



Lockerbie Academy

S3 Curriculum Information Handbook

The booklet for pupils, parents and carers

How many subjects
can I choose?

Can you take more
than one subject
from a faculty?

What are
core Subjects?

Can I ask my teachers
for advice?



Pupils ... should mainly be concentrating on taking subjects which they are interested, and have success, in.



Timeline of Events For S2 Curricular Personalisation

Thursday 27 November

S2 Report Issued

Thursday 13 November

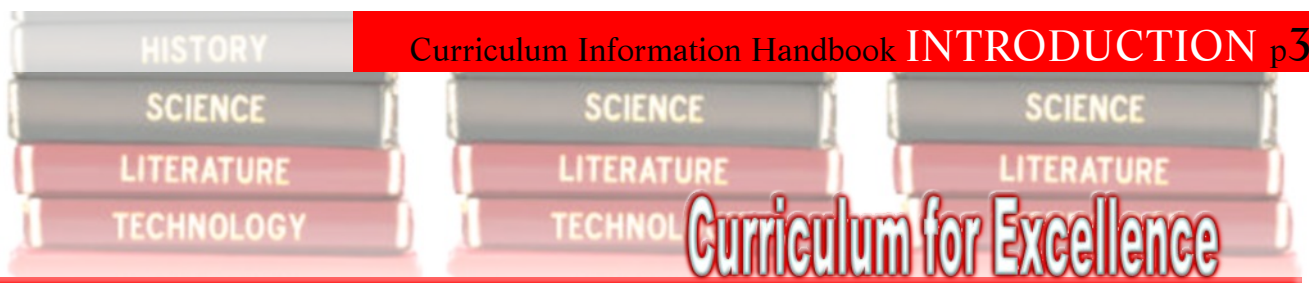
S2 Parent's Evening

Wednesday 14 January

Personalisation Forms issued to S2

Week Beginning 19 January

S2 Choices interviews



The S1/S2 Curriculum

In S1, pupils at Lockerbie Academy entered the first phase of their secondary education. The S1 and S2 curriculum gives all pupils a general education covering the full breadth of the curriculum.

As part of Lockerbie Academy's commitment to Wider Achievement which includes enterprise, citizenship and sporting and cultural events there is a commitment to the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence:

- ❖ successful learners
- ❖ confident individuals
- ❖ responsible citizens
- ❖ effective contributors

The S3 Curriculum

The S3 Curriculum has been designed around a number of key principles:

All pupils will take CORE subjects - English, Mathematics, Physical Education, Modern Languages and Religious Education.

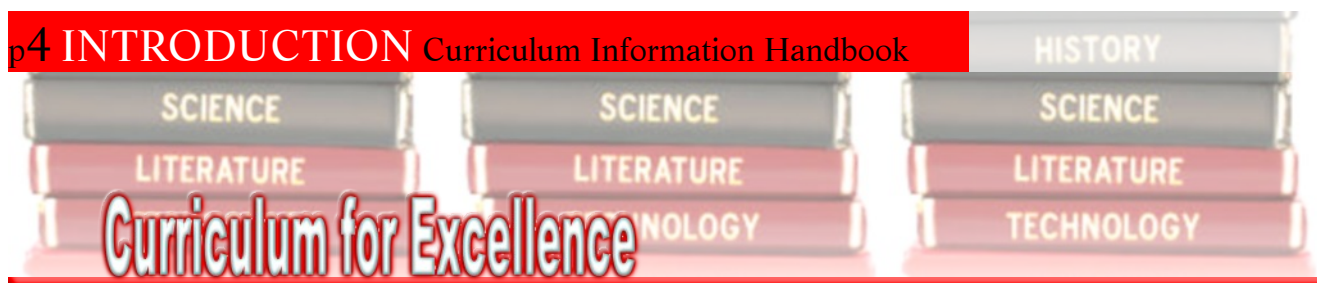
Personalisation and Choice:

- » Pupils will choose ONE subject from each of the other four key areas of the Curriculum - Expressive Arts, Science, Social Subjects and Technology.
- » Pupils will also be allowed a free choice for another two subjects.

This booklet is designed to support second year pupils choosing subjects for their S3 year. The timeline for the process is on the inside front cover.

Pupils are being prepared to enter the Senior Phase of Curriculum for Excellence after third year and, therefore, in third year they should follow a broad and balanced set of subjects with development of skills and a curriculum which shows links between subjects.

At this stage pupils may be choosing subjects for careers or vocations however they should mainly be concentrating on taking subjects which they are interested, and have success, in.



Assessment

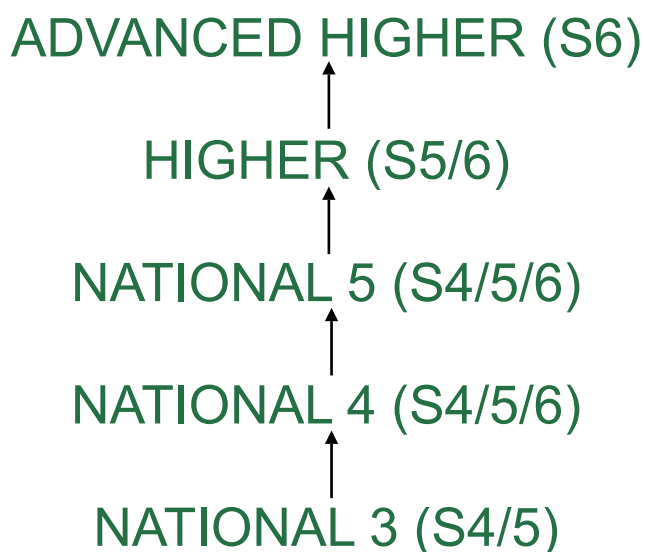
For S3 all subject areas cover a range of experiences and outcomes mainly at Level 3 and Level 4. Once students are secure at a level they will progress to the next level.

Senior Phase of Curriculum for Excellence

After third year pupils will begin to choose subjects in the Senior Phase which will lead to SQA qualifications.

The Scottish Government, through the SQA, introduced the National 4 and National 5 qualifications in 2013 - 2014.

A Brief Explanation of the National Qualifications

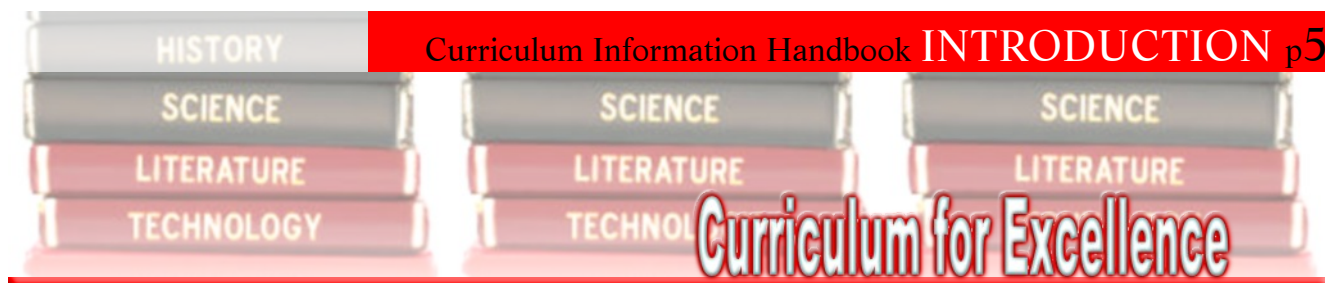


NATIONAL 3 courses are broadly the same as the old Access 3 and Standard Grade Foundation.

