e.g., using recycled materials, reducing waste, designing for disassembly).
TECHNOLOGY + TOOLS	For technology-based questions (e.g., 3D printing), focus on benefits like precision, waste reduction, and ease of prototyping.
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS	When discussing ergonomics or aesthetics, link features directly to user comfort or preferences (e.g., anthropometric dimensions, bold colors to attract children).

HOW TO AVOID COMMON MISTAKES	
INCOMPLETE ANSWERS	Ensure all aspects of the question are addressed (e.g., if two benefits are asked for, provide two distinct points).
MISUNDERSTANDING TERMINOLOGY	Revise key terms like "morphological analysis," "rendered pictorial," or "die casting" to understand their meaning and applications.
OVERGENERALISATION	Avoid vague responses like "easy to use" or "looks nice" unless these are further elaborated (e.g., "easy to use because the buttons are large and clearly labelled").

ENGINEERING SCIENCE
RESOURCES

Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - SQA Past Papers - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5, Higher	W/B 8th February (Date TBC)
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Friday 28th May 13:00-14:50
Higher	Friday 28th May 13:00-15:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – speak to your class teacher. Revision sessions will be available closer to Prelims and Final Exams.

TOP TIPS
✓ **Link Theory to Practice –** Always explain how systems, mechanisms, or circuits work in the real world.
✓ **Show Working –** Always include formulas, substitutions, and units for calculations.
✓ **Revise by Topic –** Split your revision into: Electronics, Mechanisms, Control Systems, and Energy & Efficiency.
✓ **Understand, Don't Memorise –** Focus on how and why things work instead of rote learning facts.
✓ **Practice Problem Solving –** Use past paper questions to improve your approach to applied problems.

COMMAND WORDS	
IDENTIFY / STATE / NAME	Provide a short, specific answer.
DESCRIBE	Give a short explanation or list the main points.
EXPLAIN	Provide more detail, explaining features or characteristics.
CALCULATE	Show cause-and-effect relationships or justify a point.
COMPARE	Highlight similarities and/or differences between two ideas or systems.
JUSTIFY	Give reasons to support a decision or answer.

SPECIFIC ADVICE	
SYSTEMS AND CONTROL	- Understand input, process, and output stages. - Be able to draw and interpret block diagrams. - Know the function of components like sensors, transistors, resistors, and logic gates. - Practice truth tables and logic circuits.
ELECTRONICS	- Memorise key Ohm's Law and power equations. - Be able to calculate voltage, current, resistance, and power in series and parallel circuits. - Revise potential dividers and transistor switching.
MECHANICAL SYSTEMS	- Know and apply formulas for speed, velocity, acceleration, force, work, and efficiency. - Understand levers, pulleys, gears, and linkages – how motion changes direction, speed, or force. - Be familiar with moments and equilibrium principles.
ENERGY & EFFICIENCY	- Understand different forms of energy transfer and efficiency calculations. - Include units in all answers (e.g., Joules, Newtons, Watts). - Be able to identify ways systems can be made more efficient.
ENGINEERING IN CONTEXT	- Learn examples of engineering in real life (bridges, robotics, renewable energy). - Discuss sustainability and environmental impact in engineering design.

HOW TO AVOID COMMON MISTAKES	
FORGETTING UNITS IN CALCULATIONS	Always include N, J, V, A, or Ω.
WRITING GENERAL ANSWERS	Always relate to the context (e.g., 'the motor turns the arm to lift the load').
MISSING FORMULA STEPS	Show every calculation line for full marks.
IGNORING SAFETY OR SUSTAINABILITY	These often earn additional marks in written responses.
SQA MARKING INSTRUCTIONS	Use SQA marking instructions to learn how marks are awarded.

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION
RESOURCES

Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5, Higher + Advanced Higher	W/B 15th February 2027 (Date TBC)
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Wednesday 5th May 09:00-11:00
Higher + Advanced Higher	Wednesday 5th May 09:00-11:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ **Use visuals when helpful** - Sketches and annotations can enahnce answers. Marks are awareded for the conveyed information, not the artistic quality.
✓ **Double check units & scale** -Include correct units in calculations and ensure scale accuracy in drawings or dimension-based responses.
✓ **Apply design & layout knowledge** - Be specific when referencing design elements (e.g colour, ling, depth and principles – e.g contrast, balance)

COMMAND WORDS	
IDENTIFY	Provide the specific name or feature being asked for.
STATE	Give a brief, accurate answer.
DESCRIBE	Offer detailed information about a process or feature, often requiring multiple points.
EXPLAIN	Show cause-and-effect relationships or justify your answer.
CALCULATE	Show all working clearly and include units in your final answer.

SPECIFIC ADVICE	
3D CAD AND ORTHOGRAPHIC DRAWINGS	
UNDERSTANDING TECHNIQUES	Be able to identify 3D CAD rendering techniques, such as lighting, materials, or surface textures. When asked to describe CAD processes, reference specific tools like revolve, extrude, or fillet, and include dimensions where relevant.
ERROR IDENTIFICATION	Spot errors in drawings, such as missing dimensions, incorrect symbols, or alignment issues. Use clear annotations to support answers.
EXPLODED VIEWS	Highlight good practices, such as consistent spacing, alignment, and labelling of parts.
ENVIRONMENTAL AND MANUFACTURING CONSIDERATIONS	
For questions on making designs environmentally friendly, focus on: Using recycled materials. Minimising waste through efficient layouts. Employing sustainable production methods (e.g., low-impact inks).	
Understand the advantages of 3D printing, such as: Low material waste. High precision. Ability to produce lightweight and cost-effective prototypes.	
DESKTOP PUBLISHING (DTP)	
DESIGN ELEMENTS AND PRINCIPLES	When describing layouts, reference features like layering, alignment, or repetition to explain how they enhance a graphic's visual appeal.
TYPOGRAPHY	Explain the role of font choices, such as using sans serif for clarity or to match a modern theme.
INTERACTIVE FEATURES	Be prepared to discuss the benefits of digital formats, such as adding animations, hyperlinks, or videos, which are not possible in print.
GRAPHS AND DATA REPRESENTATION	
Be able to identify and justify the use of different graph types: Pie Charts: Show proportions or percentages. Line Graphs: Display trends over time. Bar Graphs: Allow easy comparison of data sets.	

HOW TO AVOID COMMON MISTAKES	
RUSHING MULTI-PART ANSWERS	Break down each step when describing processes or techniques (e.g., CAD modeling or creating exploded views).
IGNORING COMMAND WORDS	Don't list when asked to describe, and ensure explanations show relationships or causes when required.
OVERGENERALISING	Avoid vague answers like "it looks good" or "easy to use." Provide specific details about features or benefits.
SKIPPING VISUAL REFERENCES	For layout or drawing questions, clearly indicate parts or elements you are referencing.

PRACTICAL METALWORK
RESOURCES

Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5	Ongoing from January to April 2027 (Deadline TBC)

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ **Use Technical Language** - Refer to tools, machines, and processes by their precise names (e.g., "screwcutting lathe" instead of "metalworking lathe"). When describing metal properties or processes, use terms like “ductility,” “toughness,” or “malleability” accurately.
✓ **Plan & Organise Responses** - Answer in bullet points or numbered steps when appropriate to keep your response clear. When asked for multiple answers (e.g., "three safety checks"), ensure you provide distinct and relevant points.
✓ **Pay Attention to Units & Measurements** - Show all calculations clearly, using proper units (e.g., mm for dimensions). For tolerances, ensure values are within specified ranges.

COMMAND WORDS	
STATE OR NAME	Provide a concise and specific response.
DESCRIBE	Include details about the steps, tools, or processes required.
EXPLAIN	Show relationships (cause and effect) or justify your answer.
SKETCH	Ensure diagrams are clear, labelled, and relevant to the question.

SPECIFIC ADVICE	
MATERIALS AND PROPERTIES	
Understand the difference between **ferrous**, **non-ferrous**, and **alloy** metals. Be ready to categorise metals like brass, nickel, mild steel, and aluminum correctly.	
Be familiar with metal properties such as:	○ **Malleability**: Ability to be shaped or pressed. ○ **Hardness**: Resistance to cutting or scratching. ○ **Toughness**: Resistance to breaking under force. ○ **Brittleness**: Tendency to break without bending.
TOOLS AND MACHINES	
Learn the proper use and function of key tools:	○ **Scribing block**: For accurate marking. ○ **Four-jaw chuck**: For holding irregularly shaped workpieces. ○ **Micrometer**: For precise measurements (e.g., identifying tolerances).
Understand machine processes like:	○ **Parallel turning**: Creating cylindrical shapes. ○ **Facing off**: Flattening the end of a workpiece. ○ **Knurling**: Adding grip patterns to metal surfaces.

