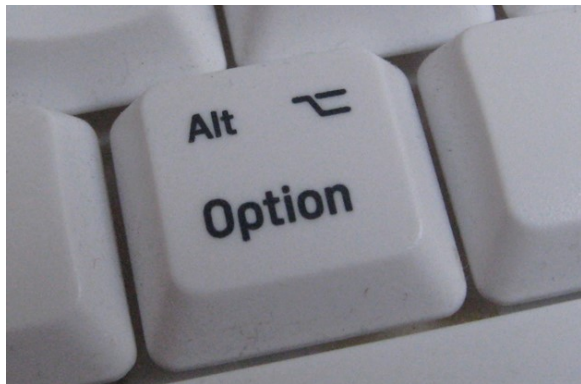




# STRATHAVEN ACADEMY MAKING CHOICES FOR S3 2020

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## MAKING CHOICES FOR S3

Making the right course choices for S3 is a very important part of your educational journey and your career thereafter.

It is important that your choice of courses is based on your academic progress to-date and consideration of subjects required for future career pathways. This information booklet is a starting point and contains details of each of the courses on offer in school. You should discuss your course choices with your family and friends as this will give you every opportunity to think through your decisions.

You will also receive advice and support from staff in school and will have a formal subject choices interview with your pupil support teacher. You may also wish to speak to your subject teachers prior to this interview so that you understand what the course and assessment involves. In addition, you will have a careers appointment with Jennifer Latimer, SDS. You will also find useful information on the My World of Work, website.

The choice process starts early in the new year for second year (S2) pupils with a series of lessons during Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) prepared by the Pupil Support staff. These include a “mock” option experience and provide comprehensive information about the choice process. In February, senior staff hold a parent curriculum information evening following the distribution of choice documents and report booklets. A Parent Consultation Evening with individual teachers is scheduled in February. The date for the return of choice request forms is Friday, 8 March 2019.

### KEY DATES FOR YOUR PLANNER

**Tuesday 18 February  
2020:**

**S2 Choices interviews  
commence**

~~~~~

**Tuesday 18 February  
2020:**

**Choices Information  
Evening**

~~~~~

**Tuesday 25 February  
2020:**

**S2 Consultation Evening**

~~~~~

**Thursday 12 March 2020:  
Return of choices form**





## MAKING COURSE CHOICES

### THE S3 CURRICULUM

The core of every pupil's curriculum consists of English, Mathematics, a Science subject, a Social Subject, a Modern Foreign Language and an Expressive/Technical subject. Every pupil will choose two further subjects in any of these areas, making a total of eight subjects to be studied.

One period per week each is devoted to Personal Social and Health Education and Religious and Moral Education, and two periods per week to Physical Education. Pupils will also be given the opportunity to study three short electives during the session. These will promote the development of skills and wider achievements, and in some cases, lead to recognised qualifications.

Within this curriculum, which is based on the principles of a broad, general education, there remains a considerable degree of personalisation and choice for each and every pupil.

In all subjects pupils will be building on the Curriculum for Excellence courses delivered in S1 and S2. On completion of Level 3, pupils will progress to study a combination of Level 4 Experiences and Outcomes.

### CHOICE OF SUBJECTS

Within the areas where choice is available, the usual considerations are whether a pupil likes a subject, how good they are at it and how useful it will be considering their future educational and career intentions. It is in order to supply information about the chances of success at any particular level that reports are provided at this time.

Subject teachers and Principal Teachers will willingly offer advice about the abilities and aptitudes of pupils within their particular subject and provide further information about their new courses.

Pupil Support staff have the best overall knowledge of each pupil's abilities and performance and are happy to be consulted for general advice. The Pupil Support staff and Deputy Head Teacher, R James, are able to discuss careers-related issues and can call on the specialist knowledge of Skills Development Scotland. Any parent/carer with particular doubts or worries is encouraged to telephone the school office and ask for an appointment with the appropriate Pupil Support Teacher.

## KEY DATES FOR YOUR PLANNER

**Tuesday 18 February 2020:**

**S2 Choices interviews commence**

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**Tuesday 18 February 2020:**

**Choices Information Evening**

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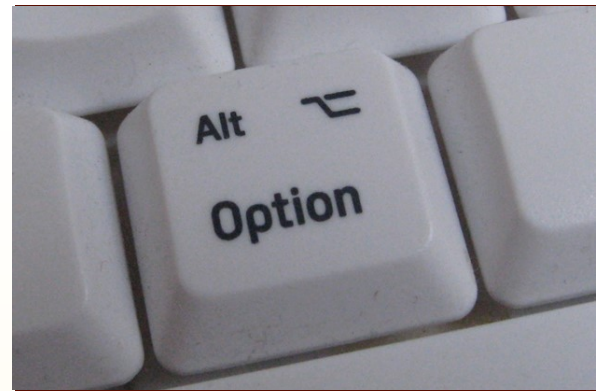
**Tuesday 25 February 2020:**

**S2 Consultation Evening**

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**Thursday 12 March 2020:**  
**Return of choices form**

## MAKING COURSE CHOICES



### KEY DATES FOR YOUR PLANNER

**Tuesday 18 February  
2020:**

**S2 Choices interviews  
commence**

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**Choices Information  
Evening**

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2020:**

**S2 Consultation Evening**

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**Thursday 12 March 2020:  
Return of choices form**

### KEY PERSONNEL

Further information can be obtained from Principal Teachers of Pupils Support and Depute Head teachers:

Ms R James - Depute Head teacher S2/3

Mr J Dunn - Principal Teacher Pupil Support (KY)

Mrs E Neil- Principal Teacher Pupil Support (DU)

Miss McGinlay Principal Teacher Pupil Support (LE)

Mrs Breddy - Principal Teachers Pupil Support (AV)

Mrs Williams - Principal Teacher Pupil Support (LO)

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The school is committed to ensuring that no pupil is disadvantaged because of social class, gender, race or disability. The content, level, resources and materials in our courses and our Pupil Support, Personal, Social and Health Education and Careers provision is designed to reflect this commitment. In the interests of promoting equal opportunities, the school tries to ensure that all pupils see themselves as taking up courses relative to their interests, abilities and career requirements and disregarding such outdated concepts as some subjects being more suitable for girls and others for boys. It would be our hope that parents would support the school in encouraging children to ignore any traditional stereotyping in making their subject choices.



# ENGLISH

## Course Details

Pupils will build on the wide variety of knowledge and experience acquired during the S1 and S2 Curriculum for Excellence Course in English. During the S3 Course pupils will:

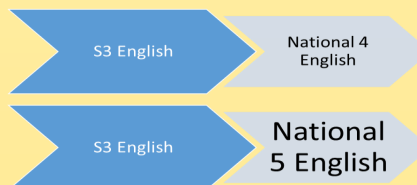
- study and analyse a wide variety of literary fiction and non-fiction, including novels and short stories, drama, poetry and media
- read for understanding, enjoyment and the appreciation of style and writer's craft
- develop strategies in order to understand, analyse and evaluate a range of seen and unseen texts
- discuss, read closely and answer questions to demonstrate the ability to understand, analyse and evaluate fiction and non-fiction passages on topics of current interest
- write at length, with increasing complexity, in a variety of forms including personal, imaginative, discursive and functional writing
- respond to literature in a variety of forms, including Critical Essays
- present individual talks and participate in group discussions
- read a personally chosen selection of fiction and non-fiction and undertake a Reading Challenge
- research a number of literary and topical subjects and present findings both orally and in writing
- develop understanding of Scots and Scottish text
- work collaboratively to produce work and problem solve.

This will allow pupils, where required, to complete the experiences and outcomes of Level 3 of Curriculum for Excellence. Pupils will also begin developing and/or consolidating their skills at Level 4. Later in S3, pupils will be introduced to National 4 and National 5 level work, where appropriate, to place pupils in the correct course for them in S4.

## Development of Skills

- Pupils will develop their language skills by engaging with a wide range of texts and developing an appreciation of the richness and breadth of our literary and linguistic heritage. They will be encouraged to develop their skills in Understanding and Analysis by studying and commenting on a wide variety of Prose (both fiction and non-fiction), Poetry, Drama and Media.
- Pupils will be encouraged to develop a variety of communication skills including group discussion of literature and issues of current interest and to prepare individual presentations on appropriately challenging topics, using ICT where appropriate.
- Pupils will also be encouraged to develop their Thinking Skills and their awareness of the impact of Numeracy and Health and Well-being issues on the development of their English and Literacy skills.

