

**BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY**

**S2 COURSE CHOICE**

**LEARNER REVIEW BOOKLET**



This booklet aims to give you all the information you need to help you make the right choices. Each page gives you information about each curricular subject helping you to make an informed choice.

Your Guidance teacher will also be doing work with you around course choice. Your Guidance teacher, subject teachers along with parents/carers will help to talk you through your choices.

### **Faculty Subjects**

In S3 you will continue to study Maths (4 periods per week), English (4 periods per week), PE (2 periods per week), RMPS (1 period per week), PSE (1 period per week). You can choose a subject from within each of the other curricular areas for 2 period per week, the exception being Modern Languages which will be 3 periods per week.

### **Curricular Pathways**

It is important to think carefully about your choices because we would expect you to carry almost all of your subjects forward into your senior phase (S4, S5 & S6). It is strongly encouraged that you will continue with these subjects into S4 to give you the best chance of success in exams. This will give you at least 2 years of learning in your chosen subjects. It is really important to have discussions at home and with your teachers in school to find the best pathway for you.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Courses may change (not run) due to staffing constraints, accommodation or a shortage of pupils opting for it. We will do our best to accommodate your choices BUT you may be required to take your reserve choice. Make your 1<sup>st</sup> and reserve choices carefully.

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**Department:** English & Literacy

**Course Name:** English in S3



**Description of course:**

This year builds upon the foundations laid in the first two years of the CfE English course. The course is built around the English Experiences and Outcomes, and centres on the four modes of communication: Reading, Writing, talking and listening. As is the case in S1 & S2, pupils will follow a structured course timeline designed to deliver breadth whilst ensuring real development of the key skills of English. Pupils will have the opportunity to cover the Experiences and Outcomes right up to level 4, ensuring they are progressively challenged and fully prepared as they progress through their school career.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

The S3 course takes the parts of S1/2 that you enjoyed and develops them in more depth. You will have the opportunity to hone your language skills on a full novel study; take your knowledge of a shorter Shakespeare text and apply it to one of his full plays; take your initial exploration of poetry to a new level by working on poetry from other cultures around the world and, finally, you will learn how to understand the media and world of advertising through the Media Unit specifically designed to enhance the skills you learned in S1/2. Underpinning all of these units will be the continued development of your literacy skills.

**How will I learn?**

It is important to us that you get a learning experience in English which will develop your skills and engage interest. For this reason you will take part in a rich and exciting variety of activities, including group work, role play, performance and of course the more traditional mixture of reading and writing. We will always endeavour to make full use of the range of activities we have at our disposal to make your learning experience as rich as possible.

**How will I know I am progressing?**

We know the importance of this, and are fully committed to making the best use of a range of assessment approaches in order to develop your skills as much as possible. You will get both written and oral feedback on your course work, ongoing feedback from your teacher during lessons, and of course you will be expected to take part in a range of self-evaluation activities as well. By the end of S3 you will be able to write more accurately and effectively; confidently read, analyse and evaluate a range of texts; be able to use your talking and listening skills more effectively, and have developed a wider appreciation of literature and its cultural significance.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

In S4 you will enter the Senior Phase of Curriculum for Excellence, and at that point will embark on either National 4 or National 5 English. These qualifications seek to develop and give accreditation to skills that you will have developed throughout the S1-3 CfE Course.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

The importance of English to your future career lies in the skills it develops. The cornerstones of CfE English are the four modes of communication: Reading, Writing, Listening and Talking. Through the development of these skills, we seek to develop pupils who are independent, thoughtful and reflective. The skills you learn through the study of English will prove valuable to employers in any workplace, and are normally an entry requirement for most courses at university or college.

**What will my Home Learning commitment be?**

In S3, Home Learning will vary between weekly and fortnightly depending on the course requirements and you will normally be expected to work for between 30 minutes and one hour on English per assignment.

In S4, Home Learning will match higher expectations placed on you when undertaking national 4 or 5. You will be expected to work on Home Learning for one hour per week, but this may vary according to the coursework demands.

**Department:** Faculty of Mathematics and Numeracy

**Course Name:** Mathematics and Numeracy in S3



**Description of course:**

Pupils will develop their understanding of “Number, Money and Measure”, “Shape, Position and Movement”, “Information Handling” and “Expressions, Equations and Formulae”. Throughout the course students will enhance their strategies, organisation and interpretation skills. We will examine how these skills can be applied in a variety of situations.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

We will extend their knowledge base of Mathematics into National 4 and National 5 level Mathematics and Applications of Mathematics and emphasise the need to formalise their work to illustrate their thought process and reasoning.

**How will I learn?**

Pupils will develop their Mathematical understanding and reasoning skills through a mixture of independent learning, group work, cooperative learning, Investigative approaches and use of IT.