WORKSHOP PROCESSES		
FOR MARKING OUT: ○ Use a datum line to reduce cumulative errors. ○ Ensure tools like vernier callipers or scribers are used for precision.	**FOR THREAD CUTTING:** ○ Use a tap at 90° to the workpiece. ○ Apply cutting compound and clear threads regularly to prevent tap breakage.	**FOR ANNEALING:** Know its purpose (to soften metal or relieve stress) and how soap acts as a visual indicator during the process.

SAFETY	
Always include relevant safety precautions:	○ **PPE:** Mention gloves, goggles, and aprons for specific tasks (e.g., heat treatments, drilling). ○ **Machine checks:** Guards in place, chuck key removed, and correct drill speeds.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS	
Highlight the benefits of recycling and upcycling metals: ○ Reduces energy use compared to mining raw materials. ○ Minimizes landfill waste and environmental damage.	
POWDER COATING AND RIVETING	
POWDER COATING PROCESS - Clean and heat the metal, apply plastic powder, and reheat for a smooth finish.	
RIVETS - Explain their advantages, such as strength and ease of use, even when only one side of the material is accessible.	

HOW TO AVOID COMMON MISTAKES	
INSUFFICIENT DETAIL	For questions asking for descriptions or explanations, avoid brief answers like “makes it easier.” Always provide reasoning (e.g., “makes it easier because the metal becomes more malleable after annealing”).
INCORRECT TOOL NAMES	Avoid generic terms like “saw” or “lathe.” Specify the type (e.g., “milling machine” or “plasma cutter”).
IGNORING SAFETY	Forgetting to mention safety measures for tools and machines can lose marks.
MISINTERPRETING TOLERANCES	Ensure you understand tolerance ranges and provide values that fit within specified limits.
SKIPPING UNITS IN CALCULATIONS	Always include units when providing measurements or dimensions.
UNCLEAR DIAGRAMS	If sketches are required, ensure they are neat, labelled, and relevant to the task.

PRACTICAL WOODWORK
RESOURCES

Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5	Ongoing from January to April 2027 (Deadline TBC)

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ **Be Precise and Specific -** Avoid vague answers like “strong” or “cheap” unless supported by specific context (e.g., “strong because it is hardwearing and durable”).
✓ **Use Technical Terminology** - Refer to tools, materials, and processes by their correct names (e.g., "Forstner bit" for drilling flat-bottomed holes or "orbital sander" for sanding surfaces).
✓ **Present Work Neatly -** Use diagrams and annotations when helpful & structure written answers clearly to address all parts of the question.
✓ **Time Management -** Allocate time proportionally to the marks available for each question. If unsure of an answer, move on and return later if time allows.

COMMAND WORDS	
STATE OR NAME	Provide a brief, specific response without elaboration.
OUTLINE	Provide key points with brief details.
DESCRIBE	Offer detailed information about a process or feature in sequential steps.
EXPLAIN	Link cause and effect clearly to demonstrate understanding.
SKETCH	Use clear and labelled drawings to support your answer where necessary.

SPECIFIC ADVICE
MATERIALS AND TOOLS
Learn the **properties of materials** like hardwoods (e.g., oak for durability) and softwoods (e.g., pine for ease of use).
Use the **correct names for tools** and understand their uses, e.g: ○ **Sliding bevel**: For marking angles. ○ **Sash cramp**: For holding joints tightly during gluing.
MEASUREMENT AND MARKING OUT
Accurately describe techniques for marking and cutting: ○ Use tools like **marking gauges**, **steel rules**, or **scribers**. ○ For joints (e.g., rebate, mitre), include steps such as measuring, marking lines, and using the correct saw.
ASSEMBLY AND FINISHING
Detail **step-by-step processes** for tasks like: ○ Sanding (start with coarse grades, finish with fine). ○ Applying finishes like stains or oils (apply thin, even coats with the grain and wipe off excess).
Understand the purpose of finishes: ○ Improve durability, aesthetics, or simulate higher-value materials.
SAFETY
Always reference appropriate safety precautions, such as: ○ Wearing PPE (e.g., goggles, gloves, masks). ○ Securing workpieces with clamps. ○ Checking tools for damage or proper setup before use.
SUSTAINABILITY
Mention methods like using recycled materials, reducing deforestation, or managing forests responsibly to ensure future supplies.
SKETCHING AND DIMENSIONS
When drawing or sketching, ensure: ○ All dimensions are accurate and labelled. ○ Lines and components are neat and clear.

HOW TO AVOID COMMON MISTAKES	
INSUFFICIENT DETAIL	For “describe” and “explain” questions, failing to provide enough detail to show understanding (e.g., just stating “clamp the workpiece” without explaining how and why).
INCORRECT TOOL NAMES	Avoid vague terms like “sander” or “saw.” Specify the type (e.g., "orbital sander," "jigsaw").
IGNORING SAFETY	Forgetting to mention safety checks or precautions when describing processes.
MISINTERPRETING COMMAND WORDS	For example, providing a list instead of a detailed explanation or description.
UNLABELLED DIAGRAMS	Marks are often lost for unclear or unlabelled sketches.
OVERGENERALISATION	Avoid vague answers like “makes it easier” or “saves time” without explaining how or why.

FACULTY OF ENGLISH

ENGLISH
RESOURCES

As well as the resources provided by your teacher you can also find below links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA FOLIO	
National 5	Monday 11th January 2027
Higher	Monday 15th February 2027
Advanced Higher Dissertation	Wednesday 24th March 2027
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5 – Reading for UAE	Monday 10th May 09:00-10:00
National 5 – Critical Reading	Monday 10th May 10:30-12:00
Higher – Reading for UAE	Friday 7th May 09:00-10:30
Higher – Critical Reading	Friday 7th May 11:00-12:45
Advanced Higher – Literary Study	Monday 10th May 13:00-14:30
Advanced Higher – Textual Analysis	Monday 10th May 15:00-16:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ Read and discuss with your parents an article from a broadsheet at least once a week.
✓ Read as much as possible –fiction, non-fiction, magazines, newspapers etc.
✓ Ensure your notes are organised into topic/ course element sections.
✓ Complete past papers
✓ Create cue cards

COMMAND WORDS	
SUMMARISE	Pick out key ideas and bullet point them in your own words
IN YOUR OWN WORDS	Find your answer and explain it in different words
ANALYSE	Quote a word/technique and comment on why it has been used/what its effect is

SPECIFIC ADVICE

CRITICAL ESSAYS

- Every night, read over the notes you have taken in class to ensure understanding.
- Organise the notes you have on a text in a way that suits your learning style: mind maps, linear notes, headings.
- Learn quotations and the analysis of these quotations. Use cue cards to help.
- Practice writing critical essays under exam conditions. Timing is very important.
- After writing a critical essay, check that you have dealt with the task. Ensure that you have done what you were asked. DO NOT just write down what you know about the text.
- Check that topic sentences refer to the question and say what the paragraph is about.
- Always comment on the writer's technique. Do not just mention language features make sure you explain why they have been used/what their effect is.
- Check for technical accuracy.

RUAE

- Know what is required in Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation questions.
- Learn the techniques for the different types of questions you are asked in RUAE ,e.g. context question ,link question, imagery question, word choice question.
- Practice Close Reading, under timed conditions.
- Always check that you have answered what you were asked.

SET TEXT

- Every night, read over the notes you have taken in class to ensure understanding.
- Organise the notes you have on the text in a way that suits your learning style: mind maps, linear notes, headings.
- Always comment on the writer's technique. Do not just mention language features make sure you explain why they have been used/what their effect is.

SOURCES CONSULTED IN PREPARATION FOR THE FOLIO

Unacknowledged use of others' material such as copying and pasting from the internet or any other source, or re-wording or summarising information from another source and passing it off as their own **carries severe penalties.** The SQA will not allow plagiarism.

Quotations must appear between inverted commas.

Candidates will have to sign a declaration that the pieces of writing are their own work and unassisted other than by legitimate support from the teacher.

FACULTY OF EXPRESSIVE ARTS

ART & DESIGN

RESOURCES

As well as the resources provided by your teacher you can also find below links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA FOLIO	
National 5 + Higher	Friday 19th March 2027
Advanced Higher	Friday 26th March 2027
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Monday 24th May 2027 13:30-14:50
Higher	Tuesday 26th May 2027 13:30-15:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ Revise using teacher's notes, word banks and revision grids
✓ Questions will ask you to give your opinion; it is important that you do this and justify your response.
✓ Always do what the question asks you to do, e.g. analyse, comment, compare, discuss, describe….
✓ Never leave a question unanswered as you will automatically drop marks.
✓ Read the question in full and make sure you understand what you are being asked to discuss.

