



Bathgate Academy



Alfie Gailey 2S1

S3 Course Choice 2022/2023

S3 Curriculum

Your son/daughter will soon be entering S3, the final year of the “Broad General Education”. The BGE within Bathgate Academy has been designed to provide the breadth and depth of education which all our young people will need in order to thrive now and in the future. A key principle in our S1 to S3 curriculum is to ensure that all pupils receive their national entitlement to experience the full range of Experiences and Outcomes at third level by the end of S3. Many pupils will also have the opportunity to extend their learning further and to progress to achieve success in relation to the fourth level Experiences and Outcomes. In many areas, expectations are higher than before, reflecting new challenges which our young people will face, and national ambitions to raise attainment and achievement.

How does personalisation and choice feature in the Broad General Education at S3?

Effective learning depends upon personalisation and on enhancing learners’ motivation by giving them opportunities to influence what they learn. Choice and personalisation are an important part of maintaining young people’s motivation, providing challenge and preparing them for progression into the senior phase and qualifications. Care needs to be taken, however, to avoid closing off options for the choice of qualifications and subsequent pathways available to young people as they enter the senior phase in S4.

Our S3 curriculum has been designed to maintain continuing breadth and to ensure that options are kept open for a variety of national qualification pathways as pupils enter S4. Our model provides:

- a curriculum that reflects high aspirations, confidence and ambition for our young people
- learning experiences that are motivating and challenging and ensure that each young person experiences success
- a curriculum that is designed to take account of each young person’s needs, stage of development, interests and prior attainment
- smooth progression into our Senior Phase Curriculum in S4
- opportunities to experience the full entitlement to the Broad General Education by the end of S3
- opportunity to explore and specialise in areas of study that are of interest to our young people while avoiding ‘locking them in’ to very specific pathways too early, but rather seeks to preserve options and opportunities for progression into qualifications.

There is now an opportunity for your child to specialise in areas of interest appropriate to them, as well as continuing to study core subjects.

Within the S3 curriculum your son/daughter will study the following core subjects:

English	4+1 periods
Maths	4 periods
Science	4 periods
Modern Languages	2 periods
Sport & Physical Activity (P.E)	3 periods
Personal Social Education	1 period
Religious & Moral Education	1 period

In our English provision the +1 period (introduced in session 2020-21) allows S3 students to undertake a Youth Philanthropy Initiative as well as the opportunity to gain an award in Scots Language at SCQF level 5 which is an SQA qualification at a level equivalent to National 5 awards.

3 periods of core Sport & Physical Activity in S3 progress to 2 periods of core PE in S4 which now provides our students the opportunity to achieve an award in PE at National Level over 2 years. Awards will range from N3 to N5 based on individual pupil performance. This new, 2 year initiative (introduced for S3 pupils in session 2020-21) will allow students to achieve a seventh National qualification by the end of S4.

The core elements of the S3 curriculum leave 12 periods of study remaining for each pupil. Pupils will therefore choose 4 areas of more specialised study during S3. These courses are not limited to just a particular subject, so for example, a pupil choosing 'Our Changing Earth', which is taught by the Geography department, may find that they study climate change during the year which will look at aspects of the traditional subjects of Geography, Science, Politics and Mathematics.

The change of emphasis ensures that at the end of your child's Broad General Education (end of S3) he/she can then choose from any subjects studied within S1-S3 as part of their S4 examination diet.

Bathgate Academy will attempt to give all pupils a free choice of options rather than restricting options to pre-specified columns. It is essential however that your child follows a **balanced curriculum**, choosing options of study from **ALL** of the main curricular areas: English and Languages (L), Technologies (T), Sciences (S), Humanities (H), Mathematics (M) and Expressive Arts & PE (E). **This is important as an over-emphasis in 1 curricular area will mean that choice and progression at the Senior Phase becomes unnecessarily limited.** Please also be aware that classes that are not deemed viable (i.e. low uptake) will not run. Pupils will therefore be asked for a backup preference in case we cannot accommodate their first choice.

All pupils have equal access to all courses.

As can be seen, this is very different from the traditional subject choice that many of us will be familiar with, so it is worth emphasising again that **at the end of third year, all pupils will be able to pick any subject for future study in Fourth Year**, regardless of the choices they make now. This is in part a reflection of the cross-curricular delivery of content as well as an understanding that the teaching of skills plays a major part in future success. More information on the S4 Curricular structure your child will follow will be sent to you in due course.

