

### Introduction

Your child is approaching the end of the **Broad General Education** and about to move into the **Senior Phase**. During last year's option process, your child's focus was very much on ensuring that he/she studied subjects from each of the curricular areas keeping open all career paths and opportunities in doing so. Our young people have benefited from the BGE in the following ways:

- They have studied more subjects for longer
- They have covered all of the curricular areas
- They have developed maturity and responsibility
- They are aware of their strengths
- They know what subjects they enjoy most.
- They know which ones interest them most.

Now, when they are considering their subject choice, they are doing so with a greater knowledge about themselves as learners and as young people who will be entering the world of work or further education in the near future.



### Subject Choice in S4

Having completed the Broad General Education, young people are no longer required to study subjects from each of the curricular areas. For your child, this means that he/she will continue with English and Maths and five of the subjects they studied in S3. Pupils will also continue with core RE, PE and PSHE.

When deciding which subjects to continue with, your child should consider the following:

- What subjects interest me most?
- What subjects do I enjoy most?
- What subjects are most relevant to my future?
- What subjects am I best at?

It is important that you listen to your child. Your child is picking subjects which will impact on his/her future career and studies and due consideration should be given to this. It is also important that he/she picks subjects he/she is interested in and enjoys. However, it is also crucial that your child chooses subjects in which he / she will be successful.

It is also worthwhile taking into consideration that after having studied seven subjects in S4, our young people will continue with five subjects in S5. It is recommended that they continue with five of the subjects they have studied in S4. This ensures the continuity and progression which is most likely to lead to success in national qualifications.

Please note that if a subject does not attract enough pupils to make it viable, it will not run and if a subject is oversubscribed, your child may not be able to do it.

## The Senior Phase

The Senior Phase consists of fourth, fifth and sixth year. Throughout the Senior Phase, young people will be working towards gaining National Qualifications. In S4, young people can achieve national qualifications at level 3, 4 or 5. In S5, most young people go onto to sit Highers. National Qualifications have replaced Standard Grade and Intermediate Qualifications.

Old Qualifications	SCQF Level	New Qualifications
Advanced Higher	7	Advanced Higher
Higher	6	Higher
SG Credit/Int 2	5	National 5
SG General/Int 1	4	National 4
Access 3/SG Foundation	3	National 3
Access 2	2	National 2
Access 1	1	National 1

You can find out more about National Qualifications by speaking to subject teachers and Mr Kane - Depute Head Teacher with responsibility for the Senior Phase. I would also encourage you to attend the S3 Information Evening on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.

The National Parent Forum of Scotland has produced summaries for all subjects called Nationals in a Nutshell.

<http://www.npfs.org.uk/>



Information is also available from SQA on the qualification changes for parents and carers.

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/46161.html>



### Information Evening for Pupils and Parents

The Information Evening is on Thursday 2nd of March. You and your child will benefit from the evening for the following reasons:

- You can have an interview with your child's pupil support teacher. The pupil support teacher has an overview of your child's progress across the curriculum and a knowledge of what subjects are needed for careers.
- You will be given information about the S3 Option Process.
- You will be given information about S4 and the latest information about National Qualifications from Mr Jopling.
- You will be able to speak to subject teachers about the content of the National Courses and what will be expected of your child.
- You will have another opportunity to speak to our Careers Officer.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs G Kane (Depute Head Teacher)



## Accounting

### What will I learn?

- The National 5 Accounting Course will enable you to understand and use financial information, so that you can prepare accounting statements and analyse, interpret and report on an organisation's financial performance.
- The Course develops learners' knowledge and understanding of the relevant accounting concepts and techniques used to prepare financial information and prepare management information to assist decision making.
- Accounting has a large practical component. You will learn from real-life situations that develop your skills. You can then apply your skills in an assignment that communicates financial information to people who are interested in an organisation's performance.

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ Your progress will be monitored as you progress through the course units. Assessment will take the form of informal progress checks as well as more formal end of unit tests and homework exercises.
- ✓ The course will be assessed by a final exam which consists of a question paper worth 100 marks (during the main exam diet), and an assignment worth 50 marks (completed using ICT, in class and marked externally)

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

This course prepares learners for everyday life, the world of work or further study of business and accounting disciplines.