NATIONAL 4 courses are broadly the same level as Intermediate 1 and Standard Grade General. They will be internally assessed with added value components assessed using assignments, practical activities, performances, portfolios and projects. There is no external examination.

NATIONAL 5 courses are broadly at the same level as Intermediate 2 and Standard Grade Credit. National 5 courses are the first courses students will be presented for external SQA examinations in.

Both National 4s and National 5s will appear in SQA Certificates, although National 4s are ungraded i.e. simply PASS or FAIL. National 5s will be graded.



Your Choice Interview

You will have an interview with your Pupil Support Teacher or Head of House to discuss your choices for S3. You will find out about the date, time and place of the interview at least a week in advance. The interview will be in the week beginning Monday 19 January. You need to hand in your completed 'Personalisation and Choice Form' to your tutor by Friday 16 January. Please make sure your form has been signed by both you and your parent/carer.

Areas of Study

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English

Why study?

Communication and literacy lie at the heart of the Curriculum for Excellence. In English we foster and develop these skills, equipping pupils for the challenges of dealing with today's society. Critical literacy – the ability to read the media and the value of information – is vital in today's world. The study of literature and the enrichment this offers in enabling us to share lives and experiences not our own helps pupils to develop understanding of others and citizenship. The

importance and power of language is a major part of learning. These are

“power of language is a major part of learning

skills for learning, life and work.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

The English department regularly offers opportunities to enter writing and speaking competitions, and to take part in theatre visits. We offer extra-curricular opportunities to be involved with debating and film appreciation. Creative writing is widely encouraged and as pupils progress up the school there are opportunities to win prizes in this.

Skills for Learning, Life & Work

SKILLS

Employability, Enterprise and Citizenship

You will engage with others as a member of a team through collaborative approaches to learning such as group discussion, joint decision-making and evaluation processes. You will learn and practise recognising the value of others' perspectives through shared approaches to planning and problem solving in your work on both texts and topics. Throughout the course you will be encouraged and supported to take individual responsibility for your own learning through self and peer-evaluation both of individual pieces of work and of your progress. Learning to set challenging but achievable targets will be central to your work in English.

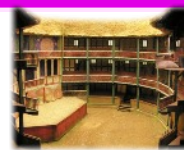
Literacy Skills

Clearly this is the key component of your work in this subject. You will continue to develop your reading skills – understanding, analysis and evaluation – to an increasingly high standard. You will continue to progress your writing in a variety of genres building a widening vocabulary and range of expression. In functional writing you will deepen your understanding of strategies and value, in researching and using information from reliable sources. The creative process enhances not only your ability to express yourself but also your powers of critical thought. Talking and listening are vital to our engagement with the world around us and you will be encouraged to improve your communication skills in a range of situations.

Higher Order Thinking Skills

In English you will engage with a wide range of texts – prose, poetry, drama, media, non-fiction, spoken, visual – and higher order thinking skills are the key tool in understanding, analysing and evaluating all of these. You will be supported in practising these throughout your text based learning and encouraged to build these into your study as a key learning strategy.

How can you help your child at home?



Homework is set on a regular basis. This can take the form of learning vocabulary and critical terms, research for writing, drafting and redrafting written work, preparing and practising talk assessments, project work, revision for tests, and private reading. All pupils have a private reading book at all times

for daily reading in school, and we encourage them to read regularly at home to support language development. Parental support in ensuring that homework is completed is most welcome.



Mathematics

Why study?

Mathematics is a core subject which is compulsory until the end of S4. A good mathematics qualification is valued by employers, colleges and universities.



a good mathematics qualification is valued by employers

Skills for Learning, Life & Work



Literacy

- communicate their thoughts, ideas and opinions.
- analyse real-life contexts and communicate their thinking by presenting mathematical information using numbers, diagrams, symbols and words.

Numeracy

- selecting and applying number and number processes
- interpreting data and the results of calculations to make informed decisions about money, time and measurement.

Employability, enterprise and citizenship

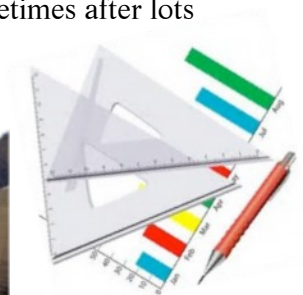
- respond to routine mathematical situations which may arise in work situations, such as handling money

Thinking skills

- using the results of calculations and their interpretation of data to make informed decisions.
- apply skills, knowledge and understanding by selecting and using appropriate mathematical processes and strategies to solve problems in a range of real-life contexts.

In S3 our students will be at different stages within their learning and will follow a course that is appropriate to their progression from S2.

Your child's level of ability in Maths can improve through hard work and resilience. Maths is not about getting it correct first time. It is about learning how to do it correctly, sometimes after lots of effort and thinking.



How can you help your child at home?



Challenge your child if they say "no homework tonight". At all times, there is home study for Maths. The more your child attempts, and the harder they work, the more they will achieve.

Acknowledge that Maths can be challenging. Encourage your child to be ambitious even when they find Maths Challenging. Maths should be challenging and will require your child to exert the necessary effort to meet this challenge.

Find opportunities to use Maths in real-life contexts.



Physical Education

Why study?

Good Health and Wellbeing is central to effective learning and preparation for successful independent living. Participating in Physical Education in third year provides learners with the opportunity to develop physical competencies, physical fitness, personal qualities and cognitive skills.

Learners will demonstrate, refine and advance their practical performance skills in a range of physical activities. The courses will provide opportunities for learners to demonstrate initiative, decision making and problem solving. Learners will work both independently and collaboratively to develop thinking and interpersonal skills. This makes Physical Education an ideal platform for developing confidence, resilience responsibility and leadership.

The third-year curriculum is designed to maximise opportunities for personalisation and choice while ensuring that pupils experience both challenge and enjoyment. The course also prepares pupils for the progression into National 4 & 5 PE courses in S4.

How can you help your child at home?



Encourage your child to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. Promote a balanced diet with 60 minutes of physical activity on most days.

Skills for Learning, Life & Work



Listening & Talking

Listening means the ability to understand and interpret ideas, opinions and information presented orally for a purpose and within a context, drawing on non-verbal communication as appropriate.

Talking means the ability to communicate orally ideas, opinions and information for a purpose and within a context.

Emotional wellbeing

Emotional wellbeing includes taking responsibility for yourself and being aware of the impact your behaviour may have on others; developing ways to manage your feelings; developing positive attitudes and resilience; practising assertive behaviours; building confidence; and, based on an understanding of any risks, making informed decisions.

