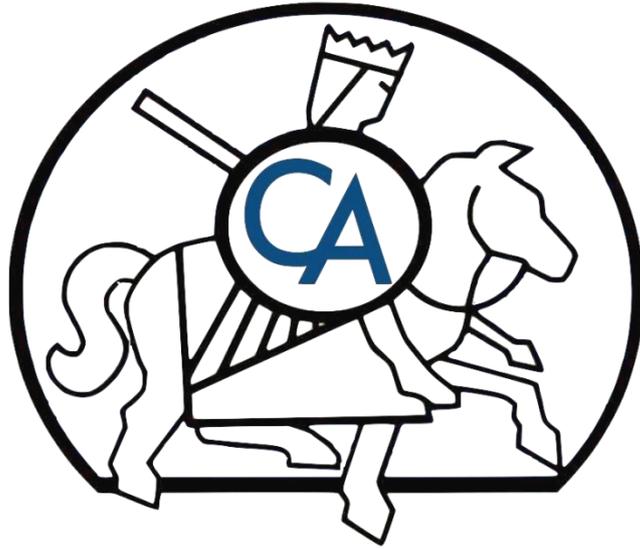


Charleston Academy



S3 Course Choice 2020

Subject Information Booklet

Pupil Name		Class	
Guidance Teacher			

Third Year Course Choice

Important Information for Pupils and Parents

Now that you are approaching the end of S2 you need to begin to consider what subjects you will study in S3. As you are already aware the Scottish Government has introduced a revised curriculum in Scotland called Curriculum for Excellence. In secondary schools the curriculum is divided into two phases. S1 - S3 is referred to as the years when pupils undertake a Broad General Education prior to moving into the Senior Phase from S4 - S6, which is the stage when qualifications are taken.

At Charleston Academy, pupils will study 9 subjects throughout S3 and 7 subjects in S4. S3 becomes a 'bridging point' between the Broad General Education phase and the qualifications phase from S4 onwards. Pupils should carefully consider their subject choices in S3 as the seven subjects selected in S4 will come from their S3 choices. The courses offered will provide a foundation for further study in the senior phase.

The Government have divided the Broad and General phase of Education into eight curriculum areas. Pupils have been studying from across these areas in S1 and S2. The eight curriculum areas are:

- Expressive arts
- Health and wellbeing
- Languages
- Mathematics
- Religious and moral education
- Sciences
- Social studies
- Technologies

In planning a curriculum for the whole school to follow, the school must take account of the subjects that pupils in other year groups from S4 - S6 are also planning on studying as well as providing a full timetable for pupils in S1 and S2. This is a challenging task and to facilitate this, subjects are listed in columns in the option choice form. However, it may not be possible for everyone to choose all the subjects they want to take. If you have concerns about this please speak to your Guidance teacher.

Qualifications

The new qualifications being introduced by the Scottish Qualifications Authority are designed to help all young people reach their full potential as they progress from the broad, general education through the senior phase and onto college, university, other learning or employment.

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.

Useful Websites:

www.planitplus.net www.myworldofwork.co.uk

Completing the Course Choice Form

Students

A copy of the Course Choice form will be issued by your Guidance teacher in PSE. You can use this draft choice form to practice your choices.

To help you make your choices please make sure that you have

- Read the course choice booklet (This booklet is on the School Website)
- And have discussed it with your parents and teachers

Pupils will also have lessons in PSE and discussions with Guidance Teachers regarding course choices.

Parents

Please discuss with your son or daughter their choice of subjects for S3. Discussion will take place between your child and their Guidance teacher regarding course choices and a final form will be issued after this interview.

To help your son or daughter make a suitable and balanced choice, please make use of ...

- The S3 Course Choice Booklet
- Information you received at the S2 Parents' Evening in December 2019, when parents met their son/daughter's subject teachers.

Notes:

1. All pupils study the following Core subjects ...
 - English
 - Mathematics or Lifeskills Mathematics
 - Physical Education (core)
 - Personal & Social Education
 - Religious Education
2. You should choose **ONE** subject from each of the columns A-G. You must not pick the same subject twice.
3. The school will make every effort to provide you with your first choice of subjects, but we occasionally find that we are unable to meet a pupil's first choice in a particular group. This can occur either because the number of pupils opting for a subject is so small that the class is not viable, or because the class is oversubscribed and we don't have the teachers or resources to run an extra section. If this occurs, we will contact both pupils and parents before arriving at any decision.