## Progression



## Aims of the Course

The English Course will provide learners with a range of opportunities to extend their understanding of, and ability to, analyse and evaluate English Language and Literature and to develop their ability to express themselves effectively both verbally and in writing.

During the course of the year pupils will be offered the opportunity to:

- listen and talk, read and write in a variety of interesting and challenging contexts
- understand, analyse and evaluate a variety of literary and media texts
- create and produce texts and oral communications in a variety of forms
- plan and research a number of topics, presenting findings both orally and in writing

## Career Opportunities

Pupils will be prepared with the skills and knowledge required to complete National 4 or National 5 in S4 before progressing to National 5 or Higher in S5/6.

Learning English gives young people access to the wider curriculum and further study may lead to careers in fields including commerce and industry, education, journalism, law, marketing, media and politics.

# DRAMA

## Course Details

Pupils will build on the knowledge and experience acquired during the S2 BGE course in Drama.

During the S3 course they will:

- Work collaboratively to produce work and problem solve.
- Respond to a range of stimuli, including text, to develop ideas for a production.
- Create different characters using voice, movement and language effectively.
- Research and develop knowledge of social and cultural influences on drama.
- Lead negotiations within group tasks, making informed decisions.
- Explore form, genre, structure and style of Drama.
- Devise, rehearse and present to an audience.
- Learn how to add depth in the portrayal of a character, focusing on characterisation techniques.
- Research and discuss many social issues, including homelessness, discrimination and mental health.
- Develop an understanding of terminology in Drama.
- Develop an understanding of theatre arts and analyse their effectiveness in relation to mood & atmosphere.
- Critically evaluate their own work and that of others.
- Read and analyse a variety of different scripts.
- Learn how to answer exam style questions.

Throughout S3, pupils will also begin developing and/or consolidating their skills at Level 4. Later in S3, pupils will be introduced to National 4 and National 5 level work.

## Development of Skills

- Pupils will develop their confidence and creativity during every unit of work in S3 Drama.
- Pupils will develop their team building, communication and time management skills as they work continuously in groups to create and present drama.
- Pupils will also develop analytical and critical thinking skills as they learn how to analyse the effectiveness of production techniques.
- Pupils will develop their literacy skills as they engage with a range of texts and write their own scripts.
- Pupils will build evaluation skills as they reflect on their own and others performances.
- Pupils will be encouraged to develop their thinking skills and empathy as they explore many social issues.

## Progression

S3 Drama

National 5  
Drama



## Aims of the Course

In S3 Drama pupils continue to work through BGE level work before progressing on to National level work and so will build on the knowledge and skills introduced in S2. Pupils will continue to develop their characterisation skills in performance, focusing on voice and movement in detail. Pupils will also expand their knowledge of all production areas, including lighting, sound, props, costume, make-up and set. At the end of each unit, pupils will perform in small-scale productions that they have created within their groups, in front of an audience. Pupils will also develop their ability to evaluate their own performance and the performance of others, helping to develop their confidence and communication skills.

## Career Opportunities

Learning drama gives young people self-confidence, the chance to use their imagination and develop their communication and cooperation skills. These skills are vital to a whole range of career paths both in the theatre industry and out with the industry such as in education, law, media, journalism, business and politics.





# MATHEMATICS

## Course Details

Pupils will continue to build on their Mathematical experiences and achievements from S1 and S2. All pupils will continue to follow a Level 3 or Level 4 course while acquiring the knowledge required for National 3 Applications of Maths, National 4 or National 5 Maths/Applications of Maths.

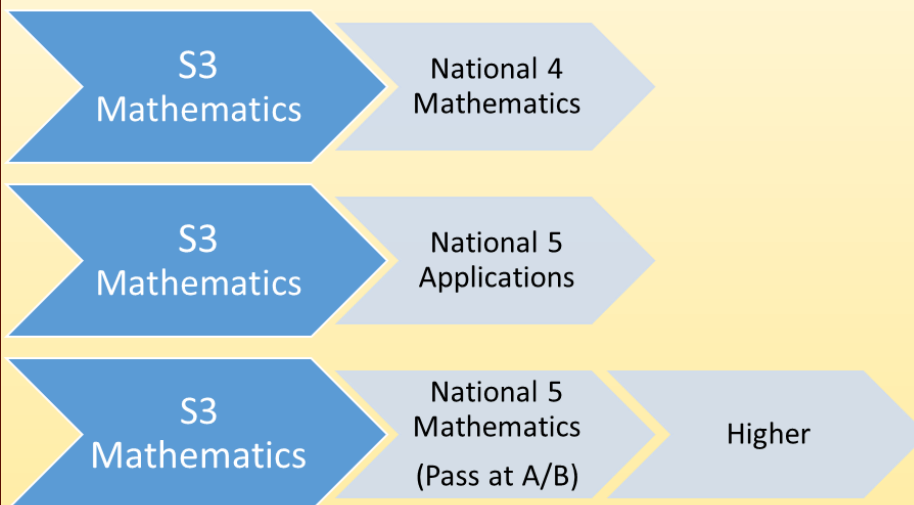
## Development of Skills

Pupils will have the opportunity to increase their knowledge and build on their existing skills for

- i) number, money and measure
- ii) shape, position and movement
- iii) information handling

Development of appropriate algebraic skills will be important and pupils will meet trigonometry for the first time.

## Progression



## Aims of the Course

This course

- provides progression from the Numeracy and Mathematics experiences and outcomes to develop an understanding of the concepts, principles and processes of mathematics and apply these in different contexts
- provides progression from the Numeracy and Mathematics experiences and outcomes to develop operational, reasoning and numeracy skills
- enables learners to select and apply mathematical techniques and solve problems in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations
- develops skills in manipulation of abstract terms in order to solve problems and to generalise

## Career Opportunities

Learning mathematics gives young people access to the wider curriculum and the opportunity to pursue further studies which may lead to careers in fields including accountancy, actuary, data analysis, science, statistics, surveying, technology and engineering.



# MODERN LANGUAGES– FRENCH & SPANISH

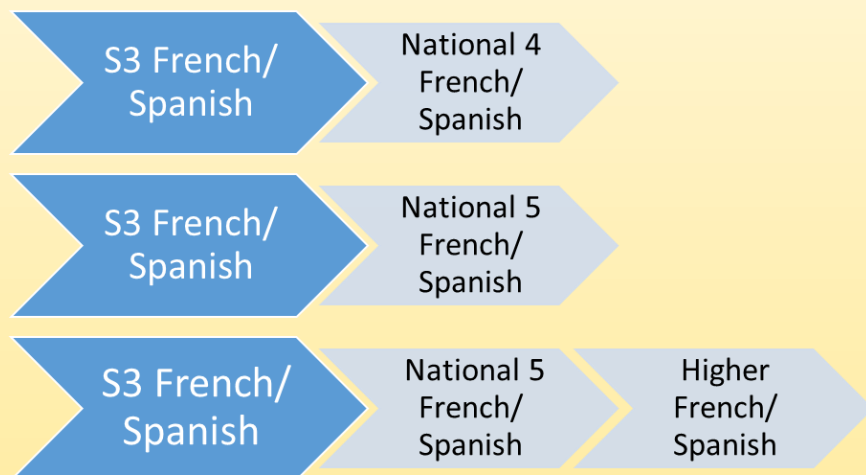
## Course Details

Pupils have the option of continuing their Broad General Education in French, Spanish or both languages in S3. Pupils will build on the language skills already acquired in S1 and S2, further developing their ability to communicate in a variety of ways. In the course of S3, pupils will have the opportunity to explore topics which are of concern to young people today, such as media and technology, planning a trip to a festival, environmental issues and cultural awareness. They will engage in planning and researching topics and will present their findings. Pupils will also engage in transactional activities which will allow them to communicate with French/Spanish people in everyday situations.

## Development of Skills

Pupils will further develop the four skills required in learning a Modern Language, namely listening, talking, reading and writing. Learning a Modern Language allows pupils to develop skills which are transferable across a range of curriculum areas and contexts. These include skills such as literacy, thinking skills, ICT, working with others and skills for work.

