

S2 CHOICES FOR LEARNING



ST KENTIGERN'S ACADEMY

**PERSONALISATION AND CHOICE
INFORMATION BOOKLET
2024/2025**

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Choices for Learning

S2/S3 Personalisation and Choice Programme

The personalisation and choice of courses of study is a vital stage in your child's education. This booklet aims to provide information to help all of our young people, along with support from parents and carers, make informed choices. We hope you find it useful. For further information, please contact the Head of Faculty for a subject specific enquiry or Miss Murray for any general queries.

“
Every child and young person is entitled to experience a broad general education
”

Building the Curriculum 3: A Framework for Learning and Teaching p.14.

A key entitlement of Curriculum for Excellence is that all young people should receive a rounded education, known as a *Broad General Education (BGE)*, from early years through to the end of S3, before moving on to a *Senior Phase* in S4 to S6 which will include studying for qualifications. The *BGE* will allow them to develop the attributes, knowledge and skills they will need to flourish in life, learning and work, and to be successful students, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

The S2 Personalisation and Choice Programme enables students to follow courses within each of the seven curricular areas in S3 (see below). Whilst Mathematics & Numeracy, Languages & Literacy (English and Modern Languages) and Health & well-Being (PE and PSE) remain compulsory, students may make personalisation choices within the rest of the curricular areas. Students will also be able to make a *free choice* of one other subject. The *free choice* option allows students to specialise in a subject area which they enjoy leading to deeper learning.

1. Expressive Arts
2. Health & Wellbeing (PE & PSE – compulsory)
3. Languages (English & Modern Languages) & Literacy (compulsory)
4. Mathematics & Numeracy (compulsory)
5. Sciences
6. Social Studies
7. Technologies

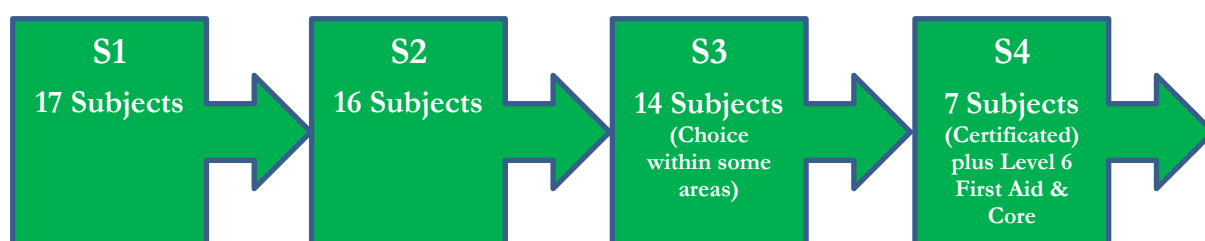
In addition, all pupils will study core Religious Education. The 'Personalisation and Choice' programme will ensure that the curriculum is relevant to the interests and aspirations of each

student. Students will engage in all of the Experiences and Outcomes, across all curriculum areas, up to and including the third curriculum level. Most students will progress into the fourth curriculum level before the end of S3.

The *BGE* is closely connected to the Senior Phase with the learning providing a strong foundation for choosing and specialising in a range of subjects at the end of S3. In the Senior Phase, young people will have the opportunity to take qualifications and courses that suit their ability and interests. At the end of S3, students will progress to courses leading onto qualifications at *National 3, National 4 or National 5*. These courses will normally be selected from the areas of study a young person has followed in S3.

Assessment in S3	Looking ahead to the Senior Phase
There is no SQA presentation in third year. A range of assessments will take place within each subject throughout the year, and achievements and progress will be recorded and reported, allowing students to gain knowledge of where their strengths lie, and at which National level they will best be able to achieve in S4.	At the end of S3 students will move from their Broad General Education to the Senior Phase. At this point they will select five subjects plus English and Mathematics to study at National level in S4. Students must also consider possible progression pathways into their fifth and sixth year (e.g. are the subjects I am choosing offered at Higher level?).

Students in S3 will study the same amount of subjects as in S2 but in S3, by choosing the subjects they wish to start to specialise in they will be deepening their learning and building a platform for their progression into the Senior Phase.



More information on the *Broad General Education* can be found using the following link:
<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEbriefingforparentsfinal>

What now?

A copy of the S2 Personalisation and Choice Form is included at the end of this booklet. Students will submit their choices online and a unique username and password will be sent to each student's Glow email. **Students should have their final choices inputted by 26th February 2024.**

Students will also receive guidance through Personal and Social Education classes where they will be given opportunities to discuss learning choices and ask questions about the process. In the following section of this booklet, there are pages giving information about the various courses available to students in third year. Further information can be obtained through the following:

Parents' Evening	13 th December 2023
Options covered through PSE lessons	January 2024 Onwards
S2 Assembly re Course Choice	5 th February 2024
Parents' Personalisation and Choice Evening	7 th February 2024
Learner Review Choices Online	26 th February 2024

Looking to the Future...

Progression

Parents and students will be interested in progression pathways as they make their choices. The diagram below demonstrates anticipated progression in qualifications beyond S3. Students move up or across to a level as they progress, illustrated by the arrows.

SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications		
12			
11			
10			
9			Professional Development Award
8		Higher National Diploma	
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate	
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher		
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5		
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3		
2	National 2, Awards		
1	National 1, Awards		

In the Senior Phase students could follow any one of the following pathways depending on their rate of progress and success in qualifications and awards:

- Complete National 3 / Level 3 courses
- Complete National 4 / Level 4 courses
- Complete National 5 /Level 5 courses
- Complete Higher / Level 6 courses
- Complete Advanced Higher / Level 7 courses
- Complete National Certificate / Higher National Certificate courses
- Complete Open University / Distance Learning courses
- Complete college courses
- Complete Skills for Work courses
- Complete a mixture of the above courses

Please note that not all subjects progress to Higher or Advanced Higher. Progression pathways within subjects up to and including Higher will be stated on the subject outline page.

SCQF

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework was drawn up in 2001 to bring together all Scottish qualifications (Schools, Colleges and Universities) into a single framework. It allows students, teachers and employers to compare the relative value of courses and to plan pathways of study to encourage progress. More information is available on the SCQF website.

(<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone/learninginscotland/assessment/qualifications/understandingtheframework.asp>)

The following pages describe the purpose and aims of the courses available for your child in S3.

Curricular Area

Art & Design, Craft, Design & Technology and Health & Food Technology

Courses included in this section

- ✓ **Art & Design**
- ✓ **Design & Manufacture**
- ✓ **Graphic Communication**
- ✓ **Health & Food Technology**
- ✓ **Practical Woodworking**

For more information on any of the courses in this Curricular Area please contact:

**Mr B Johnstone – PTC Art & Design, Craft, Design & Technology
and Health & Food Technology**

Art & Design

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The course provides opportunities for students to be inspired and challenged by exploring how they can visually represent their personal thoughts and ideas. Students will develop their appreciation of art and design work and create original expressive and design ideas.

The aims of the course are to enable students to:

- communicate a range of personal thoughts, feelings and ideas using art and design media, materials, techniques and/or technologies
- demonstrate knowledge, understanding and appreciation of a range of art and design practice
- work imaginatively and develop individual creativity developing a range of skills in problem solving, critical thinking and reflective practice
- understand the social and cultural influences on a range of artists and designers and their work

Progression

- National 3 Art & Design
- National 4 Art & Design
- National 5 Art & Design
- Higher Art & Design
- Higher photography

Career Pathways: Animation, Computer Games design, Fashion and Textile, Fine Art and Sculptor, Printmaker, Textile designer, Jewellery, Tapestry, Glassware, Art Therapist, Art Teaching, College or University Lecturer, Art Historian, Product design, Ceramics, Graphic Design and Illustration and many more

Art & Design may be chosen in the Expressive Arts Column or the Free Choice Column



Design & Manufacture

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The aims of the Design and Manufacture course are to develop students’:

- Skills and creativity in designing a product towards manufacture
- Skills and creativity in manufacturing a product or prototype based on a given design solution.

Progression

- National 3 Design & Manufacture
- National 4 Design & Manufacture
- National 5 Design & Manufacture
- Higher Design & Manufacture

Career Pathways: Architectural Engineer, Aerospace Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Chemical Engineer, Civil Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Structural Engineer, Costume Designer, Interior Designer, Fashion Designer, Furniture Designer, Product Designer.

***Design & Manufacture may be chosen in the Technologies Column
or the Free Choice Column***

Please note that students cannot choose both Design & Manufacture and
Practical Woodwork



Graphic Communication

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The aims of the Graphic Communication course are to develop students’:

- Skills and creativity in 2D Graphic Communication
- Skills and creativity in 3D Graphic Communication and Pictorial drawing
- 3D modelling skills and Desktop publishing/graphic design skills.

In addition the course aims to:

- Enable the student to evidence their skills through an assignment (and question paper at National 5) which will allow them to demonstrate their learning, application and talents.

Career Pathways

Students who undertake this course could progress towards Further/Higher Education in Architecture, Design, Graphic Design, Animation, Manufacturing and Engineering and many more courses leading to career in these areas.

Progression

- National 4 Graphic Communication
- National 5 Graphic Communication
- Higher Graphic Communication

Graphic Communication may be chosen in the Technologies Column or the Free Choice Column



Health and Food Technology

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The aims of the Health and Food Technology course are to develop students’:

- Knowledge of health, food, nutrition, dietary needs, advice, lifestyle choices and their impact on health
- Knowledge and understanding of the functional properties of food and its uses through practical activities
- Knowledge of current factors affecting food, lifestyle and consumer choices
- Cookery skills and food preparation techniques, and the ability to follow cookery processes.
- Knowledge of the importance of hygiene and safety and the ability to follow safe and hygienic practice at all times
- Organisation, planning and time management skills, and increase their knowledge of how this is achieved in the hospitality industry
- Practical skills in textiles, the ability to design and make using sewing machines, fabric pens etc

Progression

- | | |
|---|---|
| • National 3 Health and Food Technology | National 3 Hospitality: Practical Cookery |
| • National 4 Health and Food Technology | National 4 Hospitality: Practical Cookery |
| • National 5 Health and Food Technology | National 5 Hospitality: Practical Cookery |
| • Higher Health and Food Technology | National 5 Hospitality: Skills for Work |
| • National 3, 4, 5 fashion & textile technology | |
| • Level 5/6 Enterprise and employability Award | |

Career Pathways: Food service, catering, hospitality industry, baker, patisserie, events management, nutritionist, dietician, professional cookery, environmental health, sports nutrition, food manufacturing, textile production or technology, tailoring, costume and footwear design, fashion retailing, interior decoration, fashion merchandising.