Your Guidance teacher will also help resolve any problems you may have and discuss your choices with you on an individual basis - before they are finalised.

Administration and Computing

Course Description	<p>Students will study both Administration and Computing. The teaching time will be split equally between the two subjects.</p> <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>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.</p> <p>The study of Computing will help students develop knowledge and understanding of key facts and ideas in computing science; enabling learners to apply skills and knowledge in analysis, design, implementation and testing to a range of digital solutions. Learners communicate computing concepts clearly and concisely using appropriate terminology, and develop an understanding of the impact of computing science in changing and influencing our environment and society.</p> <p>Typical topics covered in the Administration course will include Word processing, Excel and PowerPoint presentations, whilst the study of Computing will include Computer Hardware, Python programming and Networking. For full details of all the other topics to be covered during the year please see Miss Sommerville or Mr McMahon.</p>
Homework	<p>When homework is issued for either Administration 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.</p>
Progression	<p>Students will develop the skills and knowledge in both subjects. This means they could choose to study either or both subjects at National 4 or 5 and then progress to Higher.</p>
Further Information	<p>Please contact Mrs MacRae or Mr McMahon for further information.</p>

Art and Design

Course Description	<p>Throughout S3, 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. 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	<p>Pupils may progress to National 5 and Higher in S5</p> <p>Pupils may progress to Higher, Advanced Higher or Folio preparation in S6</p>
Further Information	<p>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</p>

S3 BGE Biology

Course Description

The aim of the course is to develop pupils in their biological knowledge and the skills needed to pursue Biology further.

The course will be organised into 3 main units covering the following areas

Unit 1 - Plants and plant growth

This unit looks at the importance of plants with particular reference to humans, the process of photosynthesis and plant growth and the factors that affect it.

Unit 2 - Human Health

This unit looks at aspects of human health including 2 systems breathing and circulation. It includes work on the systems and how they can be maintained in a healthy state.

Unit 2 - Cells, Cell uses and DNA

This unit looks at cell division, DNA, genes, chromosomes, relates inheritance to genetic information, explores genetically inherited illness and allows pupils to develop research skills by completing a short research project.

Opportunities will be provided for the development of those skills needed to progress to the next level in Biology and other Sciences including practical, analysis and research skills.

Homework

Pupils will receive a minimum of one formal homework per fortnight and will be expected to spend time consolidating classwork and preparing for their project and practical requirements as well as assessment preparation. Pupils are expected to complete all homework to the best of their ability including thorough revision for assessment.

Progression

Success in S3 could allow a pupil to progress to National 4 or 5 Biology in S4.

Further Information

Pupils will be expected to equip themselves with pens, pencils, ruler, eraser and calculator all of which are essential. Pupils will be expected to complete homework to their best ability, view relevant programmes and information online. They would be expected to bring an enquiring mind to the class

For further information, please contact any member of the Biology Department.

Business and Accounts

Course Description	<p>Students will study both Business and Accounts. The teaching time will be split equally between the two subjects.</p> <p>Business plays an important role in society. We all rely on businesses to create wealth and wellbeing, prosperity, jobs and choices. The purpose of the course is to develop learners' understanding of the way in which businesses operate in the current dynamic, changing, competitive and economic environments, and to encourage entrepreneurial attitudes.</p> <p>The study of Accounts will help students develop skills in communicating essential financial information to various stakeholders and organisations. It combines the practical and theoretical aspects of learning related to accounting, allowing candidates to use information and communications technology ICT to complete tasks. Accounting is a key function in many organisations. Effective accounting procedures can provide timely and relevant information to management, helping organisations perform successfully.</p> <p>Typical topics covered in the Business course will include Entrepreneurship, Marketing and Human Resources, whilst the study of Accounts will include Cash Budgets, Break-even and Costing. For full details of all the other topics to be covered during the year please see Mrs MacRae or Mr McMahon</p>
Homework	<p>When homework is issued for either Business or Accounts, 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.</p>
Progression	<p>Students will develop the skills and knowledge in both subjects. In S4 pupils could choose to study Business at National 4 or 5 and/or Accounts at National 5. The SQA do not offer Accounts at National 4, therefore pupils who want to study accounts in S4 must be expected to pass National 5 Maths.</p>
Further Information	<p>Please contact Mrs MacRae or Mr McMahon for further information.</p>

