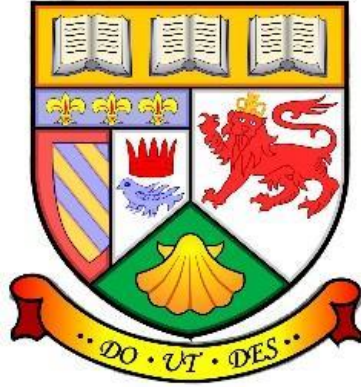


Keith Grammar School



S2 into S3

Subject Choice Booklet

The Purpose and Structure of S3 at KGS

The purpose of S3 is to continue the Broad General Education (BGE) that pupils have progressed through since primary school and continued into S1&2. However it also allows a degree of personalisation & choice, and begins to prepare pupils for the qualifications stage starting in S4.

The courses we intend to offer in S3 will not only develop specialist skills within subject areas, but will also continue to develop skills in Literacy, Numeracy, and Health & Wellbeing as well as Skills for Learning, Life and Work. S3 courses will not be assessed externally by the SQA and will carry no certification from outside bodies. However subjects have carefully planned their curriculum content to ensure that courses prepare pupils for the transition to the senior phase of secondary school in S4 and beyond.

Pupils continue to follow the 33 period week but rather than all pupils studying the same subjects, as is the case in S1 & S2, pupils in S3 will have a combination of core subjects (subjects that all pupils study) and elective subjects (personalised choices from a broad range of curricular areas)

Curriculum for Excellence (the national curriculum for all state schools in Scotland) requires all pupils to experience breadth of curriculum until the end of S3. In addition, pupils in Scotland have curricular entitlements to Personal & Social Education (PSE), Physical Education, Religious and Moral Education (RME) and Modern Languages that ensure that schools maintain these subjects in the BGE phase of the curriculum.

Core Subjects

English & Literacy

Pupils will receive four periods per week of English, as well as one dedicated period per week for Literacy skills development.

Maths & Numeracy

Pupils will receive four periods per week of Mathematics. This will cover aspects of both Mathematics and Applications of Mathematics will allows pupils to progress to either subject in the Senior Phase.

Pupils will also receive one dedicated period per week for numeracy skills development.

Physical Education

Pupils will receive two periods per week of physical education. This ensures that KGS meets the national entitlement of a minimum of two hours physical education per week.

Personal & Social Education (PSE) and Religious & Moral Education (RME)

Pupils will receive one period per week for half of the year in each subject, rotating post-Christmas holidays. The subjects provide pupils will valuable knowledge in skills to develop their capacity to be Responsible Citizens – a core aspect of Curriculum for Excellence.

Language, Culture & Citizenship

Pupils receive one period per week of Language, Culture & Citizenship. This course is designed to develop wider skills for Learning, Life and Work and allows pupils to experience project-based and inter-disciplinary learning, as well as to develop Golbal Citizenship through developing an understanding of world languages & culture and Scottish Society.

Elective Subjects

Pupils will make six elective choices, receiving three periods per week of each subject. These subjects are offered as a free choice, but we will guide pupils to ensure that they take a broad range of subjects as they will be encouraged to continue with most of these subjects when they the Senior Phase of the curriculum in S4. It is important that pupils consider their subject choices carefully in S3, as it is likely that they will follow the progression routes for these subject for their qualifications in S4.

To help you support your child with their learning each subject teacher has supplied you with ongoing feedback about progress in their subject through tracking reports and parents' evenings.

In this information booklet, departments have included details about each S3 course and where they may lead in the future, both in terms of SQA qualifications and other options including College and vocational qualification

What happens after S3?

Towards the end of S3, pupils will again be making choices, this time for new courses in S4-6 at SCQF Levels 4-6. We will be encouraging pupils in S3 to make a plan for their learning over the following 2 or 3 years, with the option to re-choose each year if necessary.

If you would like further information about the qualifications offered in Scotland or more guidance on Curriculum for Excellence, I have included details of a number of websites that you may find useful.

