



Arran High School



Curriculum for Excellence Senior Phase Handbook 2019

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The Options Process

➤ How many courses do I need to choose?

Youngsters entering S4 will make six course choices whilst those entering S5/6 will make five. Everyone in S4 should continue their study of English and Maths. Young people in S5 may choose from the full range of available subjects whilst those in S6 may decide to follow one Wider Achievement opportunity in addition to their course choices. Further information can be found in the S6 Course Options booklet. It should be noted that all options are subject to availability of staff and sufficient uptake from students.

➤ Options Interview

All students entering S4, S5 or S6 will be offered an initial options interview with either their Guidance Teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Parents/carers are welcome to attend this interview and we are therefore offering the opportunity for you to select the interview time using our Parents' Evening Booking System (further information will be provided). Interviews will take place during the week beginning 18th February 2019. *The booking system will remain live until 2PM on Friday 15th February 2019 after which appointments will be allocated to any remaining students.*

In preparation for your youngster's options interview, I would ask that you complete the enclosed 'Initial Subject Request' form detailing the five (S5/6 students) or six (S4 students) courses your child would like to study next session including a reserve choice.

The Options Form with this booklet should be returned to the school office no later than Friday 1st February 2019

➤ What happens next?

Week beginning 18th February, first round of interviews with your child will take place, with a member of the Senior Leadership Team or Pastoral Support. Parents/carers are most welcome to attend and contribute to these discussions and appointment slots will be available via the Parents Evening Booking System.

➤ When should my final options form be returned?

Following the options process, completed and signed final options forms should be returned to the school office by **Monday 25th March 2019**

National Qualifications

All of our young people will be working towards new Curriculum for Excellence National Qualifications. These qualifications are called national 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Higher and Advanced Higher.

Following the Deputy First Minister's announcement in September 2016 regarding changes to assessment in National Courses, schools have now been provided with updated information in relation to the assessment of National 5 and Higher qualifications for session 2018/2019.

From this point onwards, there will be no unit assessment at National 5 or Higher level (this will be extended to Advanced Higher in future years). Instead course assessments have been strengthened for each National 5 course, through the extension/modification of existing question papers/pieces of coursework. In some cases there may also be new question papers or new items of coursework required as part of the course assessment.

All youngsters undertaking National Qualifications at National 4 and Advanced Higher will complete unit assessments during the course of the year, which are externally moderated and quality assured by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

In most cases, young people undertaking Higher or Advanced Higher qualifications will sit a formal written examination whilst those undertaking N4 Qualifications will complete an Added Value Unit in order to achieve their overall course award.

Success in N3/4 Qualifications is reported on a pass/fail basis whilst National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications are graded A-D. All youngsters will receive a certificate from the SQA in August 2019 detailing their performance in all National Qualifications completed during session 2018/19.

Youngsters in S5 and S6 will follow one of the following progression routes:

| S4 | | S5 | | S6 |
|------------|---|------------|---|-----------------|
| National 3 | → | National 4 | → | National 5 |
| National 4 | → | National 5 | → | Higher |
| National 5 | → | Higher | → | Advanced Higher |

Skills for Work Courses

Skills for Work courses are vocational and practical in nature and aimed at learners in the senior phase of their secondary education. The courses are designed to help learners develop:

- Skills and attitudes, which enhance employability;
- An understanding of the workplace;
- Positive attitudes to learning;
- The core skills valued by employers – communication, numeracy, working with others, information technology and problem solving;
- Skills and knowledge in a particular vocational area.

We offer a range of Skills of Work courses in partnership with Argyll College and details of these courses are also contained within this booklet.

Entry to courses offered by the College is subject to successful completion of an interview conducted by the College tutors.

Should you require further information in relation to courses offered by Argyll College please feel free to contact Judi Worthington, Learning Centre Manager on 01770 600152.

Administration & IT

National Qualifications in Administration and IT provide practical opportunities for learners to develop and apply their organisational and administrative skills. 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.

The National 5 Administration and IT Course develops learners' administrative, organisational and IT skills. Learners develop an understanding of administration in the workplace and the key legislation affecting employees. This knowledge and understanding then would the potentially allow them to contribute to the effective functioning of organisations through administrative positions.

The Higher Administration and IT Course continues to develop existing skills however the focus is firmly upon developing advanced administrative skills for processing and managing information, and for communicating complex information effectively. The Course enables learners to contribute to the effective functioning of organisations through supervisory administrative positions.

Is this course for me?

This Course is designed for those who are interested in administration and practical uses of IT and want to develop their administrative and IT skills further. Learners who have completed the Course will be able to utilise the acquired administration - and IT - related knowledge, understanding and skills at home, in the wider community and, ultimately, in employment.

The Course contains a significant practical component, which involves experiential learning, encouraging the integration of skills, knowledge and understanding through practical activities. Its use of real-life contexts makes it relevant to the world of work and its uniqueness lies in enabling learners to work towards industry standard in IT in an administration-related context.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4 and Higher consist of the following three units:

- Administrative Practices
- IT Solutions for Administrators
- Communication in Administration

Course at national 5 consists of the following two units:

- Administration Theory in the Workplace
- IT Applications

Course Assessment

National 4 - The learner must pass the three units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are all internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 - The learner must complete the two units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (70 marks) and question paper (50 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher - The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (70 marks) and question paper (30 marks); the course is graded A – D.



Illustration by Chris Gash

Art & Design

National Qualifications in Art and Design provide learners with a broad, practical experience of art and design practice and related critical activities. Learners develop practical skills as they explore how to visually represent and communicate their thoughts and ideas through their work, and study the works of artists and designers.

The National 5 Art and Design Course enables learners to plan, develop, produce and present creative art and design work, and to develop their critical understanding of a range of art and design practice. The Course also enables learners to understand the impact of external factors on artists and designers and their works.

The Higher Art and Design Course enables learners to communicate personal thoughts, feelings and ideas through the creative use of art and design materials, techniques and/or technology. Learners analyse a range of art and design practice and critically reflect on the impact of external factors on artists, designers and their work. They plan, develop, produce and present creative art and design work, develop personal creativity, and use problem solving, critical thinking and reflective practice skills.

Is this course for me?

This Course is a broad-based qualification. It is suitable for all learners with an interest in art and design, and for those wanting to progress onto higher levels of study. This qualification will allow learners to consolidate and extend their art and design skills.