## Administration and IT

### What will I learn?

The key purpose of this Course is to develop administrative and IT skills and, ultimately, to enable you to contribute to the effective functioning of organisations. You will gain skills in managing information, organising, planning, problem solving and decision making.

#### By completing the Administrative Practices unit you will learn about

- Administrative tasks needed to organise and support small scale events
- Key workplace legislation affecting employees
- Good Customer care

#### By completing the IT Solutions for Administrators unit you will learn how to

- Use word processing applications to create and edit business documents
- Use spreadsheets and database applications to manage information
- Organise and process information in administrative situations

#### By completing the Communication in Administration unit you will learn how to

- Collect and share information from the internet and Intranet
- Prepare information using multimedia and desktop publishing
- Communicate using electronic methods

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### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ **National 4** is assessed internally and pupils will sit three internal assessments. You will also complete an Added Value unit which will assess your ability to use all of the skills developed from the three units.
- ✓ **National 5** is assessed by completing an assignment which is marked by the SQA.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

Administration is a growing sector which cuts across the entire economy and offers wide-ranging employment opportunities. Moreover, administrative and IT skills have extensive application not only in employment but also in other walks of life.

## Art & Design

### What will I learn?

- I will learn to apply the skills I have already gained to new and exciting tasks.
- I will undertake a study of portraiture, both practical and written, in the expressive part of the course.
- I will design and make a 3D mask in the design part of the course
- I will look at the work of artists and designers, both historical and contemporary, and use them as inspiration for creating my own masterpieces.
- I will be able to experiment with a range of new materials

### How will I be assessed?

Nat 5 Course assessment structure.

- ✓ Component 1 — Portfolio totalling 160 marks
- ✓ Component 2 — Exam paper totalling 40 marks
- ✓ **Total marks 200 marks**

Nat 4 Course assessment structure.

- ✓ 2 units assessed internally on a pass/fail basis

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

This Course provides opportunities for you to be inspired and creatively challenged as you explore how to visually represent and communicate your personal thoughts, ideas and feelings through your work. You will investigate the factors influencing artists and designer's work and practice and will use this understanding when developing and producing your creative expressive art and design work.

## Biology

### What will I learn?

You will study living organisms and learn that biology aims to find solutions to many of the world's problems. Advances in technologies have made this varied subject more exciting and relevant than ever. The course consists of three main topic areas:

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### Cell Biology

- Structure of cells – plant cells, animal cells, differences between cells and their environment, osmosis, active transport
- New cells – mitosis
- Genetic information – DNA, mRNA, proteins, enzymes' functions in living cells, and genetic information
- Chemical energy in cells – photosynthesis, chlorophyll, ATP, limiting external factors, respiration, ADP, stored and released energy, aerobic and anaerobic pathways

### Multicellular Organisms

- Cells in organisms – different cell types, production of specialised cells in plants and animals
- Control and communication – central nervous system structure and function, homeostasis
- Reproduction and inheritance – mammals and flowering plants, inheritance characteristics
- Transport in multicellular organisms – transport systems in plants and animals, osmosis, circulatory system, digestive system and enzymes
- Health – white blood cells, antibodies, vaccinations, and lifestyle choices

### Life on Earth

- Interdependence of organisms at local and global levels
- Adaptations for survival
- Factors affecting distribution of organisms

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ **National 4** pupils will need to pass all unit outcomes for each of the three units as well as completing an Added Value Unit which consists of a report on a piece of independent research. These will be assessed internally on a pass/fail basis. There is no external assessment in N4 Biology.
- ✓ **National 5** pupils will sit an external SQA exam – which provides 80% of their overall award.
- ✓ The Assignment will provide 20%.
- ✓ The purpose of this assignment is to assess the application of skills of scientific investigation/research and the impact of applications to society/the environment, by carrying out a meaningful and appropriately challenging task in biology and communicating the findings.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

There are many career opportunities connected with biology, including medicine, veterinary work, and nursing, dentistry, physiotherapy, food science, and sport science, pharmacology and beauty therapy.

## Business

### What will I learn?

Business plays an important role in society. We all rely on businesses and entrepreneurs to create wealth, prosperity, jobs and choices.