Useful links

Education Scotland – Curriculum for Excellence: <https://education.gov.scot/curriculum-for-excellence/>

ParentZone Scotland: <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/>

Scottish Qualifications Authority: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/41312.html>

Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework: <https://scaf.org.uk/the-framework/interactive-framework/>

My World of Work – Skills Development Scotland: <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/>

Elective Subjects

Administration & IT



What will you do?

This course will involve a combination of Practical and Theoretical elements of Administration & IT. The topics are specifically tailored to ensure you will receive a general understanding of a variety of situations and areas that may be encountered in the world of Industry. This will include an awareness of the skills and qualities expected of staff within an administrative environment.

What will you learn?

When developing your skills to be used in an administrative environment you will develop a greater understanding of practical skills whilst preparing a range of administrative documents, using software package such as: word processing, spreadsheets, databases and Powerpoint, publishing and graphics. As a result of this experience you will be expected to produce a range of business documents to a high degree of accuracy. There is an element of theory in the course: learning about the different types of office layout, how to analyse and prepare job descriptions, why good Customer Care is important in an organisation and the importance of staying secure whilst using technology in the workplace. You will be better prepared to enter the field of industry by learning the importance of team working in an organisation.

How will you succeed?

Success will be indicated by the completion of a range of assignments and assessments which will demonstrate your understanding of the concepts of industry. Your administrative skills, IT and organisational skills will be monitored throughout the course.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Admin & IT
- National 5 Admin & IT

Art & Design



What will you do?

The purpose of this course is to build upon pupils' knowledge and understanding from first and second year. Pupils will come to Art and Design three periods a week. This enables us to provide courses which are more intense and in depth. Pupils will develop a deeper understanding of the subject and will be better prepared for the Senior Phase.

What will you learn?

The design of the Third Year course was considered in relation to the structure of the Senior Phase courses, where there is a Design, Expressive and Critical element, ensuring coherence and progression from one stage to the next.

The Third Year Course involves the following units of work:

Expressive Unit: with a focus on observational drawing, media handling and awareness of the visual elements.

Design Unit: which allows idea generation, development and awareness of design constraints.

Critical Analysis Unit: which involves describing and explaining the work of artists and designers.

Personal Project: which is self-directed by pupils and allows personalisation and choice.

What will be expected of you? How will you succeed?

The Art and Design Department expect that all pupils fully participate in all aspects of the course. Pupils should enter into the classroom organised and prepared to work. The environment is one which is conducive to learning. Therefore, in order to succeed in this subject, pupils must focus and concentrate on their work. The necessity for high levels of concentration and effort will be encouraged at all times by the teacher. Art and Design is a thinking subject which requires consideration and reflective thinking.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Art & Design
- National 5 Art & Design

Biology



What will you learn?

The S3 Biology course covers three units of work. These units mirror those undertaken at National 5 level and provide the basic foundations of knowledge required for the National 5 Biology course.

The units of work covered are:

- Cell Biology
- Multicellular organisms
- Life on earth

How will you succeed?

Pupils are assessed via key area assessments within each unit. They also sit an end of topic assessment. These assessments are used to track pupil progress, alongside classwork, homework and other in class activities.

Special Information

Pupils should select S3 Biology on the recommendation of their class teacher. Please note, pupils selecting S3 Biology should not also be selecting S3 General Science.

Progression in S4

- National 5 Biology
- SCQF Level 5 NPA Applied Sciences
- SCQF Level 5 Skills for Work: Health Sector
- National 4 Environmental Science
- National 5 Environmental Science

Business Management



What will you do?

This course will involve gaining knowledge and experience of the Business world. The topics are specifically tailored to ensure you will receive a general understanding of a variety of situations and areas that may be encountered in the world of Industry. This will include an awareness of the skills and qualities expected of staff within a business environment, coupled with developing an understanding of why businesses start up. You will explore topics such as: the range of financial options available to support businesses, creating the required financial statements, the importance of Marketing to an organisation, the methods of Operations available to organisations. This understanding will be put into practice by researching various businesses and carrying out practical activities.

What will you learn?

