

S3 Pathways Information booklet

Subject choice lists and overview for S3

Subject Information

Course Choice programme

Please return completed course choice forms
to your Wellbeing teacher



West Calder High School



Welcome to our Pathways booklet for the Broad General Education in S3. This booklet has been produced for second year pupils and their parents. We hope that it gives you the right amount of information about how pupils can personalise their learning as they enter the final year of the Broad General Education.

It is important that this is not viewed as course choice in the traditional sense. This now happens at the end of S3. The purpose of personalising the curriculum of pupils in S3 is to allow more depth and challenge to be built in to learning as pupils prepare for the senior phase (S4-S6). It is compulsory for all pupils in S3 for pupils to study Maths, English and Modern Languages as well as the core subjects of Personal & Social Education, Religious & Moral Education/Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies and Physical Education. At the end of S3, pupils will choose which 5 subjects they wish to continue to study towards a National Qualification as well as English and Maths.

All subjects you choose in S3 can progress to National 3, 4 or 5 courses in S4, and core subjects will also continue. It may be that there are more details about particular courses which you would like to have, or information about progression routes beyond S4. If so, this can be discussed with your Head of House, who will be happy to help.

The choice form

West Calder High School

S2>S3 Pathways programme – Depth of Study Choices 2020/21

Name _____

House _____

Maths & Numeracy	English & Literacy		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Health & Well-being	Religious Education		
	Free Choice												
Maths	English	Language French Spanish Language for Work	Accounting & Finance, Administration & I.T, Art & Design, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Commerce, Creative Digital Media, Computing, Dance, Design & Manufacture, Drama, Fashion & Marketing, French, Geography, German, Graphic Communication, Health & Food Technology, History, Hospitality, Modern Studies, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Practical Woodwork, RMPS, Spanish									Core PE Well-being	RME

Step 1: Choose the compulsory Language you wish to study (French, Spanish, Languages for work) and enter your choice into the Language box below.

Step 2: Choose your seven 'free choice' options and enter them into the choice boxes below. To ensure that your child receives their full range of choices requested they will receive **two or three** periods per week for each choice. This will be dependent on student uptake and staffing.

Language	
Choice 1	
Choice 2	
Choice 3	
Choice 4	
Choice 5	
Choice 6	
Choice 7	

Date	
Pupil signature	
Parent signature	
PTC/SLT signature	

Course Information



Humanities

Geography

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

Introduction to 3 key areas of geography. 1. Physical geography including landscapes, landforms, weather and climate. 2. Human Geography including population studies and India 3. Global issues including the interconnection and globalisation of our world is.

Assessment

Formative assessments such as posters and internet research. Summative assessment such as practice questions from an assessment portfolio.

Why study this course?

Geography; from the latin word geographia translated as geo "earth" and graphia "description" is not the study of capitals and colouring in but the study of our Earth. This course will allow pupils to learn about the world and describe key features of our world. In our current day and age geography as a subject has never been more important and relevant in our ever connected world and how we work to deal with global health and wealth inequalities, climate chaos and the conservation of our fragile environments and ecosystems. 2 out of 3 future jobs are expected to be in the field of technology and environmental sustainability, studying geography will ensure pupils develop the inter transferable skills to enter this career market in the nearby future.

Progression...

S4 National 4
Geography, National 5
Geography



Technologies: Business & Computing

Accounting

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

Accounting has a large practical component. You will learn how to prepare and present a range of accounting statements and analyse information to make decisions. You can then apply your skills in an assignment that communicates financial information to people who are interested in an organisation's performance. You will learn:

- o what a Sole Trader is
- o the duties, scope and responsibilities of the financial accountant
- o how to prepare business documents, such as invoices, credit notes and statements of account, including VAT calculations
- o how to prepare ledger accounts, trial balances, and financial statements in line with current accounting practice
- o the duties, scope and responsibilities of the management accountant
- o costing theory: fixed, variable, direct and indirect costs
- o calculating inventory values using first in, first out (FIFO), and last in first out (LIFO)
- o labour costing: recording and calculating wages, and overtime and bonuses
- o how to use formulae when completing spreadsheets.

Assessment

Your work will be assessed by your teacher on an ongoing basis throughout the course. Items of work might include:

- o class-based tests – online or electronic tests for short answer and/or multiple choice
- o summary assessments of particular concepts

Why study this course?

Progression...

