

Charleston Academy



S4/5/6 Course Choice 2018

Subject Information Booklet

Pupil Name		Class	
Guidance Teacher			

WHAT'S NEXT?

Moving into the Senior Phase

As your child moves S3 to S4 they move from the Broad General Education (BGE) to Senior Phase. During BGE they followed a wide and varied curriculum which laid strong foundations for more specialised learning, qualifications and lifelong learning. As they move into the Senior Phase they look at specialisation, depth and rigor in their education and prepare for qualifications at the highest level they are capable of.

At Charleston Academy, pupil in S4 will study for qualifications in 6 subjects. They will continue their studies in English and Mathematics as well as four other subjects. These other subjects will likely be subjects that they have taken during S3.

They will be presented for national qualifications at various levels depending on their ability. In Charleston Academy we offer courses at National 3, National 4 and National 5 level during S4.

The table below shows the qualifications and the current qualifications they are replacing:

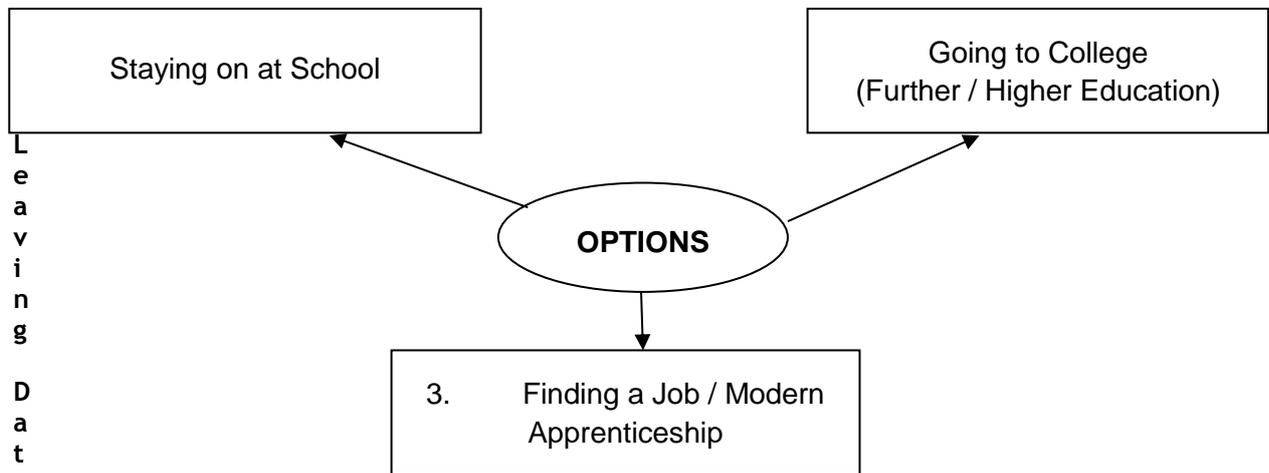
New Qualification	Old Qualification	Assessment
National 3	Access 3 / Foundation	Internal
National 4	SG General and Intermediate 1	Internal
National 5	SG Credit and Intermediate 2	External
Higher (revised)	Higher	External
Advanced Higher (revised)	Advanced Higher	External

Teachers in school will mark and assess the new National 3 and 4 qualifications. National 5 qualifications and those at Higher and Advanced Higher levels will include work assessed by teachers but will also include a question paper and/or assignment that will be marked externally by SQA. At Charleston Academy, a wide range of subjects at different levels are on offer, but we cannot provide every subject at every level. It is important when making your subject choice that you take account of the advice given by teachers as to the most appropriate level of study. Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications are taken in S5/6.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Main Options and Choices at end of S4 and S5

As the end of your Fourth or Fifth year in school approaches, it is time to examine the options available to you in the future: if you are old enough to leave school, your range of options will be unrestricted but if not then you must continue in full time education. The main options are:



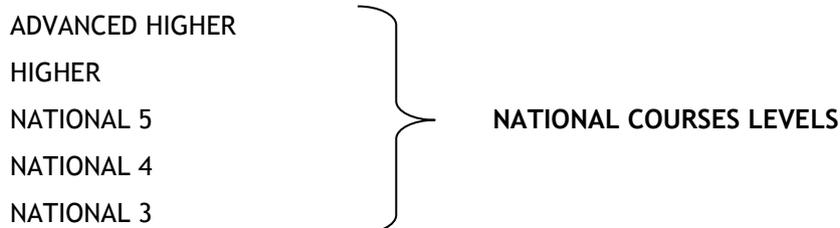
- a) If you will be 16 on or before 30th September 2018 your official leaving date is 31st May 2018.
- b) If you will be 16 on or between the 1st of October 2018 and 28th February 2019, then your official leaving date will be 22nd December 2018.
- c) Once you reach your official leaving date, you can leave school at any time thereafter.

STAYING ON AT SCHOOL

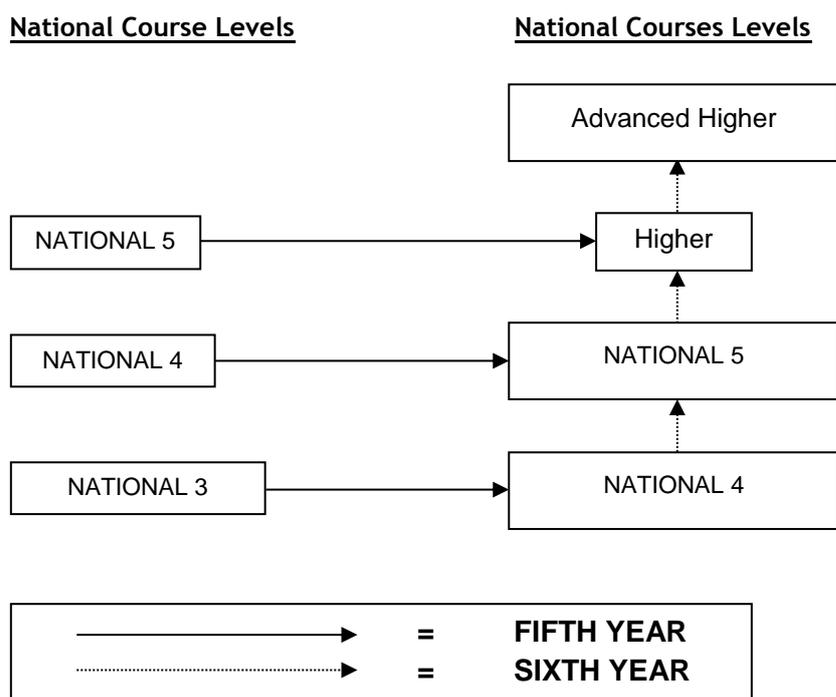
Pupils who stay on at school study for one or two years and select a group of Higher, National 4 or 5, or Advanced Higher National Courses to improve their qualifications. All these courses are certificated by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (S.Q.A.)

a) NATIONAL COURSES

Advanced Highers are available for pupils wishing to study a subject beyond Higher level.



This structure provides an opportunity for all pupils to continue their studies at a level appropriate to their needs. Students will be able to take a mix of subjects at different levels, and courses are designed to enable you to progress from one level to the next: the level which students take in Fifth Year is determined by the level they reach at NATIONAL 3,4 OR 5 as this table of progression routes shows:



Each course, at whatever level, is made up of units of study. Each unit involves internal assessment (end of unit tests) to determine whether a student has passed or failed. Assuming you pass all the unit tests you then sit an external examination in May/June at the end of the whole course which is graded as follows:

THE AWARD SCALE		
BAND	GRADE	STANDARDISED MARKS
1	A (Upper)	85 - 100
2	A (Lower)	70 - 84
3	B (Upper)	65 - 69
4	B (Lower)	60 - 65
5	C (Upper)	55 - 59
6	C (Lower)	50 - 54
7	D -near miss	45 - 49
8	Fail	40 - 44
9	Fail	Less than 40

b) HIGHER GRADE COURSES

Highers are the essential entry qualifications for certain jobs, advanced Further Education courses and University entrance. However, new 5th year students must realise that Higher courses are much more demanding than NATIONALS. Highers have a considerable amount of in-built homework and require much greater personal initiative in projects, essays and research reading.

Pupils who studied NATIONAL courses in S4 may opt to follow Courses in these subjects in S5/6. It is strongly recommended that only those with an A or B pass at NATIONAL 5 should consider Higher in **one year**. Pupils with a NATIONAL 4 should study the NATIONAL 5 course in Fifth Year, as a stepping-stone to taking Higher in Sixth Year. These entry requirements are negotiable, but the level of commitment to your studies which you have shown during S3 and S4 will also be taken into account.

Make sure that you have all the information you need about entrance to careers which interest you before you finalise which Highers you are going to study. If you are considering going to University you should check with your Guidance teacher that you have included the specific Higher Grade subjects for the course you are interested in.

All students interested in applying for entry to University or College courses will be given information, assistance and advice about how and when to apply by Guidance staff early next session.

The maximum number of Highers which can be studied in one year is five. However, some students prefer to take two or three or four Highers per year and spread the load over Fifth and Sixth year.

Recent research has shown that the more Highers you attempt the better overall results can be achieved **provided that you work hard**. But, you must also be realistic about your abilities and academic potential: your subject teachers and Guidance teacher will give you expert advice about which level of course and how many Highers you should attempt.

c) NATIONAL 4 AND 5 COURSES:

NATIONAL 4 AND 5 courses are part of the programme of National Courses (see earlier) and pupils enter appropriate levels according to their S4 awards. They are being offered in a variety of subjects next year. Please see the choice form for details.

d) NATIONAL UNITS

A National Unit is a course of study lasting for about forty hours. To gain a National Unit you must achieve a number of targets (called outcomes) to prove that you understand what you are studying: there are both written and practical assessments to check that you have mastered these learning outcomes.

You can then use these qualifications as follows:

- for entry to employment
- progressing to Higher National Certificates and Diplomas (HNC's and HND's)
- moving on to College or University

If you would like more information about National Units - please contact Mr G Stewart (Depute Rector). Also, detailed information on all National Units offered by Inverness College is available in the careers section of the school library; and, as always - if in doubt - contact your Guidance teacher.

e) ADVANCED HIGHER COURSES

Advanced Higher courses are aimed at promoting independent study in an attempt to bridge the gulf between school and Higher Education. These courses are, therefore, generally aimed at pupils planning to follow a university course.

To be accepted for these courses you should have a good (ie A or B) Higher pass in the subject, have the support of the Principal teacher whose experience will give you an accurate assessment of your chances of success, and then gain approval for your course choice as a whole from your Guidance teacher. If you opt for an Advanced Higher course, you must guarantee completing the course as they are extremely expensive to run in terms of staff time and resources. (please see the choice form for subjects offering Advanced Highers this year).

Where viable classes emerge - and where staffing permits, courses will be timetabled at times suitable to students and teachers. If you wish to take one of these courses print it clearly in the appropriate box **AFTER** you have consulted the Principal Teacher of the relevant subject.

f) S6 PRIVATE STUDY

Private study, used wisely, is a valuable way of employing good study techniques to best advantage. Private study will take place as described on the option form. A member of SMT / Guidance will also advise pupils in determining the best possible course choice.

g) CHOOSING THE RIGHT COURSE:

As you think of your course choices for next session you may already have an idea of the career you wish to pursue, or the Further or Higher Education course that you hope to study in College or University. **YOU MUST CHECK CAREFULLY THAT THE SUBJECTS YOU PLAN TO STUDY MATCH THE ENTRANCE QUALIFICATIONS FOR YOUR INTENDED CAREER.**

If you are uncertain of your ability to tackle a particular course you should consult with your subject teacher, and then discuss your proposed choice of subjects with your Guidance teacher during an individual interview. **NB: The school reserves the right to withdraw a course if demand does not make it viable.**

Once you have made your choice and the school has accepted it as the course best suited to your needs, some changes may have to be made in the light of your S.Q.A. exam results. Senior staff will be available to see students **who need to make changes to their choice of subjects because of S.Q.A. results** at the time which will be advertised.

h) ATTENDANCE

A growing number of parents are removing pupils from school for FAMILY HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME and while this is always an unwelcome inconvenience from a teaching point of view whatever stage a pupil is at, the arrangements for National Courses mean that any such absence could have serious consequences for a pupil in S5/6. Any pupil who goes on holiday for 2 weeks during term time could miss 25% of a course unit and this in turn has implications for the assessment and completion of the unit, with a possible consequence of non-presentation in the final course examination i.e. if you don't pass all the units then you won't be presented for the final exam. Teaching staff will not be expected to make time-consuming alternative arrangements for pupils in that situation.

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS OF OUR SENIOR STUDENTS

Apart from those of you who are too young to leave in May, students returning to Fifth and Sixth year do so voluntarily. You will be given more freedom but also much greater responsibility for your studies than ever before. In order that you make the best use of these years of secondary education you will be expected to adhere to the school's expectations regarding post-compulsory education.

Students who fail to meet these expectations should be aware that you may be withdrawn from presentation for examinations and/or will be invited to leave school.

1. You should be highly motivated and prepared to work hard both in school and at home.
2. You will be expected to continue to study all your subjects (min of 5 in S5 or 4 in S6) at least until the results of the February prelims are known. The final decision about course level changes rests with Guidance and SMT.
3. Some subjects do not have the full 6 units of contact but S5 pupils will be expected to ensure that all their units are covered. This will be done in discussion with their Guidance teacher and SMT.
4. You should have a valid choice of subjects, supported by teacher recommendations.
5. You should have a minimum attendance record of at least 95%, unless there are valid reasons for absence.
6. Your punctuality record should be at least 95%.
7. You should have no record of truancy or unexplained absence from class.
8. You must adhere to all school policies, eg behaviour, appropriate dress etc.

Before commencing your new course all Fifth Year students must sign a Student Agreement form which includes these expectations - as a precondition of entry into the senior school: this agreement will then be countersigned by one of your parents, Guidance teacher and Depute Head Teacher.

