

HAWICK HIGH SCHOOL



S2 into S3 Course Choice Booklet 2026-27

Introduction to Parents/ Carers

S1 to S3 is the period of the **Broad General Education** for our young people. As students move from S2 into S3 and the final year of this Broad General Education they are asked to make some choices to ensure that while they continue to study a broad range of subjects, they also get opportunities to have depth of study in areas where they have shown aptitude or interest.

The 8 courses they choose will provide them with the prior learning needed to progress to studying for National Qualifications, which are assessed at the end of S4.

Towards the end of the Broad General Education in S3, learners will have an individual interview and a review of their learning. At this point, following parental consultation, students will choose 5 subjects, in addition to Maths and English, to specialise in for their National Qualifications. To ensure appropriate progression for the National Qualifications which are assessed at the end of S4, the 7 subjects selected should come from the 8 studied in S3.

This booklet is designed to inform you and your child of the courses that are available in S3 and provide information on what each course involves.

Over the next few weeks, we will support your child to ensure they make the correct choices for their aptitude, aspirations and interests. In their PSE classes students will be discussing the importance of making the right choices and given advice on how to choose the most appropriate courses.

Along with this course choice booklet your child has been issued with a choice form for S3. This should be completed and returned to school once your child has made their choices.

STUDYING, COMMITMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY

All Students in S3 will be expected to demonstrate our school values of **ambition, responsibility** and **determination** at all times and to show a very high level of commitment to:

- attendance and punctuality
- classwork, homework assignments & study
- appropriate dress & behaviour
- service to the school and community

The staff of Hawick High School look forward to welcoming you into S3.

Make sure that you are fully informed before making your choices and make them carefully!



Course Choice interviews will take place Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th January 2026 with Pastoral Teachers/Principal Teachers/SLT in the Assembly Hall. Students should ensure they have emailed their Course Choice sheet to their Pastoral Teacher and have it with them to go over with the person who is interviewing them.

Mrs L. Scott
Headteacher

S3 Course Choice Options

How are subjects organised in S3?

Subjects are organised into six curriculum areas:

Curriculum Area 1: Languages and Literacy

- English
- French
- Spanish

Curriculum Area 2: Mathematics and Numeracy

- Mathematics

Curriculum Area 3: Sciences

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- General Science

Curriculum Area 4: Social Studies

- Geography
- History
- Modern Studies
- Faith and Philosophy/RMPS

Curriculum Area 5: Technologies

- Business
- Computing
- Practical Craft Skills
- Practical Creative Arts
- Home Economics

Curriculum Area 6: Expressive Arts

- Art and Design
- Digital Creative Arts
- Music
- Physical Education / Rugby

To ensure all students have sufficient **breadth** in their broad general education they must choose one subject from each of the four curriculum areas – 3-6 (**Section A of the course choice sheet**).

To provide **depth** of study in their broad general education students also choose two additional subjects from any curricular area (**Section B of the course choice sheet**).

Finally, to enable students to complete a Broad General Education in line with Scottish Government recommendations for **Health and Wellbeing**, all students in S3 will undertake:

- 2 periods a week of PE
- 1 period a week of PSD
- 2 periods a week of Modern Languages (French/Spanish)
- 1 period of Faith and Philosophy

Information for students

It is important that you think carefully about the subjects that you choose to study in the final year of your Broad General Education as they can form the foundations of your future qualifications. Discuss your choices with people at home.

Points to consider when choosing subjects

- What are the subjects you like most?
- Do not choose subjects you feel unable to cope with.
- Which subjects have you performed well in during S2?
- Choose your best subjects.
- Do you have clear ideas about what you would like to do when you leave school?
- Find out about the type of subjects which would be most suitable.
- Are you considering college or university or a particular career?
- Which subjects/levels do you need?
- Ignore what your friends are taking. They may not have the same interests or strengths as you.

Who else can help you make the right choice?