**How will I know I am progressing?**

Pupils will be given a target to achieve and will be aware of their progress through self-evaluation, peer evaluation and from feedback from teachers. Pupils will be given advice on what steps to take to meet their targets.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

There are a variety of routes than can be taken as a pupil progresses into S4 (e.g. National 5 Mathematics, National 4 Mathematics, National 3 Applications of Mathematics, National 4 Applications of Mathematics, National 5 Applications of Mathematics). Teachers will discuss with the pupils which option is best for them.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

Numeracy and Mathematics qualifications are important for all careers: they show an aptitude for logical and rational thinking and demonstrate problem solving skills. These qualifications are invaluable for careers in Finance, Engineering, Architecture, Computing and many others.

**What will my Home Learning commitment be?**

All pupils are expected to keep up-to-date with the work set. This may mean completing work at home. In addition, approximately one hour of homework will be given each week and pupils are expected to ensure it is completed promptly and completed to a high standard.

**Department: Modern Languages**

**Course Name: French/Spanish**



**Description of course:**

In S3 you will have a choice of French or Spanish. What you choose should be based on competency in the language, teacher recommendation and career plans. By the end of S2 you will have studied Spanish for about 5 months and French for about 17-18 months as well as primary school based learning.

In S3 you will study from Viva, our digital course for Spanish, or Studio 2 for French. You will build upon your knowledge of the chosen language, developing the 4 skills of reading, listening, speaking and writing. You will also explore the cultural aspects of language learning.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

In this course, I will build upon my knowledge of French from S1 and S2, continuing to develop the 4 skills of reading, listening, speaking and writing throughout the year. I will also explore the cultural aspects of language learning

**How will I learn?**

In class you will use the computer suites and chrome books as well as be involved in group work and pair work for speaking exercises and projects. You will be introduced to French and Spanish pop songs and you may even be encouraged to compose your own...in the Foreign Language.

**How will I know I am progressing?**

Pupils will be given a target to achieve and will be aware of their progress through self-evaluation, peer evaluation and from feedback from teachers. Pupils will be given advice on what steps to take to meet their targets.

Depending on circumstances, there is the possibility of sitting the National 4 French Reading and Listening Unit Assessment. If achieved, this can be kept for inclusion in your S4 SQA Certificate.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

There are a variety of routes than can be taken as a pupil progresses into S4 (e.g. National 5, National 4). Teachers will discuss with the pupils which option is best for them.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

Knowing how to speak a foreign language is widely recognised as a huge asset to your chances of employment. Employers in all industries are looking for people with some level of second (or third) language. Foreign language study enhances listening skills and memory. It is also widely accepted that the study of a foreign language improves the knowledge of your own language: English vocabulary skills increase and it also encourages respect for other countries and their cultures.

A language qualification can help you to gain the credits required for entry into University even if languages are not the subject that you intend to pursue.

**Higher French or Spanish can be an alternative to Higher English when applying to university courses such as Medicine/ Sciences /Engineering/Music to name but a few.**

**What will my Home Learning commitment be?**

You will have small amounts of homework every week. Learning a language is like learning to play an instrument or becoming very good at sports. It requires regular practice and a good memory. The homework is often set online so that you can self-check and do listening exercises.

**Department:** Science  
**Course:** Level 4 Biology



**Description of Course:**

**Cell Biology** - In this Unit you will learn about cell division and its role in growth and repair, DNA, genes and chromosomes, therapeutic use of cells, properties of enzymes and use in industries, properties of microorganisms and use in industries, photosynthesis — limiting factors, factors affecting respiration, and controversial biological procedures.

**Life on Earth** - In this Unit you will learn how animal and plants species depend on each other, impact of population growth and natural hazards on biodiversity, nitrogen cycle, fertiliser design and environmental impact of fertilisers, adaptations for survival, and learned behaviour in response to stimuli linked to species survival.

**Development of skills** – Learners will develop skills of scientific inquiry, investigation and analytical thinking, along with knowledge and understanding in the context of the biological concepts in both units.

**My Learning**

**What will be different in S3?**

You will meet new biology ideas and explore familiar ones in depth. You will work in groups and independently as you research different topics in the course.

**How will I learn?**

Coursework will include independent study, group work, practical investigations, research tasks, written reports and presentations.

**How will I know how I am progressing?**

Feedback from: formal and self-assessment, peer evaluation, homework and from your teacher.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

This course is based on National 4 Biology Outcomes. If you are successful in these units, you will be eligible for Level 4 National Progression Award (NPA) in Science and Technology, National 4 Biology, or National 5 Biology.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

An understanding of biology is an essential part of monitoring and maintaining our health and the Life Sciences industry is a rapidly growing area of employment. Funding is allocated each year for research into diseases, their causes and potential treatments. Biology is also important in the food industry, agriculture, environmental science, animal health and welfare.

**What will my Home Learning commitment be?**

Home learning forms an important part of the course and you will regularly be given homework tasks such as worksheets, research tasks, written reports etc.