What happens next?

Please read through this booklet. Each course descriptor is written in a similar format allowing easy access to information.

A copy of the Course Choice sheet can be found at the back of this booklet. Pupils can use this to identify their subject preferences, which ensures they pick a balanced curriculum for the year ahead. Parents/Pupils will submit their choices of subjects for S3 via an online platform called TOOLS. Details of this submission process will follow shortly.

Pupils will receive information from all curricular areas as well as opportunities for discussion in P.S.E. over the coming weeks. The Personal and Social Education classes spend time working on the skills around making a balanced curricular choice for study in S3. Pupil choices should be completed and submitted online via TOOLS **by Friday 11th February**. Parents/Carers can contact the House Leader to discuss pupil choices if required. Contact details are available via this [link](#).

Core Subjects



Ranna Erskine 2S1

English

What will you do?

Pupils will continue to develop their skills in English and literacy: critical and creative thinking, competence in listening and talking, reading, writing and the personal, interpersonal and team-working skills which are so important in life and in the world of work.

Pupils will undertake a Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI). This is an active citizenship programme which empowers #generationchange to make a difference in their local communities while developing a host of skills.

Pupils will undertake the Scots Language Award. This SQA award provides opportunities for learners to study the history and development of the Scots language. It also helps learners develop their ability to understand Scots and communicate in the Scots language. Pupils may achieve SCQF levels 3, 4, 5 or 6 dependent on individual performance.

What will you learn?

- Listening and talking: select and organise relevant and essential information and use suitable vocabulary to communicate effectively
- Reading: understand, analyse and evaluate fiction and non-fiction texts for different purposes and respond to different kinds of questions and close reading tasks
- Writing: create different types of short and extended texts with increasingly complex ideas, structures and vocabulary

YPI

- To develop the next generation of responsible citizens and effective contributors.
- To develop the skills and confidence of young people through a real-life, hands-on experience of philanthropy.
- To raise awareness of social service issues and the work of local charities.

Scots Language

- Pupils will develop an understanding of the history and development of the Scots language, from its origins to the present day. This will include knowledge of its relationship to other languages.
- Pupils will develop their ability to understand, and communicate in, the Scots language. This will involve listening to or reading texts in Scots, and creating and producing written or oral communications in Scots.

What skills will you develop?

Pupils will develop their skills in using language, particularly those that are used regularly by everyone in their everyday lives. These include the ability to apply knowledge about language, reflecting the need for young people to communicate effectively both face-to-face and in writing through a wider range of media, showing an increasing awareness of how to apply language rules effectively. There are strong connections between learning in English and learning in other areas of the curriculum, involving both research and a strong element of presentation, which provide valuable opportunities to extend language skills.

Pupils will also further develop learning behaviours such as Collaboration, Planning and Perseverance. In addition, their abilities in research, making an effective presentation and self-evaluation will come to the fore through YPI.

What will be expected of you?

Assessment in English will focus on pupils' responses to the language, ideas and information that they find in texts and on the development of their skills in listening and talking, reading and writing.

Pupils will be complete the SQA assessment in Scots Language at an agreed level that is appropriate to the individual pupil.

All pupils will actively engage with YPI.



Mathematics

What will you do?

Pupils will continue to develop their mathematical skills to face the challenges of the 21st Century as each young person needs to have confidence in using mathematical skills. Learning Mathematics give pupils access to the wider curriculum and the opportunity to pursue further studies and interests. It develops logical reasoning, analysis, problem solving skills, creativity and the ability to think in abstract ways.

What will you learn?

The course will be divided into the following areas:

- Number, money and measure
- Shape, position and movement
- Information handling

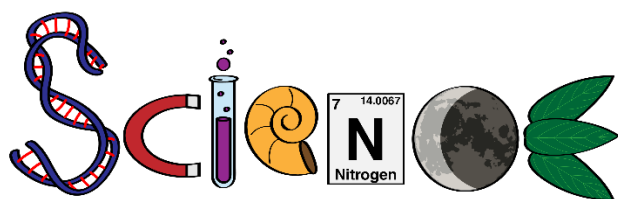
What skills will you develop?