As well as your parent/guardian there are many others who can help you with your subject choice for S3:

- **Your pastoral teacher:** they know you best and have helped you set targets for your learning. They will discuss your choices with you during PSD and will help you make the right decision. Guidance teachers will be speaking to students in their classes and will be having conversations prior to interviews week beginning 19th January.
- **Your subject teachers:** they are the best people to give you an honest assessment of your strengths and next steps in a particular subject. They will also be sharing what the content of each elective course is through S2 lessons so make sure you engage with your classes so you know what courses are on offer and what they will be like. Some videos may be shared in Year Group Teams too to show what each course is about and what you actually cover and study.
- **Career advisers:** Sara Ward and Karen Turton are our careers advisers you can request an appointment to discuss career paths and options via your Guidance teacher or by dropping into the Library during the school day to see them to arrange an appointment.

What do you do once your choices have been made?

- Complete your option form by putting a tick (or electronically an X) beside each subject you wish to study in S3.
- Get your parent/guardian to sign (or electronically write their name) your form.
- Complete your option form prior to your interview in PSD as a draft (give a copy to your Guidance teacher).
- Bring your form and finalise your course choice with your interviewer teacher during interview **Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th January 2026.**

Curriculum Area 3

Sciences

Biology

Biology plays a crucial role in our everyday existence, and is an increasingly important subject in the modern world. Advances in technologies have made this varied subject more exciting and relevant than ever. Biology affects everyone and aims to find solutions to many of the world's problems. The S3 Course covers key areas of Biology, and aims to make Biology enjoyable while providing a basis for further study, training, healthcare, medical and scientific work. This course follows the Curriculum for Excellence Biology Level 4 outcomes and is designed to prepare you for further possible study in the Senior Phase.

What will you learn?

The Course consists of 2 Units:

Cell biology and Biological Systems.

In this Unit, students will develop knowledge and skills and carry out practical and other learning activities related to the study and investigation of cells and biological systems. This will include cell structure and processes within cells, such as transport and osmosis, respiration, as well as DNA and enzymes.

Life on Earth.

In this Unit, students will develop knowledge and skills and carry out practical and other learning activities related to the study and investigation of life on Earth. This will include world variation, genetics and inheritance, natural selection, evolution and adaptation as well as the interaction of living things with ecosystems and competition.

What will be expected of you?

A commitment to work hard and study regularly is expected. Homework is set regularly and learners will be expected to develop the skills of writing learning summaries. Learners are required to bring their iPad and jotter to every lesson along with a pen or pencil.

How will you be assessed?

In both units, the content is broken down into a number of smaller key areas. At the end of each key area there will be a short test. At the end of each unit there will be a larger summative end of unit assessment. Formative assessment will be used throughout the course to provide feedback on progress and identify next steps.

Possible Progression

- S3 → National 5 → Higher → University and College Science courses
- S3 → National 4 → National 5 → many College courses

Studying Biology provides an excellent foundation for pursuing careers in the nursing, healthcare, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary nursing/medicine, ecology, zoology, marine biology, biotechnology and other biological science related subjects.

Possible career routes relating to this subject can be found at:

<http://www.plantiplus.net/schoolzone/subjects/>

<http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/subjectchoices>

Chemistry

The Chemistry course aims to make Chemistry enjoyable while providing a base for further study, for training and for medical and scientific work. Chemistry and the application of Chemistry are central to our economic future and to our health and wellbeing as individuals and as a society. It is seen as a valuable qualification by employers
This course follows the Curriculum for Excellence Chemistry Level 4 outcomes.

What will you learn?

The Course consists of 6 Units:

Chemistry and Chemical Reactions: where learners will understand the value and opportunity offered by a career with Chemistry and the signs and types of chemical reactions.

Rates of Reaction: where experiments are used to show how chemical reactions can be made faster or slower.

Atoms and the Periodic Table: the chemistry of some elements in the Periodic Table and how this relates to their uses, is studied.

Atoms Combining (Covalent Bonding): learners will learn about Chemical bonding and how atoms join together to form molecules and they will use chemical formulae as a way of communicating information about elements and compounds.

Fire: where the method of separating crude oil is explored as well as investigating renewable fuels and the related environmental impacts.

Carbon Chemistry: where learners will discuss the importance of carbon compounds to our lives.

The approach and content to this course is influenced by the need to articulate with all national courses which will be offered in S4.

What will be expected of you?

Learners will always be expected to allow themselves to succeed and always help others to succeed. Learners should be prepared to make mistakes which help everyone's learning. Learners should always bring their jotter and keep it looking the best it can and bring a pen or pencil for Chemistry in S3.

How will you be assessed?