## Progression



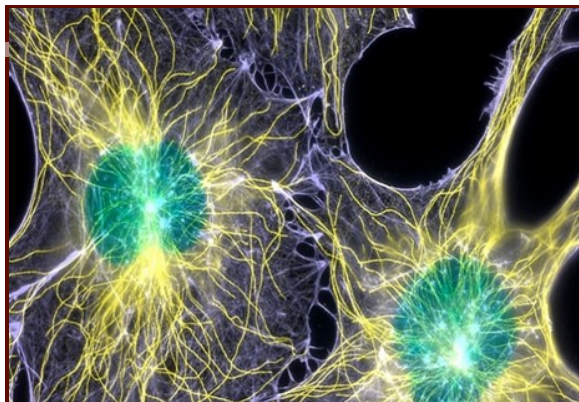
## Aims of the Course

The study of a Modern Language provides learners with a means of communicating with people from different cultures and a richer understanding of active citizenship. The course (French and/or Spanish) will provide learners with the opportunity to develop listening, talking, reading and writing skills. They will also use a variety of different media for learning and communication, and will develop an understanding of how language works.

## Career Opportunities

By studying a Modern Language, pupils develop skills relating to communication and teamwork as well as building their confidence and understanding of other countries.

A Modern Language is extremely valuable for a number of career paths including translation, teaching, media, tourism, law, medicine, business, marketing, publishing, interpreting, civil service, police and commerce. Opportunities relating to work and study abroad are also opened up through the study of a Modern Language.



## SCIENCES-BIOLOGY

### Course Details

The S3 Biology course consists of three units:

**The World Around Us** – this unit focuses on the study of ecology. Learners develop practical skills sampling the environmental conditions of their local area. Learners will also develop their understanding of the interdependence of all life on Earth and human impact on the environment.

**Building Blocks of Life** – this unit focuses on the study of cell biology. Learners will develop their knowledge of essential biological topics including DNA and enzymes. Learners will also develop their practical laboratory techniques carrying out various fun and exciting experiments.

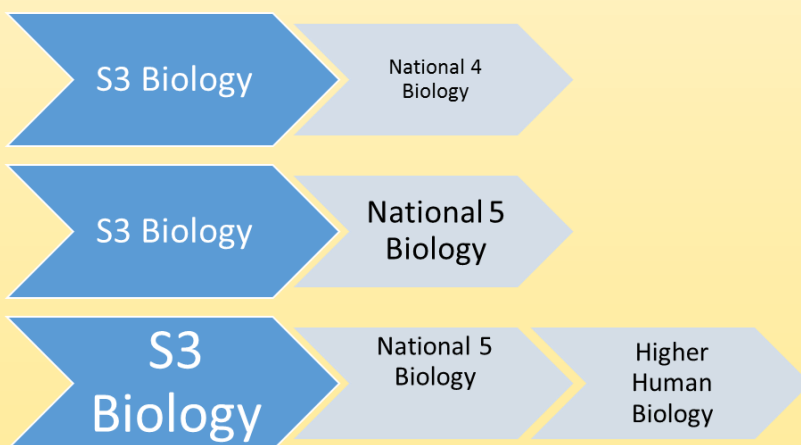
**Living Machines** – the final unit focuses on the study of physiology. Learners will develop their knowledge of human physiology and the importance of healthy lifestyle choices. Through investigation, learners will develop an understanding of the physiology of both plants and animals.

### Development of Skills

S3 Biology is a skills based course, allowing learners to refine the skills that they have developed through the BGE Sciences course in S1 and S2. Learners will experience a number of new practical techniques in both the laboratory and field settings.

Data handling and literacy skills will be further developed through a range of activities, all of which are designed to support young people as they progress to the senior phase of their school career.

### Progression



### Aims of the Course

Biology is the study of living things. Biology plays a crucial role in our everyday existence and is an increasingly important subject in the modern world. Biology affects everyone and aims to find solutions to many of the world's problems.

Through active learning, pupils will develop an understanding of the important role biology plays in the world around us. The course will develop learners' interests through a theoretical and experimental approach.

### Career Opportunities

Studying biology allows young people to access a number of careers in fields as varied as; medicine, dentistry, public health, sports science, conservation, food security, and climate science.

# SCIENCE– CHEMISTRY

## Course Details

The S3 Chemistry course consists of three units:

**Chemical Changes and Structure:** chemical reactions and how we can control them, acids and alkalis, chemical formulae and the invisible forces which hold everything together.

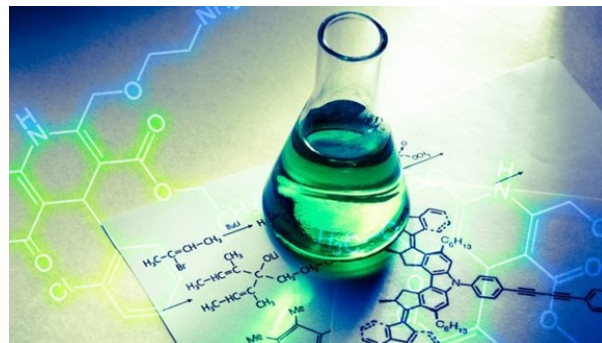
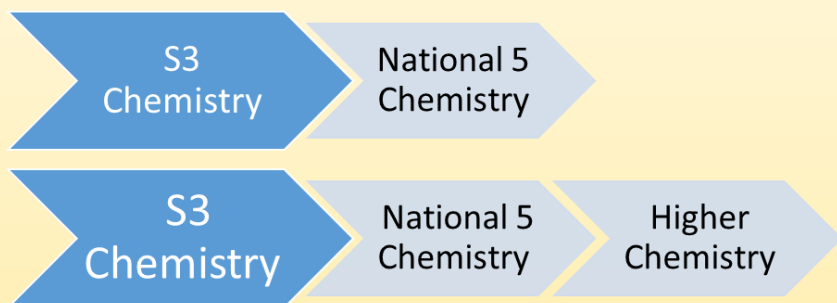
**Nature's Chemistry:** fossil fuels, the petroleum and plastics Industries, food from plants and their chemistry; chemistry and health.

**Chemistry in Society:** materials derived from the earth, metals, ceramics, novel materials, alloys, sustainability, and nuclear energy.

## Development of Skills

Skills are developed through a solid framework of practical activities, knowledge and problem solving. Pupils will develop their numerical skills through calculations, and their literacy skills through research and open ended questions.

## Progression



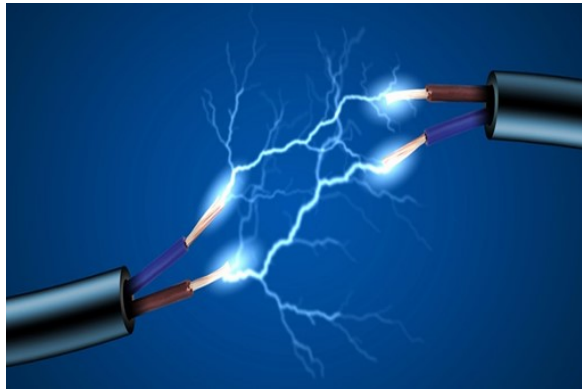
## Course Overview

Chemistry is about understanding everything you can see, feel, touch and breathe, and contributes to many aspects of life.

Scotland has rightfully earned a world class reputation for innovation in Chemistry. It has contributed to anaesthetics, medicines, explosives, iron and steel industry, distilling industry, fabrics, fuels and plastics. More recent innovations include energy capture and storage technology, computer chips, smart materials and sustainable energy developments.

## Career Opportunities

These courses contribute to the standard entry requirements for many courses, including medicine, dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, drug research and development, chemical engineering, and forensic science.



## SCIENCES– PHYSICS

### Course Details

The S3 Physics course consists of seven units covering a broad spectrum of physics disciplines:

Astronomy and space exploration – learners further develop their knowledge of space, building on the topics that have been previously covered in S1.

Exploring the electromagnetic spectrum – examining the whole of the electromagnetic spectrum, this topic develops learner understanding of the importance of the spectrum to their everyday lives.

Electronic system design – Using their knowledge of electronics, young people are given a design brief to develop an electronic system to fulfil a specific purpose. This unit gives an opportunity for young people to lead their own learning and develop transferrable skills.

Properties of matter – Building on knowledge developed in the S2 Sciences curriculum, this unit aims to equip Physics students with an understanding of concepts including; pressure, density, temperature, absolute zero, and gas laws.

Ohm's Law – through a practical approach, young people develop their knowledge and understanding of this essential law of Physics.