Chemistry BGE

Course Description	<p>The aim of the course is to make pupils aware of the applications of chemistry in everyday life.</p> <p>Chemistry plays a key role in meeting society's needs in areas such as medicine, energy, industry, material development, environment and sustainability.</p> <p>Chemistry is the study of matter and its interactions, the links between sub atomic particles, their forces and macroscopic properties of the world</p> <p>The course will be organised into 3 main units covering the following level 4 areas:</p> <p>Unit 1 - Chemical Changes and Structure - Atomic structure and Bonding, Properties of Materials, Formulae and Reaction quantities.</p> <p>Unit 2 - Nature's Chemistry Fossil fuels, Homologous series, Chemical reactions, Energy form fuels, Everyday Consumer Products, Plants to Products</p> <p>Unit 3 - Chemistry in Society - Rates of Reaction, Acids and Bases, Metals and Alloys, Properties of Plastics and Materials, Energy changes of Chemical reactions, Agrochemicals and Chemical analysis.</p> <p>At each key area also include development of skills.</p> <p>Skills are selecting and presenting, processing information, predicting and generalising, planning and designing, suggesting improvements, concluding and evaluating.</p> <p>Practical work is a core part of all chemistry courses and regular experimental work is essential to develop practical handling skills.</p>
Homework	<p>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.</p>
Progression	<p>On successful completion of the BGE pupils could progress to National 4 or 5 in S4.</p>
Further Information	<p>For further information, please see Mr MacKenzie or Mrs Fraser in the Chemistry Dept.</p>

Communication

Course Description

The communication course in S3 is targeted at pupils operating at Level 1 or Level 2 in English. The aim of the course is to improve pupils' ability to read, write, speak and listen in a way that allows them to communicate effectively. In addition the course will focus on how to apply these skills to effectively connect and interpret the wider curriculum and society.

The course is a blend of "back to basics" (for example handwriting) and digital literacies.

Homework

Reading regularly, both quality fiction and non-fiction at home. In addition there will be written exercises and research/preparation for solo presentations.

Progression

National 4 English

Further Information

For further information, see Ms Carmichael.

Design...Engineer...Construct! (DEC!)

Course Description	<p>Design Engineer Construct!® (DEC!) is an accredited learning programme for secondary-school students and has been expertly developed to create and inspire the next generation of Built Environment professionals. Through a project-based approach, DEC! applies academic subjects to the latest construction industry practices.</p> <p>The result is young people with real-world practical experience and employability skills.</p> <p>In S3 pupils will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Architecture• Landscape design• Surveying• Building services• Sustainability• Numeracy• Communication• Team work and roles in a team• Building and site engineering <p>Each unit of study is taught through a range of theory, research and practical projects with links to industry. Some of the course is supported by local industry experts.</p> <p>Pupils will have opportunities for site visits and visits from industry specific professional.</p> <p>Pupils completing this course in S3 will be entered for the exam and assessment. If successful they will gain the equivalent to a National 5 qualification from TQUK (Training Qualifications UK - one of the English exam boards) and the SQA (Scottish Qualifications Authority)</p>
Homework	Homework based on the current topic of study and research will be expected.
Progression	Pupils may progress to level 2 DEC! (Higher / level 6 equivalent) in S5 or S6.
Further Information	Pupils studying this course would be looking to move on to careers in the built environment including architecture, surveying, civil / structural engineering, landscape architecture and many more.

Engineering Science

Course Description

Engineering Science should appeal to learners who have an interest in the Technology which surrounds us and the effect that Technology has on modern society. The S3 course will develop a range of technological skills, including skills in: analysis and problem solving, design, use of equipment and materials, and evaluation of products and systems.

This Course brings together elements of science, technology, and mathematics and apply them to real-world challenges. With insights into the opportunities and challenges in engineering, the Courses provide a strong basis for further study or a career in any branch of engineering.

In S3 pupils will study:

Structures & mechanisms

- Forces and their effect on objects
- Beam reactions
- Gear mechanisms including belt and chain drives
- Pneumatic systems

Electronics & Control

- Digital electronics
- Programmable control of microcontrollers including the buggy challenge
- Analogue electronics

Systems & Energy

- Analysis of engineered objects considering inputs and outputs
- Study and calculations of common energy types and sources

Each unit of study is taught with a range of theory, simulations and practical projects.