Physical wellbeing

Physical wellbeing means recognising the importance and benefits of healthy and active living and practising skills to make the most of positive aspects of activity, such as enjoyment and challenge

Working with others

Working with others means knowing and practising what is involved in working co-operatively and sensitively with others; having the ability to recognise need and opportunity; to influence and negotiate with others to take ideas forward; being adaptable and having a determination to succeed; being able to discuss, set and meet roles and expectations in a working environment; and accessing, providing and creating information.

Thinking skills

This is the ability to develop the cognitive skills of remembering and identifying, understanding, applying, analysing, evaluating, and creating.



Opportunities for Wider Achievement

opportunity to develop physical competencies, ...

Participation in physical activity out with the school day is encouraged. Pupils have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities offered by the PE Department after school. Pupils can represent Lockerbie Academy in local and national events.

We have close links with Active Schools who provide access to a wide range of sporting activities. They also offer leadership opportunities for senior pupils.



Religious Education Core

Why study?

Pupils will build on their understanding of Christianity, World Religions and non-religious viewpoints. It is the study of the world and people in the world.

They will learn about, and from, these various viewpoints so that they can develop their own opinions and

understand why they believe what they do.

They will develop an appreciation of others' beliefs and actions.

They will be aware of how these viewpoints affect Scotland, and will appreciate how religion affects their local and national heritage.

Skills for Learning, Life & Work

Literacy

Most of the Literacy expectations and outcomes are covered as pupils engage with and create a wide range of texts in different media, taking advantage of the opportunities offered by ICT, as well as extending and enriching their vocabulary through listening, talking, watching and reading.

Numeracy

Pupils will learn to interpret numerical information and use it to draw conclusions, make reasoned evaluations and informed decisions.

Health and Wellbeing

Pupils will develop moral wellbeing through study of moral codes and moral decision-making. Social wellbeing through study of how we act in society, wellbeing of others through the study of charities and poverty in the developing world. Spiritual wellbeing through learning about how people can benefit from meditating and praying.

How can you help your child at home?

Parents can help us by regularly taking an interest in and checking up on homework, and ensuring that pupils prepare well for class assessments by carefully monitoring pupil planners.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

By experiencing all of the areas outlined during S1-3, pupils will gain an insight into key aspects of Religion which will help prepare them for choosing the National 4 and 5 qualifications which, in turn, will establish the knowledge and skills required for the Higher and Advanced Higher

Learning Experiences

S1 Seeing and Believing

- Worship
- Christianity in Scotland
- Justice in the World

S2 Faith in Action

- Martin Luther King
- Journeys
- Buddhism

S3 Big Questions

- Life After Death
- Global Citizenship
- Morality & Medicine

These subjects will help them to:

- research and present viewpoints
- think critically about issues
- form opinions and discuss issues
- develop debating skills
- study, explore and link beliefs regarding life's issues
- present information using ICT
- develop their reading and writing.



qualifications. They will also have opportunities to participate in a number of school trips: in S2 there is a two-day trip to places of worship in London; in S3 a trip to Samye Ling will be offered; in S4,5 and 6 a five day residential trip to Poland will be offered to tie in with the study of the Holocaust and Judaism.



Develop an appreciation of others' beliefs and actions



French

Why study?

The study of a modern language provides learners with the skills required to be able to communicate with people from different countries and it also affords them the opportunity to gain a better understanding of other cultures, customs and traditions. French is the official language of 29 countries throughout the world. The focus is on developing Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and importantly Skills for Work. Pupils of all abilities can build on their prior knowledge of the French language and develop their own level of competency in the skills of Listening and Talking, Reading and Writing. Learning a language is something which people do for pleasure, educational or professional reasons. It is something which they can do now and throughout their lives.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Pupils will be able to build on their knowledge gained in S1/2 and progress onwards to complete National 4 and National 5 in French, which in turn, lay the foundations for Higher and Advanced Higher courses. Pupils will also be given the opportunity to take part in the trips and make links with primary schools as a Language Ambassador.

Skills for Learning, Life & Work



Literacy

Through the study of a foreign language pupils can gain an insight into how a language works and this helps them to make connections with English and understand their own language much better.

Numeracy

Pupils will be asked to use numbers, work with different currencies to promote the development of numeracy skills.

Employability, enterprise and citizenship

Knowledge of a foreign language should stand pupils in good stead for the future, whether in the world of work, pleasure or further study. It also promotes a greater understanding of different cultures and increases awareness of life in another country than their own.

Meta-skills

Language is at the core of thinking. Pupils reflect, communicate and develop ideas through language. They are also applying grammatical knowledge and understanding.

Health and Well Being

Interaction with others, the opportunity to express opinions and feelings, the chance to experience challenge, success and enjoyment will all contribute to the development of good health and wellbeing.



French is the official language of 29 countries



How can you help your child at home?

Learning a language means that homework needs to be set on a very regular basis. This can take the form of learning vocabulary and structures, project work, language reinforcement via websites, a family homework task etc. Parental support in reviewing homework, asking pupils to talk them through the work of the class and encouraging pupils to access the recommended websites for additional practice are very welcome.

Spanish

Why study?

Spanish is the 2nd most spoken language in the world. It is spoken in Spain, Central America and Latin America.

Learning a language gives pupils access to different people, culture and customs.



Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Pupils are given the opportunity to build on their prior learning from primary, S1/2 and there are clear learner pathways for pupils, enabling them to study National 4 and 5 modern languages which in turn lays foundations for Higher and Advanced Higher courses. There are also opportunities to visit a Spanish city in senior phase!

There are opportunities to volunteer in faculty as a language ambassador which includes helping in the primary and junior classes. In addition, pupils can also use language as one of their Duke of Edinburgh skills and many more!

Skills for Learning, Life & Work



Literacy

Through the study of a language pupils gain a deeper insight into how a language works and are able to make better connections with their own language.

Numeracy

Pupils are given opportunity to learn numbers, work with different currencies and present data.

Health and Well Being

Pupils have the opportunity to explore a number of Children's rights (UNCRC) and to express their opinions and feelings. They are also given the opportunity to explore a range of different cultures.

Meta-skills

Pupils are given ample opportunity to build upon their meta skills as communication, collaboration etc.



Spanish is the 2nd most spoken language

How can you help your child at home?

Learning a language requires regular revision. Pupils are encouraged to download language learning applications which help consolidate and revise vocabulary and grammar points. There are many other websites such as Language Online, Kahoot! Or Blooket which can be played at home, providing fun quiz based activities for learning.

You can scan the QR code which will take you to all the course content and knowledge organisers. This will help consolidate prior learning and will help with improving accuracy in written language, or can be used as part of their revision routine.



Science

Why study?

This course is designed for pupils who are considering concentrating on curricular areas other than the

Sciences in S4. It will involve consolidation of learning in all three Science subjects at 3rd Level, with some learning at 4th Level. Pupils will learn about planet earth and the universe, how the human body works and protects itself against disease, and how Chemistry helps in real life.

