

CHOICES FOR LEARNING



ST KENTIGERN'S ACADEMY

**S4 OPTION CHOICE INFORMATION
BOOKLET
2024/2025**

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Head Teacher's Introduction

Welcome to the Senior Phase of your education! As you enter S4 and then S5 and S6 you will be embarking on a crucial phase that will shape your future career and lifestyle. These years are dedicated to acquiring a range of nationally recognized qualifications that will prepare you for your next step after school.

It's important to explore all your options and gather as much information and advice as possible during this time. We encourage you to aim high and follow a program that builds on your experience and strengths, as this will increase your chances of success at the highest level possible.

Option Programme

The Student Support Team has helped you to identify your interests, strengths, needs, and career aspirations, and through PSE, a focused assembly, and your S3 report, you will be supported in choosing an appropriate program that builds on the subjects you studied in S3.

You will be selecting seven subjects from those that you are currently studying, and English and Maths are compulsory for all students at this stage in the Senior Phase. Or, to put it another way, you will be dropping 4 from your current 11 subjects. Your class teachers will advise you on the predicted level of study within their subject based on your prior learning, potential, and level of application in the coming year.

As you enter the Senior Phase, it's essential to take greater responsibility for your own learning. You will be supported in developing attitudes and skills that will make you a more successful learner, and we will work with parents/carers to support you in developing effective study habits and routines in the home which will enable you to achieve your full potential in all of your learning. The demands placed upon you in the senior phase will be greater and we expect that you:

- set yourself challenging, but attainable targets, and not to be satisfied with doing just enough to get by
- give a commitment to prepare for and attend classes, to contribute fully, to think about your performance, to ask for help as required and to use feedback from teachers in order to improve
- complete all required homework to the best of your ability
- persevere to achieve your goals
- take more responsibility for your own studies, making use of opportunities for personal study.
- give a commitment to behave appropriately and considerately within and out with the school and to consider how you can contribute to enhancing the quality of life of the school

- give a commitment to establish and maintain good relationships with other students and staff and to do what you can to create an environment which encourages a willingness to learn among students

Good attendance is essential to ensure all young people achieve their full potential. We will work in partnership with our students and parents to ensure each student's attendance is of an acceptable level. If a student's attendance becomes a cause for concern attendance strategies will be put in place to support that student and to ensure a positive destination.

I hope that all of our young people have a successful and productive year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Sharkey', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Andrew Sharkey
Head Teacher

Courses Available

The course outlines in this booklet are organised in alphabetical order. Students should speak to the Principal Teacher or class teachers in the curricular area for additional information about any of the courses or levels of study. While students will largely be selecting four subjects to drop, there is also the opportunity for students to study People & Society.

More Information on the National Qualifications

With the introduction of Curriculum for Excellence, new National Qualifications were introduced to replace existing qualifications. The qualifications are National 3, National 4, National 5 and Higher (N3, N4, N5 and Higher).

These qualifications are different not only in name but in the ways in which they are nationally assessed by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). The changes are shown in the table below.

Course	Equivalent To
National 3 / Level 3	Standard Grade Foundation / Access 3 Level
National 4 / Level 4	Standard Grade General / Intermediate 1 Level
National 5 / Level 5	Standard Grade Credit / Intermediate 2 Level
Higher / Level 6	Old Higher (<i>but assessment / structure different</i>)

The National 3 and National 4 qualifications are awarded on a pass/fail basis whilst National 4 and 5 qualifications are graded A – D.

Only National 5 qualifications and above have external examinations. The rest of the qualifications are internally assessed with the marking carried out by our own staff. This marking is then verified and quality assured in a variety of ways by the Scottish Qualifications Agency.

Information about Courses and Progression Pathways

Course Available	Level of Study			
	Adv. Higher / Level 7	Higher / Level 6	National / Level 5	National / Level 4
Accounting		✓	✓	
Administration & IT		✓	✓	✓
Applications of Mathematics			✓	✓
Art and Design	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biology	✓	✓	✓	✓
Business Management	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chemistry	✓	✓	✓	✓
Computing Science	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dance		✓	✓	✓
Design and Manufacture		✓	✓	✓
Drama	✓	✓	✓	✓
English	✓	✓	✓	✓
French	✓	✓	✓	✓
Geography	✓	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Communications	✓	✓	✓	✓
Health & Food Technology		✓	✓	✓
History	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hospitality (Skills for Work)			✓	✓
Practical Cookery			✓	✓
Laboratory Science			✓	✓
Mathematics	✓	✓	✓	✓

Course Available	Level of Study			
	Adv. Higher / Level 7	Higher / Level 6	National / Level 5	National / Level 4
Media		✓	✓	✓
Modern Studies	✓	✓	✓	✓
Music	✓	✓	✓	✓
Music Technology		✓	✓	✓
Physical Education (Aesthetic & Traditional)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Physics	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Woodworking			✓	✓
Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spanish	✓	✓	✓	✓
Travel & Tourism			✓	✓

The levels of study are shown to illustrate potential progression through the whole Senior Phase.