Pupils will enjoy exploring and applying mathematical concepts to understand and solve problems, explaining their thinking and presenting their solutions to others in a variety of ways e.g. graphs, charts, presentations, folios etc. At all stages an emphasis on collaborative learning will encourage pupils to reason logically and creatively. Pupils will demonstrate progress in their skills in interpreting and analysing information, simplifying and solving problems, assessing risk and making informed choices. They will also show evidence of progress through their skills in collaborating and working independently as they observe, explore, experiment with and investigate mathematical problems.

What will be expected of you?

Assessment in mathematics will focus on pupils' abilities to work increasingly skillfully with numbers, data and mathematical concepts and process and use them in a range of contexts.





What will you do?

You will continue learning integrated Science (a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics) in a narrative that continues from S2. You will face the challenge of leaving planet Earth to find a new, suitable planet to colonize. How will you get into space? Who will you take with you? What will you need to form a new colony?

What will you learn?

You will learn about rocket design and see the importance of shape and building material in order to make an effective blast off into space. Once in space you will consider how the human body can survive the harsh conditions it faces and how our engineering keeps us alive. Upon finding a new planet that is suitable for us to colonize, you will need to think about how to establish a human settlement and get the essential elements needed for life. S3 will culminate in a large challenge which will require you to draw on your knowledge and understanding from S1 through to S3 in order to find solutions to these problems.



What skills will you develop?

Your scientific inquiry and investigative skills will naturally develop throughout the course and relevant literacy and numeracy skills will continue to progress. We are keen that your creativity and inventiveness are stimulated as you face and solve many problems whilst making connections with learning from other subjects.

What will be expected of you?

You will be required to think deeply about the many challenges that the human race faces and start to formulate solutions to these problems. To do that, we expect you to fully engage in the activities in class and work with your classmates and teacher to embrace the ideas we are learning about so that you have a stimulating, challenging and rewarding year. Above all, we expect that you have fun whilst developing an understanding and appreciation of the importance of Science to life and work.



Modern Languages (Core - Spanish)

What will you do?

Pupils will undertake the Modern Languages for Life and Work Award. This SQA award provides opportunities for learners to develop language and employability skills, through studying French in practical and relevant contexts for life and work. Pupils may achieve SCQF levels 3, 4, 5 dependent on individual performance.

What will you learn?

The following topics will be studied:

- Leadership – leadership styles, skills and qualities of a strong leader, evaluation of own leadership style.
- Employability - jobs, conditions, responsibilities, skills and qualities, job adverts, job applications.
- Film Unit - analysis of the Spanish film "Contratiempo"
- Espacios Increíbles - project (working on a design competition run by Strathclyde University Spanish and Architecture departments)

What skills will you develop?

Pupils will develop skills in writing, talking, reading and listening which are essential for learning, life and work. This will be done through the use of different media for effective learning and communication.

What will be expected of you?

Pupils will be complete SQA assessments for Modern Languages for Life and Work at an agreed level that is appropriate to the individual pupil. To gain the full award, pupils must pass a writing, talking, reading and listening assessment.



Sport and Physical Activity



What will you do?

The aim of the course is for pupils to develop their practical performance and also significant aspects of learning. Through practical lessons students will explore mental, emotional, social and physical factors which influence performance. This will include developing fitness levels, improving skill levels and learning about tactics and movement patterns. Pupils will also begin to undertake activities and assessments that have been carefully integrated into this course that will contribute towards achieving a National 3, 4 or 5 qualification in PE by the end of S4.

What will you learn?

- ☆ You will learn about and take part in a range of physical activities.
- ☆ Investigate and develop fitness, skills and tactics.
- ☆ How to self-evaluate and analyse the performance of others.
- ☆ How physical, mental, emotional and social factors impact on performance.

What will be expected of you?

It is essential that students are enthusiastic, well-motivated and bring the correct kit at all times. Students will be required to participate in all Physical Activities within the course. Students will be encouraged to further develop performance through participating in extra-curricular sports clubs and representing Bathgate Academy in a variety of competitions.

What skills will you develop?

Practical ability will be developed through various physical activities. Throughout, students will develop transferable skills such as communication, etiquette, resilience, teamwork and confidence.

How will you be assessed?

Pupils will be assessed in line with SQA guidelines as they work towards achieving a National qualification in PE by the end of S4. Assessment techniques may include video, observation schedules, fitness tests, self and peer assessment. Pupils will complete a personal FIP assignment (Factors Impacting on Performance) as part of this 2 year course.

Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies

What will you do?

The modern world is a place of diversity and difference. For example, differences of belief, culture and lifestyle. Yet these differences often cause conflict and generate debate. On this course you will explore a range of contemporary religious, moral and philosophical issues and consider some of the ways conflict arises and can be managed. You will examine ethical problems using a philosophical method of enquiry and reflect on your own responses to issues such as inequality and discrimination.

What will you learn?

The religion we will focus on in S3 is Buddhism. You will investigate Buddhist attempts to explain the meaning of life and reflect on the question 'what makes us happy?' by drawing on insights from Buddhist belief and modern psychology. The moral issue we will focus on in S3 is Environmental Ethics. This is the study of the moral relationship between humans and the planet. You will investigate what impact humans are having on the planet and reflect upon whether we have a moral responsibility to conserve it. This topic will develop your understanding of morality (what we judge as right and wrong) and allow you to examine your own judgements as well as take part in debates and discussion. Throughout the course you will engage in a number of philosophical thought experiments and consider their relevance to issues in society today.

What skills will you develop?

- Knowledge and understanding of contemporary social and moral issues
- Critical thinking skills: the ability to develop and sustain a line of reasoning and to analyse and evaluate arguments
 - Formulate conclusions based on evidence
 - The capacity to reflect on your own views, and the views of others, and to consider different perspectives on a range of important global issues
 - The ability to apply insights drawn from the study of religion and philosophy to investigate problems
 - The ability to engage in meaningful discussion and debate and the confidence to express your own views

Personal & Social Education

Delivered by Pupil Support

What will you do?

The aim of the PSE programme is to give learners a broad understanding of issues relating to their health and well-being. It is designed to enable all learners to make positive choices when faced with a wide variety of issues relating to young people in contemporary society.

What will you learn?

The following topics will be covered within PSE lessons:

- Risky Behaviour
- Crime and personal safety
- Drug and Alcohol issues
- Smoking
- Sexual Health and Relationships
- Road safety
- Rights and responsibilities
- Stereotyping and diversity
- Budgeting and planning
- Target setting
- Study skills



What skills will we develop?

Students will learn how to develop a set of positive rules to live by. Learners are actively encouraged to make positive decisions which is a life skill that will be developed over time. Students are provided with case studies and examples to help them understand the importance of making the correct decisions in terms of personal safety and relating to risky behaviour. Students will also learn how to plan ahead and will undertake a life planning exercise looking at career and lifestyle.

How will you be assessed?

Students will be assessed using a combination of methods including peer assessment, presentations and self-evaluation.

Specialisation and Choice

Pupils select four areas of specialised study.



Rhys Bruton 252



Keira Hampson 251

Administration and Information Technology

Delivered by Business Education Department

What will you do?

The aim of this course is to develop pupils IT skills and knowledge of the workplace. This will be done in a variety of ways including theory and practical work. Pupils will learn a range of practical skills that can be applied in the dynamic working environment and will also help them in all areas of education. Pupils will be required to keep up to date with changes in technology, for example, e-commerce, video conferencing and e-mail.

What will you learn?

The course will be divided into the following areas:

- Skills and qualities of an Admin Assistant
- Health and safety in the workplace
- Customer service
- Spreadsheets
- Word processing
- Databases
- PowerPoint
- E-mail
- Internet



What skills will you focus on?

This course will focus on the following technological skills:

- Researching and retrieving information to inform thinking
- Making connections between specialist skills developed within learning and skills for work
- Presentation skills
- Planning and organising
- Curiosity and problem solving skills

What will be expected of you?

The pupils will be expected to participate in all activities. Pupils will have responsibility for their own work and homework must be completed on time. They must work to the best of their ability in order to achieve their potential.



Business in Society

Delivered by Business Education Department

What will you do?

The aim of this course is to help pupils recognise that businesses play a large part in society. In this course pupils will be required to investigate local, national and global businesses. This will be done in a variety of ways including group work activities to develop their decision making, team working and communication skills. Discussions will occur regarding headline news stories about certain businesses. Pupils will also take part in competitions, role plays and online quizzes.

What will you learn?