National 5 Accounting



Technologies: Business & Computing

Admin & IT

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

You will learn about administration in the workplace and workplace legislation affecting employees. You will also develop customer care skills and learn how to organise and support events. The course covers a range of IT applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, databases and desktop publishing. In this course, you will learn:

- o administrative tasks needed to organise and support small-scale events
- o key workplace legislation affecting employees
- o good customer care.
- o use word processing applications to create and edit business documents
- o use spreadsheets and databases applications to manage information
- o organise and process information in administrative situations.
- o collect and share information from the internet and intranet
- o prepare information using multimedia and desktop publishing.

Assessment

Your teacher will assess your work throughout the course. Items of work might include:

- o practical work – such as leaflets, presentations or documents
- o written work – research assignments and case studies
- o projects
- o class-based exams.

Why study this course?

Progression...

National 4 or National 5
Admin & IT



Technologies: Business & Computing

Business

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

Business is a practical hands-on subject that relates the study of business to real-life situations. You will learn to use ICT to gather, analyse and communicate business information, and communicate effectively in a business context. This includes understanding money, interpreting data, and using tables, charts and other graphical displays. In this course, you will learn:

- o learn how and why businesses develop and operate
- o understand how businesses satisfy customers' needs
- o learn how marketing, finance, operations and human resources support business planning and decision-making
- o investigate stakeholders' influence on businesses
- o develop your understanding of the financial, economic, competitive and social environment in which businesses operate.

Assessment

Your work will be assessed by your teacher on an ongoing basis throughout the course. Items of work might include:

- o practical work - such as enterprise and employability skills
- o written work - research assignments and reports
- o projects
- o class-based exams.

Why study this course?

Progression...

National 4 Business,
National 5 Business
Management or
National 5 Retailing



Technologies: Business & Computing

Computing Science

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

This course aims to help you understand key computing concepts and processes. You will learn basic computing, logical and problem solving skills. You will learn how to solve a variety of computing problems, through designing, developing and testing in real life situations. And, you will look at the impact of computing technologies on the environment or society. In this course you will:

- o learn, understand and solve problems in software design and development
- o develop basic computational thinking and programming skills through practical tasks
- o learn how data and instructions are stored in binary form and how programming supports computer applications
- o look at the impact of today's software-based applications on society or the environment.
- o use suitable development tools to create databases, web-based information systems or multimedia information systems
- o learn about basic computer hardware, software, connectivity and security issues through a range of practical and research tasks.

Assessment

Your work will be assessed by your teacher on an ongoing basis throughout the course. Items of work might include:

- o practical work – producing web pages, blogs, games or digital presentations
- o class-based tests – online or electronic tests for short answer, multiple choice or true/false scenarios.

Why study this course?

Progression...

National 4 or National 5
Computing Science



Art & Design

Skills for Work: Creative Digital Media

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

A Skills for Work qualification that will enable learners to develop experience within the world of Creative Digital Media. Through 4 mandatory Units, learners will be provided with a broad introduction to the digital media industry whilst developing experience of vocationally related learning. The aim of the course is to raise awareness of the nature of project development, production, presentation and pitching skills. The course will encourage pupils to engage with clients/role-playing clients to promote a digital product they have developed. Employability, collaborative, planning, presentation and practical skills are at the heart of this qualification.

Assessment

Internal assessment. There are 4 mandatory course units that will be assessed internally and must be passed in order to achieve the qualification. Formative and summative assessment will be ongoing throughout the year. Evidence required will be in written/oral, practical/product and presentation format. There is a requirement to work in small groups as part of one Unit.

Why study this course?

An interest in Creative Digital Media is key. The course will prepare young learners for industry. Potential career paths could include graphic design, product design, IT, media studies, digital media production.

Progression...

National courses in Media Studies, vocational training, further education in Digital Media

Expressive Arts

Music

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

This Course enables learners to develop skills in creating, understanding and performing music. It allows for a flexible approach, which can meet the needs of learners with a range of musical interests. The Course engages the learner through practical musical activities and provides scope for personalisation and choice. Learners can, for example, perform music in a variety of styles on their own choice of instrument. Learners will develop their ability to express themselves through music, which encourages creativity and self-confidence. The Course also enables learners to gain the knowledge and understanding of music concepts and styles of music. The aims of the Course are to: enable learners to perform music on their chosen instrument, instruments and/or voice with accuracy; develop skills in creating music, using simple compositional techniques; develop their appreciation and understanding of music through an understanding of music concepts and learn to discriminate between different styles and genres of music; reflect on their own work and that of others.