Homework

Some project work will be expected to be completed in pupils own time.

Some tasks involving calculations will be issued for homework.

Progression

Pupils may progress to National 4 or National 5 in S4.

Further progression up to Advanced higher is available in S5 & S6

Further Information

Pupils who have completed this course in the past have gone on to study Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering and Robotics and found it useful in attaining employment in the construction industry as Electricians.

English

Course Description

Pupils will experience a range of activities from the English Benchmarks for Literacy and English in three curricular areas: Listening and Talking, Reading and Writing. Pupils will study a range of literature including prose, poetry, drama and the media. In addition pupils will experience close reading skills which will help them analyse increasingly complex texts. Writing will cover a range of genres including: informative, discursive/persuasive, personal and creative. Pupils are required to keep a portfolio of writing. Talking activities will include a solo talk as well as paired and group discussion. This will prepare pupils for the internal SQA talk assessments at both National 4 and spoken language assessments at National 5. Similarly pupils will listen to texts and answer a range of questions including purpose and audience.

Homework

Pupils will follow a homework programme that develops the three skills areas. Reading both quality fiction and non-fiction is central to the homework policy and pupils will respond to their personal reading through the “Keep Reading” programme

Progression

Pupils will progress from Level 1 to Level 2, to Level 3 and to Level 4.

Further Information

Central to English is knowledge of language. This covers a huge range of skills from the use of critical terminology to the history of language.

French / Gaelic (Learners)

Course Description

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, technology, 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-playing.

Reading and Listening activities are based on authentic resources like magazines, newspapers, radio and television programmes, textbooks and websites. The same topics are covered at all levels of ability but tasks and activities in each topic may vary in difficulty. There is an option to study a film.

Modern and up-to-date resources are also accessed online.

Homework

A variety of homework tasks are employed:

- Learning and reinforcing vocabulary
- Written homework
- Preparing for Talking tasks and assessments
- Grammar work
- Research activities

Progression

Pupils may progress to National 4 to National 5 to Higher to Advanced Higher.

Further Information

For pupils who choose to continue with their language beyond S3, the decision as to which level they will be presented at will be made in S4.

For further information, please contact Mrs Robinson or Miss Gunn.

Geography

Course Description	<p>As part of the BGE pupils will continue to focus on developing their geographical skills relating to both physical and human topics. The course will relate to current events and issues and allow pupils to develop the skills required to progress to National 4 or National 5 in S4.</p> <p><u>Units of Study</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crime• Climate Change• Water• Energy• Health• Bean to Bar (Geography of Chocolate) <p>Underpinning all of these study areas is the ability to understand and apply a variety of Geographical techniques e.g. OS map interpretation; constructing questionnaires; measuring rivers; presenting data in graphs, charts etc; analysing data and interpreting diagrams.</p> <p>It is hoped that there will be opportunities for local fieldwork as part of the course to give pupils the chance to apply their skills.</p>
Homework	<p>Homework will be issued at least every fortnight and will be an important part of furthering pupils understanding and progress.</p>
Progression	<p>Pupils will have the opportunity to progress to either National 4 or National 5 Geography in S4.</p> <p>S4 National 4 → S5 National 5 → S6 Higher</p> <p>S4 National 5 → S5 Higher → S6 Advanced Higher</p>
Further Information	<p>For further information, please see Mr Edwards in the Geography Department.</p>

Graphic Communication

Course Description

Graphic Communication develops skills in a wide range of graphic techniques. This includes the use of equipment, graphics materials and software. Combining elements of recognised professional standards for graphic communication with graphic design creativity and visual impact, the Course also provide flexibility and choice in the use of manual and computer-aided graphics.

The course introduces the diverse variety of presentation methods employed in Graphic Communication and the recognition of Graphic Communication as an international language which is invaluable for learning and the world of work.

In S3 pupils will study:

Manual graphics

- Sketching and rendering techniques using a range of graphics media to represent 2D and 3D objects
- Technical drawing, Orthographic and pictorial using formal drawing techniques and equipment

Computer Graphics

- 3D modelling techniques using Autodesk Inventor and other 3D packages
- Desktop publishing to produce promotional graphics, magazine articles and other printable media
- Computer aided drawing for building drawings and parts

Each unit of study is taught with a range of theory, drawing practice and demonstrations.

Homework

Computer software and technological drawing equipment issues make homework difficult but exercises in sketching and knowledge and understanding may be issued.