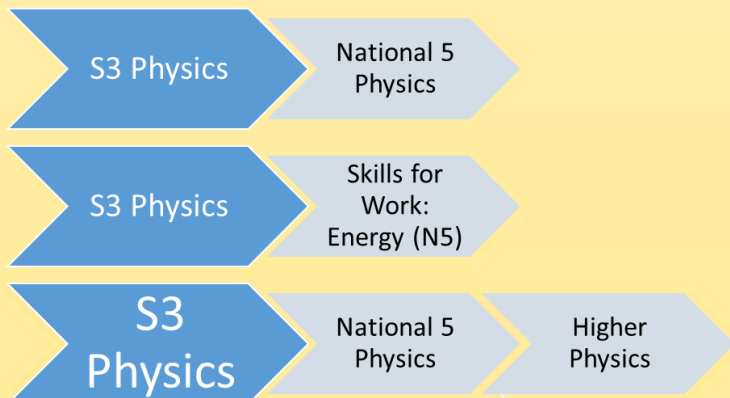
Sports & Motion – this unit allows pupils to develop their understanding of physics through its application in sports. Young people investigate speed, distance, time, acceleration, and forces and how these apply to projectiles.

Sound & Magnetism – the final unit of the course allows young people to develop their skills as sound engineers.

### Development of Skills

Skills are developed through a solid framework of practical activities, knowledge and problem solving. Pupils will develop their numerical skills through calculations, and their literacy skills through research and open ended questions.

### Progression



### Aims of the Course

Scotland's physicists have long been at the forefront of innovative ideas that have led to major research and engineering projects. Space physics, telecommunications (e.g. smart phones TV and radio), electronic devices, cutting edge technology in hospitals – these only scratch the surface of the contribution made by physicists to our world.

Through a mixture of practical work and theory, the Physics course develops transferable skills and an understanding of the important role physics plays in the world around us.

### Career Opportunities

Studying physics gives young people the opportunity to engage with a wide range of careers including: medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, energy industry, and many more.



# SOCIAL SUBJECTS– GEOGRAPHY

## Course Details

### Unit 1: Physical Environments.

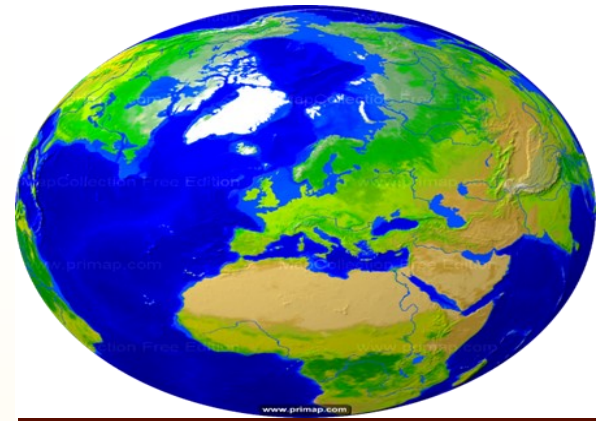
- River Landscapes in Scotland. Formation of river landscape features and how land is used for farming, forestry, hydro-electric power/ wind power and tourism.
- Case study. The River Clyde and its tributaries.
- Glaciated Landscapes in Scotland. The impact of the Ice Age on the Scottish landscape and how mountain landscapes are used.
- Pupils will also study National Parks in Scotland and why land users may be in conflict.
- Case Studies. Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park;
- Ben Nevis/Fort William area.

### Unit 2: Global Issues.

- The Lands of the Arctic Tundra. Climate and environment, traditional ways of life, mineral exploitation and the impact of climate change.
- Case Studies: The Alaska Pipeline; Climate change in Greenland.
- Environmental Hazards. Distribution, causes, effects and management of Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Tropical Storms (hurricanes).
- Case Studies. Eyjafjallajökull volcano (Iceland 2010); Japan earthquake and tsunami (2011); Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami (2004); Hurricane Sandy (2012); Typhoon Haiyan—Philippines (2013)
- Deforestation in the Amazon Rainforest: Causes, effects, sustainable development of the rainforest.

## Development of Skills

- Use a range of mapping skills in geographical contexts in Scotland and Britain.
- Use a range of research skills applied to developed and developing countries drawn from global geographical contexts.
- Use numerical and graphical information in the context of a global geographical issue.
- Further enhance a range of cross curricular skills such as IT skills, and thinking skills (reasoning, justifying and analysing) to create confident and successful learners.

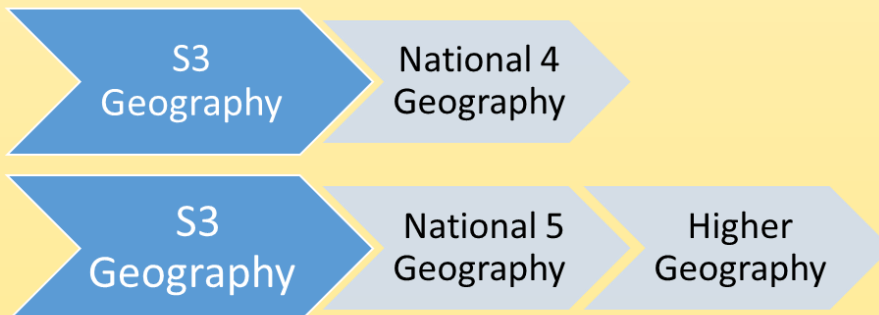


## Aims of the Course

In the 21st century, with growing awareness of the impact of human activity upon the environment the study of Geography fosters positive life-long attitudes of environmental stewardship, sustainability and global citizenship. This qualification will furnish learners with the knowledge and skills to enable them to contribute effectively to their local community and wider society.

## Career Opportunities

Studying Geography can lead to a great number of careers as diverse as a cartographer, commercial/residential surveyor, Environmental consultant, government, HR, teaching and town planner.





# SOCIAL SUBJECTS– HISTORY

## Course Details

### Unit 1: Scotland and the era of the Great War 1914-19

From this unit pupils will gain an understanding of the cause of World War 1. Pupils will also gain an understanding of the conditions endured by soldiers in the trenches and the impact of new technology on warfare. Pupils then move on to study the final months of war and the Treaty of Versailles and its effects on Germany.

### Unit 2: Red Flag: The Tsar, Lenin and the Russian Revolution, 1894–1921

From this unit pupils will gain an understanding of the Romanov dynasty and how the Tsar governed Russia. Pupils will also gain an understanding of the impact World War 1 had on Russia and why in February 1917 the Tsar abdicated. Pupils will also gain an understanding of why the Provisional Government failed and why the Reds won the Russian Civil War.

### Unit 3: Immigrants and Exiles: Scotland, 1830s–1951

From this unit pupils will gain an understanding of the different immigrant groups that came to Scotland and the impact they made on the country. Pupils will also gain an understanding of why Scots emigrated during this period and the importance and impact of the British Empire on Scotland.

## Development of Skills

- Use a range of basic historical sources to evaluate their usefulness.
- Use a range of basic historical skills to evaluate the impact of a historical development.
- Use a range of basic historical skills to evaluate the factors contributing to a historical development.
- Further enhance a range of cross curricular skills such as IT skills, and thinking skills (reasoning, justifying and analysing) to create confident and successful learners.

## Progression



## Aim of the Course

The purpose of History is to provide learners with insights into their own lives and the society in which they live. By examining the past, they discover their heritage as members of a community, a country and the wider world. History provides learners with both a perspective on, and an understanding of, the forces which have shaped their own society and societies in other countries.

## Career Opportunities

Studying history can lead to a great number of careers as diverse as the media, government, heritage organisations, conservations, teaching, museums, the police and law.

# SOCIAL SUBJECTS– MODERN STUDIES

## Course Details

Unit 1: Democracy in Scotland and Britain.

This unit will focus on Scotland's political system and will examine the role of the Scottish Parliament.

Unit 2: Social Issues in Britain - Law and Order.

This unit will focus on the legal system in Scotland. Topics include the impact of crime on society, the role of the police and courts and how the state tackles the issue of crime.

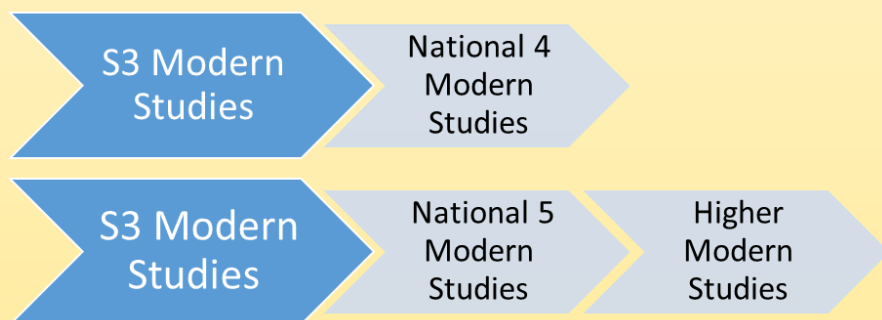
Unit 3: International Issues- The USA:

Pupils will study topics on either a socio/economic and political study of the USA as a major world power. The rising influence of the USA will be a major topic in the course. Pupils will also study a unit on Pressure groups as an international issue.