- You will develop skills relating to business and entrepreneurship within society, and an understanding of the actions taken by business to meet customers' needs.
- You will discover how businesses are organised by exploring areas such as marketing, finance, operations and human resources

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- You will learn how to apply your understanding of the areas above to support planning and decision making.
- You will develop an understanding of the impact of internal and external influences on decision making.
- You will investigate stakeholders' influence on businesses and will develop an understanding
- You will learn about the human resource function e.g. employee relations
- You will learn about the operation function e.g. changing technology
- You will explain the marketing function in an organisation e.g. the nature of markets, market research

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ **National 4** is assessed internally and pupils will sit three internal assessments. You will also complete an Added Value unit which will assess your ability to use all of the skills you have developed.
- ✓ **National 5** is assessed by an external exam.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

A qualification in Business could lead to a career in the following areas in E-commerce, Production Management, Finance, Marketing, Management, Sales Management, Property Management, Recruitment Management, General Office Management, Travel and Tourism, Retail Management, PA or Executive Secretary, and Law.

## Chemistry

### What will I learn?

You will study matter and its interactions. Chemistry looks at the links between elements, compounds and reactions that develop our understanding of Chemistry in everyday contexts. Chemical research and development is essential for the introduction of the new products to our lives.

The course consists of three main topic areas:

#### Chemical Changes and Structure

- Develop scientific skills and knowledge of chemical reactions
- Investigate rates of reaction, energy changes of chemical reaction, and the reactions of acids and bases and their impact on the environment
- Research atomic structure and bonding related to properties of materials.

#### Nature's Chemistry

- Research the Earth's rich supply of natural resources
- Investigate how fossil fuels are extracted and processed for use, including the chemistry of using fuels and their effect on the environment
- Explore plants as a source of fuels, carbohydrates and consumer products
- Find out how chemists use plants in the development of everyday products.

#### Chemistry in Society

- Investigate the chemical reactions, properties and applications of metal and alloys
- Compare and contrast the properties and applications of plastics and new materials

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- Investigate the use of fertilisers, the formation of elements, and the presence of background radiation
- Research the use of chemical analysis for monitoring the environment.

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ **National 4** pupils will need to pass all unit outcomes for each of the three units as well as completing an Added Value Unit which consists of a report on a piece of independent research. These will be assessed internally on a pass/fail basis. There is no external assessment in N4 chemistry.
- ✓ **National 5** pupils will sit an external SQA exam – which provides 80% of their overall award.
- ✓ The Assignment will provide 20%.
- ✓ The purpose of this assignment is to assess the application of skills of scientific investigation/research and the impact of applications to society/the environment, by carrying out a meaningful and appropriately challenging task in chemistry and communicating the findings.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

Chemistry is a great choice for careers such as medicine, nursing, pharmacy and chemical engineering, and it will also equip you for a career in industry, for example in the petrochemical or pharmaceutical industries, health-related industries or the renewables sector.

## Computing Science

### What will I learn?

Computing Science at National 5 will enable you to develop a range of computing and computational thinking skills across a range of contemporary contexts. This includes analytical skills, problem-solving skills, design and modelling skills, and the ability to develop, implement and test digital solutions.

The Course takes account of the modern technologies and development methodologies related to software development, information systems and web page development.

### Software Design and Development

- Learn, understand and solve problems in software and information design and development
- Develop computational thinking and programming skills by implementing practical solutions and explaining how these programs work
- Learn how data and instructions are stored and basic computer architecture
- Develop an awareness of different contemporary software development languages/environments
- Learn, understand and solve problems in information system design and development through practical and investigative tasks
- Apply computational thinking skills to implement practical solutions using a range of development tools
- Develop an understanding of the technical, legal and environmental issues related to one or more information systems.

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### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ Your progress will be monitored as you progress through the course units. Assessment will take the form of informal progress checks as well as more formal end of unit tests. The course will be assessed by a final exam in **National 5** and the completion of the Added Value Unit in **National 4**.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

Almost all jobs nowadays involve the ability to use a computer, so a qualification in Computing at any level would be seen as desirable to an employer. On the other hand such a qualification would be extremely useful, if not necessary, for a range of jobs.

## Design & Manufacture

### What will I learn?

You will further develop my skills in design and manufacturing models, prototypes and products. You will aim to build on my existing knowledge and understanding of manufacturing processes and materials.