Health and Food Technologies may be chosen in the Technologies Column or the Free Choice Column



Practical Woodworking

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The aims of the Practical Woodwork course are to develop students':

- Skills in setting out and making woodworking joints commonly used in flat frame joinery using woodworking drawings
- Skills in setting out and making woodworking joints commonly used in carcase joinery using woodworking drawings
- Skills in setting up and using machines and power tools, including surface finishes

In addition the course aims to:

- Enable the student to evidence their skills through a final product which will allow them to demonstrate their learning, application and creativity.
- Equip students with the knowledge and understanding of Practical Woodworking

Progression

- National 4 Practical Woodworking
- National 5 Practical Woodworking

Career Pathways: Joiner, Carpenter, Construction industry, Cabinet Maker, Joiner, Furniture Designer, Glazier, Shopfitter, Wood Machinist

Practical Woodworking may be chosen in the Technologies Column or the Free Choice Column

Please note that students cannot choose both Practical Woodwork and Design & Manufacture



Curricular Area

English, Languages and Media

Courses included in this section

- ✓ English
- ✓ French
- ✓ Spanish
- ✓ Media

For more information on any of the courses in this Curricular Area please contact:

Mrs M. Porch - PTC English and Modern Languages

English

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the Course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop their skills in listening, talking, reading and writing, in order to understand and use language in line with Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes.

The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills, for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

- Understanding, analysing and evaluating increasingly complex texts
- Creating and producing increasingly complex texts
- Planning and researching
- Applying knowledge of language
- Studying a range of genres including prose, drama, media and poetry

Homework Expectations

- Personal Reading- 1 hour per week
- Language exercises- fortnightly
- Writing tasks- essays and redrafting- at teacher's discretion
- Research tasks- at teacher's discretion



Progression

- National 3 English
- National 4 English
- National 5 English
- Higher English
- Advanced Higher English

The study of English is compulsory in S3

French

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the Course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop their skills in listening and talking, reading and writing, in order to understand and use French in line with Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes. The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills, for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

- Listening and talking, reading and writing in French
- Understanding and using French
- Planning and researching
- Applying knowledge of French
- Gain a cultural understanding of France and other French speaking countries

Homework Expectations

- Revision of vocabulary and grammar- 30/45 minutes per week
- Writing and reading tasks- at teacher's discretion
- Cultural research tasks- at teacher's discretion



Progression

- National 3 French
- National 4 French
- National 5 French
- Higher French

Benefits of Language Learning:

- Better understanding of different cultures
- Improved self confidence
- Increased employability
- Improved literacy and reading skills
- Enhanced problem solving, interpersonal and communication skills
- Enhanced ability to build new relationships

Source: Scottish CILT: <http://www.strath.ac.uk/scilt/informationandresources/parentzone/>

Please choose French or Spanish in your order of preference

Spanish

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop their skills in listening, talking, reading and writing, in order to understand and excel in a second Modern Language, Spanish in line with Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes.

The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills, for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

- Understanding, analysing and evaluating texts
- Creating and producing texts
- Planning and researching
- Applying knowledge of language
- Gain a cultural understanding of Spain and the Spanish

Homework Expectations

- Revision of vocabulary and grammar- 30/45 minutes per week
- Writing and reading tasks- at teacher's discretion
- Cultural research tasks- at teacher's discretion



Progression

- National 3 Spanish
- National 4 Spanish
- National 5 Spanish
- Higher Spanish

Benefits of Language Learning:

- Better understanding of different cultures
- Improved self confidence
- Increased employability
- Improved literacy and reading skills
- Enhanced problem solving, interpersonal and communication skills
- Enhanced ability to build new relationships

Source: Scottish CLT: <http://www.strath.ac.uk/scilt/informationandresources/parentzone/>

Please choose French or Spanish in your order of preference

Media



Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the Course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge of the key aspects of media literacy, knowledge of the role of media within society and the constraints and freedoms that affect producers of media content, in order to understand and use the language of Media in line with Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes.

The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills, for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

- Understanding, analysing and evaluating increasingly complex media texts
- Creating and producing increasingly complex media texts
- Planning and researching
- Applying knowledge of the language of media and digital literacy
- Studying a range of genres including advertising, factual programming and feature films

Homework Expectations

- Personal Study - 1 hour per week
- Media Language Exercises – Fortnightly
- Writing tasks - essays and redrafting- at teacher's discretion
- Research tasks - at teacher's discretion

Progression

- National 5 Media
- Skills for Work: Creative Digital Media (SCQF level 5)
- NC in Media (SCQF level 6)
- NPA in Journalism (SCQF level 6)
- NPA in Digital Production Skills (SCQF level 5)
- NPA in Radio Broadcasting (SCQF level 5)
- NPA in Television Production (SCQF level 5)

Media may be chosen in the Expressive Arts Column or the Free Choice Column

Curricular Area

Performing Arts and Physical Education

Courses included in this section

- ✓ **Dance**
- ✓ **Drama**
- ✓ **Music**
- ✓ **Music Technology**
- ✓ **Physical Education (Aesthetic)**
- ✓ **Physical Education (Traditional)**

For more information on any of the courses in this Curricular Area please contact:

Mrs K Moore – Acting PTC Faculty of Performing Arts & P.E

Dance

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the course is to provide students with an experience in a range of different dance styles (Jazz, Contemporary and Commercial). Students will take part in technique classes, aiming to improve skills and technique in all three dance styles. Students will then learn solo routines in each style. As well as improving levels of performance, students will explore choreography. Through a series of choreography workshops, students will learn how to create movement phrases/motifs from different stimulus' and use choreographic devices and spatial elements to produce a unique, original piece of choreography. The written element of course allows students to analyse their own performance, research and grow their understanding of the development of one dance style and gain an appreciation of a professional choreographers work.