GOING TO COLLEGE

- a) **COLLEGES OF FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION** offer you another option at the end of S4, S5 or S6 to study either locally or further a-field. Inverness College is now part of the University of the Highlands and Islands, a partnership of fourteen colleges and research institutions in the Highlands and Islands, Moray and Perth and Kinross. Here you can study for qualifications which lead to a wide range of careers, or which can be used for entry into Higher Education courses in other Universities. Whilst most colleges offer courses for the full range of careers some colleges specialise in qualifications such as textiles (Borders College, Galashiels), agriculture (the Scottish Agricultural College, Aberdeen) or Gaelic (Sabhal Mor Ostaig, Isle of Skye).

You will find college less regulated than school - with no bells, no young pupils, a lot of freedom and the chance to meet people of all ages and make new friends. As a lot of independent study is required you will have to be self-disciplined and strike the proper balance between your studies and the social, cultural and sporting activities which are part of student life.

- b) **COURSES** are organised in different ways:
- 1 year for an NQ
 - 1 - 2 years for HNC/HND and NVQ's
 - 3 - 4 years for a degree
- c) **QUALIFICATIONS** you can study
- job related qualifications such as National Units
 - Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQ's)
 - SQA Highers
 - HNC, HND and Degree courses, Inverness College is now part of the University of the Highlands and Islands
 - many other courses
- d) **WHAT ABOUT THE COST?**
- full time further education courses (up to and not including Higher National Certificate level) are free for people aged 18 and under
 - most employers pay for part-time courses if you are required to attend as part of the job
 - Highland Council's Education Department may give some help with the other costs: contact the Divisional Education Office, Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness (telephone 01463 702074) for advice and information.
- e) **INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR COLLEGE?**
- go to the Careers Section in the School Library and study the prospectuses for College courses you are interested in.
 - discuss your plans with your Guidance teacher, in the first instance, or the school Careers adviser, who will get you any additional information you require and offer further advice. Colleges also hold open days / evenings where you can meet with individual staff and discuss details of courses which interest you.
 - apply as early as possible as some courses fill up very quickly and so that your application for a bursary can be processed in good time.
 - if you are a Christmas 2018 leaver and you intend taking a course of full- time Further Education lasting at least one year, you might be able to start in August 2018 rather than January 2019: your Guidance teacher will tell you more about this system which is called **EXCEPTIONAL ENTRY**. However, please note that colleges only allocate places to younger applicants **AFTER** the applications from school leavers have been processed, and not all courses will accept early entry applicants

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS

WHAT IS MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS?

Modern Apprenticeships is a job with guaranteed training. Modern Apprenticeships is a way of paying for job training. Modern Apprenticeships are open to anyone aged 16 or over. However, if you're over 25 you can still apply, but your employer may have to pay for the cost of training, depending on the sector and Modern Apprenticeship selected.

HOW LONG DOES A MODERN APPRENTICESHIP TAKE?

Modern Apprenticeships generally take between one and four years to complete depending on the level of the apprenticeship, your ability and the industry sector.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

This Depends on the level of Modern Apprenticeship and the Sector. For some there are no formal qualifications required but they may look for relevant experience. For others you may also need to sit aptitude tests or assessments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

My world of work website has an excellent section on Modern Apprenticeships with further details for local and national opportunities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

- Your Guidance Teacher
- The Careers Adviser
- Skills Development Scotland, 1-5 Church Street, Inverness
(Telephone - 0300 013 3826)
- Highland Business Gateway, 81 Castle Street, Inverness (Tel. No. 01463 896871)

FINDING A JOB

It may be that you have a job lined up already for when you leave school, but if not you should be looking for employment now. If you have a job lined up you should check whether it includes some kind of **TRAINING** through day or block release or College evening classes - so that you can improve your qualifications. *If you are thinking about work, you must also think about the training that goes with it.*

a) WHERE WILL I FIND INFORMATION ABOUT JOBS?

- as a first step all school leavers should register with Skills Development Scotland, 1-5 Church Street, Inverness, (tel. no 0300 013 3826). The Careers Service will continue to advise and help you after you have left school.
- your parents, relations and friends can tell you what some jobs are like, where there might be vacancies and who might help you.
- your Guidance teacher will give you general advice.
- your subject teachers can tell you about careers related to particular subjects.
- you can find out about the nature of jobs and get useful addresses from the publications and computers in the School Careers Library.
- The School Careers Adviser is in school most weeks. You can ask your Guidance teacher to arrange an interview with her, and she can see you (*and your parents if you wish*) either in school or at the offices of in Church Street.
- local newspapers and the Jobcentre in Inverness High Street also have lists of job vacancies.

b) WHY IS TRAINING SO IMPORTANT?

- training will give you REAL qualifications
- qualifications offer a step up the ladder to better jobs
- there will be fewer jobs in the future for people without qualifications

c) WHAT SHOULD I FIND OUT ABOUT THE TRAINING?

- what type of training is offered?
- will I get time off work for training?
- what qualifications will I get?
- where will I do my training?

d) SELF EMPLOYMENT

Turning an idea into a business is never easy, but if "*being your own boss*" really appeals to you - you should arrange a meeting with the School Careers adviser who will discuss your project with you, and give you information about the allowances available to people who want to start their own business.

e) WORKING ABROAD

If you are interested in working abroad you should consult the relevant information in the Careers Library which has details of organised study, exchanges and work experience abroad.

MONEY MATTERS

If you are ...

... staying in full time education either at school or college

You may qualify for ...

Educational Maintenance Allowances

The EMA is payable for up to two years (three years in the case of those with special educational needs) and is means tested. To qualify, the family income must be under £26,884 depending on children in the family.

The eligible full-time student (at school or FE College) must sign a Learning Agreement. He/she will then get a weekly allowance of up to £30, plus travel expenses from the local authority.

The allowance will be withdrawn in any week where there is unauthorised absence or if the terms of the Learning Agreement are otherwise breached. If the student maintains good attendance and conduct, extra bonuses are payable in January and July.

... going to University or taking an 'Advanced' course in a college e.g. HND course

Student Loans are the main source of support towards living costs available through the Students Awards Agency - (it is part means-tested according to your parents' income).

The current maximum loan per year is £5,750 All students will be liable to pay a £2,154 Graduate Endowment (except for HNC/HND courses) at the end of their courses.

Students Loans and Graduate Endowments must be paid back after graduation when you start work and your income is above a certain amount (currently £10,000 per year). Access Bursaries may also be available for some students.

... taking up Employment with Modern Apprenticeships training

In the Inverness area, Modern Apprenticeships get the going rate for the job they are doing: for a joiner this could be around £90 per week.

Travelling expenses if you are training but not employed.

A lodging allowance if training away from home is necessary.

If you leave school.....

... and register for work at the Careers Centre

Your parents will be able to claim Extended Child Benefit for a limited period after the date on which it would normally stop.

For summer leavers it can be extended until Christmas. For Christmas leavers it can be extended until Easter.

Further information on financial matters can be obtained by contacting:-

- a) Your Guidance teacher, or Careers adviser
- b) Skills Development Scotland, 1-5 Church Street, Inverness (tel. 0300 0013 3826).
- c) Divisional Education Office, Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness (tel no. 01463 702074)
- d) Department of Work and Pensions, 57 Church Street, Inverness (tel. no. 01463 223344)
- e) The Students Awards Agency for Scotland, 3 Redheughs Rigg, Edinburgh EH12 9H (tel. no. 0131 4768212) or they have a very useful website www.student-support-saas.gov.uk which has all the up-to-date information you will need.
- f) The Student Loans Company Ltd., 100 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 7JD (telephone: 0800 405010, calls are free) and their website is www.slc.co.uk

Accounting OR Computing

Level of study	NAT 5 Accounting OR NAT 5 Computing <i>Only one of these options will run depending upon demand</i>
Entry requirement	Accounts: Good mathematical ability Computing: Good mathematical ability and problem solving skills. Basic IT skills.
Course Description	<p><u>Nat 5 Accounts</u> The course comprises two areas of study: Financial accounting and Management accounting. In Financial accounting students develop skills, knowledge and understanding to prepare, interpret and analyse financial accounting information. Typical topics covered in the course will include Income Statements, Statements of Financial position and Ratio analysis. In Management accounting students develop skills, knowledge and understanding of internal accounting information, and are able to prepare this using a range of basic accounting techniques which can be used by management when making decisions about the future planning and control of their business. Typical topics covered in the course will include Break-even, Job Costing and Cash Budgets.</p> <p><u>Assessment</u> The course will be assess through a two hour exam set by the SQA worth 130 marks and a two hour Assignment worth 50 marks.</p> <p><u>Nat 5 Computing</u> In the course students will study four areas; Software design and development, Computer systems, Database design and development and Web design and development. In Software design and development students develop practical problem-solving skills in software design and programming. In Computer Systems students will learn how data and instructions are stored in binary form and basic computer architecture. In Database design and development students will learn to analyse, design, implement, test, and evaluate practical solutions, using a range of development tools such as SQL. In Web design and development students will learn how to use development tools such as HTML, CSS and Javascript.</p> <p><u>Assessment</u> The course will be assess through a two hour exam set by the SQA worth 110 marks and an assignment worth 50 marks.</p>
Homework	When homework is issued for either Accounts or Computing, it could take the form of written tasks, numerical tasks, revision exercises or research. In addition the teacher may ask pupils to spend time finishing off questions worked on during class time.
Progression	Students could choose to study the subject at Higher
Further information	Please contact Miss Sommerville or Mr McMahon for further information

Administration and IT

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	Pass at National 4
Course Description	<p>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.</p> <p>The course contains a significant practical component, which involves experiential learning and uses real-life context, which makes it relevant to the world of work. Its uniqueness lies in developing IT skills in an administration-related context. While the skills, knowledge and understanding it develops reflect current administrative practice, the course is sufficiently flexible to take account of emerging technologies, and this will ensure its continuing currency and relevance. The course makes an important contribution to general education through developing a range of essential skills which will stand learners in good stead regardless of the career path they ultimately choose. Its contribution to vocational education is just as significant, as it opens up progression to a range of careers in administration and IT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Practices - knowledge and understanding of administration in the workplace, key legislation affecting organisations and employees, customer care, security of people, property and information and health and safety. • IT Solutions for Administrators - use of IT applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, databases or emerging technologies • Communication in Administration - use of IT for gathering, sharing and communicating information in an administrative context. <p><u>Assessment</u> The course will be assessed through a two hour exam set by the SQA worth 50 marks and an assignment worth 70 marks.</p>
Homework	When homework is issued, it could take the form of written tasks, numerical tasks, revision exercises or research. In addition the teacher may ask pupils to spend time finishing off questions worked on during class time.
Progression	Successful completion of National 5 progress to Higher
Further information	For further information, please contact either Miss Sommerville or Mr McMahon

Administration and IT

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	A-C pass at National 5
Course Description	<p>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.</p> <p>The key purpose of this Course is to develop learners' advanced administrative and IT skills and, ultimately, to enable them to contribute to the effective functioning of organisations in supervisory administrative positions.</p> <p>The Course aims to develop learners' administrative and IT skills and to enable learners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop knowledge and understanding of administration in the workplace and its importance • develop a range of advanced IT skills for processing and managing information • develop a range of skills to communicate complex information effectively, making appropriate use of IT • acquire skills in managing the organisation of events <p>The Course assessment will consist of two Components: an assignment and a question paper.</p> <p><u>Assessment</u> The course will be assess through a one and half hour exam set by the SQA worth 50 marks and an assignment worth 70 marks.</p>
Homework	When homework is issued, it could take the form of written tasks, numerical tasks, revision exercises or research. In addition the teacher may ask pupils to spend time finishing off questions worked on during class time.
Progression	Pupils can continue their studies at college or university level
Further information	For further information, please contact either Miss Sommerville or Mr McMahon

Art and Design

Level of study	National 4 and National 5
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>Pupils will complete a portfolio made up of 2 sections:</p> <p>The Expressive Folio involves pupils in practical work, either in 2D or 3D, developing their own approach to the area of study they have chosen along with related critical work based on relevant skills and specific artists.</p> <p>The Design Folio allows pupils the opportunity to tackle practical design problems either in Product or Graphic Design - using Photoshop. The Critical work will focus on an understanding of Design related skills and innovative designers in your chosen area of study.</p> <p>Both folios will include evidence of research, development and a finished piece of Expressive and Design work.</p>
Homework	<p>Pupils are expected to resource objects for classwork.</p> <p>Regular drawing practice is always recommended.</p> <p>Some critical work may have to be completed at home.</p>
Progression	Pupils may progress to National 5 and Higher
Further information	This course is designed for pupils wishing to pursue a career in Art, Architecture or Design related courses, or for pupils who have a genuine interest in the subject

Art and Design

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5
Course Description	<p>To achieve the Higher Course, learners must pass two mandatory Units and the Course assessment.</p> <p>Art and Design: Expressive Activity (Higher)</p> <p>In this Unit, pupils will develop critical understanding of artists' working practices and the social and cultural influences affecting their work. They will select stimuli and produce investigative drawings and studies. They will develop and refine their expressive ideas and artwork, experimenting with and using a range of materials, techniques and/or technology in 2D and/or 3D formats in response to the stimuli.</p> <p>Art and Design: Design Activity (Higher)</p> <p>In this Unit pupils will plan, research and develop creative design work in response to a design brief. In the Unit, learners will develop critical understanding of designers' working practices and the social and cultural influences affecting their work. They will develop and refine their design ideas by experimenting with and using a range of materials techniques and/or technology in 2D and/or 3D formats.</p> <p>Portfolio</p> <p>The portfolio of art and design work will show the creative starting point and the further development and creative realisation of a single line of expressive enquiry and a single line of design enquiry.</p> <p>Question paper</p> <p>The question paper will be based on looking at the work of different artists and designers. Both the Folio and Question paper is set and externally marked by SQA.</p>
Homework	<p>Pupils are expected to resource objects for classwork.</p> <p>Regular drawing practice is always recommended.</p> <p>Some critical work may have to be completed at home.</p>
Progression	Pupils may progress to Advanced Higher/ Folio and Higher Photography
Further information	This course is designed for pupils wishing to pursue a career in Art, Architecture or Design related courses, or for pupils who have a genuine interest in the subject