ACCOUNTING

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Accounting is a key function in all organisations. Without effective accounting procedures and accountants to provide timely and relevant information to management, organisations may perform less successfully than they otherwise might. The main purpose of the Course is to enable learners to understand, and make use of, financial information so that they can prepare accounting statements and analyse, interpret and report on an organisation's financial performance. A main feature of this Course is the development of numeracy/IT and thinking skills.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

1. Preparing Financial Accounting Information
Use knowledge and understanding of financial regulations to explain factors affecting financial accounting procedures of public limited companies
Prepare extracts of period-end financial accounting statements
2. Preparing Management Accounting Information
Use knowledge and understanding of management accounting systems as a means of planning and control
3. Evaluate a range of management accounting statements
Analysing Accounting Information
Describe analysis techniques applied in accounting statements
Evaluate business performance, based on accounting analysis, to make business recommendations

ASSESSMENT

To gain the award for the Course, the learner must pass the course assessment which consists of two components - an assignment and a question paper.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

Higher

HNC/HND courses

Degree courses

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A wide range of opportunities including: Accountant - Industry and Commerce, Accountant - Private Practice, Accounting Technician, Actuary, Advertising Account Executive, Advertising Account Planner

FACULTY HEAD:

Mr A. McIntosh

ADMINISTRATION and IT

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and National 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Administration and IT cuts across all sectors of the economy and offers wide-ranging employment opportunities.

The National 5 Administration and IT course provides candidates with experience of real-life administration tasks and engaging practical activities relevant to the world of work. There is an emphasis on the development of transferable life skills and the application of these skills. Candidates following the course become aware of the use of technology within the workplace, as they complete organisational tasks.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The course helps candidates to develop administrative and IT skills, and an understanding of related theory, enabling them to effectively contribute to and support organisations.

It enables candidates to:

- develop an understanding of administration theory in the workplace
- develop IT skills and use them to perform administrative tasks
- acquire organisational skills in the context of organising and supporting events

ASSESSMENT

To gain the award for the Course, the learner must pass the course assessment which consists of two components - an assignment and a question paper.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

Higher

HNC/HND courses

Degree courses

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Sales Manager, Business Consultant, Financial Analyst, Market Research Analyst, Human Resources (HR) Specialist, Loan Officer, Meeting, Convention and Event Planner, Training and Development Specialist.

FACULTY HEAD:

Mr A. McIntosh

APPLICATIONS of MATHEMATICS

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and National 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The purpose of the National 4 & National 5 Applications of Mathematics course is to motivate and challenge candidates by enabling them to think through real-life situations involving mathematics and to form a plan of action based on logic.

The mathematical skills within this course are underpinned by numeracy, and designed to develop candidates' mathematical reasoning skills in areas relevant to learning, life and work.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

1. Finance & Statistics

The general aim of this Unit is to develop skills that focus on the use of mathematical ideas and valid strategies that can be applied to managing finance and statistics in real-life contexts which may be new to the learner.

2. Geometry & Measures

The general aim of this Unit is to develop skills that focus on the use of mathematical ideas and valid strategies that can be applied to geometry and measurement in real-life contexts which may be new to the learner.

3. Numeracy:

The general aim of this Unit is to develop learners' numerical and information handling skills to solve straightforward, real-life problems involving number, money, time and measurement. As learners tackle real-life problems, they will decide what numeracy skills to use and how to apply those skills to an appropriate level of accuracy.

ASSESSMENT

The learner must pass the final SQA assessment.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

National 5 Application of Mathematics, National 5 Maths, Higher Maths, HNc / HND Maths

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Accountant, Actuary, Economic Development Officer, Economist, Insurance Risk Surveyor, Management Consultant, Materials Scientist, Mathematician
Most Colleges and Universities accept N5 Applications of Mathematics in place of N5 Mathematics

FACULTY HEAD:

Mr A. McIntosh

ART and DESIGN

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The aim of the course is to provide a broad practical experience of art and design and related critical activity. The course provides opportunities for learners to be inspired and creatively challenged as they explore how to visually represent and communicate their personal thoughts, ideas and feelings through their work.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

Learners will analyse the factors influencing artists' and designers' work and practise. They will use this understanding when developing and producing their own creative and personal expressive art and design. The skills that learners gain successfully completing the course will be valuable for learning life and work. Learners will investigate and analyse how artists and designers have used materials, techniques and/or technology in their work.

ASSESSMENT

Units will be assessed on a pass/fail basis within centres. To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all of the Units as well as the Course assessment. The controlled course assessment project is submitted to the SQA for external marking.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to College, University, and World of Work

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Architect, Art Therapist, Cartoonist, Clinical Photographer, Costume Designer, Craft Designer, Digital Imaging Specialist, Fashion Designer, Fine artist, Furniture Designer, Games Designer, Graphic Designer, Illustrator, Landscape Architect, Product Designer, Sculptor, Teacher - Secondary School, Textile Designer

FACULTY HEAD: Mr B. Johnstone

BIOLOGY

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The purpose of the Course is to develop learners' interest and enthusiasm for biology in a range of contexts. The Course is a broad and up-to-date selection of concepts and ideas relevant to the central position of life science within. It develops the concepts of biology. The Course allows learners to develop deeper understanding of the underlying themes of biology: evolution and adaptation, structure and function, genotype and niche.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

- Cell Biology: In this Unit, learners will develop knowledge through study of Cell biology and the interactions of cells through biological processes.
- Multicellular Organisms: In this Unit, learners will develop knowledge of more complex living organisms.
- Life on Earth: In this Unit, learners will develop knowledge of ecosystems, biological communities and habitats.

Additionally, the Biology course deviates within each level and learners go on to learn the following depending on their own learner journey:

- (N5) Control and Communication, Transport Systems, Reproduction and Inheritance
- (N4) Reproduction, Inheritance and Propagation of Plants.

