

Holy Rood RC High School

S3 Course Information

Session 2026/27



A Guide for Pupils and Parents/Carers – Making the Right Choices

As pupils approach the end of S2, they begin a Review of Learning and are offered increased choice about the subjects they will study in S3. These choices matter, as in most cases pupils will continue with these subjects into the Senior Phase in S4, when they are presented for National Qualifications. It is therefore important that pupils and parents/carers have clear, accurate information to support thoughtful and well-informed decisions.

While we aim to offer a broad and varied curriculum that meets the needs of all learners, we cannot guarantee that every course listed will run. In previous years, some courses have been withdrawn due to very low uptake. Courses will run based on pupil demand.

This Guide:

- Provides information to help pupils prepare to make their S3 course choices at Holy Rood and explains how this supports a smooth transition into the Senior Phase in S4.
- Gives detailed information about the subjects offered across each curricular area (listed alphabetically).

Help and Support:

- **Skills Development Scotland (SDS)** – The SDS website provides high-quality careers information, including the *Course Choice Checker*, which helps pupils explore future pathways and consider how their S3 choices link to potential careers and qualifications. This is a valuable tool for planning next steps and understanding the skills required in different sectors.
 - SDS Website - [Option choices | My World of Work](#)
- **Holy Rood Website – Curriculum Pathways** – The Curriculum Pathways section of our school website outlines the routes and progression opportunities available within each curricular area. These pathway maps help pupils understand how subjects connect from S1–S6 and support thoughtful planning of individual learning journeys.
 - Curriculum Page - [Curriculum Pathways | Holy Rood RC High School](#)

Why is the Course Choice Form divided into columns?

The column structure ensures that every pupil continues to experience a Broad General Education, covering all key curricular areas outlined in Curriculum for Excellence. All pupils study core subjects, as well as English, Mathematics and a Modern Language. Pupils then make their own choices in the remaining columns.

Core Subjects

All pupils follow courses in Physical Education, Religious and Moral Education, and Personal and Social Education. Although these subjects do not lead to National Qualifications, they remain an essential part of the curriculum because of their contribution to pupils' personal development, wellbeing and wider skills.

Wider Achievement

Pupils will have the opportunity to be considered for one period per week to work towards the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award in S3. Parents/carers are encouraged to discuss this option with their child.

The Course Choice Columns

Pupils should review the course choice columns carefully before completing the Draft Course Choice Form on the Microsoft Forms survey (link available on the school website).

Pupils must select a **first choice** and a **second choice** in each column.

The Course Choice Form must be completed by Friday 13 March.

In addition to core subjects, pupils will choose:

- **English:** Column 1
- **Mathematics:** Column 2
- **Italian:** Column 3
- **A Social Subject:** Column 4
- **A Science:** Column 5
- **An Expressive Arts Subject:** Column 6
- **A Technology Subject:** Column 7
- **One Free Choice Subject:** Column 8

This structure allows flexibility. For example, pupils who wish to study more than one Expressive Arts subject can do so, provided there is sufficient demand. This flexibility supports pupils to follow pathways that reflect their interests, strengths and future aspirations.

How does S3 help me prepare for National Qualifications?

In S3, pupils continue to experience a broad and balanced curriculum through Curriculum for Excellence experiences, outcomes and skills. At the same time, they begin to build the knowledge and understanding required for National Qualifications in S4. S3 is therefore a crucial year, and pupils are expected to work with commitment to achieve their full potential.

Which National Qualifications can I achieve?

Progress in S3 and S4 will determine the level of National Qualification a pupil is presented for. In S4, pupils may be presented for:

- **National 5/NPA Level 5/SCQF Level 5 Award**
- **National 4/SCQF Level 4 Award**
- **National 3/SCQF Level 3 Awards**

How will my work be assessed?

Assessment varies depending on the course and qualification type:

In S3:

- pupils are still within the BGE and will be assessed by class teachers against the BGE benchmarks, using a variety of assessment methods in class. (e.g. presentations, tests, practical work, talks, group work).

In S4:

- **National 5** – Coursework and an external assessment (Exam). Graded A–D.
- **NPA Level 5** – Assessed through completion of units and coursework. No final exam.
- **National 4** – Unit-based assessment, including an Added Value Unit (AVU). Internally assessed.
- **National 3** – Unit-based assessment. Internally assessed.
- **SCQF Level 3-5 Awards** – Unit based assessments. Internally assessed.

All qualifications are nationally recognised and certificated by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

Review of Learning at the end of S3

At the end of S3, some pupils may choose to review their subjects to pursue a more vocational pathway. This is supported by the Pupil Support Leader and SDS Careers Adviser.

Current options include **Hairdressing (SCQF Level 5)**, **Construction and Roofing (SCQF Level 5)** and **JET (Jobs Education Training)**, which includes a half-day work placement. Further information will be provided in due course. Most pupils will continue with the subjects they selected at the end of S2.

How can Parents/Carers help?

We want every young person to achieve their very best. Parents and carers play a vital role in supporting learning and helping pupils make appropriate course choices. Encouragement at home has a significant impact on progress from S1 onwards and becomes even more important as pupils move through S3 and into the Senior Phase.

Your child's progress will be monitored by subject teachers, Tutor Teachers and the Year Head. Parents/carers can support by:

- Helping to make **informed course choices** related to future pathways
- Providing a quiet space for **homework and discussing learning**
- Supporting **positive attendance** school
- Attending **Parents' Meetings** to discuss progress with class teachers


Any Further Questions?


Parents and carers are more than welcome to contact us for further information.


Key Contacts are noted below:


S2 Year Head
SDS Careers Adviser

Mr J Kiernan
Mr S Inglis

<h1>Accounting</h1>	<h2>National 5 <u>only</u></h2>
<p>WHAT IS ACCOUNTING?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accounting is a key function in many organisations. Pupils will develop skills in communicating essential financial information to various stakeholders and organisations. The course encourages pupils to think logically and apply accounting principles in their own lives as well. The course covers the practical aspects of accounting so strong maths skills are essential. 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numeracy/Maths Initiative Communicating Collaborating Critical Thinking Logic ICT (spreadsheets)
 <p style="text-align: center;">ACCOUNTING</p> <p>The illustration shows a central clipboard with a pen, surrounded by various financial symbols like dollar signs, a calculator, a pie chart, and stacks of money. The word 'ACCOUNTING' is written in bold letters above the central elements.</p>	
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Financial Accounting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing end-of-year statements such as income statements Double entry accounting using ledgers Sources of finance for a sole trader Analysing the final accounts using financial ratios <p>Management Accounting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysing and classifying costs such as fixed, variable, direct and indirect costs Inventory record cards Overhead analysis statements 	
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>This is a practical, skills-based course. Skills and knowledge are assessed through observation in class, homework and end-of-unit tests. In S4 the final National 5 award is based on an Assignment and an exam. PLEASE NOTE: There is no National 4 available</p>	
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p><u>In school:</u> National 5 > Higher Accounting in S5/6 <u>Beyond school:</u> An Accounting qualification is highly valued in the business world and beyond just the finance sector. There are some excellent Accounting courses at both college and university that pupils may want to apply for after school.</p>	
<h2>ACCOUNTING</h2>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mr Ash Teaching Staff: Business Faculty S2 Year Head</p>