On completing the Course, learners will have developed skills in planning, producing and presenting creative art and design work. They will be able to use art and design materials, techniques and/or technology in creative ways when developing and refining their ideas and work. Learners will also have developed understanding of artists and designers as creative practitioners.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4 consist of the following two units:

- **Art and Design: Expressive Activity**
Students will investigate, research and evaluate artists and their works that have a direct relevance to their own practical work. Students will also experiment in a range of art media in the production of analytical and development studies that explore a theme of their own choosing.
- **Art and Design: Design Activity**
Students will investigate, research and evaluate designers and their works that have a direct relevance to their own practical work. Students will also plan, research and develop creative design work in response to a design brief.

Course Assessment

National 4 – Learners will plan, complete and evaluate one Final Artwork and one Final Design Solution; this work is internally assessed.

National 5 – The learner must pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of a portfolio (80%) and a question paper (20%); the course is graded A-D

Higher – The learner must pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of a portfolio (73%) and a question paper (27%); the course is graded A-D.



The portfolio is made up of two equally weighted practical folios: Expressive and Design. Both folios require students to show, through practical work, the investigation, development and realisation of one single line of Expressive enquiry and one single line of Design enquiry.

A greater degree of understanding of the social and cultural factors influencing artists and designers is required at Higher; therefore, students will require good independent research skills.

Biology

National Qualifications in Biology allow learners to investigate the applications of biology in society and the environment. These qualifications cover relevant and contemporary areas of biology, while allowing learners to develop an understanding of the underlying themes.

The National 5 Biology Course covers major areas of biology including cellular, whole organism and ecosystems. The key areas of biodiversity, interdependence, body systems and cells and inheritance are developed through the Course.

The Higher Biology Course offers a broad and up-to-date selection of concepts and ideas relevant to the central position of life science within our society. Learners develop a deeper understanding of the underlying themes of biology — evolution and adaptation; structure and function; genotype and niche — and the scale of topics ranges from molecular through to whole organism and beyond.

Is this course for me?

The purpose of the Course is to develop learners' interest and enthusiasm for biology in a range of contexts. The skills of scientific inquiry and investigation are developed, throughout the Course, by investigating the applications of biology. The Course will be of interest and value to learners wishing to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of biology. The Course is a broad and up-to-date selection of concepts and ideas relevant to the central position of life science within our society. An experimental and investigative approach is used to develop knowledge and understanding of biology key areas.

The Course covers major areas of biology ranging from cellular to whole organism and up to ecosystems. The key areas of biodiversity, interdependence, body systems and cells and inheritance are developed through the Course. The focus on cellular level processes will lead to an understanding of the importance and roles of the cell. By comparing the processes in multicellular plants and animals, learners investigate increasing levels of complexity. In Life on Earth, the key areas of biodiversity and interdependence are covered, along with the processes leading to evolution as well as food security and ethical issues. Students will develop the key skills of scientific inquiry, scientific literacy, investigation and analytical thinking in addition to an enhanced knowledge and understanding of Biology.

Course Structure

Courses at National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units (each with different content):

National 4

- Cell Biology
 - Cell division; DNA, genes & chromosomes; therapeutic use of cells, properties of enzymes & use in industries; photosynthesis, respiration factors; controversial biological procedures
- Multicellular Organisms
 - Sexual & asexual reproduction; propagating & growing plants; commercial use of plants; genetic information; growth & development of different organisms; biological actions to maintain stable body conditions
- Life on Earth
 - Animal & plants species; impact of population growth & natural hazards on biodiversity; nitrogen cycle; fertiliser design & environmental impact of fertilisers; adaptations for survival

National 5

- Cell Biology
 - structure of cells; transport across cell membranes; cell division; DNA; genes & genetic engineering; production of proteins; enzymes; photosynthesis & cell respiration.
- Multicellular Organisms
 - tissues, organisms & systems; stem cells; reproduction, variation & inheritance; animal & plant transport.
- Life on Earth
 - photosynthesis; biodiversity & distribution of life; ecosystems; adaptations; natural selection & evolution; human impact on the environment.

Higher

- DNA and the Genome
 - structure & replication of DNA; control of gene expression; cellular differentiation; mutations, evolution & genomic sequencing
- Metabolism and Survival
 - metabolic pathways; cellular respiration; metabolic rate; metabolism in conformers & regulations; environmental & genetic control in micro-organisms.
- Sustainability and Interdependence
 - food security; plant growth & productivity; plant & animal breeding; crop protection & animal welfare' symbiosis & social behaviour; biodiversity

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass three units in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam

National 5 – The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and a question paper (100 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and 2 question papers (120 marks); the course is graded A – D.



Chemistry

Chemistry is the study of matter and its interactions. It explains the links between the nature of matter and the properties of the world. We all use chemical knowledge on a daily basis and chemists play a vital role in developing many of the everyday products that we take for granted.

Is this course for me?

A qualification in chemistry opens doors to a wide range of careers. Chemistry has a significant impact on our everyday lives and there is a vast range of jobs and careers open to those who have studied chemistry at any level; great career opportunities exist both inside and outside the lab. Nobody knows what the jobs of the future will look like, but many of them will be created in chemistry to solve global challenges such as human health, energy and the environment.



The National 4/5 course is suitable for learners who wish to develop their interest and enthusiasm for chemistry in a range of contexts. This includes the chemistry of the Earth's resources, the chemistry of everyday products and environmental analysis.

The Higher course is designed for students who wish to continue their study of chemistry beyond National 5 and who may wish to progress to Advanced Higher. Students will develop the key skills of scientific inquiry, scientific literacy, investigation and analytical thinking in addition to an enhanced knowledge and understanding of Chemistry.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units (each with different content):

National 4/5

- **Chemical Changes & Structures**
- rates of reaction; atomic structure & bonding; formula writing; acids & bases.
- **Nature's Chemistry**
- homologous series; everyday consumer products; energy from fuels.
- **Chemistry in Society**
- metals; properties of plastics; fertilisers; nuclear chemistry; chemical analysis.

Higher

- **Chemical Changes & Structures**
- controlling the rate; periodicity; structure & bonding.
- **Nature's Chemistry**
- esters; fats; oils; proteins; chemistry of cooking; oxidation of food; soaps; detergents & emulsions; fragrances; skin care.
- **Chemistry in Society**
- getting the most from reactants; equilibria; chemical energy; oxidising & reducing; chemical analysis

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the three units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and a question paper (100 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and 2 question papers (120 marks); the course is graded A – D.