COMMAND WORDS	
ANALYSE	Examine methodically and in detail, in order to explain and interpret it.
EXPLAIN	Make your point clear or easy to understand by giving information about it.
COMMENT	Express your opinion or reaction to the piece of art/ design
JUSTIFY	Give reasons that show or prove your point is right or reasonable

SPECIFIC ADVICE		
PRACTICAL FOLIO		
Pupils should be working continuously on their folio work, ensuring that they meet all class and homework deadlines as stated on the timeline. Pupils must listen and take on board the advice of their teachers, making the most of the extra support offered within the department.		
EXPRESSIVE FOLIO		
INVESTIGATION	**DEVELOPMENT**	**FINAL OUTCOME**
Two drawings of different objects/ faces completed using monochromatic and colour media.	At least two different composition studies completed using monochromatic and/or colour media.	One A3/A2 study of their final composition demonstrating your media handling and observational drawing skills.
DESIGN FOLIO		
INVESTIGATION	**DEVELOPMENT**	**FINAL OUTCOME**
Research images that demonstrate the design theme, design area, target market, consideration of colour, initial design ideas/sketches.	At least two clear developments of your design idea that demonstrate theme and area of design. Ideas must be explored through design drawings, 3-D models photographed in use, samples and annotation.	This is a fully functional piece of design work that fulfils the design brief and relates to the design investigation and development process. The final outcome demonstrates pupils creativity and media handling skills.
WRITTEN PAPER		
ART & DESIGN STUDIES (Always answer both sections of the paper for Nat 5 2 questions from the Art section (Q1 +one other) and 2 questions from the Design section (Q7+ one other) For Higher 3 questions from the Art section (Q1 + 2 others) and 3 Questions from the design section (Q7 + 2 others). ○ Read any information below the images as it will help you understand more about the picture. ○ Stick to the time allocated for each question - **allow 20 minutes per question.**		
DESIGN STUDIES ○ Please ensure you know the designer's full name, relevant dates and design movement they are associated with/historical context. You should also be able to discuss their "trademark style". ○ Be familiar with the Design Issues (function, aesthetics, ergonomics, cost, safety, production, target market, materials etc.) and discuss these both generally and in relation to the designers you have studied. ○ Discuss possible sources of inspiration and overall style. ○ When discussing a designer's work you should refer to specific examples to back up / justify what you are saying. It is important that you do not purely describe their work – you must discuss, analyse or comment, according to what the question asks for.		
ART STUDIES ○ Ensure you know the artist's full name, relevant dates and art movement they are associated with/ historical context. You should also be able to discuss their "trademark style". ○ Be familiar with the Visual Elements – line, tone, colour, texture, pattern, form / shape - and can discuss them both generally and in relation to the artist's work that you have studied. ○ Demonstrate your understanding of composition, focal point, viewpoint, structure, subject matter, style, working methods, use of media and techniques, mood / atmosphere conveyed. ○ When discussing an artist's work you should refer to specific examples of their work to back up/justify what you are saying. It is important that you do not purely describe their work – you must discuss, analyse or comment, according to what the question asks for.		

FASHION & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY
RESOURCES

As well as the resources provided by your teacher you can also find below links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5 + Higher	Friday 26th March 2027
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Friday 27th May 2027 13:00-14:00
Higher	Friday 27th May 2026 13:00-14:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ Complete all homework tasks
✓ Practice past papers from SQA website
✓ Attend supported study
✓ Attend regularly and catch up on any missed work if absent
✓ Access resources on GLOW – PowerPoints, past papers, tech project resource

COMMAND WORDS	
EVALUATE	Make a judgement using the available evidence to state whether you think it's sucessful or not
EXPLAIN	To make your point clear or easy to understand by giving information about it
ANALYSE	Examine methodically and in detail, in order to explain and interpret it.
IDENTIFY	Indicate what something is

SPECIFIC ADVICE
TECHNOLOGICAL PROJECT
○ Manage your time ○ Read exemplar thoroughly for advice on how to answer each section ○ Read marking scheme to see what is required to get full marks. Refer to this when completing sections ○ Be confident with your practical skills. If you are using a technique, you are unfamiliar with, use study support time to practise get help from your teacher ○ Attend supported study and if absent arrange a time with your teacher to catch up ○ Be specific in your responses in the language that you use ○ When concluding each investigation, lead it onto the next investigation. For example: From my questionnaire with teenagers, I found out that the colours silver and pink were the most popular. I will now interview the shop manager and find out which of these colours would be most suitable for the product I will make.
EXAM
○ Separate notes into the 3 different units – Management of Practical Activities, Product development and Consumer studies ○ Revise all notes including revision guides regularly. ○ Start condensing your notes into study cards ○ Practice evaluating questions - For questions that begin 'evaluate the suitability …' you must state 'this is suitable because' or this is not suitable/less suitable because' ○ Read revision notes out loud or ask a friend/parent to test you ○ Learn the correct terminology. If a question asks about benefits to a manufacturer or retailer, use those specific words in your answer. If the question refers to a child, make sure you mention the child in your answer

DRAMA
RESOURCES

As well as the resources provided by your teacher you can also find below links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
PERFORMING ARTS FOR THEATRE PRODUCTION SKILLS - http://www.nln.ac.uk/
YOUTUBE - NATIONAL THEATRE + NATIONAL THEATRE FOR SCOTLAND - https://www.youtube.com

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA PRACTICAL PERFORMANCE	
National 5	TBC between 2nd March – 24th April 2027
Higher	TBC between 2nd March – 24th April 2027
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Wednesday 5th May 2027 13:00-14:30
Higher	Wednesday 5th May 2027 13:00-15:00
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ Bring a pen for extended writing and essays, a pencil, rubber & sharpener for ground plans and dramatic commentary. Cololured pencils for any designs you wish to complete.
✓ Make best use of the Past Papers and Past Paper Questions

COMMAND WORDS	
IDENTIFY	Indicate what something is.
DESCRIBE	Give a detailed account.
JUSTIFY	Give reasons to show or prove your point to be right or reasonable.
EVALUATE	Make a judgement using the available evidence to state whether you think it's sucessful or not

SPECIFIC ADVICE
Thoroughly re-read plays/extract. If you know the material and the characters well enough you should be able to attempt almost any question.
When reading, pay attention to main themes and issues, key moments, character relationships, objectives and motivations, dramatic message and how it is communicated to an audience.
Ensure you have seen a live performance and can comment on it.
Revise all areas of study/terminology such as: ○ Voice and movement techniques ○ Types of staging and benefits of ○ Stage notation ○ Theatre arts (lighting, sound, costume, props, set design, make-up) ○ Ground plans ○ Form and structure, structural devices ○ Intended impact on audience ○ Aspects of theatrical analysis such as action/plot, setting (time and place), language
Remember that you are expected to give quotations from the text(s)
You must have a thorough knowledge of these to progress well: ○ Higher practical is two pieces lasting around 9 minutes each. ○ You must be confident and fluid with your lines ○ You must be sure of characterization through your voice and movement skills ○ Designers must have a presentation of their design concepts for a chose play ○ Detail the process from initial ideas to realization ○ Designers need a set design and one other technical area ○ N5 pupils need one acting piece or one design area ○ Design/technical candidates need to present and demonstrate their skills in performance as well as completing pre-show checks

MUSIC
RESOURCES

As well as the resources provided by your teacher you can also find below links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA PRACTICAL PERFORMANCE	
National 5	TBC Between 9th Feb-20th March 2027
Higher	TBC Between 9th Feb-20th March 2027
Advanced Higher	TBC
SQA ASSIGNMENT + COMMENTARY	
National 5, Higher + Advanced Higher	Friday 26th March 2027
SQA LISTENING PAPER	
National 5	Tuesday 11th May 2027 09.00- 9.45
Higher	Tuesday 11th May 2027 10:15-11:15
Advanced Higher	Tuesday 11th May 2027 11.45-13.00
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ **PRACTICE EVERY DAY!!**

COMMAND WORDS	
IDENTIFY	Indicate what something is.
COMPARE	Note the similarity or dissimilarity between the two pieces of music.
EXPLAIN	Make your point clear or easy to understand by giving information about it
DEVELOP	Elaborate by modification of the melody, harmony, or rhythm.
CREATE	Evolve from you own thought or imagination.