Assessment

There will be end of unit listening assessments throughout the year. In addition to this there will be short composing assessments. There are ongoing opportunities for young people to be assessed on their performing skills.

Why study this course?

There are many benefits of studying and playing music. Music enhances memory and increases problem solving, logic and thinking skills such as analysis evaluation and organisation of ideas. Music also boosts independent and creative thinking. In addition to their technical musical skills pupils will also have the opportunity to develop some invaluable transferable skills such as communication skills, calmness under pressure and the ability to reflect critically.

Progression...

S4 National 4/5 Music



Health and Wellbeing

Dance

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

Pupils will undertake a research project where they will further develop an understanding about a country from around the globe. The following criteria may be explored: Culture Poverty Natural Disasters/Devastation History (War, Slavery) Contrasting Ideologies Democracy/Dictatorship Pupils will be expected to express the knowledge that they have gained through a piece of choreography. How to express their chosen project will be the central focus of their development. The dance will be performed to the class and potentially in a dance show. Pupils will develop their understanding and skill level of dance technique throughout the project. Pupils will be expected to create a mood board or a presentation. The presentation must take us through their story of inspiration from the research of the country into the choreography. Pupils will develop the project in groups. This will allow them to share ideas and evaluate their progress.

Assessment

Formative and Summative assessment based on the quality of individual dance performance and choreography in line with CfE benchmarks at 3rd and 4th Level

Why study this course?

This course would suit anyone interested in expressive arts, a career in dance, theatre or the performing arts. It is also suitable for those young people who have an interest in creativity and designing choreography.

Progression...

National 4 or 5



Health and wellbeing

Physical Education

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

The key aims of the breadth choice will be to develop understanding of how learners can prepare mentally, emotionally, socially and physically for the performance. They will be required to select and applying appropriate knowledge and skills during the performance and to following rules and accepting decisions. Learners will also develop their tactical awareness and to carry out a specific personal development program to ensure progression within performance Courses: Activities will range from Basketball, table tennis, volleyball, football, swimming, athletics, dance, gymnastics and fitness.

Assessment

Course assessment will take place at the end of each 9/10 week block. Assessment will be based up understanding of the cycle of analysis and practical performance.

Why study this course?

Physical Education will provide you with a platform from which you can build physical competences, improve aspects of fitness, and develop personal and interpersonal skills and attributes. It will enable you to develop the concepts and skills necessary for participation in a wide range of physical activity, sport and outdoor learning, and will enhance your physical wellbeing in preparation for leading a fulfilling, active and healthy lifestyle.

Progression...

S4 National 4 or
National 5

Art & Design

Art & Design

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

Art and Design provides pupils with a broad practical "hands on" experience of Art and Design skills and also related critical activities that explore the role of Art and Design in society. Pupils will have the opportunity to be inspired and creatively challenged as they explore how to visually represent and communicate their personal thoughts, ideas and feelings through their work. Pupils will also learn about the working styles and influences of artists and designers, while developing their own expressive and design projects. Art and Design offers a coherent progression through National 3 to Advanced Higher, providing added value assessments that allow personal choice in the practical activity at National 4, and in the portfolios at National 5 and Higher that also have added value question papers. In summary, the aim of all courses is to encourage creativity, develop confident practical and analytical skills through a series of activities that are stimulating, enjoyable and involve personal choice and research. S3 courses prepare pupils for possible future study at National 4/5 level.

Assessment

The course will include formative and summative assessment throughout the session.

Why study this course?

Learners completing the course will develop practical life skills that are relevant in a range of contexts and future careers, for example, Graphic Design; Fashion Design; Costume Design; Textile Design; Jewellery Design; Shoe Design; Web/Game Design; Film making; Architecture; Interior Design; Art and Design Teacher; Primary Teacher; Art Historian/ Lecturer (Art History); Curator; Make-up Artist; Beauty Therapist and Hairdressing. Craft,

Progression...

National 4/5 Art & Design



Mathematics & Numeracy

Mathematics

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4+

Overview

In this course you will build on your previous mathematical experience. You will learn and apply operational skills you need to develop mathematical idea. You will select and apply mathematical techniques, and learn about the interdependencies within mathematics. You will develop your mathematical reasoning and problem solving skills. And you will get experienced in making informed decisions. In this course you will:

- develop skills linked to mathematical expressions and formulae, such as manipulating abstract terms, simplifying expressions and evaluating formulae
- learn aspects of number, algebra, geometry and reasoning.
- solve equations, understand graphs and work with trigonometric ratios
- cover aspects of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, statistics and reasoning.