**Department:** Science  
**Course:** Level 4 Chemistry



**Description of Course:**

**Chemical changes and structures;** All of nature exists because of a series of chemical reactions. Therefore, understanding not only why a reaction happens, but also how we can alter the rate at which it happens, is crucial if we are to harness the power of nature. Firework manufacturers use their knowledge of chemical reactions to create amazing firework displays, nuclear chemists produce power from radioactive sources and research chemists produce slow release products for treatment of cancers.

**Natures Chemistry;** Nature provides us with fossil fuels, which brought about the industrial age. Why have they been so useful, yet so destructive to our life on Earth? How can we produce the same levels of energy without polluting our atmosphere? Would alcohol or hydrogen gas provide us with the answer? What materials can Mother Nature provide, and how can we use it to benefit today's society?

**My Learning**

**What will be different in S3?**

You will meet new chemistry ideas and explore familiar ones in depth. You will work as part of a team and independently as you work towards solving chemical problems,

**How will I learn?**

Coursework will include independent study, group work, practical investigations, research tasks, written reports and presentations.

**How will I know how I am progressing?**

Feedback from: formal and self-assessment, peer evaluation, homework and from your teacher.

**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

This course is based on National 4 Chemistry Outcomes. If you are successful in these units, you will be eligible for Level 4 National Progression Award (NPA) in Science and Technology where you will also have the chance to complete the National 4 Chemistry qualification, or National 5 Chemistry.

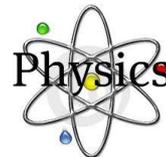
**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

An understanding of chemistry is valuable in many different occupations in the food and drinks industry, healthcare, the cosmetics industry, parenting and nursery care.

**What will my Home Learning commitment be?**

Home learning forms an important part of the course and you will regularly be given homework tasks such as worksheets, research tasks, written reports etc.

**Department:** Science  
**Course:** Level 4 Physics



### **Description of Course:**

#### **Unit 1– Dynamics & Space**

This unit covers the topics of motion and forces and how these concepts can be applied in space. This unit also includes an introduction to cosmology.

#### **Unit 2 – Waves & Radiation**

In this unit you will learn about the characteristics of light and sound waves. This includes how sound is generated and applications of sound and light energy. These principles are extended into investigations into the electromagnetic spectrum and nuclear energy.

### **My Learning**

#### **What will be different in S3?**

You will look at the applications of physics in the real world such as where our electricity comes from, how to calculate the speed of cars and how noise cancelling headphones work. The emphasis is on scientific experiments and language and using science to make informed choices.

#### **How will I learn?**

Coursework will include independent study, group work, practical investigations, research tasks, written reports and presentations.

#### **How will I know how I am progressing?**

Feedback from: formal and self-assessment, peer evaluation, homework and from your teacher.

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#### **How can I take this course forward into S4?**

This course is based on National 4 Physics Outcomes. If you are successful in these units, you will be eligible for Level 4 National Progression Award (NPA) in Science and Technology where you will also have the chance to complete the National 4 Physics qualification, or National 5 Physics.

#### **What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

An understanding of physics is valuable in many different occupations including engineering, radiography, television and radio technician, electrician, computing and many more.

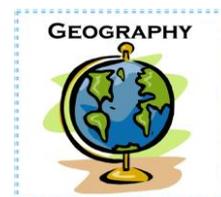
#### **What will my Home Learning commitment be?**

Home learning forms an important part of the course and you will regularly be given homework tasks such as worksheets, research tasks, written reports etc.

**Department: Social Subjects**

**Course Name: Level 4 Geography**

**Description of course:**



**Where do people live?**

You will learn about human settlement. You will learn the advantages and disadvantages of life in cities in developed and developing countries. You will also carry out some group research about Aberdeen.

**How does life in different climate zones vary?**

You will focus on deserts and rainforests. You will look at the characteristics of these areas, how humans interact with them and the threats they face.

**Is climate change a threat to me?**

This is a local and global issue you hear a lot about in the media. You will learn to understand the causes and effects, the science behind the issue as well as the arguments for and against climate change.

**Mountain to Sea**

A study of the physical landscapes of the north east of Scotland and how people have made use of these.

**Research Assignment:**

You will also have an opportunity to carry out research on a physical and human topic. This experience will prepare you for the challenges of studying Geography at National level.

**My learning**

**What will be different in S3?**

I will study the physical and human environments in more detail as well as complete an in-depth study of a current global issue. I will further develop my skills in researching and have more responsibility to work independently. I will also practise presenting my work in front of other people to help gain confidence in presenting.

**How will I learn?**

I will regularly learn through cooperative and independent learning and actively be involved in setting my own learning.

**How will I know how I am progressing?**

I will develop my skills of being able to evaluate my own work and set my own targets. I will also talk to my teacher in order to discuss my progress about how I can improve my learning.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

I could use the skills and knowledge I have gained during S3 in order to study Geography at National 3-5 in S4.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

Geography is a bridge between the arts and sciences which means it covers a huge range of skills and experiences to help you in a lot of different jobs. You are taught to think critically and to form arguments. Many business leaders and politicians studied Geography at university. Geography can lead to working in tourism, town planning, teaching, civil engineering, transport, surveying, civil service, forestry, agriculture, environmental sciences and housing as well as many other career opportunities.