## Development of Skills

- Use a range of sources of information to detect bias, exaggeration in contexts relating to democracy in Scotland.
- Use a range of sources of information to make and justify a decision about a social issue in the UK – focusing on crime and the law.
- Further enhance a range of cross curricular skills such as IT, research skills, debating and thinking skills.

## Progression



## Aims of the Course

Modern Studies develops in learners a greater understanding of the contemporary, UK and international contexts. Learners will develop an awareness of the social and Modern Studies develops in learners a greater understanding of the contemporary world and their place within it. The purpose of Modern Studies is to develop a learner's knowledge and understanding of current political and social issues in local, Scottish, UK and international contexts. Learners will develop an awareness of the social and political issues they will meet in their lives.

## Career Opportunities

Studying Modern Studies can lead to a great number of careers as diverse as the media, government, HR, teaching, the police and law.

# SOCIAL SUBJECTS– RELIGIOUS & MORAL EDUCATION



## Course Details

An introduction to ethical positions and stances

Looking at the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer to demonstrate belief into action

A choice of ethics topic from subjects like marriage and its alternatives, the treatment of animals, capital punishment, nuclear weapons, organ transplants and opportunity at work.

## Development of Skills

Pupils will be encouraged to develop higher order thinking skills; literacy and discursive skills; reasoned discussion, debate and opinion writing; communication skills with their peers and others where appropriate.

## Course Overview

In one period a week pupils will engage in critical thinking based on knowledge, understanding and evaluation of contemporary moral issues and the different positions that both religious and non-religious individuals and groups take. Pupils will be encouraged to think about their own place within this diversity and the impact ethical viewpoints have (now and in the past) on societies here and elsewhere. Pupils will be encouraged, where possible, to see cross curricular potential and to use skills developed to enhance their work in all areas of the school. Emphasis will be placed on the development of discursive and literary skills.



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

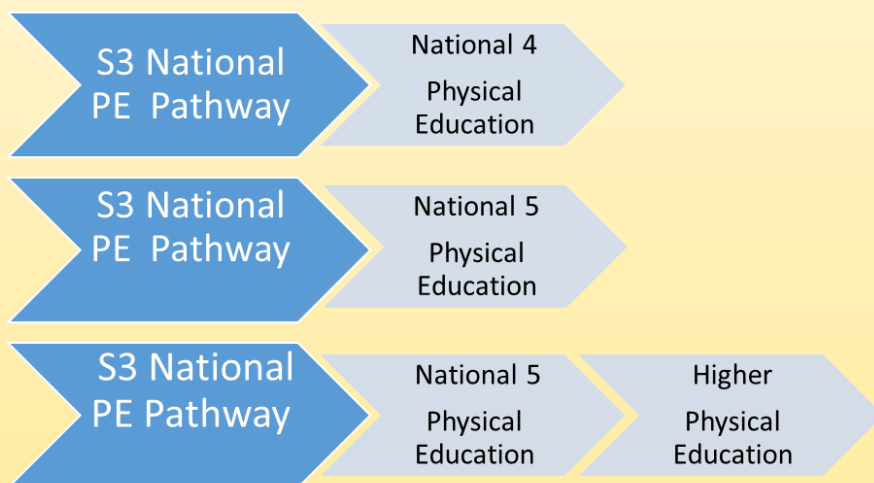
## Course Details

The main purpose of the course is to develop performance skills in preparation for National Qualification Physical Education. Learners will develop the ability to safely perform a range of skills in straightforward contexts, develop and demonstrate knowledge of factors impacting on performance, build capacity to perform effectively, develop approaches to enhance performance, record and reflect on performance development. The course will include a written unit of work; this will help prepare learners for content within the National Course. During this unit learners will be expected to work as part of a team and individually to describe and explain sporting performance.

## Development of Skills

The Course encourages learners to develop a positive attitude towards a healthy lifestyle, and the contribution that physical activity makes to this. This will include involvement in a variety of fitness tests to help learners set goals for their learning. Learners will focus on developing their communication, decision-making and problem solving skills with an emphasis on developing strategies for independent learning. Within the written element of the course, learners will develop the ability to interpret and extract information presented, as well as developing their ability to present information to their peers.

## Progression

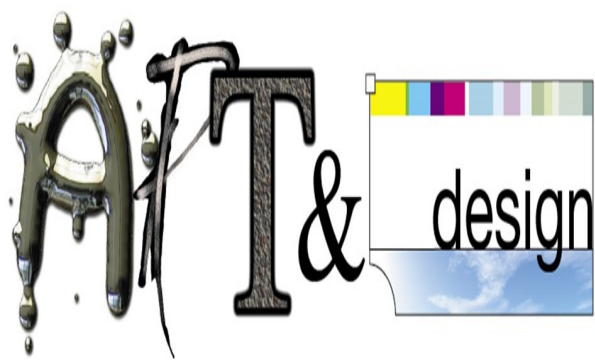


## Aims of the Course

The S3 National Pathways course aims to develop pupil confidence, practical ability and knowledge and understanding of concepts related to performance development. Building on previous experiences learners will engage in a variety of activities which allow them to demonstrate individual ability and improve activity specific skills. Learners will be provided with opportunities to gain insight into all aspects of sporting performance and develop the required analytical and evaluative skills required to help them progress onto National Physical Education.

## Career Opportunities

Physical education lends itself to a range of careers in sports and fitness including Sports Science, PE teacher, Physiotherapist, Professional sportsperson, Sports coach/consultant, Sports policy at local and national level, Diet and fitness instructor, Personal trainer. Learners will acquire and apply interpersonal, leadership and communication skills necessary for exploring careers directly related to sport and beyond.



## ART & DESIGN

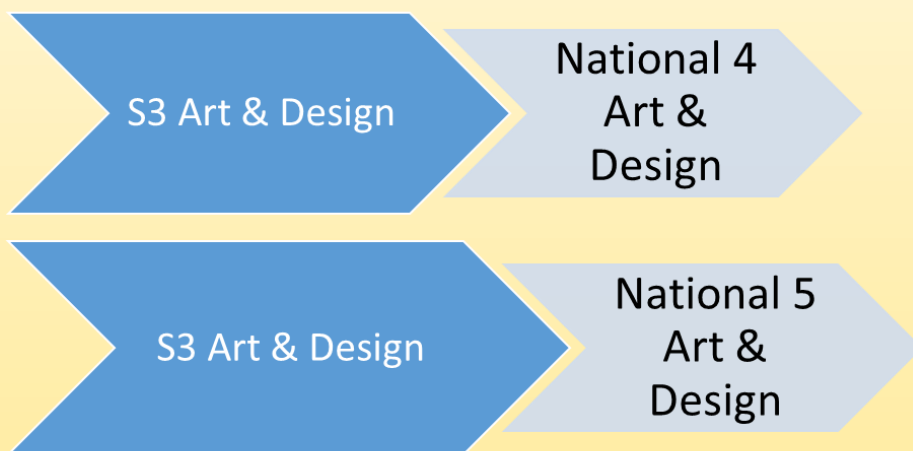
### Course Details

- Enable experimentation with technologies and materials.
- Utilise the visual elements and concepts to convey ideas, thoughts and feelings.
- Observe and record to show accuracy of representation.
- Produce work in relation to a brief.
- Provide opportunity to discuss the work of artists and designers.
- Evaluate their own and others work.
- 

### Development of Skills

- Develop insights into how imagery works as a means of communication and how art and design feeds into cultural heritage.
- Learners will gain considerable skills in using materials, managing processes and presenting thoughts and ideas.
- Learners will develop their reasoning, analysis and language skills.
- They will be able to express themselves, solve problems and work directly with materials and equipment in satisfying and enjoyable ways.
- Learners will also develop skills to research, investigate, interpret and handle information.

### Progression



### Aims of the Course

Through art and design, learners have rich opportunities to:

- Be creative and to experience inspiration and enjoyment.
- Explore a wide range of two- and three- dimensional media.
- Use appropriate technologies and engage in practical activities.
- Create, express and communicate ideas.
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of artists and designers.