Assessment

Assessment will be ongoing throughout the course. This will include class work, regular homework and low stakes assessments. Formal assessments will take place periodically. There will be an S3 exam in June, which will cover the content of the year.

Why study this course?

Mathematics is important in everyday life, allowing us to make sense of the world around us and to manage our lives. Using mathematics enables us to model real-life situations and make connections and informed predictions. It equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions. The skills you learn in this course are useful in many careers involving engineering, medicine, technology, business and the physical sciences.

Progression...

National 5 Mathematics



English

English

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

Development of Reading, Listening and Talking Skills in a wide range of contexts. Pupils will demonstrate their understanding, analysis and evaluative skills in response to a range of different types of texts, including novels, poetry and film, and create and produce written and spoken pieces throughout the course of the year.

Assessment

Continuous assessment throughout the course- all work completed by the pupils contributes to the appropriate level and is designed to give pupils the opportunities to routinely meet CfE benchmarks for English and Literacy.

Why study this course?

Whilst English is a core subject, vital for effective communication and the development of skills for learning life and work, it is also a subject of cultural significance, introducing learners to writers and artists whose creativity and originality have impacted our society and the way we think and live; expanding the points of view of young people far beyond their own circumstances, and developing empathy and compassion for others.

Progression...

S4 National 4 or S4
National 5 English



Mathematics & Numeracy

Mathematics

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

In this course you will build on your previous mathematical experience. You will learn to interpret information and solve problems relevant to real life and mathematical situations. You will use, explore and manage mathematical language and ideas, which are all important in scientific and research work. In this course you will:

- learn how to use your knowledge of number processes, information handling and probability to make informed decisions.
- use numerical skills to solve straightforward real life problems involving time/money/measurement
- interpret graphical data and situations involving probability to solve straightforward real life problems involving money/time/measurement.
- use mathematical operational skills linked to expressions and formulae, such as manipulating abstract terms, simplifying expressions and evaluating formulae
- cover aspects of algebra, geometry, statistics and reasoning.

Assessment

Assessment will be ongoing throughout the course. This will include class work and regular homework. Formal assessments will take place as appropriate.

Why study this course?

Mathematics is important in everyday life, allowing us to make sense of the world around us and to manage our lives. Using mathematics enables us to model real-life situations and make connections and informed predictions. It equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions. The skills you learn in this course are useful in many careers involving engineering, medicine, technology, business and the physical sciences.

Progression...

National 4 Mathematics
and National 5
Numeracy



Mathematics & Numeracy

Mathematics

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3

Overview

In this course you will build on your previous mathematical experience. This course will help you to acquire mathematical and numerical skills and apply them in a variety of real-life situations. You will develop thinking skills and gain experience in making informed decisions. In this course you will:

- learn how to manage money and data in real-life situations
- learn about the kinds of things that affect income and expenditure, budgeting and saving
- learn how to organise, present and interpret data.
- apply your skills, knowledge and understanding of shape, space and measures in real-life situations
- learn how to use your knowledge of number processes, information handling and probability to make informed decisions.
- develop your numerical and information handling skills to solve simple, real-life problems involving number, money, time, geometry and measurement.

Assessment

Assessment will be ongoing throughout the course. This will include class work and homework. Formal assessments will take place as appropriate.

Why study this course?

Mathematics is important in everyday life, allowing us to make sense of the world around us and to manage our lives. Using mathematics enables us to model real-life situations and make connections and informed predictions. It equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions. The skills you learn in this course are useful in many careers involving engineering, medicine, technology, business and the physical sciences.

Progression...

National 3 Mathematics
and National 4
Numeracy OR National
4 Mathematics



Health and Wellbeing

Health & Food Technology

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

This course aims to provide learners with an introduction to nutrition and healthy eating so that they know more about which foods make up a nutritious menu, understand the link between diet and health, and can effectively use the information provided by the Eatwell Guide to create a balanced diet. Learners will also develop knowledge and understanding of the functional properties of ingredients in food and their use in developing food products. Through a problem-solving approach, learners will produce food products to meet a range of consumer needs. They will also apply knowledge and understanding of safe and hygienic food practices and techniques. This will give learners a basic awareness of good hygiene and safety issues that meet food industry regulations, with reference to preparing, cooking and handling food in catering settings.