“Will learn ... how Chemistry helps in real life”



Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Pupils will develop Skills for Life, Learning and Work in the following areas:

Numeracy

Number processes
Money, time and measurement
Information handling



Thinking Skills

Applying
Analysing and evaluating

In addition, pupils will develop transferable skills useful for Science and other subjects in the following areas:

- Inquiry and Investigative Skills
 - *Planning and designing scientific investigations and enquiries*
 - *Carrying out practical activities a variety of learning environments*
 - *Analysing, interpreting and evaluating scientific findings*
 - *Presenting scientific findings*
- Scientific analytical thinking skills
- Problem solving skills
- Creative thinking and design, testing and modification
- Understanding the impact of science on society
- Debating the moral and ethical implications of scientific developments, showing respect for the views of others
- Expressing informed views about topical scientific issues
- Understanding the relevance of science to future life, including careers.



Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Pupils have the opportunity to take part in the Science Excellence Awards where they can choose topics to study. They work at their own pace.



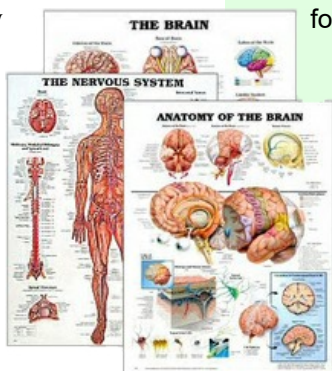
How can you help your child at home?

Regular discussion of your child's learning with them will have a significant impact on their progress. Encourage your child to revise routinely for a short time in the evening following each lesson, and to ask their teacher for help with any concepts they find difficult. Homework should be attempted early so that help can be obtained. Encourage your child to make sure every question is attempted to the best of their ability, and to seek help if they need it.

Biology

Why study?

This course is a requirement for pupils who are planning to study Biology in S4 and beyond. It is expected that most pupils will complete most of the Biology outcomes at 4th Level while some pupils may progress even further by the end of the course. Pupils will learn about how the body works, enzymes, animal life cycles and how animals and plants depend on each other. They will also develop key practical and processing skills



How can you help your child at home?

Regular discussion of your child's learning with them will have a significant impact on their progress. Encourage your child to revise routinely for a short time in the evening following each lesson, and to ask their teacher for help with any concepts they find difficult. Homework should be attempted early so that help can be obtained. Encourage your child to make sure every question is attempted to the best of their ability, and to seek help if they need it.



Skills For Learning, Life & Work



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Thinking Skills

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- Expressing informed views about topical scientific issues
- Understanding the relevance of science to future life, including careers.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Pupils will the opportunity to spend time at Eskrigg Nature Reserve investigating plant and animal life.



Spend time
at Eskrigg
Nature Reserve

Chemistry

Why study?

This course is a requirement for pupils who are planning to study Chemistry in S4 and beyond. It is expected that most pupils will complete most of the Chemistry outcomes at 4th Level while some pupils may progress even further by the end of the course. Pupils will learn about the materials we use in everyday life and their properties from June to December. Around Christmas they will move onto study rates of reaction and carbon chemistry.



will develop transferable skills useful for Science ...



Skills For Learning, Life & Work



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Number processes
Money, time and measurement
Information handling

Thinking Skills

Applying
Analysing and evaluating



In addition, pupils will develop transferable skills useful for Science and other subjects in the following areas:

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How can you help your child at home?

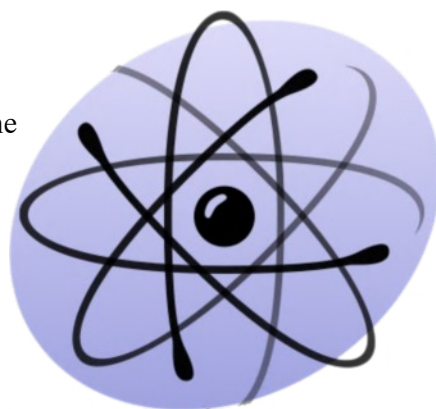
Regular discussion of your child's learning with them will have a significant impact on their progress. Encourage your child to revise routinely for a short time in the evening following each lesson, and to ask their teacher for help with any concepts they find difficult. Homework should be attempted early so that help can be obtained. Encourage your child to make sure every question is attempted to the best of their ability, and to seek help if they need it.

Physics

Why study?

This course is a requirement for pupils who are planning to study Physics in S4 at any level and we welcome those who enjoyed Physics in S1 and S2. We will cover electricity, properties of matter, waves and dynamics. It is expected that most pupils will

complete most of the Physics outcomes at Level 4 although some pupils may progress even further by the end of the course. There will be a chance to improve your problem solving skills and work on graphing and data recording.



Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Pupils will develop Skills for Life, Learning and Work and Physics is seen as a valuable subject indicating participants have mathematical capabilities and problem solving skills. We aim to make you proficient in the use of your calculator, as well as handling information and problem solving.

You will be expected to apply the knowledge you gain to unfamiliar and practical situations. There will be plenty of practicals, research tasks and chances for you to present your findings. You will design investigations, carry them out, interpret your data and present your findings to others in the class.

You will find out how relevant Physics is to you and how you use it every day in nearly everything you do.



**You will find out
how relevant
Physics is to you**



Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Opportunities are varied and may include use of the telescope and Infra-red camera.

Pupils will also have the opportunity to join Robot Club, where they will design and construct a remote-controlled robot.

How can you help your child at home?

Regular discussion with your child on what they have covered in class will have a significant impact on their progress. Encourage your child to revise routinely for a short time in the evening following a Physics lesson, and remind them to ask for help if it is needed. Homework should be attempted early so that help can be obtained if required. Get your child to make cue cards or mind maps to help with revision.

We look forward to welcoming you in to Physics in S3.

Geography

Why study?

Through the study of Geography young people develop their knowledge of natural forces on our planet and how people use the planet's resources in both a positive and negative way. They also extend their understanding of people's actions and the impact this can have. We aim to increase young people's awareness of current environmental, social and economic issues in Scotland, UK and abroad. We encourage pupils to think about how these issues might affect them and how they can become involved.

“Young people develop their knowledge of natural activities & human forces on our planet



Skills For Learning, Life & Work

ICT skills are developed through research projects or topics such as oceans and natural disasters.

Literacy skills are developed through a wide range of spoken, listening and written tasks as well as using resources.

Numeracy skills such as graph drawing and data interpretation are important skills in Geography.

Thinking skills such as understanding, applying, analysing and evaluation are embedded in the course.

Geography prepares pupils for the workplace by developing skills in communication, problem solving, teamwork and using initiative.

Learning Experiences

The **S3 Course** consists of units:

1. The geography of the 2026 World Cup
2. Land use conflict - we look at issues from national to local level such as siting a wind farm and a 3rd runway for Heathrow.
3. Hurricanes - by comparing examples in developed and developing countries.
4. Oceans - focus on issues such as coral reef bleaching and plastic pollution
5. Applying map skills to tasks such as siting a music festival and a wind farm
6. Gaining a National 4 qualification called climate change and sustainability

These units will involve pupils exploring and evaluating different types of sources and evidence by using maps, graphs, diagrams and their own research. They will also be encouraged to make connections at a local, national and global level. Vital skills for National 5 geography will be practised.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Geography has strong links with both the Sciences and other Humanities subjects. Skills and knowledge/understanding in Geography will support other curricular areas. The course will prepare pupils for National 3, 4 and 5 Geography and Travel & Tourism in the senior phase, which in turn will establish the best route for taking Higher and Advanced Higher Geography.