Progression

Pupils may progress to National 4 or National 5 in S4. Further study in S5 and S6 up to Advanced Higher level.

Further Information

Pupils who have completed this course in the past have gone on to study Interior Design, Architecture, Product Design, Surveying, Engineering and all the Construction Careers.

History

Course Description

The History BGE S3 course is designed to continue the work started in S2 where we have been studying 'IMPACTS'.

This year we will look at 'CAUSES' firstly through the examination of evidence using two Hollywood blockbusters.

- JFK - Why did the President of the United States die?
- Titanic - Why did the great liner sink and does the film tell the real truth?

We will then study the causes of World War One and the changes to military technology during that conflict.

The course is engaging, allows debate and discussion and develops source evaluation skills crucial for S4.

Homework

Homework is part of the course and all students are expected to complete homework assignments conscientiously, meeting deadlines.

Progression

All pupils taking the course in S3 will be well placed to join either a National 4 or National 5 in S4.

National 5 progresses to Higher in S5 or S6.

Further Information

Please contact Miss Bain in the History Department for further information.

Introduction To The Hospitality Industry

Course Description

This course is designed for those pupils who wish to develop their practical food skills and employability skills for working in the hospitality industry.

It gives pupils an introduction to the skills required for progression in S4 to Hospitality Practical Cookery Nat4/Nat5 and NPA Bakery Level 4.

The course includes the following topics:

- **Cookery Skills, Techniques and Processes and Organisational Skills for Cooking**
- **Understanding and Using Ingredients**
- **Developing Healthy Choices**
- **The Journey of Food**
- **Principles of Food Safety and Hygiene**
- **Introduction to Cake Baking Skills**
- **Introduction to Cake Decorating skills**

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**.

***DYW introduction to the Hospitality** is incorporated into the course in the form of trips and visiting professionals.

Homework

Written homework will be given as required and regular practical cookery at home is beneficial in order to improve practical skills.

Progression

- **S4 -Hospitality Practical Cookery Nat4/Nat5**
- **S4- NPA Bakery Level4**
- **S5/S6 -SFW Hospitality Nat5**

Further Information

Please contact Mrs Fraser in the Home Economics Department for further information.

Languages for Life and Work Awards. French or Gaelic (Learners)

Course Description	<p>The Modern Languages for Life and Work Awards develop learners' language and employability skills, through studying one or two modern languages in practical and relevant contexts for life and work.</p> <p>The Awards are available at SCQF levels 3 and 4, and are available in French or Gaelic (Learners).</p> <p>The Units are suitable for use in a wide range of vocational settings, and encourage learners to reflect on skills required for employability.</p> <p>The main emphasis is on communication, and Talking skills are developed through various activities, e.g. face-to-face conversations, group discussions and role-playing.</p> <p>Reading and Listening activities are based on authentic resources like magazines, newspapers, radio and television programmes, textbooks and websites.</p> <p>Modern and up-to-date resources are also accessed online.</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• Research activities
Progression	<p>These are stand alone units offered at level 3 and 4, but it is possible that the SQA might develop awards at other levels.</p>
Further Information	<p>For further information, please contact Mrs Robinson or Miss Gunn.</p>

Literacy

Course Description

This course is designed to support pupils with their literacy skills, reading writing talking and listening. It is primarily designed for pupils who require additional support in this area. The course is not a duplicate of Core English but an enhancement to it.

A National 3 qualification in People and Society will be one outcome of this course. The aim is to enhance understanding of the needs of others, and how we and others make decisions and changes. The delivery of this course aims to improve literacy in various ways including looking at using different media.

The reading programme will also be covered, a progression of Speeder Readers.

Homework

As appropriate.

Progression

Further Information

For further information, please see Ms Carmichael (PT English) or Mr Smith in Support for Learning Department.