Learners will be assessed throughout the course by practical investigations, tasks completed in the learner's jotter and summative end of topic tests.

Formative assessment will be used throughout the course to provide feedback on progress and identify next steps.

Possible Progression

Possible career routes relating to this subject can be found at:

<http://www.plantiplus.net/schoolzone/subjects/>

<http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/subjectchoices>

http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/72673.html?dm_i=UJ7,35AYV,3ZKJP8,BA5M6,1

S3 → National 5 → Higher → University and College Science courses

S3 → National 4 → National 5 → many College courses

Physics

The Physics course is designed for pupils who are interested in studying the way things work. Physics and the application of Physics are central to our economic future and to our health and wellbeing as individuals and as a society.

This course follows the Curriculum for Excellence Physics Level 4 outcomes.

What will you learn?

The Course consists of 4 Units:

1. Telecommunications

You will explore the history of communication from simple sounds through to fibre optics, investigating the Physics of waves and signals through cables.

2. Electricity and Magnetism

You will expand your knowledge of circuits from S1 to include electrical resistance and how circuits are set up in houses. You will also investigate uses of electromagnets including building a simple electric motor.

3. Movement

You will examine the measurements which describe how an object moves and use your knowledge of forces to explain why objects move as they do. This will involve investigating the effects of friction and gravity in more detail

4. Electronics

You will investigate the component parts of an electronics system and then design simple and complex systems to automatically respond to changes in their environment using computer software to simulate their action.

If time allows, there may also be the opportunity to study basic Meteorology and Robotics.

What will be expected of you?

A commitment to work hard and study regularly is expected. Homework is set regularly and learners will be expected to develop the skills of writing learning summaries. Learners are required to bring their iPad and jotter to every lesson along with a pen or pencil.

How will you be assessed?

Learners will be assessed throughout the course by practical investigations, tasks completed in the learner's jotter and summative end of topic tests. Formative assessment will be used throughout the course to provide feedback on progress and identify next steps.

Possible progression routes

Possible career routes relating to this subject can be found at:

<http://www.plantiplus.net/schoolzone/subjects/>

<http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/subjectchoices>

http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/72673.html?dm_i=UJ7,35AYV,3ZKJP8,BA5M6,1

S3 → National 5 → Higher Physics → many University/College courses

S3 → National 4 → National 5 → many College courses

S3 → National 4 /5 Electronics → Other National 4 courses → training or College courses.

General Science

This course is designed for students who are not particularly interested in a specific science for a career pathway and would like an experience of a range of topic areas. This course would not be selected instead of 3 sciences nor would it be selected alongside any single science option. It is likely to appeal to students who may would benefit from Level 3 work and a practical approach to learning.

This course follows the Curriculum for Excellence Science Level 3 outcomes.

What will you learn?

The Course consists of 3 Units:

1. Fragile Earth

Learners will develop their scientific skills and carry out practical and other learning activities related to the investigation of fragile earth.

2. Human

Learners will develop their scientific skills and carry out practical and other learning activities related to the investigation of human health.

3. Applications of Science

Learners will develop their scientific skills and carry out practical and other learning activities related to the investigation of the applications of science.

What will be expected of you?

Learners will always be expected to allow themselves to succeed and always help others to succeed. Learners should be prepared to make mistakes which help everyone's learning. Learners should always bring their jotter and keep it looking the best it can and bring a pen or pencil for Science in S3.

How will you be assessed?

Learners will be assessed throughout the course by practical work and tasks, tasks completed in the learner's jotter and some assessment activities and tests. Formative assessment will be used throughout the course to provide feedback on progress and identify next steps.

Possible progression routes

Possible career routes relating to this subject can be found at:

<https://www.planitplus.net/Schools/SubjectChoices/>

<http://www.planitplus.net/schoolzone/subjects/>

<https://www.planitplus.net/Portfolio/ChoicesS3Results2/0?level=4&subjectIds=3%2C25%2C8&levstr=4&ygstr=S3>

S3 → National 4 Science → Training or College courses.

Curriculum Area 4

Social Subjects

Geography

Geography is a huge part of our lives. It's a constant source of amazement; it's ever changing, and it's vital for managing our environment – from towns to natural hazards to physical landforms. From vanishing glaciers to the role that humans play in animal survival – our decisions are influenced by Geography. No other subject is as regular a feature in the news: be it migration, planning for new housing, natural hazards or global warming, to name just a few.