ASSESSMENT

Course assessment

- All N4 units are internally assessed against the SQA requirements. They are assessed on a Unit-by-Unit basis, as a pass/fail within the school.
- N5 students sit an externally assessed 100 mark examination set by the SQA. The Higher external examination will be graded A to D. Students submit an assignment worth 25 marks which is externally assessed by SQA.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

Progression This Course or its Units may provide progression to Higher Biology or Higher Human Biology, followed by Advanced Higher Biology

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A Range of careers including: Anatomical Pathology Technologist, Biochemist, Biologist, Dental Nurse Dentist, Food Scientist or Technologist, Forensic Scientist Geneticist, Careers in Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary.

FACULTY HEAD: Mr A. Jack

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Business plays an important role in society. We all rely on businesses to create wealth, prosperity, jobs and choices. The key purpose of this Course is to highlight the ways in which organisations operate and the steps they take to achieve their strategic goals. A main feature of this Course is the development of enterprising and employability skills.

By developing many transferable skills, the Course prepares learners for everyday life, the world of work or further study of business and other business-related disciplines.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

1. Understanding Business:

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to analyse the features, objectives and internal structures of large organisations and analyse the environment in which large organisations operate.

2. Management of People and Finance:

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to apply knowledge and understanding of how the management of people can meet the objectives of large organisations and analyse how the management of finance contributes to the effectiveness of large organisations.

3. Management of Marketing and Operations:

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to apply knowledge and understanding of how the marketing function enhances the effectiveness of large organisations and apply knowledge and understanding of how the operations function contributes to the success of large organisations.

ASSESSMENT

To gain the award for the Course, the learner must achieve a pass in all the above Units of the course as well as pass the course assessment which consists of two components - an assignment and a question paper. The units are completed and marked internally. The assignment is completed internally under a high degree of supervision and control and marked externally by SQA and is worth 30% of the final grade (30 marks). The question paper is the exam and is worth 70% of the final grade (70 marks).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Actuary Bank or Building Society Customer Branch Adviser

FACULTY HEAD:

Mr A. McIntosh

CHEMISTRY

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The skills of scientific inquiry and investigation are developed throughout the Course. The relevance of chemistry is highlighted by the study of the applications of chemistry in everyday contexts. This will enable learners to become scientifically literate citizens, able to review the science-based claims they will meet.

Through application of a detailed knowledge and understanding of chemical concepts, in practical situations, learners develop an appreciation of the impact of chemistry on their everyday lives. It offers a broad, versatile and adaptable skills set which is valued in the workplace, and forms the basis for progress onto study of chemistry at a higher level, while also providing a knowledge base useful in the study of all of the sciences.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

- Chemical Changes and Structure
- Researching Chemistry
- Nature's Chemistry
- Chemistry in Society

ASSESSMENT

Course Assessment

- All N4 units are internally assessed against the SQA requirements. They are assessed on a Unit-by-Unit basis, as a pass/fail within the school.
- N5 students sit an externally assessed 100-mark examination set by the SQA. The external examination will be graded A to D. Students submit an assignment worth 25 marks which is externally assessed by SQA

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

Higher Chemistry followed by Advanced Higher Chemistry

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Acupuncturist Air Quality Consultant Biochemist Chemist
Clinical or Biomedical Engineer

FACULTY HEAD: Mr A. Jack

COMPUTING SCIENCE

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The purpose of these courses is to develop knowledge and understanding of Computing Science. These skills are vital as computing pervades our everyday life — socially, technologically and economically. Understanding computational processes and thinking is also vital to many other fields, including science, economics, business and industry. While many learners will want to become computing professionals, all will benefit from the development of these skills and the underpinning knowledge necessary to meet the needs of society today and for the future.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

1. Information System Design and Development:

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to develop information systems, using appropriate development tools and consider the factors involved in the design and implementation of an information system.

2. Software Design and Development:

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to explain how programs work, drawing on understanding of concepts in software development and basic computer architecture, develop short programs using one or more software development environments, and produce a short detailed report comparing two contemporary software development languages or environments.

ASSESSMENT

To gain the award for the Course, the learner must course assessment which consists of two components - an assignment and a question paper.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

National 5 – Higher

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A wide range of opportunities including software development, database development, games development.

FACULTY HEAD: Mr A. McIntosh

DANCE

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National Progression Award Level 4 and National 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE/COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the courses is to enable students to develop a range of technical dance and choreographic skills. The courses are made up of three elements: performance, practical activity and theory.

PERFORMANCE

Students are required to demonstrate their technical and performance skills in a two minute, teacher taught solo dance in either Jazz, Contemporary or Commercial. Technical and performance skills include use of parallel/turnout, posture and alignment, stamina, strength and flexibility, spatial awareness, timing and musicality, quality and dynamics, self-expression, sense of performance, concentration and focus.

PRACTICAL ACTIVITY

The practical activity is split into two parts: choreography and choreography review. Students must create a piece of choreography, based on a theme of their choice, which lasts between 1:30-2:00 minutes for two people. Within their choreography, students must include original movements, a structure, choreographic devices, spatial elements and use music/sound that is appropriate to the theme. In their choreographic review, students explain and justify the choices they made when creating their choreography in a written document or PowerPoint presentation.

THEORY

There are three sections within the theory/exam paper: evaluation of own work/personal performance, knowledge and understanding of a chosen dance style, evaluation of professional choreography.