Assessment

Practical Assessment and written course work

Why study this course?

This course aims to encourage an understanding of the relationship between nutrition, food choice, diet and health as well as the development of practical skills in food preparation. Emphasis is placed on the process of exploring issues, the development of practical food skills and the effective management of resources. Young people will also explore the skills required in the hospitality industry with a focus on practical cookery.

Progression...

National 4 or National 5

Craft, Design and Technology

Graphic Communication

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

This course will teach you how to read, interpret and create graphic communications. You will develop skills in spatial awareness and visual language. And, you will learn how to use graphic communication equipment, software and materials effectively. You will also look at how graphic communication technologies impact on our environment and society. The course comprises two areas of study. 2D Graphic Communication You will:

- develop creativity and skills within a 2D graphic communication context
- initiate, develop and communicate ideas using graphic techniques in straightforward and familiar contexts
- develop your skills in less familiar or new contexts
- develop 2D graphic spatial awareness.

3D and Pictorial Graphic Communication You will:

- develop creativity and skills within a 3D and pictorial graphic communication context
- initiate, develop and communicate ideas using graphic techniques in straightforward and familiar contexts
- develop your skills in less familiar or new contexts
- develop 3D graphic spatial awareness.

Assessment

The course assessment has two components totalling 120 marks:

- Component 1: question paper – worth 80 marks
- Component 2: assignment – worth 40 marks.

For the assignment component, you will be asked to create a set of preliminary, production and promotional graphics in answer to a brief and produce evidence of how you planned and evaluated your work. The assignment component will be set and externally assessed by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). The question paper will be set and marked externally by the SQA. The grade awarded is based on the total marks achieved across all course assessment components.

Why study this course?

Graphic Communication in all its forms is vital to society. It is a means of getting across information visually using graphics. Graphic communication comes in many forms and various aspects of life including education, industry and commerce. The CDT department are keen to encourage more girls to study Graphic Communication. Last year, all the girls who took this course passed it successfully. 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 2D, 3D and pictorial graphics with visual impact or that transmits information, digitally and on paper. The skills you learn in this course are useful in many career areas including Architecture, Surveying, Engineering or Design and Marketing.

Progression...

National 5 Graphic Communication in S4 leading to Higher Graphic Communication in S5

Craft, Design and Technology

Practical Wood Working

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

This course will help you develop and enhance your practical, creative and problem solving skills. You will learn about the correct use of a range of tools, equipment and a range of woodworking materials. And, you will learn how to work effectively alongside others in a workshop environment. You will develop an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop setting. And, you will look at environmental issues and good practice in recycling in a woodworking context. The course comprises three areas of study.

Flat-frame Construction You will:

- learn how to use woodworking tools
- make woodworking joints and assemblies commonly used in flat-frame joinery.

Some tasks will involve complex features

- be able to read and use drawings and diagrams depicting both familiar and unfamiliar woodwork tasks.

Carcase Construction You will:

- make woodworking joints and assemblies commonly used in carcase construction. This will involve some complex features and may include working with manufactured board or with frames and panels
- use working drawings or diagrams, including unfamiliar contexts that require some interpretation on the part of the learner.

Machining and Finishing You will:

- learn how to use common machine and power tools
- learn a variety of woodworking surface preparations and finishing techniques.

Assessment

The course assessment has two components totalling 130 marks:

- Component 1: question paper – worth 60 marks
- Component 2: practical activity – worth 70 marks.

For the practical activity you will be asked to make a finished product from wood working from design drawings. The assignment will be set by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). Your work will be assessed by a visiting SQA assessor. The question paper will be set and externally marked by SQA. The grade awarded is based on the total marks achieved across all course assessment components.

Why study this course?

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. And, you will be able 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 a finished product in wood. The CDT department are keen to encourage more girls to study Practical Wood Working. Last year, all the girls who took a CDT course passed successfully. The skills you learn in this course will help you move into career areas such as craft, design, engineering and graphics.

Progression...

National 5 Practical Wood Working in S4,
National 5 Practical Metal Working in S5.



Science

Biology

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

Biology is a hands-on subject that develops your skills of scientific inquiry, and analytical thinking, along with knowledge and understanding, by undertaking practical activities in the classroom/local environment. You will research issues and communicate information related to their findings, which will develop your skills of scientific literacy. You will learn about the continuation of life including - o The structure of the Cell o The role of Enzymes in Cells o The process of Respiration o The process of Mitosis – Producing new Cells o Reproduction o Ecosystems and Energy Flow. Each of these topics have been selected as they will help to support and prepare pupils for the transition to National 5 in S4

Assessment

Your work will be assessed by your teacher on an ongoing basis throughout the course. Items of work might include: o class-based tests – online or electronic tests for short answer and/or multiple choice o Retention tests to assess long term understanding of the key concepts being covered. o Experimental write up assessment to assess the ability to plan and undertake scientific investigations

Why study this course?