**What is expected of me if I take this course?**

I understand that by signing up for a Social Subject course I am agreeing to take responsibility for my own learning and meeting any deadlines set by my teacher. I also agree to always be respectful and not to disrupt the learning of others.



**Department: Social Subjects**

**Course Name: Modern Studies**



**Description of course:**

**Terrorism**

You will study the causes of international terrorism and the impact that this has on the lives of individuals. You will also look at the effectiveness of government responses to terrorism. You will be given the opportunity to participate in class debates and gain skills in answering describe and explain questions.

**Is Britain Broken?**

You will study poverty, health and crime in the UK. You will also develop skills using sources to make decisions.

**Democracy in Scotland**

You will study the political system in Scotland. You will look at topics such as the work of an MSP and Scottish independence.

**Research Assignment**

You will also complete an independent research project in the course on a social, international or political topic of your choice. This will help you develop the research skills needed for the National 4 Modern Studies Added Value Unit or National 5 Modern Studies Assignment.

**My learning**

**What will be different in S3?**

I will study social, political and international issues in more detail. I will further develop my skills in researching and have more responsibility to work independently. I will also practise presenting my work in front of other people to help gain confidence in presenting.

**How will I learn?**

I will regularly learn through cooperative and independent learning and actively be involved in setting my own learning.

**How will I know how I am progressing?**

I will develop my skills of being able to evaluate my own work and set my own targets. I will also talk to my teacher in order to discuss my progress about how I can improve my learning.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

I could use the skills and knowledge I have gained during S3 in order to study Modern Studies at National 3-5 in S4.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

Modern Studies can lead to a future in law, working for a charity, journalism, economics, politics, banking or many other subjects.

**What is expected of me if I take this course?**

I understand that by signing up for a Social Subject course I am agreeing to take responsibility for my own learning and meeting any deadlines set by my teacher. I also agree to always be respectful and not to disrupt the learning of others.

**Faculty:** Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies

**Course Name:** Investigating Religion and Belief



### Description of Course:

This course aims to develop a wide range of important and transferable skills including investigating and expressing detailed, reasoned and well-structured views about religious, moral and philosophical topics or issues; interpreting and explaining sources related to world religions; enquiring into and evaluating contemporary moral questions and responses; and critically analysing religious and philosophical questions and responses.

As the title suggest, you must research a topic of your own choice, for example, LGBTQ+ issues or Climate change, and you would need also research how one religious and one non-religious viewpoint, along with your own opinion! This unit is also different from others you might study in S3 as you get to present your findings in any way you wish. A poster, a video, a booklet etc. and you can also choose what SQA level you wish to achieve, from level 3, which is National 3 all the way to Level 6, which is higher. This will then be marked internally, and the Unit award will be on you SQA certificates at the end of S4.

### My learning

#### What will be different in S3?

The first difference is that you will have an additional 2 periods of RMPS which is different and separate from CORE. The topics are not the same! Also in Option, you can further develop the skills needed for National 5 the following year, such as, independent learning, have more responsibility, researching skills, understanding source, analysis and evaluation skills.

#### How will I learn?

I will regularly learn through cooperative and independent learning and actively be involved in setting my own learning.

#### How will I know how I am progressing?

I will develop my skills of being able to evaluate my own work and set my own targets. I will also talk to my teacher in order to discuss my progress about how I can improve my learning.

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#### How can I take this course forward into S4?

I could use the skills and knowledge I have gained during S3 in order to study RMPS or any other relevant subject at National 4/5 level.

#### What are the possible career opportunities from this course?

A good understanding of people, their beliefs and customs is essential to any career path which places RMPS in a unique position. Many universities see this as a desirable subject for entry into courses such as Law and Medicine as there is a strong basis in morality, debate and critical thinking. The skills and attitudes developed in RMPS are particularly applicable in Journalism, Nursing, Medicine, Law, Politics, Social work, Psychology, Teaching, Business, Travel and Diversity, Media, Human Resourcing, Counselling and Youth work. Though it can be the pathway to pretty much anything!

**What is expected of me if I take this course?**

I understand that by signing up for Option RMPS. I am agreeing to take responsibility for my own learning and meeting any deadlines set by my teacher. I also agree to always be respectful and not to disrupt the learning of other

**Department: Technologies**

**Course Name: Business Management**



**Description of Course:**

This course develops:

- Successful learners who achieve through participating in engaging, motivating and relevant learning experiences in real-life business contexts.
- Confident individuals by supporting their own future education and place in the world of work.
- Responsible citizens who actively participate in the continuously changing business environment.
- Effective contributors to society as consumers, employees, employers or self-employed.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

In S3 you will develop your business skills by learning about the important role of business in society – everyone relies on businesses and entrepreneurs to create wealth, prosperity, jobs and choices. You will develop your knowledge and understanding of business concepts, customer needs, enterprising skills, and financial awareness, whilst gain an insight into the impact of the economy on businesses on your daily lives, therefore gaining economic awareness.