Assessment Criteria and Expectations

As a performance-based course, it is expected that students opting into S3 Dance are comfortable performing as part of a group and in a solo environment. Some assessments will be undertaken in a group setting, others require a solo performance. Students are asked to strongly consider these assessment conditions when choosing Dance as part of their course choice.

Progression

- NPA Level 4
- National 5 Dance

Dance may be chosen in the Expressive Arts Column or the Free Choice Column



Drama

Purpose and Aims of the Course



The purpose of the course is to allow pupils to develop their skills for learning, life and work, and how these apply in the classroom and beyond.

Throughout the S3 drama course you will develop an understanding of the world, relationships, culture and society. You will work collaboratively with others to explore your voice, your movement and language. You will learn how to use these to communicate moral and ethical issues to an audience.

The Course offers students the opportunity to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- Character development
- Use of voice, movement and language
- How to make best use of rehearsal time
- Working well as part of a group
- Performing to an audience

Progression

- National 4 Drama
- National 5 Drama
- Higher Drama
- Advanced Higher Drama

Drama may be chosen in the Expressive Arts Column or the Free Choice Column

Music

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop their skills and experiences in creating, understanding and performing music.

The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills, for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

- Performing music in a variety of styles on their chosen instrument in a solo and group environment.
- Developing an understanding of music concepts and musical literacy.
- Developing creative skills through composition.
- Developing skills in musical analysis allowing the student to discriminate between different styles and genres of music.

Progression

- National 4 Music
- National 5 Music
- Higher Music
- Advanced Higher Music



Music may be chosen in the Expressive Arts Column or the Free Choice Column

Music Technology

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the course is to provide students with the skills to use music technology in sound production and to develop their skills in music analysis.

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of music technology and musical concepts, particularly those relevant to 20th and 21st century music.

The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a range of skills, for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

- Basic skills in music technology software and hardware to capture and manipulate audio.
- Basic knowledge of music technology hardware.
- Knowledge of the main features and functions of music technology software.
- Application of music technology in creative ways.
- Basic knowledge and understanding of some 20th & 21st century musical styles and genres, and developments in musical technology.

Progression

- National 4 Music Technology
- National 5 Music Technology
- Higher Music Technology

Music Technology may be chosen in the Technology Column or the Free Choice Column

Physical Education (*Aesthetic*)

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop their practical ability across a range of activities such as, but not limited to, Badminton, Gymnastics, Volleyball, Swimming, Basketball and Fitness. Activity blocks will rotate on a 6-to-7-week basis and will be dependent on facility availability.

In relation to each practical activity, students will consider factors that can impact performance from a mental, emotional, social and physical standpoint and learn a range of approaches to overcome these factors. These approaches will include skills practices and drills aimed at improving students' level of technique as well as conditioned games focussing on improving tactical awareness within different activities.

Assessment Criteria and Expectations

As a performance-based course, it is expected that students opting into S3 Physical Education will fully participate in all activities throughout the year. Students' practical performance will be assessed in every activity, giving an overall picture of student's suitability to progress within the subject. The written element of the course will require classroom-based learning and will build on the theory taught during practical lessons.

Students who enjoy Physical Education and wish to develop their performance through a games-based approach should continue their Physical Education experience within Core PE.

Progression

- National 3 Physical Education
- National 4 Physical Education
- National 5 Physical Education

Physical Education (Aesthetic) may be chosen in the Expressive Arts Column or the Free Choice Column

Please note that students cannot choose both Physical Education (Aesthetic) and Physical Education (Traditional)

Physical Education (Traditional)

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop their practical ability across a range of activities such as, but not limited to, Badminton, Gymnastics, Volleyball, Swimming, Basketball and Fitness. Activity blocks will rotate on a 6 to 7 week basis and will be dependent on facility availability.

In relation to each practical activity, students will consider factors that can impact performance from a mental, emotional, social and physical standpoint and learn a range of approaches to overcome these factors. These approaches will include skills practices and drills aimed at improving students level of technique as well as conditioned games focussing on improving tactical awareness within different activities.

Assessment Criteria and Expectations

As a performance based course, it is expected that students opting into S3 Physical Education will fully participate in all activities throughout the year. Students practical performance will be assessed in every activity, giving an overall picture of students suitability to progress within the subject. The written element of the course will require classroom based learning and will build on the theory taught during practical lessons.

Students who enjoy Physical Education and wish to develop their performance through a games based approach should continue their Physical Education experience within Core PE.

Progression

- National 3 Physical Education
- National 4 Physical Education
- National 5 Physical Education

Physical Education (Traditional) may be chosen in the Expressive Arts Column or the Free Choice Column

Please note that students cannot choose both Physical Education (Traditional) and Physical Education (Aesthetic)



Curricular Area

Mathematics, Numeracy, Business and Computing

Courses included in this section

- ✓ **Accounting**
- ✓ **Administration & IT**
- ✓ **Business**
- ✓ **Computing Science**
- ✓ **Mathematics**

For more information on any of the courses in this Curricular Area please contact:

Mr A McIntosh - PTC Mathematics, Computing and Business Education

Accounting

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The course introduces students to the dynamic world of business by developing skills in communicating essential financial information, in a variety of presentation formats, to the various stakeholders of an organisation. The development of skills, explicit to the course, will enable students to accurately prepare, interpret and analyse financial information. This will support students in becoming more confident in their abilities, as well as giving them a greater awareness of how understanding the financial information of businesses can help them to make more informed decisions, regarding their own financial futures.