Art and Design

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher Art and Design
Course Description	<p>This course is divided into two main elements. Enquiry: Expressive Activity (80 hours) and Art and Design Studies (40 hours) or Enquiry: Design Activity (80 hours) and Art and Design Studies (40 hours)</p> <p>Both the Expressive and Design Activities are practical courses based on identification of a theme or personal interest, or identifying a design problem and producing an appropriate design solution. Art and Design Studies is a written study of artists and designers whom closely link to the pupil's practical work. The course requires up to 18 A1 sheets of practical evidence. All work is sent to the SQA for marking.</p> <p>Alternatively, or in addition, Pupils may wish to undertake Folio preparation. This is a non certificated course which is designed to provide pupils with a wide range of work (both expressive and design outcomes and including use of sketch books)suitable for a portfolio for entrance to a University course in Art and Design</p>
Homework	Regular use of sketch books
Progression	HNC / HND Courses. Degree Courses
Further information	This course is essential for pupils wishing to pursue a career in Art, Architecture or Design related courses, or for pupils who have a genuine interest in the subject

Art and Design - Photography

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	Higher Art and Design or evidence of pupils own photographic work
Course Description	<p>There are two units and a project:</p> <p>Unit 1 Photography: Image Making (Higher)</p> <p>In this Unit, pupils will develop knowledge and understanding of camera techniques and controls and will investigate and analyse the factors that influence photographers and their work.</p> <p>Unit 2 Photography: Contextual Imagery (Higher)</p> <p>In this Unit, pupils will explore and experiment with using a variety of photographic techniques, technology and processes. They will use their understanding of the social and cultural interplay between photographers and society when developing their own personal, creative approaches to photography.</p> <p>The Project will be split into three sections:</p> <p>Section 1: Research and investigation</p> <p>Section 2: Development and production</p> <p>Section 3: Evaluation</p> <p>The project will be externally marked by the SQA.</p>
Homework	Taking photographs of their chosen theme
Progression	
Further information	<p>This is course is for S6 Pupils and only those who have already undertaken Higher Art and Design in S5.</p> <p>This course fits well with the Folio Preparation Course. The work produced can be used as part of their Folio.</p>

Biology

Level of study	National 4
Entry requirement	Recommendation from Science Teacher in light of previous attainment in the Lower school years.
Course Description	<p>The aim of the course is to give pupils a good grounding in Biology with particular focus on the applications of Biology in everyday life.</p> <p>The course will be organised into 3 main units covering the following areas:</p> <p>Unit 1 - Cell Biology Cells, DNA, Gene therapy, enzymes, micro-organisms, photosynthesis, respiration and controversial topics in biology</p> <p>Unit 2 - Multicellular Organisms Reproduction, plant propagation, plants, inheritance, growth and maintaining the body systems.</p> <p>Unit 3 - Life on Earth Interdependence of populations, populations, nitrogen cycle, fertilisers, adaptations for survival and behaviour for survival.</p> <p>National 4 has distinct content areas separate from National 5 Students will undertake an Added Value Unit investigating a topical Biology issue and how it affects society and/or the environment. The investigation will be marked internally by the teacher.</p>
Homework	<p>Pupils will receive homework as and when it is needed and will be expected to spend time consolidating classwork and preparing for their Added Value Unit and practical requirements as well as assessment preparation.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to read around their Biology, view relevant programmes and view the Charleston Blog where lesson information is posted.</p>
Progression	Success at National 4 could allow a pupil to progress to National 5 Biology
Further information	For further information contact any member of the Biology Department

Biology

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	Recommendation from Science Teacher in light of previous attainment in the Lower school S1-3 or by progressing from N4 Biology
Course Description	<p>The aim of the course is to give pupils a good grounding in Biology with particular focus on the applications of Biology in everyday life.</p> <p>The course will be organised into 3 main units covering the following areas:</p> <p>Unit 1 - Cell Biology Cell structure and function, cell processes (including transport, photosynthesis, respiration) DNA, proteins and biotechnology</p> <p>Unit 2 - Multicellular Organisms Comparative studies of animals and plants including reproduction, inheritance, transport within organisms, digestion and associated enzymes, control, communication and health.</p> <p>Unit 3 - Life on Earth World ecosystems, evolution, natural selection and competition, behaviour, biodiversity, decay, recycling, micro-organisms and ethical issues.</p> <p>National 5 has distinct content areas compared to N4 To have success at National 5 pupils will need to achieve greater breadth (know more facts) and depth (understand some harder ideas). Students will undertake an Added Value Unit investigating a topical Biology issue and how it affects society and/or the environment. The assignment will be marked by the SQA</p>
Homework	<p>Pupils will receive a minimum of one formal homework per fortnight and will be expected to spend time consolidating classwork and preparing for their Added Value Unit and practical requirements as well as assessment preparation.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to read around their Biology, view relevant programmes and view the Charleston Blog where lesson information is posted.</p>
Progression	Success at National 5 (A or B) could allow a pupil to progress to Higher Human Biology or National 5 in another Science subject.
Further information	For further information contact any member of the Biology Department

Biology

Level of study	Higher Human
Entry requirement	a) National 5 Grades A or B b) Chemistry or Physics Higher Grades A or B
Course Description	<p>Course Description: The course has 2 Full Units and 2 Half Units to be studied.</p> <p>Unit 1 - Human Cells This Unit focuses on the study of human cells including their DNA and biochemistry. Understanding the human cell and the processes that happen inside it to allow it to function and also how some of these processes can be used to benefit humans.</p> <p>Unit 2 - Physiology and Health This Unit focuses on reproduction and the cardiovascular system, two areas where biological research and knowledge is of particular significance and relevance to the human species.</p> <p>Unit 3a - Neurobiology and Communication This Unit studies of the nervous system in humans allowing an insight into the biological basis of psychology. It also looks at how this system has enabled the species to develop highly sophisticated behaviours including communication skills that allow the transmission of knowledge, development of culture and social evolution.</p> <p>Unit 3b - Immunology and Public Health This Unit studies the immune system. It also looks at the consequences of humans living in densely populated groups and disease transmission and control including public health measures and immunisation programmes.</p> <p>Assessment Internally - Practical, Knowledge and Skills External - Added Value Assignment and Exam</p>
Homework	A variety of homework is given including: completion of class work, extended response, data handling, SQA questions, preparation for future lessons, revision. Students are encouraged to read around their Biology, view relevant programmes and view the Charleston Blog where lesson information is posted.
Progression	<p>Students who achieve Higher Human Grades A or B may progress to Advanced Higher Biology within the school.</p> <p>OR a variety of other external opportunities including HNC, HND or Degree level study in Biological Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Dietetics, Radiotherapy, Chiropody.</p> <p>Further and Higher education opportunities using the award for general or specialist entry purposes. A range of employment opportunities</p>
Further information	For further information please see any member of the Biology Department

Biology

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher Human Biology Grades A or B
Course Description	<p>The Course provides an opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the cell by studying the key roles of proteins within the cell. This understanding of cellular processes is then related to physiological function. At the whole-organism scale, the Course explores how sexual reproduction and parasitism are major drivers of evolution. This develops a deeper understanding of the mechanism of evolution, the biological consequences of sexual reproduction and the biological inter-relationships involved in parasitism. The Course provides a deeper understanding of laboratory and fieldwork techniques, and in carrying out a biological investigation the candidate has the opportunity to produce an extended piece of scientific work.</p> <p>Unit 1 - Cells and Proteins This Unit will develop knowledge and understanding of proteomics, protein structure, binding and conformational change; membrane proteins; detecting and amplifying a stimulus; communication within multicellular organism and protein control of cell division.</p> <p>Unit 2 - Organisms and Evolution This Unit will develop knowledge and understanding of evolution; variation and sexual reproduction; sex and behaviour and parasitism. It covers the role of sexual reproduction and parasitism in the evolution of organisms.</p> <p>Unit 3 - Investigative Biology This Unit will develop knowledge and understanding of the principles and practice of investigative biology and its communication. The Unit covers scientific principles and processes, experimentation and critical evaluation of biological research. A specific area is chosen to carry out a scientific study that will develop investigative skills including experimental planning, analysis and evaluation.</p> <p>Scholar Scholar is the open learning package available on the Internet to study Advanced Higher Biology. This resource will be used where it enhances the teaching and learning of the unit being studied. Students are encouraged to make use of this resource in their non-teacher contact lessons and in private study.</p>
Homework	A variety of homework is given including: completion of class work, extended response (essays), data handling, SQA questions, preparation for future lessons, revision Students are encouraged to read around their Biology, view relevant programmes and view the Charleston Blog where lesson information is posted.
Progression	A variety of external opportunities including HNC, HND or Degree level study in Biological Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Dietetics, Radiotherapy, Chiropody. Further and Higher education opportunities using the award for general or specialist entry purposes. A range of employment opportunities.
Further information	For further information please see any member of the Biology Department

Business Management

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	Pass at National 4
Course Description	<p>The course combines practical and theoretical aspects of learning, through the use of real life-business contexts which highlight the way in which businesses operate. The skills, knowledge and understanding gained are embedded in current business practice and theory, and reflect the integrated nature of organisations, their functions, and their decision-making processes.</p> <p>The study of Business Management helps students to develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work that will be of instant use when entering into the workplace. It supports personal financial awareness through improving knowledge of financial management in a business context.</p> <p>The course will consist of three mandatory units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding Business - sectors of industry, sectors of the economy, business organisations, stakeholders, factors affecting business activity• Management of People and Finance - focussing on the role of the Human Resources and the Finance Department and how they contribute to the success of the organisation• Management of Marketing and Operations - focussing on the role of the Marketing and the Operations Department and how they contribute to the success of the organisation <p><u>Assessment</u></p> <p>The course will be assessed by a two hour SQA set exam paper worth 90 marks and an assignment worth 30 marks.</p>
Homework	When homework is issued, it could take the form of written tasks, numerical tasks, revision exercises or research. In addition the teacher may ask pupils to spend time finishing off questions worked on during class time.
Progression	On successful completion of National 5 pupils could progress to Higher Business Management.
Further information	For further information please contact either Miss Sommerville or Mr McMahon

Business Management

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	A-C pass at National 5
Course Description	<p>Business plays an important role in society. We all rely on businesses to create wealth, prosperity, jobs and choices. Therefore, it is essential for society to have effective businesses and business managers if they are to sustain this role.</p> <p>The Higher Business Management Course aims to enable learners to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and understanding of the ways in which society relies on business to satisfy customer needs • an understanding of a range of methods businesses use to ensure customers' needs are met • an understanding of enterprising skills and attributes by providing them with opportunities to study relatively complex business issues • an understanding of business-related financial matters • an understanding of the ways businesses can use resources to achieve maximum efficiency • an understanding of the steps taken by businesses to improve overall performance and effectiveness • knowledge and understanding of the main effects that external influences, such as economic impact and sustainability, have on organisations <p>The course will consist of three mandatory units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Business • Management of People and Finance • Management of Marketing and Operations <p><u>Assessment</u> The course will be assessed by an SQA set exam paper worth 90 marks and an assignment worth 30 marks</p>
Homework	When homework is issued, it could take the form of written tasks, numerical tasks, revision exercises or research. In addition the teacher may ask pupils to spend time finishing off questions worked on during class time.
Progression	Pupils can continue their studies at college or university level
Further information	For further information, please contact either Miss Sommerville or Mr McMahon

Chemistry

Level of study	National 4
Entry requirement	National 4 Science/Biology/Physics
Course Description	<p>National 4 Chemistry consists of 4 units</p> <p>Unit 1 Chemical changes and structure Rates of reaction, Atomic structure and electron arrangement. A study of bonding and how covalent and ionic bonding occurs. The course also covers the basics of chemical formula and the relationships of properties to chemical structure. Simple molecular formula using prefixes are considered. Energy changes and Acids, Bases and Salts will also be covered in this unit.</p> <p>Unit 2 Nature's chemistry This unit focuses on Fossil fuels, their formation, extraction and the uses of alkanes and alkenes. The physical properties and the uses of saturated and unsaturated hydrocarbons. Alternative energy sources are considered e.g. biomass and the impact of fuels on the carbon cycle. Also included in this unit is everyday consumer products like alcohol, carbohydrates as food and fuel. Plants to products practical highlighting how plants have enhanced our lives.</p> <p>Unit 3 Chemistry in Society Metals and alloys are studied looking at their reactivity, corrosion and protection. Uses and combustion of plastics related to their properties including thermosetting and thermoplastics. Advantages of natural and synthetic polymers. The development of new and unique materials is also considered. Fertilisers and a brief introduction to Nuclear chemistry and chemical analysis.</p> <p>Unit 4 Value Added Unit Investigate a topical issue in chemistry and how it affects society / the environment. The learners will use a variety of approaches and will consider how the chosen topic affects our lives. The assignment will communicate information related to their method; record the process, their findings and conclusion. These will allow the learner to demonstrate scientific literacy skills.</p>
Homework	Pupils will receive a minimum of one homework per fortnight, in addition the teacher may ask the pupils to spend time consolidating classwork and preparing for their practical requirements.
Progression	Successful completion of National 4 leads to National 5 Chemistry
Further information	Further information from Mr Tillman

Chemistry

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	National 5 Biology, Physics or National 4 Chemistry
Course Description	<p>Unit 1 Chemical changes and structure - This unit covers Reaction Rates, Atomic structure and how materials bond together. Ionic and covalent bonding is covered and links between the physical properties and their bonding explained. Formula and reaction quantities are also studied where we learn about formula and equations. The last part is the study of Acids and Bases.</p> <p>Unit 2 Nature's chemistry Cycloalkanes, branched chains homologous series are studied then alkanols, alkanolic acids and esters. Looking for each group at their physical properties, systematic names, structural formula and isomerism. The reactions of these groups are considered in their chemical reactions and the energy gained from those as fuels are calculated.</p> <p>Unit 3 Chemistry in Society Metals, their extraction and metallic bonding are studied. Leading to the electrochemical series and the use and design of batteries. This unit also covers plastics including polythene, polyesters and polyamides as well as natural polymers as well as ceramics. The use and commercial production of fertilisers and the Nuclear Chemistry is studied.</p> <p>An assignment will assess application of skills from a scientific investigation and communicating the findings. It will give learners the opportunity to investigate or research a topical chemistry related issue, process the information and apply their knowledge and understanding and present a conclusion supported by their evidence.</p> <p>The course assessment will consist of two components; a question paper carrying 80% of the grade and assignment worth 20%. Both the question paper and assignment will be marked by the SQA.</p> <p>The question paper will assess the breadth of knowledge from all three units and will comprise knowledge and understanding and also problem solving. The question paper will be composed of Section 1 - Objective test worth 20 marks, Section 2 - Paper 2 with restricted and extended questions worth 60 marks.</p> <p>A total of 80 marks and duration 2 hours.</p>
Homework	Pupils will receive a minimum of one homework per fortnight, in addition the teacher may ask the pupils to spend time consolidating classwork and preparing for their practical requirements.
Progression	Completion of National 5 chemistry with an A or B pass leads to Higher Chemistry
Further information	Further information from Mr Tillman

