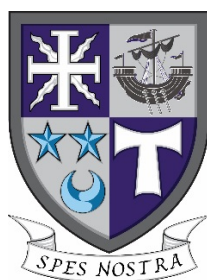


## Holy Rood RC High School



### Success in the Senior School

#### Summary - Information Evening

January 2016

- **Attainment**

S5 – Best performance ever in SQA examination results, Holy Rood significantly outperforming the virtual comparator school with S4 results.
  
- **Learning opportunities available for S5/6 pupils:-**
  - School based courses – from course option choice.
  - College based courses – offered in the travel column, potential application to be discussed with Year Head during course choice interview. This can be combined with school based courses.
  - Courses at neighbourhood schools – as per need e.g. Higher Spanish, Higher Urdu (reciprocal agreement whereby pupils also come here to do courses)
  - Work experience placements – in travel column, in agreement with Year Head. As an alternative to a school based course or as work experience required for university.
  
- **Explanation of terms**
  - Levels  
National 4, National 5, Higher , Advanced Higher
  - Course  
*A group of units **plus** an external exam* (notional 160 hours programmed learning for National 4,5, Higher) To achieve a COURSE AWARD pupils must complete and **PASS all** of the SQA units for the course and complete the course assessment – final exam in May/June. Some courses might also have a course project/assignment as part of the course award. COURSE AWARD = Grade A, B, C, D. National 4 courses have **no final exam** and are internally assessed (Pass/fail).

➤ SQA unit of work

Most National Courses from National 2 to Higher are comprised of three Units.

These units are assessed by the class teacher using SQA assessment standards.

Unit result = PASS/FAIL

• **Monitoring Pupil Progress**

- S4 Progress Reports in Oct & Feb, S4 Parents' Evening in Nov, Prelims in Jan.
- S5/6 Progress Reports in Oct & Mar, S5/6 Parents' Evening in Dec, Prelims late Jan.
- Must pass all units and the exam to pass the course.
- Grades A, B, C, D based on performance in final exam only. The certificate will show all units and courses passed (Units can be carried forward)

• **Moving Forward – Session 2016/17**

- Pupils should select 5 courses to study in S5.
- Pupils should select 4 or 5 courses to study in S6.
- Option sheets issued w/b 18 Jan – to be returned no later than 29 Jan.
- Options can be changed if SQA results require this.
- Discussion with Year Head about choices and any other learning opportunities which might be appropriate for the individual pupil.

• **Preparing for the Examinations**

- Effective Planning & Organisation – SQA website (timetable)
- Study Skills Programme in PSE
- Target setting in subjects/PSE/Tutor Time
- Individual pupil interviews
- Revision classes in many faculties – after school/lunchtimes/ Easter Revision

• **Further Information available via Year Head :-**

- LEAPS (Lothian Equal Access Programme for Schools)
- EDUCATIONAL MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE
- Careers Interviews – in school on request via Year Head with Karla Hart, Careers Adviser.