### Career Opportunities

Art and Design students are creative individuals and many will go on to realise that this skill is valued in the creative industries and a global marketplace. Graduates become artists, designers, makers, engineers, architects, entrepreneurs, filmmakers, animators, broadcasters, curators, lecturers, teachers, photographers, editors, directors, etc

# HEALTH & FOOD TECHNOLOGY

## Course Details

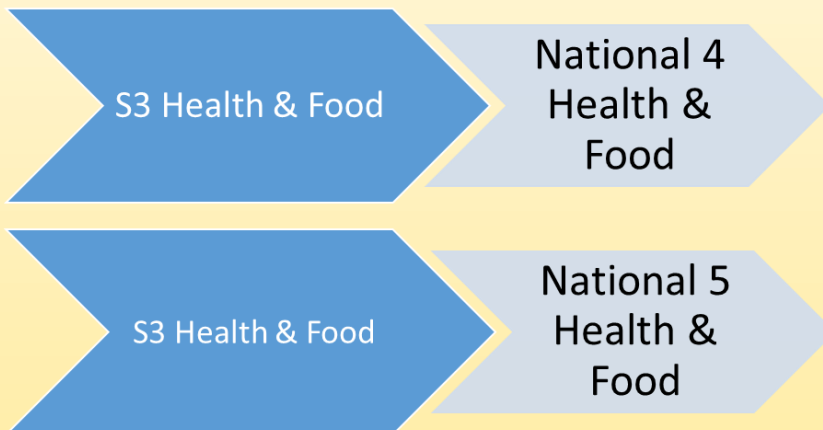
Improve practical skills through using a variety of exciting materials.

- Gain a deeper knowledge of hygiene and safety in the workplace.
- Produce creative work in relation to a design brief.
- Adapt foods to provide healthy solutions.
- Embrace new technologies.
- Evaluate their own and others work.

## Development of Skills

- Gain skills in using a range of equipment and materials.
- Develop practical cooking skills through preparation of exciting dishes.
- Understand the role of new technology in preparation and cooking of food.
- Apply principles of hygiene and safety to everyday routines and understand their importance to health and safety.
- Be able to plan and organise.

## Progression



## Aims of the Course

Through home economics learners will be encouraged:

- to develop an understanding of a healthy diet.
- to develop the skills to make healthy food choices.
- to gain confidence and skills in making healthy food.
- to experience challenge and enjoyment.

## Career Opportunities

Many outlets recruit staff who have multi-disciplined skills across both front and back of house and there are excellent career opportunities and progression routes open to those who successfully achieve this qualification.



# MUSIC

## Course Details

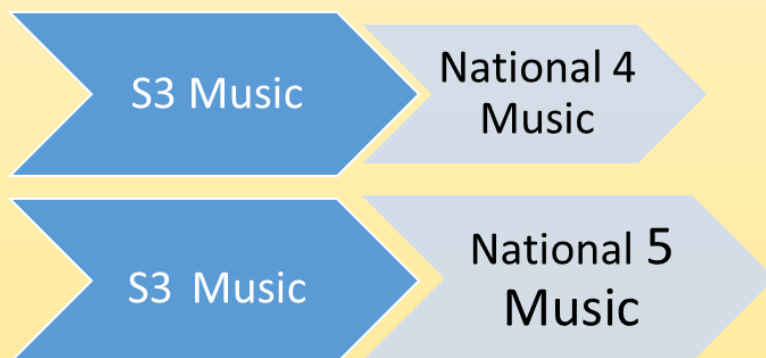
- give exciting and imaginative performances of vocal and/or instrumental music from a wide range of styles and cultures.
- use their chosen vocal and/or instrumental skills to improvise and compose.
- use music technology to compose, record and produce music and to enhance performance.
- listen to a wide range of music and identify and analyse technical aspects, and express personal opinions on their own and others' work.

## Development of Skills

Throughout the course pupils will have the opportunity to:

- develop performing skills by having regular opportunities to practice.
- experience the energy and excitement of presenting/performing for different audiences.
- develop listening skills by listening to a wide range of musical styles
- develop their compositions by using a broad range of musical concepts and ideas.
- gain valuable skills in music technology.

## Progression



## Aims of the Course

Through music, learners have rich opportunities to be creative and to experience inspiration and enjoyment. Performing and creating music will be the prominent activities for all learners. They can further develop their understanding and capacity to enjoy music through:

- Performing
- Using ICT
- Composing
- Listening

## Career Opportunities

Career opportunities within the music industry include music producer, musician, session musician, composer, music researcher, sound engineer, A & R coordinator, music teacher, music therapist, acoustician, musical director, conductor, music journalist.





## ADMINISTRATION & IT

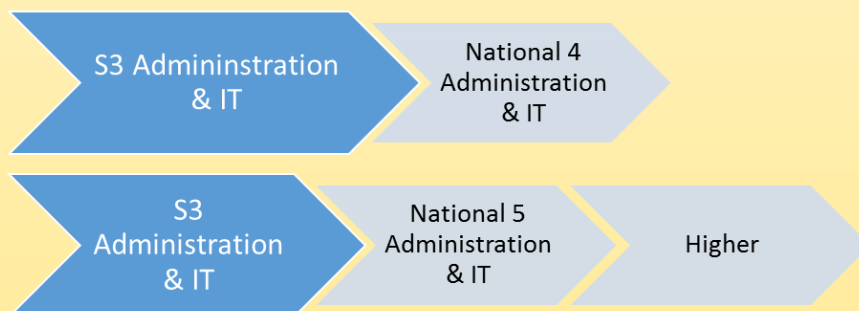
### Course Details

Administration, Communication and IT is integral to every sector of industry and cuts across all sectors of the economy. The National 5 course is a practical course that provides candidates with experience of real-life administration tasks and engaging practical activities relevant to the world of work. Candidates learn to become proficient in the use of the software packages within the Microsoft Office Suite and administrative theory as outlined above. This is a dynamic course with an emphasis on the development and application of transferable digital skills expected by employers.

### Development of Skills

- Pupils will develop extensive skills in the use of business software – skills that are essential in every workplace.
- Pupils will work in teams and independently.
- Pupils will work regularly under their own initiative, but also in teams to run successful events.
- Almost all University and College courses now require students to word process assignments, analyse information in spreadsheets and databases and communicate using presentation software.

### Progression



### Course Overview

In Administration and IT pupils are taught digital literacy skills required in today's workplaces. They become proficient in the use of the Microsoft Office Suite software and;

- the importance of sound electronic file management systems to aid efficiency
- skills to discern validity and reliability of information to aid accuracy in problem-solving, decision-making and data integrity
- knowledge of legislation governing security of information
- Workplace Health and Safety policies and procedures, and good ergonomic practice
- the necessity for professional etiquette in communications with customers via digital technologies in order to protect the online reputation of businesses

### Career Opportunities

This course greatly benefits candidates embarking on any area of Further or Higher Education. The expectation of high quality presentation of submitted course work reports, essays, research analysis etc. can be met by the skills gained in the course. Moreover, it equips candidates with knowledge of tools to help them organise their work effectively, prioritise workload through time and task management techniques and eliminate time stealers. Career progression routes include areas such as Economics, Business and Human Resource Management, Accounting, and public services administration.



# BUSINESSS

## Course Details

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.

This course highlights ways in which organisations operate and the steps they take to achieve their goals. It enables you to understand and make use of business information to interpret and report on overall business performance, in a range of contexts.

## Development of Skills

- Business Management makes a significant contribution to skills essential for future employment.
- Develop enterprise and employability skills
- Skills in the handling and use of information, including finding, evaluating and presenting as well as key thinking skills such as understanding, remembering and applying will also be developed.
- Pupils will also regularly work under their own initiative as well as part of teams.

## Progression



## Course Overview

Business plays an important role in society. We all rely on businesses to create wealth, prosperity, jobs and choices. The purpose of the course is to develop learners' understanding of the way in which businesses operate in the current dynamic, changing, competitive and economic environments and to encourage entrepreneurial attitudes.

## Career Opportunities

- Wide range of Business courses at University/College including general courses in Business or more specific courses in areas such as Marketing, Advertising, Accountancy, Human Resource Management, Operations and Production.
- Professions such as Law, Medicine, Architecture, Veterinary, etc. all operate as businesses and many courses in these areas include elements of business management.
- Employment
- Training

# COMPUTING SCIENCE

## Course Details

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.

The course has two compulsory units, plus an added value unit that assesses your practical skills.

### *Software Design and Development*

In this unit you will:

- learn, understand and solve problems in software design and development
- develop basic computational thinking and programming skills
- learn how data and instructions are stored in binary form and how programming supports computer applications
- look at the impact of today's software-based applications on society or the environment.