Chemistry

Level of study	CfE Higher
Entry requirement	National 5 Chemistry (A or B) - by agreement only National 5 Biology /Physics
Course Description	<p>The question paper will have two Sections. Section 1 will contain objective questions and will have 20 marks. Section 2 will contain restricted and extended response questions and will have 80 marks. The majority of the marks will be awarded for demonstrating and applying knowledge and understanding of the mandatory content of the Course. The other marks will be awarded for applying scientific inquiry skills. Marks will be distributed approximately proportionally across the three Units. The question paper will have a duration of 2 hours and 30 minutes.</p> <p>Unit 1 Chemical changes and structure This unit starts with studying the rate of reaction and collision theory thinking about energy in the chemicals. The trends in the periodic table are considered and study of the bonding continuum with time spent studying the intermolecular and intramolecular forces relating these to physical properties.</p> <p>Unit 2 Nature's chemistry Starting with Esters and fats and oils and how their reactions relate to their structures. The unit moves on to Proteins and the chemistry of cooking. Looking at flavourings and aroma, including the oxidation of food stuffs and specifically looking at alcohols, carboxylic acids and antioxidants. We also study soaps, detergents and emulsions. Then finally on to fragrances and skin care looking at free radicals.</p> <p>Unit 3 Chemistry in Society Balanced equations and mole ratio, reaction quantities and percentage yields are considered for commercial reactions. Equilibrium and chemical energies for reactions are learned. This is then followed by Hess's Law and bond enthalpies. The last section is oxidising and reducing agents and chemical analysis where practical skills are emphasised.</p> <p>Researching Chemistry - The Assignment is an investigation into a relevant topic in chemistry, focusing on its application and its impact on the environment/society. The assignment will have 20 marks. The two stages in the assignment are a research stage which includes a practical experiment, and a communication stage. It is recommended that the whole assignment should take no more than eight hours.</p>
Homework	Pupils will receive a minimum of one homework per fortnight, in addition the teacher may ask the pupils to spend time consolidating classwork and preparing for their practical requirements.
Progression	Successful completion of Higher Chemistry with an A or B pass leads to Advanced Higher or progression to tertiary education, apprenticeship or work.
Further information	Further information from Mr Tillman

Chemistry

Level of study	CfE Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher A or B
Course Description	<p>The course is split into 3 units and a research investigation. The unit seeks to develop knowledge and understanding, problem solving and practical abilities in the context</p> <p>Unit 1) Inorganic chemistry and Physical Chemistry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electromagnetic radiation and atomic spectra • Atomic orbitals and electronic configurations • Shapes of molecules and polyatomic ions • Transition metals • Chemical equilibrium • Reaction feasibility • Kinetics <p>Unit 2) Organic Chemistry and Instrumental analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molecular orbitals • Molecular structure and stereochemistry • Synthesis reactions • Molecules and colour • Experimental determination of structure • Drug interactions <p>Unit 3) Researching Chemistry</p> <p>A series of 11 practical experiments learning specifically about gravimetric analysis, volumetric analysis, preparation and purification of compounds and analysis of compounds made. Following from these learners are to complete their investigation.</p> <p>Researching Chemistry Investigation Report - An investigation into a chosen topic is completed and is worth 30 marks. This covers a wide range of practical techniques. This is assessed by the SQA. The final exam is composed of 30 multiple choice questions and 70 marks of extended answer questions. The Advanced Higher is graded A to D.</p> <p>The course is tested by a 2 hour 30 minute exam</p>
Homework	Pupils will receive a homework pack which they will be required to continuously work through, in addition the teacher may ask the pupils to spend time consolidating classwork and preparing and writing up their practical's.
Progression	University and tertiary education or work in a wide range of fields including : Analytical chemist, Chemical engineer, Healthcare scientist, Clinical biochemistry, Forensic scientist, Pharmacologist, Research scientist, Toxicologist, Chartered Accountant, Environmental consultant, Patent Lawyer, Science writer, Secondary school teacher
Further information	Further information from Mr Tillman

Design & Manufacture

Level of study	National 4 or National 5
Entry requirement	For pupils entering S4, completion of S3 Design and manufacture. Pupils entering S5 or S6 should discuss their choice with Mr Richards.
Course Description	<p>National 4 / 5 Design and manufacture allow you to progress with the work started in S3. There will be a recap of topics covered in S3, then you will develop skills in designing, materials and manufacture through a range of practical, research and theory based activities.</p> <p>There are 2 units of work: Design, Materials & Manufacturing. Each unit is assessed by examining practical models and folio work. The final assessment for National 4 is an Added Value unit in which you will design and make a product, bringing together the skills developed throughout the year. At National 5 there is also a written exam to complete in addition to the added value unit (course assessment).</p> <p>The aims of the Course are to enable you to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• skills in evaluation and research• idea generation techniques• the ability to read drawings and diagrams• skills in design and in refining design proposals• the ability to communicate design ideas and practical details• the ability to evaluate and apply both tangible and subjective feedback• the ability to devise, plan and develop practical solutions to design opportunities• practical skills in the planning and development of models and prototypes• knowledge and understanding of manufacturing processes and materials• an understanding of the impact of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society• sketching and drawing abilities to communicate design ideas
Homework	You may be asked to complete folio work in your own time if it is not completed in class and there will be revision of materials and processes through practice exam style questions and research.
Progression	There may be the option of Higher Design and manufacture in S5 or S6 if there is demand.
Further information	Pupils studying this subject might expect to follow a career in the following areas- Industrial and Product Design, Building Development.

DYW - Skills For Work (Hospitality)

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	S6 Pupils - Previous Hospitality experience/ and National5 English Hospitality Practical Cookery National 5
	<p>Pupils will be given an introduction to the different sectors of the hospitality industry. Pupils will learn about the organisational aims of hospitality establishments and the products and services they provide. Pupils will develop vocational skills and knowledge and the focus is on experiencing the areas of the professional kitchen, food and drink service, customer care skills, reception skills and hospitality events.</p> <p>Pupils will be involved in menu planning and have practical experience of preparing, cooking and presenting a range of dishes, serving food and drinks, undertaking reception duties and planning, organising and running a small hospitality event.</p> <p>Pupils will be working as a member of a team, communicating appropriately, undertaking aspects of problem solving and numeracy.</p> <p>There is an emphasis on employability skills and helping to prepare pupils for the workplace.</p> <p>Units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Skills for Working in Hospitality • Developing Skills for Working in the Professional Kitchen • Front of House operations • Hospitality Events <p>*Pupils can also have the opportunity to achieve an SQA Employability Award focusing on preparing leavers to enter the world of work.</p>
Homework	Planning tasks for events will be given and pupils are encouraged to use work experience to improve their knowledge and skills of the hospitality industry.
Progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment in the Hospitality Industry • Further education courses at college • SVQ in Catering and Hospitality at college
Further information	<p>Practical Contribution: There is a parental contribution of £10 towards the cost of food ingredients for this course. Please contact Mrs Fraser in the Home Economics Department for further information.</p>

Engineering Science

Level of study	National 4 or National 5
Entry requirement	For pupils entering S4, completion of S3 Engineering Science. Pupils entering S5 or S6 should discuss their choice with Mr Richards.
Course Description	<p>Engineering Science is a broad and diverse course offering an insight to engineering principles and the application of science and maths to solve real world problems. The course will develop your problem solving abilities in addition to providing an understanding of complex engineered objects.</p> <p>There are 3 units of work: Electronics & Control, Mechanisms & Structures and Engineering Contexts & Challenges. Each unit is assessed by completing questions, practical tasks or simulations. The final assessment for National 4 is an Added Value unit in which you will design and make a product, bringing together the skills developed throughout the year. At National 5 there is also a written exam to complete in addition to the added value unit (course assessment).</p> <p>You will carry out practical projects, simulations, and investigations to explore a range of engineering systems and concepts, including the systems approach, energy and sustainability.</p> <p>Courses in Engineering Science and in physics/chemistry/biology are designed to be complementary; a combination of this Course and a pure science Course will provide a very strong foundation for further study in engineering or the sciences.</p> <p>The course will help you develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of key engineering facts and ideas • understanding the relationships between engineering, maths and science • An understanding of mechanical, structural, pneumatic and electronic systems • The ability to apply analytical, design, construction and evaluation skills to a range of engineering problems • Knowledge of the workings of a range of engineered objects • The ability to communicate engineering concepts clearly • An understanding of the role and impact of engineering in society • Knowledge of the relevance of energy, sustainability and efficiency to engineering problems and solutions • The ability to use materials and equipment for a range of practical projects • Design and problem-solving skills • Planning, organising and researching in a technological context
Homework	Project Research and problem solving exercises will be expected to be completed at home
Progression	Higher Engineering Science
Further information	Study of this course will lead on to careers in Electronics, Computer Control, Offshore Engineering and many other branches of Engineering.

Engineering Science

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5 Engineering Science (A or B) (or National 5 pass at Maths and Physics both at A or B). Direct entry in S6 may be considered on an individual basis.
Course Description	<p>Engineering is vital to everyday life; it shapes the world in which we live and its future. Engineers play key roles in meeting the needs of society in fields which include climate change, medicine, IT and transport. Our society needs more engineers, and more young people with an informed view of engineering.</p> <p>Higher Engineering Science provides a broad and challenging exploration of engineering. The course gives you many transferable skills, so is very useful for many different careers outside engineering, but particularly beneficial to you if you are considering a career in engineering, or one of its many branches</p> <p>The aims of the Course are to enable you to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend and apply knowledge and understanding of key engineering concepts, principles and practice • Understand the relationships between engineering, mathematics and science • Apply analysis, design, construction and evaluation to a range of engineering problems with some complex features • Communicate engineering concepts clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology • Develop a greater understanding of the role and impact of engineering in changing and influencing our environment and society <p>You will carry out practical projects, simulations, and investigations to explore a range of engineering systems and concepts, including the systems approach, energy and sustainability.</p> <p>Courses in Engineering Science and in Physics (and other pure sciences) are designed to be complementary; a combination of this Course and a pure science Course will provide a very strong foundation for further study in engineering or the sciences.</p>
Homework	Project Research and problem solving exercises will be expected to be completed at home
Progression	Advanced Higher Engineering Science
Further information	Study of this course will lead on to careers in Electronics, Computer Control, Offshore Engineering and many other branches of Engineering.

Engineering Science

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher Engineering Science (A or B)
Course Description	<p>The course undertakes further progress of the main topics of study undertaken in the Higher course and investigates Electronics, Structures & mechanisms, project management and dedicated computer control systems to a greater depth.</p> <p>The course allows pupils to develop skills and knowledge in a wide range of engineering disciplines at a level equivalent to first year university courses.</p> <p>The course is assessed by an exam worth 40% of the final mark and a pupil lead project worth 60% of the final mark.</p> <p>Pupils who have studied this course in the past have said it prepares them well for Engineering degrees of all disciplines.</p>
Homework	Project Research and problem solving exercises will be expected to be completed at home
Progression	N/A
Further information	Study of this course will lead on to careers in Electronics, Computer Control, Offshore Engineering and many other branches of Engineering.

English

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>Pupils will experience activities in Analysis (Reading), Evaluation (Listening), Creation (Writing) and Production (Talking)</p> <p>Pupils are required to pass four internal units in Analysis, Evaluation, Creation and Production in order to proceed to the final course assessment. They will need to produce a Writing folio requiring TWO pieces of Writing from different genres. This is worth 30% of the total mark. Additionally there will be an external exam.</p> <p>EXAM- 2 hours 30 minutes in total over Section 1 and 2</p> <p>Section 1 Reading for Analysis, Evaluation and Summarising- 30 marks</p> <p>Section 2 Critical Reading -30 marks</p> <p>Part 1: One set text assessment (20 marks). Must be on a different genre from the critical essay. This is on a previously studied Scottish text. In Charleston Academy Sailmaker is studied</p> <p>Part 2: One Critical Essay (20 marks)</p> <p>Portfolio of Writing- 30 marks (15 marks each per piece of writing)</p> <p>One creative piece One discursive piece</p>
Homework	<p>Pupils will follow a homework programme that develops the four skills areas. Reading both quality fiction and non-fiction is central to the homework policy and maintaining a log of personal reading is a course requirement.</p>
Progression	<p>Pupils will progress from National 5 to Higher to Advanced Higher.</p>
Further information	<p>Central to National 5 is knowledge of language. This covers a huge range of skills from the use of critical terminology to the history of language.</p>

English

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5
Course Description	<p>Pupils will experience activities in Analysis (Reading), Evaluation (Listening), Creation (Writing) and Production (Talking)</p> <p>Pupils are required to pass four internal units in Analysis, Evaluation, Creation and Production in order to proceed to the final course assessment. They will need to produce a Writing folio requiring TWO pieces of Writing from different genres. This is worth 30% of the total mark. Additionally there will be an external exam.</p> <p>EXAM- 3 hours in total over Section 1 and 2</p> <p>Section 1 Reading for Understanding Analysis, Evaluation - 30marks</p> <p>Section 2 Part 1: One set text assessment (20 marks). Must be on a different genre from the critical essay. This is on a previously studied Scottish text.</p> <p>Part 2: One Critical Essay (20 marks) Portfolio of Writing- 30 marks (15 marks each per piece of writing)</p> <p>One creative piece One discursive piece</p>
Homework	Pupils will follow a homework programme that develops the four skills areas. Reading both quality fiction and non-fiction is central to the homework.
Progression	Pupils may progress from Higher to Advanced Higher.
Further information	<p>In the exam and during the coursework, you will be expected to demonstrate the following:</p> <p>Knowledge of language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The distinction between connotative and denotative uses of language. • The ways in which, over time, language changes in vocabulary, pronunciation and structure. • The names and uses of the main word classes – noun, pronoun, adjective, article, verb, adverb, preposition and conjunction. • The names and uses of the syntactic units – sentence, clause, phrase/group. • The conventions of written language. • A critical terminology for discussing a wide range of texts. <p>Command of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills of inference making and summarising. • Knowledge of literary forms and genres, including aspects of culture and heritage. • Knowledge of literature, language and media contexts. • Knowledge of literary and media techniques and devices, including characterisation, use of dialogue, structure, word choice and tone, narrative stance, mood, creation of a sense of place, conventions of genre, syntax and layout • Skills required for discursive and creative writing