You should select this course if you have a passion for and would like to develop your understanding of the living world around us. the study the living worlds and how

Progression...

National 5 Biology,
National 5 Lab Skills,
National 5 Health Sector



Science

Chemistry

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

Chemistry is vital to everyday life and allows us to understand and shape the world in which we live. You will learn about the applications of chemistry in everyday contexts such as medicine, energy and industry, as well as its impact on the environment and sustainability. You will learn how to think creatively and independently, and analyse and solve problems. In this course, you will learn about:

- o Chemical reaction and controlling the rate of reaction
- o The Periodic Table
- o Atomic Structure and Bonding, including chemical formula
- o Fuels
- o Hydrocarbons and Plastics
- o Acids and Alkalis

Assessment

Your work will be assessed by your teacher on an ongoing basis throughout the course. Items of work might include:

- o class-based tests – online or electronic tests for short answer and/or multiple choice
- o Retention tests to assess long term understanding of the key concepts being covered.
- o Experimental write up assessment to assess the ability to plan and undertake scientific investigations

Why study this course?

You should study this course if you have a passion and are keen to develop your understanding of the chemical world around us.

Progression...

National 5 Chemistry,
National 5 Lab Skills,
National 5 Health
Sector, National 5
Practical Electronics



Science

Physics

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

From the sources of the energy we use to the exploration of space, advances in Physics mean that our view of what is possible is continually progressing. You will have the opportunity to design and carry out experiments and investigations to help you understand the role of Physics in scientific issues and in our lives. The course is separated into 3 units –

- o Electricity and Energy In this unit you will: o Explore the applications of electricity and energy, and the effects of these applications on society and the environment
- o Learn about the key areas of generation of electricity, electrical power, electromagnetism, practical electrical and electronic circuits, gas laws and the kinetic model.
- o Physics: Waves and Radiation In this unit you will: o Explore the applications of waves and radiation and the implications for society and the environment
- o Investigate the key areas of wave characteristics, sound, electromagnetic spectrum and nuclear radiation.
- o Physics: Dynamics and Space o In this unit you will: o Consider the applications of dynamics and space and the implications on society and the environment
- o Investigate the key areas of speed and acceleration, relationships between forces, motion and energy, satellites and cosmology.

Assessment

Your work will be assessed by your teacher on an ongoing basis throughout the course. Items of work might include:

- o class-based tests – online or electronic tests for short answer and/or multiple choice
- o Retention tests to assess long term understanding of the key concepts being covered.
- o Experimental write up assessment to assess the ability to plan and undertake scientific investigations

Why study this course?

You should study this course if you have and passion and interest in developing your understanding of the forces and energies that exist within our Universe.

Progression...

National 5 Physics,
National 5 Lab Skills,
National 5 Practical
Electronics



Modern Languages

Spanish

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

Basic vocabulary and Grammar covering the contexts of Society, Learning and Culture.

Assessment

1. Writing Assessment. Term 1. Context: Society. Topics: Personal Details; Family; Local area and Leisure Activities .
2. Listening Assessment. Term 2. Context: Learning. Topics: School, Transport, Daily Routine and Household chores.

Why study this course?

Spanish is the easiest of the three languages taught in WCHS. Spain is a very popular holiday destination. Knowledge of French language can be transferred. Allows to prepare for N5 Spanish on two years.

Progression...

N4 or N5



Modern Languages

Languages for Work

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

In Spanish, at a food and beverage outlet, being able to use the language to communicate with customers about their orders, and to understand the language to serve customers. In German to be able to communicate at the reception desk to give and get basic information.

Assessment

In Spanish, the course will be assessed in all four areas: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. In German, in Speaking&Listening.

Why study this course?

For pupils who want to complete a vocational course. For pupils who want to experience transactional language.

Progression...