ASSESSMENT

NPA Level 4 – all elements are pass/fail. A pass must be achieved in all elements to complete the award

National 5 – elements are marked and weighted as follows:

Performance	35 marks	35%
Practical Activity	Choreography 35 marks Choreography Review 30 marks	45%
Question Paper	30 marks	20%

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs K. Moore (Acting)

DESIGN and MANUFACTURE

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Design and Manufacture Course develops learners' research skills, idea generation techniques, and ability to read drawings and diagrams. Learners also gain the ability to communicate design ideas and practical details, to evaluate and apply both tangible and subjective feedback, and to devise, plan and develop practical solutions to design opportunities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

Design covers the processes of product design from brief to resolved design proposals and specification. It helps learners develop skills in initiating, developing, articulating and communicating design proposals for products. It allows them to gain skills and experience in evaluating design proposals in order to refine, improve and resolve them. It allows them to develop an appreciation of design concepts and the various factors that influence the design and manufacture of products.

Materials and Manufacturing covers the processes of product design from design proposals to prototype. It allows learners to gain skills in planning and making models and prototypes. It helps learners to 'close the design loop' by manufacturing a set of design ideas. It allows them to develop an appreciation of manufacturing practicalities. It allows learners to consider the manufacturing techniques and processes that would apply to a design proposal in an industrial/commercial context.

ASSESSMENT

The learner will draw on, extend and apply the skills, knowledge and understanding they have developed during the Course. These will be assessed through a combination of an assignment and a question paper.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to Higher, Advanced Higher, HNC/HND courses, and Degree courses

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Architect, Building Services Engineer, Building Technician, CAD Technician, Engineer, Construction, Exhibition Designer, Games Designer, Graphic Designer, Interior Designer, Product Designer

FACULTY HEAD: **Mr C Swan (Acting)**

DRAMA

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and National 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The Drama Course allows learners to explore both the practical and analytical aspects of the subject. Learners develop skills through practical aspects of theatre, the creative exploration of the art of theatre and its forms and practices.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

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

- being able to generate and communicate thoughts and ideas when creating drama
- develop a knowledge and understanding of a range of social and cultural influences on drama
- develop a range of skills in presenting drama
- develop knowledge and understanding of the use of a range of production skills when presenting drama
- explore form, structure, genre and style

ASSESSMENT

	National 4	National 5
Performance	Rehearse a piece of drama for performance. Internally assessed.	Preparation for Performance Acting or Production role will be assessed by a visiting assessor 60 Marks
Question Paper	Drama Skills Drama Production Skills Internally assessed	Complete a one-and-a-half-hour exam 60 marks scaled to 40

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to Higher level and then onto Advanced Higher Units. Beyond school, students can progress to HNC/HND and Degree level courses.

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs K. Moore (Acting)

ENGLISH

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The main purpose of the Course is to provide learners with the opportunity to build on the skills of listening, talking, reading and writing.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The Course offers learners opportunities to extend a wide range of skills and develop their ability to:

- listen, talk, read and write, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- understand, analyse and evaluate texts as appropriate to purpose and audience in the contexts of literature, language and media
- create and produce texts, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- apply knowledge and understanding of language

ASSESSMENT

Internal Assessments.

Analysis and Evaluation Unit (Reading & Listening). Creation and Production Unit (Writing & Talking). These unit assessments are Pass/Fail. There will be one formal re-assessment opportunity.

External Assessments.

Higher and National 5: Portfolio of Coursework and an Exam Question Paper

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to
National 5 Higher

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A wide range of options including: Account Executive, Advertising, Copywriter, Bookseller, Journalist, Law, Civil Service, Administrative Assistant and Officer, Court Reporter, Customer Service Administrator Lecturer - Further Education Local Government Administrative Assistant and Officer

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs M. Porch

FRENCH

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Throughout the course, the key skills of reading, listening and writing will be developed in order to understand and use the Modern Language. Creative and critical thinking skills will be developed in order to further improve language skills.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

There are two units of the course: Understanding and Using Language.

There are four contexts in which language is developed: Society, Learning, Employability and Culture.

ASSESSMENT

Internal Assessments

Understanding Language Unit (Reading & Listening)

Using Language (Writing & Talking)

These unit assessments are Pass/Fail. There will be one formal re-assessment opportunity.

External Assessments

There are two question papers and one performance.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to
Advanced Higher, HNC/HND Courses, Degree Courses

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A range of career options are available including Air Cabin Crew, Airline or Airport Passenger Service, Airline Pilot, Archivist, Cruise Ship Worker, Diplomatic Service, Executive Assistant, Diplomatic Service Operational Office, European Union Administrator, Immigration Officer, Interpreter

FACULTY HEAD: **Mrs M. Porch**

GEOGRAPHY

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The Courses provide geographical perspectives on important issues concerning the environment, sustainability and citizenship, and offer challenging, coherent and enjoyable journeys for learners who progress through levels. They encourage fieldwork and the use of local environments and the acquisition of geographical skills.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The course is delivered in three units, which will allow students to develop and apply geographic skills and a knowledge and understanding of environments on a local, regional and global scale:

- Physical Environments: coasts, glaciation, weather
- Human Environments: population- urban and rural
- Global Issues: global climate change, development and health

ASSESSMENT

Regular end of unit assessments, regular class and homework tasks, prelim exam and an assignment investigating a geographical issue of the student's choice.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to other levels of Geography study within school, as well as opportunities in Further and Higher Education. A solid understanding within Geography can also act as a strong basis for study in other Social Subjects courses or Science-based courses.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Successful Geographers can use their skills in a wide range of jobs and careers. These may include archaeologist, cartographer, civil engineer, landscape architect, meteorologist, oceanographer, town and country planning.

FACULTY HEAD: **Mr M. Donnelly (Acting)**

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Graphic Communication Course enables learners to develop skills in graphic communication techniques, including the use of equipment, graphics materials and software. Learners extend and apply knowledge and understanding of graphic communication standards, protocols and conventions, and develop an understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

2D Graphic Communication helps learners develop their creativity and skills within a 2D graphic communication context. It will allow learners to initiate, develop and communicate ideas using graphic techniques in straight forward and familiar contexts.