How can you help your child at home?

At home, parents can help by encouraging their children to look over their work each regularly. Parents can also provide support by helping to ensure that homework is completed on time and to a high standard and prepare well for assessments. It is also helpful if pupils have equipment such as pen, pencil, rubber, ruler and a small set of colouring pencils. Also encourage students to look for relevant news articles and events.





Why study?

Pupils will develop an understanding of the history, heritage and culture of Scotland, and an appreciation of their local and national heritage within the world.

Pupils will broaden their understanding of the world by learning about human activities and achievements in the past and the present.



Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Pupils will develop skills in: Literacy; Numeracy; Health and Wellbeing; Employability; Enterprise and Citizenship; and Thinking.

Literacy – Most of the Literacy expectations and outcomes are covered as pupils engage with and create a wide range of texts in different media, taking advantage of the opportunities offered by ICT, as well as extending and enriching their vocabulary through listening, talking, watching and reading.

Numeracy – Pupils will learn to interpret numerical information and use it draw conclusions, assess risk, make reasoned evaluations and informed decisions. Students may analyse population data to explore and compare different lifestyles. They may also use a wide range of measurements and rates of change.

Learning Experiences

In S3 pupils will be studying:

The Cold War - We will investigate the growth and eventual decline of the tensions between the USA and USSR.

We will learn about various flashpoints and key events like the Cuban Missile Crisis and Vietnam War.

Civil Rights in the USA - We will examine the ways in which Black Americans experienced discrimination in 20th Century America.

We will then explore social movements like the campaign for Civil Rights and Black Power movement.

- We will be learning key exam skills in preparation or senior level.

Additionally, we will be using and developing important life skills, such as;

- Critical Thinking
- Source Evaluation
- Literacy

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

By experiencing all of the areas outlined during S3, pupils will gain an insight into key aspects of History which will help

prepare them for the National 4 and 5 qualifications which, in turn, will establish the knowledge and skills required for the Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications.



Pupils will broaden their understanding of the world...

How can you help your child at home?

Parents can help us by regularly taking an interest in and checking up on homework, and ensuring that pupils prepare well for class assessments by carefully monitoring pupil performance.





Why study?

Through the study of Modern Studies young people develop their knowledge of current social, political and economic issues. They also extend their understanding of other people and their values. In Modern Studies,

we aim to increase young peoples' awareness of political, social economic issues in Scotland and overseas. We also encourage young people to think about how these issues affect them and how they can become involved.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Skills for Life and Learning

Learners will enjoy a variety of learning experiences helping them to become more successful learners. They will be able to apply their knowledge and skills to unfamiliar situations, equipping them for the challenges to be faced in the workplace, further study or higher education. Modern Studies naturally encourages discussion so learners develop as effective contributors through debating local, national and world issues that affect them. They develop as responsible global citizens as they learn about the issues facing societies, while building confidence through working with others and arguing a point in a debate.

Links to the world of work

Due to its contemporary focus and level of challenge, Modern Studies analytical and decision-making skills equips pupils for entry to a wide range of careers. Learners who have experienced Modern Studies are highly literate and politically aware due to the variety of verbal, written and thought-provoking tasks experienced. Modern Studies pupils enter a large number of different careers. For example, pupils wishing to study Psychology, Politics, Journalism, Social Work, Care or any other Social Sciences - a useful choice at this stage.



By experiencing all the areas outlined above during BGE pupils will gain an insight into all aspects of Modern Studies. This will help prepare them for the National 4 and National 5 qualifications, which in turn will establish the knowledge and skills required for the Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications.



How can you help your child at home?

At home parents can help by encouraging their children to look over their school work each night. Parents can also provide support by looking at their children's planners regularly, this will help ensure that homework is completed on time and to a high standard. It is also helpful if pupils have access to quality newspapers and news reports on a daily or weekly basis.

Topics

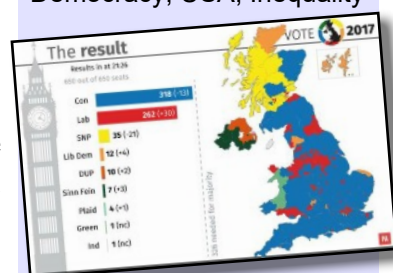
S1 - Rights & Responsibilities, Democracy & Dictatorship

S2 - Law & Disorder, China

S3 - USA, social issues in Scotland

N4/S4 - Crime & Law, Democracy, USA

Higher - Democracy, USA, Inequality



Increase young peoples' awareness of political, social and economic issues

Religious Education

Why study?

Pupils will further develop their ability to learn from religious and non religious answers to the issues of life. They will develop their ability to form and explain their own opinions as well as understand that alternative viewpoints are also relevant.

Pupils will broaden their understanding of multicultural Scotland.

Religious and Moral Education gives pupils the chance to explore the world's major religions and views which are independent of religious belief that will help them to consider challenges that are posed by these beliefs and values. It focuses on developing responsible attitudes to other people. This will counteract prejudice and intolerance. Pupils will search for meaning value and purpose in life. There is an intrinsic value in learning about religion as well as from it, as pupils will develop their understanding of society and their own role in it.

Learning Experiences

The S3 course contains:

Bridges & Barriers - This is an examination into how Religion can be the cause of conflict around the world. This unit focuses on Northern Ireland and Sectarianism. You will learn what it means to be a Protestant or a Catholic and how this has caused division. You will also address the problem of how to fix this gate build a Bridge or a Barrier

Changing the World - This unit look back in time and examines who in the past has changed the world, then it brings it up to date to examine people like Bill Gates. The hope of this unit is to inspire and recognise how we can make a positive impact.

Islam - This unit looks at some of the key beliefs that the Religion of Islam has and how they practise these. It also looks into the life of Muhammad Ali as an example of Faith in Action.

Genocide - This unit introduces the concept of Genocide. This is the process of killing a large group of people intending to wipe them out solely based on their Religion

Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Students will have the opportunity to develop research skills and they will be taught how to analyse and evaluate information. The study of Religious Studies will introduce them to different religions and non-religious belief systems and give them the opportunity to reflect on their own beliefs. An understanding of religious beliefs in particular is being seen as a very positive attribute in today's workplace, in particular the police, medicine, teaching, business and tourism.



Opportunities for Wider Achievement

By experiencing all of the areas outlined during S2/3, pupils will gain an insight into key aspects of Religion which will help prepare them for the National 4 and 5 qualifications which, in turn, will establish the knowledge and skills required for the Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications. They will also have opportunities to participate in a number of school trips: in S2 there is a 3 day trip to places of worship in London; in S3 a trip to Samye Ling will be

offered; in S4,5 and 6 a seven day residential trip to Berlin and Krahov will be offered to tie in with the study of the Holocaust and Judaism.



Chance to explore the world's major religions

How can you help your child at home?

Parents can help us by regularly taking an interest in and checking up on homework, and ensuring that pupils prepare well for class assessments by carefully monitoring Pupil Profile Sheets.



Art & Design

Why study?