Work placement or N4

Craft, Design and Technology

Design and Manufacture

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

This course provides a broad practical introduction to design, and materials and manufacturing processes. You will develop design skills, as well as skills in making models, prototypes and products. And, you will look at the life cycle of a product; from idea through design, manufacture, and use, including its disposal or re-use. You will learn to appreciate the tensions that exist between factors such as aesthetics, function, economics and the environment. The course comprises two areas of study. Design You will:

- study the design process from brief to design proposal
- develop skills in initiating, developing, articulating, and communicating design proposals
- gain an understanding of the design/make/test process and the importance of evaluating and resolving design proposals on an ongoing basis
- develop an understanding of the factors that influence the design of products.

Manufacture You will:

- study the manufacture of prototypes and products
- develop practical skills in the design/make/test process
- gain an appreciation of the properties and uses of materials, as well as a range of manufacturing processes and techniques
- evaluate and refine design and manufacturing solutions
- gain an understanding of commercial manufacture.

Assessment

The course assessment has three components totalling 180 marks:

- Component 1: question paper (80 marks) – comprising 2 sections, section 1 worth 60 marks and section 2 worth 20 marks
- Component 2: assignment – design (55 marks)
- Component 3: assignment – practical (45 marks).

For the design assignment component, you will develop a design proposal in response to a set brief. For the practical assignment component, you will then create your design prototype. Assignment component 1 (Design) will be set and externally assessed by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). Assignment component 2 (Practical) will be assessed by your teacher and subject to verification by SQA. The question paper will be set and marked externally by the SQA. The grade awarded is based on the total marks achieved across all course assessment components.

Why study this course?

This course allows you to explore the multi-faceted world of product design and manufacturing. Creativity is at the heart of this course and its combination with technology makes it exciting and dynamic. Design and Manufacture provides you with skills in designing and communicating design proposals, allowing you to refine and resolve your design ideas effectively. The course stresses the integration of designing and making, highlighting the close relationship between designing, making, testing, and refining design ideas. The CDT department are keen to encourage more girls to study Design and Manufacture. Last year, all the girls who took this course passed it successfully. The skills you learn in this course give you a broad range of potential for jobs or careers; in the expressive arts, mathematics, science, information technology, as well as in craft, design, engineering and graphics.

Progression...

Higher Design and Manufacture



Modern Languages

German

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

German Language and Culture

Assessment

There are 3 main units of work with 1 or 2 skills being formally assessed in each unit. In theme 1: Relationships, pupils are assessed on Listening and Writing. In theme 2: Learning pupils are assessed on Talking and in theme 3: Town / Berlin pupils are assessed on Reading.

Why study this course?

S3 German will give you the opportunity to deepen your knowledge of the language and improve your cultural knowledge. More importantly learning a language will help you to better understand the world around you, improve your communication skills and give you much needed employability skills. Linking languages to other subjects can open many doors in the world of business, tourism, engineering, science, law, music, sports and many other areas.

Progression...

S4 National 4/5 German



Modern Languages

French

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

S3 French will give you the opportunity to deepen your knowledge of the languages as well as improve your skills in Reading, Listening, Writing and Talking. As well as this, you will be given the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the culture of the French-speaking world.

Assessment

The course is split into 3 main units of work, with different skills being assessed in each unit. In theme 1, students will be formally assessed on Reading for information, in theme 2, Listening and in theme 3, writing. As well as formal assessments, pupils' progress will be assessed in class and through homework activities.

Why study this course?

S3 French will give you the opportunity to deepen your knowledge of the language and improve your cultural knowledge. More importantly, learning a language will help you to better understand the world around you, improve your communication skills and give you much needed employability skills. Linking languages to other subjects can open many doors in the world of business, tourism, engineering, science, law, music, sports and many other areas.

Progression...

National 4/5 French



Humanities

Modern Studies

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

Relevant, engaging and thought provoking, Modern studies is the study of social economic and political issues in Scotland and the wider world. In our often turbulent times, Modern Studies provides students with the skills and attributes to make sense of events and engage with world issues. Students develop a range of transferable and higher order thinking skills such as analysis, evaluation of evidence and the ability to identify bias and “fake” news. These are skills which are invaluable across the curriculum and for a developed understanding of the modern world.

Assessment

Formative and Summative Assessments

Why study this course?

Students who have previously taken Modern Studies in S3 have gone on to study the subject at National 4/5 and Higher. It is also possible to progress to study Higher Politics and Advanced Higher Modern Studies. It is subject highly regarded by colleges and universities and former students of the subject have gone on to study a wide range of courses upon leaving school. Students also have the opportunity to experience elements of the Scottish and UK political system first hand through visits to the Scottish Parliament, Glasgow Sheriff Court and in Higher the UK Parliament in Westminster.