SPECIFIC ADVICE

- Prepare your Performing programme in good time
- Practice regularly –not just once a week in class!
- Once you have learned a piece don't just put it away and expect to be able to play it again at short notice. Run through it now and again to keep it in your memory.
- Make sure you know your pieces inside out. Nerves do terrible things to your performances!
- Learn musical concepts on a regular basis. There are too many to leave until the last minute
- Really listen to and concentrate on the music you are hearing. Don't talk over it or let your mind wander. Think while you're listening.
- Listen to a variety of musical styles and try to identify concepts and instruments
- Listen to Radio 3 and Classic FM and try to identify features of the music which is being played.
- Practice the different styles of question
- Ask your teacher to clarify things you are unsure of.

USE THE OTHER LINKS BELOW FOR FURTHER REVISION:

- Higher www.ltscotland.org.uk/nq/resources/learnlisteningonline/index.asp - concept definitions and audio examples. Quizzes on topics.
- http://www.musictheory.net/ - Lots of good information and interactive exercises. Unfortunately, it is an American site and uses American terminology (e.g.' measures for bars or 'whole notes' for semibreves) rather than European.
- http://library.thinkquest.org/15413/theory/theory.htm - Again, the theory information uses American terminology, but there is also good information on instruments.
- http://www.sfskids.org/templates/instorchframe.asp?pageid=3 – Information and examples of instruments. There are always questions asking you to identify these in the Listening paper (remember – 40% of your final mark)
- http://www.thirteen.org/publicarts/orchestra/index.html - Instruments of the Orchestra Quiz.
- http://www.classicsforkids.com/music/orchestra.asp - further info on the orchestra.
- http://www.classicfm.com/discover/fast-and-friendly-guides/ - short videos (only a couple of minutes) giving information and sound bites on composers from the Baroque to the Romantic periods.
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/music/showcase#/genres/classical
- http://www.mymusiconline.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY
RESOURCES

As well as the resources provided by your teacher you can also find below links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/
YOUTUBE – PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS - https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sqa+photography

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA FOLIO AND ASSESSMENTS	
NPA Units	Friday 26th March 2027
Higher Portfolio	Friday 26th March 2027
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
Higher	Tuesday 11th May 2027 13:30-14:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ Use class powerpoint and notes to revise your terminology
✓ Questions will ask you to give your opinion; it is important that you do this and justify your response.
✓ Always do what the question asks you to do, e.g. analyse, comment, compare, discuss, describe….
✓ Never leave a question unanswered as you will automatically drop marks.
✓ Read the question in full and make sure you understand what you are being asked to discuss.

COMMAND WORDS	
COMPOSE	How the elements of a photo are arranged/placed.
ANALYSE	Examine methodically and in detail, in order to explain and interpret it.
CONSIDER	Think carefully about something before making a conclusion
IDENTIFY	Indicate what something is
EXPLAIN	Make your point clear or easy to understand by giving information about it

SPECIFIC ADVICE		
PRACTICAL FOLIO		
Pupils should be working continuously on their folio/unit work, ensuring that they meet all class and homework deadlines as stated on the timeline. Pupils must listen and take on board the advice of their teachers, making the most of the extra support offered within the department.		
HIGHER PORTFOLIO		
RESEARCH	**DEVELOPMENT**	**FINAL IMAGES**
Choose and create a plan for your project. Research and analyse the work and influences of two phoographers.	Complete your photoshoots in accordance with your shoot plans Evaluate and reflect on your shoots.	Choose/select your final 8 images from across all of your photo shoots. Justify the reasons for your choices
NPA UNITS		
ANALYSE	**DEVELOPMENT**	**FINAL IMAGES**
Analyse the work of photographers considering creative and technical aspects.	Plan and undertake photoshoots	Choose and justify final image choices
WRITTEN PAPER		
Answer all Questions Section 1 – Questions 1-10 (Multiple Choice) Section 2 – Question 11 &12 **Allow 20 minute for section 1 multiple choice and 20 minutes for each question in section 2 .**		
SECTION 1 ○ Please ensure you know and can visuallly identify photographic terminology and techniques in use		
SECTION 2 ○ Ensure you understand the Creative and Technical aspects of photography ○ Be familiar with the Visual Elements – line, tone, colour, texture, pattern, form / shape - and be able to discuss them in relation to the photographer's work you are shown. ○ Be able to show your understanding of composition, focal point, viewpoint, structure, subject matter, style and mood / atmosphere in relation to the photographer's work you are shown. ○ It is important that you do not purely describe the work – you must discuss, analyse or comment, according to what the question asks for always giving reasons for your thoughts/opinions.		

FACULTY OF HEALTH & WELLBEING

DANCE

RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes + Teachers PowerPoints to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
LARBERT HS REVISION - https://sites.google.com/larberthighschool.co.uk/larbert-learning-locus/faculties/health-well-being/dance/n5-dance-revision-materials

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA PRACTICAL PERFORMANCE	
National 5	March 2027
Higher	March 2027
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Tuesday 18th May 2027 (09:00-10:00)
Higher	Tuesday 18th May 2027 (09:00-11:00)
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Please see your teacher for extra help at lunchtimes. Specific sessions will be offered after Christmas

TOP TIPS
✓ Go through your notes and make sure you are not missing any content – all on Teams.
✓ Ensure you understand all of the command words.
✓ Do practice questions using the past papers on the SQA and hand these in for your teacher to mark.

COMMAND WORDS	
IDENTIFY	Simply name something, state what it is and can be a singular answer.
DESCRIBE	State how something looked or was set up. State how it was carried out. Focus on including when, where, who and how.
EXPLAIN	Show cause and effect. The 'why' of something or reason whys its done that way. Structure: point, example, impact
JUSTIFY	Give person meaning. I did this because... Link statement and personal reasoning together with because.
EVALUATE	Place value judgment on something. The judgement needs to be evidenced (back it up).

SPECIFIC ADVICE

QUESTION PAPER

Ensure you revise each of the following sections prior to your exam.

Section 1 - EVALUATION OF TECHNICAL AND PERFORMANCE SKILLS — 10 marks

This section asks candidates to give a personal evaluative response of self. This may include technical ability; turnout; parallel; centre; balance; alignment and posture; stamina; strength and flexibility; spatial awareness; timing and musicality; quality and dynamics; self expression; sense of performance; and concentration and focus.

Section 2 - KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF A DANCE STYLE — 10 marks

This section asks candidates to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a chosen dance style. This may include its origins and developments; style specific steps; key characteristics/stylistic features; historical influences; iconic style of influential choreographers and key movements.

Section 3 - EVALUATION OF A PROFESSIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY — 10 marks

This section asks candidates to give a personal evaluative response to a professional piece of choreography for two or more dancers. This may include theme and/or stimulus; key movements or motif, structure; devices; spatial elements; music/sound and theatre arts.

PERFORMANCE

- Practice your solo performance as much as you possibly can. The more you practice the more you will improve.
- Take on feedback from the teacher and make changes to your performance based on this.
- Watch the videos on teams of the model performers and use this to help you to see what you need to improve.
- Stretch as much as possible to improve your flexibility.

CHOREOGRAPHY

- Come up with as many original movements as possible to show your theme clearly.
- Make sure your motif is performed clearly and shown multiple times in your dance.
- Ensure you demonstrate your devices at least three times.
- Have a clear structure in your dance.
- Use props and costume to make your theme clear.
- Make original music that compliments your theme.

CHOREOGRAPHY REVIEW

- Keep up with the deadlines set by your teacher.
- Follow the advice on teams and follow the structure.
- Use example essays to allow you to see the detail required.
- Hand essay to your teacher as many times as possible to receive feedback and make necessary changes.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes + Teachers PowerPoints to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
Higher	Friday 30th April 2027 (13:00 – 15:30)
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
N5 – certain dates will be identified as 'catch up' opportunities for missed questions of the PE Portfolio H – please see your teacher for extra help at lunchtimes

TOP TIPS
✓ Go through your notes and make sure you are not missing any content – all on Teams.
✓ Ensure you understand all of the command words.
✓ Do practice questions using the past papers on the SQA and hand these in for your teacher to mark.
✓ If you have kept your 'Describe and Explain Diary' up to date, then this is an excellent resource.
✓ Leckie "Preparation and Support for SQA PE Exam" is a good book.

COMMAND WORDS	
DESCRIBE	Should include detail and not just be a statement. Be prepared to describe information about the 4 factors, methods of gathering data, training approaches etc.
EXPLAIN	Your answer must include the impact of what you are writing about. Include phrases such as "This means that……."
ANALYSE	Use the 3 I's to structure your answer for each mark. Identify, Implication and Impact.
EVALUATE	Your answer must include a judgement first, then the impact of this. This could be positive or negative.
Ensure that you know specific examples for gathering data, training approaches, methods to monitor and evaluate. Eg. Training approach to develop the physical factor – Fartlek or Repetition training.	