Computing Science

National Qualifications in Computing Science enable learners to develop a range of coding skills and computing knowledges across a range of contemporary contexts. This includes the ability to develop, implement and test digital solutions.

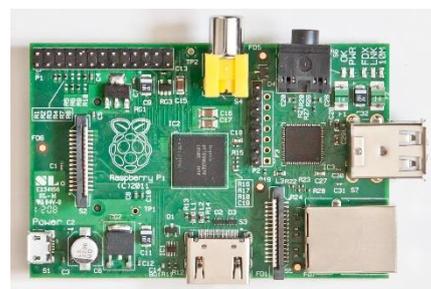
The **National 5** Computing Science Course develops knowledge and understanding of key concepts and processes in computing science. Coding skills are developed using Python and HTML. Pupils will be expected to spend time coding outside lesson time in order to consolidate the work we do in class.

The **Higher** Computing Science Course introduces learners to an advanced range of computational processes and thinking. It further develops coding skills, introducing procedural methods to create efficient and complex programs. Learners gain an awareness of the importance that computing professionals play in meeting the needs of society today and for the future, in fields which include science, education, business and industry.

Is this course for me?

The Course is designed to be of value to all learners, especially those considering further study or a career in computing science and related disciplines. Computing Science is one of the fastest growing areas of employment, with plenty of opportunities for those who have qualifications in the subject. Possible careers include: Website design, Games Development, Software Engineering, Cyber Security and Robotics.

Students will be active in their learning through a range of practical activities, which include programming, website design and database development. They will use a range of new technology, including Raspberry Pi computers, robots and electronic control interfaces to learn about computer hardware and gain hands on experience by rebuilding PC's.



Course Structure

Courses at National 5 and Higher consist of the following two units:

- Software Design and Development
- Information System Design and Development

Course Assessment

National 5 – The National 5 course is assessed by two components, a 2 hour exam (110 marks) and an 8 hour assignment (50 marks). The assignment is a computer based task and is completed during a series of lessons. The course is graded A – D.

Higher – The National 5 course is assessed by two components, a 2.5 hour exam (110 marks) and an 8 hour assignment (50 marks). The assignment is a computer based task and is completed during a series of lessons. The course is graded A – D.



Construction Crafts (SfW)

We are delighted to offer National 5 Construction Crafts in partnership with Argyll College.

The course includes practical Construction Crafts units in four of the main construction trades: bricklaying; decorative painting; carpentry & joinery, and plumbing.

Learners develop a variety of skills in the trade-specific units, while the Employability Skills unit addresses a number of practical and employability skills, which can be practised and developed across all the units in the course e.g. setting goals; reflecting; learning from experience).

Learners develop a variety of skills in the trade-specific units, while the employability skills unit addresses a number of practical and employability skills which can be practised and developed across all the units in the course (e.g. setting goals, reflecting, and learning from experience).

At SCQF level 5, learners work alone or with others on straightforward tasks with support.

This qualification provides a basis for progression into further education or for moving directly into training or employment within the construction sector.

Course Structure

The National 5 Courses consists of the following three units:

- Employability Skills
- One Brick Walling
- Bench Joinery

The following optional units are also available:

- Plumbing of Sanitary Appliances
- Decorative Painting Techniques



Course Assessment

National 5 – Assessment is internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and consists mainly of practical tasks.

While this course contains specific skills in construction, it is valued by employers because of the generic employability skills involved, which can be transferred to any job sector.

Cycle Maintenance

The general aim of this course is to enable the learner to develop the skills and knowledge to identify both routine and non-routine maintenance/repair tasks required on a cycle and understand how cycling activities can be beneficial as part of a healthy lifestyle. Learners will also develop an awareness of the benefits of cycling in respect of sustainability and the environment.

Is This Course For Me?

The course is best suited to learners who are competent cyclists and who frequently ride a bike of any form in any context, for example recreational, touring, commuting, competitive riding. It may also appeal to learners who have a particular interest in cycling. However, No specific knowledge is required to embark on this Award.

Course Structure

This Award will consist of a mandatory Unit which will be offered at SCQF Level 4:

- Cycle Safety and Maintenance

Other awards will be offered as part of this Cycle Maintenance Course

Course Assessment

Assessment for the Award will consist of gathering evidence to show that the learner is able to successfully complete all the Outcomes in the Units.



Design & Manufacture

National Qualifications in Design and Manufacture provide a broad and practical experience in product design and manufacture, with opportunities for learners to gain skills in designing and communicating design proposals. Learners develop design skills, knowledge and understanding of materials and manufacturing processes, and enhance their creative and practical skills. The Courses build challenging, coherent and enjoyable learner journeys through all levels.

The National 5 Design and Manufacture Course develops skills in design and manufacturing models, prototypes and products, and knowledge and understanding of manufacturing processes and materials. Learners also gain an understanding of the impact of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society.

The Higher Design and Manufacture Course develops learners' research skills, idea generation techniques, and ability to read drawings and diagrams. Learners also gain the ability to communicate design ideas and practical details, to evaluate and apply both tangible and subjective feedback, and to devise, plan and develop practical solutions to design opportunities.

Is this course for me?

This Course is a broad-based qualification, suitable for learners with a general or specific interest in design and technology generally. It is suitable for learners with an interest in product design and manufacture in particular and is suitable for those wanting to progress onto higher levels of study in the subject.

The Course is largely learner-centred and includes practical and experiential learning opportunities. The world of design and manufacturing covers a broad spectrum of experiences. Some products are designed to create an emotional or visual impact; others are more functional in their requirements. These facts allow the Course to be flexible in nature and allow scope for personalisation and choice for each learner.

On completing the Course, learners will be able to: create, develop and communicate design proposals; solve design problems in applied contexts; contribute to the evaluation and improvement of design proposals and manufacturing practicalities; and manufacture models, prototypes and products of their design ideas.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following two units:

- Design
- Materials and Manufacturing

Pupils are afforded personalisation and choice throughout the course selecting from a variety of design principles, 2D and 3D modelling techniques and manufacturing methods to complete assignments.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the two units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the two units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of two assignments (100 marks) and a question paper (80 marks); the course is graded A – D.



Illustration by Chris Gash

French

National Qualifications in Modern Languages develop learners' knowledge and understanding of a modern language and cover the contexts of society, learning, employability and culture. Studying a modern language provides learners with the opportunity to develop their reading, listening, talking and writing skills.