When developing your skills to be used in the business environment you will develop a greater understanding of practical skills such as: word processing and Microsoft Powerpoint, publishing and graphics. Although you will develop your IT skills, this is a more theoretical course, where you will learn how the different types of business are relevant in the modern world of industry and the importance of business planning and marketing a business along with how each Business will operate. You will be better prepared to enter the field of industry by learning the importance of team working in an organisation and by having a general awareness of financial statements in the accounting section of the course.

How will you succeed?

Success will be indicated by the completion of a range of assignments and assessments at Level 4, which will demonstrate your understanding of the concepts of industry, along with teacher observation.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Business Management
- National 5 Business Management

Chemistry



What will you learn?

The S3 Chemistry course covers three units of work. These units mirror those undertaken at National 5 level and provide the basic foundations of knowledge required for the National 5 Chemistry course.

The units of work covered are:

- Chemical changes and structure – atomic structure and theory, chemical formula, bonding and thermodynamics
- Nature's chemistry – hydrocarbons, plastics and smart materials
- Chemistry in society – metals, their reactions and reactivity series

How will you succeed?

Pupils are assessed via key area assessments within each unit. They also sit an end of topic assessment. These assessments are used to track pupil progress, alongside classwork, homework and other in class activities.

Special Information

Pupils should select S3 Chemistry on the recommendation of their class teacher. Please note, pupils selecting S3 Chemistry should not also be selecting S3 General Science.

Progression in S4

- National 5 Chemistry
- SCQF Level 5 NPA Applied Sciences

Computing Science



What will you do?

Learn to develop a range of basic computing and computational thinking skills, including skills in analysis and problem-solving, design and modelling, developing, implementing and testing digital solutions in different contexts. You will also develop knowledge and understanding of key computing concepts and processes, and the ability to apply this to a variety of problems; and an awareness of the impact of computing technologies on the environment or society.

What will you learn?

The Course has three units.

Unit 1 - Software Design and Development

You will learn to develop:

- basic knowledge, understanding and practical problem-solving skills in software design and development.
- basic computational thinking and programming skills through practical tasks using Python.

Unit 2 - Information System Design and Development

You will learn to:

- develop basic knowledge, understanding and practical problem-solving skills in information system design and development.
- implement practical solutions using appropriate development tools to create databases and web-based information systems
- develop an understanding of basic computer hardware, software, connectivity and security issues through a range of practical and investigative tasks.

Unit 3 - Computing Science Project

This Unit requires the learner to apply skills and knowledge from the other Units to analyse and solve an appropriate challenging computing science problem.

How will you succeed?

Successful completion of two units and final project.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Computing Science
- National 5 Computing Science

Design & Manufacture



What will you learn?

This course is a journey from a blank sheet of paper to a finished physical product. You will learn to think like a professional designer by exploring:

- **The Design Process:** How to take a "brief," generate creative ideas, and use sketching and rendering to communicate them.
- **Materials and Manufacturing:** Discovering the properties of wood, metals, and plastics, and learning which industrial processes (like injection moulding or wood turning) are used to shape them.
- **Workshop Skills:** Developing hands-on expertise with a variety of hand tools and machinery to build high-quality models and prototypes.
- **Modern Tech:** Using CAD (Computer-Aided Design) and CAM (Computer-Aided Manufacture), such as 3D printers and laser cutters, to bring digital designs to life.

How will you succeed?

Success in this subject comes from a balance of creativity and practical precision. You will be assessed through:

- **The Design Folio:** A collection of sketches, research, and models that show how you solved a design problem.
- **Practical Prototyping:** Your ability to safely and accurately manufacture a product in the workshop.
- **Theory Exams:** Testing your knowledge of commercial manufacturing, sustainability, and material properties.
- **Skills Required:** You need to be **creative**, have a **keen eye for detail**, and enjoy **working with your hands** to solve physical challenges.

Special Information

- **Materials Matter:** You will spend a small amount of time in the workshop; following safety instructions is one of the most important part of the course.
- **Beyond the Workshop:** While there is some practical work, a large portion of the grade comes from your "Folio" (design thinking), so a willingness to draw and write about your ideas is essential.