What will you do?

Studying Geography arms you with a mix of skills that every employer is looking for, lending itself to a combination of both indoor and outdoor learning.

You will get the opportunity to use digital mapping. These are integral features of modern businesses and something which is becoming essential for further education courses and employers.

Learners will investigate case studies at a local, national and global level, developing a range of applicable knowledge from all over the world.

What will you learn?

Geography is a relevant and dynamic subject which showcases the here and now of modern life and our planet.

The S3 Geography course is split into 6 main units consisting of:

- **Skills Unit**
- **Globalisation**
- **Farming**
- **The Power of Ice**
- **Settlements**
- **Our Changing Climate**

What will be expected of you?

We expect you to have a positive attitude and work ethic. You will be expected to work independently, cooperatively and dynamically to allow you to achieve your full potential in Geography.

How will you be assessed?

You will be assessed through a variety of homework tasks, in class questions and a series of end of unit assessments.

Subject Progression

Progression would naturally lead on to our very successful National, Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications which open up a wealth of further opportunities.

S3 → National 5 → Higher Geography → many university courses

S3 → National 4 → National 5 → many college courses

S3 → National 4 → Other National 4 courses → training or college courses

History

Overview

Learners study three units in S3, covering a European topic, a British/local history topic and a Scottish topic. As well as the historical content included in each of these units, we aim to build on the skills students have learned in S1 and S2, especially in the use of both primary and secondary sources, allowing learners to analyse written and visual information critically. Homework and class assessment will often contain similar questions styles to the National exams, to allow our students to make that transition more easily.

What will you learn?

European unit - Adolf Hitler and the Rise of the Nazi Party 1918-1933 - This involves analysis and evaluation of the factors involved in Germany choosing a leader infamous for his period in power and links to S2 Holocaust topic. It is assessed with a National 5 type assignment essay.

British/local unit - Hawick, Gallipoli and the Great War 1914-1918. As well as looking at the impact of the Great War on Britain as a whole, and finding out about trench warfare and new technology such as gas and tanks, we look at the experiences of Hawick men in 1915, in the disastrous Gallipoli Campaign. This links to S2 World War II Turning Points. It is assessed by writing a report.

British/local unit – Changing Britain. Between 1760-1914, This unit is designed to allow students to understand the great changes that took place that contributed to the world we see today. We will look at changes to housing, industry (including textiles and the coal mines), changes to transport and a push for democratic reform.

Scottish unit - The Treaty of Union 1707. This unit is designed to help students to understand the arguments for and against Scotland joining with England in 1707 and to analyse the reaction to the Union. It links to S1 History - Scottish Wars of Independence. The assessment is by a class test, using historical sources.

Possible Future Progression:

The course will build pupils' skills to enable them to progress to national qualifications at National 3, National 4, National 5 and Higher in History and other social subjects.

Possible career routes relating to this subject can be found at:

<http://www.plantiplus.net/schoolzone/subjects/> OR
<http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/subjectchoices>

Modern Studies

Overview

The Modern Studies course is about social, economic and political issues in the UK and all over the world. We study different countries and different world wide issues throughout the year. We do lots of different types of learning such as research, group work and independent learning including homework. It is an important subject which allows you to develop skills that are necessary in lots of different areas of further education and employment.

What will you learn?

Child Soldiers- the use of child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the problems this causes.

Democracy in the UK- what it means to live in a democracy including the role of our MPs and source questions which will help you to develop your skills moving into S4.

Social Inequalities in the UK – issues related to smoking, drugs & alcohol, obesity, education and poverty. Why some people suffer from these issues and how the government tries to help.

China- the lives of people in China, the politics and economy of China and a research project. You will be able to choose which aspect of life in China you would like to study.

Crime Scenes – the different types of crime scenes and the evidence which can be collected. Processes used by those who are part of real life crime scene investigation. After learning the theory, learners put this in to practice when trying to solve crimes from the evidence available.

How will you be assessed?

There are a number of different types of assessment including end of unit tests, written reports and a research project. Class assessment will also occur throughout the year through jotter work, questioning and discussion.