By developing many transferable skills, the course prepares students for everyday life, the world of work, or further study of accounting and other business-related disciplines. It deepens understanding of accountancy and, highlights a range of accountancy-based career opportunities that are available within all business.

Progression

- National 5 Accounting
- Higher Accounting

Accounting may be chosen in the Free Choice Column



Administration & IT

Purpose and Aims of the Course

During S3 Administration you will focus on the IT skills needed to work in any business from a small local company to a large national organisation, as well as an understanding of the importance of good communication and presentation of information for any business.

By studying Administration and IT, you will:

- improve your IT skills
- enhance your organisational skills
- develop important transferrable skills such as communication

Doing Administration will develop your IT skills and as Administration relates directly to the workplace, this can make you more employable. Most jobs and careers have an element of IT and organisational skills required

Progression

- National 3 Administration & IT
- National 4 Administration & IT
- National 5 Administration & IT
- Higher Administration & IT

Administration & IT may be chosen in the Technologies Column or Free Choice Column



Business

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The course introduces students to the dynamic, competitive, financial and economic environment of business. It develops skills in presenting business related information, in a variety of formats, to the various stakeholders of an organisation.

The development of skills explicit to the course will enable students to think creatively and be more flexible and resourceful in their attitudes. By encouraging working with others, the course will help students to participate effectively in our ever-changing global business environment.

The course aims to enable students to develop:

- Knowledge and understanding of business concepts in a range of contexts.
- Awareness of the processes and procedures businesses use to ensure customers' needs are met.
- Enterprising skills and adopt enterprising attributes by participating in practical activities in realistic business situations.
- Financial awareness through a business context and insight into the impact of the economy on businesses and our daily lives.

Progression

- National 3 Business
- National 4 Business
- National 5 Business Management
- Higher Business Management
- Advanced Higher Business Management

Business may be chosen in the Social Studies Column or the Free Choice Column



Computing Science

Purpose and Aims of the Course

Students will explore the roles of computer scientist, information engineer and programme coder. Students will design, create and test software solutions including web and database systems. They will be aware of the hardware and software features affecting the performance of modern systems. Students will develop critical thinking and problem solving skills which open up a wide range of career and study opportunities. Key features:

- Develop your practice of key skills in computing science, including coding, and communicate them clearly.
- Develop your powers of logical thinking to solve computer based challenges.
- Use your skills to analyse, design, create and evaluate while working on software projects.
- Find out about the changes that information technology makes in our world and also the challenges and opportunities which follow.

Progression

- National 3 Computing Science
- National 4 Computing Science
- National 5 Computing Science
- Higher Computing Science
- Advanced Higher Computing Science

Computing Science may be chosen in the Technologies Column or the Free Choice Column



Mathematics

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The course will motivate and challenge students by enabling them to select and apply mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations. The course develops confidence in the subject and a positive attitude towards further study in mathematics. It uses numerical data and abstract terms and develops the idea of generalisation. The course allows students to interpret, communicate and manage information in mathematical form, skills which are vital to scientific and technological research and development.

This course is designed to develop the student's skills in using mathematical language, to explore mathematical ideas, and to develop skills relevant to learning, life and work, in an engaging and enjoyable way. It will build on prior learning and develop:

- Operational skills in algebra, geometry, trigonometry and statistics.
- Reasoning skills of investigation, problem solving, analysis and modelling.
- Numeracy skills in number processes and information handling.

Progression

- National 3 Applications of Mathematics
- National 4 Mathematics
- National 4 Applications of Mathematics
- National 5 Mathematics
- National 5 Applications of Mathematics
- Higher Mathematics
- Advanced Higher Mathematics

The study of Mathematics in S3 is compulsory.



Curricular Area

Sciences

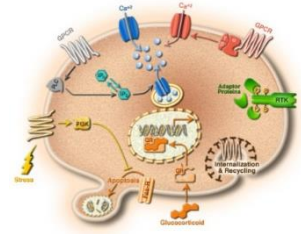
Courses included in this section

- ✓ **Biology**
- ✓ **Chemistry**
- ✓ **Laboratory Skills**
- ✓ **Physics**

For more information on any of the courses in this Curricular Area please contact:

Mr A Jack - PTC Sciences

Biology

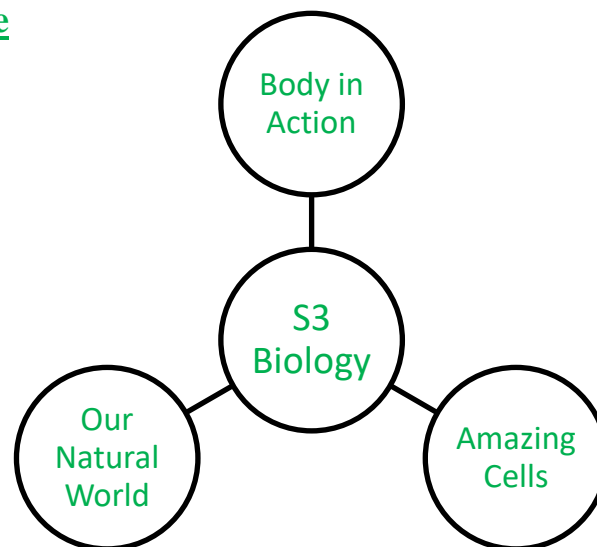


Purpose and Aims of the Course

Pupils who make the choice to study Biology in S3 will complete three units of work, designed to allow learners to develop a solid foundation of the skills and knowledge required to continue their studies at National 4 and 5 levels in S4.