You will explore the impact of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society. You will complete a number of interesting design challenges throughout the year. It is very important that members of this course enjoy manual sketching and feel comfortable communicating ideas on paper.

This course is mainly design based. There are times when the workshop will be used (particularly for the final project). However, this academic course is not Practical Woodwork. There may well be months on end where pupils will be studying materials, processes and the design team. Please do not opt for this option if you are only interested in making items in a workshop. The course will not fulfill your needs.

This is however a fantastic opportunity to be at the cutting edge of design theory and application.

### How will I be assessed?

Course assessment structure

- Nat 5 Component 1 — Assignment (90 marks)
- Nat 5 Component 2 — End of year exam (60 marks)
- Nat 4 Currently consists of units to be completed throughout the year as well as an Added Value Unit.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

This Course is of broad general benefit to all learners. It also provides a foundation for those considering further study, or a career, in design, manufacturing, engineering, science, marketing, and related disciplines. The Course also provides practical experience for those studying subjects in the technologies and expressive arts.

## Practical Woodwork

### What will I learn?

- I will further develop my knowledge and skills in all aspects of woodworking.
- I will use a range of tools, equipment and materials.
- Pupils will have to use working drawings to produce various woodwork models. There is a focus on precision and quality. National 5 has a tolerance of 1mm, which means that most woodwork joints have to be no more than 1mm off.

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ Pupils will also have to successfully manufacture smaller models throughout the year to achieve Nat 4 and Nat 5.
- ✓ National 4 does not have an exam but does require an Added Value Unit to be completed.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

This course prepares pupils who are wishing to pursue a career in joinery, cabinet making and furniture design. However, the skills developed are also desirable in careers like Motor Mechanics and Practical Engineering.

## Drama

### What will I learn?

You will learn to:

- to specialise in one production skill
- continue to develop and expand their knowledge on all production areas
- learn how to answer exam style questions
- read and analyse a variety of different scripts
- develop confidence and communication skills

### How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed:

- ✓ Through set National 4 and 5 acting or production role criteria
- ✓ Practical assessments
- ✓ Folio work
- ✓ Written assessments
- ✓

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

- Confidence building
- Develops team building, communication and time management skills
- Develops literacy
- Develops higher order thinking skills
- Expression of creativity

## ENGLISH

### What will I learn?

Your study of English in S4 builds on the skills you have developed throughout the BGE. Our aim is to promote confidence and skill in the use of language in all its forms - Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening. All pupils will work towards achieving either National or National 5 at the end of S4.

During the study of both National 4 and National N5:

- You will develop the language needed for expressing thoughts, ideas and emotions. You will develop the skill of understanding the thoughts, ideas and emotions of other people
- You will find out how language works and how it is used for particular effects
- You will develop independent learning through a variety of tasks
- You will develop language skills to allow for more effective solo presentations and writing
- You will become familiar with a variety of types of texts

These are the types and activities of tasks you can expect:

- ✓ Talking and Listening, Reading and Writing – to help you develop key skills in Literacy
- ✓ Understanding, analysing and evaluating texts in different genres – to help you recognise how authors create particular effects in their work
- ✓ Creating and Producing a range of texts – to help develop your use of vocabulary, sentence structure, paragraphing and other writing techniques

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment in class is regular and ongoing, drawing evidence through a variety of methods. These include:

- Group discussion/ Solo Talk
- Listening tasks
- Written assignments
- Reading tasks and assignments
- End of unit/ term assessments

**National 4 English** comprises a series of units. To achieve the award, you must pass each of the following units:

- Creation and Production
- Analysis and Evaluation
- Literacy
- Added Value unit

**National 5 English** is has a mixture of internal and external assessments. You have to pass a Talking and Listening component before you can sit the final exam.

You must also complete a Writing folio which is worth 30% of your overall grade. The SQA exam tests your skills in Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation (30%) and Critical Reading (40%).

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

The study of English is compulsory in S4 because the ability to use English effectively is crucial to your success at school and in later life. English is an essential aspect of many career paths and most jobs

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require an English and Literacy qualification. In addition, many college courses require entrants to have studied English to National 4/5 level.

### Environmental Science

#### What will I learn?

You will the study of living organisms and their impact on the environment.