**How will I learn?**

Throughout this course you will have the opportunity to work both independently and with your peers. There will be many opportunities for active learning in the form of real-life activities, team building activities, presentations and case studies. You will use ICT throughout the course to support business and entrepreneurial activities. You will carry out research and analysis of your finds and effectively present it in a professional manner.

**How will I know how I am progressing?**

Individual pupil targets will be set and these will be monitored and reviewed at regular intervals by both you and your teacher. You will be actively encouraged to take responsibility for your own learning, in order for you to achieve your full potential.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

In S4 you can further develop your skills at National 3 or National 4 Business or National 5 Business Management.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

This course will support your development of entrepreneurial, problem-solving, decision making and ICT skills, which are essential in enhancing your employment opportunities. Business Management leads into many different careers such as setting up your own business, human resources, financial management, engineering, events management, and many more. Business management will also help develop those skills needed for further or higher education.

**What will my homework commitment be?**

It may be in the format of tasks using Google Classroom, written questions and research task which may involve you referring to websites, newspapers or business documents.



**Department: Technologies**

**Course Name: Computing Science**



**Description of Course:**

Computing science is about problem solving, an essential skill for life. Students use software to solve problems in a variety of contexts, and because computers solve problems to serve people, there is a significant human side to computer science as well.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

In S3 you will learn to create computer programs using a visual programming language. You will then develop a simple web site using the languages HTML and CSS.

**How will I learn?**

Throughout this course you will have the opportunity to work both independently and with your peers. There will be many opportunities for active learning by undertaking tasks that will provide you with breadth, challenge and application.

**How will I know how I am progressing?**

Individual pupil targets will be set and these will be monitored and reviewed at regular intervals by both you and your teacher. You will be actively encouraged to take responsibility for your own learning, in order for you to achieve your full potential.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

In S4 you can further develop your skills at National 3, National 4 or National 5 Computing Science.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

You will be able to utilise the acquired computing related knowledge, understanding and skills at home, in the wider community and ultimately in employment. Computing qualifications lead directly into a diverse range of careers including software engineers, web designer or games developer.

**What will my homework commitment be?**

It may be in the format of tasks using Google Classroom, written questions and research tasks.



**Description of Course:**

Graphic Communication is all around us and is a very important. It is a way of getting across information visually using graphics. Whether it's signs and symbols we see at the side of the road, the cover of a magazine or a technical drawing. We all use graphics every day and without them life would be more dangerous, more confusing and boring! This course is designed to increase your awareness of how graphics are used, and to learn about the technology used to create them. You will create graphic designs and 3D models as well as learn how to sketch objects in 2D & 3D. You should have shown an interest and progress in 3D CAD modelling projects like the microwave and digital camera as well as graphic design projects such as the magazine cover, logos and cereal box. You should also already be confident sketching in 2D and 3D.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

This course will teach you how to read, interpret and create graphic communications. You will develop skills in spatial awareness and learn lots of new terminology to do with graphic communication.

**How will I learn?**

You will learn how to use graphic communication equipment, software and materials to represent objects graphically. You will also look at how graphic communication technologies impact on our environment and society.

**How will I know I'm progressing?**

**At the end of each project you will be given informative feedback on each task. You will keep this on a cover sheet in** your folder as a record of your progress. Your parents will also get regular data updates from the school to show how you are getting on in class.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

If you complete the course successfully, it may lead to:  
National 5 Graphic Communication in S4 > Higher Graphic Communication in S5 > Advanced Higher Graphic Communication in S6

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

You may decide to go onto further study, training or employment in:  
Art and Design  
Computing and ICT  
Construction  
Engineering  
Manufacturing Industries  
Science and Mathematics

The skills you learn in this course are useful in many career areas including Architect, Interior Designer, Engineer, Surveyor, Drafter, Graphic Designer, Animator, Web Designer. However the skills you learn in Graphic Communication can open doors to many different careers, some of which don't even exist yet!

**Where can I find out more?**

Speak to Mrs Essiet or Mr Ness in the Design and Technology department.



**Description of Course:**

This course will build on woodworking that you have already completed in S1/2. It will introduce you to new tools, equipment and machines as well as new methods of joining materials. The emphasis for each project will be accurate use of marking and cutting tools, effective assembly and finishing of products, correct use of machinery and safe working practices during each lesson. This course will equip you with hands-on skills that can easily be transferred between different subjects.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

This course will give you a broad introduction to practical woodworking skills. You will learn the correct use of tools and equipment, and a range of materials, processes and techniques as well as gaining experience in the safe use of a variety of machine tools. You will also learn how to read and interpret diagrams, and work safely in a workshop-based setting. You will get to use some creative skills, and plan your activities through to completing finished products in wood.