Progression beyond S3

- National 4 Design and Manufacture
- National 5 Design and Manufacture
- National 5 Practical Woodwork

Engineering Science



What will you learn?

This course bridges the gap between general science and specialised engineering. You will learn how to apply mathematical and scientific concepts to solve real-world problems. Key areas of study include:

- **Mechanisms and Structures:** Understanding how gears, levers, and drive systems create movement, and how to calculate forces acting on bridges and buildings.
- **Electronic Systems:** Designing circuits using sensors, transistors, and microcontrollers to automate tasks.
- **Programmable Control:** Learning to write code to control robotic systems and hardware.
- **Engineering Contexts:** Exploring the impact of engineering on society and the environment, focusing on renewable energy and sustainability.

How will you succeed?

Success in Engineering Science requires a mix of logical thinking and technical application. You will be assessed through:

- **Practical Lab Tasks:** Building and testing physical circuits and mechanical models.
- **Design Assignments:** Using simulation software to model engineering solutions before building them.
- **Theory Assessments:** Written tests that challenge your ability to calculate variables like voltage, current, and torque.
- **Skills Required:** You should have a strong interest in **Mathematics** (specifically algebra), a **logical approach to problem-solving**, and the ability to work accurately with technical data.

Special Information

- **Calculators are essential:** Due to the mathematical nature of the course, you will use scientific calculators daily.
- **STEM Focus:** This course is ideal for pupils considering careers in civil, mechanical, electrical, or software engineering. It is more "analytical" than Design & Manufacture, focusing more on *how things work* rather than *how they look*.

Progression beyond S3

- National 5 Engineering Science

Environmental Science



What will you learn?

The course covers two major aspects of environmental science, sustainability and climate change. The course will look at sustainability in terms of how humans use land, how food is produced and the effect of agriculture, and how sustainable current practices are, and how they could be improved. It will cover how we can make energy production more sustainable, and how sustainable transport is, and how this can be improved. It will cover the science behind climate change, both natural and man made.

The course will examine the evidence for climate change, the current effects it has on us locally and globally, as well as the possible effects it could have in the future. It will also look at possible strategies humans can adopt to combat climate change, and minimise harmful effects. The course is a science course, and will include practical experiments and analysis of data, as well as theory behind climate change and sustainability.

How will you succeed?

The course is assessed by a short unit test, a practical experiment and written report, and by the production of a leaflet/poster or similar type of presentation.

Special Information

Although S3 is not examined, this course can lead to the level 4 climate change NPA award for interested pupils through naturally-occurring evidence in class.

Progression beyond S3

- National 5 Environmental Science
- National 5 Chemistry
- National 5 Physics
- National 5 Biology

Modern Languages: French and/or German



What will you do?

You will work individually and in groups to further develop the four skills of listening and talking, reading and writing in French/German (continuing the language you studied throughout Primary and in S1 and S2), as well as developing your own literacy, communication and employability skills.

You will be able to:

- further develop your language skills in practical and relevant contexts
- develop skills you can use in vocational and work based contexts (e.g. taking part in a mock job interview)
- develop skills that you can use and enjoy in daily life and for travel and leisure both now and in the future
- gain a deeper understanding of your own language and appreciate the interconnected nature of languages.
- explore the culture and everyday life in countries where French/German is used.

What will you learn?

You will learn to communicate effectively and with confidence in French/German by developing talking and writing skills. You also will learn to use a wide range of texts for reading and listening, whilst taking advantage of ICT resources to access texts and engage with others within school and beyond. You also will learn about the lifestyles and culture in French/German speaking countries in Europe and beyond through topics such as Family and Friends, Technology, Health, Education, Languages in Work and Holidays

What will be expected of you?

You must take responsibility for your own learning, in both individual and group work.

You must be prepared to be fully involved in and contribute effectively in all group discussions and tasks. You will be responsible for taking feedback on-board as a way to improve. You will be expected to regularly check over lesson notes to help aid progression.

How will you succeed?