In addition, the Unit allows learners to develop their skills in some less familiar or new contexts. Learners will develop 2D graphic spatial awareness. 3D and Pictorial Graphic Communication helps learners develop their creativity and skills within a 3D and pictorial graphic communication context.

ASSESSMENT

The learner will draw on, extend and apply the skills, knowledge and understanding they have developed during the Course. These will be assessed through a combination of an assignment and a question paper.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to Higher, Advanced Higher, HNC/HND courses, and Degree courses

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Architect, Building Services Engineer, Building Technician, CAD Technician, Engineer, Construction, Exhibition Designer, Games Designer, Graphic Designer, Interior Designer, Product Designer

FACULTY HEAD: Mr C. Swan (Acting)

HEALTH AND FOOD TECHNOLOGY

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The purpose of this Course is to allow learners to develop and apply the knowledge and skills of research, analysis and evaluation in order to make, informed food and dietary choices.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The Course addresses contemporary issues affecting food and nutrition, including ethical and moral considerations, sustainability of sources, food production and development, and their effects on consumer choices.

The Course has five broad and inter-related aims that enable learners to: analyse the relationships between health, nutrition and food, investigate contemporary issues affecting food and consumer choice, prepare food using safe and hygienic practices to meet specific needs

The Course uses an experiential, practical and problem-solving learning approach to develop knowledge, understanding and skills, and promotes independence in learning. The Course uses real-life situations, and where appropriate, takes account of local, cultural and media influences and technological innovations

ASSESSMENT

Units will be assessed on a pass/fail basis within centres. To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all of the Units as well as the Course assessment. The controlled course assessment project is submitted to the SQA for external marking.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to Advanced Higher Health and Food Technology Course, National Progression Awards, Higher National Certificates or other further education provision and employment opportunities

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Teaching, Dietician, Food Product Development, Food Technologist, Nutritionist, Sports Coaching

FACULTY HEAD: Mr B. Johnstone

HISTORY

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

This Course develops a breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding of the past, and provides opportunities to consider how political, social, economic and cultural history relates to the world of today. Students will build up a framework of historical knowledge and understanding and will develop a wide range of transferable skills, including: researching and investigating themes and events, synthesising information from a wide range of sources to produce detailed and reasoned lines of argument, and drawing well-reasoned conclusions supported by evidence.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

- Historical Study: Scottish- Mary Queen of Scots
- Historical Study: British- Changing Britain 1760-1914
- Historical Study: European and World – Free at Last? Civil Rights in the USA

Throughout the topics, students will enhance their appreciation of the value of understanding the history of the world, and come to a greater awareness of how choices and actions in the past have resonated through to the present.

ASSESSMENT

Regular unit assessments, regular class and homework tasks, prelim exam and an assignment investigating a historical issue of the student's choice.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to other levels of History study within school, as well as opportunities in Further and Higher Education.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Successful Historians can use their skills in a wide range of jobs and careers. These may include the likes of archaeologist, archivist, journalist, librarian, museum conservation officer, broadcasting researcher, History teacher, tour guide, town and country planner and many more.

FACULTY HEAD: Mr M. Donnelly (Acting)

HOSPITALITY - SKILLS FOR WORK COURSE

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

This is a Skills for Work Course, and it has been designed to provide a qualification which reflects skills required for the Hospitality Industry. The Course will enable candidates to develop general and practical skills, knowledge and understanding, together with employability skills and attitudes needed to work in the Hospitality Industry.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

Skills for Work Hospitality introduces the different commercial and non-commercial sectors of the hospitality industry and the types of provision they offer. Candidates will also learn about the organisational aims of hospitality establishments and the products and services they provide.

Candidates will develop vocational skills and knowledge and gain practical experience in menu planning; preparing, cooking and presenting a range of foods in a professional kitchen; serving food and drinks; undertaking reception duties and customer care; and planning, organising and running two hospitality events. Front of House & Kitchen experience and willingness to work in a team are key skills needed here.

ASSESSMENT

To achieve the course award the candidate must successfully undertake 4 key areas which make up the Course and undertake "real-life" assessment situations such as a commitment to the annual and high-profile 'Burns Supper'. At S5/6 a level 6 West Lothian Employability Award.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

NC (National Certificate) Hospitality Practical Cookery, a Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) in Catering and Hospitality,

NC in Events Management,

Employment in the Hospitality sector.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Bar Manager, Bar Worker, Butcher – Retail, Catering Manager, Cook or Chef, Cruise Ship Worker, Food Counter Assistant, Food Technician, Fruiterer or Greengrocer, Home Carer, Hotel General Manager, Hotel Receptionist, Housekeeping Manager, Kitchen Assistant, Play worker or Play Assistant, Technical Brewer, Waiter/Waitress

FACULTY HEAD: Mr B. Johnstone

PRACTICAL COOKERY

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

This Course aims to further develop learners' life skills and enhance their personal effectiveness in terms of cookery, providing a set of skills for those who wish to progress to further study in the hospitality context. In preparing learners for life, the Course anticipates their future needs in that it enables them to learn how to plan, prepare and cook food for themselves and others. It also develops organisational skills, which have an application in a wide variety of contexts.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The Course contains a significant practical component, which involves experiential learning, and is supported by related theory. It uses real-life hospitality contexts, which makes it relevant to the world of work.

The Course makes an important contribution to general education through developing a range of essential skills. Its contribution to vocational education is important because it allows progression to a range of careers in the hospitality industry. The Course also supports the wider curriculum through developing learners' understanding of the importance of sustainable ingredients.