**How will I learn?**

Throughout this course you will have the opportunity to work independently on a variety of tasks. There will be many opportunities for active learning in the form of hands-on activities in a practical environment. Much of the knowledge and skills you will acquire will be learnt through teacher demonstrations but you will be able to improve these through further application and practice.

**How will I know how I am progressing?**

You will be provided with regular feedback from your teacher which will identify your current level of achievement and how to progress further. It will also be made clear how the work you produce is being assessed. You will be actively encouraged to set and evaluate your own targets.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

In S4 you can further develop your skills by opting for National 4 or National 5 Practical Woodworking.

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

The knowledge and skills you would acquire through the woodworking course would be relevant to a broad range of professions including design, engineering, building and creative industries.

**What will my homework commitment be?**

It may be in the format of tasks using Google Classroom, written questions and research task which may involve you referring to websites or resources on Google classroom. As part of the course you will be logging key information relating to tools, equipment and machinery.

**Department: Expressive Arts**

**Course Name: Art & Design**



**Description of course:**

During the Art & Design course you will learn how to think creatively and independently, exercise your problem-solving abilities and fine-tune skills such as hand-eye co-ordination and communication.

The Course has an integrated approach to learning, and includes a mix of practical learning and analysis of art and design practice. You will draw upon their detailed understanding of art and design work and practice as you experiment with using a range of selected art and design materials, techniques and/or technology to develop your own creative ideas. You will develop a range of complex problem solving skills, and a critical understanding of the impact of social, cultural and other external factors on artists' and designers' work and practice.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

- You will focus on both Expressive and Design work which will be accompanied by critical studies that will reflect on both your own work and that of other artists and designers.
- You will learn to use analytical and problem solving skills to create original and creative outcomes.
- Literacy and Numeracy skills will be strengthened with an increase in subject specific vocabulary and focus on individual time management.

**How will I learn?**

- You will use themes to create a range of expressive outcomes which will show clear development of ideas in both expressive and design areas
- You will follow the proper design process to create a successful and considered outcome.
- Active learning will take place in all lessons
- You will complete self and peer evaluations to help strengthen your work and build your confidence in expressing your personal opinion on art and design.

**How will I know I am progressing?**

- You will be confident in using a range of different media
- You will be able to identify features of both art and design work that signifies a successful outcome as well as highlight areas for improvement
- You will discuss with your teacher your achievements and steps for improvement
- You will set yourself targets.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

National 4/5 Art & Design is offered in S4

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

- The list of careers that are linked to Art & Design is ever expanding with the introduction of new and creative tools and the growing interest in hiring creative thinkers. Some careers more directly linked to the subject include painter, printmaker, art therapist, graphic designer, architect, jewellery designer, games designer, costume designer, illustrator, make-up artist, photographer/photojournalist, set designer, tattoo artist, web designer and product designer. However the communication, problem solving and analytical skills developed within this subject can be applied to other career areas such as within sales and marketing, travel and tourism and engineering.

**What will my home learning commitment be?**

- Written work as well as practical tasks will be assigned at set points through the year to be completed at home. There is one lunchtime a week, throughout the year, where pupils can complete homework in the department with supervision if it is not possible to do at home.

**Department: Expressive Arts**

**Course Name: Drama**



**Description of course:**

Drama is a subject which offers exploration of a wide range of topics from real life issues to fantasy, developing skills for learning life and work such as creativity, problem solving, confidence, emotional intelligence and co-operation. The course covers all aspects of theatre including devising, acting from a script, script writing, directing and technical theatre (Lighting, sound, costume, make-up and hair, props

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

- There will be two lessons a week, meaning a greater chance to explore more theatre.
- You will act in every unit of work, trying characters from script and your own dramas.
- You will explore a variety of form, genre and style of drama.
- You will have more opportunities to explore technical theatre in depth
- You will create theatre for targeted audiences, then performing to these audiences.

**How will I learn?**

- You will be practising individually and performing in a group.
- Active learning will take place in lessons with exposure to technical and dramatic materials.
- You will complete self and peer evaluations for next steps

**How will I know I am progressing?**

- You can perform and design for various aspects of theatre confidently.
- You can identify features and terminology of drama enhancing your own work and offering constructive feedback for others.
- You will discuss with your teacher your achievements and steps for improvement to set targets

**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

- National 4/5 Drama is offered in S4

**What are the possible career opportunities form this course?**

- Qualifications in Drama can lead to work in Acting, Directing, Teaching, Drama Therapy, Set Design, Lighting Design, Sound Design and production, Make-Up and Hair Design, Costume Design, Fashion, Media Studies, Film and Television, Medicine and Psychology, Law, Dance and Events.

**What will my home learning commitment be?**

- Pupils will be expected to complete a range of activities at home depending on the work in class. This may include characterisation, learning lines, script-writing, research and prop, costume or set making. However, there are always opportunities and support at break, lunchtime and after school to help with this. It is expected that pupils are able to attend pre-scheduled rehearsals with their groups which to develop storylines and characters thoroughly.