You will be assessed using a variety of National-style assessments and Modern Languages for Life and Work assessments at either Level 4 and/or Level 5. You will be assessed on your ability to communicate effectively and with confidence in talking and writing by your teacher and by your peers. There will be on-going in class assessment of your skills development in reading, listening, talking and writing through individual and group work.

Special information

ICT will be frequently used throughout the course and you will be expected to use GLOW/Google Classroom at home and in school to help you with class and homework.

Progression in S4

- National 4 French or German
- National 5 French or German
- SCQF Level 4/5 Modern Languages for Life & Work Award

General Science



What will you learn?

The S3 General Science course covers three units of work. These units provide basic foundations of knowledge required for the National 4 Science course. The units of work covered are:

- Everyday materials – covering water, metal, plastics and electrical safety
- Living things – keeping healthy, threats to health, sight and hearing
- Healthy planet – renewable energy, food security, pollution and climate change

Pupils will be taught through a range of methods and activities including hands-on practical activities, discussion and written work.

How will you succeed?

Pupils will be assessed via class assessments that will inform them of their progress and achievement within the course. Pupils will also be expected to complete the write up of at least one practical experiment per unit and submit this for marking.

Special Information

Pupils should select S3 Science on the recommendation of their class teacher. Pupils selecting S3 Science should not also select Biology, Chemistry or Physics.

Progression in S4

- National 4 General Science

Geography



What will you learn?

Across S3 you will work within 4 themes:

PHYSICAL LANDSCAPES: Working from the premise that "this Earth is doomed to destruction" pupils will explore the physical processes involved in the creation of iconic landscapes and features; U-shaped valleys, Waterfalls, Limestone Pavements and Coastal Stacks.

EARTH: THE POWER OF THE PLANET: Pupils will study the structure of the planet and discover how this structure causes tectonic events such as earthquakes and volcanoes. Pupils will also explore how these events have impacted and continue to impact upon human activity around the globe.

POPULATION: 8.2 BILLION AND COUNTING: Pupils will study a variety of facets related to the current growing population of the planet. They will develop an understanding of where people live, why they live there, how populations grow & shrink and how they influence the overall development of a country. Finally they will investigate the theme of 'health' and develop an understanding of how population, development and health are interlinked and thus interdependent.

THE PROCESS OF INVESTIGATION: Pupils will undertake a geographical investigation and in the process gain valuable experience of PLANNING, RESEARCH METHODOLOGY, DATA PRESENTATION, DATA ANALYSIS, TRENDS, EXPLAINING RESULTS and DRAWING CONCLUSIONS. The overall aim of this unit is to produce a complete investigation mirroring that expected of them at National level.

What will be expected of you?

Geography is part of 'The Humanities Department'. As a department, we have worked hard to embed the values of Keith Grammar School into everything we do and we expect anyone studying within the department to buy into this ethos; we are an ambitious department, we are a respectful department, we are a successful department, and we pursue excellence.

How will you succeed?

Success in Geography is measured in a variety of ways. Examples include formal assessments, writing tasks, creative tasks and presenting amongst others. However, we understand that success requires support and our role in helping you succeed is to provide opportunities for learning conversations, target setting and targeted feedback.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Geography
- National 5 Geography
- National 4 Environmental Science
- National 5 Environmental Science

History

What will you Learn?

In S3 History pupils will study the following:



TERM 1 to 2: European and World: The Cold War, 1945-1989

Pupils will study the complex relationship between the two Eastern and Western superpowers of the late 20th century: the Soviet Union and America; examining the themes of ideology, confrontation and international relations. Pupils will evaluate significant events such as the Space Race, Vietnam War and Berlin Blockade. Furthermore, pupils will develop an understanding regarding the invention and advancements of nuclear weaponry, in particular the atomic bomb.

TERM 3: Scottish: The Era of the Great War, 1900-1928

Pupils will study the difficult and heart wrenching lives of Scots during the First World War on the Western Front; touching upon the themes of recruitment, trench warfare, conflict and technology. Pupils will delve into learning about various intense WW1 battles such as the Somme and the pros and cons of weaponry such as tanks and gas.