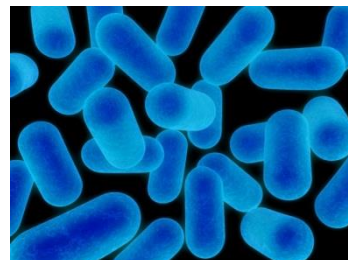
From the study of the inner workings of the human body to the complexities of biodiversity and ecosystems around the globe, the S3 Biology course will challenge learners with an experience that broadens their understanding of many key concepts that help to explain the world around us. The course involves an array of practical experiments to support learning and to bring the theory to life. All resources used in the S3 Biology course will be provided as hard copies and will be available online. Assessment in S3 consists of a practical assignment and traditional check tests to give everyone the best opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding throughout the year in a holistic manner.

Course Outline



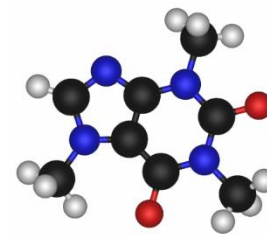
Progression

- National 3 Biology
- National 4 Biology
- National 5 Biology
- Higher Biology
- Higher Human Biology
- **Advanced Higher Biology**



Biology may be chosen in the Sciences Column or the Free Choice Column

Chemistry

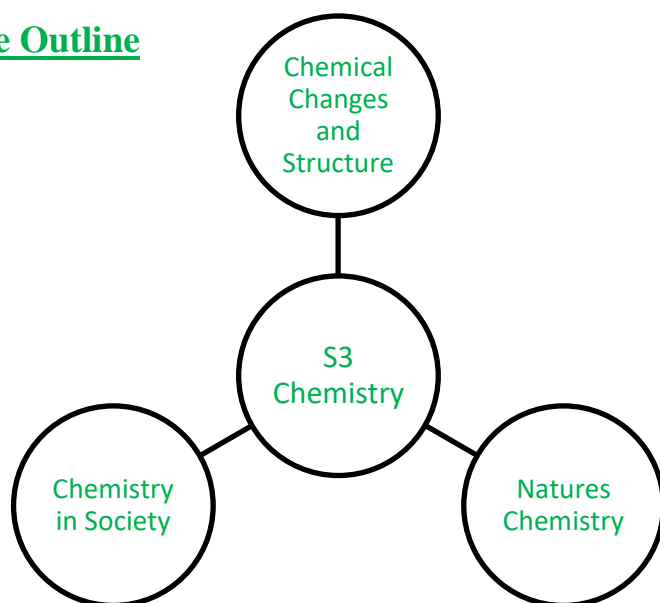


Purpose and Aims of the Course

Pupils who make the choice to study Chemistry in S3 will complete three units of work, designed to allow learners to develop a solid foundation of the skills and knowledge required to continue their studies at National 4 and 5 levels in S4.

From the study of matter at the level of atoms, molecules, ions and compounds, to the vital role that chemistry plays in the production of everyday products, the S3 Chemistry course will challenge learners with an experience that broadens their understanding of many key concepts that help to explain the world around us. The course involves an array of practical experiments to support learning and to bring the theory to life. All resources used in the S3 Chemistry course will be provided as hard copies and will be available online. Assessment in S3 consists of a practical assignment and traditional check tests to give everyone the best opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding throughout the year in a holistic manner.

Course Outline



Progression

- National 4 Chemistry
- National 5 Chemistry
- Higher Chemistry
- Advanced Higher Chemistry



Chemistry may be chosen in the Sciences Column or the Free Choice Column

Laboratory Skills



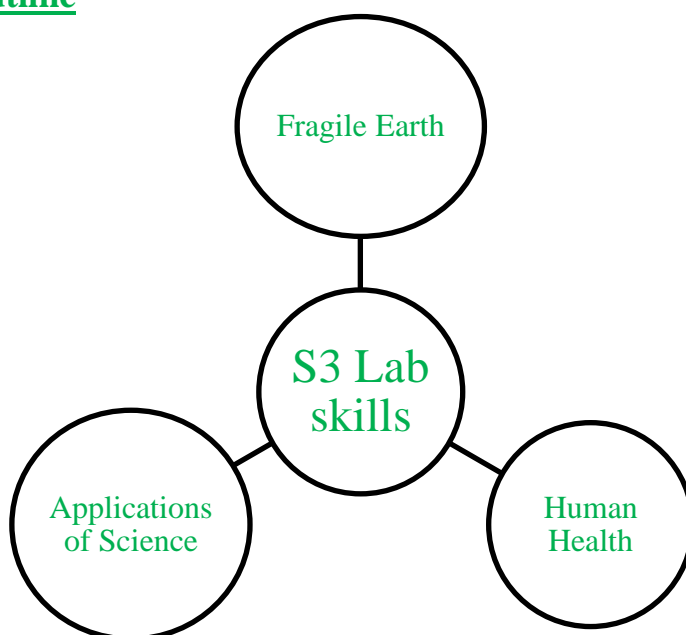
Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of the Course is to develop learners' curiosity, interest and enthusiasm for science in a range of contexts. The skills of scientific inquiry and investigation are integrated and developed throughout the Course. The relevance of science is highlighted by the study of the applications of science in everyday contexts.

The Course is an up-to-date selection of ideas relevant to the central position of science within our society. It is practical and experiential, and develops scientific awareness of issues relating to science.