National 5 Modern Languages Courses develop literacy skills by giving learners opportunities to read, listen, talk and write in a modern language and to reflect on how this relates to English. These Courses enable learners to understand and use a modern language, to apply their knowledge of a modern language, and to develop planning, research and language skills.

Higher Modern Languages Courses enable learners to read, listen, talk and write in a modern language, and to understand and use a modern language. Learners also develop language skills of translation, and apply knowledge and understanding of a modern language.

Is this course for me?

The Course provides flexibility, personalisation and choice to enable learners to achieve in different ways and at a different pace. Learners have the opportunity to develop detailed language skills in meaningful real-life contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture.

Learners will develop skills in reading, listening, talking and writing, which are essential for learning, life and work; they will develop an understanding of how language works, use different media effectively for learning and communication and use language to communicate ideas and information.

The Course also provides learners with the opportunity to use creative and critical thinking to synthesise ideas and arguments; to enhance their enjoyment and their understanding of their own and other cultures; to explore the interconnected nature of languages; and to develop independent learning.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following two units:

- Modern Languages: Understanding Language
- Modern Languages: Using Language

Students will develop their skills of understanding and using the French language. Using these skills in the useful contexts of education, work, tourism, lifestyle and the wider world. Prepare pupils for rigorous assessments and talking performance.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the two units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam. The Added Value Unit is recorded.

National 5 – Talking (30Marks) – scaled to 30 marks i.e. 25%, Reading (30 Marks) – scaled to 30 marks i.e. 25%, Listening (20 marks) – scaled to 30 marks i.e. 25%, Writing in exam (20 marks) – scaled to 15 marks i.e. 25%, Writing (assignment carried out within the school session) 20 Marks – scaled to 15 marks i.e. 12.5%

Then all 120 marks are worked out as a percentage to 100%. The course is graded A-D.

Higher – Component 1 – question paper: reading and writing (40 marks), Component 2 – question paper: listening and writing (30 marks), Component 3 – performance: talking (30 marks).
The course is graded



Learning a new language will enable learners to make connections with different people and their cultures, play a fuller part as global citizens, reflect, communicate and develop ideas through language, develop a sense of cultural awareness, enhancing their understanding and enjoyment of other cultures and their views and understand and use a wide range of different types of texts in different media.

Geography

National Qualifications in Geography provide a broad range of flexible learning contexts covering physical, human and global geographical environments, and bring together the natural and social sciences.

The courses provide geographical perspectives on important issues concerning the environment, sustainability and citizenship, and offer challenging, coherent and enjoyable journeys for learners who progress through levels. They encourage fieldwork and the use of local environments and the acquisition of geographical skills.

The National 5 Geography course develops a range of geographical skills and techniques. Learners gain a detailed understanding of the ways in which people and the environment interact in response to physical and human processes at local, national, international and global scales.

The Higher Geography Course develops learners' understanding of our changing world and its human and physical processes in local, national, international and global study contexts. Opportunities for practical activities including fieldwork are encouraged, so that learners can interact with their environment.

In today's society, with growing awareness of the impact of human activity upon the environment and scarce resources, the study of Geography foster positive life-long attitudes of environmental stewardship, sustainability and global citizenship. The study of Geography will furnish learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to enable them to contribute effectively to their local communities and wider society.

Is this course for me?

This course is appropriate for a wide range of learners including those who wish to achieve a greater understanding of the environment and their place in it as well as learners who wish to progress to more specialised training or further education or employment.

Learners will develop a range of important and transferrable skills including: using, interpreting, evaluating and analysing a range of geographical information; interpreting and explaining geographical phenomena; using a range of maps and other data to process and communicate geographical information; and researching skills, including fieldwork. Learners will also develop an awareness of a limited range of geographical information systems through ICT or alternative means.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units:

- Physical Environments
- Human Environments
- Global Issues

The contexts for study are local, national, international and global. Focus is given to case study areas within both the developed and developing world.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the three units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 Marks) and a question paper (80 Marks); the course is graded A-D

Higher – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (30 Marks) and two question papers (100 Marks and 60 Marks respectively); the course is graded A-D.



Graphic Communication

National Qualifications in Graphic Communication develop skills in graphic communication techniques, including the use of equipment, graphics materials and software, and build challenging, coherent and enjoyable journeys for learners through all levels. Combining elements of recognised professional standards for graphic communication with graphic design creativity and visual impact, the Courses also provide flexibility and choice in the use of manual and computer-aided graphics.

The National 5 Graphic Communication Course enables learners to develop skills in graphic communication techniques, including the use of equipment, graphics materials and software. Learners extend and apply knowledge and understanding of graphic communication standards, protocols and conventions, and develop an understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society.

The Higher Graphic Communication Course provides opportunities for learners to initiate and develop their own ideas graphically. It allows them to develop skills in reading and interpreting graphics produced by others and to continue to develop graphic awareness in often complex graphic situations, expanding their visual literacy.

Is this course for me?

This Course is a broad-based qualification, suitable for learners with an interest in graphic communication — both digital and paper-based. It is suitable for those wanting to progress onto higher levels of study in the subject.

The qualification is largely learner-centred and includes practical and experiential learning opportunities. Because the world of graphic communication covers such a wide variety of styles and modes of communication, there is a broad scope for personalisation and choice within the Course for each learner. On completing the Course, learners will be able to: initiate, develop and communicate ideas graphically; interpret graphic communications initiated by others; use graphic communication equipment, software and materials effectively; and apply knowledge and understanding of graphic communication standards, protocols, and conventions where these apply.

In addition, learners will have developed: design skills, including creativity; an understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society; and spatial awareness and visual literacy.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following two units:

- 2D Graphic Communication
- 3D and Pictorial Graphic Communication

Pupils are allowed personalisation and choice throughout the course selecting manual or computer based techniques to complete tasks.

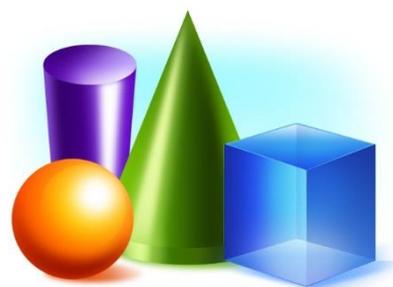
Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the two units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the two units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (40 marks) and a question paper (80 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The learner must complete the two units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (70 marks) and a question paper (70 marks); the course is graded A – D.