Possible Progression

S3 > National 5 > Higher > University or college

S3 > National 4 > National 5 > College or training/work

S3 > National 3 > National 4 > College or training/work

Possible Careers

Modern Studies can assist you in moving into a very wide range of careers. See some at Planitplus using the link below:

<https://www.planitplus.net/Schools/SubjectCareerList?mysubject=Modern%20Studies>

Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies

Course Overview

The course aims to make RMPS enjoyable while providing a base for further study in this and similar subjects, and developing skills such as critical thinking, communicating and literacy. We aim to build on the skills and knowledge developed in the Faith and Philosophy courses in S1 & S2.

This course follows the Curriculum for Excellence RMPS Level 4 outcomes.

What will you learn?

The Course consists of 3 Units:

- **The Problem of Evil and Suffering-** If there is a creator God why does He allow bad things to happen to people and animals? We will explore arguments which defend the existence of a caring God as well as arguments which use the existence of evil to prove there cannot be such a God.
- **Medical Ethics-** When does life begin and when should it end? In today's increasingly medically advanced world there are more questions being asked about when it is right to use treatments and what kinds of treatments are morally justified. We will examine arguments on both sides of the abortion and euthanasia debate.
- **World religions- Christianity-** This unit focuses on the beliefs and practices of the world's most popular religion and asks what it says about what it means to be human, how we can live a good life and what gives meaning to life. Pupils will have studied some aspects of Christianity in S1&S2 and this unit will build on that knowledge.

Assessment

Homework and class assessment will often contain similar questions styles to the National exams, to allow our students to make that transition more easily. Assessment will take various forms including writing reports, essay type questions and class tests.

Possible Progression

Possible career routes relating to this subject can be found at:

<http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/subjectchoices>
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/72673.html?dm_i=UJ7,35AYV,3ZKJP8,BA5M6,1

S3 → National 5 → Higher → University and College Science courses

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Curriculum Area 5

Technologies

Business and IT

Course Description

The topics covered in the S3 Business and IT course will focus on Level 3 and 4 Business Outcomes from the curriculum areas of Technologies and Social Studies.

The course will develop a knowledge and understanding of how businesses operate by looking at:

- The role of the entrepreneur
- Types of business organisation
- Sources of finance
- Stakeholders
- Operations management.

The course will also develop pupils' administrative and practical IT skills through the use of:

- ✓ Word processing (Microsoft Word)
- ✓ Desktop publishing (Microsoft Publisher)
- ✓ Spreadsheets (Microsoft Excel)
- ✓ Databases (Microsoft Access).

Pupils will use the skills developed during the year to:

- Design and create publicity material for a business.
- Support the organisation and running of an event.

Possible future progression:

Pupils can progress in S4 to separate Business subjects:

National 4/5 Business Management and/or

National 3/4/5 Administration and IT

National Progression Award (Levels 4/5) in Customer Service

After completion of National 5/Level 5 pupils can progress to Higher Business Management and/or Higher Administration and IT.

Computing Science

Course Description

The Computing course in S3 enables students to develop their computational thinking skills in a wide variety of learning opportunities. Computational thinking involves taking a complex problem and breaking it down into a series of small, more manageable ones (**decomposition**). Each of these smaller problems can then be looked at individually, considering how similar problems have been solved previously (**pattern recognition**) and focusing only on the important details, while ignoring irrelevant information (**abstraction**). Next, simple steps or rules to solve each of the smaller problems can be designed (**algorithms**).

The course content will include:

- Development of computer programs to solve problems using Python programming language.
- Organising, searching, and sorting data using database software
- Designing and developing computer games
- The study of the parts of the computer and the computer network
- Investigating the threats to security such as hacking, malware and phishing and security precautions.

The progress of students will be assessed throughout the course by practical evidence and written assessment. Written homework will be issued regularly to reinforce the learning and to prepare students for written assessments.

Possible Future Progression:

National 4/5 and Higher Computer Science

National Progression Award at Levels 4 and 5 in Computer Games Development

Home Economics

Course Description

The S3 Home Economics course will allow you to experience the three options that are available to you in the Senior phase. You will complete a unit of each of the N4 courses in Practical Cookery, Health and Food Technology and Childcare. This will help with your choices moving into S4 and the Senior phase.

The focus throughout will be nutrition and health and will involve both cooking and theory periods.