The course consists of three main topic areas:

#### Living Environment

- Investigating ecosystems and biodiversity,
- Interdependence of living things within ecosystems
- Human influences on biodiversity

#### Earth's Resources

- Investigates the structures and processes involved in the functioning of the: geosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere.

#### Sustainability

- Investigates the way the natural world and people interact in the areas of: food, water, energy and waste management.

#### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ **National 4** pupils will need to pass all unit outcomes for each of the three units as well as completing an Added Value Unit which consists of a report on a piece of independent research. These will be assessed internally on a pass/fail basis. There is no external assessment in N4 Environmental Science.
- ✓ **National 5** pupils will sit an external SQA exam – which provides 80% of their overall award.
- ✓ The Assignment will provide 20%.
- ✓ The purpose of this assignment is to assess the application of skills of scientific investigation/research and the impact of applications to society/the environment, by carrying out a meaningful and appropriately challenging task in biology and communicating the findings.

#### Why will this subject be useful to me?

Environmental Science is a great choice of subject for people who want a career in environmental management and conservation, recycling, energy industry and animal welfare.

### German / Spanish

#### What I will learn?

You will develop the skills of reading, writing, listening and talking. Throughout the course, you will develop literacy, personal and interpersonal skills, communication and ICT skills and working with others. You will cover four context:

- Society: family and friends, the area I live, lifestyles, sport and free time, new technology
- Employability: jobs, applying for jobs, writing a CV, skills and qualities, work experience
- Learning: German school system, learning strategies, future plans, learning a language
- Culture: tourism, life in another country, holidays, customs and traditions

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### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ In **National 4**, you will complete on-going assessments in Listening, Talk, Reading and Writing. You will also complete an Added Value Unit on the topic of tourism during which you will organise an international event, such as a sports competition or a music festival.
- ✓ In **National 5**, you will sit a final exam. You will also complete a talk assessment and a writing assessment.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

German is a useful subject that can be combined with any other. It is particularly useful for areas such as business, physics, chemistry, engineering, tourism, car manufacturing, architecture, pharmaceuticals and primary teaching.

## Geography

### What I will learn?

- You will learn about human and physical environments. You will also research a geographical topic of your choice.

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ Assessment is by end of unit tests, homework and classwork.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

Geography is a crucial subject to enable decisions to be made about the future of the planet. Geography is becoming increasingly important in a wider range of employment possibilities.

## Graphic Communication

### What will I learn?

- You will develop your skills in Graphic Communication. This will include some freehand sketching, a little drawing board work (although this is not a large part of the course) and the 3D modelling software Inventor. Sketching, rendering and Inventor will be your main focus during S4 Graphics.
- You will improve your knowledge of Graphic Communication rules. Essentially, you will become more confident about how to layout a page professionally and present graphics appropriately (either manually or on the computer).
- You will develop an understanding of the impact of Graphic Communication technologies on our environment and society.

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ Nat 5 Component 1 — End of year exam
- ✓ Nat 5 Component 2 — Assignment totaling 60 marks
- ✓ (Nat 5 Units must also be completed throughout the year)

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- ✓ Nat 4 Currently consists of units to be completed throughout the year as well as an Added Value Unit (Nat 4 Assignment). As it stands, no exam is involved in Nat 4 Graphic Communication.

### **Why will this subject be useful to me?**

Having taken Graphics for nearly 3 years now, you will be fully aware of the skills we are trying to build. This subject will be directly useful to you if you wish to follow a career in the world of graphics, design or publications. In fact it is almost impossible to list all of the potential jobs that this subject links to. Even if you are not looking directly at these fields, Graphic Communication improves problem solving, presentation and analytical skills in those who pick it.

## **Health and Food Technology**

### **What will I learn?**

Our N4/5 Health and Food Technology qualifications provide opportunities to study the relationships between health, nutrition, and the functional properties of food, lifestyle choices and consumer issues. These Courses develop an awareness of informed food and dietary choices that can have a positive effect on the health of learners and enable them to advise others. You will also develop a range of skills and applications of food preparation techniques.

### **How will I be assessed?**

You will be assessed on your knowledge and understanding of course topics through a variety of observations, written assessments and homework tasks. You will also be assessed in your ability to plan, make and evaluate food products.