### *Information System Design and Development*

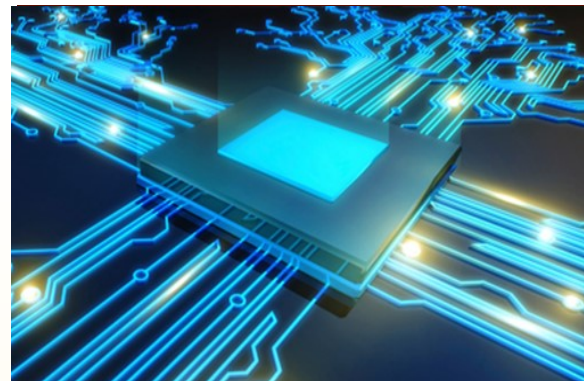
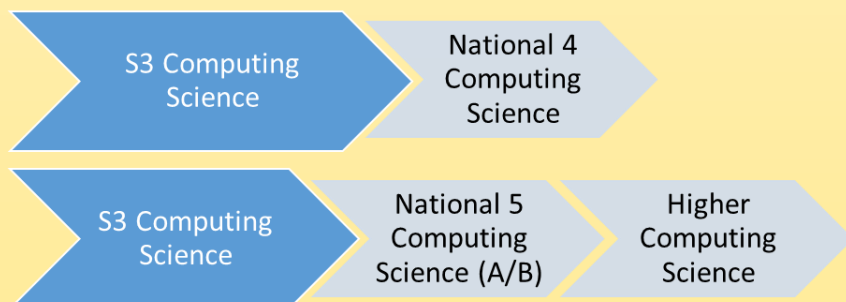
In this unit you will:

- learn, understand and solve problems in information system design and development
- use suitable development tools to create databases, web-based information systems or multimedia information systems
- learn about basic computer hardware, software, connectivity and security issues through a range of practical and research tasks.

## Development of Skills

- Understanding the technologies that underpin the digital world
- Planning, researching, organising and problem-solving

## Progression



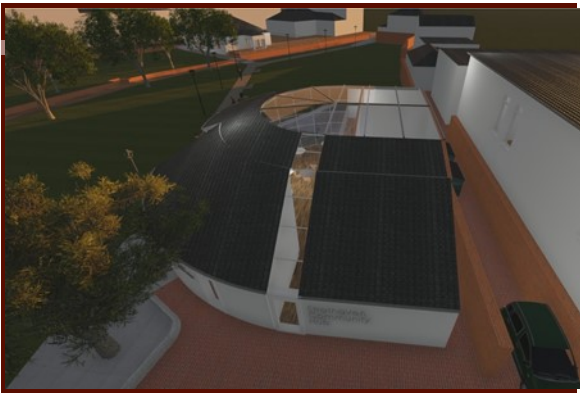
## Course Overview

Computing science is vital to everyday life – on social, technological and economic levels. It shapes the world in which we live and its future. Computing is embedded in the world around us, from systems and devices in our homes to our places of work. It has also changed the way we learn, relax, travel and communicate.

Learning computing science will give you many benefits apart from learning about technology. You will learn valuable transferable work and life skills, such as being able to solve problems in a logical way, think creatively and handle information.

## Career Opportunities

The skills you learn in this course are useful in lots of different job areas. These include science, communications, entertainment, education, business and industry.



# GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

## Course Details

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 has two units:

### Manual Graphics

This unit allows pupils to develop skills in creating manual graphics from sketching to drawing board work in both 2D and 3D. Pupils will also develop skills in planning effective manual graphics then apply them to real-life scenarios.

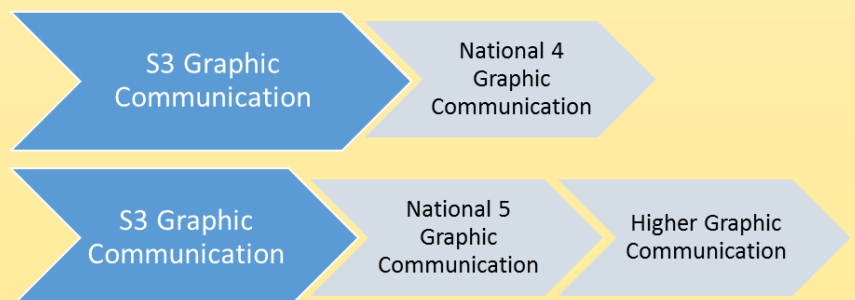
### Computer Aided Graphics

This unit allows pupils to develop skills in creating computer aided graphics using 3D modelling, Desktop Publishing and Illustration and Rendering software packages. Pupils will create graphics that are used for production and promotional applications.

## Development of Skills

- Develop an understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society
- An awareness of graphic communication as an international language
- The ability to read, interpret and create graphic communication
- Design skills and creativity to develop solutions to simple graphics tasks
- Planning, organising, critical thinking, evaluating and decision-making
- Basic knowledge of computer-aided graphics techniques and practice
- Knowledge of colour, illustration and presentation techniques in straightforward and familiar contexts

## Progression



## Aims of the 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. 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.

## Career Opportunities

The skills you learn in this course are useful in many career areas including Architecture, Surveying, Engineering, Construction, Design and Marketing, Graphic Design, Manufacturing, Web Design, Multimedia, Digital Design and Landscaping plus many more.



# PRACTICAL TECHNICAL SKILLS (WOODWORK)

## Course Details

In this course you will develop manual dexterity and control skills in a specialist practical craft. You will learn about the correct use of a range of tools, equipment and materials. And, you will learn how to work effectively alongside others in a workshop environment.

In all three units 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 has three compulsory units, plus an added value unit that assesses your practical skills.

### Practical Woodworking: Flat-frame Construction

In this unit you will:

- learn how to use woodworking tools
- prepare and produce basic flat-frame woodworking joints and assemblies
- learn to read and follow simple woodworking drawings or diagrams.
- Practical Woodworking: Carcase Construction
- In this unit you will:
- learn to prepare and produce basic woodworking joints and assemblies suitable for use in carcase construction. This may include working with manufactured board or with frames and panels
- use simple working drawings or diagrams.

### Practical Woodworking: Machining and Finishing

In this unit you will:

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

## Development of Skills

- Skills in woodworking techniques for straightforward and familiar tasks
- Using a range of woodworking tools, equipment and materials safely and correctly
- Reading and interpreting simple drawings and diagrams
- Practical creativity in the context of simple and familiar woodworking tasks given practical problem-solving
- Awareness of safe working practices in a workshop environment
- Knowledge of the basic properties and uses of common woodworking materials
- Knowledge of sustainability issues

## Progression

S3 Practical Woodworking

National 4/5  
Practical  
Woodworking



## Course Overview

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.

## Career Opportunities

The skills you learn in this course will help you move into career areas such as craft, design, engineering and graphics.

## ELECTIVES

The purpose of the electives is to introduce personalisation, enjoyment and additional challenge into the curriculum and to ensure that all pupils in S3 have an opportunity to engage in a structured way with a range of additional opportunities. It allows pupils to develop a range of skills including literacy, numeracy, leadership, problem solving and team work, as well as taking responsibility for their own learning. It also provides an opportunity for pupils to be creative and achieve accreditation where appropriate.

We currently offer twelve electives.

1. Duke of Edinburgh
2. John Muir Award
3. Literacy-A Reading Culture
4. Strathaven Football Academy
5. Dance (Expressive Arts)
6. Introduction to Netball Coaching/Umpiring
7. STEM
8. Drama-Acting & Performance Skills (Expressive Arts)
9. Enterprise (Technologies)
10. Product Manufacture (Technologies)
11. Hospitality (Expressive Arts)
12. Photography (Expressive Arts)

We will endeavour to meet pupil's choices as best we can but please be aware this will not always be possible where an elective is much more popular than the number of places available.

To ensure that all pupils fulfil the requirements for a broad general education, if a pupil has not selected a subject in the curricular areas of Technologies or Expressive Arts as part of their curricular choices, they must select one of the Technologies and/or Expressive Arts electives. This will ensure that they still get to experience learning in these curricular areas.



# 1. DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Duke of Edinburgh's award is a great way to take part in a variety of activities. Pupils will be introduced to the programme and trained in aspects of the expedition section.

In this elective, pupils will

- develop map work skills including how to relate the natural environment to a map.
- enhance skills in navigation, following a planned route.
- learn how to create a route card, including appropriate rest breaks for journeys.