The course will be divided into the following areas:

- Types of businesses
- Entrepreneurs
- Stakeholders
- Functional departments in a business
- Marketing a business
- Business finance
- E-commerce
- Factors that affect business
- Training and motivating employees



What skills will you focus on?

This course will focus on the following technological skills:

- Curiosity and problem solving skills
- A capacity to work with others and take initiative
- Planning and organisational skills
- Skills in collaborating, leading and interacting with others
- Discussion and debate
- Researching and retrieving information to inform thinking
- Presentation skills

What will be expected of you?

The pupils will be expected to participate in all activities. Pupils will take responsibility for their own work and homework must be completed on time. They must work to the best of their ability in order to achieve their potential.



Computing and Digital Solutions

Delivered by Computing Department

What will you do?

Pupils will develop a wide range of computing based skills which will allow them to create and develop digital solutions.

Pupils will learn computer programming skills within a variety of development environments.

Pupils will learn about games design theory and create media assets. This will allow pupils to develop their own computer games. Pupils will also further develop their web design skills by creating professional web pages.

Another focus of the course is investigating and using many different computer hardware devices alongside creating and editing multimedia projects.

Many of the computing skills that are developed can then be transferred into other areas of the curriculum.

What will you learn?

The course will be divided into the following areas:

- Software Development
- Web Design
- Computer Systems
- Database Development
- Games Development
- Cyber Security
- Multimedia



What skills will you focus on?

- Curiosity and problem solving skills
- A capacity to work with others and take initiative
- Planning and organisational skills
- Creativity and innovation
- Evaluating products and systems
- Presentation skills.
- Researching and retrieving information to inform thinking

What will be expected of you?

Pupils are expected to be creative and able to work well as part of a small group.

Pupils are expected to problem solve in a group and also as an independent learner. Pupils will be expected to present information in different ways.



Design and Manufacture.

Delivered by the DET department.



What will you do?

Design and Manufacture is a course designed to help you develop skills in problem-solving and prototype manufacture. You will learn about the design process, ideation, iteration, and model-making. It is a broad course covering a lot of knowledge. The four topic areas you will cover will be measuring and marking out, design thinking, manufacturing, and safety to prepare for the courses at qualification level.

What will you learn?

- How to critically evaluate designs and products
- Using a range of research techniques
- Product sustainability
- Planning for prototyping and manufacture
- Using graphic techniques to communicate ideas
- Understanding material properties
- CAD/CAM technologies



What skills will you focus on?

- Creativity and innovation
- Presenting information
- Researching and retrieving information
- Planning and organising
- Curiosity and problem solving
- Practical wood/metal/plastic skills



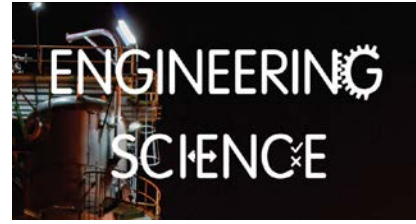
What will be expected of you?

You will be expected to solve design problems by designing a solution that can be made to manufacture through developing creative ideas and communicating these through a variety of media. You will have to be open to exploring and developing your ideas and not afraid to make changes. To do this, we expect you to fully engage in the activities in class and work with your classmates and teacher to embrace the challenges and problem solving within your designs. Compliance with health and safety is essential. Most importantly, we would like you to have fun and enjoy each lesson, working with us to explore new ideas.



Engineering Science.

Delivered by: the DET department.

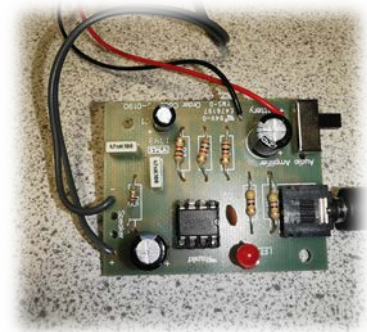


What will you do?

Engineering Science brings the practical application of physics and mathematics to the world of creativity and problem-solving. Pupils learn about various scientific principles and different branches of engineering. The four topic areas you will cover will be electronics, mechanisms and structures, programmable control and systems and sub-systems to prepare for the courses at qualification level.

What will you learn?

- How to design and build solutions
- Problem solving practical skills
- Digital/electronic control systems simulation
- Simple calculations using a formulae
- Testing solutions against a specification
- System diagrams production



What skills will you focus on?