<h1>ADMINISTRATION & IT</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5 & NPA LEVEL 5</h1>	
<p>WHAT IS ADMINISTRATION & IT?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils learn about the role of Administration & IT within organisations and complete a range of activities to develop their ICT Skills using Office 365 • Areas studied include Health & Safety in the Workplace, Customer Service, Events Management, Business Documents and Communication in the Workplace 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT • Initiative • Communicating • Collaborating • Critical Thinking • Creativity 	
			
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Administrative Practices Pupils will learn about workplace laws, organisation of events, features of good customer care and the skills, qualities and attributes required of junior administrators.</p> <p>IT Solutions for Administrators Pupils will develop skills in IT and organising and processing information by completing Administration tasks. Pupils will use word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and other software applications to create, edit and update business documents.</p> <p>Communication in Administration Pupils will learn to use IT for gathering and sharing information with others in familiar administration-related contexts. Pupils will develop skills using internet, e-diary, email, desk-top publishing, and presentation software.</p>			
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>This is a practical, skills-based course. National 4 is assessed with practical assessments of the Units above, plus an Added Value that must be completed to obtain the full award. National 5 is assessed with two practical ICT based assessments. There is no exam paper.</p>			
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>National 4 > National 5 > Higher (in school). Beyond school, strong ICT skills are important for any further study at College or University, as well as in employment. Any modern workplace requires the need to be organised, to communicate and to produce/share professional documents. This all is important for entrepreneurs looking to start their own business.</p>			
<h2>ADMINISTRATION & IT</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mr Ash Teaching Staff: Business S2 Year Head</p>	

<h1>ART & DESIGN</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>
<p>WHAT IS ART & DESIGN?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art & Design includes a mix of practical learning and knowledge and understanding. • Pupils will develop skills using different art media to create original pieces. • Pupils will also explore and analyse the work of other Artists 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing Skills • Painting Skills • Print making Skills • Clay work Skills • Working Independently • Concentration skills • Research Skills • Focus • Creative • Curiosity • Initiative 	
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following 2 mandatory units.</p> <p>Expressive with Critical Activity: This unit helps pupils to develop their personal thoughts and ideas in visual form. Pupils will experiment with a range of media and will be encouraged to explore how expressive media can be used creatively. Pupils will develop an understanding and appreciation of artists' working practices, as well as knowledge of the social and cultural influences on artwork.</p> <p>Design with Critical Activity: This unit helps pupils to plan, research and develop their creativity, problem- solving and critical thinking skills as they work through a design process. Pupils will experiment with a range of 2D and/or 3D media, using equipment and materials to develop design proposals. The use of creative technology will be explored as well as understanding and appreciation of designers' working practices. Pupils will also develop knowledge of the social and cultural influences on design work.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>National 4 Art & Design is assessed in school – 40% Expressive, 40% Design and 20% Written (Critical). National 5 Art & Design is assessed by the SQA Externally – 40% Expressive, 40% Design and 20% Written (Critical).</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Art & Design Provides Carer pathways for many careers, it has many invaluable transferable skills that provide gateways to many careers. It also provides obvious pathways into Art based careers, such as Artist, Architecture, Animation, Graphic design to mention a few. Please refer to the Careers board in the Expressive Arts Faculty to find out more.</p>		
<h2>EXPRESSIVE ARTS</h2>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Howgego Teaching Staff: Art S2 Year Head</p>	

<h1>BIOLOGY</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
<p>WHAT IS BIOLOGY?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology is the study of living things and how they interact with each other and their environment. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical Skills Problem-Solving Knowledge and Understanding of Biology to many different situations 	
			
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>The majority of pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following units:-</p> <p>Cell Biology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about cells and what goes on inside them. Discover what microbes can do for us. Find out why we are all different and how these variations are passed on from one generation to the next. Extract and examine real DNA. <p>Multicellular Organisms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate why we need different types of cells in our body. Discover how our body works. Investigate how animals and plants defend themselves. Learn about the different types of reproduction and how they are linked to the survival of the species. <p>Life on Earth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how organisms are adapted to their habitats and how they depend on each other for their survival. 			
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>National 4 Biology is assessed internally. Pupils must pass the 3 units of work (including practical work) and an additional research unit (AVU) in order to complete the course.</p> <p>National 5 Biology is assessed externally. SQA examination – 80% and a research project Assignment - 20%.</p>			
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Achievement in Biology National 4 can provide progression to one of the following courses – N5 Biology, N5 Health Sector or N5 Laboratory Science. A pass in N5 Biology can provide progression to Higher Biology. Or potential apprenticeships/College course. Qualifications in biology are highly regarded by employers and in future education. This can open the door to many areas of STEM industries.</p>			
<h2>SCIENCE</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mr Gillies Teaching Staff: Biology S2 Year Head</p>	

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL 4/5 & NPA LEVEL 5

WHAT IS BUSINESS MANAGEMENT?

- In this course pupils will learn about how businesses are formed, how they develop and grow and the key functional areas of business – Marketing, Finance, Operations, and Human Resources.



SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE

- Initiative
- Communicating
- Leading
- Curiosity
- Creativity
- Critical Thinking

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Understanding Business - Pupils will learn about the features and objectives of different business organisations, along with the internal and external factors – political, social, technological, economic and competitive – which affect decision making in business.

Management of Marketing & Operations - Pupils will learn about the role of Marketing including market research techniques, product life cycles, pricing strategies, and the use of ICT in marketing. The role of Operations will also be studied including choosing a suitable supplier, stock management, quality control methods, and the use of technology in operations management.

Management of People & Finance - Pupils will learn about the role of Human Resources including recruitment and selection processes, training, motivating, and retaining staff, employment law and the role of Finance including sources of finance, managing cash flow, break-even charts and key financial statements.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This course requires good literacy skills and National 4 has 3-unit assessments and an Added Value. National 5 Business assignment that is worth 25% of the overall grade. The exam paper is worth 75% of the overall grade. Level 5 NPA Business & Marketing will be discussed in S4 on an individual basis, depending on performance in S3 and the S4 prelim. This is achieved through coursework; however, it is important to note that the Level 5 NPA does not have a pathway to Higher Business Management in S5/6.

CAREER PATHWAY

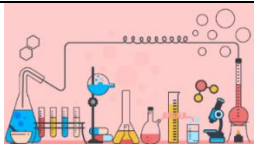
National 4 > National 5 > Higher (in school)


Beyond school, a qualification in Business can lead to further study at College and University in areas such as Marketing, Finance, International Business and Economics. There are also a number of modern apprenticeships specialising in Business related careers that can be an excellent alternative to further study.