TERM 4: British: The Trade in Enslaved African People, 1770-1807

Pupils will study the nature of the British trade in enslaved Africans in the later 18th century; exploring the themes of race, empire, exploitation and rights. Pupils will engage in learning about the sensitive topic of slavery and the beginnings of the trade's organisation and its devastating effects on communities in Africa and the Caribbean.

What will you learn?

Pupils will broaden their understanding of the world they live in by studying and learning from the past. Additionally, the History course will encourage pupils to develop research skills and, more importantly, analyse the materials they are presented with by looking for purpose, bias and limitation. Pupils will be encouraged to evaluate materials and draw reasoned conclusions. They will also learn the exam skills necessary to see them through National 4/5 qualifications in S4.

How will you succeed?

Success will be measured in many ways – by looking at class work and determining how well it has been done, formal tests, peer and self-assessment, extended writing tasks and presentations.

Progression in S4

- National 4 History
- National 5 History

Modern Studies



What will you learn?

In S3, students embark on an engaging journey that introduces them to the style of learning of the National 4 Modern Studies course to prepare them for the Senior Phase. By the end of the year, students will have acquired a broad understanding of critical social issues impacting today's world:

Crime and the Law

In this unit, students delve into the heart of Scotland's legal system. You will explore how laws are made, why they're enforced, and the impact they have on everyday lives. Students will tackle big questions, like how society balances individual freedoms with public safety and how justice is served in cases involving young offenders, organized crime, and cybercrimes.

World Power: The USA

This unit covers everything from American elections and government to gun control and human rights, students will explore the USA's role as a global power and examine pressing issues that resonate worldwide.

Democracy in Scotland

Students will discover how democracy works in Scotland, from grassroots movements to the Scottish Parliament. They'll learn how citizens participate, how decisions are made, and how Scotland's democracy shapes everyday life. Issues like voting rights, public services, and community initiatives are brought to life.

Project

This unit is an opportunity for students to apply their learning in a project that examines a modern issue close to home. Whether it's researching community crime, analysing media representations, or exploring public health concerns, students take charge in investigating, presenting, and evaluating their findings.

How will you Succeed?

Students will complete a mix of projects, presentations, and self-directed assessments. Supportive, interactive lessons create a positive environment for learning, while continuous feedback helps students track their progress and achieve their potential.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Modern Studies
- National 5 Modern Studies

Music



What will you do?

Your time will be divided between performing on two instruments of your own choice, composing, and understanding music through developing your listening skills. You will have the opportunity to learn a range of pieces of music as a class, in groups and individually. You will also be expected to perform to a small audience of your peers and/or in a concert at some point during the year.

What will you learn?

In performing you will learn to play a range of different pieces specifically tailored to your ability. You will, at times, be able to choose your own pieces of music with help from your music teacher. You will also learn a variety of skills to help you compose your own music in a range of styles. You will learn about musical concepts and how to recognise and identify them within different styles of music.

How will you succeed?

You will be assessed regularly to ensure that you are reaching the minimum standards required.

In Performing you will work on music appropriate to your level of skills and following successful recorded performance of your music you will move on to more challenging repertoire. You will present a final performance of a selection of your pieces on both of your instruments to an audience of your peers at the end of the year.

In Composition you will create a number of short pieces that will follow a given brief and will be assessed against specific criteria.

In Understanding Music you will complete listening assessments regularly, building up to a final listening paper at the end of the year.

Special information

You do not need to play two instruments before starting this course; however you will need to show determination and dedication to learn to play both instruments to the best of your ability. You will be able to choose from the instruments that are available within the music department and may also bring instruments from home and use instruments that you learn outside school.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Music
- National 5 Music

PE: Learning in the Outdoors



What will you do?

You will set up and run projects looking at the natural environment that involves maintaining the school garden area and wild spaces within the school grounds. Pupils will also learn camp craft skills including tent pitching and leave no trace fire lighting. Pupils will so have the opportunity to learn bush craft skills such as shelter building. Cycling will also form part of this curriculum with pupils having the opportunity to complete the SQA Cycle Maintenance Unit at SCQF Level 4 whilst also learning basic bike handling skills within the school grounds.