Media

Course Description	<p>Media matters.</p> <p>The mass media possess a powerful and profound effect on our social, political, and economic landscape. All media content – television to cinema, radio to podcasts, social media posts, blogs and vlogs, as well as music, advertising, and video games – concerns the stories we tell about ourselves as a society and as individuals. Indeed, the media pervades all aspects of life and saturates everything we do.</p> <p>The purpose of this course is to build on the foundations of analysis explored in English during first year, and provide a bridge toward study in the senior phase where pupils can work towards qualification at National level that requires sustained analysis and creation of media content.</p> <p>In preparation, pupils will consider key ideas and strategies within today’s dynamic and demanding media rich world. The power of the media – to manipulate, to editorialise, and to form values and attitudes – makes an understanding of how and why they operate a vital aspect of education. This course affords such an opportunity, encompassing activities that will include study of a range of contemporary films and documentaries, an examination of advertising fundamentals, and investigation of the institutions that exist within this world, across both corporate ownership and industry regulation.</p> <p>The media is a powerful entity which plays a significant role within society. Pupils will actively engage with media theory and practice, in a stimulating range of practical activities and digital tasks that develop their transferable skills and critical thinking. They will ultimately gain an awareness of how the media constructs the reality that surrounds them, amidst an increasingly complex and chaotic world.</p>
Homework	<p>A regular log of all media consumption will be a required part of this course; this offers potential areas of study and reflection. Pupils will also have project/research tasks to undertake, as well as completion of any outstanding classwork.</p>
Progression	<p>Completion of the S3 Media course offers an excellent foundation for the senior phase and National 3 /4 / 5 Media courses. These build on the concepts and ideas introduced in BGE and allow further degree of personalisation and choice.</p>
Further Information	<p>This course is of particular benefit to pupils considering further media study or a career within the creative industries. Please are welcome - and encouraged - to speak directly with Dr Campbell or Ms Carmichael about their choice.</p>

Modern Studies

Course Description	<p>Modern Studies is focused on local, national and international issues from a social, economic and political perspective. As part of the BGE pupils will continue to develop their analytical and decision making skills. The course will allow pupils to develop the knowledge and skills required to progress to National 4 or National 5 in S4.</p> <p>Units of Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crime• Conflict• South Africa• Media• Health• International Organisations
Homework	<p>Homework will be issued at least every fortnight and will be an important part of further pupils understanding and progress.</p>
Progression	<p>Pupils will have the opportunity to progress to either National 4 or National 5 Geography in S4. With further opportunities to study the Higher course in S5/6.</p>
Further Information	<p>For further information, please see Mr Edwards in the Geography Department.</p>

Music

Course Description	<p>Music Performing Pupils in S3 will be able to continue studying Music and develop their skills further.</p> <p><u>Performing Skills</u> Learners will continue to develop performing skills appropriate to their chosen instrument(s)/voice. Pupils will play two instruments of their own choice from the following: 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> Pupils will develop a range of skills in composing in order to create their own original music by using straightforward compositional methods and music concepts when composing, arranging or improvising.</p> <p><u>Understanding Music</u> 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>
Homework	All pupils are expected to continue practice of their chosen instruments out with class time. There will also be written homework assignments, this will include literacy, composition work and listening activities.
Progression	National 3, 4 or 5.
Further Information	Contact the Music Department.

S3 Physical Education

Course Description	<p>This course is suitable for all learners who have an interest in and enthusiasm for developing their physical and performance skills, either to pursue study and career options related to physical education or to broaden their learning experience. This course would help prepare pupils to follow National courses in the Senior Phase (in S4-S6).</p> <p>This Course is practical and experiential. Its main purpose is to allow learners the opportunity to engage in physical activities and develop and improve their movement and performance skills.</p> <p>The following skills will be developed in the Course: movement and performance; approaches for enhancing and refining performance skill, fitness and tactics; planning, decision making and problem solving, and examining and analysing performance.</p>
Homework	There will be occasional homework tasks.
Progression	National 3 to National 4 National 4 to National 5 National 5 to Higher
Further Information	<p>Pupils need to be aware that if they choose PE they will still also have their 2 periods of core PE a week in addition. Pupils therefore need to be highly motivated for PE and always prepared.</p> <p>PE is a physically and theoretically demanding course (big step up from S1/2 core) therefore pupils need to be ready to embrace this and show enthusiasm at all times.</p> <p>Pupils will begin to work through National 4 work and assessments in S3 in order to prepare them for the demands of certificated PE in S4.</p>