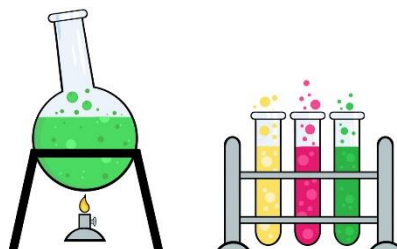
The Course gives opportunities for learners to develop the ability to think analytically, creatively and independently, and to make evaluations. The Course covers a variety of contexts relevant to science's impact on the environment and society, through covering the topics Fragile Earth, Human Health and Applications of Science.

Course Outline



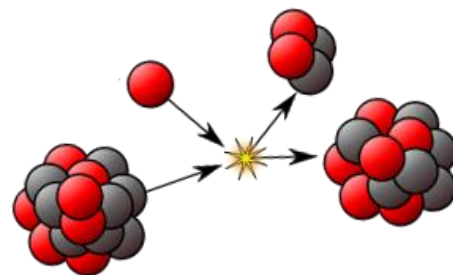
Progression

- National 5 Laboratory Science
- College courses
- Foundation Apprenticeships



Laboratory Skills may be chosen in the Sciences Column or the Free Choice Column

Physics

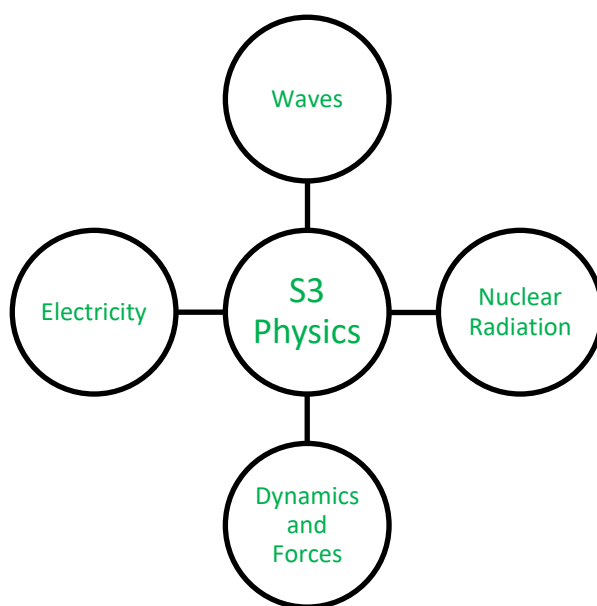


Purpose and Aims of the Course

Pupils who make the choice to study Physics in S3 will complete four units of work, designed to allow learners to develop a solid foundation of the skills and knowledge required to continue their studies at National 4 and 5 levels in S4.

From the waves and their properties to the fundamental principles of how electricity is utilised in modern society, the S3 Physics course will challenge learners with an experience that broadens their understanding of many key concepts that help to explain the world around us. The course involves an array of practical experiments to support learning and to bring the theory to life. All resources used in the S3 Physics course will be provided as hard copies and will be available online. Assessment in S3 consists of a practical assignment and traditional check tests to give everyone the best opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding throughout the year in a holistic manner.

Course Outline



Progression

- National 4 Physics
- National 5 Physics
- Higher Physics
- Advanced Higher Physics

Physics may be chosen in the Sciences Column or the Free Choice Column

Curricular Area

Religious Education and Social Studies

Courses included in this section

- ✓ **History**
- ✓ **Geography**
- ✓ **Modern Studies**
- ✓ **Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies**

For more information on any of the courses in this Curricular Area please contact:

Mrs C McDonald – Acting PTC Religious Education and Social Studies

History

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of the society in which they live and work, by helping them to develop a map of the past and an appreciation and understanding of the events and people who shaped the world.

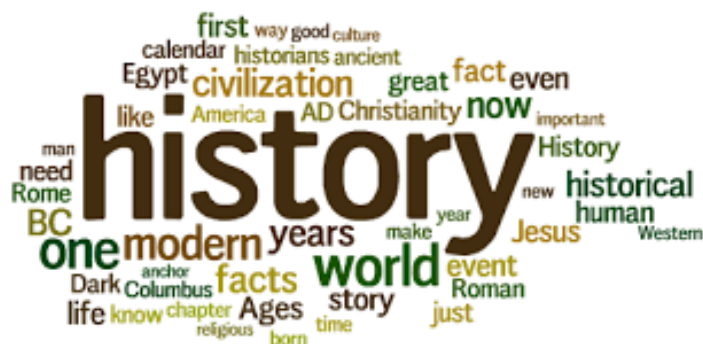
The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

- Learning how and why people behaved as they did, whether they are Elizabeth I, Hitler or John Lennon.
- Developing the skills to look beyond the headlines; to ask questions properly; and to express opinions.
- Developing a range of skills and techniques such as research, drawing conclusions and report writing.
- **The course will include learning about the history of Scotland and the world by studying topics such as:**
 - Immigration and Civil Rights in the USA
 - The History of West Lothian
 - World War One

Progression

- National 3 History
- National 4 History
- National 5 History
- Higher History
- Advance Higher History

History may be chosen in the Social Studies Column or the Free Choice Column



Geography

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of our changing world and its human and physical processes.