How will you succeed?

You will need to be ready to try new activities and challenges.
You will need to be prepared to go outdoors on a regular basis.
You will be expected to take responsibility for your own actions and learning.
You will be expected to problem solve and use your own initiative.
You will need a sense of fun and adventure.

Special Information

All specialist equipment will be provided.
A set of warm clothes and a change of shoes for use during the colder months.

Progression in S4

- Skills for Work: Uniformed Services (UHI Moray)
- Developing Leadership in Recreational Sports Activities (UHI Moray)
- SCQF Level 4 Skills for Work: Rural Skills
- SCQF Level 5 NPA Rural Skills

PE: Performance Development



What will you do?

Pupils will be introduced to the theory as well as the practical elements of improving performance. Performance Development is designed to prepare pupils for the National 5 Physical Education course.

Theory will underpin all activities and pupils will learn how to:

- gather information about their strengths and weaknesses
- use appropriate methods to improve their performance
- methods to monitor progress
- evaluate the success of a performance development programme

How will you be assessed?

The course will be assessed in both practical and theoretical aspects and will largely follow the assessment structure of the National 4/5 PE courses to prepare pupils for this style of assessment in the Senior Phase. All of the assessment work is pass/fail at this level, with pupils completing:

Mini Portfolio

Two Practical Performance assessments

Special Information

This course is designed to suit pupils who enjoy playing games, both team and individual.

Pupils will be experience a number of activities throughout the year and learn how to develop improve their performance in each one. Activities could include,

- Athletics
- Outdoor Games
- Indoor Games
- Racket Sports
- Aquatics (Swimming)

Progression in S4

- National 4 PE
- National 5 PE
- SCQF Level 5 Skills for Work: Sport & Recreation
- Skills for Work: Uniformed Services (UHI Moray)
- Developing Leadership in Recreational Sports Activities (UHI Moray)

People & Society



What will you learn?

Across S3 you will work within 3 themes:

INVESTIGATING SKILLS: Pupils will identify a topic / issue, describe it and develop some basic knowledge and understanding related to it. They will then choose 2 sources of information related to the topic / issue, collect information from these source and demonstrate this knowledge in a method of their choosing e.g. written, visual, oral, using IT.

MAKING DECISIONS: Pupils will identify an issue where a decision has to be made. They will describe what the issue is and develop some basic knowledge and understanding related to it. Pupils will then explore the issue in a bit more depth and highlight the opposing viewpoints before weighing up the evidence and making a final decision which will be presented in a method of their choosing e.g. written, visual, oral, using IT.

COMPARING & CONTRASTING: Pupils will identify a topic where there are clear contrasts. They will then explore the topic, identify the differences & similarities before conducting research to find sources of information to explain each of the comparisons made.

How will you succeed?

Success in People in Society will be measured against the assessment criteria for SQA Level 3 People and Society. This criteria can be met in a range of ways and it is our hope that with support, the pupils will identify how they want to demonstrate that they have met this criteria.

Special Information

Pupils who have enjoyed their time in the Humanities Department in S1 & S2 but find the individual subjects quite challenging. People and Society is taught entirely by the department teachers and allows pupils the chance to develop the skills required for SQA National 4 courses in the senior phase.

Progression in S4

- National 3 People & Society
- National 4 People & Society

Physics



What will you learn?

The S3 Physics course covers five units of work. These units mirror those undertaken at National 5 level and provide the basic foundations of knowledge required for the National 5 Physics course.

The units of work covered are:

- Dynamics,
- Space
- Electricity,
- Properties of Matter
- Waves

How will you succeed?

You will succeed if you are interested in understanding how the world around us works and want to find out more about the technology which enhances our lives. You will succeed if you: work productively during experimental work; spend time learning more about how to use mathematical formulae to solve problems; and undertake independent research. You will be assessed by end-of-topic tests.

Special Information

Pupils should select on S3 Physics on the recommendation of their class teacher. Please note, pupils selecting S3 Physics should not also be selecting S3 General Science.