BUSINESS MANAGEMENT


For further information please contact:


Curriculum Leader: Mr Ash
Teaching Staff: Business
S2 Year Head


<h1>CHEMISTRY</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>
<p>WHAT IS CHEMISTRY?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemistry is finding out about the world around us by experimenting. Chemists devise experiments to see how different chemicals interact. They carefully record what they have learned to put the information to good use. 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Studying Chemistry gives pupils a wide range of skills which are highly sought after by employers. Chemists are excellent problem solvers and investigators. They have strong communication and numerical skills and a broad scientific knowledge which helps in scientific, engineering and many other careers. 	
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>The majority of pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following units:-</p> <p>Chemical Changes and Structure Pupils will find out about basic atomic structure: what they are made of and why they react. They will find out about different chemical reactions involving acids and alkalis. The importance of acids in food and drink, and their impact on health will be studied.</p> <p>Nature's Chemistry Pupils will study how Chemistry relates to our everyday energy needs on both an individual level (food and drink) as well as society as a whole. How Chemistry can be used to tackle large scale environmental issues is an integral part of this unit.</p> <p>Chemistry in Society This unit will focus on the earth's limited resources, including the use of metals and new materials. Environmental and economic issues are considered throughout this unit.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>National 4 Chemistry is assessed within the school. Pupils must pass the 3 units of work (including practical work) and an additional research unit (AVU) in order to complete the course.</p> <p>National 5 Chemistry is assessed externally. This is made up of a written paper (SQA examination – 80%) and a research project (Assignment - 20%).</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Achievement in Chemistry National 4 can provide progression to one of the following courses – N5 Chemistry, N5 Health Sector or N5 Laboratory Science.</p> <p>A pass in N5 Chemistry can provide progression to Higher Chemistry or potential apprenticeships/College courses. Qualifications in chemistry are highly regarded by employers and in future education. This can open the door to many areas of STEM industries.</p>		
<h2>SCIENCE</h2>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mr Gillies Teaching Staff: Chemistry S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>DESIGN & MANUFACTURE</h1>		<h2>NATIONAL 4/5</h2>
<p>WHAT IS DESIGN & MANUFACTURE?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This course, as well as giving pupils skills in problem solving through design, will teach craft-based skills using wood, metals and plastics. This will allow pupils to manufacture the projects they design. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generating Ideas Evaluating Problem Solving Independent Thinking Decision Making Analysing
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following: 1. Design 2. Materials and Manufacture 3. Final Project. Pupils at National 5 level will sit an additional external written exam.</p> <p>Design Unit: Evaluate existing products before redesigning them to improve the way they look and work. Pupils will also be working through the design process to design and make items. These items will be unique to them and achieved through problem solving and putting manufacturing theory into practice.</p> <p>Materials and Manufacture Unit: Skill builder tasks manufacturing items in wood, metal and plastic. These projects develop their practical skills and understanding of how to work with materials.</p> <p>Final Project: Design and manufacturing skills will be put to the test, into one final project from design through to manufacture.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>The Design and Manufacture course combines both Folio, Manufacture and Theory to allow a holistic understanding of the design and make process. During the folio pupils will work through the design process completing research, idea generation, development and planning for manufacture using manual sketching, computer and physical modelling and putting theory into practice and manufacture, where pupils take pupils solution to the workshop. Pupils will learn how to use a variety of tools and machines building on work pupils have done in previous years. The course is a mix between classroom and workshop-based activities.</p> <p>The National 5 exam will cover all the design theory on materials and processes that pupils have learned throughout the course.</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>N5 Design Manufacture, N4/5 Engineering Skills or N5 Practical Woodworking. A pass in N5 Design Manufacture can provide progression to Higher Design and Manufacture, alternative subjects within DET or potential apprenticeships/College courses. Possible Careers linked to Design and Manufacture are Engineering, Construction and Architecture.</p>		
<h2>DESIGN & MANUFACTURE</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Miss Grant Teaching Staff: DET S2 Year Head</p>

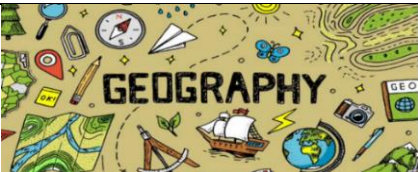
<h1>DIGITAL ANIMATION</h1>		<h2>NPA LEVEL 5</h2>
<p>WHAT IS DIGITAL MEDIA ANIMATION?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This course is designed to help pupils understand and create animations used in the digital industry. The outcome is a full moving animation using technology to create a story using images. 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Skills Digital Art Research Skills Creativity Focus Curiosity Skills Critical thinking skills 	
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will complete three units in this qualification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Computer Animation - this unit involves creating 2Dimensional & 3Dimensional animations using computer software. Computing – Animation Fundamentals - This Unit is designed to introduce pupils to the techniques and concepts involved in producing two-dimensional (2D) animation using software. Traditional animation – An animation will be used using drawing techniques, stop motion and modelling. Still Images – Pupils will acquire skills in how to edit still images using technology. This will include images that can be turned into an animation or concept art. A folio of visual research, development and animations will be created throughout the course. 		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iPad must be brought to every lesson. All units are internally assessed. This is an exciting new course that requires you to have an interest in Digital Art and be interested in exploring your creative ideas. 		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art college Teaching Animation 		
<h3>DIGITAL MEDIA ANIMATION</h3>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Howgego Teaching Staff: Media S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>DRAMA</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
WHAT IS DRAMA?		SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drama is a group-based activity that is practical and experiential. It involves working with others in the creation and performance of stories. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication Confidence Group work Drama Skills Creativity Problem Solving Global Awareness Empathy Collaboration Leadership 	
			
WHAT WILL I LEARN?			
In both National 4 and 5:			
Drama Skills:			
This unit allows pupils to create stories, develop characters and develop pupils' performance skills. Pupils will work in groups to explore themes, genre, characters, and other dramatic concepts. Pupils will also reflect on pupils own performance and that of others to understand and develop pupils progress.			
Production Skills:			
This unit allows pupils to work with theatre arts including lighting, sound, costume, props, set and hair and makeup. Again, pupils work in groups to develop pupils understanding of these areas before presenting their work.			
GENERAL INFORMATION			
National 4 is internally assessed and is 60% Practical and 40% written. National 5 is externally assessed and is 60% Practical and 40% written.			
CAREER PATHWAY			
Drama provides many transferable skills that are desirable for many employers. For further information please see the Careers Board in the Expressive Arts Department. Drama Careers include – Actor, Teacher, Production Management, Stage Management, Costume Design, Lighting & Sound Engineering.			
<h2>DRAMA</h2>		For further information about this course please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Howgego Teaching Staff: Drama S2 Year Head	


<h1>ENGLISH</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
<p>WHAT IS ENGLISH?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The study of language and literature. • It is a compulsory subject in S3 and S4 because it develops pupils literacy skills, which benefits pupils in all areas of learning. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication • Literacy, Reading, Writing, Listening and Talking • Research • Creativity 	
			