**Department: Expressive Arts**

**Course Name: Music**



**Description of course:**

Music is a practical, hands on subject that develops your imagination and creativity. It helps you to develop important skills such as: playing a musical instrument, communication, creative thinking, using your voice, composing and arranging music.

You will also learn about different genres of music and develop you knowledge and understanding of a range of music concepts and literacy.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

- There will be two lessons a week.
- You will focus on two instruments/voice of your choice and learn a range of music on each instrument.
- You will learn to create original music using compositional methods and musical concepts.
- You will learn about different musical styles and the basics of reading and writing music.

**How will I learn?**

- You will be practising individually and performing music in a group.
- Active learning will take place in all lessons
- You will complete self and peer evaluations for next steps.

**How will I know I am progressing?**

- You can sing/play different styles of music confidently.
- You can identify features in music and can comment constructively on the work of others.
- You will discuss with your teacher your achievements and steps for improvement.
- You will set yourself targets.

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**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

- National 4/5 music is offered in S4

**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

- Music teacher, performer or composer. It would also help to get into Theatre/TV, sound engineering and music production.

**What will my home learning commitment be?**

- If possible, practising your instruments at home. If this is not possible, the department is available at lunch and after school for extra practice.

**Department: Physical Education**

**Course Name: Core PE**

**Description of course:**



All pupils in S3 will continue to receive 2 periods of Core PE a week.

The course will follow a programme of work aimed at holistic development of the student athlete. Pupils will further develop areas of their personal qualities; cognitive skills; physical competencies and physical fitness from S1/2. Pupils will also be educated on the importance of physical activity in maintaining a healthy lifestyle within school and beyond.

Activities covered in this course may include:

- Outdoor (Cross Country, Touch Rugby, Athletics, Ultimate Frisbee, Capture the Flag or Orienteering)
- Games Hall (Social Dance, Volleyball, Badminton, Handball, Touchball, Dodgeball or Netball)
- Activities Room (Table Tennis, Dance, Parkour, Team Building Games or Fitness based activities)
- Swimming Pool (Life Saving, Water Polo or Synchronised Swimming)

Tasks may include:

- Enhancing personal fitness (motivation, determination, stamina, speed, core stability and flexibility)
- Games making (creativity, decision making, leadership and communication)
- Team building (communication, respect, tolerance, leadership, responsibility and resilience)
- Roles and responsibilities (coach, statistician, scout, media team, captain and performer)
- Skills and technique development (focus, motivation, control, fluency, rhythm, timing and balance)
- Investigating the benefits of maintaining an active lifestyle (motivation, determination and responsibility)

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

- You will have an increased choice in what activities are covered within your course.
- You will engage in more demanding leadership and cooperative tasks.

**How will I learn?**

- Through practical activity, either individually or in groups.
- By self and peer evaluations.

**How will I know I am progressing?**

- You are improving your practical ability and raising your confidence within the activities covered.
- You can identify your strengths, areas for development and your targets for improvement.
- You are playing a valuable role within the activity, developing personal, cognitive or physical skills.
- You will receive praise and positive feedback from class discussions or question and answer sessions.

**How can I take this forward into S4?**

- Core Physical Education continues into S4 two periods per week. If you wish to take National or Higher PE in the senior phase then you should opt for 'Elective PE' as one of your course choices (see S3 Elective PE page).

**Department: Physical Education**

**Course Name: Elective PE**



**Description of course:**

This course is designed to provide a pathway to National and Higher PE. Pupils in the S3 Elective PE Course will follow a programme of work aimed at developing their practical performance skills at a heightened level from the S3 core pathway. Additionally, pupils will enhance their theoretical knowledge of the cycle of analysis. This theoretical content will cover various mental, emotional, social and physical factors that impact on the development process and performances of an athlete.

Activities covered in this course may include:

- Outdoor (football, cross country running, touch rugby, softball or ultimate Frisbee)
- Games Hall (Basketball, Volleyball, Badminton, Handball or Netball)
- Activities Room (Table Tennis, Dance, Gymnastics, Team Building Games or Fitness based activities.)
- Swimming Pool (Swim Technique Sessions, Swim Fitness Sessions or Water Polo)

Theory work will include:

- Applying concepts and tactics
- Basic biomechanics of skills and techniques
- The body and preparation for sporting success.
- Methods of gathering data and information analysis
- Types of development approaches and creating training programs
- Types of feedback, tracking and monitoring.

**My learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

- You will have 2 periods of Elective PE in addition to your two mandatory periods of core PE.
- Classroom based lessons will be used every block in order to deliver the theoretical topics stated above.
- Written homework tasks will be set on a more regular basis.

**How will I learn?**

- Through practical activity and classroom based sessions, either individually or in groups.
- By self and peer evaluations.
- By using ICT to gather and analysis information on your performances.