Progression in S4

- National 5 Physics
- National 5 Practical Electronics
- National 5 Engineering Science
- SCQF Level 5 NPA Applied Sciences

Practical Bakery Skills

What will you do?

During the content of this course you will develop skills which will enable you to create bakery items from scratch and plan and execute a cake decoration plan of your creation using a range of techniques and ingredients.



The units of the course are:

- Practical decoration Techniques and mediums
- Hygiene and safety
- Bread and pastry
- Cake baking
- Cake planning

How will you be assessed?

You will be assessed in a number of ways including:

- Peer assessment of practical skills
- Practical assessment involving creation of different baked goods
- Multiple choice question paper to test knowledge of different techniques and ingredients
- Costing exercise

Progression in S4

- National 5 Practical Cake Craft
- National 4/5 Practical Cookery

Practical Cookery



What will you do?

During the content of this course you will develop practical skills which will enable you to plan, cost, make and serve dishes using a range of different techniques and ingredients.

The units of the course are:

- Sustainable ingredients – farm to fork
- Hygiene and safety in the kitchen
- Practical techniques and processes
- Menu creation and service

How will you succeed?

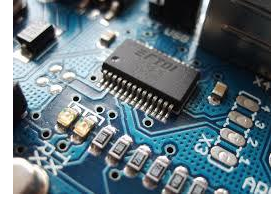
You will be assessed in a number of ways including:

- Peer assessment of practical skills
- Costing exercise
- Practical assessment involving creation and service of two course meal
- Multiple choice question paper to test knowledge of different techniques and ingredients.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Practical Cookery
- National 5 Practical Cookery
- National 5 Practical Cake Craft

Practical Electronics



What will you learn?

The electronics industry is vital to everyday life in our society and plays a major role in the economy. This is a course that combines theory and practical work.

The course will be grouped into three main topics:

- Circuit design
- Circuit simulation
- Circuit construction

In the first topic you will learn about a range of different electronic components and the rules of electronic circuits. You will analyse electronic problems and design solutions to these problems.

In the second topic you will use simulation software to assist in the design, construction and testing of circuits and systems and to investigate their behaviour.

In the third topic you will assemble a range of electronic circuits, using permanent and non-permanent methods.

The following skills will be developed throughout the course:

- Practical skills - you will constructing electronic circuits using permanent (soldering) and non-permanent methods using safe working practices
- Thinking skills – you will be given opportunities to analyse electronic problems and design solutions to these problems
- ICT skills – you will be able to develop programming skills and use simulation software to study
- the behaviour of electronic circuits,
- Numeracy skills – you will get opportunities to use mathematical formulae to solve numerical questions.

How will you succeed?

You will succeed if you work safely and have the patience and resilience to develop the practical skills required to construct electronic circuits. You will be assessed on both theory and practical.

Progression in S4

- National 4 Practical Electronics
- National 5 Practical Electronics

Practical Woodwork



What will you do?

Students will expand on the woodworking skills they began developing in S1 and S2, advancing toward more refined techniques to prepare for senior phase courses. This course is designed to build a strong foundation in practical woodworking skills that are essential for progression to National 4/5 Practical Woodworking courses.

The aims of the course are to enable learners to:

- Develop advanced skills in woodworking techniques, including a variety of joinery methods.
- Enhance accuracy in measuring and marking out timber sections and materials.
- Practice and understand safe working procedures in a workshop environment.
- Strengthen practical creativity and problem-solving abilities.
- Build awareness of sustainability issues in a woodworking context.

How will you succeed?

Students will complete a series of small woodwork projects, each introducing a new joint or woodworking technique. These projects will include hands-on practice with finishing techniques and offer opportunities to work with some of the machinery used at Level 4/5. While this is not a design course, students will follow detailed plans and have options for minor customizations, allowing a personal touch to each project.

Success in this course will be evident through the development of fine woodworking skills, improved accuracy in measurements and cutting, and increased confidence in handling materials. As students' progress, they will demonstrate growing precision in their work, as well as a more sophisticated approach to woodworking techniques.

Progression beyond S3

- National 4 Practical Woodwork
- National 5 Practical Woodwork