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>A National 4 or National 5 course with the following units.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation and Production Unit (Writing, Talking) • Analysis and Evaluation Unit (Reading, Listening) • Course Assessment <p>The course develops literacy skills and the study of great literature from Scotland and the wider world.</p> <p>At National 4 there is also a literacy qualification built into the course. The majority of N4 pupils will have the opportunity to add to their N4 qualification with an additional N5 Literacy unit.</p> <p>At National 5 there is a final exam on the literature pupils have studied and a reading assessment. The course assessment is a folio, which makes up 30% of the final grade.</p>			
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>A variety of methods will be used to develop the analytical, comprehension, creative and evaluative skills. This includes writing, reading, listening, using the iPad, working with partners and in groups, researching topics and planning independently. We read a wide variety of texts, and pupils will still be given the opportunity to go the library to choose books for personal reading. Pupils will also be encouraged to present pupils own thoughts and ideas to others in class.</p>			
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>An English qualification is required to access most college and university courses, along with placements in apprenticeships. Pupils will use skills developed in English in all careers.</p> <p>Some careers that require a high level of literacy skills are Law, Journalism, Teaching, Research and Public Relations.</p>			
<h2>ENGLISH</h2>		<p>For further information about this course please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mr Munro Teaching Staff: English S2 Year Head</p>	


FASHION & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY		NATIONAL 4/5	
WHAT IS FASHION & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY?		SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The study of fashion choices and textiles construction. It informs about influences on fashion and the process of textile development from design to construction. This course has a strong practical element. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creativity Curiosity Critical thinking Communicating Adapting Independent learning Decision making Practical textile skills 	
			
WHAT WILL I LEARN?			
<p>The National 4 or National 5 course has the following units:</p> <p><u>Textile Technologies</u> Pupils will develop and demonstrate a range of practical construction skills including marking, cutting, hemming, seams using a range of specialist tools.</p> <p><u>Item Development</u> Pupils will design and make a fashion item by researching fabric properties, developing craft skills to devise a design solution and produce a fashion item.</p> <p><u>Fashion Choices</u> Pupils will investigate what influences fashion choices of consumers including historical influences and current fashion trends and use this knowledge to design and evaluate their suggested solution.</p>			
GENERAL INFORMATION			
<p>Pupils will develop knowledge and practical textile skills. This includes development of practical textile skills, design and make challenges and devising textiles solutions. Pupils will be encouraged to use their digital skills and experience independent and cooperative working opportunities as well as benefit from visiting expert guest speakers.</p> <p>Assessment in Fashion and Textile Technology: National 5 Fashion and Textile Technology 35% Practical fashion textile item 35% Written assignment 30% Written exam</p> <p>At National 4 there are 3 Units of work and an Added Value Unit built into the course. There is no requirement to have previous practical textile skills however an interest in fashion is desirable.</p>			
CAREER PATHWAY			
<p>Achievement in this course leads onto Higher in S5/6. Career and commitment including fashion designer, textile technologist, textile designer, illustrator, visual merchandiser, stylist, and retail buyer.</p>			
FASHION & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Ms McGinley Teaching Staff: FTT S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>FRENCH</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
<p>WHAT IS FRENCH?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The study of French in S3/4 focuses on enabling learners to communicate effectively in the foreign language. This motivational course further develops pupils' linguistic awareness and aims to increase their knowledge of the French culture and way of life. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication skills Understanding a different culture Global employment opportunities Travel Analytical Self-Confidence 	
			
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following units:</p> <p>Understanding Language: This unit develops listening and reading skills.</p> <p>Using Language: This unit develops talking and writing skills. Pupils are encouraged to express ideas and opinions in the foreign language.</p> <p>Added Value Unit: Assignment (National 4): The assignment is a short oral presentation on a topic of the pupil's choice. This is planned and researched in advance using reading and writing skills. It may be delivered using PowerPoint. The presentation will be followed by a few follow up questions by the teacher. At National 5, the Added Value Unit will be assessed in the course assessment which is an external exam</p> <p>Pupils explore a wide variety of topics: Health, lifestyles, environment, school, college, lifelong learning, future plans, job skills, world of work, customs, celebrations, holidays, literature, film and TV, travel, sport and leisure.</p>			
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>The learning environment is enhanced by bringing French people and culture into our classrooms. Pupils will be familiar with and use the internet, they will have access to film and audio clips, PowerPoint presentations and authentic reading materials.</p> <p>Digital learning platforms enhance the learning experience and, along with individual devices, offer pupils the opportunity to further develop their skills in all areas at home.</p> <p>Pupils will work individually, in groups or in pairs to develop language skills. There will be regular homework tasks to help consolidate learning in the class. Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and so we recommend that all pupils have their own dictionary at home.</p> <p>Assessment in Modern Languages: Skills are assessed equally Reading (25%) Listening (25%) Writing (25%) and Talking (25%). National 4 is internally assessed in all skill areas. National 5 is externally assessed in reading, writing and listening by SQA (62.5%). There is also a writing assignment which is completed internally (12.5%) and sent off to SQA for marking and the talking assessment is internally assessed (25%).</p>			
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Achievement of National 4/5 will allow progression to National 5 and Higher French respectively and eventually to employment in areas such as law, journalism, interpreting/translating, media, management, teaching, travel and tourism, diplomatic service, broadcasting, catering and hospitality etc.</p>			
<h2>FRENCH</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Cordiner Teaching Staff: Modern Languages S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>GEOGRAPHY</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?		SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography allows us to develop an understanding of the relationships between people and their environment. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analytical • Accept differing points of view • Weigh up the 'pros' and 'cons' of difficult decisions • Present reasoned logical arguments to back up a point of view • Use maps as an analytical tool to investigate human and physical environments. • Analyse and present data in a variety of ways 	
			
WHAT WILL I LEARN?			
<p>The National 4 or National 5 course has the following units:</p> <p>Physical Environments: Develops an understanding of processes of change in the landscape. This includes weather and a variety of landscape types such as glaciated uplands and coasts.</p> <p>Human Environments: Including contrasts in development, population issues, urban and rural landscapes.</p> <p>Global Issues: Including, natural regions (rainforest and tundra) and climate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is also an Assignment which involves a Project at National 4 and National 5. • Projects will allow pupils an element of personalisation and choice and the opportunity to independently research an issue and present their findings. 			
GENERAL INFORMATION			
<p>A variety of methods will be used to develop knowledge, understanding and enquiry skills. This includes the use of videos, photographs, fieldwork and ICT. Information will be processed and presented in a number of ways e.g. writing summaries, graphs, annotated sketches, maps, diagrams, tables and charts etc. Pupils will work independently, in pairs and in groups. Geography field trips are an enjoyable and worthwhile part of the course.</p>			
CAREER PATHWAY			
<p>Geography is about everything that pupils see going on around pupils so contributes to virtually every job and career! Geography can be combined with other subjects to provide a strong career direction. Geographers are equipped with skills regularly identified by employers as being essential for the workplace. Geography is seen by universities as a facilitating subject, it allows pupils to keep many options open for college, University, and the world of work.</p>			
<h2>GEOGRAPHY</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Liggins Teaching Staff: Geography S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION</h1>		<h2>NATIONAL 4/5</h2>
<p>WHAT IS GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphic communication is everywhere around pupils. On pupils mobile phone, tablet, bus stop, school. Pupils name it graphic communication has influenced it. • The Graphic communication course uses a mix of manual skills with computer skills (CAD) to work on a series of different briefs for several different products. 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing • Understanding • Generating Ideas • Designing • Critical Thinking • Working with Technology • Time Management • Creativity • Communication 	
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>The National 4 or National 5 course has the following units:</p> <p>2D Graphic Communication: Pupils develop creativity and skills within a 2D graphic communication context. They initiate, develop, and communicate ideas using graphic techniques in straightforward and familiar contexts, and in some less familiar or new contexts. Pupils also develop 2D graphic spatial awareness.</p> <p>3D Graphic Communication: Pupils develop how they think about things in 3D. Considering how things are assembled and demonstrate to others to help them understand, and includes the use of 3D computer modelling software. Projects/Briefs: During the course pupils will be given different projects and briefs to solve. These range in the different areas of graphics but can include architecture, app design, and interior planning.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>Pupils will learn within graphic communication in a variety of different ways. There are many ways that we use to keep the course up to date and exciting: Using manual methods on a drawing board; manual and electronic sketching; 3D modelling on the computer; using computers to complete desk top publishing. It is a fast-paced and exciting course which changes with the technology that is used on the course.</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Achievement in Graphic Communication National 4 can provide progression to one of the following courses – N5 Graphic Communication, N4 Design and Manufacture, N4/5 Engineering Skills or N4/5 Practical Woodworking.</p> <p>A pass in N5 Graphic Communication can provide progression to Higher Graphic Communication, alternative subjects within DET or potential apprenticeships/College courses.</p> <p>Possible Careers linked to Graphic Communication are Engineering, Construction, Architecture, Animator, App Developer, Digital Technologies</p>		
<h1>GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION</h1>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Miss Grant Teaching Staff: DET S2 Year Head</p>