- Key practical skills
- Organisational skills
- Deductive and problem-solving skills
- Team working skills
- The ability to apply scientific knowledge to understand and to look at solutions to modern day issues and problems



What will be expected of you?

You will be expected to solve engineering problems by designing a solution that can be programmed or simulated through developing creative solutions and communicating these through a variety of systems. You will have to build on some science experiences and outcomes, prior learning in mathematics and numeracy and aspects of technological developments in society. To do this, we expect you to fully engage in the class work and most importantly, we would like you to have fun and enjoy each lesson, working with us to explore new ideas.



Graphic Communication.

Delivered by: the CDT department

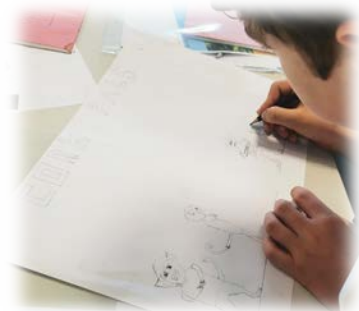


What will you do?

In *Graphic Communication* you will cover everything from graphic design and architecture to photo realistic rendering and *CAD/CAM*. There are a huge range of skills developed in this course and great design and engineering knowledge. The four topic areas you will cover will be technical graphics, graphic design, rendering and sketching to prepare for the courses at qualification level.

What will you learn?

- How to critically analyse and evaluate graphics
- A range of computer software
- Sustainability in digital media and print
- Planning for 3D design and modelling
- Communicating ideas graphically
- British standards and conventions



What skills will you focus on?

- Using *CAD* software
- Use of desktop publishing software
- Technical graphics
- Sketching
- Rendering
- Graphic Design



What will be expected of you?

You will be expected to produce a folio of work that requires creativity and specialist skills that you will learn throughout the year. To do this, you will need to demonstrate independence and resilience and be willing to learn how to solve graphical problems. *Graphic Communication* allows you to be innovative and imaginative with design and computer work and you should choose it if this holds interest to you. Most importantly, we would like you to have fun and enjoy each lesson, working with us to explore your creativity.



Home Economics

Delivered by Home Economics Department

What will you do?

Pupils will develop a wide range of preparation techniques and processes to make items using specialist skills. Pupils will learn about the functions and properties of ingredients and equipment. Pupils will be able to show creativity in planning and designing food items and gain an awareness of the factors influencing design.

What will you learn?

- Food Preparation Techniques
- Cookery Processes
- Food Hygiene
- Nutrition
- Packaging and Labelling
- Food Product Development



What skills will you focus on?

- Curiosity & Problem Solving
- Capacity to work with others
- Planning and Organisation
- Decision Making
- Evaluating
- Presenting Information

What will be expected of you?

Pupils are expected to be creative and be able to work well individually as well as part of a small group. Pupils are expected to show an understanding of the skills and techniques used in both theory and practical lessons. Pupils must be safety conscious when using machinery and specialist equipment and respect their learning environment.

Creating and Developing Art & Design Techniques



What will you do?

The aim of the course is to help pupils acquire the skills and knowledge associated with the creative process. Pupils will experience a wide range of expressive and design techniques which will enable them to become confident in producing and presenting work. The course will cover a mixture of practical and critical work.

What will you learn?

- Drawing Techniques (including Scaling work, drawing from life and proportion)
- Composition (pupils will explore the importance of considering composition in their work)
- How to use materials (Such as; paint, pencil, oil pastel and many more)
- The Design Process
- How to examine the work of other artists
- Presentation skills
- Evaluation
- Visual Elements
- Respond to a design brief
- 3D work

What skills will you develop?

Throughout the course pupils will develop the following skills: Drawings skills, observational skills, composition, confident understanding of all the visual elements, responding to a design brief, 3D work, Design process, Critical thinking and analysis of own work and work of others.

What will be expected of you?

It is the aim of the Art and Design Department that all pupils have a positive experience of art and that all pupils reach their potential. Pupils will be expected to participate in all activities and will be asked to take responsibility for their own learning. Pupils will often be asked to work independently in order to allow for creativity and therefore pupils should ensure that their contribution to group work is always positive. Homework must be completed on time and to the best of your ability.

Creating and Performing Music

Delivered by Music Staff



What will you do?