During these units you will:

- ✓ Develop your skills in food preparation.
- ✓ Learn new cooking skills
- ✓ Develop your understanding of the food industry and marketing.
- ✓ Develop your knowledge of the importance of nutrition in the developing child.

Assessments

This course will involve regular assessment through your performance in the practical and theory. It will involve coursework, tests, and observations of skills in the class.

Possible Progression

This course or its Units may provide progression to:

- National 5 Health and Food Technology
- National 4/5 Practical Cookery
- Early Learning and Childcare
- Professional Cookery Modern Apprenticeship (Borders College)
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Professional Cookery (Borders College)
- Training or Employment in the hospitality, food production or catering industries

Practical Craft Skills

An experiential and exploratory practical course focusing on developing a range of practical techniques used in traditional woodworking and metalworking practice, and their application in product and creative design. Students will develop skills in using bench tools and industrial machinery safely, produce a range of practical products from engineering drawings and develop technical drawings to industry standards in a vocational capacity but also explore industrial design within the creative industries manually & digitally for their product design.

Possible future progression:

Creative Thinking (Level 5)

Practical Woodworking (National 4 / National 5)

Furniture Making (NPA Level 5)

Practical Metalworking (National 4 / National 5)"

Practical Creative Arts

Creative Arts is an experiential and exploratory practical course focusing on the development of hands-on artistic skills across a range of media and processes. Students engage in practical art projects that emphasise drawing, painting, sculpture, mixed media, and three-dimensional design, while exploring creative problem-solving and visual communication. Through sustained studio-based practice, learners develop technical skills, experiment with materials and techniques, and produce a range of individual and collaborative artworks. The course encourages creative risk-taking, critical reflection, and the exploration of personal ideas, while introducing students to contemporary and traditional practices within the visual and creative arts. This course provides a more hands-on and experiential alternative or variation to the traditional S3 Art and Design course

Possible future progression:

Creative Thinking (Level 4/5)

Furniture Making (NPA Level 5)

Art and Design (National 4/5)"

Curriculum Area 6

Expressive Arts

Art & Design

Course Overview

Learners will continue to develop their higher order thinking and observational skills in response to a wide range of Expressive and Design Activities.

Learners will also have the opportunity to further develop their Critical Skills through analysis of Art and Design works and related movements.

In S3, you will develop your skills and confidence in media handling across a number of areas including:-

Expressive

Design

Still life	Graphic
Portraiture	Fashion/Textile
Figure	Jewellery
Sculpture	Architecture/Interior
Photography	Product
Environmental	

Possible future progression:

Pupils taking Art and Design will be able to progress in S4 to National 3 Art and Design, National 4 Art and Design or National 5 Art and Design courses. Thereafter progression would be to Higher Art and Design and Higher Photography. Advanced Higher Art and Design is an option in S6.

If you have any questions about the Art & Design course your S2 class teacher/ Mr Henderson will be happy to help.

DCA – Digital Creative Arts

Course Description

NATIONAL QUALIFICATION IN N5 SKILLS FOR WORK: CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

A specialist design course developed with the intentions of supporting students who are looking for a career in the Graphic Design industry. Students strengthen their understanding of the importance of Digital Design within our society and develop transferrable skills for life to prepare learners for the world of work within the Creative Industries, examples of which include Illustration, Video Games Development, and Brand Development. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of key areas of design including the use of software such as 'Procreate' and 'Photoshop' and will regularly respond to 'live' briefs.

DCA provides opportunities for learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of Digital Arts including Photography, Photoshop and responding to 'live' design briefs.

The purpose of the course is to develop a strong understanding of the importance of Digital Design within our society and develop a breadth of transferrable skills for life to prepare learners for the world of work.

The aims of the course are to give learners the opportunity to:

- Develop skills in using industry materials such as Photoshop and Photography.
- Work in partnership with industry and respond to live design briefs.
- Undertake a range of IDL and Cross-Curricular activities.
- Making effective use of ICT and Digital Communication.
- Take and edit Photographs using sophisticated technology.
- Produce a range of graphic and visual communication such as logos for apps.

Possible progression routes:

The course will build pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills to enable them to progress in Photography, Art & Design, and Design industries. Progression to DCA and Animation in the Senior Phase at Hawick High School is the progression from this course.

Music

Course description

Enthusiasm for a wide variety of music and commitment to developing performing skills is essential.