Art and Design education is important for all pupils, developing their visual awareness, problem solving and hand to eye coordination. It is a valued qualification at University level for courses such as dentistry and architecture. The visual arts and design help pupils to understand and express individual ideas and to think creatively. This creativity is important in all walks of life and is considered one of the highest levels of thinking. We want to encourage pupils to develop their: observational and aesthetic skills which are intrinsic to the subject. Pupils will also be encouraged to develop their own imagination and to develop literacy skills and confidence in explaining their work and their understanding of the work of others.

Throughout S3 pupils will be actively involved in producing a full range of art and design work using different art media from drawing and painting to working with clay. Sometimes pupils will be working on their own portfolio pieces and at other times they will be working collaboratively on much bigger group projects. Projects will include: World Art, Still Life, Graphic Design and Ceramic Design. In addition pupils will be tasked with drawing objects found at home for their sketchbooks and studying and writing about Artists and Designers.

Art and Design is a popular choice and we are proud of our excellent achievements in preparing pupils for National examinations.



Express individual ideas and think creatively



Skills For Learning, Life & Work



- Literacy – Reading
- Literacy – Writing
- Literacy - Listening and talking
- Personal learning
- Emotional Wellbeing
- Planning for, and making, choices and changes
- Employability
- Information and communication technology (ICT)
- Working with others
- Leadership
- Citizenship
- Thinking skills
- Remembering
- Understanding
- Applying
- Analysing and evaluating
- Creating

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Pupils will be given the opportunity to get involved in displays of artwork around the school and in the wider community on occasions, including competitions.

There are a number of exciting competitions throughout the year which pupils can enter. Pupils will be made aware of special exhibitions both local and national which complement their studies.

How can you help your child at home?

At home, parents can be encouraging their children to review and revise what they have learned during the school day. It is particularly helpful if you could help your child with his/her organisation skills. Parents can also assist in ensuring that their child completes homework by the due date and to a high standard by spending sufficient time (as indicated by the teacher) on their artwork.

Drama

Why study?

Many of the skills that pupils learn in Drama are transferable skills. This means that they will use these skills to help them in other subjects too. Most of these skills are also important life skills. We want to encourage pupils to develop their: social skills; negotiating skills; self-confidence; communication skills; organisation skills; listening skills; voice skills; reading skills; writing skills and performing skills.



Skills For Learning, Life & Work



- Literacy – Listening and Talking
- Health and wellbeing
- Personal learning
- Emotional wellbeing
- Planning for, and making, choices and changes
- Relationships
- Information and communication technology (ICT)
- Working with others
- Enterprise
- Leadership
- Thinking skills
- Remembering
- Understanding
- Applying
- Analysing and evaluating
- Creating

Learning Experiences

Throughout the year pupils will take part in group work, discovering what other people's thoughts, feelings and ideas are as well as understanding and expressing their own. Pupils will also be encouraged to develop their own imagination and use improvisation, mime and movement as ways of presenting ideas, feelings and attitudes. We will also be exploring drama scripts and pupils will be given plenty of opportunities to specialise in particular areas of interest whether this is in a performing role or a backstage role. S2 & S3 topics include: Production of "Grease", "Dracula Spectacular", "Blood Brothers" and exploration of all the backstage areas of the theatre including costume, make-up, lighting, sound, set design and props.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

The S3 course will help prepare pupils for the National 4 and National 5 qualifications, which in turn will establish the knowledge and skills required for Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications. There are a number of exciting opportunities outside school too: Razzamadaz, Moffat Youth Theatre, Dumfries Guild of Players Youth Theatre and RH organisation.

How can you help your child at home?

At home, parents can be encouraging their children to review and revise what they have learned during the school day. It is particularly helpful if you could help your child with his/her organisation skills and from time to time help with the learning of lines. Parents please ensure your children read as much as possible. This will pay enormous dividends as your children move up the school. Parents can also assist in ensuring that their child completes homework by the due date and to a high standard.



Pupils will take part in group work

Music

Why study?

The inspiration and power of music plays a vital role in enabling our children and young people to enhance their creative talent and develop their artistic skills. By engaging in Music young people will recognise and represent feelings and emotions. Music plays an important role in supporting our young people to



recognise and value the variety and vitality of culture locally, nationally and globally.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

All the areas covered above in S3 will give pupils a good grounding which will then allow them to prepare for National 4 and National 5 qualifications and eventually Higher and Advanced Higher Qualifications in Music Performing and Music Technology. Pupils also have opportunities to take part in extra curricular music activities both in Lockerbie Academy and outside school. Many of our pupils are involved in NYCOS, the regional youth choir, Burns competitions, Lockerbie Gala "Songs of Praise", the regional jazz band, pipe bands and so on. Pupils should ask their Music teacher about all of the exciting groups on offer to them.

Learning Experiences

Areas covered in S3 will include:

Music & Film - Instrumental/Inventing/Listening skills

American Music - Instrumental/Inventing/Listening skills

Celtic Rock – Instrumental/Inventing/Listening skills

Pupils will further develop their musical skills in two instruments. Sometimes they will be working on their own and at other times they will be playing as part of a group. Pupils will be expected to perform in front of their classmates and occasionally they will be expected to perform to a wider audience.

Skills For Learning, Life & Work



- Literacy
- Personal learning
- Employability
- Information and communication technology (ICT)
- Working with others
- Enterprise
- Leadership
- Citizenship
- Thinking skills
- Remembering
- Understanding
- Applying
- Analysing and evaluating
- Creating



Practise on a daily basis

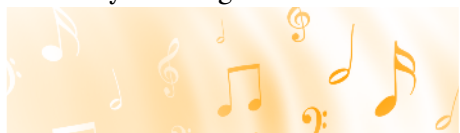
How can you help your child at home?

At home, parents can be encouraging their children to revise their musical concepts for their end of unit tests. If their child has access to an instrument or receives instrumental tuition then parents need to encourage their child to practise regularly on a daily basis.

Music Technology

Why study?

The inspiration and power of music plays a vital role in enabling our children and young people to enhance their creative talent and develop their artistic skills. The S3 Music Technology Course enables learners to develop basic skills in the use of music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio. The course also enables learners to use music technology creatively in sound production and to develop an understanding of a range of 20th and 21st century music styles and genres.



Opportunities for Wider Achievement

All the areas covered above in S3 will give pupils a good grounding which will then allow them to prepare for National 4 and National 5 qualifications and eventually Higher Qualifications in Music Technology. Pupils also have opportunities to take part in extra curricular music activities both in Lockerbie Academy and outside school. Many of our pupils are involved in NYCOS, the regional youth choir, Burns competitions, Lockerbie Gala "Songs of Praise", the regional jazz band, pipe bands and so on. Pupils should ask their Music teacher about all of the exciting groups on offer to them.

How can you help your child at home?

At home, parents can be encouraging their children to revise for their end of unit tests, look over vocabulary and use recording and editing software if they have access.

Skills For Learning, Life & Work

- Literacy
- Personal learning
- Employability
- Information and communication technology (ICT)
- Working with others
- Enterprise
- Leadership
- Citizenship
- Thinking skills
- Remembering
- Understanding
- Applying
- Analysing and evaluating
- Creating



Enables learners to use music technology creatively



Administration & IT

Why study?