This course is mainly practical and will focus on developing your performance skills on two instruments. You will explore a wide variety of musical styles, instruments and technologies through developing skills in 3 key areas of performing, composing using music technology and understanding music.

What will you learn?

- Performing and practising skills.
- How to improvise.
- Understanding composition skills by analysing a range of music and learning musical terms.
- Evaluation of your own and others performance.
- How to create music by recording using computer technology, using digital effects and processes and understanding music software.

What skills will you develop?

Throughout the course pupils will develop skills in their chosen instruments/voice by playing a range of music as part of a class band and by learning independently. Additionally, skills and confidence in creating music using technology to record, store and progress ideas will be developed through a range of projects including Pop and Commercial music, The History of Classical Music, Film music and Minimalism.

What will be expected of you?

The Music Department aims for all pupils to have a positive and fun experience in Music lesson. Pupils will be expected to participate in all activities and will be asked to take responsibility for their own learning by developing planning and problem solving skills. Pupils will often be asked to work independently as part of the practising process and will be expected to develop a weekly practise routine at home. Homework must be completed on time and to the best of your ability.

Creating and Presenting Drama

Delivered by Drama Staff



What will you do?

The aim of the course is to help pupils acquire a range of transferable skills and knowledge associated with the creative process. Pupils will experience a wide range of drama activities which will help build confidence, co-operative skills and problem solving. Through the process of creating and presenting roles and situations, pupils will gain a greater understanding of people and relationships. The course will be taught through a balance of practical and theoretical activities designed to help pupils develop their creativity.

What will you learn?

- Responding to a range of stimuli
- The devising process
- Improvisation
- Role Play
- Characterisation
- Theatre Arts & Technology e.g. lighting, costume, set, hair and make-up
- Drama form and structure
- Presentation skills
- Evaluation

What skills will you develop?

Throughout the course pupils will develop the following transferable skills: negotiation; using imagination; discussion; listening; concentration; problem solving; developing ideas; voice production; observation and evaluation; initiating ideas; role play; characterisation; knowledge and understanding of technical elements of drama.

What will be expected of you?

It is the aim of the Drama Department that all pupils have a positive experience of drama and that all pupils reach their potential. Pupils will be expected to participate in all activities and will be asked to take responsibility for their own learning. Pupils will often be asked to work independently in order to allow for creativity and therefore pupils should ensure that their contribution to group work is always positive. Homework must be completed on time and to the best of your ability.



Creative Arts

Delivered by Art/Music/Drama Staff

Who is this course for?

The purpose of this course is to provide an alternative expressive arts experience for those pupils who do not wish to select any of the subject specific Expressive Arts courses in S3.

What will you do?

The aim of the course is to help pupils acquire the skills and knowledge associated with the creative process. Pupils will experience a wide range of creative activities within the arts which will help build confidence, co-operative skills and problem solving. The course will cover a mixture of Art & Design, Drama and Music through practical and critical work project work. The pupils will receive one lesson per week in each subject covering linked course content.

What will you learn?

- Art Techniques
- Drama Techniques
- Music Techniques
- The Creative Process
- The Design Process
- Responding to a design brief
- Using digital technology
- Presentation skills
- Evaluation



What skills will you develop?

Throughout the course pupils will develop the following skills in negotiation; using imagination; creative thinking; discussion; listening; concentration; problem solving; developing ideas; knowledge and understanding of technical elements of creative arts.

What will be expected of you?

It is the aim of this course that all pupils have a positive experience of the expressive arts and that all pupils reach their potential. Pupils will be expected to participate in all activities and will be asked to take responsibility for their own learning. Homework must be completed on time and to the best of your ability.

Power and Society

Delivered by Modern Studies

What will you do?

In this course you will examine a variety of topics and issues and how they relate to society today. You will work towards developing your skills of investigating issues, making informed decisions based on evidence and comparing and contrasting how these issues affect countries differently across the world. The topics we will look at as a class are power, nuclear weapons, crime and punishment and the developing world. Furthermore, you will be able to explore an issue of your choice to find out the causes, consequences and solutions of that issue.



What will you learn?

While examining these different topics these are examples of key questions you will explore:

- Who holds the power in current day society?
- How can you make a change in society today?
- What impact do nuclear weapons have in the world?
- Should the UK keep their nuclear weapons?
- Should we use the death penalty?
- What makes an effective prison system?
- How does life compare between developed and developing countries?