- learn about the camp craft skills required to complete an expedition (cooking, cleaning, camping, health and safety)
- be given very basic first aid training to allow them to deal with cuts, twists and sprains.
- learn how to use the electronic Duke of Edinburgh's Award system and how to update award progress.
- identify a range of activities, which will allow them to pick a programme that is tailored to their individual interests.
- take part in a variety of activities (arranged by themselves) to complete the skill, physical and volunteering section of the award.

To register for the Duke of Edinburgh Award there is an initial fee of £21.00, which covers the cost of registration and the materials used during the elective. Following this, participants must be prepared to give up their own time at evenings and weekends to complete the activities they sign up for. There are four sections: volunteering, physical and skill and expedition. Participants must commit an hour per week to each section (volunteering, physical and skill) over a three-month period and then choose one section to continue for a further three months, committing an hour each week. Once all sections are complete and have been signed off by an appropriate, qualified assessor, your child will be permitted to go on expedition.

Due to the large number of participants that wish to take part in the Award, for your child to take part in the Expedition section, they will have to complete the other three sections of the award (volunteering, physical and skill) in advance. Once they have done this, your child will then be permitted to go on expedition. Expeditions will take place between April and October each year. Each pupil must take part in both a practice and a qualifying expedition to achieve the full award. The cost for this is an additional £90.00. This covers the cost of equipment hire, transport, camping fees, and assessment costs.



# JOHN MUIR AWARD

*wild places:*  
DISCOVER  
EXPLORE  
CONSERVE  
SHARE

## 2. JOHN MUIR AWARD

The John Muir Award is an environmental award scheme focused on wild places. It encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment. Taking part will develop an understanding of, and responsibility for, a chosen wild place or places.

There are 3 levels of the Award, encouraging a progressive involvement. We are offering the first level, Discovery Award (introductory level).

Four Challenges have to be completed; discover - explore - conserve - share.

|                                                                                     |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <b>Discover a wild place</b><br><br>This is the wild place (or places) on which your Award activity will be focused. |    | <b>Explore its wildness</b><br><br>Experience your wild place, understand and appreciate more about it. |
|  | <b>Conserve</b><br><br>Carry out a practical conservation action that will leave it in better shape.                 |  | <b>Share your experiences</b><br><br>Inspire others by sharing your experiences of wild places          |

The award will be achieved through participation in a series of outdoor learning experiences and challenges. Our young learners will gain team work skills, such as planning and decision making; communication skills from sharing experiences and knowledge with a wider audience; a record book to include in their e-portfolio and on successful completion of the award a nationally recognised certificate.

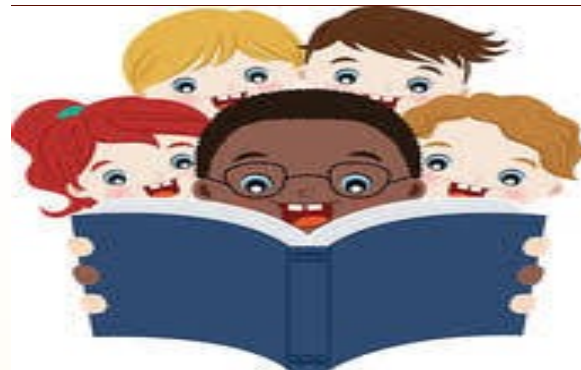


### 3. LITERACY-A READING CULTURE

The Literacy Elective will focus on reading and events management.

The course will centre around the organisation of one or more school reading events as well as on building and maintaining a reading culture in and around the school.

Those involved will have the opportunity to achieve a Level 3 SQA Personal Development Award. Pupils will plan, organise, carry out and review a variety of tasks including: creating and maintaining display boards, liaising with staff from around the school including the librarian, creating a social media presence, setting up and maintaining a reading café, supporting and promoting the First Ministers Reading Challenge/ Strathaven Academy Challenge, hosting Assemblies and organising events with a focus on reading, for example Reading Week (Sept and May), National Poetry Day, Book Week Scotland and the Carnegie Medal.



### 4. STRATHAVEN FOOTBALL ACADEMY

The Football Academy elective will focus on developing football performance and individual organisation and communication skills. Pupils will work through both practical and theoretical workshops to develop their knowledge and understanding of the game. Workshops will include nutrition, player respect and life skills. Pupils will end the elective by organising and carrying out a transition football tournament for our feeder primary schools in partnership with Strathaven Dynamos. Pupils will be responsible for organising teams, matches and refereeing games.



## 5. DANCE

Pupils will gain an appreciation of dance skills and techniques. The course will allow pupils to explore choreography and gain an appreciation of dance skills and techniques. Pupils will develop their ability in a variety of dance styles and have the opportunity to teach and lead dance sessions. Pupils must have dance experience to take part in this elective .



## 6. INTRODUCTION TO NETBALL COACHING/ UMPIRING

The Netball coaching course will help pupils develop the fundamental skills for netball and modified games to support Fun 5z. Pupils will work through both practical and theoretical workshops to develop their knowledge and understanding of the game and basic coaching skills. Pupils will also develop their individual umpiring skills and be given the opportunity to complete the “Introduction to Umpiring” Course at a cost of £10. This will then allow pupils to help umpire friendly games and local festivals.





## 7. STEM

Through developing skills in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), young people will be encouraged to explore the everyday applications of STEM in the world around them.

Engagement with these activities can contribute towards the attainment of a bronze CREST award (There is a registration fee of £5-10 that applies).

Learners will also develop skills which prepare them for their future career pathways and the world of work.



## 8. DRAMA— ACTING & PERFORMANCE SKILLS

The purpose of this elective is to develop acting and performance skills whilst building confidence.

Pupils will work through a variety of group tasks as they respond to a range of stimuli. They will experience creating, presenting and evaluating pieces of Drama. Pupils will also engage with script work and have the opportunity to write their own. They will also learn the importance of voice and movement techniques to convey meaning and will utilise these skills when performing.

Throughout this elective pupils will develop their communication, leadership, creativity and problem solving skills as they create Drama. This elective will be predominantly practical and therefore pupils must be comfortable with acting.

This elective will be very beneficial for any pupil who is also considering the S3 Drama course as it will enhance and develop their skills further.

## TECHNOLOGIES ELECTIVES

### 9. ENTERPRISE

Pupils will be involved in the organisation of small scale events and will all contribute to leading and organising an event in the school using, developing and enhancing their current skills, qualities and experience. Throughout the elective pupils will be using and enhancing their ICT skills to create documents, source information and communicate.



### 10. PRODUCT MANUFACTURE

The aim of this elective is to provide pupils with the opportunity to be involved in the manufacture of models using a wide range of materials. Pupils will develop metal working skills including filing, shaping, welding & forming and woodworking skills including drilling, shaping & finishing. Pupils will also learn safe working practices in a work shop environment.

Throughout the elective pupils will be working independently and cooperatively developing their team work, ICT and communication skills. The elective will also give them the opportunity to consider the benefits of an apprenticeship.







## CREATIVE & AESTHETICS ELECTIVES

### 11. HOSPITALITY

This course will combine practical cookery with the opportunity to achieve an Elementary Food Hygiene Certificate. This certificate could be the difference of employment in your future - careers within the food industry, care industry, mental health and social support industry. Pupils will study food safety, food poisoning, food handlers and personal hygiene, food pests, food safety law and food management systems. Achievement of this certificate is an excellent addition to any curriculum vitae.

Experience in practical cooking will link to food safety. Cooking dishes, using chicken and other raw meats, will enable pupils to see the hazards involved when handling raw meat. Pupils will be encouraged to be creative and adventurous when cooking and tasting new foods. In addition, pupils will learn many of the cookery, skills techniques and processes required to be able to feed themselves healthily. This is an enjoyable and learning-rich part of the course that covers skills such as whisking, blending, folding, rolling, baking, stewing and grilling.



### 12. PHOTOGRAPHY

This elective gives pupils the opportunity to build and develop knowledge and understanding of digital photography. Essential technical skills, like composition and framing are taught and pupils are given the opportunity to take photographs indoors and in the local Strathaven area, using digital cameras.

Pupils are also encouraged to use new media and technology (I pads, Instagram etc.) to enhance their photographic skills. Photographs are enhanced, manipulated and stored using Adobe Photoshop.

Some photographs will be displayed at an exhibition at our Creative and Aesthetic Showcase event.







the

the



## STRATHAVEN ACADEMY

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