Physics

Course Description	<p>The course has 3 topics :</p> <p>Exoplanets - This topic looks at the techniques employed by Physicists in the detection and analysis of Planets beyond our Solar System.</p> <p>Sports Physics - This topic looks at different sports and the underlying physics e.g Speed measurements in Downhill skiing, the Physics of hangtime in Basketball, Goal line technology in football and Electronic line judges in tennis.</p> <p>Mythbusters - This topic looks at some fun scenarios from films using physics to figure out whether it would actually be possible e.g do real hover boards exist like in “Back to the future”? Could Superman catch Lois Lane without hurting her?.... and many more</p>
Homework	<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	<p>Pupils with an interest in Science and Physics will enjoy the mix of Practical and theory work throughout the year. The course will provide pupils with the knowledge and skills necessary for the National 4/5 Physics course and beyond. Choosing Physics as a subject in S3 can lead onto careers in Medicine, Engineering, Medical science, Architecture, Meteorology, I.T, Pharmacy, sound engineering and many more careers.</p>

Practical Woodworking

Course Description	<p>The course is practical in nature and is useful to pupils considering any employment where manual dexterity is important. It develops the use of woodworking tools and equipment in the workshop environment with particular reference to safe working practice.</p> <p>The pupils will interpret simple drawings to aid in the construction of several models reflecting a wide range of woodworking joints and techniques.</p> <p>In S3 pupils will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of hand tools to produce a range of woodworking joints• Use of machine tools to shape, finish and drill wood• Theory of wood types including softwoods, hardwoods and manufactured boards• Tool identification and maintenance• Reading and interpreting drawings to mark out projects <p>Each unit of study is taught with a range of theory, and practical demonstrations.</p>
Homework	<p>The majority of the work undertaken is practical and carried out in the workshop. Some theory work may be given to enhance pupils understanding.</p>
Progression	<p>Pupils may progress to National 4 or National 5 in S4. At present there is no progression into S5 but pupils may use the skills to move into relevant practically skilled based courses at college or as an apprentice.</p>
Further Information	<p>This course is of particular importance to anyone considering the traditional Trades as a career. It also equips learners with the practical skills which will equip them for life in an economic climate where DIY is becoming more important.</p>

Rural Skills

Course Description	<p>The History department are offering an exciting opportunity for pupils to try something different in S3. The Rural Skills course is a Skills for Work course aimed at providing pupils with an alternative way to develop their skills and confidence by focusing on environmental and practical projects whilst gaining official recognition for their achievements. It is a practical outdoor course with a strong emphasis on the development of the pupil's employability skills. There are 5 main units of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estate Maintenance• Crop Production• Soft Landscaping• Employability Skills• Land Based Industries <p>Pupils are assessed on their work on the practical units of Estate Maintenance, Soft Landscaping and Crop Production, working with our partners, the Abriachan Forest Trust. Pupils complete their practical work either in the forest at Abriachan or within the school garden and polytunnel.</p> <p>The coursework also includes researching rural industries and jobs.</p>
Homework	<p>Question sheets to confirm the knowledge and understanding of the tasks that they have carried out.</p> <p>For the Rural Skills section of the course pupils are required to keep an e-portfolio of their practical work.</p>
Progression	<p>There is a possibility of this course continuing in S4.</p>
Further Information	<p>For Further information please speak with Miss Bain in the History department.</p> <p>Pupils are provided with waterproof jackets and trousers, fleeces and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) eg steel toe capped boots, goggles, gloves and hard hats for their outdoor work.</p> <p>Pupils need to have a genuine interest in working outdoors - in all weathers!</p>

Science

Course Description

The aim of the course is to make pupils aware of the applications of science in everyday life. The course will be organised into 3 main units covering the following areas

Unit 1 - Planet Earth. The resources: Energy, Food, Metals and Water. An investigation has to be carried out on one renewable and one non-renewable example of each of these 4 resources, looking at sources, production, uses, and problems.

Unit 2 - Human Health. The meaning of Health including social, physical and mental components. Health issues and case studies on the causes, diagnosis, treatment and possible prevention of a chosen disease. Health Claims analysing media reports and evaluating the risks.

Unit 3 - Electricity, Waves and Materials. Applications of Science and Technology in telecommunications and materials. An investigation into the source, production, uses and problems for one particular form of telecommunication. In a similar way an example of an important material will be investigated.

Safety issues and minimising risk at home and in the workplace.

Homework

Pupils will receive a minimum of one homework per fortnight and will be expected to spend time consolidating classwork and preparing for their project and practical requirements as directed by the teacher.

Progression

On successful completion of National 4 Science pupils could in theory progress to National 4/5 Biology, Chemistry or Physics in S5.

Further Information

For further information, see any member of the Science Department.