<h1>HEALTH & FOOD TECHNOLOGY</h1>		<h2>NATIONAL 5</h2>
<p>WHAT IS HEALTH & FOOD TECHNOLOGY?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and Food Technology is the study food, health and nutrition. It informs about current food issues and gives an insight into how the food industry operates. There is also a practical element to the course. 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborating Communication Focusing Initiative Critical thinking Digital skills Practical food skills Organisation 	
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will follow a National 5 course and complete the following units at National 5 level:</p> <p><u>Food for Health</u> This unit helps pupils to understand the relationship between health, food and nutrition and applies this to practical food preparation.</p> <p><u>Food Product Development</u> This unit helps pupils to understand how the food industry creates new products and what functions individual ingredients have in food items.</p> <p><u>Contemporary Food Issues</u> This unit helps pupils to understand about food issues that are currently in the news and how to make informed consumer decisions.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>Pupils will develop their knowledge and practical skills: research projects, design and make challenges and devising food solutions. Pupils will be encouraged to use their digital skills and have independent and cooperative working opportunities as well as benefit from visiting expert guest speakers.</p> <p><u>Assessment in Health and Food Technology</u> National 5 Health and Food Technology is assessed externally by the SQA. 50% written assignment 50% written exam</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Achievement in this course leads onto Higher and Advanced Higher HFT in S5/6. This is a more academic course and leads onto further study at college or university. Pupils use the course for all food related careers, for example dietician, nutritionist, food technologist, food scientist and also other related careers like, teaching, childcare and nursing.</p>		
<h2>HEALTH & FOOD TECHNOLOGY</h2>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Ms. McGinley Teaching Staff: FTT S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>HISTORY</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
<p>WHAT IS HISTORY?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> History is relevant and useful developing skills which they can use throughout life and which will be extremely attractive to an employer. Pupils will also develop an understanding about the way people live today by applying knowledge from the past. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literacy skills Analytical Debate Reading and comprehension Teamwork 	
			
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following units:</p> <p>The Scottish Unit will examine the social, economic, and political impact of the First World War. The British Unit will focus on the Atlantic Slave Trade. Pupils will learn about the experiences of enslaved people, the impact of the Slave Trade on Britain and the reasons why it was eventually abolished. The Europe and the World Unit will look at some of the major events of the 20th Century such as the rise of Hitler in Germany.</p> <p>The History Assignment is worth 20% of pupil's overall grade and is an important part of the course. Pupils will have the opportunity to investigate further some of the issues that have interested them.</p>			
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>A variety of learning approaches are used in History, and we use a vast range of sources, both written and audio-visual. There are opportunities to become involved in debate about key issues in History.</p>			
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>A qualification in History is very desirable and useful in a whole range of jobs. Higher History is a very important subject for employers and universities. Employers like the analytical and source handling skills that History encourages.</p>			
<h2>HISTORY</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Liggins Teaching Staff: History S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>ITALIAN</h1>	<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>
<p>WHAT IS ITALIAN?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The study of Italian in S3/4 focuses on enabling learners to communicate effectively in the foreign language. This motivational course further develops pupils' linguistic awareness and aims to increase their knowledge of the Italian culture and way of life. 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better communication skills Understanding a different culture Global employment opportunities Analytical Skills Self-Confidence Independent thinking
	
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN? Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following units:</p> <p>Understanding Language This unit develops listening and reading skills.</p> <p>Using Language This unit develops talking and writing skills. Pupils are encouraged to express ideas and opinions in the foreign language.</p> <p>Added Value Unit: Assignment (National 4) The assignment is a short oral presentation on a topic of the pupil's choice. This is planned and researched in advance using reading and writing skills. It may be delivered using PowerPoint. At National 5, the Added Value Unit will be assessed in the course assessment which is an external exam.</p> <p>Pupils explore a wide variety of topics: Health, lifestyles, environment, school, college, lifelong learning, future-plans, job skills, world of work, customs, celebrations, holidays, literature, film and TV, travel, sport and leisure.</p>	
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION The learning environment is enhanced by bringing Italian people and culture into our classrooms. Pupils will be familiar with and use the internet, they will have access to film and audio clips, PowerPoint presentations and authentic reading materials. Digital learning platforms enhance the learning experience and, along with individual devices, offer pupils the opportunity to further develop their skills in all areas at home. Pupils will work individually, in groups or in pairs to develop language skills. There will be regular homework tasks to help consolidate learning in the class. Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and so we recommend that all pupils have their own dictionary at home.</p> <p>Assessment in Modern Languages: Skills are assessed equally Reading (25%) Listening (25%) Writing (25%) and Talking (25%). National 4 is internally assessed in all skill areas. National 5 is externally assessed in reading, writing and listening by SQA (62.5%). There is also a writing assignment which is completed internally (12.5%) and sent off to SQA for marking and the talking assessment is internally assessed (25%).</p>	
<p>CAREER PATHWAY Achievement of National 4/5 will allow progression to National 5 and Higher Italian respectively and eventually to employment in areas such as law, journalism, interpreting/translating, media, management, teaching, travel and tourism, diplomatic service, broadcasting, catering and hospitality etc.</p>	
<h1>ITALIAN</h1>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Cordiner Teaching Staff: Modern Languages S2 Year Head</p>