English

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher
Course Description	<p>Pupils will have to complete an Analysis and Evaluation unit on at least two complex and sophisticated literary texts and produce a research project on an aspect or aspects of literature.</p> <p>The second unit is Creation and Production and pupils are required to submit at least two drafts of one piece of their own writing, showing critical reflection in the development of the writing process.</p> <p>Exam (40 marks)</p> <p><u>Section 1 (20 marks)</u></p> <p>One question chosen from a number of options on prose or poetry.</p> <p><u>Section 2 (20 marks)</u></p> <p>One Textual Analysis question on a poem, or extract from a poem.</p> <p><u>Portfolio (30 marks)</u></p> <p>A dissertation on an aspect, or aspects, of literature- must be at least 2,500 words long and the text(s) must not be the same as those used in the exam.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Two pieces of writing for two different purposes from the following types: persuasive, informative, argumentative, personal/reflective, poetry, prose fiction, drama. (30 marks with each piece of writing assessed out of 15)</p>
Homework	Pupils will follow a homework programme that develops their knowledge of their chosen texts for dissertation. They will also develop their research skills through analysis of secondary sources in relation to both the set texts and their specialist subjects.
Progression	
Further information	<p>In the exam and during the coursework, pupils will be expected to demonstrate the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing and evaluating complex language • Applying critical, analytical and evaluative skills across a wide range of complex literary texts • Applying sophisticated writing skills • Extended writing skills, or analytical and evaluative skills in literary contexts • Critically responding to complex texts through writing • Critically analysing sophisticated concepts, using appropriate terminology • Applying higher-order thinking skills • Applying literary research and investigative skills • Applying independent, individual interest to a chosen topic in literature <p>Pupils will be expected to have command of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of literary forms and genres • Knowledge of literature • Knowledge of literary techniques and devices • Skills required for a range of writing purposes

French

Level of study	National 4 and 5
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>The course is designed to develop language skills which will enable pupils to cope confidently with the language in real life situations. The four skills of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing are developed through the study of a range of topic areas such as self, family, leisure, shopping, etc. The main emphasis is on communication, and Talking skills are developed through various activities, e.g.: face to face conversations, group discussions and role-play.</p> <p>Reading and Listening activities are based on authentic resources like magazines, newspapers, radio and television programmes and websites. The same topics are covered at all levels but tasks and activities in each topic vary in difficulty at each level.</p> <p>Modern and up-to-date resources are accessed online.</p> <p>Assessment: Pupils will be assessed in all four skills. At National 4 level, this will be internal and there will also be an Added Value Unit which will be assessed internally and is subject to SQA verification. National 5 Talking (presentation followed by a conversation) must be recorded and will be conducted on a one to one basis. There is also a National 5 Writing Assignment which is an internal assessment but it is marked externally by SQA.</p>
Homework	<p>A variety of homework tasks are employed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning and reinforcing vocabulary• Written homework• Preparing for Talking tasks and assessments• Grammar work
Progression	Pupils may progress from National 5 to Higher to Advanced Higher
Further information	For further information, please speak to a member of the Languages Department

French

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5
Course Description	<p>The Higher French course is designed to build on pupils' existing skills, knowledge and understanding. It will enable pupils to cope confidently with the language in real life situations, using modern and up-to-date resources. Pupils will make use of online resources in our ICT suite, including Scholar. The four skills of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing are developed throughout the course.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pupils will sit an external examination which will assess Listening, Reading and Writing skills.• Pupils will sit a Talking examination, conducted and assessed by the class teacher and subject to SQA verification.• Pupils will complete an Assignment, produced in school but marked externally by SQA.
Homework	<p>Pupils working at Higher level must be committed to working independently at home to consolidate the work of the class. A variety of homework tasks are employed, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written homework• Learning and reinforcing vocabulary• Grammar work• Preparing for Talking tasks• Preparing for assessments
Progression	Pupils may progress from Higher to Advanced Higher
Further information	For further information, please speak to a member of the Languages Department

French

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher
Course Description	<p>The Advanced Higher French course is designed to build on pupils' existing skills, knowledge and understanding. It will enable pupils to cope confidently with the language in real life situations, using modern and up-to-date resources. Pupils will make use of online resources in our ICT suite. The four skills of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing are developed within four broad themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Society • Learning • Employability • Culture <p>Unit Assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Language • Using Language • Specialist Study (completing a Portfolio - Literature Study or Media or Language in Work) <p>Course Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking exam (20 minutes, 50 marks) conducted by an SQA Visiting Examiner. • The Portfolio (30 marks) will consist of one essay in English based on the work of the Specialist Study. • Reading and Translation Paper (1 hour 30 minutes, 50 marks) • Listening and Discursive Writing (1 hour 20 minutes, 70 marks)
Homework	<p>Pupils working at Advanced Higher level must be very committed to working independently at home to consolidate the work of the class. A variety of homework tasks are employed, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research activities • Written homework • Learning and reinforcing vocabulary • Grammar work • Preparing for Talking tasks • Preparing for Unit assessments
Progression	<p>Pupils with a pass at Advanced Higher can progress to college or university courses at a range of establishments. There are many careers where the ability to communicate in another language is desirable, for example, education, media, tourism, publishing, government, etc.</p>
Further information	<p>For further information, please speak to a member of the Languages Department</p>

Gaelic (Learners)

Level of study	National 4 and 5
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>The course is designed to develop language skills which will enable pupils to cope confidently with the language in real life situations. The four skills of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing are developed within the contexts of Society, Employability, Learning and Culture. Pupils will study of a range of topic areas such as self, family, leisure, holidays, etc. The main emphasis is on communication and Talking skills are developed through various activities such as face to face conversations, group discussions and role play.</p> <p>Reading and Listening activities are based on authentic resources such as magazines, newspapers, radio and television programmes and websites. The same topics are covered at all levels but tasks and activities in each topic vary in difficulty at each level.</p> <p>Modern and up-to-date resources are accessed online and pupils are encouraged to access these at home to consolidate their learning.</p> <p>Assessment: Pupils will be assessed in all four skills. At National 4 level, this will be internal and there will also be an Added Value Unit which will be assessed internally and is subject to SQA verification. National 5 Talking (presentation followed by a conversation) must be recorded and will be conducted on a one to one basis. There is also a National 5 Writing Assignment which is an internal assessment but it is marked externally by SQA.</p>
Homework	<p>A variety of homework tasks are employed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning and reinforcing vocabulary • Written homework • Preparing for Talking tasks and assessments • Grammar work
Progression	Pupils may progress from National 4 to National 5 to Higher to Advanced Higher
Further information	For further information, please speak to Miss Gunn in the Languages Department

Gaelic (Learners)

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5
Course Description	<p>The Higher Gaelic (Learners) course is designed to build on pupils' existing skills, knowledge and understanding. It will enable pupils to cope confidently with the language in real life situations, using modern and up-to-date resources. The four skills of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing are developed through the contexts of Society, Employability, Learning and Culture. Pupils will study a range of Gaelic literary texts and they will make use of online resources, including Scholar.</p> <p>Course Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pupils will sit an external examination which will assess Listening, Reading, Writing and Literature skills.• Pupils will sit a Talking examination, conducted and assessed by the class teacher and subject to SQA verification.• Pupils will complete an Assignment, produced in school but marked externally by SQA.
Homework	<p>Pupils working at Higher level must be committed to working independently at home to consolidate the work of the class. A variety of homework tasks are employed, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written homework• Learning and reinforcing vocabulary• Grammar work• Preparing for Talking tasks• Preparing for assessments• Research activities.
Progression	<p>Pupils may progress from Higher to Advanced Higher. There are many careers where the ability to communicate in Gaelic is desirable, for example, education, media, tourism, publishing, government, etc.</p>
Further information	<p>For further information, please speak to Miss Gunn in the Languages Department</p>

Gaelic (Learners)

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher
Course Description	<p>The Advanced Higher Gaelic (Learners) course is designed to build on pupils' existing skills, knowledge and understanding. It will enable pupils to cope confidently with the language in real life situations, using modern and up-to-date resources. The four skills of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing are developed through the contexts of Society, Employability, Learning and Culture. Pupils will make regular use of online resources.</p> <p>Units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Language • Using Language • Specialist Study <p>The Course Assessment will also assess pupils' ability in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and Translation (Paper 1) • Listening and Discursive Writing (Paper 2) • Talking (up to 10 minutes) conducted by an SQA Visiting Examiner. • Portfolio on Literature, Media or Language in Work, submitted and assessed by the SQA.
Homework	<p>Pupils working at Advanced Higher level must be very committed to working independently at home to consolidate the work of the class. A variety of homework tasks are employed, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written homework • Learning and reinforcing vocabulary • Grammar work • Preparing for Talking tasks • Preparing for Unit assessments • Research activities.
Progression	<p>Pupils with a pass at Advanced Higher can progress to college or university courses at a range of establishments. There are many careers where the ability to communicate in Gaelic is desirable, for example, education, media, tourism, publishing, government, etc.</p>
Further information	For more information, please speak to Miss Gunn in the Languages Department

Geography

Level of study	National 4/National 5
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>Pupils will complete three units:</p> <p>Physical Environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glaciated Landscapes and Coastal Landscapes <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limestone Landscapes and Rivers • Weather <p>Human Environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban • Rural • Population <p>Global Issues (pupils will complete two of the following topics)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health • Environmental Hazards • Trade & Globalisation • Climate change • Tourism • Impact of Human Activities on the Natural Environment <p>Pupils are expected to complete a research project to complete an Added Value unit for National 4 marked on a pass/fail basis or to use in the National 5 Assignment which will be worth 25% of their final mark.</p> <p>National 5 pupils will also sit a final exam.</p> <p>There is also a considerable amount of local fieldwork involved in the course to give pupils the opportunity to apply their skills and to provide opportunities for their research projects.</p>
Homework	Homework will be an important aspect of the course and will be given on a regular basis. It will be in a variety of forms.
Progression	<p>S4 National 4 → S5 National 5 → S6 Higher</p> <p>S4 National 5 → S5 Higher → S6 Advanced Higher</p>
Further information	See Mrs Cameron in the Geography Department for further information.

Geography

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5 pass A-C
Course Description	<p>Physical Environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmosphere • Biosphere • Hydrosphere • Lithosphere <p>Human Environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population • Rural land use change and management • Urban change and management <p>Global Issues (pupils will complete two of the following topics)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Basin Management • Development and Health • Global Climate Change • Trade, Aid and Geopolitics • Energy <p>The course assessment will consist of two components: an assignment and a question paper. Both will be externally assessed.</p> <p>The exam will be worth 60 marks with a 2 hour 15 minute time allocation.</p> <p>Research skills will be assessed in an assignment worth 30 marks</p> <p>Pupils will have an open choice of topic or issue for study for the assignment. Pupils will gather their research and make conclusions on their findings. Pupils will then present their findings under controlled conditions, in a write up with a time limit up to one hour and thirty minutes.</p> <p>There is also a considerable amount of local fieldwork involved in the course to give pupils the opportunity to apply their skills and to provide opportunities for their research assignments.</p>
Homework	Homework will be an important aspect of the course and will be given on a regular basis. It will be in a variety of forms.
Progression	Pupils may progress to Advanced Higher in S6.
Further information	See Mrs Cameron in the Geography Department for further information.

Geography

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher Geography (Preferably an A or B)
Course Description	<p>Pupils will complete three units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geographical Methods and Techniques• Geographical Study• Geographical Issues <p>The course focuses on three main skills areas. The first skill area is fieldwork survey/measurement and recording techniques. The second area is statistical awareness which requires the candidate to carry out calculations involving appropriate statistical techniques. The third area is the production and interpretation of maps and diagrams where candidates are required to be able to present and analyse information using a variety of maps and diagrams.</p> <p>The course will be assessed in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▫ Question paper (2 hours and 30 minutes) 30%▫ Folio Section A:Geographical Study 40%▫ Folio Section B:Geographical Issue 30% <p>Pupils will decide own their own research areas for their folio work and therefore can specialise in their area of interest (Human or Physical Geography). They will be expected to complete fieldwork for the Geographical Study. There will be fieldwork which will be completed as a class to help develop skills but pupils will also be expected to complete individual fieldwork.</p>
Homework	There will be regular homework and pupils are also expected to complete regular independent work to complete coursework.
Progression	Pupils may wish to continue their studies at college or university.
Further information	See Mrs Cameron in the Geography Department for further information.

German

Level of study	National 4 and 5
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>The course is designed to develop language skills which will enable pupils to cope confidently with the language in real life situations. The four skills of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing are developed through the study of a range of topic areas such as self, family, leisure, shopping, etc. The main emphasis is on communication, and Talking skills are developed through various activities, e.g.: face to face conversations, group discussions and role play.</p> <p>Reading and Listening activities are based on authentic resources like magazines, newspapers, radio and television programmes and websites. The same topics are covered at all levels but tasks and activities in each topic vary in difficulty at each level.</p> <p>Modern and up-to-date resources are accessed online.</p> <p>Assessment: Pupils will be assessed in all four skills. At National 4 level, this will be internal and there will also be an Added Value Unit which will be assessed internally and is subject to SQA verification. National 5 Talking (presentation followed by a conversation) must be recorded and will be conducted on a one to one basis. There is also a National 5 Writing Assignment which is an internal assessment but it is marked externally by SQA.</p>
Homework	<p>A variety of homework tasks are employed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning and reinforcing vocabulary• Written homework• Preparing for Talking tasks and assessments• Grammar work
Progression	Pupils may progress from National 5 to Higher to Advanced Higher.
Further information	For further information, please speak to Mrs Bremner in the Languages Department.