There are three parts to the S3 Music course which further develop the skills that pupils have learned in the first two years of the Broad General Education.

1. Pupils develop their performing skills by specialising on 2 instruments, including the option to use 'voice'.
2. There is an understanding music aspect to the course, which will develop pupils' skills hearing and recognising musical concepts and improve literacy skills.
3. There are opportunities for pupils to compose their own pieces of music, which will build on their understanding of melody, harmony and rhythm.

Pupils will access a wide range of musical genres and have access to music-related technology as part of the course.

Possible future progression:

The course will build pupils' skills to enable them to progress to national qualifications at National 4, National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher.

Physical Education – Leadership in Sport

Course Description

This year the Elective in Physical Education is designed to develop the leadership skills of our students. This is a real opportunity for students who have an interest in leadership. The course will contain practical and theoretical elements equipping students with a baseline of skills that they will develop over the coming years and into later life.

Aims of course:

1. To increase confidence, to develop organisation skills, increase confidence in communication across a variety of media.
2. To experience leading sessions in a number of settings.
3. To increase self-reflection and self-evaluation and use these in a supportive environment so they become second nature.

The course could be made up of the following components:

- Finding your voice
- Designing and adapting sessions for younger students
- Delivering Sessions as a group and individually
- Risk assessment/Health and Safety
- Self-Evaluation
- Working as a team

This course will enable students to increase their understanding of the sports they currently perform in by breaking the skills down and teaching them to groups. The skills they will learn will remain with them throughout school and future life. For those that are looking to continue in sport for employment or indeed see themselves progressing to a leadership role in organisations this course would provide a solid foundation to pursue these goals.

Possible progression routes:

National 4/ National 5 PE, Sports Leadership Award.

Additional Electives

Fashion and Textiles

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide learners with more time to focus on developing their Textile and Fashion skills. In S3 you follow project briefs that will expand knowledge of Fibres, Textile Techniques and Manufacturing processes. You will design, plan, and make fashion and textile items. The Fashion & Textile department has strong links with industry and professionals contribute a valuable insight into the real world of work by setting live industry projects.

The S3 Fashion/ Textiles course aims to give learners the opportunity to:

- ✓ Apply creativity and make fashion/ textile items.
- ✓ Develop skills using industry materials and processes.
- ✓ Work in partnership with industry and respond to live design briefs/ competitions.
- ✓ Expand knowledge of fibre and fabric properties.
- ✓ Develop skills and knowledge of textile techniques and processes.(Weave/ Knit/ Print/Dyeing/ Embroidery)
- ✓ Investigate trends, follow design process to develop and illustrate concepts.
- ✓ Refine practical skills and construct fashion/ textile items.
- ✓ Develop their higher order thinking, numeracy and problem solving skills.
- ✓ Acquire skills for learning, life and the world of work.

Possible progression routes:

N4/5 Fashion and Textiles Technology, NPA (Level 5) Costume Design, NPA (Level 5) Visual Communications.

Further Education courses in Fashion and Textiles

Training pathways available through our links with textile employers

If you are interested and would like to see examples of work then please speak to Mrs Moncur.

Physical Education – Rugby Development

This year one of the Elective Options in Physical Education is designed to develop the Rugby performance of our students. This is a real opportunity for students who have an interest in Rugby, have represented the school or been involved in the School of Rugby to continue to improve their skills. The course will contain practical and theoretical elements equipping students with a baseline of skills that they will develop over the coming years and into later life.

Aims of course:

1. To increase ability of self reflection through the analysis of performance.
2. To develop core skills to enable increased confidence on the pitch
3. To increase the awareness of the nutrition involved in maintaining peak performance and recovery.
4. To increase core strength through strength and conditioning work
5. An opportunity to gain a coaching qualification in Rugby.

The course could be made up of the following components:

- ✓ Skills and fitness sessions
- ✓ Video Analysis Sessions
- ✓ Nutritional awareness sessions
- ✓ Self-Evaluation
- ✓ Working as a team

This course will enable students to increase their understanding of their performance in Rugby and how to reach the next level. For those that are looking to continue in sport for employment or indeed see themselves progressing to a leadership role in organisations this course would provide a solid foundation to pursue these goals.

Possible progression routes:

National 4/ National 5 PE, Sports Leadership Award