The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills, for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

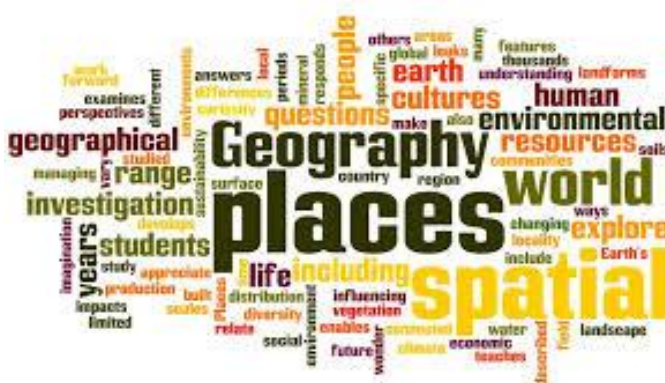
- Developing an interest in, and concern for, the environment and sustainable development
- Appreciating the ways in which people and the environment interact
- Developing an understanding of the changing world in a sympathetic way
- Having a geographical perspective on environmental and social issues
- Developing a range of geographical skills and techniques such as research, drawing conclusions and report writing.

The course will include learning about

- Landscape features such as coasts and glaciers; and the effect of weather on humans.
- Environmental Hazards – volcanoes, earthquakes, hurricanes.
- Major environmental issues such as Health Issues (Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Heart Disease) and Climate Change.
- Map Skills

Progression

- National 3 Geography
- National 4 Geography
- National 5 Geography
- Higher Geography
- Advanced Higher Geography



Geography may be chosen in the Social Studies Column or the Free Choice Column



Modern Studies

Purpose and Aims of the Course

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of the society in which they live and work by learning about the most important issues in the world today.

The course offers students the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills, for a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts, including:

- Being able to engage as active and informed members of society and local and global citizens
- Understanding and respecting human and legal rights and responsibilities.
- Understanding the democratic process and the ways in which people are informed about, and participate in, society
- Having an awareness of social and economic issues at local, Scottish, national and international levels and ways of addressing needs and inequalities

The course will involve learning about society from a local and international perspective by studying topics such as:

- The People's Republic of China
- Enquiry skills and research project on a current issue
- Crime and the Law

Progression

- National 3 Modern Studies
- National 4 Modern Studies
- National 5 Modern Studies
- Higher Modern Studies
- Higher Politics (S6 Only)
- Advanced Higher Modern Studies



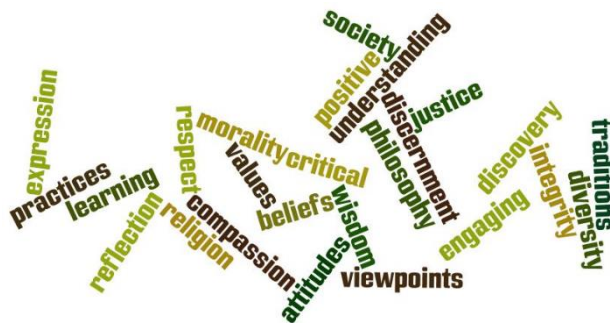
Modern Studies may be chosen in the Social Studies Column or the Free Choice Column



Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies

Purpose and Aims of the Course

This is an academic study of religion in the world and its impact on our society. RMPS allows pupils to understand the belief of many faiths, see how they affect the lives of followers and evaluate some of their own views. Pupils are also engaged in philosophical tasks that develop important life skills and help to develop their higher order thinking skills.



RMPS provides an excellent opportunity for individuals to explore their own beliefs and values, and to develop an appreciation of the beliefs and values of others. Pupils will develop analytical and evaluative skills which are of relevance in a wide range of subject areas. In terms of content, RMPS courses focus on the three key areas

of the subject:

- Religious studies – covers aspects of Islam, Buddhism, Christianity and other world religions
- Moral Issues – covers topical and relevant issues investigating and study about Contemporary Moral issues, Medicine and the Human Body or Crime and Punishment- Capital Punishment.
- Philosophical thinking – covers ‘big questions’ to develop pupils’ thinking skills such as ‘Origins of the Universe’.

This course aims to develop pupils’ confidence and ability in discussing, analysing and evaluating issues through listening, talking and writing. At all times pupils are encouraged to show creativity and personal engagement with their learning through their thinking, whilst applying these skills to other areas of their curriculum.

Progression

- National 3 Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies
- National 4 Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies
- National 5 Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies
- Higher Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies

Religious Education may be chosen in the Social Studies Column or the Free Choice Column



S3 Personalisation and Choice Form 2024-25

Name

Class

Intended Career Pathway: _____

Curricular Area	Personalisation and Choice	Choice 1	Choice 2 (if applicable)	Reserve
Languages & Literacy	English	English		
Mathematics & Numeracy	Mathematics	Mathematics		
Languages & Literacy	Choose one from: French Spanish			
Sciences	Choose two from: Biology Chemistry Physics Laboratory Science			
Social Studies	Choose two from: Business Geography History Modern Studies RMPS			
Technologies	Choose two from: Administration Computing Science Design and Manufacture Graphic Communication Health and Food Technology Music Technology Practical Woodworking			
Expressive Arts	Choose one from: Art Dance Drama Media Music Physical Education (Aesthetic) Physical Education (Traditional)			
Free Choice	Choose one from: Administration, Art, Dance, Drama, Media, Music, PE (Aesthetic), PE (Traditional), Accounting, Media, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Business, Geography, History, Modern Studies, RMPS, Computing Science, Design and Manufacture, Graphic Communication, Health and Food Technology, Music Technology, Practical Woodworking			

Please note:

- The selection of an option **does not guarantee** that a class will run.
- The Personalisation and Choice Booklet should be referred to when completing this form.
- Students **must select** a reserve subject in each row.
- Students **must not** choose both Design and Manufacture and Practical Woodwork or Physical Education (Aesthetic) and Physical Education (Traditional)