### **Why will this subject be useful to me?**

The course will help you develop knowledge in health, food, lifestyle and consumer issues. You will develop useful practical skills that are transferable to a range of contexts. Students considering employment in health promotion, nutrition research, dietetics, teaching and the food production industry should choose this course.

## **History**

### **What will I learn?**

You will cover three topics

Scottish Topic:	The Era of the Great War 1900 – 1928
The British Topic:	Changing Britain 1760 – 1910
European Topic:	Hitler and Nazi Germany 1918 – 1939

### **How will I be assessed?**

- ✓ At N4 there is no National exam. Students are expected to write a report on a chosen topic.
- ✓ At N5 there is a National exam and students are required to complete an assignment on a chosen topic in one hour under exam conditions.

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### **Why will this subject be useful to me?**

The N4 and N5 qualification tells employers that you have a wide variety of important skills necessary in any workplace. These include evaluating skills, critical thinking skills, interpreting evidence and understanding factors and reasons for change.

At Higher level N6 History has long been respected by universities. Higher History allows students to access Business, Law, Civil Service, Libraries and museums, archaeology, journalism, Sociology, Administration, Law and politics.

## **Hospitality- Practical Cookery**

### **What will I learn?**

You will enhance your personal effectiveness in cookery and acquire a set of skills to progress to study further in the hospitality context or simply to become more proficient at handling food. You will develop a range of practical cookery skills, including food preparation techniques and the ability to follow cookery processes; the ability to choose, weigh and measure ingredients and calculate proportions, calculate the cost of ingredients and portions; and the ability to follow recipes to produce dishes, and to evaluate the product.

### **How will I be assessed?**

You will be assessed in your knowledge and understanding of course topics. You will also be assessed in your organisation of cooking tasks and their practical skills and abilities. This will involve the planning, preparing and presenting of certain recipes and dishes.

### **Why will this subject be useful to me?**

The Course will support your personal and social development and will serve you very well in your everyday lives. This course can help prepare you for further training and employment in a wide range of hospitality-related areas.

## **Mathematics**

### **What will I learn?**

In S4 Mathematics you will work on a program of study which leads to a national qualification. Each of these qualifications will allow you to select and apply mathematical skills in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations.

You will be presented for one of the following

- National 3 Applications of Mathematics
- National 4 Mathematics
- National 5 Mathematics

Your presentation level is based on how well you have progressed through the broad general education in S1-S3. Although the content of each course is different your child will meet at least some of the following topics

- Managing Money
- Trigonometry
- Algebra

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- Geometry
- Statistics

Numeracy is also covered at each level.

### How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in a number of ways by your class teacher including; formal SQA unit assessments, class tests, project work, homework tasks, peer and self-assessment.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

As well as being a fascinating subject in its own right, Mathematics affects everything we do in our day to day lives. It gives us many of the skills we need for learning, work and life.

Many other subjects also rely on Mathematics including Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Computing and Technology.

## Modern Studies

Please speak to Mr. Reid for course information.

## Music

### What will I learn?

You will

- Continue to develop your Performing Skills on your 2 Instruments
- Build on your Literacy Knowledge from S1- S3
- Look further into the Listening Skills developed in S1-S3
- Begin to look more closely at Composing Skills

### How will I be assessed?

- You will continue to have Progress Monitoring Checks on both Instruments throughout the Year.
- There will be a variety of Assessment styles used to monitor your progress and understanding in Listening, Composing and Literacy
- There will be Performing Prelim in November and a Listening Prelim in January

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

If successful at N5 in S4 you will have the option to continue your studies at Higher.

A Higher in Music is an obvious step towards studying Music at a Further Education establishment. This can lead to a career in the Performing Arts industry as a Performer, Teacher, Events Manager, Producer, Composer and Sound Engineer.

## Physical Education N4/5

### What will I learn?

You will aim to develop the ability to safely perform a wide range of movement and performance skills. You will also develop your understanding of factors that impact on your performance in physical activities. You will aim to build capacity to perform by developing approaches to enhance personal performance. You will be engaged in monitoring, recording and evaluating their performance progress.