SPECIFIC ADVICE
NATIONAL 5
Once you have decided your 2 practical performances to be assessed in, ensure that you attend all lessons to ensure you get as much practice as possible. You could also attend any relevant school club or ask the PE department if you can practice after school. ○ For the Portfolio, try to keep your attendance as high as possible so you don't miss any classroom sessions. ○ Take good notes for each question in your jotter. ○ Use the PowerPoint for each question which are posted on your class Team to help your understanding. ○ Ensure you complete your 'Bullet Point Sheet' for each question. Remember, you can have this in front of you while you are typing your answer up. ○ If you don't understand the question fully or are not confident in your answer, please ask your teacher for help.
HIGHER
Once you have decided your 2 practical performances to be assessed in, ensure that you attend all lessons to ensure you get as much practice as possible. ○ You could also attend any relevant school club or ask the PE department if you can practice after school.

PRACTICAL COOKERY

RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes + Teachers PowerPoints to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA PRACTICAL & ASSIGNMENT	
National 5	Early March 2027
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Thursday 29th April 2027 (13:00 – 14:00)
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Please see your teacher for extra help at lunchtimes. Specific sessions will be offered after Christmas

TOP TIPS
✓ **Create Mind Maps** Use a combination of keywords, symbols and pictures to summarise a subject area.
✓ **Use Cue Cards** Write the key word/question on one side and the answer on the other. Flip, test and check.
✓ Self check using unit outcomes
✓ Complete revision questions for each unit
✓ Be familiar with and use correct terminology
✓ Know and understand the essential knowledge
✓ Be able to construct and use a plan of work using SQA practical assignments
✓ Practice practical skills using SQA practical assignments
✓ Practice following timeplans for 3 dishes
✓ Practice preparing service details

COMMAND WORDS	
DESCRIBE	Define points relating to question **Question**: Describe where fresh cream should be stored to ensure food safety. **Answer**: Store in a clean, covered container in the refrigerator.
EXPLAIN	Relevant points and making **connections to the question** **Question**: Explain **two** ways in which a chef could amend a recipe for macaroni cheese to make it healthier. **Answer**: They could change the cheddar cheese to a low fat cheddar cheese which would reduce overall fat content of the dish.
CALCULATE	**Work out** costings. Work out ingredient cost and total cost of dish – calculators can be used
EVALUATE	Make a **judgement** based on the information provided, related to the context of the question & give a **consequence** *Award **1 mark** for each relevant evaluative comment linked to the context of the question. Award a **second mark** for any evaluative comment that is developed.* **Question**: Evaluate the suitability of macaroni cheese for a Scottish-themed restaurant. **Answer***:* Macaroni cheese would be suitable to include on the menu of the restaurant as the use of locally made cheese will support the local community. **(1 mark for evaluative comment)** The cheese will also add colour to the dish, making it appealing to consumers. **(A further mark for the development of the comment)**

SPECIFIC ADVICE

NATIONAL 5

- Attendance is essential for this course, missing out on too many practical lessons may mean missing out on practicing those skills you need to pass the final exam.

- Make sure to take comprehensive notes each time your teacher gives you a demonstration, don't depend on your memory as the pressure of the exam will probably make you forget. Have everything written down.

- Ask for past exam recipes that you can practice your assignment with. Your teacher will be happy to mark these and feed back to you. You can practice time plans with any of the recipes you have made in class.

- You have been given a revision booklet in class, use this to help you with your knowledge of the subject and for advice on how to answer questions based on the command words.

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

CLASSICAL STUDIES

RESOURCES

Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
THE BRITISH MUSEUM - https://www.britishmuseum.org/
PERSEUS DIGITAL LIBRARY - http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/
CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND - http://www.classicalassociation.scot/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA PRACTICAL	
National 5	TBC
Higher	TBC
SQA QUESTION PAPER	
National 5	Friday 28th May 2027 09:00-11:00
Higher Classical Literature	Friday 28th May 2027 09:00-10:10
Higher Classical Society	Friday 28th May 2027 10:40-12:30
Advanced Higher	Friday 28th May 2027 09:00-11:00
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
✓ **Stay Organised** ○ Use a study planner to allocate time for each topic. ○ Make summary notes or mind maps for key themes and historical events.
✓ **Engage with Primary Sources** ○ Read extracts from previous past papers and your back-up booklets. ○ Compare ancient accounts to modern interpretations.
✓ **Practice Exam Questions** ○ Use past papers from the SQA website. ○ Time yourself when writing essays to improve exam technique.
✓ **Use Mnemonics and Visual Aids** ○ Create flashcards for important dates and figures. ○ Use diagrams to visualise political structures, or mythological stories.
✓ **Discuss and Debate** ○ Join study groups to explore different interpretations of texts. ○ Practice explaining historical events to family members.

COMMAND WORDS		
NATIONAL 5	**DESCRIBE**	An event; aspect of life or a theme shown in a classical text
	EXPLAIN	An event; aspect of life or how a theme was viewed in the classical world
	ANALYSE	An issue and come to a conclusion
	COMPARE	And contrast aspects of the classical world with the modern world
	EVALUATE	The usefulness of a source
HIGHER	**EXPLAIN**	In-depth knowledge and understanding of a range of religious, political, social, moral and cultural values and practices of classical Greek and Roman societies, providing detailed explanations **Structuring and sustaining lines of reasoned argument**
	ANALYSE	And **evaluate** the religious, political, social, moral and cultural values and practices of classical Greek and Roman societies
	COMPARE	Religious, political, social, moral and cultural values and practices of the classical and modern worlds and to draw reasoned and detailed conclusions **Explain the meaning of sources**
	EVALUATE	The usefulness of a source

SPECIFIC ADVICE

National 5 (N5) Classical Studies explores the civilizations of Ancient Greece and Rome, their literature, society, and impact on modern culture. The course develops analytical and evaluative skills through the study of classical texts, historical events, and cultural developments.

LIFE IN CLASSICAL GREECE (ATHENS) COMPARED TO THE MODERN WORLD

- Social structure and daily life
- Role of women and slaves
- Political systems (Athenian democracy)

CLASSICAL LITERATURE

- Key texts such as Medea and The Odyssey
- Themes including heroism; conflict; women in society; leadership and heroism

CLASSICAL RELIGION & BELIEFS

- Myths and gods (Zeus, Athena, Jupiter, etc.)
- Religious practices and festivals

LIFE IN ROMAN POMPEII COMPARED TO THE MODERN WORLD

- The eruption of Mt. Vesuvius and its effects
- Ways of making a living
- Forms of entertainment

TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Encourage regular study and revision schedules.
- Discuss key themes and ask questions about their learning.
- Watch historical documentaries or visit museums with classical exhibits.
- Provide access to online resources and books.

FRENCH , SPANISH & GERMAN RESOURCES

Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
LANGUAGE GYM - https://www.language-gym.com/
DUO LINGO - https://www.duolingo.com/
TV5 MONDE - https://apprendre.tv5monde.com/en
WORD REFERENCE - https://www.wordreference.com/
STUDY CLIX - https://www.studyclix.co.uk/

IMPORTANT DATES	
FRENCH EXAMS	
Reading & Writing	Wednesday 18th May 2027 H – 09:00-11:00 N5 – 13:00-14:30
Listening	Wednesday 18th May 2027 H – 11:30-12:00 N5 – 15:00-15:30
SPANISH EXAMS	
Reading & Writing	Tuesday 25th May 2027 H – 09:00-11:00 N5 – 13:00-14:30
Listening	Tuesday 25th May 2027 H – 11:30-12:00 N5 – 15:00-15:30
GERMAN EXAMS	
Reading & Writing	Friday 30th April 2027 H – 9.00 - 11.00 N5 – 13.30-14.30
Listening	Friday 30th April 2027 H – 11:30-12:00 N5 – 15:00-15:30

STUDY SUPPORT
Spanish N5– Thursday 3.30pm - 4.15pm with Miss Coggill.
German N5 , French N5 + H , Spanish H – available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS

- ✓ **Practice Regularly**: Engage with French/Spanish through listening, reading, speaking, and writing.
- ✓ **Use a Variety of Resources**: Books, websites, apps, and past papers are key to reinforcing learning.
- ✓ **Stay Organised**: Keep a study timetable and set realistic goals for each skill area.
- ✓ **Seek Feedback**: Encourage pupils to ask teachers for guidance on areas needing improvement.
- ✓ **Practice Past Papers:** Get familiar with exam format and question types.
- ✓ **Manage Time:** Time yourself to build confidence (15 mins per Reading passage, 30 mins Writing)
- ✓ **Review Mistakes:** Learn from errors to avoid repeating them.
- ✓ **Use Marking Schemes:** Understand what examiners look for in answers.