ASSESSMENT

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all of the Units as well as the Practical Activity course assessment. Learners will plan, prepare and cook a three-course meal for a given number of people within a given timescale and present it appropriately.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to Skills for Work and HNC/HND courses

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Baker or Confectioner, Bar Manager, Bar Worker, Butcher – Retail, Catering Manager, Cook or Chef, Cruise Ship Worker, Food Counter Assistant, Food Scientist or Technologist, Food Technician, Fruiterer or Greengrocer, Home Carer, Hotel General Manager, Hotel Receptionist, Housekeeping Manager, Kitchen Assistant, Play worker or Play Assistant, Technical Brewer

FACULTY HEAD: **Mr B. Johnstone**

LABORATORY SCIENCE

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Throughout the course, students will explore a variety and range of industries and services and the career opportunities, in science laboratories, in a local, national and global setting. Students will have the opportunity to develop the basic practical skills for working in a laboratory: measuring, weighing and preparing compounds and solutions, and to understand and implement the health and safety requirements for a safe working environment. Specific practical skills related to microbiology, radioactivity, chemical handling and laboratory instrumentation are developed.

Students will work with others to produce a plan to undertake a practical investigation to test scientific hypotheses related to a scientific topic. This will also involve reporting of the results, conclusions and evaluations of the investigation.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

There are 4 units in the course which are, Careers using laboratory Science, Working in a Laboratory, Practical Skills and Practical Investigation.

There are several key areas within each unit of work that are assessed in order to gain the full course award.

ASSESSMENT

Internal Assessments

Assessment of the course is through a range of methods including learner folio of written and/or oral evidence, practical activities supported by assessor observation checklists as well as self- evaluation.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to National 5 Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Practical electronics. Additionally, it could lead to a Foundation Apprenticeship out with school.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A range of career options in science and technology including healthcare, laboratories, and technical support.

FACULTY HEAD: **Mr A. Jack**

MATHEMATICS

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The Course aims to motivate and challenge students by enabling them to select and apply mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations. Learners will develop skills in the manipulation of abstract terms in order to solve problems and to generalise.

The Course allows students to interpret, communicate and manage information in mathematical form. Skills will be developed in using mathematical language and to explore mathematical ideas. Students will also develop skills relevant to learning, life and work in an engaging and enjoyable way.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

1. Expressions and Formulae:

The Outcomes cover aspects of algebra, geometry, statistics and reasoning.

2. Relationships:

The general aim of this Unit is to develop skills linked to straightforward mathematical relationships. These include solving equations, understanding graphs and working with trigonometric ratios

3. Numeracy:

The general aim of this Unit is to develop learners' numerical and information handling skills to solve straightforward, real-life problems involving number, money, time and measurement. As learners tackle real-life problems, they will decide what numeracy skills to use and how to apply those skills to an appropriate level of accuracy.

ASSESSMENT

National 4: To gain the award for the Course, the learner must achieve a pass in all the above Units of the course as well as pass the Added Value Unit which consists of two components – a non-calculator test and a calculator test.

National 5: The learner must pass the final SQA assessment.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

National 5 Maths, Higher Maths, HNC / HND Maths

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Accountant, Actuary, Economic Development Officer, Economist, Insurance Risk Surveyor, Management Consultant, Materials Scientist, Mathematician

FACULTY HEAD:

Mr A. McIntosh

MEDIA STUDIES

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

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 SQA Course Specifications.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

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

ASSESSMENT

Higher and National 5: Media Assignment (worth 60 marks)

Higher and National 5: Exam Question Paper (worth 60 marks)

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This course provides progression to:

- National 5
- Higher

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Digital marketer, Media buyer, Media Planner, Media researcher, Music producer, Public relations officer, Runner, broadcasting/film/video, Social media manager, Television/film/video producer, Web content manager, Advertising account executive, Broadcast journalist, Editorial assistant, Event manager, Film director, Magazine journalist, Market researcher, Marketing executive, Media researcher, Photographer, UX designer, Writer

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs M. Porch

MODERN STUDIES

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Modern Studies is the social, economic and political study of local, national and international issues. This subject helps you understand the most important issues in the world today.

Modern Studies encourages students to develop informed decisions and attitudes towards different values, cultures and beliefs. Modern Studies is an excellent qualification for higher education as well as good preparation for life and work.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The Course has three compulsory topics:

- Democracy in Scotland
- Social Issues in the United Kingdom - Crime and the Law
- International Issues – World Power - the USA

ASSESSMENT

Regular unit assessment tasks, regular class and homework tasks. Students will also undertake an Assignment on a Social, Economic, International or Political Issue.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to other levels of Modern Studies study within school, as well as opportunities in Further and Higher Education. A solid understanding within Modern Studies can also act as a strong basis for study in other Social Subjects courses.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Successful Modern Studies students can use their skills in a wide range of jobs and careers. These may include the likes of lawyer, teaching, archivist, journalist, copy editor, economic development officer, election agent, local councillor, police officer, Member of Parliament, social worker, welfare rights advisor and many more.

FACULTY HEAD: **Mr M. Donnelly (Acting)**

MUSIC

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The course is designed to allow students to develop their knowledge of musical concepts and musical literacy and to integrate and apply this understanding in practical learning activities. Students will develop their ability to compose their own music and refine their practical performance on two instruments.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

Performing Skills: Develop performing skills in solo and/or group settings on their selected instruments or on one instrument and voice. Perform challenging music with sufficient accuracy while maintaining the musical flow. Composing Skills: Create original music using compositional methods and music concepts creatively when composing, arranging or improvising. Understanding Music: Broaden their knowledge and understanding of music and musical literacy.