German

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5
Course Description	<p>The Higher German course is designed to build on pupils' existing skills, knowledge and understanding. It will enable pupils to cope confidently with the language in real life situations, using modern and up-to-date resources. Pupils will make use of online resources in our ICT suite, including Scholar. The four skills of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing are developed throughout the course.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pupils will sit an external examination which will assess Listening, Reading and Writing skills.• Pupils will sit a Talking examination, conducted and assessed by the class teacher and subject to SQA verification.• Pupils will complete an Assignment, produced in school but marked externally by SQA.
Homework	<p>Pupils working at Higher level must be committed to working independently at home to consolidate the work of the class. A variety of homework tasks are employed, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written homework• Learning and reinforcing vocabulary• Grammar work• Preparing for Talking tasks• Preparing for assessments
Progression	<p>There are many careers where the ability to communicate in German is desirable, for example, industry, engineering, education, media, publishing, government, etc.</p>
Further information	<p>For further information, please speak to Mrs Bremner in the Languages Department.</p>

Graphic Communication

Level of study	National 4 or National 5
Entry requirement	For pupils entering S4, completion of S3 Graphic Communication. Pupils entering S5 or S6 should discuss their choice with Mr Richards.
Course Description	<p>The Graphic communication course at National 4 / 5 will continue to build on skills you have started to develop in S3. There are a series of graphics task where you will have to design, model and promote items using a wide range of graphical techniques.</p> <p>There are 2 units of work: 2D Graphics and 3D & Pictorial Graphics. Each unit is assessed by examining computer graphics and manual drawing work. The final assessment for National 4 is an Added Value unit in which you will design and make a product, bringing together the skills developed throughout the year. At National 5 there is also a written exam to complete in addition to the added value unit (course assessment).</p> <p>The course will help you develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broader and deeper skills in 2D and 3D graphic communication techniques, including the use of equipment, materials and software in familiar and in unfamiliar contexts • Knowledge and understanding of graphic communication standards, protocols and conventions in unfamiliar contexts • An understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society • An awareness of graphic communication as an international language • The ability to read, interpret and create graphic communication to develop solutions to graphics tasks with some complex features • Planning, organising, critical thinking, evaluating and decision-making • Basic knowledge of computer-aided graphics techniques and practice • Knowledge of colour, illustration and presentation techniques • Describe, respond to and analyse the work of others
Homework	Theory work will be issued for homework and a certain amount of commitment to working on the course software (in school after hours or at home) will be expected.
Progression	Pupils may progress to Higher in S5.
Further information	Pupils studying this course will find it useful in progressing to courses and many careers such as Desk Top Publishing, Graphic Design, Product Design, Engineering and Construction Industries.

Graphic Communication

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5 Graphic Communication (A or B). Direct entry in S6 may be considered on an individual basis.
Course Description	<p>The NEW Higher Graphic Communication lets you develop and produce your own graphics and enables you to read and interpret graphics produced by others, to a high level of complexity.</p> <p>This is a hands-on course which enables you to show your own creativity in design as well as teaching you internationally recognised standards in drawings. You will produce, and develop your abilities, in a range of graphic types including; digitally produced graphics, utilising different software packages on the computer, sketches and technical drawings using the drawing board.</p> <p>You will learn about the impact graphics communication technologies have on our environment and society. These skills will stand you in good stead for many different avenues of employment.</p> <p>The aims of the Course are to enable you to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills in graphic communication techniques, including the use of equipment, graphics materials and software • Creativity in the production of graphic communications to produce visual impact in meeting a specified purpose • Skills in evaluating the effectiveness of graphics in communicating and meeting their purpose • An understanding of graphic communication standards, protocols and conventions, where these apply • An understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society
Homework	Theory work will be issued for homework and a certain amount of commitment to working on the course software (in school after hours or at home) will be expected.
Progression	Pupils may progress to Advanced Higher in S6.
Further information	Pupils studying this course will find it useful in progressing to courses and many careers such as Desk Top Publishing, Graphic Design, Product Design, Engineering and Construction Industries.

Graphic Communication

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Higher Graphic Communication (A or B)
Course Description	<p>This course further develops the skills learnt in the Higher course with a particular emphasis on Technical Graphics and Commercial & Visual Media.</p> <p>Pupils will undertake a number of activities to develop skills and knowledge in a wide range of graphics contexts.</p> <p>The course is assessed by an exam worth 40% of the final mark and an individual pupil lead project worth 60% of the final mark.</p> <p>This course encourages independent learning and some elements will require pupils to investigate research and learn appropriate information for their own projects.</p>
Homework	Theory work will be issued for homework and a certain amount of commitment to working on the course software (in school after hours or at home) will be expected.
Progression	N/A
Further information	Pupils studying this course will find it useful in progressing to courses and many careers such as Desk Top Publishing, Graphic Design, Product Design, Engineering and Construction Industries.

History

Level of study	National 4/5 in S4
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>History is very accessible to all pupils in S4. It is available at both National 4 and National 5. Students who are interested in the subject should seriously consider continuing with the history course.</p> <p>All students will complete the Scottish Unit : Scotland and the Great War British Unit: The Atlantic Slave Trade European and World: USA 1850-1880</p> <p>All students: Additional Unit: A personal research / investigation on a topic of your own choice from the courses studied. This may be presented in a variety of formats and at National 4, does not have to be a written document but is an assessed essay within the National 5 course.</p>
Homework	Homework will be part of the course but will be set according to ability.
Progression	National 4 progresses to National 5. National 5 progresses to Higher.
Further information	For further information see Miss Bain.

History

Level of study	National 5 in S5/6
Entry requirement	National 4 /National 5 Unit passes
Course Description	<p>The S5/6 National 5 course can be seen as a course in its own right or as part of a two year higher. Some of the work completed matches the higher course, the rest forms an excellent background to sitting the higher course in S6. However pupils simply wishing a National 5 in history are more than welcome.</p> <p>All pupils will sit three units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scotland - Migration and Empire• Britain - Welfare and Votes for Women• European and World - Appeasement and the Road to War <p>Pupils will complete source questions and work on essay skills to complete a National 5 or lead in to a two year higher.</p>
Homework	Homework is a mandatory part of the higher course and pupils will be expected to complete this regularly.
Progression	Passing the National 5 can lead to the Higher in S6.
Further information	See Miss Bain, especially if you have not studied the subject to exam level before

History

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5
Course Description	<p>The Higher course has three units for study. Assessment is based on essays and source skills. The higher is a literacy based subject and provides an excellent opportunity for students to develop their research skills and written ability.</p> <p>All pupils will sit three units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scotland - Migration and Empire• Britain - Welfare and Votes for Women• European and World - Appeasement and the Road to War <p>Pupils complete an essay and an assignment to get their final grade. Pupils will also be given the opportunity to complete class essays and source exercises which will determine whether they will sit the final exam.</p> <p>All pupils who have sat the National 5 course this year already have an excellent understanding of the skills required for higher and should consider the subject in that light.</p>
Homework	Homework is a mandatory part of the higher course and pupils will be expected to complete this regularly.
Progression	Those who pass the higher exam can progress to Advanced Higher.
Further information	See Miss Bain, especially if you have not studied the subject to exam level before

History

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Grade B or A at Higher History
Course Description	<p>The new Advanced Higher, builds on skills learned in the higher course and allows independent learning and research.</p> <p>Pupils study the American Civil War for the year looking at issues such as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slavery• The cause of the war• Soldier's experiences• Battles• Emancipation• The end of the war• Abolitionists <p>Pupils are expected to do much of the study themselves with discussions during class time. Pupils have to complete a source and essay based exam and a 4000 word dissertation. An enthusiasm for the subject is essential at this level of study.</p>
Homework	Homework, or out of class work, is an integral element of this course
Progression	
Further information	See Miss Bain

Hospitality - Practical Cake Craft

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	National 4/5 Hospitality Or a genuine interest in Cake Production
Course Description	<p>The Scottish hospitality industry is large, vibrant and growing. It employs a significant proportion of the nation's workforce. Cake production is a part of this sector, and this course can be seen as a gateway to the hospitality industry.</p> <p>This Course is designed for those wishing to acquire cake baking and cake finishing skills to develop and demonstrate innovativeness in these areas. An interest in the creative and artistic aspect of the Course would be an important consideration.</p> <p>The Course aims to enable learners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop technical skills in cake baking • develop technical and creative skills in cake finishing • follow safe and hygienic working practices • develop their knowledge and understanding of cake design and follow trends in cake production • acquire and use organisational skills in the context of managing time and resources <p>The Course is practical and relevant to the world of work. It enables learners to develop a range of artistic techniques and to consolidate them through practical activities. Drawing on all aspects of design, such as shape, colour, texture, balance and precision, learners are given the opportunity to produce a variety of individualised cakes and other baked items, and to creatively interpret a design brief.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical Assignment • Practical Activity • Question paper <p>*DYW introduction to Practical Cake Craft is incorporated into the course in the form of trips and visiting professionals: Ashers Bakery Nairn Cake Baking and Cake Decorating workshops</p>
Homework	Regular research, design and practical cake baking and finishing to improve knowledge and skills
Progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills for Work courses • NPA Bakery • Employment in the Hospitality Industry
Further information	<p>Practical Cake Craft Contribution: There is a parental contribution of £20 towards the cost of baking ingredients for this course. Please contact Mrs Fraser in the Home Economics Department for further information.</p>

Hospitality Practical Cookery

Level of study	National 4/ National 5
Entry requirement	An interest in the Hospitality Industry
Course Description	<p>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 employment. Hospitality Practical Cookery uses real-life hospitality contexts, which makes it relevant to the world of work.</p> <p>The Course aims to enable learners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use a range of cookery skills, food preparation techniques and cookery processes when following recipes • select and use ingredients to produce and garnish or decorate dishes • develop an understanding of ingredients and their uses and an awareness of responsible sourcing • develop an awareness of current dietary advice relating to the use of ingredients • work safely and hygienically • Hospitality allows progression to a range of careers in the hospitality industry. <p>The department are members of the Academy of Culinary Arts- Chefs Adopt a School and have an established link to Rocpool Reserve and Chef Albert Roux.</p> <p>National 4 and 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cookery Skills, Techniques and Processes • Understanding and Using Ingredients • Organisational Skills for cooking <p>National 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added Value Unit: Producing a two course Meal <p>National 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment • Practical Activity • Question Paper <p>*DYW introduction to the Hospitality is incorporated into the course in the form of trips and visiting professionals: Annual Albert Roux Charity Dinner Quality Meat Scotland Practical Workshop</p>
Homework	Written homework will be given as required, and weekly practical cookery at home is beneficial in order to improve practical skills.
Progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality National 5 • Practical Cake Craft National 5 • Skills for Work courses • Employment in the Hospitality Industry
Further information	<p>Practical Cookery Contribution: There is a parental contribution of £10 towards the cost of food ingredients for this course. Please contact Mrs Fraser in the Home Economics Department for further information.</p>

Mathematics

Level of study	National 4 Lifeskills Mathematics
Entry requirement	Pass at National 3 Lifeskills Maths (High-scoring NARs required)
Course Description	<p>Mathematics courses at all levels develop skills which can be applied across a wide spectrum of other qualifications. The aim of the course is to develop the operational skills that are required for life and work, and if appropriate, Further Education courses.</p> <p><u>Lifeskills Mathematics</u></p> <p>Lifeskills Mathematics is at the SCQF level 4.</p> <p>The course will be organised into 3 main units covering the following areas :</p> <p>Lifeskills Mathematics Unit 1 - Geometry and Measure Unit 2 - Managing Finance and Statistics Unit 3 - Numeracy</p> <p>In addition, National 4 Lifeskills Mathematics candidates will complete a Value Added Unit (Whole course assessment).</p> <p>Pupils must pass all 3 Units along with the Value Added to gain a course award.</p>
Homework	Pupils will receive regular homework at National 4 level (approx. one per fortnight). In addition the teacher may ask pupils to finish off exercises, consolidate classwork and prepare for internal assessments.
Progression	National 4 Lifeskills Mathematics to National 5 Lifeskills Mathematics
Further information	In S5/6 pupils will begin to study the Mathematics course considered by staff to be the most appropriate.