In the assignment learners will draw on their range of skills, knowledge & understanding from the units in order to produce an effective overall response to the assignment brief. The brief for the project will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.



History

National Qualifications in History provide a broad range of flexible learning contexts covering Scottish, British and European and world history in medieval, early modern and modern time frames. The Courses develop a breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding of the past, and provide opportunities to consider how political, social, economic and cultural history relates to the world of today.

The National 5 History Course enables learners to develop a range of skills including the ability to apply a detailed historical perspective and evaluate sources in a range of contexts. Learners gain a detailed understanding of the factors contributing to historical events, and their impact. They also develop the skills of investigating historical events and forming views on the basis of evidence, and of explaining and analysing historical events and drawing reasoned conclusions.

The Higher History Course allows learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of the past through the study of Scottish, British, European and world contexts in a variety of time periods. Options cover topics from the medieval, early modern and later modern periods, and include elements of political, social, economic and cultural history.

History is fascinating, eye-opening and jaw-dropping. While factual knowledge is obviously important, History also teaches many skills that can be used at college, university and life in general such as critical thinking, evaluating, essay writing, debating and arguing.

Is this course for me?

History Courses are relevant for a wide range of learners. This Course is appropriate for those who wish to develop an understanding of history or who are seeking to progress and specialise in further historical study.

Through the successful completion of this Course, learners will develop a range of important and transferable skills, including: commenting on a limited range of sources; presenting detailed information about historical themes and events; and communicating a reasoned conclusion based on evidence.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units:

- Historical Study: Scottish (Scottish Wars of Independence)
- Historical Study: British (Atlantic Slave Trade/Ireland 1900-85)
- Historical Study: European and World (Russia)

The contexts for study are local, national, international and global.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the three units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and a question paper (80 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (30 marks) and a question paper (80 marks); the course is graded A – D.



Hospitality: Practical Cake Craft

Our National 5 Hospitality: Practical Cake Craft qualification develops learners' cake baking and cake finishing skills in a range of production methods. Learners also develop their knowledge of food safety and hygiene, and develop organisational skills in the context of managing time and resources.

The Hospitality: Practical Cake Craft Course enables learners to develop technical and creative skills in cake baking and finishing whilst developing their knowledge and understanding of cake design and following trends in cake production.

Is this course for me?

This Course is designed for those wishing to acquire cake-baking and cake-finishing skills and to develop and demonstrate innovativeness in these areas. An interest in the creative and artistic aspect of the Course would be an important consideration.

Learners develop a range of both generic and subject-specific skills. These include cake-baking and cake-finishing skills; practical psychomotor skills (manual dexterity and control); organisational and time management skills; the ability to weigh and measure ingredients and calculate proportions; the ability to evaluate both the process and the product; and aspects of employability and enterprise skills.

Course Structure

The National 5 course consists of the following two units:

- **Cake Baking**
The purpose of this unit is to enable learners to develop the ability to bake a range of cakes and other items safely and hygienically. Learners will demonstrate specialist skills, techniques and processes. To promote personalisation and choice, this unit provides opportunities to investigate baking trends and allows learners to apply this knowledge in a range of practical contexts.
- **Cake Finishing**
The purpose of this unit is to enable learners to develop the ability to finish a range of cakes and other baked items safely and hygienically. In the finishing processes learners will apply specialised skills and creative techniques. To promote personalisation and choice, this unit allows opportunities to investigate trends in cake finishing and allows learners to apply this knowledge in a range of practical contexts.

Course Assessment

National 5 – The learner must complete the two units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of a practical activity (100 marks – worth 75%) and a 45 minute question paper (30 marks – worth 25%); the course is graded A – D.

The practical activity will be assessed by drawing on the knowledge, understanding and skills developed across the course. The activity will require learners to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding related to cake baking and cake finishing and to apply their skills in the production of cakes or other baked items. The practical activity will be conducted in four stages: designing; baking; finishing and evaluating.



Hospitality: Practical Cookery

National Qualifications in Hospitality: Practical Cookery develop a range of cookery skills and processes, as well as food preparation techniques.

Planning and producing meals and presenting them appropriately, learners develop understanding of ingredients from a variety of different sources, as well as of their uses and responsible sourcing and sustainability. Learners also develop an understanding of the choice of ingredients and the impact these have on health and wellbeing, as well as their knowledge and understanding of food safety and hygiene practices. The Hospitality: Practical Cookery Course further enhances learners' personal effectiveness in cookery and provides a set of skills for those who wish to progress to further study in the hospitality context.

Is this course for me?

This Course is designed for those who are interested in food and cooking and who enjoy being creative with food. Learners who have chosen to follow it may wish to utilise their cookery knowledge and skills at home, in the wider community or, ultimately, in the hospitality industry.

Learners will develop a range of both generic and 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.

Learners will also develop the ability to plan and produce meals and to present them appropriately; the ability to work safely and hygienically; and planning, organisational and time management skills in the cookery context. The Course will support learners' personal and social development and will serve them very well in their everyday lives, as well as preparing them for further training and employment in a wide range of hospitality-related areas.

Course Structure

The National 4 and 5 course consists of the following units:

- **Cookery Skills, Techniques and Processes**
Learners will be required to provide evidence of their: cookery skills, food preparation techniques and ability to follow cookery processes in the preparation of dishes.
- **Understanding and Using Ingredients**
Learners will be required to provide evidence of their ability to: apply their understanding of a range of ingredients and select appropriate ingredients and use them in the preparation of dishes.
- **Organisational Skills for Cooking**
Learners will be required to provide evidence of their ability to: follow recipes and implement a time plan to produce dishes and carry out an evaluation of the dishes.

Course Assessment

The learner will be assessed by a practical activity drawing on the knowledge, understanding and skills developed across the Course. The activity will require learners to extend cookery-related knowledge, understanding and skills, and to apply them in the production of a meal to a given specification.

National 4 – Learners will plan, prepare and cook a two-course meal for a given number of people within 1 hour 30 minutes and present it appropriately.

National 5 – The coursework assessment consists of a practical activity (100 marks – worth 75%) where learners will plan, prepare and cook a three course meal for a given number of people within 2 hours 30 minutes and present it appropriately. There is also a 1 hour question paper (30 marks – worth 25%); the course is graded A-D.