By following this study guide, pupils can build confidence in their French/Spanish skills and achieve success in their National 5 exams. Bonne chance! 🎉 Suerte!

SPECIFIC ADVICE

National 5 Languages assesses students in four key skills:

1. **Reading** – Understanding written French/Spanish texts. (External Exam)
2. **Listening** – Comprehending spoken French/Spanish. (External Exam)
3. **Writing** – Producing structured responses in French/Spanish. (Coursework + External Exam)
4. **Speaking** – Conversing confidently in French/Spanish. (Internal Exam)

Each skill is tested through exams and coursework, contributing to the final grade.

READING TIPS

- Read French/Spanish newspapers, blogs, and short stories.
- Highlight key vocabulary and phrases.
- Practise summarising paragraphs in English.
- Use online dictionaries (e.g., WordReference) to understand unfamiliar words.

LISTENING TIPS

- Listen to French/Spanish music, podcasts, and news.
- Watch French/Spanish TV shows and films with subtitles.
- Pause and repeat audio clips to improve comprehension.
- Use BBC Bitesize, Achieve, The Language Gym and YouTube for listening practice.

WRITING TIPS

- Practise writing short essays and paragraphs on common topics.
- Learn key sentence structures and linking phrases.
- Review grammar rules (e.g., verb conjugations, adjectives, tenses).
- Use tools like BonPatron for grammar checking.

SPEAKING TIPS

- Practise speaking with classmates, family members, or tutors.
- Record yourself answering past paper questions.
- Learn and memorise useful phrases for conversations.
- Speak aloud while reading to improve pronunciation.

TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Encourage daily practice and revision.
- Test pupils on vocabulary and key phrases.
- Listen to French/Spanish media together (radio, songs, films).
- Set up a structured study plan with breaks to avoid burnout.
- Help pupils stay positive and motivated by celebrating progress.

RELIGIOUS, MORAL & PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES (RMPS) RESOURCES

Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
LEARNING RMPS - https://learningrmps.com/
YOUTUBE - https://www.youtube.com/user/MrMcMillanREvis

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA EXAM	
National 5 H Paper 1 H Paper 2	Tuesday 27th April 2027 09:00-11:20 Tuesday 27th April 2027 09:00-11:15 Tuesday 27th April 2027 11:45-12:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Study support is available Tuesday/Wednesday After School with Mrs Gauffre in C14 Lunchtime study support is available on request **All coursework is available on Showbie – if you miss a lesson you must catch up on the work you have missed**

TOP TIPS
✓ Complete Past Paper Questions
✓ Create Mindmaps
✓ Listen to Podcasts or Watch Documentaries linked to the learning
✓ Create Flashcards
By following this study guide, pupils can approach their National 5 RMPS exam with confidence, and parents can effectively support their learning. Good luck! 🎓

COMMAND WORDS	
DESCRIBE	Straight forward description needed with examples to support your answer.
EXPLAIN	A more in-depth analysis of the issue/response. Think about the significance/impacy/consequences.
TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU AGREE?	Consider a response and look at both sides of the argument before putting forward your own reasoned opinon.
HOW FAR DO YOU AGREE?	Consider a response and look at both sides of the argument before putting forward your own reasoned opinon.

HIGHER COMMAND WORDS	
KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING	In-depth knowledge and understanding of the significance and impact of key beliefs and practices found within one of the world's six major religions in-depth knowledge and understanding of contemporary moral issues and responses in-depth knowledge and understanding of religious and philosophical questions and responses Factual descriptions
ANALYSIS	Interpreting the meaning and context of sources, beliefs and viewpoints related to religious, moral and philosophical issues Expressing views about religious, moral and philosophical issues and responses researching sources to present analysis and evaluation of viewpoints on religious, moral or philosophical issues Presenting findings about elements of religious, moral and philosophical issues Identifying the consequence or impact of an idea or viewpoint
EVALUATION	Identifying and responding to different ideas and viewpoints and drawing detailed, reasoned and well-structured conclusions Making well-reasoned judgements Expresses your personal opinion

NATIONAL 5 SPECIFIC ADVICE

The National 5 exam lasts 2 hours and 20 minutes, so roughly 45 minutes per section. Within each section there are different topics, you need to make sure you answer only the topic you have studied. Questions will range from 2-8 marks, each section is worth 27 or 28 marks, there will be 1 x 8 mark question per section :

- One Religion
- One Moral Issue
- One Philosophical Question

World Religion – Islam

All candidates should be able to:

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and practices
Analyse religious beliefs and practices
Evaluate the relevance, significance and impact of religious beliefs and practices

Mandatory Content:

Nature of God
Khaliphas (stewardship)
Free will
Sin
Seal of the prophets
Muhammed as a role model
Revelation of the Qur'an
Judgement
Al-Jannnah and Jahannam
The Five Pillars
Living according to the Qur'an
Worship

Morality and Belief – Conflict

All candidates should be able to:
Present factual knowledge and understanding of moral issues
Present factual knowledge and understanding of a religious and non-religious viewpoint on moral issues
Analyse the different moral issues
Evaluate a religious and non-religious response to moral issues
Present a reasoned viewpoint on moral issues

Mandatory Content:
Conflict: causes of war, types of war, Geneva conventions, justifications
Consequences of war: human cost, environment, economic
Modern armaments: weapons of mass destruction, smart weapons, conventional weapons
Alternatives to war: sanctions, diplomacy, pacifism

Religious and Philosophical Questions – The Problem of Suffering and Evil

All candidates should be able to:
Present factual knowledge and understanding of a religious and philosophical question
Present factual knowledge and understanding of contrasting responses to a religious and philosophical question
Analyse a religious and philosophical question and responses to it
Evaluate responses to a religious and philosophical question
Present a reasoned viewpoint on the religious and philosophical question

Mandatory Content:
Types of suffering and evil
Explanations of suffering and evil: free will and responsibility, determinism, natural causes, role of God
Problems for beliefs about God: the nature of God, challenge to the nature of God, challenge to the existence of God, theodicies

HIGHER SPECIFIC ADVICE

The Higher exam is two papers. Paper 1 is World Religion and Morality, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes and Paper 2 is Religious and Philosophical Questions, lasting 45 minutes.
For a 10-mark essay you have roughly 22 minutes, and for a 20-mark essay you have roughly 45 minutes
Paper 1 consists of 2 x 10-mark essays and 2 x 20-mark essays, Paper 2 is 1 x 20-mark essay

- One World Religion
- One Moral Issue
- One Philosophical Question

World Religion – Sikhism

All candidates should be able to:
Show in-depth knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and practices
Analyse the relationship between different religious beliefs; the relationship between religious beliefs and practices; and the purpose of living according to religious beliefs and practices
Evaluate the significance, relevance and impact of religious beliefs and practices

Mandatory Content:
Beliefs:
Beliefs about God
Nature of human beings: atma; free will; karma; equality
Beliefs about maya and haumai; the Five Evils
Gurmukh; Jivan Mukti
Practices:
Living according to the Gurus
Khalsa
Worship: sewa and Simran; kirt karna; vand chakkana

Morality and Belief – Justice

All candidates should be able to:
Show in-depth knowledge and understanding of moral issues
Analyse religious and non-religious responses to moral issues
Evaluate religious and non-religious responses to moral issues

Mandatory Content:
Causes of crime:
Environmental influences
Psychological factors
Purposes of punishment:
Reformation
Retribution
Protection
Deterrence
Responses to crime:
Custodial sentences
Non-custodial sentences
Capital punishment

Religious and Philosophical Questions – Origins

All candidates should be able to:
Show in-depth knowledge and understanding of the question and responses, including religious and non-religious responses
Apply the skills of analysis and evaluation to the question and responses
Present a reasoned conclusion to the question

Mandatory Content:
Was the universe and life created?
How does religion explain the origins of the universe and of life?
What evidence does religion use to support these explanations?
What are the strengths and weaknesses of evidence/explanations?
How does science explain the origins of the universe and of life?
What evidence does science use to support these explanations?
What are the strengths and weaknesses of evidence/explanations?
Can religious and scientific views on origins be compatible?