<h1>MATHEMATICS</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>
<p>WHAT IS MATHEMATICS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics is the study of measurement, properties and relationships using numbers and symbols. • Mathematics helps us to make sense of the world around us and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Thinking • Sense-Making • Communication • Adaptability • Integrity • Resilience
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following units.</p> <p>Expressions and Formulae: Pupils will develop knowledge and skills, to simplify expressions and evaluate formula covering aspects of algebra and geometry.</p> <p>Relationships: Pupils will develop knowledge and skills in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and statistics. They will develop their skills in solving equations, analysing graphs, making reasoned deductions and predictions.</p> <p>Numeracy: Pupils will develop numerical skills in number processes and information handling in order to solve problems and to make informed decisions in contexts of money, time and measurement.</p> <p>Added Value Unit: (National 4 only)</p> <p>Pupils will develop mathematical skills acquired from across the other three units and apply them in unfamiliar situations and use of a calculator will be developed.</p> <p>Applications: (National 5 only)</p> <p>Pupils will develop knowledge and skills in geometry, trigonometry, and statistics, which can readily be applied to solving real-life problems to make informed decisions.</p> <p>National 4</p> <p>The National 4 qualification is awarded by the successful completion of the school's internal assessments.</p> <p>National 5</p> <p>Pupils must complete the appropriate internal assessment tools and an external examination. The performance in the external examination will decide the final grade in the qualification.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>Pupils are set homework on a regular basis. This may be 'finishing off' homework, or formal homework to be completed in their yellow jotter. Homework is set using Teams, OneNote or through the Sumdog or SCHOLAR websites.</p> <p>Equipment:</p> <p>Pupils require a scientific calculator (we can lend some out if required). Mathematics.</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Pupils in S5 and S6 can study Mathematics at the appropriate level of National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher. Pupils can also study Applications of Mathematics at National 5. These courses are the springboard to many of the careers the pupils wish to follow.</p>		
<h2>MATHEMATICS</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs L. Kelly Teaching Staff: Mathematics S2 Year Head</p>


<h1>MEDIA STUDIES</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>
<p>WHAT IS MEDIA STUDIES?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Media Studies pupils will develop an understanding and appreciation of how films, television shows and other forms of media are made. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical thinking Analytical Skills Essay Writing Creativity Research Skills Knowledge of the Media Industry Focus Curiosity Sense-making
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will study two topics: The role of Media in our society and analysing Media Content using a range of film, TV and documentaries and finally exploring the creation of media content in a creative project. Pupils will also gain practical skills of how to make their own media content by using technology such as video cameras, digital cameras, lighting, and sound equipment as well as editing programs such as iMovie. This course should be undertaken by pupils who have a keen interest in analysing different Medias and are interested in furthering their research and essay writing skills.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>National 4 is internally assessed – the Added value unit is a project called the Media assignment the other two units are Analysing Media Content & Creating Media Content. National 5 is externally assessed, there is a project which is sent to the SQA 60% and 40% is on a written exam in the SQA exam diet.</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Media combines aspects from the expressive arts as well as some principles of business. A wide variety of positive destinations are possible through Media. Some jobs that require media skills are: Digital marketing; Public relations officer; Runner (film and TV); Social media manager; Web content manager; Television/film producer; Advertising; Film/TV director; Journalist; Market researcher.</p>		
<h2>MEDIA</h2>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Howgego Teaching Staff: Media S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>MODERN STUDIES</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
WHAT IS MODERN STUDIES?		SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern studies is the study of ‘why.’ In Modern Studies, we consider the world as a complex system of interconnected people, interests, and actions. We develop knowledge of the social, political, and international life. Modern Studies pupils are informed, knowledgeable and able to argue their points persuasively. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debating Analytical Skills Knowledge and understanding development Collaborating Applying knowledge Making decisions Drawing conclusions 	
WHAT WILL I LEARN?			
<p>Pupils study the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political Issues: Participation & Democracy in Scotland and the Wider World Social Issues: Crime and the Law in Scotland and the UK International Issues: Global Terrorism <p>As part of the course, pupils complete a National 4 level investigative project or a National 5 level investigative assignment.</p> <p>In the Participation & Democracy topic, pupils will study the forces of change in the world around them. Pupils will investigate a range of political topics.</p> <p>In the Crime and the Law topic, pupils will study crime in the UK today, the way in which society is affected by it, and the police’s efforts to tackle it and look at why people commit crime, and whether certain crimes should be illegal at all.</p> <p>In the Global Terrorism topic, pupils will study the causes of terrorism across the world, the impact it has, and the varied strategies that different organisations have taken to tackle it.</p>			
GENERAL INFORMATION			
<p>Pupils will use a variety of learning methods from watching videos and researching on the internet to going on field trips and interviewing visiting speakers. Pupils will create a portfolio of work across the two years that will be used for assessment. This portfolio will include presentations, videos pupils have made and essays pupils have written, as well as a variety of other assessment methods.</p>			
CAREER PATHWAY			
<p>A qualification in Modern Studies is useful for a wide variety of jobs from politics to law, and the skills gained are transferable to any situation in which an analytical eye, an inquiring mind and strong research and evaluation skills are important. Previous Modern Studies pupils have gone on to study law, psychology and business, joined the police force and found careers in the media.</p>			
<h2>MODERN STUDIES</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Liggins Teaching Staff: Social Subjects S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>MUSIC</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
<p>WHAT IS MUSIC?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing on two instruments of pupils choice • Composing pupils own Music • Listening to a variety of different genres of music. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Skills • Confidence • Group work - Collaborating • Independence • Composing Skills • Research Skills • Listening Skills • Creativity • Focus • Adapting 	
			
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will learn two instruments (pupils must have some prior experience in playing a musical instrument). Pupils will listen to a variety of different genres of Music and learn about different composers and their Music.</p> <p>Pupils will learn how to compose music in different styles, including using Technology.</p>			
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>National 4 is Internally Assessed, 50% Practical, 35% Listening, 15% composing. This is split across 4 different units that must be completed.</p> <p>National 5 is all externally assessed - 50% Practical, 35% Listening, 15% composing.</p>			
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Music provides pupils with many transferable skills that are desirable for many employers and so leads into many different carers, for further information please see the Careers Board in the Expressive Arts Department.</p> <p>Music Careers include – Musician, Music Teacher, Sound Engineer, Music therapist etc.</p>			
<h2>MUSIC</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Howgego Teaching Staff: Music S2 Year Head</p>	


<h1>MUSICAL THEATRE</h1>		<h2>NPA LEVEL 6</h2>
<p>WHAT IS MUSICAL THEATRE?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical theatre involves working together with a group of people to perform a musical. • Pupils will research characters and context from a variety of musicals. • Pupils will also have the opportunity to sing and dance choreographed pieces from the most iconic musicals. 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication Skills • Problem Solving Skills • Working with others • Research Skills • Information handling • Curiosity • Collaboration skills • Creativity • Leading 	
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>The units that will be completed in this qualification are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acting through song – evaluating music and characters from musicals • Preparation for Audition • Group Dance <p>This exciting new course includes performing musical theatre but researching different musicals, to ensure pupils understand the contexts and the themes. It also prepares pupils for auditions in the Theatre industry. This is a great skill not just for theatre but also in preparation for interviews.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>Pupils should have an interest in Musical theatre. Acting and singing skills are developed in this course. This course is all internally assessed at level 6.</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>It is recognised that candidates who achieve the NPA in Musical Theatre could potentially find employment in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing (Musical Theatre, Drama, Dance, Music) • Performing arts promotion/management • Teaching 		
<h2>MUSICAL THEATRE</h2>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Howgego Teaching Staff: Music S2 Year Head</p>	