Administration and IT continues to develop skills in using Microsoft Office, with particular emphasis on how these are used to support business.

Skills For Learning, Life & Work

SKILLS

Literacy -

- participating in group discussions
- asking and answering questions
- making and delivering presentations
- collaborating with others when organising and supporting small-scale events
- presenting information in the most suitable way for the reader
- Interpreting tasks and producing suitable documents

Numeracy -

- extracting information from graphs
- understanding and interpreting research data, eg tables, charts, graphs and written information
- selecting the most appropriate mathematical function to calculate financial information using spreadsheets
- Working with time as part of electronic communication such as ediyary

The skills developed are useful across the school – where you may need to record results of an experiment in a spreadsheet in Science or type up an essay in History. In the workplace this software is common in all organisations and is needed in all types of jobs.

Employability, enterprise and citizenship -

- planning tasks
- working with others
- managing time
- problem solving
- using a range of software packages for research and accurate presentation of information
- using a range of digital media
- using ICT responsibly and safely

Health and wellbeing -

- team working to plan an event for business purposes
- understand the importance of health and safety in the workplace – particularly employer and employee responsibility.

Thinking skills -

- applying knowledge of different software to different contexts, e.g. planning for an event.



Develop skills in Using Microsoft Office

How can you help your child at home?

A key skill in Administration and IT is keying in information – which requires reasonable typing speed and accuracy. Practicing this skill at home either by typing up a magazine or newspaper article or using online typing websites will help improve speed. Getting your child to show you how to use some of the software for your own use.



Business Management

Why study?

Business Management introduces pupils to the world of business – how it operates, the different types of businesses that exist and how businesses

affect the world we live in. This course will be of interest to anyone thinking of starting their own business in the future or looking to work in retail, finance or management.

Skills For Learning, Life & Work



Literacy -

- participating in debates and discussions with the class
- preparing and delivering presentations to the class on a chosen business topic
- writing business reports to make recommendations to a business

Numeracy -

- extracting graphical information
- creating and interpreting data in profit statements and budgets

Employability, enterprise and citizenship -

- demonstrating understanding of how commercial businesses work
- being pro-active when participating in team activities, showing initiative and taking responsibility
- researching job descriptions and attributes employers look for in different roles
- using software packages to prepare a presentation, prepare a business

plan, prepare budgets and income statements

Thinking skills -

- memorising and using business vocabulary in the correct context
- using business knowledge to problem solve and make recommendations for business to improve



How can you help your child at home?

Reading business related articles in a newspaper or on a news website and watching the news will help give pupils an understanding of how business works and affects the country. Talk about your job and organisation and how it is run. Look at promotions when shopping or on TV to bring marketing to life.



Talk about your job and organisation

Design and Manufacture

Why study?

The course provides a broad practical introduction to Design & Manufacture. The pupils will develop skills making simple physical models from design drawings, and refine the design based on simple evaluation of the model. Pupils will achieve this through undertaking the following activities:

- Extracting dimensions from given drawings

- Selecting suitable materials, giving consideration to issues of sustainability
- Selecting and using appropriate tools and equipment
- Applying safe working practices
- Assessing the effectiveness of the model against given design criteria
- Identifying improvements which could be made to the design
- Producing sketches to communicate an amended design

Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Course activities also provide opportunities to build self-confidence, transferable skills in numeracy, employability skills, thinking skills, and skills in planning and organising of work tasks.

Learners will also have the opportunity to working independently and in collaboration with others, as well as develop skills in communication and self- and peer- evaluation in a technological design context.

Through these activities, the pupils will develop awareness of sustainability and recycling. Learners will also learn and apply safe working practices in a workshop, or similar, environment.



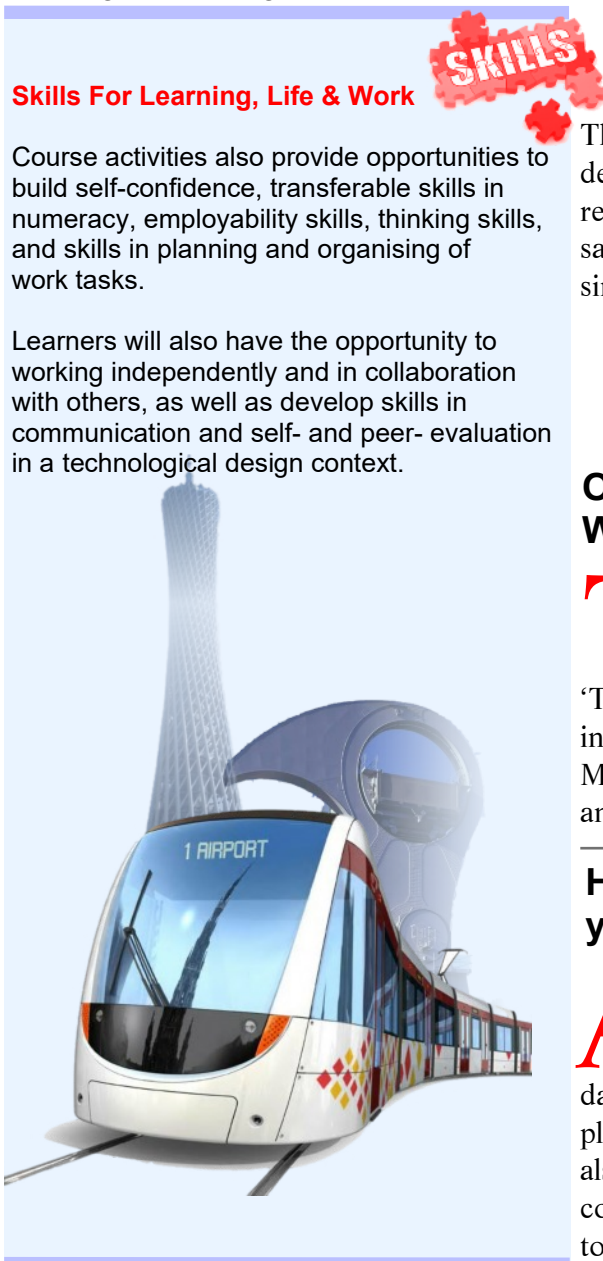
Opportunities to build self-confidence

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

This Course introduces learners to ideas and skills which they may take forward through further study in the 'Technologies' curriculum area. This includes National courses in Design & Manufacture, Graphic Communication and Practical Crafts.

How can you help your child at home?

At home, parents can encourage their children to review and revise what they have learned during the school day. This can be done by setting up a study plan with parental supervision. Parents can also assist in ensuring that their child completes homework by the due date and to a high standard.



Graphic Communication

Why study?

The course provides a broad practical introduction to Graphic Communication. The pupils will develop skills in producing drawings, sketches and diagrams to support the design process. Learners will use computer-aided and/or manual graphic communication tools and techniques to undertake the following activities:

- Producing well-proportioned sketch of simple design ideas, showing main dimensions
- Choosing and applying colour to sketches or drawings to convey texture and highlight
- Using software to produce rendered 3D models for design ideas
- Producing orthographic drawings for design ideas
- Make basic design decisions about layout, colours and fonts which including a range of drawings and sketches to illustrate design ideas
- Use text appropriately to provide relevant information
- Combining graphics and text into a single-page display with visual impact

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

This Course introduces learners to ideas and skills which they may take forward through further study in the 'Technologies' curriculum area. This includes National courses in Design & Manufacture, Graphic Communication and Practical Crafts.

Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Course activities also provide opportunities to build self-confidence, transferable skills in numeracy, employability skills, thinking skills, and skills in planning and organising of work tasks. Learners will also have the opportunity to working independently and in collaboration with others, as well as develop skills in communication and self- and peer- evaluation in a technological design context.



Pupils will develop skills in producing drawings ...



How can you help your child at home?

At home, parents can encourage their children to review and revise what they have learned during the school day. This can be done by setting up a study plan with parental supervision. Parents can also assist in ensuring that their child completes homework by the due date and to a high standard.

Practical Craft

Why study?

This Course is for learners with an interest in practical woodworking and/or metalworking. It is also suitable for learners wanting to progress to higher levels of study in practical crafts.

The Course provides opportunities to develop psychomotor skills, practical creativity, practical problem solving skills and an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop. It provides opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of good practice in sustainability.

The Course is practical in nature. It focuses on the development of practical woodworking and/or

Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Course activities also provide opportunities to build self-confidence, generic and transferable skills in numeracy, employability skills, thinking skills, and skills in planning and organising work tasks and working independently and in collaboration with others, as well as skills in communication and in self- and peer-evaluation in a practical craft workshop environment.



Opportunities to develop psychomotor skills ...

practical metalworking skills. It provides opportunities for learners to gain practical craft skills in the use of a range of tools, equipment and materials, working with wood, manufactured boards and/or metals. It allows learners to follow a series of activities through to the completion of a finished item.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

The experience of this course will lead naturally to Practical Woodworking or Practical Metalworking at National 4 and 5 and would be relevant to courses in Design and Manufacture at these and higher levels. Learners who can plan and carry out practical projects will find this useful in many other disciplines.



How can you help your child at home?

The opportunity to use tools and equipment at home on practical tasks would be very useful to learners on this course.

Programmes related to practical activity and the use of tools and materials from various broadcast and media sources should also be accessed at home if possible.



Home Economics

Why study?

Home Economics is primarily a practical subject but does also include a significant amount of theory work where pupils may extend their interest in practical food skills and the knowledge required to complete recipes successfully.

You will be expected to carry out written homework tasks and at least one lesson a week will be devoted to written class work.

Throughout this course pupils will develop a broad knowledge to prepare themselves for everyday living.

Home Economics contributes to many important values such as life skills, teamwork, organisation and preparation for work.

Pupils will study; preparation techniques, cooking methods, bacteria and safe methods of working and, recipe costing. The topics covered in this subject will be delivered through a variety of stimulating practical tasks and reinforced with a broad knowledge in the theory and principles behind these tasks. The course prepares pupils for progression to Nat 4/5 Practical Cookery.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

Pupils will develop a breadth of knowledge in this subject area that will adequately prepare them for Nation 4 and National 5 qualifications.



Subject contains both practical and written lessons

Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Reading: Reading means the ability to understand and interpret ideas and information presented in texts.

Writing: Writing means the ability to create texts which communicate information to meet a purpose and within a context. **Listening and Talking:** Listening means the ability to understand and interpret ideas, opinions and information presented orally for a purpose and within a context, drawing on non-verbal communication as appropriate. Talking means the ability to communicate orally ideas, opinions and information for a purpose.

Number Processes: Number processes means solving problems arising in everyday life through: Carrying out calculations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Using whole numbers, fractions, decimal fractions and percentages.

Money, Time and Measurement: This means using and understanding money, time and measurement to solve practical problems in a variety of contexts using relevant units and suitable instruments, and to an appropriate degree of accuracy.

Physical wellbeing: Physical wellbeing means recognising the importance and benefits of healthy and active living and practicing skills to make the most of positive aspects of healthy eating.

Employability: Employability is the ability to gain employment by developing the personal qualities, skills, knowledge, understanding and attitude required in rapidly changing economic environments. Organisational skills and timely working easing transitions between jobs and roles.

Working with others: Knowing and practising what is involved in working co-operatively and sensitively with others; having the ability to recognise need and opportunity; to influence and negotiate with others to take ideas forward; being adaptable and having determination to succeed; being able to discuss, set and meet roles and expectations in a working environment; and accessing, providing and creating information.

Thinking Skills: We also cover a variety of skills primarily remembering, understanding, applying knowledge, analysing and evaluating and creating.

How can you help your child at home?

At home you can encourage your child to become more actively involved in food preparation and presentation.

Basic containers are required to carry home food products made in this subject. Pupils should record this in their planners each week.



Sport & Recreation



Why study?

National 4 Skills for Work: Sport and Recreation is an introductory qualification. It develops the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed for work in the industry.

A keen interest in Sport and a general standard of fitness would be highly recommended for entry into this course. Furthermore, an interest in entering employment in the Sport & Leisure industry would be beneficial.

The Skills for Work (SfW) course content covers the main practical activities involved in carrying out a support role in a sport and recreation environment, as well as health and safety legislation. This is completed through fitness training sessions, practical activities and first aid training. Candidates will learn about:

- assisting with planning, setting up and delivering activity sessions
- dismantling and checking equipment and resources
- assisting with accident and emergency procedures
- dealing effectively and courteously with clients, staff and others
- helping to plan and review a personal training programme
- establishing good practice in setting and reviewing personal goals



Covers Health and Safety legislation

Opportunities for Wider Achievement

We have close links with Active Schools who provide access to a wide range of sporting activities. They also offer leadership opportunities in and out with the school which complements the Sport and Recreation course perfectly.

How can you help your child at home?

Encourage your child to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. Promote a balanced diet with 60 minutes of physical activity on most days.

Skills For Learning, Life & Work

Reading: 1. Literacy

1.3 Listening and talking Listening means the ability to understand and interpret ideas, opinions and information presented orally for a purpose and within a context, drawing on non-verbal communication as appropriate. Talking means the ability to communicate orally ideas, opinions and information for a purpose and within a context.

3. Health and Wellbeing

3.2 Emotional wellbeing Emotional wellbeing includes taking responsibility for yourself and being aware of the impact your behaviour may have on others; developing ways to manage your feelings; developing positive attitudes and resilience; practising assertive behaviours; building confidence; and, based on an understanding of any risks, making informed decisions.

3.3 Physical wellbeing Physical wellbeing means recognising the importance and benefits of healthy and active living and practising skills to make the most of positive aspects of activity, such as enjoyment and challenge

4. Employability, enterprise and citizenship

4.3 Working with others Working with others means knowing and practising what is involved in working co-operatively and sensitively with others; having the ability to recognise need and opportunity; to influence and negotiate with others to take ideas forward; being adaptable and having a determination to succeed; being able to discuss, set and meet roles and expectations in a working environment; and accessing, providing and creating information

5. Thinking Skills

5.3 Applying Applying is the ability to use existing information to solve a problem in a different context, and to plan, organise and complete a task.