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS

MATHEMATICS

RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes + OneNote to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/
YOUTUBE - http://www.youtube.com/@DirectTutoring
YOUTUBE - http://www.youtube.com/@ClellandMaths
NATIONAL 5 MATH - https://www.national5maths.co.uk/
HIGHER MATH - https://www.highermathematics.co.uk/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA EXAM	
National 5 – Paper 1 Non Calculator	Monday 17th May 2027 09:00-10:00
National 5 – Paper 2 Calculator	Monday 17th May 2027 10:30-12:00
Higher – Paper 1 Non Calculator	Friday 14th May 2027 09:00-10:15
Higher – Paper 2 Calculator	Friday 14th May 2027 10:45-12:15
Advanced Higher – Paper 1 Non Calculator	Monday 17th May 2027 12:30-13:30
Advanced Higher – Paper 2 Calculator	Monday 17th May 2027 14:00-16:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT			
STAFF	**DAY**	**TIME**	**LOCATION**
H. Low	Monday	15:30-16:30	B5
G. Cromb	Friday	13:30-14:30	B1
C. McMahon	Thursday	15:30-16:30	B3
R. MacDonald	Tuesday	15:30-16:30	B7
A. Docherty	Tuesday	15:30-16:30	B6
V. Fedor-Szabo	Wednesday	15:30-16:30	B8
P. Tinney	Thursday	15:30-16:30	B2
S. Barclay	Monday	15:30-16:30	B4

TOP TIPS
✓ Revise Course Notes/Jotter regularly (see Teams for completed Course Notes)
✓ Use Teams to access Teacher OneNote for lessons
✓ Practice Basic Skills regularly (Fractions/Decimals/Percentages/Algebra/Pythagoras Theorem/Trigonometry)
✓ You'll need: Calculator, Pen, Pencil, Sharpener, Rubber, Ruler, Protractor.

SPECIFIC ADVICE
NON-CALCULATOR PAPERS
In order to be successful in non-calculator papers, make sure you are confident in working with fractions, decimals and percentage calculations, working with surds and indices and all aspects of algebra including factorising. You should make sure you clearly show all your working.
PLANNING YOUR REVISION
Use your assessment feedback sheets following assessments to identify your priority topics for revision. Use this information to create a focused study plan, working on individual topics first before moving onto full past papers nearer the exam day.
A planned revision schedule is available on Teams called '15-week Revision Guide'
Attend as many study support sessions as possible. Prepare before sessions by identifying what area you would like to revise to ensure you get the most out of your time.

APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS

RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes + OneNote to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
BRIGHT RED - https://www.brightredbooks.net/subjects/
YOUTUBE - http://www.youtube.com/@freeapplicationsofmaths1169
YOUTUBE - http://www.youtube.com/@ClellandMaths
NATIONAL 5 MATH - https://www.national5maths.co.uk/
HIGHER MATH - https://www.highermathematics.co.uk/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA EXAM	
National 5 Applications – Paper 1 Non Calculator	Monday 26th April 2027 09:00-09:50
National 5 Applications – Paper 2 Calculator	Monday 26th April 2027 10:30-12:10
Higher Applications – Single Paper	Monday 26th April 2027 13:00-15:05
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT

STAFF	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
H. Low	Monday	15:30-16:30	B5
G. Cromb	Friday	13:30-14:30	B1
C. McMahon	Thursday	15:30-16:30	B3
R. MacDonald	Tuesday	15:30-16:30	B7
A. Docherty	Tuesday	15:30-16:30	B6
V. Fedor-Szabo	Wednesday	15:30-16:30	B8
P. Tinney	Thursday	15:30-16:30	B2
S. Barclay	Monday	15:30-16:30	B4

TOP TIPS

- ✓ Revise Course Notes/Jotter regularly (see Teams for completed Course Notes)
- ✓ Use Teams to access Teacher OneNote for lessons
- ✓ Practice Basic Skills regularly (Fractions/Decimals/Percentages/Time Calculations/Pythagoras Theorem)
- ✓ You'll need: Calculator, Pen, Pencil, Sharpener, Rubber, Ruler, Protractor.

SPECIFIC ADVICE

NON-CALCULATOR PAPERS

In order to be successful in non-calculator papers, make sure you are confident in working with fractions, decimals and percentage calculations and calculations using money. You should make sure you clearly show all your working.

PLANNING YOUR REVISION

Use your assessment feedback sheets following assessments to identify your priority topics for revision. Use this information to create a focused study plan, working on individual topics first before moving onto full past papers nearer the exam day.

A planned revision schedule is available on Teams called '15-week Revision Guide'

Attend as many study support sessions as possible. Prepare before sessions by identifying what area you would like to revise to ensure you get the most out of your time.

HIGHER APPLICATIONS PROJECT

Choosing your topic and deciding your aim:

- Choose a relevant topic to investigate
- Agree your topic with your teacher
- Your topic must include a data set you can analyse
- You need to decide on the aim of your project and discuss this with your teacher

Your report must include:

- An introduction explaining what and I you are going to explore and clearly detailing the method you will use to gather your data.
- You must state the problem using statistical language such as: association, difference, correlation, significance, evidence and relationship
- Ensure your data is displayed using appropriate statistical diagrams and that you analyse your data using appropriate statistical techniques
- Perform appropriate tests, make clear any assumptions made and detail all stages of working including any hypothesis tests
- State any conclusions at each stage of analysis and draw all conclusions together at the end.
- All conclusions must be made in context
- Include a suitable bibliography

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGY
RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
STUDY STACK - http://www.studystack.com/Biology

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5	January 2027
Higher	October/November 2026
SQA EXAM	
National 5	Wednesday 12th May 2027 13:00 – 15:00
Higher – Paper 1	Wednesday 12th May 2027 09:00 - 11:30
Higher – Paper 2	Wednesday 12th May 2027 09:00 - 11:30
Advanced Higher	Wednesday 12th May 2027 09:00 - 11:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Tuesdays 15:30-16:30

TOP TIPS
✓ Calculators are allowed to be used in the exam to help you work out percentages, averages (means) or ratios – so make sure you make use of them to ensure you don't lose valuable marks!
✓ Read all questions thoroughly and with care before beginning to answer them and always check over all your answers at the end of the exam.
✓ Complete the KA question sheets that you are given by your teacher.
✓ Problem solving sheets (unit by unit) and other resources are available on Teams.

COMMAND WORDS	
STATE	NAME
DESCRIBE	EXPLAIN
SUGGEST	COMPARE

SPECIFIC ADVICE

CALCULATION QUESTIONS

Practice calculating averages, percentages (to include a % increase and decrease) and whole number ratios. For calculation questions in an exam paper, a space is often provided for the candidate to show their working. It is in the best interest of the candidates to show their working in this space provided clearly so that examiners can follow and make sense of it.

GRAPH QUESTIONS

ALWAYS use a **pencil** and a **ruler** when drawing graphs. Many pupils lose marks in their final exam for not plotting the points of a line graph or drawing the bars of bar graphs clearly or accurately enough for the examiner to read - If the examiner cannot read your graph clearly then marks will not be awarded!
Always ensure that the x and y axis of your graph is clearly labeled with an appropriate scale and title.
Choose a scale that allows you to use **at least half of your graph paper** when drawing your graph.

When completing line graphs, **only connect the line of the graph to the origin if this data has been given.**
If you are presented with a table in your exam and asked to produce a graph using this information, make sure that you use the **exact headings and units** from the table to label your graph.
Take your time when completing graphs in order to avoid throwing away valuable marks!
If a question asks you about the information presented in a graph, ensure that you refer to the graph and the information provided.

EXPERIMENTAL QUESTIONS

Ensure when writing about experiments that you are aware of the difference between the terms 'validity', 'accuracy' and 'reliability' since you will be required to use these terms.
Also be aware of the purpose of control experiments and why they are used.

When writing about variables, never use the word 'amount'. You need to instead use words such as 'number', 'mass' or 'volume' depending on the variable in question.

When drawing a conclusion from experimental evidence given, **do not simply repeat your results**. Ensure that you relate back to the aim of the experiment when drawing overall conclusions.

ESSAY WRITING

Ensure that you do not spend too much time on these questions. Decide what the main points are which you want to mention and start writing as soon as possible. **Be aware of your time.**

DESCRIBE & EXPLAIN QUESTIONS

Make sure you recognize the difference between describe and explain questions. For explain questions you must give reasons or evidence to back up your answer. Make sure your answer to explain questions has linking words such as 'because', 'therefore', 'this means that' etc.

CHEMISTRY
RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
This includes Course Notes to work through.
Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
EVANS2CHEM - http://www.evans2chemweb.co.uk/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5	January 2027
Higher	February 2027
SQA EXAM	
National 5	Friday 21st May 2027 13:00-15:00
Higher	Friday 21st May 2027 09:00-11:30
Advanced Higher	Friday 21st May 2027 09:00-11:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Thursdays 15:30-16:30

TOP TIPS
✓ Chemistry involves many different chemical reactions and it is useful to create a page at the back of the notes jotter with an example of each chemical reaction. This in effect produces a glossary for each type of different chemical reaction.
✓ The same procedure can be carried out for the names and structures of all the functional groups
✓ The essential resources for each pupil in chemistry are a calculator, ruler and a copy of the appropriate data booklet (available on the SQA web page if the pupil has lost their copy). Moreover, each pupil is provided with a notes jotter which they should maintain in good condition. This is above all the most important resource for the pupil in chemistry.