ASSESSMENT

National 4		National 5	
Performing Skills – 2 instruments grade 2		Performing – 2 instruments grade 3	Assessed by SQA visiting assessor
Composing Skills		Assignment – compose a piece of music and review the process	Externally assessed
Understanding Music		Understanding music – listening to concepts and showing understanding of musical signs and symbols	Externally assessed
AVU – Performance of 8 minutes across 2 instruments			

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher, HNC/HND and degree courses

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Composer or Songwriter Dancer Disc Jockey – DJ, Music Promotions Manager, Music Therapist, Musical Instrument Technologist, Musician, Piano Tuner.

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs K. Moore (Acting)

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The aim 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.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

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.

ASSESSMENT

- Question Paper: 40 Marks 30% of the course award
- Assignment 100 Marks 70% of the course award.

Two meaningful tasks that draw on and apply technological and musical skills and knowledge. Both tasks break down into three assessed areas: Planning the production (10 Marks) Implementing the production (30 Marks) and evaluating the production (10 Marks)

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This course provides progression to Higher level. Beyond school, students can progress to HNC/HND and Degree level courses in related courses.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Disc Jockey	Floor Manager - Television	Music Promotions Manager
Musician	Teacher	Musical Instrument Technologist
Sound Technician	Stage Manager	Producer - Radio, TV or Film

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs K. Moore (Acting)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (*Aesthetic*)

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND AIMS

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 student's level of technique as well as conditioned games focussing on improving tactical awareness within different activities.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND EXPECTATIONS

	National 4	National 5
Practical Assessment	'One off performance' in one physical activity. Pass/Fail	'One off performance' in two contrasting physical activities. (You will be asked to identify your activities at course choice interview) Each performance 30 marks (50%)
Theory Assessment	Complete 'Factors Impacting Performance' booklet in class time. Pass/Fail	Written portfolio Section 1 under exam conditions Section 2 & 3 completed in the classroom 60 marks (50%)

As a performance based course, it is expected that students opting into a National Physical Education qualification will fully participate in ALL activities throughout the year. Students who enjoy Physical Education and wish to develop their performance through a games based approach should continue their Physical Education experience within Core Physical Education.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

- National 5 PE
- Higher PE

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A range of sporting careers, professional sports person, health and fitness instructor, lifeguard or pool attendant, outdoor education instructor/leader, physiotherapist, sports psychologist, sport and exercise scientist

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs K. Moore (Acting)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (*Traditional*)

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND AIMS

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

	National 4	National 5
Practical Assessment	‘One off performance’ in one physical activity. Pass/Fail	‘One off performance’ in two contrasting physical activities. (You will be asked to identify your activities at course choice interview) Each performance 30 marks (50%)
Theory Assessment	Complete ‘Factors Impacting Performance’ booklet in class time. Pass/Fail	Written portfolio Section 1 under exam conditions Section 2 & 3 completed in the classroom 60 marks (50%)

As a performance based course, it is expected that students opting into a National Physical Education qualification will fully participate in ALL activities throughout the year. Students who enjoy Physical Education and wish to develop their performance through a games based approach should continue their Physical Education experience within Core Physical Education.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

- National 5 PE
- Higher PE

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A range of sporting careers, professional sports person, health and fitness instructor, lifeguard or pool attendant, outdoor education instructor/leader, physiotherapist, sports psychologist, sport and exercise scientist

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs K. Moore (Acting)

PHYSICS

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The purpose of the Course is to develop learners' curiosity, interest and enthusiasm for physics in a range of contexts. The skills of scientific inquiry and investigation are developed throughout the Course. The relevance of physics is highlighted by the study of the applications of physics in everyday contexts. This will enable learners to become scientifically literate citizens, able to review the science-based claims they will meet.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The general aim of this Unit is to develop skills of scientific inquiry, investigation and analytical thinking, along with knowledge and understanding of our dynamic universe. Particles and Waves, Electricity and enable students to develop skills relevant to undertaking research in Physics. Learners will collect and synthesize information from different sources, plan and undertake a practical investigation, analyse results and communicate information related to their findings. They will also consider any applications of the physics involved and implications for society/ the environment.

ASSESSMENT

Course assessment

- All N4 units are internally assessed against the SQA requirements. They are assessed on a Unit-by-Unit basis, as a pass/fail within the school.
- N5 students sit an externally assessed 100-mark examination (scaled from 135 marks) set by the SQA. The external examination will be graded A to D. Students submit an assignment worth 25 marks which is externally assessed by SQA.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- ◆ Higher Physics followed by Advanced Higher Physics
- ◆ other qualifications in Physics or related areas
- ◆ further study, employment and/or training

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A Range of opportunities such as: Cardiac Physiologist, Chemical Engineer, Forensic Scientist, Geologist, Meteorologist, Nurse, Paramedic, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Radiographer, Veterinary Nurse, Veterinary Surgeon, Zoo Keeper, Zoologist

FACULTY HEAD: **Mr A. Jack**

PRACTICAL WOODWORKING

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Practical Woodworking Course enables learners to gain skills in woodworking techniques and in measuring and marking out timber sections and sheet materials. Learners develop safe working practices in workshop environments, practical creativity and problem-solving skills, and an understanding of sustainability issues in a practical woodworking context.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

Practical Woodworking: Flat - Frame Construction helps learners develop skills in the use of woodworking tools and in making woodworking joints and assemblies commonly used in flat-frame joinery. Tasks will involve some complex features. Learners will also be able to read and use drawings and diagrams depicting both familiar and unfamiliar woodwork tasks. Practical Woodworking: Carcase Construction helps learners develop skills in making woodworking joints and assemblies commonly used in carcase construction.