### How will I be assessed?

Your practical abilities will be assessed. You will be required to demonstrate their performance skills in different contexts. You will also be assessed in your knowledge and understanding of the theoretical concepts explored during their practical work.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

The skills developed in this course are relevant to many different aspects of life and work. Students who are interested in following on into further or Higher Education could benefit from studying PE. This course could benefit students who are keen to follow a career pathway in coaching or teaching. A Physical Education qualification could benefit those seeking employment in the sports, health, exercise or leisure industry.

## Physics

### What will I learn?

You will study of the underlying nature of our world and its place in the Universe from the sources of the power we use. The course consists of three main topic areas:

#### Physics: Electricity and Energy

- Deepen your understanding of the applications of electricity and energy, and the implications of this for society and the environment
- Learn about the key areas of energy transfer, heat and the gas laws.

#### Physics: Waves and Radiation

- Increase your knowledge of the applications of waves and radiation and the implications of this for society and the environment
- Investigate the key areas of waves and nuclear radiation.

#### Physics: Dynamics and Space

- Learn more about the applications of dynamics and space and the implications of this for society and the environment
- Investigate the key areas of kinematics, forces and space.

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ **National 4** pupils will need to pass all unit outcomes for each of the three units as well as completing an Added Value Unit which consists of a report on a piece of independent research. These will be assessed internally on a pass/fail basis. There is no external assessment in N4 Physics.
- ✓ **National 5** pupils will sit an external SQA exam – which provides 80% of their overall award. The Assignment will provide 20%. The purpose of this assignment is to assess the application of

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skills of scientific investigation/research and the impact of applications to society/the environment, by carrying out a meaningful and appropriately challenging task in physics and communicating the findings.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

Physics is a very useful subject to have if you are interested in a career which involves anything of a technical nature. So it might be useful for a career in engineering, telecommunications, and car mechanics, teaching, sound engineering, medicine, computing, architecture, and the electronics industry.

## Practical Woodwork

### What will I learn?

- You will further develop my knowledge and skills in all aspects of woodworking.
- You will use of a range of tools, equipment and materials.
- You will have to use working drawings to produce various woodwork models. There is a focus on precision and quality. National 5 has a tolerance of 1mm, which means that most woodwork joints have to be no more than 1mm off.

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ You will manufacture smaller models throughout the year to achieve Nat 4 and Nat 5.
- ✓ National 4 does not have an exam but does require an Added Value Unit (end of year model) to be completed.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

This course prepares pupils who are wishing to pursue a career in joinery, cabinet making and furniture design. However the skills developed are also desirable in careers like Motor Mechanics and Practical Engineering.

## Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies

### What will I learn?

- Through the study of Islam, you will learn about important beliefs and practices and consider how they impact on Muslims and wider society. You will be encouraged to think critically about commonly held perceptions about Muslims and investigate those with rigour and reflection.
- Through the study of our moral issue Conflict, you will be invited to reflect on the morality of war and to consider whether the end ever justify the means. You will explore different viewpoints – both religious and non-religious – and be able make a judgement on who makes the most convincing argument.
- Through the study of our philosophical question Evil and Suffering, you will be encouraged to consider the nature of God and question whether a seemingly all-loving and all-powerful God would allow so many evil things to happen in the world.
- You will take part in debates and discussions and you will learn through a combination of individual, group and whole class activities.

## S3 Personalisation and Choice Booklet

### How will I be assessed?

- ✓ Formative assessment – self and peer assessment, teacher observation of your contributions to tasks and discussion, teacher and peer assessment of group presentations.
- ✓ Summative assessment – class tests at relevant times and when you communicate that you are ready to be assessed on your skills and knowledge.

### Why will this subject be useful to me?

- ✓ Critical thinking – RMPS is perfectly positioned to develop critical thinking skills as you are constantly being asked to reflect, investigate, explore and challenge.
- ✓ Literacy – RMPS is a literacy based subject, where skills in literacy are embodied and developed through the work we do.
- ✓ Core values of Curriculum for Excellence – RMPS perfectly encompasses the values and capacities of CfE. Through reflection and exploration of beliefs and values, we are working together to develop each of our potential to be responsible and effective contributors to society.
- ✓ Revered Higher which is listed by both Glasgow and Strathclyde University as a Higher useful for high tariff degrees like Law.
- ✓ An excellent qualification for careers in journalism, teaching, civil service, solicitor, social work and charity work.