Mathematics

Level of study	National 5 Lifeskills Mathematics
Entry requirement	Pass at National 4 Mathematics (A High score is required in the Added Value Unit)
Course Description	<p>Mathematics courses at all levels develop skills which can be applied across a wide spectrum of other qualifications. The aim of the course is to develop the operational skills that are required for life and work, and if appropriate, Further Education courses.</p> <p><u>Lifeskills Mathematics</u></p> <p>Lifeskills Mathematics is at the SCQF level 5.</p> <p>The course will be organised into 3 main units covering the following areas :</p> <p>Lifeskills Mathematics Unit 1 - Geometry and Measure Unit 2 - Managing Finance and Statistics Unit 3 - Numeracy</p> <p>In addition National 5 candidates will prepare for a final external exam graded at A -D.</p>
Homework	Pupils will receive regular homework at National 5 level (approx. one per fortnight). In addition the teacher may ask pupils to finish off exercises, consolidate classwork and prepare for internal assessments.
Progression	<p>National 5 Lifeskills Mathematics - no further progression.</p> <p>A small minority of pupils may decide to opt for National 5 Mathematics in S6. Pupils must be prepared to take on some additional study in June in order to cover any gaps they have in the N5 Expressions and Formulae unit. This is a parallel course in terms of level but the course content is different and considerably more challenging.</p>
Further information	<p>The majority of pupils returning to study National 5 level in S5/6 would be most suited to the Lifeskills Mathematics course. Only pupils considering a Higher Mathematics course at a later stage should opt for the National 5 Mathematics course.</p> <p>For further information see Mrs Grubb or speak to any other member of the Mathematics Department.</p>

Mathematics

Level of study	National 5 Mathematics
Entry requirement	Pass at National 4 Mathematics <u>and</u> completion of the National 5 Expressions and Formulae Unit
Course Description	<p>Mathematics courses at all levels develop skills which can be applied across a wide spectrum of other qualifications. The aim of each course is to develop the operational skills that are required for life and work, and if appropriate, progression to Higher Mathematics.</p> <p><u>National 5 Mathematics</u> Mathematics is at the SCQF level 5. The course will be organised into 3 main units covering the following areas :</p> <p>Mathematics Unit 1 - Expressions & Formulae Unit 2 - Relationships Unit 3 - Applications</p> <p>In addition National 5 candidates will prepare for a final external exam graded at A -D.</p>
Homework	Pupils will receive regular homework at National 5 level (approx. one per fortnight). In addition the teacher may ask pupils to finish off exercises, consolidate classwork and prepare for internal assessments.
Progression	National 5 Mathematics to Higher Mathematics - this will be appropriate for a very small minority of pupils.
Further information	<p>In general, only pupils considering a Higher Mathematics course at a later stage should opt for the National 5 Mathematics course in S5/6.</p> <p>For further information see Mrs Grubb or speak to any other member of the Mathematics Department.</p>

Mathematics

Level of study	Higher Mathematics
Entry requirement	Pass at National 5 Mathematics (Grade A or B strongly recommended)
Course Description	<p>The course consists of three Units :</p> <p><u>Expressions and Functions</u> This unit includes :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying algebraic skills to manipulating expressions • Applying trigonometric skills to manipulating expressions • Applying algebraic and trigonometric skills to functions • Applying geometric skills to vectors <p><u>Relationships and Calculus</u> This unit includes :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying algebraic skills to solve equations • Applying trigonometric skills to solve equations • Applying calculus skills of differentiation • Applying calculus skills of integration <p><u>Applications</u> This unit includes :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying algebraic skills to rectilinear shapes, to circles and to sequences • Applying calculus skills to optimisation and area • Using reasoning skills linked to applications by interpreting a situation where mathematics can be used and identifying a valid strategy • Using reasoning skills to explain a solution and/or relating it to context <p><u>Assessment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INTERNAL : Students will be assessed regularly throughout the course. • EXTERNAL : The whole course will be assessed by means of an external examination comprising two papers, the first of which will be non-calculator.
Homework	Regular homework (usually weekly) will be a major component of this course, plus finishing off classwork on a daily basis.
Progression	Advanced Higher Maths (Pass at Higher preferably grade A or B)
Further information	This is a very demanding course and students will be expected to work conscientiously and independently, at home as well as in school, from the start of the session.

Mathematics

Level of study	Advanced Higher Mathematics
Entry requirement	Pass at Higher Mathematics (Grade A or B strongly recommended)
Course Description	<p>The course consists of three Units :</p> <p><u>Applications of Algebra and Calculus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying algebraic skills to the binomial theorem and to complex numbers • Applying algebraic skills to sequences and series • Applying algebraic skills to summation and mathematical proof • Applying algebraic and calculus skills to properties of functions • Applying algebraic and calculus skills to problems <p><u>Geometry, Proof and Systems of Equations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying algebraic skills to matrices and systems of equations • Applying algebraic and geometric skills to vectors • Applying geometric skills to complex numbers • Applying algebraic skills to number theory • Applying algebraic and geometric skills to methods of proof <p><u>Methods in Algebra and Calculus (Advanced Higher)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying algebraic skills to partial fractions • Applying calculus skills through techniques of differentiation • Applying calculus skills through techniques of integration • Applying calculus skills to solving differential equations <p><u>Assessment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INTERNAL : Students will be assessed regularly throughout the course. • EXTERNAL : The whole course will be assessed by means of an external examination comprising one 3 hour paper.
Homework	Regular homework will be a major component of this course, plus finishing off classwork on a daily basis as well as on-going revision and self-study.
Progression	Not applicable
Further information	This is a very demanding course and students will be expected to work conscientiously and independently, at home as well as in school, from the start of the session.

Modern Studies

Level of study	National 4 or National 5
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>Pupils will complete three units:</p> <p>Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political system in the UK - focus on Scottish Parliament <p>Social Issues in the United Kingdom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social inequality <li style="padding-left: 20px;">or • Crime and the law. <p>International Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study of a major world power (USA) <p>Pupils are expected to complete a research project to complete an Added Value unit for National 4 marked on a pass/fail basis or to use in the National 5 Assignment which will be worth 25% of their final mark.</p> <p>National 5 pupils will also sit a final exam.</p>
Homework	There will be regular homework and pupils are also expected to complete regular independent work to complete coursework.
Progression	<p>S4 National 4 → S5 National 5 → S6 Higher</p> <p>S4 National 5 → S5 Higher → S6 Advanced Higher</p>
Further information	See Mrs Cameron in the Geography Department for further information.

Modern Studies

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	Pass at National 5 or Pass in other Higher subjects from S5.
Course Description	<p>Pupils will complete three units: Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political system in the UK - focus on Scottish Parliament <p><u>Social Issues in the United Kingdom</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social inequality or • Crime and the law. <p>International Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study of a major world power (USA) • <p>The course assessment will consist of two components: an assignment and a question paper. Both will be externally assessed.</p> <p>The exam will be worth 60 marks with a 2 hour 15 minute time allocation.</p> <p>Assignment worth 30 marks. Pupils will have an open choice of topic or issue for study for the assignment. Pupils will gather their research and make conclusions on their findings. Pupils will then present their findings to show their knowledge and understanding but more importantly their use of skills. Pupils will then complete a write up under controlled conditions with a time limit up to one hour and thirty minutes.</p> <p>There are fieldwork opportunities involved in the course to give pupils the opportunity to apply their skills and to provide opportunities for their research assignments examples include a visit to the Scottish Parliament.</p>
Homework	There will be regular homework and pupils are also expected to complete regular independent work to complete coursework.
Progression	
Further information	See Mrs Cameron in the Geography Department for further information.

Music

Level of study	National 3
Entry requirement	Continuation from S3 or at the discretion of the Music Department.
Course Description	<p>Music Performing</p> <p>All pupils will follow the Music Performing Skills course. This comprises of three units:</p> <p><u>Performing Skills - Grade 1</u></p> <p>Learners will develop musical and technical skills and self-reflect on the quality and accuracy of their playing. They will also learn to identify personal strengths and areas for improvement</p> <p>Pupils will choose two instruments from the following:</p> <p>Keyboard, Voice, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drum Kit, Glockenspiel/Xylophone, Ukulele or if receiving instrumental lessons on another instrument, this can also be used.</p> <p><u>Composing Skills</u></p> <p>Pupils will develop a range of skills in composing in order to create their own original music, using straightforward compositional methods and music concepts when composing, arranging or improvising. They will also gain an understanding of how a range of compositional methods and music concepts are used by composers and the influences on their work</p> <p><u>Understanding Music</u></p> <p>Pupils will become familiar with a range of styles and genres through listening and will develop knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural factors influencing music. They will also learn level -specific annotated music signs, symbols and concepts.</p> <p>Pupils will also develop critical and analytical listening skills and evaluation for improvement.</p>
Homework	All pupils are expected to continue practice of their chosen instruments out with class time. There will also be written homework assignments given out regularly. This will include music literacy and composition work.
Progression	National 3 progresses to National 4
Further information	Contact the Music Department

Music

Level of study	National 4
Entry requirement	A Pass at National 3 or at the discretion of the Music Department
Course Description	<p>Music Performing</p> <p>All pupils will follow the Music Performing Skills course. This comprises of three units:</p> <p><u>Performing Skills - Grade 2</u></p> <p>Learners will develop musical and technical skills and self-reflect on the quality and accuracy of their playing. They will also learn to identify personal strengths and areas for improvement</p> <p>Pupils will choose two instruments from the following:</p> <p>Keyboard, Voice, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drum Kit, Glockenspiel/Xylophone, Ukulele or if receiving instrumental lessons on another instrument, this can also be used.</p> <p><u>Composing Skills</u></p> <p>Pupils will develop a range of skills in composing in order to create their own original music, using straightforward compositional methods and music concepts when composing, arranging or improvising. They will also gain an understanding of how a range of compositional methods and music concepts are used by composers and the influences on their work</p> <p><u>Understanding Music</u></p> <p>Pupils will become familiar with a range of styles and genres through listening and will develop knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural factors influencing music. They will also learn level -specific annotated music signs, symbols and concepts.</p> <p>Pupils will also develop critical and analytical listening skills and evaluation for improvement.</p>
Homework	All pupils are expected to continue practice of their chosen instruments out with class time. There will also be written homework assignments given out regularly. This will include music literacy and composition work.
Progression	National 4 progresses to National 5
Further information	Contact the Music Department

Music (Performing)

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	A Pass at National 4 or at the discretion of the Music Department
Course Description	<p>Pupils in S4-6 can choose either Music Performing or Music Technology.</p> <p>Music Performing</p> <p>All pupils will follow the Music Performing Skills course. This comprises of three units:</p> <p>Performing Skills - Grade 3: Learners will develop musical and technical skills and self-reflect on the quality and accuracy of their playing. They will also learn to identify personal strengths and areas for improvement</p> <p>Pupils will choose two instruments from the following:</p> <p>Keyboard, Voice, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drum Kit, Glockenspiel/Xylophone, Ukulele or if receiving instrumental lessons on another instrument, this can also be used.</p> <p>Pupils will be assessed on both instruments by an external examiner between February and April. This assessment is worth 50% of their overall grade.</p> <p>Composing Skills : Pupils will develop a range of skills in composing in order to create their own original music, using straightforward compositional methods and music concepts when composing, arranging or improvising. They will also gain an understanding of how a range of compositional methods and music concepts are used by composers and the influences on their work. All pupils will complete a composition folio which will include an evaluation of their own work and be externally assessed by the SQA and worth 15% of their overall grade</p> <p>Understanding Music: Pupils will become familiar with a range of styles and genres through listening and will develop knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural factors influencing music. They will also learn level -specific annotated music signs, symbols and concepts.</p> <p>Pupils will also develop critical and analytical listening skills and evaluation for improvement. Pupils will sit an externally marked listening paper in May which is worth 35% of their overall grade.</p>
Homework	All pupils are expected to continue practice of their chosen instruments out with class time. There will also be written homework assignments given out regularly. This will include music literacy and composition work.
Progression	National 5 progresses to Higher
Further information	Contact the Music Department

Music (Technology)

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	A Pass at National 4 or at the discretion of the Music Department
Course Description	<p>Pupils in S4-6 can choose either Music Performing or Music Technology.</p> <h2>Music Technology</h2> <p>Music Technology explores the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Music Technology Skills• Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music• Music Technology in Context <p>This is an exciting new course for pupils who are interested in radio broadcasting, working with sound for film/TV themes/adverts, and designing/creating sound tracks for computer gaming.</p> <p>**This course does not involve playing instruments**</p> <h3><u>Music Technology Skills</u></h3> <p>Learners will develop a range of skills and techniques relating to the creative use of music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio.</p> <h3><u>Understand 20th and 21st Century Music</u></h3> <p>Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of 20th/21st century musical styles, the music industry, including the basic awareness of intellectual property rights.</p> <h3><u>Music Technology in Context</u></h3> <p>Learners will use music technology skills in a range of contexts such as live performance, radio broadcast, composing and/or sound design for film, TV themes, adverts and computer gaming.</p>
Homework	All pupils are expected to continue practice of their chosen instruments out with class time. There will also be written homework assignments given out regularly. This will include music literacy and composition work.
Progression	National 5 progresses to Higher
Further information	Contact the Music Department

Music

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	A Pass at National 5 or at the discretion of the Music Department
Course Description	<p>The Higher Performing course comprises of three units:</p> <p><u>Performing Skills - Grade 4</u> (Pupils are required to play two instruments)</p> <p>Perform music in a range of music styles by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a range of complex musical, interpretive and technical skills, showing clear understanding of the composers' intentions. • Critically reflecting and evaluating the quality and accuracy of their performing and refining their performing skills. • Pupils will be assessed on both instruments by an external examiner between February and April. This assessment is worth 50% of their overall grade. <p><u>Composing Skills</u></p> <p>Create original music by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing how a range of compositional methods and music concepts are used by other composers and the influences on their music. • Experimenting and using complex music concepts and compositional methods in creative ways to develop, refine and create original music. • Developing musical ideas which make musical sense and realise their creative intentions. • Critically reflecting on their music and their creative choices and decisions. • All pupils will complete a composition folio which will include an evaluation of their own work and be externally assessed by the SQA and worth 15% of their overall grade <p><u>Understanding Music</u></p> <p>Identify and analyse the use of music concepts and styles by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and distinguishing between complex level-specific music concepts in excerpts of music. • Analysing the impact of social and cultural influences on the development of specific music styles. • Analysing and using a variety of music signs and symbols and terms. • Pupils will sit an externally marked listening paper in May which is worth 35% of their overall grade.
Homework	All pupils are expected to continue practice of their chosen instruments out with class time. There will also be written homework assignments given out regularly. This will include literacy and composition work.
Progression	Higher to Advanced Higher
Further information	Contact the Music Department

Music

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	A Pass at Higher
Course Description	<p>There are three units at this level: Performing (Grade 5), Composing and Listening.</p> <p>The key elements of the course is to show the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produce live performance programmes in two areas of musical performance. (two instruments)• Use compositional skills creatively to produce work in composition, which is musically coherent and makes sense to the listener. (Two compositions in total).• Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of musical concepts.• Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of musical literacy.• Produce a Commentary on two musical works/movements. (1500-2000 words)• Pupils will be assessed on both instruments by an external examiner in May. This assessment is worth 60% of their overall grade.• Pupils will also sit an externally marked listening paper in May which is worth 40% of their overall grade.
Homework	All pupils are expected to continue practice of their chosen instruments out with class time. There will also be written homework assignments given out regularly. This will include literacy and composition work.
Progression	Tertiary education
Further information	Contact the Music Department