COMMAND WORDS	
ANALYSE	**PREDICT**
CALCULATE	**STATE**
DETERMINE	**NAME**

SPECIFIC ADVICE
DESCRIBE & EXPLAIN QUESTIONS
Make sure you recognize the difference between describe and explain questions. For explain questions you must give reasons or evidence to back up your answer. Make sure your answer to explain questions has linking words such as 'because', 'therefore', 'this means that' etc.
GRAPH QUESTIONS
ALWAYS use a **pencil** and a **ruler** when drawing graphs. Many pupils lose marks in their final exam for not plotting the points of a line graph or drawing the bars of bar graphs clearly or accurately enough for the examiner to read - If the examiner cannot read your graph clearly then marks will not be awarded! Always ensure that the x and y axis of your graph is clearly labeled with an appropriate scale and title. Choose a scale that allows you to use **at least half of your graph paper** when drawing your graph. When completing line graphs, **only connect the line of the graph to the origin if this data has been given.** If you are presented with a table in your exam and asked to produce a graph using this information, make sure that you use the **exact headings and units** from the table to label your graph. Take your time when completing graphs in order to avoid throwing away valuable marks! If a question asks you about the information presented in a graph, ensure that you refer to the graph and the information provided.

PHYSICS
RESOURCES

All required resources can be found in your class Teams.
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Below you can find links to the best revision methods:

KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
THE PHYSICS ACAD - https://www.youtube.com/@thephysicsacad
PHYSICS PODCAST - http://www.physics-podcast.co.uk/
MR MACKENZIE - https://mrmackenzie.co.uk/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA ASSIGNMENT	
National 5	December 2026/January 2027
Higher	February 2027
SQA EXAM	
National 5	Tuesday 4th May 2027 13:00 - 15:00
Higher	Tuesday 4th May 2027 09:00 - 11:30
Advanced higher	Tuesday 4th May 2027 09:00 - 11:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Wednesdays 15:30 – 16:30

TOP TIPS
✓ Learn to use the Relationship Sheet, know the abbreviations for all the quantities
✓ Learn all the units for the quantities as this will help to identify the data given in questions
✓ Use scientific notation properly with your calculator
✓ Do Past Paper Questions – topic by topic
✓ Do not use the marking scheme for past paper questions until you have attempted the whole question
✓ During your exam, use the data sheet to obtain information needed for the question.

COMMAND WORDS	
STATE	**EXPLAIN**
CALCULATE	**JUSTIFY**
DETERMINE	**SUGGEST**

SPECIFIC ADVICE

CALCULATE QUESTIONS

These are your "bread and butter" questions... remember the three key steps:

1. Select the correct equation and write it down
2. Substitute in the correct numbers in to the correct part of the equation
3. Work through to the final answer – **remember the unit in your final answer!**

Convert units into the correct format when using formulae/equations

e.g. for current I 200mA = 0.2A,

for mass m 50g = 0.05kg

Multiple choice questions - use formulae to be able to derive the correct units

e.g. for power 1 Watt = 1 Js^{-1} J/s as P = E/t

for absorbed dose 1 Gray = 1 Jkg^{-1} J/kg as D = E/m

STATE and JUSTIFY

Some questions will ask to "state" and outcome, and then "justify your answer".
Ensure that you do "state" what you are being asked, then using linking words like "because", give a reason or reasons that support the statement you have made.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

When asked to select correct statements – go through each statement in order and state whether you agree/disagree or true/false

WRITTEN PAPER

At the end of a question you may be asked a problem solving question – a 'what if question'. Don't panic!

The answer is usually in the formula used in the earlier parts of that particular question. Look at the variables in the formula and use these to give a theoretical explanation of the new scenario you are asked about. Do not just state what happens, you must give an explanation of your answer.

DATA HANDLING

Understand, explain and extract information from tables and graphs

PROBLEM SOLVING

Requiring description/explanation – recall and use key facts in each topic

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SUBJECTS

GEOGRAPHY

RESOURCES

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ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
LEARN ON THE INTERNET - http://www.geography.learnontheinternet.co.uk/
MR SIMPSON GEOG - https://sites.google.com/ab-ed.org/mrtsimpsongeog/home
MR JONES PODCAST - https://open.spotify.com/show/0DBCWkmsFQI4IgtDuWQdWl?si=411f68ba5de14741

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA EXAM	
National 5	Thursday 6th May 2027 13:00-15:20
Higher – Paper 1	Thursday 6th May 2027 09:00-10:50
Higher – Paper 2	Thursday 6th 2027 11:20-12:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

COMMAND WORDS	
EXPLAIN	You have to give reasons and/or processes for your answer. Make sure your answer to an 'explain' question has plenty of linking words and phrases such as 'because', 'therefore', 'this means that'.

SPECIFIC ADVICE
TYPES OF QUESTIONS
• Make sure you know the difference between **describe** and **explain** questions. • Read each question thoroughly before you begin. Make sure you know exactly what the question is asking you to do. Especially if the question is in sections (for example 1a, 1b and 1c) Make sure you can answer each section separately. • When writing an answer, it should be in essay form with proper paragraphs. • **DO NOT** bullet point or write your answers in note/list form as you may lose marks. • If you are asked for a named country, location or city, make sure you include details of the case study in your answer in order to get full marks. • Do not be put off if the actual question refers to an area that you have not studied, as all questions are phrased 'using this or *any other location* you have studied'. • Most candidates lose marks due to a lack of detail in their answers. Ensure you elaborate and develop points that you make. For example, there may be 'a new motorway built' but you need to explain why it was built, any benefits/problems it will bring.
DIAGRAMS
Use sketch diagrams where possible; this is particularly helpful when you are explaining the formation of a feature. NOTE: If a question says 'with the aid of diagrams', you may lose marks if your answer does not include fully labeled diagrams.
OS MAPPING
Remember, map evidence includes both grid references and names of places/features. Ensure you use 6 figure grid references when referring to a specific feature.
GRAPHS
When describing graphs, ensure you quote actual figures.

HISTORY

RESOURCES

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ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary
JOHNDCLARE - http://www.johndclare.net/
SPARTACUS - http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/
ACTIVE HISTORY - http://www.activehistory.co.uk/

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA EXAM	
National 5	Wednesday 19th May 2027 13:00-15:20
Higher – Paper 1	Wednesday 19th May 2027 09:00-10:30
Higher – Paper 2	Wednesday 19th May 2027 11:00-12:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

COMMAND WORDS	
DESCRIBE	Select relevant & accurate points from the source and use them to answer the question
EXPLAIN	You have to give reasons and/or processes for your answer. Make sure your answer to an 'explain' question has plenty of linking words and phrases such as 'because', 'therefore', 'this means that'.

SPECIFIC ADVICE
DESCRIBE OR EXPLAIN QUESTIONS
○ Select relevant & accurate points from the source and use them to answer the question; ○ Add recalled knowledge which is accurate & relevant; ○ Organise your answers into sentences; ○ Add introduction & conclusion as appropriate
COMPARE QUESTIONS
○ Remember to compare each source point by point; ○ Explain why they agree/disagree; ○ Start your answer in general terms as to how they agree/disagree; ○ Come to a conclusion explaining why they agree/disagree
HOW USEFUL/RELIABLE/VALUABLE QUESTIONS
○ Origin – who wrote it, why is he/she important; ○ Purpose – why was the source written; ○ Content – can you trust the information, is there a particular reason for it; ○ Recall – identify important points omitted, find additional relevant information which helps to answer the question

MODERN STUDIES

RESOURCES

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KEY RESOURCES
SQA PAST PAPERS - https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45686.html
ACHIEVE - https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/
BBC BITESIZE - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary

IMPORTANT DATES	
SQA EXAM	
National 5	Wedensday 26th May 2027 13:00-15:20
Higher – Paper 1	Wedensday 26th May 2027 09:00-10:45
Higher – Paper 2	Wednesday 26th May 2027 11:15-12:30
Any learners with Extra Time will continue beyond the times shown above.	

STUDY SUPPORT
Available on request – see your teacher

TOP TIPS
Complete Past Paper Questions
In K&U Questions – Remember P-E-E – Make a point, Explain it & Give an Example
Practice Time Management – Complete Past Paper Questions under timed conditions