Progression...

National 4 or National 5
Modern Studies

Humanities

History

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

What will I study? • Scottish History • The Cold War • The Atlantic Slave Trade (this is our S3 to S4 transition topic) You will also have the chance to plan, research and present your findings on a topic of your choice.

What skills will I learn? • Applying knowledge to describe, explain and analyse historical events • Working with evidence to evaluate, compare, interpret and contextualise sources • Researching and presenting, literacy and communication, creativity, self-management and team work

Assessment

Formative and summative assessments

Why study this course?

Why study History? History has no boundaries – it allows you to learn more about whatever it is that you are interested in. From the atomic bomb in Science to protest songs in Music, from war poetry in English to the industrial revolution in Design & Technology, History is the story of everything! Where can History take you? Into law, library and archive work, journalism, publishing and media, education, hospitality and tourism, consultancy, archaeology, museum work, the public sector and more!

HISTORY – PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE BY UNDERSTANDING THE PRESENT THROUGH AN INVESTIGATION OF THE PAST

Progression...

National 4 or National 5 History



Humanities

Geography

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

Geography; from the latin word geographia translated as geo "earth" and graphia "description" is not the study of capitals and colouring in but the study of our Earth. This course will allow pupils to learn about the world and describe key features about the world around us. In our current day and age geography as a subject has never been more important and relevant in our ever connected world; as we contend with global issues such as health care, wealth inequalities, climate chaos and the conservation of our fragile environments and ecosystems.

Assessment

Summative and Formative Assessments

Why study this course?

2 out of 3 future jobs are expected to be in the field of technology and environmental sustainability, studying geography will ensure pupils develop their transferable skills to enter this career market in the nearby future.

Progression...

National 4 or National 5
Geography

Humanities

RMPS

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 3 & 4

Overview

The course consists of three sections: **World Religion (Sikhism)**: you will develop knowledge and understanding of Sikh beliefs, values and practices. **Morality and Belief** (e.g. Capital Punishment / War / Terrorism / Medical Ethics / Relationships): you will choose a topic and enquire into, evaluate and present reasoned views about religious and non-religious responses to the death penalty / whether a war is Just / look at life (death) issues / marriage / divorce / relationships. **Philosophical thinking** – covers 'big questions' to develop pupils' thinking skills such as 'Origins of the Universe'. Philosophy with pupils rarely involves pupils studying in depth the work of a specific philosopher. The subject often involves developing thinking skills and methods of philosophical enquiry through debates or discussions. These can be on the big questions in life.

Assessment

- Your assessment tasks will help you develop your literacy, communication and research skills.
- You will be assessed through a combination of participation in discussions, games, group work, investigations, posters, essays and presentations.

Why study this course?

This course develops understanding of religious, moral and philosophical issues and prepares you for further study at National level in S4. You will study both religious and non-religious views. You will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills including research, analysis, evaluation and the ability to express beliefs and views in a reasoned manner.

Progression...

The S3 RMPS course will help you develop the skills and knowledge necessary for the National 4/5 RMPS course in S4 and opens a progression pathway up to S6: S3 RMPS → S4 National 4 & 5 RMPS → S5 National 5 & Higher RMPS, S5 National 5 Philosophy → S6 Hi



Expressive Arts / Business Ed

Fashion & Marketing

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

Practical course, with elements of marketing, retailing and consumer buying behaviour theory. Designing and completing a garment whilst developing practical skills and gaining business knowledge linked to the fashion industry.

Assessment

TBC

Why study this course?

This course would be suitable for a candidate with an interest in the fashion industry. You will not only gain practical design and sewing skills, but also business knowledge which would make you a suitable candidate for further study in Business and or Fashion and Textiles.

Progression...

N5 Fashion and Textiles,
N5 Business
Management, N5
Retailing.



Humanities & Business

Commerce

Curriculum for Excellence: Level 4

Overview

Behind the increasing importance of customer service are three major drivers in commercial performance:

The UK economy is increasingly service-led; 80% of employment is now based on services.

Technology has promoted the globalisation of communication and commerce by reducing the importance of national and geographic boundaries.

Across all sectors, the use of social media is changing the relationship between organisations and their customers in terms of expectations, loyalty and power.

This course aims to provide opportunity within a simulated working environment to develop core skills that will enhance employability

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Why study this course?

Progression...

N5 Travel and Tourism,
N5 Retail