



Topic overviews are provided to aid parental involvement and support.



- Your child has entered into their **Senior Phase** of education i.e. studying for their National qualifications.
- S4 pupils have regular **Unit Assessments**. Unit assessments must be **passed** or the pupil **cannot** sit the exam.

Subject

Topic(s)

English	DA: Scottish Texts – The Poems of Norman MacCaig; Critical Essay: Short Story – Critical Study. CM: RUAE; revising language skills using worked examples and practice papers.
French	Understanding and using language will be based around Learning and Employability. N5 - prepare for their final writing exam (applying for a job) and complete their writing assignment on a topic of their choice. N4 – continue to work towards Unit Assessments.
Maths	Solving simultaneous equations, Quadratic equations – extended to include the quadratic formulae and the discriminant. The straight line $y = mx + c$.
PE	Pupils will be taking part in 2 activities. For the first 8 periods pupils will be playing Volleyball to improve their teamwork and communications skills. The following 6 weeks pupils will be learning and refreshing their knowledge of Scottish dancing in preparation for their school Christmas dance.
Life Skills	Pupils will be preparing for the school dance, working towards an Enterprise Skills Award whilst doing so.
Biology	Learners will undertake a practical assignment, and complete the final unit within Ecosystems looking at energy, food production and the evolution of species.
Chemistry	Looking at everyday consumer products, naming and drawing fuels, carboxylic acids and esters. Calculating energy transfer via the specific heat capacity of water.
Physics	Electricity – electromagnetism and electronic devices. Properties of Matter – pressure, specific heat capacity and latent heat. Assignment Practice – preparation for the N5 Assignment term 3.
History	Nazi rise to power: looking at the discontent felt towards the Weimar Republic and how the Nazi's appealed to many people in Germany, discussing the events of the Reichstag Fire and how the Nazis consolidated their power.
Geography	Weather: factors that influence weather in the UK, how to interpret weather data – weather station symbols, air masses and high and low pressure systems. The problems and benefits prolonged periods of different air pressure/air masses can bring to the UK.
Art	We will be beginning our design portfolio in class time and continuing practice questions for the exam. Expressive portfolio can continue being worked on but this will not take place at home or in after school study.
Admin & IT	Students will be working on previous exam papers and past assignment papers in preparation for the SQA assignment in February 2025. Any gaps in knowledge will be picked up and covered from the past papers/assignments.
Comp Science	Software Design And Development Unit - learn programming terminology and to develop and test programs using Python, in preparation for the N5 Assignment and Question Paper. Revise Computer Systems and Database Units for homework.
Practical Cookery	Develop knowledge and understanding of how to develop time planning. Prepare for Prelim/Unit Assessments.
Graph Comm	Pupils will take two more tests this term and continue with past assignments in preparation for the SQA assignment in term 3.
Woodwork	Pupils will start a new project with a time limit and using their logbooks. They will also take two tests this term to determine if they can take the prelim in term 3.

Comments

This is a critical year for your child. Help them by encouraging revision and exam practice .

National SQA past papers and marking schemes are freely available from www.sqa.org.uk/