<h1>PEOPLE & SOCIETY</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 3/4</h1>
<p>WHAT IS PEOPLE & SOCIETY?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People and Society is a new course. Topics studied will mainly come from the social studies curriculum area, and also be aspects of health and wellbeing. It is suitable for pupils who want a broader view of the world, and it could lead to progression in specific social subject courses. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debating • Decision making • Drawing conclusions • Analysing sources • Working collaboratively • Literacy and numeracy skills
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 3 course involving the following units: Making Decisions; Comparing and Contrasting; Investigating Skills; People and Society Project. Pupils will study a broad range of topics including crime, health, culture, death penalty, climate change, human rights, the environment, and history. The People and Society Project is an important part of the course and pupils will have the opportunity to investigate further issues that interest them (pupils have previously completed projects on Celts and Ancient Egyptians, tsunamis in Japan and the death penalty).</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>A variety of learning approaches will be used in the People and Society course and we have a vast range of sources, both written and audio-visual. There is scope to get involved in debates about key issues in the world today.</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>A qualification in People and Society will be useful in a wide range of jobs as it stimulates the need to look at society and develop skills that will be useful in later life. There is a focus on literacy, numeracy, debate and decision making which are important skills for further education and the world of work.</p>		
<h2>PEOPLE & SOCIETY</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Liggins Teaching Staff: Social Subjects S2 Year Head</p>

<h1>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
WHAT IS PHYSICAL EDUCATION?		SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop, demonstrate and improve practical and performance skills in physical activities. You will be asked to demonstrate initiative, decision making and problem solving. Pupils have the opportunity to develop team building skills and enhance ability to compete, co-operate and collaborate. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing Physical Performance Skills Developing Analytical Skills Developing Mental Fitness Skills Developing Co-operative (Social) Skills Developing Emotional management skills 	
			
WHAT WILL I LEARN?			
<p>Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following areas:</p> <p>At National 4/5 Physical Education: Performance Skills Pupils will develop and refine the skills required to participate effectively in the team and/or individual activities of the course.</p> <p>Physical Education: Factors Impacting on Performance Pupils will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to analyse movement and to organise, coach and improve performance.</p> <p>(Added Value) Physical Education: Practical Activity Pupils will have the opportunity to extend and apply the skills and knowledge developed throughout the course and to use them in a more focused performance situation. Pupils will reflect on and monitor the development of personal performance and suggest actions for further improvement.</p> <p>At National 5 All of the above units are covered in greater detail and a portfolio of work is added which is externally assessed. Much of the theory work covered in National 4/5 is the basis for Higher Grade work.</p>			
HOW WILL I LEARN?			
<p>Pupils will take part in a variety of physical activities and will major in two of these which will count towards overall performance mark. Pupils will work towards a performance event and produce a portfolio of work based on performance. Pupils will use video technology to analyse your performance.</p>			
GENERAL INFORMATION			
<p>To achieve a pass at National 4 level, pupils must pass all the Course Units along with the Added Value Unit. To achieve the Course award at National 5 level, pupils will have to complete the course assessment portfolio (50%) and two performance tasks totalling (50%)</p>			
CAREER PATHWAY			
<p>A pass at National 5 would allow a pupil to aim for Higher Physical Education which in turn opens opportunities to positive destinations including: Sports Performance Course at Telford College; BA in Recreational Management; MA in Physical Education - Edinburgh University; BSc Sports Science; Work with The City of Edinburgh Council sport and leisure department.</p>			
<h2>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</h2>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mr McSherry Teaching Staff: PE S2 Year Head</p>	

<h1>PHOTOGRAPHY</h1>		<h2>NPA LEVEL 5</h2>
<p>WHAT IS PHOTOGRAPHY?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of Photography in everyday use, learning the functions of the camera and the best set ups to catch the greatest moments. 		<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop understanding of photography in everyday use. Develop understanding of the creative processes involved within photography/creative media. Develop knowledge and understanding of practical skills. Develop understanding of how to create images of people and places. Knowledge of camera controls, techniques and processes. Investigating and analyzing influential photographers and their work.
		
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>As well as learning how to use a camera and its settings pupils will be following the 4 unit below, taking pictures and researching each different Topic: Understanding Photography; Photographing People; Photographing Places; Working with Photographs. Producing investigative research for planning, shooting, printing, developing, and storing photographs.</p>		
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>This unit is all internally assessed. Pupils do NOT need to own a digital camera for this qualification.</p>		
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>This NPA leads nicely on to higher Photography. It is also a brilliant course to understand how to use the different settings on a camera and how lighting, placement, framing extra are important in the taking of good images.</p> <p>Careers in Photography: Photographer – Medical, fashion, Industrial, scientific, Agricultural, Journalism, photography editing.</p>		
<h1>PHOTOGRAPHY</h1>		<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mrs Howgego Teaching Staff: Expressive Arts S2 Year Head</p>

<h1 style="text-align: center;">PHYSICS</h1>	<h1 style="text-align: center;">NATIONAL 4/5</h1>
<p>WHAT IS PHYSICS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physics is the study of the laws of nature that govern the behaviour of the universe, from the very smallest scales of sub-atomic particles to the very largest in the universe. It applies these laws to the solution of practical problems and to the development of new technologies. 	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical Skills Problem-Solving skills Apply pupils Knowledge and Understanding of Physics to many different situations
	
<p>WHAT WILL I LEARN?</p> <p>Pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dynamics and Space Velocity and time, Acceleration, Newton’s laws, Projectile motion, Space exploration and Cosmology. Electricity and Energy Electrical power, Electrical circuits, Voltage, Ohm’s law, Specific heat capacity, Gas laws and Kinetic model. Waves and Radiation Medical treatments like X- rays and Ultrasound, Refraction of light, Electromagnetic spectrum, Wave parameters and Nuclear radiation. 	
<p>GENERAL INFORMATION</p> <p>National 4 Physics is assessed internally in school. Pupils must pass the 3 units of work (including practical work) and an additional research unit (AVU) to complete the course.</p> <p>National 5 Physics is assessed externally. This is made up of a written paper (SQA examination – 80%) and a research project (Assignment - 20%).</p>	
<p>CAREER PATHWAY</p> <p>Achievement in Physics National 4 can provide progression to one of the following courses – N5 Physics, N5 Health Sector or N5 Laboratory Science.</p> <p>A pass in N5 Physics can provide progression to Higher Physics or potential apprenticeships/College courses. Qualifications in physics are highly regarded by employers and in future education. This can open the door to many areas of STEM industries.</p>	
<h2 style="text-align: center;">PHYSICS</h2>	<p>For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mr Gillies Teaching Staff: Physics S2 Year Head</p>

<h1>PRACTICAL COOKERY</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4</h1>	
WHAT IS PRACTICAL COOKERY?		SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical Cookery is the study of ingredients, food preparation and food cookery skills. This course is practical in nature and gives an insight into the environment of a hospitality kitchen. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-motivation Decision making Resilience Adaptability Organisation Communicating Team working Leading Creativity 	
			