It is important to note that the National 4 unit assessments are undertaken with *minimal* teacher guidance and at National 5 the unit assessments are with *no* teacher guidance. All units must be passed and carried out safely and hygienically.



Mathematics

National Qualifications in Mathematics are designed to motivate and challenge learners by enabling them to select and apply mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations. These Courses equip learners with the skills needed to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, and make informed decisions.

The National 5 Mathematics Course enables learners to select and apply mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations. Learners interpret, communicate and manage information in mathematical form.

The Higher Mathematics Course enables learners to select and apply mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical situations. Learners interpret, communicate and manage information in mathematical form.

Is this course for me?

Mathematics is rich and stimulating. It engages and fascinates learners of all ages, interests and abilities. Learning mathematics develops logical reasoning, analysis, problem-solving skills, creativity, and the ability to think in abstract ways. It uses a universal language of numbers and symbols, which allows us to communicate ideas in a concise, unambiguous and rigorous way.

Mathematics equips us with many of the skills required for life, learning and work. Understanding the part that mathematics plays in almost all aspects of life is crucial. This reinforces the need for mathematics to play an integral part in lifelong learning and be appreciated for the richness it brings.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units:

National 4/5

- Expressions & Formulae
- Relationships
- Numeracy / Applications

Higher

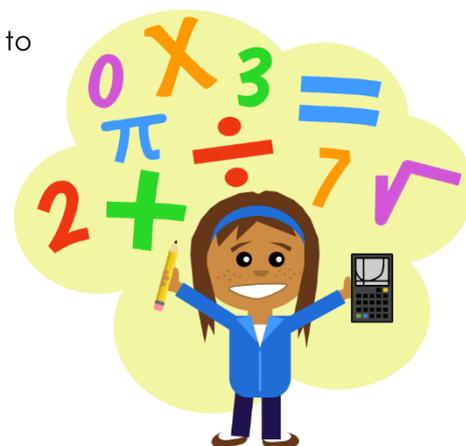
- Expressions & Formulae
- Relationships & Calculus
- Applications

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the three units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the course assessment. The course assessment consists of two question papers (110 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the course assessment. The course assessment consists of two question papers; Paper 1 (non-calculator): 70 marks, 1 hour 30mins
Paper 2 (calculator): 80 marks, 1 hour 45mins



Mental Health and Well Being

This new Group Award is offered at SCQF levels 4 and 5. It aims to reduce stigma surrounding mental health, arm young people with healthy coping strategies and promote knowledge of the impact of mental health on behaviour. These Awards in Mental Health and Wellbeing support the Scottish Government's Mental Health Strategy 2017–2027. Its guiding ambition for mental health is simple but, if realised, will change and save lives.

Is This Course For Me?

This course will suit learners who want to improve their knowledge and understanding of mental health and wellbeing and who wish to gain national recognition of their achievements.

Course Structure

The course at both Level 4 and level 5 consists of 3 mandatory units:

Understanding Mental Health Issues

Influences on Mental Health and Wellbeing

Coping Strategies and Building Resilience

Course Assessment

Learners must pass all units which will include a variety of practical and written work as well as discussion. There will be an opportunity to sit an e- assessment in this course.



Modern Studies

National Qualifications in Modern Studies develop learners' knowledge and understanding of contemporary political and social issues in local, national and international contexts. Learners also engage with discussions about the changing nature of political systems through studying democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom.

The National 4 and 5 Modern Studies Course gives learners a detailed understanding of the democratic process and of social and economic issues at local, national and international levels.

The Higher Modern Studies Course develops learners' knowledge and understanding of contemporary political and social issues in local, national and international contexts. In these contexts, learners develop an awareness of the social and political issues they will meet in their lives.

Learners will develop their knowledge of the political and social world around us and how key events can impact upon our lives.

Is this course for me?

The Course is appropriate for a wide range of learners, from those who wish to achieve a greater understanding of contemporary society and their place in it, to learners who wish to progress to more specialised training or further education or employment.

Through the successful completion of this Course, learners will develop a range of important and transferable skills including: researching, understanding and using a range of information/evidence on contemporary issues; evaluating information/ evidence in order to give detailed explanations while detecting exaggeration and selectivity in the use of facts; making decisions and drawing conclusions; constructing detailed arguments in a balanced and structured way; and communicating, by a variety of means, views, opinions, decisions and conclusions based on evidence.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units:

- Democracy in Scotland
- Social Issues in the United Kingdom
- International Issues

Pupils are allowed personalisation and choice throughout the course selecting manual or computer based techniques to complete tasks.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the three units stated above in addition to an Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and a question paper (80 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (30 marks) and a question paper (80 marks); the course is graded A – D.



Music

National Qualifications in Music provide learners with a broad, practical experience of performing and creating music. Learners develop performing skills in solo and/or group settings using two selected instruments or one instrument and voice. These Courses also enable learners to develop composing skills and broaden their understanding of music concepts and styles.

The National 5 Music Course enables learners to perform challenging music, create original music using compositional methods and music concepts, and broaden their knowledge and understanding of music and musical literacy. The Course also enables learners to develop knowledge of the social and cultural factors that influence music.

The Higher Music Course provides a broad practical experience of performing and creating music and develops related knowledge and understanding of music. Learners develop their skills and creative capabilities as musicians, and gain the skills they need to perform and create music and to confidently discriminate between music concepts and styles.

Is this course for me?

The Course is a broad-based qualification. It is suitable for learners with an interest in developing and extending their applied musical skills and understanding of music, and for learners with a more specific interest in particular aspects of music. It could also provide a pathway for those who want to progress to higher levels of study.

The Course is practical and experiential and there is considerable scope for personalisation and choice through the activities of performing, creating and understanding music. This makes the Course accessible as it takes account of the needs of different learners and can be contextualised to suit a diverse range of learner needs, interests and aspirations.

On completing the course, learners will be able to: perform a programme of music with accuracy and maintaining musical flow; create their own original music; self-reflect on and evaluate their own work and that of others; listen to music with awareness, understanding and discrimination; and improve their musical creativity and performing skills by critically evaluate their own work and the work of others.