**How will I know I am progressing?**

- You are improving your practical ability when compared against the National 4/5 criteria.
- You can identify your strengths, areas for development and meet personal targets for improvement.
- My knowledge of the theory detailed above will have improved.
- I will receive positive feedback from class discussions, question and answer sessions, homework and formal assessments.

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**How can I take this forward into S4?**

National 4 or National 5 Physical Education is offered in S4, continuing as an option as Higher PE in S5/6.

## What are the possible career opportunities from this course?

PE Teacher, Sports Coach, Sports Scientist, Sports Development Officer, Physiotherapist or Sports Nutritionist. Physical Education can also provide access to a range of employment opportunities in the sport, leisure and fitness industries.



**Department: Physical Education**

**Course Name: Life Skills & Leadership**

**Description of Course:**

The S3 'Life Skills and Leadership' course develops knowledge of leadership skills, styles and qualities through practical leadership experiences. These practical activities will help you develop the "4 C's" of leadership: Confidence, Communication, Compassion, and Courage. As well as developing leadership skills the course will also give pupils the chance to gain knowledge and experience through life skills courses and scenario based tasks.

Throughout the course pupils will take part in a series of units which will develop a range of transferable skills, best preparing pupils for their learning in the senior phase and beyond. Units include:

- **Micro-Tyco** - *Taking £1 and growing it using entrepreneurial skills to then invest in small businesses in developing countries.*
- **Heart Start Basic First-Aid** – learning basic first aid skills of CPR, applying bandages etc.
- **Sports Leadership** - *Leading a sporting event or series of activities to peers or primary aged pupils.*
- **Life Skills Scenarios** – developing skills such as digital research, budgeting, planning and problem solving.
- **Tenner Challenge** - *Growing £10 through a partnership and sharing the profits amongst your group*
- **Event organisation** - *Planning, organising and delivering an event.*

**My Learning:**

**What will be different in S3?**

- This course is only introduced as an option in S3
- The course is run by PE staff but covers a range of topics from sport to business.
- The key learning taking place will be centred on developing life skills and transferable techniques.

**How will I learn?**

- You will work in pairs, groups and individually
- Active learning will take place in all lessons

**How will I know I am progressing?**

- You are continually developing your confidence as a leader
- You can identify the different qualities of an effective leader
- You participate effectively within your group, sharing ideas and taking responsibility for your role within tasks.
- You will continually evaluate your achievements and highlight areas for personal improvement.

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**What are the possible career opportunities from this course?**

- Business Management, Sports Management, Sports Coaching, Teaching, Project Management, Event Organiser and many other collaborative working environments.

**How can I take this course forward into S4?**

- This course can be continued with school link college courses in S4 such as: Business Skills, Children and Young People, Early Education and Childcare and Exercise and Fitness Leadership.

**What will my home learning commitment be?**

- Part of the group tasks will be to work effectively as a group which can be done out with school when engaging with external companies, charities and your personal social network.

## Department: Health and Wellbeing

### Course Name: Home Economics



#### Description of course:

The S3 Home Economics course is mainly practical in nature and develops a range of cookery skills and food preparation techniques. You will learn basic planning, organisational and time management skills in hospitality related contexts through its emphasis on safety and hygiene. You will learn about nutrition through the life cycle, investigating how to plan, adapt and make dishes to meet specified dietary needs. You will use investigative research skills to plan, design, create, develop and evaluate products to meet given briefs.

#### My learning

##### What will be different in S3?

You will further develop cookery skills, food preparation techniques and cookery processes while you produce dishes and gain an understanding of the importance of safety and hygiene in the storage, preparation and cooking of foods. You will develop the ability to select and use appropriate ingredients in the preparation of dishes and meals. You will follow recipes, plan and produce dishes and meals developing your planning, organisational and time management skills.

You will also complete the REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene Certificate which is highly useful for jobs in all areas of the food industry.

##### How will I learn?

You will learn in a variety of ways, however, practical work will underpin all aspects of learning. Active learning will take place in all lessons. You will learn through cooperative and independent learning in both theory and practical tasks.

##### How will I know how I am progressing?

- Your practical skills will develop and improve as you work through the course.
- You will become quicker and more efficient at completing both individual skills and complex recipes.
- You will feel confident approaching new skills and recipes.
- You will check your progress against success criteria related to the Experiences and Outcomes and Food and Health benchmarks. Targets will be set and agreed.

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##### How can I take this course forward into S4?

National 4/5 Practical Cookery and National 4/5 Health and Food Technology are offered in S4.

##### What are the possible career opportunities from this course?

The Food industry is one of the largest sectors in Scotland. With increasing demand for new products and healthier alternatives, it is an exciting and innovative sector to work in. Some careers directly linked to the subject include: Nutritionist, Dietitian, Chef, Baker, Food product developer, HE teacher, Sports Nutritionist, Environmental Health Officer, Food stylist, Food packaging designer, Hospitality Manager, Food Technologist.

##### What will my home learning commitment be?

In S3 there will be homework tasks to consolidate learning. The majority of the work will be practical where skills can be improved by practice at home.