WHAT WILL I LEARN?			
<u>Using and Understanding Ingredients</u>			
Pupils will develop knowledge of food sustainability issues including seasonality and food miles and consider the importance of current healthy eating advice when designing dishes.			
<u>Cookery Skills, Techniques and Processes</u>			
Pupils will demonstrate safe and hygienic working practices to demonstrate a range of specialist food skills to prepare, cook and serve meals.			
<u>Organisation Skills for Cooking</u>			
Pupils will develop their organisational and time management skills to plan, prepare and serve a selection of sweet and savoury dishes.			
GENERAL INFORMATION			
Development of practical food preparation and cookery skills, researching Scottish Dietary Goals and investigating the importance of safety and hygiene whilst working in the fast-paced kitchen environment. Pupils will be encouraged to use their digital skills throughout the course to document their progress and photograph their finished dishes. Pupils will experience independent and cooperative working opportunities.			
<u>Assessment in Practical Cookery</u>			
At National 4 there are 3 Units of work and an Added Value Unit built into the course.			
CAREER PATHWAY			
Achievement in this course leads to National 5 Practical Cookery or National 5 Practical Cake Craft in S5/6. Pupils use the course for all hospitality related careers (e.g. chef, air cabin crew, cake decorator, restaurant manager, food scientist, food packing operative).			
<h2>PRACTICAL COOKERY</h2>		For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Ms. McGinley Teaching Staff: FTT S2 Year Head	

PRACTICAL WOODWORKING

NATIONAL 4/5

WHAT IS PRACTICAL WOODWORKING?

- Practical woodworking is a course that allows pupils to continue to develop a range of different woodworking skills in a workshop environment through a variety of projects.
- Pupils will have to do some theory as part of this course and record the learning that is taking place.
- Pupils will be making projects set by the teacher and not designed by themselves.



SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE

- Concentration
- Self-awareness
- Decision making
- Independent thinking
- Taking Responsibility

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

All pupils will follow a National 4 or National 5 course involving the following units: Carcase construction; Flat-Frame construction; Machining and Finishing.

The four main course areas:

Hand tool skills: pupils will already be able to use a variety of hand tools from the work they undertook in S1 and S2. There are many more tools they will learn to use and a range of new woodwork joints that they will need for the projects being made.

Machining: Pupils will use all the workshop machines in this course.

Assembly: Pupils must put their projects together. They will be taught to use the nails, screws, glues and cramps needed.

Finishing: Pupils will probably have used varnish already. In this course they will also use paint, stain and wax.

Pupils will produce a set of projects they can be proud of. Pupil behaviour and safe working practices is also assessed throughout the course in all areas and contributes towards gaining the overall qualification.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The assessment of the Practical Woodworking course is through a final practical model set by the SQA, a written logbook and a written exam at National 5 level.


At National 4 level all pupils also complete the SQA set practical model and the written logbook.

CAREER PATHWAY

Achievement in Practical Woodworking National 4 can provide progression to one of the following courses – N5 Practical Woodworking N4/5 Engineering Skills or N5 Practical Metalworking. A pass in N5 Practical Woodworking can provide progression to alternative subjects within DET or potential apprenticeships/College courses. Possible Careers linked to Practical Woodworking are Engineering, Construction, Furniture Designer, Joiner.

PRACTICAL WOODWORKING

For further information please contact:
Curriculum Leader: Miss Grant
Teaching Staff: DET
S2 Year Head

<h1>SCIENCE</h1>		<h1>NATIONAL 4/5</h1>	
WHAT IS SCIENCE?		SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THIS COURSE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Science pupils will experience all three of the main disciplines, namely Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Biology is the study of living things and how they interact with each other and their environment. Chemistry is finding out about the world around us by experimenting. Chemists devise experiments to see how different chemicals interact. Physics is the study of the laws of nature that govern the behaviour of the universe, from the very smallest scales of sub-atomic particles to the very largest in the universe. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Throughout the course, pupils will develop a wide range of skills. These will include Practical Skills and Problem-Solving skills. In addition, pupils will be able to demonstrate pupils ability to apply pupils Knowledge and Understanding of Science to many different situations. 	
			
WHAT WILL I LEARN?			
<p>Pupils will follow a National 3 or National 4 course involving the following units: -</p> <p><u>Biology</u> Cell Biology, Multicellular Organisms and Life on Earth</p> <p><u>Chemistry</u> Chemical Changes and Structure, Nature’s Chemistry and Chemistry in Society</p> <p><u>Physics</u> Dynamics and Space, Waves and Radiation and Electricity and Energy</p> <p><u>Added Value Unit (N4)</u> Pupils wishing to achieve a N4 qualification in any of the Sciences will also need to complete a research unit for the specified subject.</p>			
GENERAL INFORMATION			
<p>National 3 Sciences are assessed within the school. Pupils must pass the 3 units of work (including practical work).</p> <p>National 4 Sciences are assessed within the school. Pupils must pass the 3 units of work (including practical work) and an additional research unit (AVU) to complete the course.</p>			
CAREER PATHWAY			
<p>Achievement in a N4 Science course can provide progression to the following courses with Holy Rood – N5 Sciences, N5 Health Sector or N5 Laboratory Science.</p> <p>Achievement in a N3 Science course can provide progression to N5 Health Sector or N5 Laboratory Science. A secure understanding in science opens possible careers in many areas of the STEM industries.</p>			
<h2>SCIENCE</h2>		For further information please contact: Curriculum Leader: Mr Gillies Teaching Staff: Science S2 Year Head	

Help and Support

To help pupils and parents/carers make confident and well-informed course choices, a range of supports is available:

- **Skills Development Scotland (SDS)** – The SDS website offers high-quality careers information, including the *Course Choice Checker*, job profiles and tools to help pupils explore future pathways and understand how S3 choices link to long-term goals. [Skills Development Scotland - Skills Development Scotland](#)
- **My World of Work (SDS)** – A pupil-friendly platform that helps young people identify their strengths, interests and possible career routes, supporting thoughtful planning of learning pathways. [My World of Work | My World of Work](#)
- **Holy Rood Website – Curriculum Pathways** – Clear pathway maps for each curricular area, showing progression routes from S1–S6 and helping families understand how subjects connect over time. [Curriculum Pathways | Holy Rood RC High School](#)
- **Holy Rood Course Choice Booklet** – Detailed information about each subject, including course content, skills developed and progression opportunities.
- **Tutor Time and PSE Lessons** – Structured opportunities for pupils to reflect on their learning, ask questions and explore their options.
- **Subject Teachers** – Advice on progress, suitability for specific subjects and what to expect in S3 and beyond.
- **Year Head and Support for Learning Team** – Guidance for pupils who require additional support or help understanding pathways.
- **Careers Adviser (SDS)** – One-to-one guidance for pupils who want to explore career ideas or understand qualification routes.
- **Parent/Carer Information Evening** – An opportunity to hear key messages, ask questions and understand the course choice process. **(Date Wednesday 25 February, 6-7pm).**