Course Structure

Courses at National 5 and Higher consist of the following three areas of study:

- **Performing Skills**
Pupils choose to learn two instruments or one instrument and voice. The performing skills which develop are then utilised in both solo and group settings providing a broad range of experiences. Pupils will be encouraged throughout the process to evaluate their success and identify steps towards improvement.
- **Composing Skills**
Pupils create original pieces of music whilst learning straightforward compositional methods and music concepts. This allows pupils to understand the creative process and provides the opportunity for expressing themselves through the music they create.
- **Understanding Music**
Pupils develop their understanding of the social and cultural factors, which influence music through the study of a range of musical styles. Pupils will develop their knowledge of musical signs, symbols and concepts through a range of listening and musical literacy exercises, which develop their critical and analytical listening skills.

Course Assessment

National 5 – The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (30 marks), a question paper (40 marks) and a performance (60 marks); the course is graded A-D.

Higher – The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (30 marks), a question paper (40 marks) and a performance (60 marks); the course is graded A-D.



The performance is externally assessed in February/March by an SQA visiting assessor whilst the question paper is completed in the April as part of the main diet of SQA exams.

Photography

Our Photography qualification inspires and creatively challenges learners by encouraging them to visually represent their personal thoughts and ideas through the medium of photography. Learners plan, develop and produce imaginative photographs, and develop both technical and creative skills in using photographic media, techniques and processes.

The Higher Photography Course enables learners to communicate personal thoughts, feelings and ideas using photography, and to develop technical and creative skills in using photographic media, techniques and processes. Learners develop knowledge and understanding of a range of photography practice, and analyse the impact of social and cultural influences on photographers and their work.

Is this course for me?

This course is suitable for all learners with an interest in photography. It is suitable for learners with a general interest in the subject, and for those wanting to progress onto higher levels of study. This qualification will allow learners to consolidate and extend creative skills developed through, for example, the National 5 Art and Design Course.

On completing the Course, learners will be able to plan, develop, produce and present creative photographic work using a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. They will be able to communicate personal thoughts, feelings and ideas in their photographic work and analyse the impact of outside influences on photographers and photography. They will use creative and technical problem solving skills and will be able to critically reflect on and evaluate their own work and the work of others.

Introduction: June - November

Students will familiarise themselves with their camera's, exploring the creative and technical opportunities they provide as well as their limitations. Most students work with their own cameras as this allows them full access, however a small number are available to borrow from the school. Please note new or expensive equipment is not required and any student wishing to purchase a camera can seek advice from Mr Wedge.

Basic camera skills will be taught through a series of creative and technical tasks alongside the development of skills in digital editing.

Critical and analytical skills will be developed through the research of photography and photographers, through analysing photographs and through thorough evaluation of students own work

Course Assessment: November onwards

The coursework assessment consists of a Portfolio (100 marks) and a Question Paper (30 marks); the course is graded A – D.

The Portfolio is an open project and will allow opportunities for learners' personalisation and choice. Students must research and investigate their agreed project topic before producing and presenting their photographic images. Students will also evaluate their own photographic work and practice.

In this course students will learn technical photography skills and will be required to show imaginative and creative responses when photographing a variety of subjects. They will also evaluate their photographic work and practice. This course requires a large degree of independent work and study outside of class time.



Physical Education

National Qualifications in Physical Education focus on developing and improving practical and performance skills in physical activities. These Courses provide opportunities to develop team building skills and enhance learners' ability to compete, co-operate and collaborate.

The National 5 Physical Education Course allows learners to develop and demonstrate a comprehensive range of movement and performance skills in physical activities. Learners also develop an increased understanding of the important link between fitness and good health.

The Higher Physical Education Course allows learners to develop and demonstrate a broad and comprehensive range of complex movement and performance skills in challenging contexts. Learners also analyse a performance, understand what is required to develop it, and apply this knowledge to their own performance.

Is this course for me?

This course is suitable for all learners who have an interest in and enthusiasm for developing their movement and performance skills in physical activities and who enjoy learning in practical contexts. On successful completion of the Course, learners will be able to progress to the Higher Physical Education Course, further education courses or training and employment.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following two units:

- **Performance Skills**
In this Unit, the learner will be required to demonstrate their ability to perform in physical activities by developing a broad range of movement and performance skills. They will provide evidence of selecting, using, demonstrating and adapting these skills in a safe and effective way. The learner will demonstrate consistency in their control and fluency during movement.
- **Factors Impacting on Performance**
In this Unit, the learner will be required to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and application of a range of factors that impact positively and negatively on performance in physical activities. The learner will consider the effects of mental, emotional, social and physical factors on their own performance. This understanding will help to develop the learner's ability to plan for, record, monitor and evaluate performance development.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the two units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the two units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of two, one off performances (60 marks) and a portfolio (60 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The coursework assessment consists of two one off performances (60 marks) and an examination question paper (50 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the two units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the two units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of two, one off performances (60 marks) and a portfolio (60 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The coursework assessment consists of two one off performances (60 marks) and an examination question paper (50 marks); the course is graded A – D.



Physics

Our National Qualifications in Physics give learners an insight into the underlying nature of our world and its place in the universe. From the sources of the energy we use, to the exploration of space, Physics covers a range of applications of the relationships that have been discovered through experiment and calculation.

The National 5 Physics Course enables learners to develop a deeper understanding of physics concepts and the ability to describe and interpret physical phenomena using mathematical skills.

The Higher Physics Course develops learners' curiosity, interest and enthusiasm for physics in a range of contexts. The skills of scientific inquiry and investigation are developed throughout the Course, and the relevance of physics is highlighted by the study of the applications of physics in everyday contexts.

Is this course for me?

This course is suitable for learners who are keen to develop their interest in and understanding of the physical world. Students will engage in a wide range of investigative tasks, which allows them to develop important skills to become creative, inventive and enterprising, in a world where the skills and knowledge developed by physics are needed across all sectors of society.

Physics gives learners an insight into the underlying nature of our world and its place in the universe. From the sources of the power we use, to the exploration of space, it covers a range of applications of the relationships that have been discovered through experiment and calculation, including those used in modern technology. An experimental and investigative approach is used to develop knowledge and understanding of physics concepts.

Students will develop the key skills of scientific inquiry, scientific literacy, investigation and analytical thinking in addition an enhanced knowledge and understanding of Physics.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4, National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units (each with different content):

National 4

- Electricity and Energy – Generation of electricity; electrical power; electromagnetism; electrical & electronic systems; gas law & the kinetic model
- Waves & Radiation – Waves; sound; electromagnetic spectrum; nuclear radiation
- Dynamics & Space – Speed & acceleration; forces, motion & energy; satellites; cosmology

National 5

- Electricity and Energy - conservation of energy; electrical charge carriers & electric fields; electrical & electronic circuits; specific heat capacity; gas laws & the kinetic model.
- Waves and Radiation - wave parameters & behaviours; electromagnetic spectrum; light; nuclear radiation.
- Dynamics and Space - vectors & scalars; motion graphs; acceleration; Newton's laws; projectile motion; space exploration & cosmology.