National Progression Award in Bakery

Level of study	SQA Level4
Entry requirement	An interest in the Hospitality Industry
Course Description	<p>The NPA has been designed to equip pupils with the skills required for success in current and future employment within the bakery industry or for progression to further academic qualifications.</p> <p>This course aims to provide pupils with the opportunity to develop practical bakery skills to allow progression to an SVQ in Bakery or employment within the Hospitality Industry.</p> <p>The NPA will introduce a range of bakery skills to pupils.</p> <p>The course consists of four units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft Baking an introduction • Bread Making an introduction • Cake decoration an introduction • Pastry <p>DYW introduction to bakery is incorporated into the course in the form of a trip to Ashers Bakery Nairn.</p>
Homework	Regular practical baking at home is beneficial to improving practical skills.
Progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality Practical Cake Craft National 5 • SVQ in Bakery or other related areas in the Hospitality Industry (College based) • Employment in the Bakery Industry or other sectors within the Hospitality Industry • Skills for Work Courses
Further information	<p>Practical Cookery Contribution: There is a parental contribution of £10 towards the cost of food ingredients for this course. Please contact Mrs Fraser in the Home Economics Department for further information.</p>

National Progression Award in Bakery

Level of study	SQA Level4
Entry requirement	An interest in the Hospitality Industry
Course Description	<p>The NPA has been designed to equip pupils with the skills required for success in current and future employment within the bakery industry or for progression to further academic qualifications.</p> <p>This course aims to provide pupils with the opportunity to develop practical bakery skills to allow progression to an SVQ in Bakery or employment within the Hospitality Industry.</p> <p>The NPA will introduce a range of bakery skills to pupils.</p> <p>The course consists of four units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft Baking an introduction • Bread Making an introduction • Cake decoration an introduction • Pastry <p>DYW introduction to bakery is incorporated into the course in the form of a trip to Ashers Bakery Nairn.</p>
Homework	Regular practical baking at home is beneficial to improving practical skills.
Progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality Practical Cake Craft National 5 • SVQ in Bakery or other related areas in the Hospitality Industry (College based) • Employment in the Bakery Industry or other sectors within the Hospitality Industry • Skills for Work Courses
Further information	<p>Practical Cookery Contribution: There is a parental contribution of £10 towards the cost of food ingredients for this course. Please contact Mrs Fraser in the Home Economics Department for further information.</p>

Physical Education

Level of study	National 4 and 5
Entry requirement	Pass at prior level
Course Description	<p><u>National 4 PE</u></p> <p>National 4 PE is assessed on a pass/fail basis. The course assessment for National 4 is an added value unit (practical) where learners will be assessed in an activity of their choice.</p> <p>In order to be presented for this added value unit and achieve an overall National 4 course award, pupils must first pass the following two units included in the course. 1) Factors Impacting on Performance booklet which tests a pupil's knowledge and understanding of the theory content involved in the course. 2) Pupils must perform at National 4 standards in two activities.</p> <p><u>National 5 PE</u></p> <p>National 5 PE is graded A-D. The course assessment for National 5 is made up of two parts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The written Portfolio (60 marks) provides 50% of a pupil's overall mark. This is completed in school and marked externally. The content and questions asked in the portfolio relates to the Factors Impacting on Performance knowledge and content which we cover throughout the year. 2) In addition, their practical performance in two activities of their choice will be assessed internally. Both will be marked out of 30 marks and their practical ability will count for 50% of their overall mark. There is no written exam for National 5 PE. <p>Throughout the year, pupils will therefore need to demonstrate written work of National 5 standards to ensure they are suitable and ready for the National 5 Portfolio. Pupils must also perform at National 5 standards practically.</p>
Homework	Regular homework will be provided.
Progression	National 4 to National 5 National 5 (A-C) to Higher
Further information	<p>Certificated PE is a physically and theoretically demanding course therefore pupils need to be ready to embrace this and show enthusiasm at all times. National 5 requires a competent level of English to help complete the portfolio.</p> <p>See Mr MacKintosh for further information.</p>

Physical Education

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	Higher = National 5 A-C pass
Course Description	<p>This Course sits within a hierarchical structure, beginning with the National 3 Physical Education Course, and progressing through National 4 and National 5 Physical Education to Higher Physical Education.</p> <p>Like other Highers, this year the units and unit assessments will be removed.</p> <p>Higher PE is graded A-D. The course assessment for Higher PE is made up of two parts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The written exam (50 marks) provides 50% of a pupil's overall mark. This is completed in the SQA exam diet in May and lasts 2.5 hours. The exam will have three sections in it. Section 1 will assess pupil's understanding of factors that can impact on performance. Section 2 will assess pupil's knowledge of the cycle of analysis and its components. Section 3 will assess pupil's ability to analyse a scenario situation. The content required to answer all three sections successfully is covered throughout the year in both practical and theory lessons. 2) In addition, their practical performance in two activities of their choice will be assessed internally. Both will be marked out of /30 marks and their practical ability will count for 50% of their overall mark. <p>Throughout the year, pupils will need to demonstrate and evidence written work of Higher standards to ensure they are suitable and ready for the exam. Pupils must also perform at Higher standards practically.</p>
Homework	The course will involve a considerable amount of background research and study, and a fair amount of homework - usually involving past paper questions.
Progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an Advanced Higher course or units in Physical Education • an HNC/HND in associated subject areas • a degree in Physical Education • degree courses in associated subject areas • a career in amateur/professional sport or dance • employment in the fitness, health, leisure and recreation industries • employment in sports/dance development
Further information	<u>Higher PE awards are accepted for University entrance.</u> The course can only operate with sufficient numbers. Speak to Mr MacKintosh for more details.

Physics

Level of study	National 4 and 5
Entry requirement	Pupils should be achieving above 60% for their class test average.
Course Description	<p>The National 4 and National 5 courses both have 3 theory topics :</p> <p>Dynamics & Space - The study of motion, The study of forces, Satellites, Space Exploration and Cosmology.</p> <p>Waves & Radiation - Wave Characteristics & Behaviour, Sound, Light, Electromagnetic spectrum and Nuclear Radiation</p> <p>Electricity & Energy - Generation of electricity, Electromagnetism, Electrical and electronic circuits, Gas studies and Heat</p> <p>Although the topics are almost the same at both levels, to pass at National 5 pupils will need to achieve greater breadth (know more facts) and depth (understand some harder ideas).</p> <p>At National 4 pupils will also undertake an investigation on a topical piece of Physics. While they do this, the National 5 pupils will carry out an assignment set by the exam board and also prepare for a final exam.</p>
	<p>Pupils will usually be given a formal piece of homework once per fortnight.</p> <p>The class teacher may also give other homework tasks as required e.g. if a pupil failed to finish work in class.</p> <p>Pupils will also be expected to revise work for class tests.</p>
Progression	<p>Success at Level 4 could allow a pupil to progress to Level 5 Physics.</p> <p>Success at Level 5 could allow a pupil to progress to Higher Physics or Level 5 in another Science subject.</p>
Further information	Further information from Mr Sharkey or Mr Vincent in the Physics Department

Physics

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5 Physics (Grades A-C)
Course Description	<p>The Higher course is made up of four Mandatory Units.</p> <p>Our Dynamic Universe - Equations of Motion, Forces, Energy & Power, Collisions & Explosions, Gravitation, Special Relativity, The expanding Universe, Big Bang Theory.</p> <p>Waves and Radiation - The Standard Model, Forces on Charged Particles, Nuclear Reactions, Wave-Particle Duality, Interference and diffraction, Refraction of light, Spectra.</p> <p>Electricity - Electrons and energy, Electrons at work</p> <p>Researching Physics - Research a topical issue to a given brief, Plan and carry out practical work related to a topical issue in Physics. Prepare a scientific communication based on a practical investigation from a topical issue in Physics.</p>
	<p>Pupils will usually be given homework twice per week.</p> <p>The class teacher may also give other homework tasks as required e.g. if a pupil failed to finish work in class.</p> <p>Pupils will also be expected to revise work for class tests.</p>
Progression	Success at Higher could allow a pupil to progress to Advanced Higher Physics
Further information	Further information from Mr Sharkey or Mr Vincent in the Physics Department

Physics

Level of study	Advanced Higher
Entry requirement	Pupils should have achieved an A/B at Higher level
Course Description	<p>The Advanced Higher (Revised) course is made up of four Mandatory Units.</p> <p>Rotational Motion and Astrophysics - Kinematic relationships, Angular Motion, Rotational Dynamics, Gravitation, Space and Time, Stellar Physics.</p> <p>Quanta and Waves - Quantum theory, Particles from space, Simple harmonic motion, Waves, Interference and Polarisation.</p> <p>Electromagnetism - Fields, Circuits, Electromagnetic radiation.</p> <p>Physics Investigation - Candidates will develop key Investigative skills through the completion of a practical investigation</p>
Homework	<p>Pupils will usually be given homework once per week.</p> <p>The class teacher may also give other homework tasks as required e.g. if a pupil failed to finish work in class.</p> <p>Pupils will also be expected to revise work for class tests.</p>
Progression	Success at Advanced Higher will allow a pupil to progress to many Higher/Further Education courses.
Further information	Further information from Mr Sharkey or Mr Vincent in the Physics Department

Practical Woodworking

Level of study	National 4 or National 5
Entry requirement	For pupils entering S4, completion of S3 Practical woodworking. Pupils entering S5 or S6 should discuss their choice with Mr Richards.
Course Description	<p>Practical Woodworking is a course that allows you to develop a range of woodworking skills and processes whilst improving manual dexterity skills. In Practical woodworking you will make a series of models to a prescribed design but there are opportunities in the course to add creative flair to projects.</p> <p>There are 3 units of work that must be completed prior to the final assessment. These are: Flat Frame Construction, Carcase Construction and Machining & Finishing. Each unit is assessed by examining the practical work completed and by testing knowledge of tools and materials. The final assessment for National 4 and National 5 is an Added Value unit (Course Assessment) in which you will make a product from a set of drawings, bringing together the skills developed throughout the year. The course assessment contributes to 100% of the final mark. There is no exam for this course.</p> <p>The course will help you develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills in woodworking techniques for tasks with some complex features • Using a range of woodworking tools, equipment and materials safely and correctly • Reading and interpreting drawings and diagrams • Measuring and marking out timber sections and sheet materials • Cutting and shaping tasks with some complex features • Practical creativity in the context of woodworking tasks with some complex features • Following given stages to take a practical problem-solving approach to woodworking tasks • Awareness of safe working practices in a workshop environment • Knowledge and understanding of the properties and uses of a range of woodworking materials • Knowledge and understanding of sustainability issues in a practical woodworking context
Homework	This course is predominantly practical work but there may be some theory work set as homework to add and develop understanding of tools, equipment and materials
Progression	N/A
Further information	Pupils studying this course will find it useful in progressing to courses and many careers such as Joinery, cabinet making and many other of the building trades. Pupils who study this course will also develop a range of skills that could be applied to many DIY scenarios.

RMPS

Level of study	National 5
Entry requirement	National 4 History/English
Course Description	<p>The religious and moral education curriculum area includes courses in Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies which should appeal to a wide range of learners.</p> <p>The courses will use a new type of unit - more skills based, less prescriptive and more user friendly. Each course will consist of mandatory units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Religion(Buddhism) • Morality & Justice • Religious & Philosophical Questions (The Origins of the Universe.) <p>National 5 will be graded A-D</p> <p>Assignment comprises of an investigation into a moral/philosophical topic. This is student choice with guidance from teacher. The assignment makes up a third of the overall mark awarded.</p> <p>Marks are awarded as follows:</p> <p>Exam is out of a total of 80 marks</p> <p>Assignment is out of 20 marks</p> <p>Duration of exam is 2h. 20m</p>
Homework	Home work will be on a regular basis and may include written work, reading, research or combinations. Google classroom etc.
Progression	Pupils may progress to Higher
Further information	<p>RMPS courses are designed to allow students the opportunity to develop transferable skills, attributes and capabilities useful for all career choices.</p> <p>Whatever the chosen career route RMPS qualifications demonstrate the ability to think critically, reflect and show knowledge and understanding of key ideas, traditions and issues relevant to contemporary society. The exam is 2h. 20m and covers all aspects of the course. There are NO unit passes as from 2017.</p>

RMPS

Level of study	Higher
Entry requirement	National 5 RMPS / Nat 5 English / Nat 5 History
Course Description	<p>In this Course there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of these skills. As well as being marked on knowledge & understanding, skills are marked on the ability to analyse and evaluate religious and philosophical issues. There are no unit assessments from 2018 but the exam will be more comprehensive with two papers. Paper 1 will be worth 60 marks and will include two sections: World Religion and Morality & Belief. (2h.15m). Paper 2 will be worth 20 marks and have one section: Religious & Philosophical Questions. (45min exam).</p> <p>The Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.</p> <p>The purpose and aims of this Course is to develop knowledge and understanding of religious, moral and philosophical issues that affect the world today. Religious and non-religious perspectives will be included. The Course will explore the questions they raise and the solutions they offer. Learners will have the opportunities to reflect on these and their own experiences and views.</p> <p>The Course structure is as follows:</p> <p>World Religion (Buddhism) Morality and Belief (Religion & Justice) Religious and Philosophical Questions (The Origins of the Universe)</p> <p>Assignment worth 30 marks and makes up 33% of the overall course. Graded A-D</p>
Homework	On a regular basis, written work, investigations, class debates and past papers.
Progression	No progression.
Further information	Whatever the chosen career route RMPS qualifications demonstrate the ability to think critically, reflect and show knowledge and understanding of key ideas, traditions and issues relevant to contemporary society.

Travel and Tourism

Level of study	National 4 and National 5
Entry requirement	
Course Description	<p>The Travel and Tourism Skills for Work Course will enable learners to experience, develop and reflect on general and specific practical skills, knowledge and understanding, together with employability skills and attitudes needed to work in the travel and tourism industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare learners for work in the travel and tourism industry• Develop customer care skills• Understanding the importance of personal presentation• Develop Skills to become effective job-seekers and employees in the Travel and Tourism Industry.• Develop a positive and responsible attitude to work and an understanding of the workplace• Develop communication skills• Develop detailed product knowledge and skills to deal effectively with customer enquiries• Develop skills in reviewing and evaluating and planning for the future• Prepare candidates for further learning, study and training opportunities in the Travel and Tourism industry <p>There is no external assessment for this Course. Learners must successfully complete each Unit to achieve the Course.</p>
Homework	There will be regular homework and pupils are also expected to complete regular independent work to complete coursework.
Progression	
Further information	See Mrs Cameron in the Geography Department for further information.