Tasks will involve some complex features and may include working with manufactured board or with frames and panels. The Unit includes the use of working drawings or diagrams, including unfamiliar contexts that require some interpretation on the part of the learner. Practical Woodworking: Machining and Finishing helps learners develop skills in using common machine and power tools. It also helps learners develop skills in a variety of woodworking surface preparations and finishing techniques.

ASSESSMENT

The learner will draw on, extend and apply the skills and knowledge they have developed during the Course. This will be assessed through a practical activity, which involves producing a finished product in wood to a given standard. The task will sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice and for the learners to demonstrate practical creativity.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to HNC/HND courses

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Cabinet Maker, Carpenter or Joiner, Craft Designer or Worker, Furniture Designer, Furniture Polisher or Finisher, Picture Framer, Set Designer, Wood Machinist

FACULTY HEAD: Mr C. Swan (Acting)

RELIGIOUS, MORAL and PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES (RMPS)

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

This Course allows learners to develop values and beliefs and learn to express these. This will allow learners to make informed moral decisions. The Course encourages learners to develop an understanding and respect for different beliefs, values and viewpoints, and to put their values or beliefs into action in ways which benefit others.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

This course has three units:

- World Religion - Islam
- Morality and Belief – Morality Medicine and the Human Body
- Religious and Philosophical Questions – Existence of God

Each unit focusses on developing factual and theoretical knowledge specific to that theme. In the World Religion Unit students will develop skills to explain and comment on the meaning and context of sources related to Islam.

In the Morality and Belief Unit, students will develop skills to explain and express reasoned views about contemporary moral questions and responses. The RPQ unit allows deeper consideration of philosophical responses to the concept of God, and how belief in religious ideas can affect people's lives.

ASSESSMENT

Three unit assessment tasks, prelim examination, regular class and homework tasks. Students will also usually undertake an assignment on a religious, moral or philosophical question or issue.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to other levels of RMPS study within school, as well as opportunities in Further and Higher Education. A solid understanding within RMPS can also act as a strong basis for study in Philosophy.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A good understanding of people, their beliefs and customs is essential to any career path which places RMPS in a unique position. Many universities see this as a desirable subject for entry into courses such as Law and Medicine as there is a strong basis in morality, debate and critical thinking. The skills and attitudes developed in RMPS are applicable in many occupations to appreciate diversity. RMPS is particularly applicable in Journalism, Nursing, Medicine, Law, Politics, Social Work, Psychology, Business and Travel.

FACULTY HEAD: Mr M. Donnelly (Acting)

SPANISH

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Throughout the course, the key skills of reading, listening, talking and writing will be developed in order to understand and use the Modern Language. Creative and critical thinking skills will be developed in order to further improve language skills.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

Modern Languages Courses enable learners to read, listen, talk and write in a modern language, and to understand and use a modern language. Learners also develop language skills of translation, and apply knowledge and understanding of a modern language.

ASSESSMENT

Internal Assessments

There are two units to the course: Understanding Language and Using Language.

- There are four contexts in which language is developed: Society, Learning, Employability and Culture.
- In Understanding Language, receptive skills are developed – listening and reading in the four contexts.
- In Using Language, productive skills are developed – talking and writing in the four contexts.

External Assessments

- Higher and National 5: Portfolio of Coursework and an Exam Question Paper

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This Course provides progression to: National 5/Higher

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A wide range of options including: Air Cabin Crew, Broadcast Journalist, Cruise Ship Worker, Diplomatic Service Executive Assistant, Interpreter, Journalist or Reporter, Resort Representative, Teacher - Secondary School - Modern Foreign Languages, Translator, Travel Consultant, Writer or Author

FACULTY HEAD: Mrs M. Porch

TRAVEL & TOURISM - SKILLS FOR WORK COURSE

LEVELS AVAILABLE: National 4 and National 5

AIMS OF THE COURSE

This course is designed to provide an introductory qualification in Travel & Tourism which reflects the initial skills required for the travel & tourism industry. It will enable learners to experience, develop and reflect on general and specific practical skills, knowledge and understanding, together with employability skills and attitudes needed to work in travel and tourism industry.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The course is delivered in four units which allows students to develop and apply skills and a knowledge and understanding of tourism on a local, regional and global scale:

- Travel & Tourism: Employability (National 4 or 5)
- Travel & Tourism: Customer Service (National 4 or 5)
- Travel & Tourism: Scotland (National 4 or 5)
- Travel & Tourism: UK and Worldwide (National 4 or 5)

Students will have the opportunity to complete a work placement and take part in a mock interview to prepare them for real-life work – all of this forms part of the West Lothian Enterprise and Employability Award.

ASSESSMENT

There is no external exam for this course. The four units have their own individual assessments and may be subject to external verification by SQA. The units are completed and marked internally. These are graded on a pass or fail basis.

FUTURE PROGRESSION ROUTES IN THE SUBJECT

This course provide progression to NC in Travel and Tourism, Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs) in Travel and Tourism, training or employment in the Travel and Tourism industry.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students who undertake this course can apply their skills and knowledge to range of jobs and careers. These include holiday rep, call centre advisor, customer care, travel agent, air cabin crew, tourist guide, airport information assistant, hotel manager /assistant / receptionist.

FACULTY HEAD: **Mr M. Donnelly (Acting)**