Higher

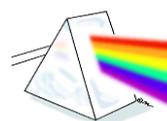
- Our Dynamic Universe - kinematics; dynamics; gravitation; special relativity & cosmology.
- Electricity - current; potential difference; power; resistance; AC; DC; internal resistance; capacitors; conduction; semiconductors & insulators.
- Particles and Waves - standard model of the atom; force on charged particles; nuclear reactions; wave particle duality; interference & diffraction; refraction of light & spectra.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the three units in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam

National 5 –The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and a question paper (135 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and a question paper (135 marks); the course is graded A – D.



Practical Craft Skills: Woodwork & Metalwork

Our National Qualifications in Practical Craft Skills are experiential in nature and provide opportunities to develop and enhance practical creativity. Using a wide range of craft skills, tools, equipment and materials, learners develop practical problem-solving skills and gain an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop or similar environment.

Students will choose either the Woodwork or Metalwork course. These courses enable learners to gain skills in woodworking/metalworking techniques and in measuring and marking out timber/metal sections and sheet materials. Learners develop safe working practices in workshop environments, practical creativity and problem-solving skills, and an understanding of sustainability issues in a practical woodworking context.

Is this course for me?

This Course is a broad-based qualification for learners with an interest in crafts. It is suitable for learners with an interest in practical woodworking and those wanting to progress to higher levels of study or a related career. The Course provides opportunities to develop and enhance psychomotor skills, practical creativity, practical problem-solving skills, an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop environment, and an understanding of sustainability issues in a practical woodworking context.

Course Structure

Courses at National 4 and National 5 consist of the following three units:

Woodworking Course

- Carcase Construction
- Flat Frame Construction
- Machining & Finishing

Metalworking Course

- Bench Skills
- Machine Processes
- Fabrication & Thermal Joining

Students are issued with working diagrams and instructions on manufacturing each project. They must mark out, cut and assemble the model to specified tolerances. As learners progress through the three units, they will develop a range of hand tool skills when manufacturing models with some complex features.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the three units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam.

National 5 – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (70 marks) and a question paper (30 marks); the course is graded A – D.

In order to complete the practical activity, students are issued working diagrams and instructions on manufacturing each project. They must mark out, cut and assemble the model to specified tolerances. The assessment requires candidate to demonstrate the skills they have developed throughout the course.



Psychology

National Qualifications in Psychology focus on the scientific study of the mind and behaviour, and enhance learners' ability to use evidence to explain behaviour. These courses provide opportunities to study and research classic and contemporary psychological topics. Learners develop critical thinking, reasoning and report writing skills.

The National 5 Psychology Course enables learners to use appropriate psychological concepts, theories, research methods and evidence to investigate and explain human behaviour in a range of contexts.

The Higher Psychology Course enables learners to use appropriate psychological concepts, theories, research methods and evidence to investigate and analyse internal and external influences on human behaviour in a range of different contexts.

Is this course for me?

The course is suitable for all learners with an interest in finding out more about the human mind and behaviour. Learners will probably have little or no prior experience of studying psychology, but an interest in human behaviour and life experience will provide a good foundation for them to progress to this qualification. Learners should be interested in developing their knowledge and understanding of human behaviour, either to pursue study and career options related to psychology or to broaden their learning experience.

Course Structure

Courses at National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units:

- Psychology: Research

This unit introduces learners to the research process, research methods and ethics used in psychology. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of factors to consider when planning and carrying out psychological research as well as developing an understanding of psychological terminology.

- Psychology: Individual Behaviour

This unit teaches learners to use psychology to explain individual behaviour. Students will investigate topics and learn how these topics can be explained using psychological approaches and theories. Students are encouraged to consider the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches and theories investigated.

- Psychology: Social Behaviour

The general aim of this Unit is to explain how interaction with others shapes social behaviour. Learners will investigate social psychological topics, and use relevant concepts and research evidence to explain how the thoughts, feelings and behaviours of individuals are developed through interaction with others and within the social environment. Learners will use psychological knowledge and understanding to explain examples of everyday behaviour.

Course Assessment

National 5 – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (30 marks) and a question paper (70 marks); the course is graded A – D.

Higher – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (40 marks) and a question paper (60 marks); the course is graded A – D.

The assignment will require learners to use their skills, knowledge and understanding to investigate a topic in psychology. Students must complete an individual piece of primary research and write an academic report on it.



Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies

Our National Qualifications in Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies raise awareness of the relevance of religion, morality and philosophy in today's world. These Courses address the impact and significance of world religions, contemporary moral questions, and religious and philosophical questions. Learners have opportunities to consider both religious views and viewpoints independent of religious belief.

The National 5 Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies Course enables learners to investigate and explain religious, moral and philosophical questions and responses, make comparisons, and develop the ability to express detailed and reasoned views.

Is this course for me?

This Course is appropriate for a wide range of learners including those who wish to achieve a greater understanding of religion and its place in society, those who want to learn more about the traditions, beliefs and values of their own religion, and those who wish to progress to more specialised study, further education, training or employment.

Course Structure

Courses at National 5 and Higher consist of the following three units:

- World Religion

In this Unit, learners will develop skills to explain and comment on the meaning and context of sources related to the religion selected for study. They will develop detailed factual and abstract knowledge and understanding of the impact and significance of religion today through studying some key beliefs, practices and sources found within one of the world's six major religions (Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism or Sikhism) and the contribution these make to the lives of followers.

- Morality and Belief

In this Unit, learners will develop skills to explain and express reasoned views about contemporary moral questions and responses. They will develop detailed factual and theoretical understanding of contemporary moral questions and religious and nonreligious responses.

- Religious and Philosophical Questions

In this Unit, learners will develop skills to analyse religious and philosophical questions and responses. They will develop factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of these.

Course Assessment

National 4 – The learner must pass the three units stated above in addition to the Added Value assignment. These units are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis and there is no final exam

National 5 – The learner must complete the three units stated above and pass the coursework assessment. The coursework assessment consists of an assignment (20 marks) and a question paper (80 marks); the course is graded A – D.