What skills will you develop?

- Knowledge and understanding of the causes, consequences and solutions to different issues affecting current society.
- The ability to research effectively
- The ability to use various sources of information to make evidenced judgements about issues
- Verbal, written and ICT based communication skills
- Critical thinking - the ability to think deeply about issues
- A sense of citizenship by being more aware of what is happening in the UK and wider world today.

What will be expected of you?

You will be expected to participate fully in all activities to make the most of the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills which will be of a huge benefit across other areas of the school and as you move up to the senior phase. You should come to class with an open mind and be prepared to have your views challenged and challenge the views of others in an appropriate manner. You will need to become more responsible for your own learning as you carry out research projects and work independently and as a part of groups.

Our Changing Earth

The End of the World as we know it?

Delivered by Geography Staff

What will you do?

This course will continue to develop and build upon knowledge and geographical skills which have been taught in S1 and S2. The course covers aspects of human and physical geography as well as addressing global issues such as climate change and globalisation. The course aims to develop independent thinking about issues which have influenced change across the Earth, both past and present, and encourages a sense of citizenship by examining our role in the future of our planet.

What will you learn?

The course will be divided into the following units:

- **Geoskills**- Learn how to read OS maps and pick up new skills using online mapping tools such as *digimap* and *Google earth*. Become a geo-detective and learn new field work skills.
- **Rock your world**- Learn about how landscapes were formed by powerful natural forces. Find out how humans use landscapes to their advantage and how human activity can put landscapes at risk.
- **Food for thought**- Have you ever thought about where we get our food from or the impact of food production on the environment? Why do we trade? Is all trade *fair*? How much do we rely on other countries for the things we need to survive?
- **What will our future be like?** - Learn about why climates are changing. What impact will climate change have on global environments and human activity? How can we live more carefully so that we can protect the earth for the future?
- **Urban jungle**- By comparing Scotland with Brazil, you will investigate how cities are different, how population is changing, the challenges of city life, development and sustainable living.
- **Tourism**- explore where countries are found around the world and consider important elements of planning, booking and going on holiday. This unit will examine case studies of different holiday destinations and explore the impact tourism has on these places.

What skills will you develop?

Pupils who choose this course will develop:

- An understanding of the changes that have taken place on Earth in the past, present and future
- Research skills using a range of sources, including experience of geographical field work
- Map skills which will help you to interpret physical and human landscapes
- Ability to read and interpret charts and diagrams
- Communication skills - verbal, written, ICT based
- The ability to draw conclusions based on evidence
- Literacy skills, particularly reading and writing
- A sense of citizenship by examining the impact humans have had on Earth and the changes which need to be made in the future
- Thinking skills - you will be encouraged to think deeply about major issues like sustainability.



Revolution, Conflict and Peace

Delivered by the History Department

What will you do?

The course will be based on a series of 'big questions'. These will ask you about some of the central issues in the study of World War One and its aftermath, and the rise of the Nazi party. You will also examine the causes of the Cold War and the key historical conflicts that occurred during this period. You will be searching for answers to these questions and you will gather evidence, debate your theories and ideas, expand your knowledge, and ultimately use your own judgement to arrive at an answer for each question.

What will you learn?

The questions you will investigate on this course include:

- ☆ Why did the World go to war in 1914?
- ☆ What was it like to be a soldier in WW1?
- ☆ Why was the peace reached in 1918 not sustainable?
- ☆ How was Hitler able to come to power?
- ☆ How did people try to stop the Nazis?
- ☆ What caused the Cold War?
- ☆ Why was the Cold War different to previous conflicts?

What skills will you develop?

Pupils who choose this course will develop:

- knowledge and understanding of the causes and effects of major historical events
- the ability to research effectively
- the ability to compare and evaluate historical sources.
- communication skills - verbal, written, and ICT based
- the ability to draw conclusions based on evidence
- literacy skills, particularly reading and writing
- a sense of citizenship by examining Scotland's place within the UK and the wider world
- thinking skills - you will be encouraged to think deeply about major issues



Cultural Studies

Delivered by the RMPS department

What will you do?

This course is designed to engage you in philosophical enquiry and creative thought through investigating a number of issues in society today. You will gain confidence in discussion, asking questions and reflecting upon your own values and viewpoints as well as take part in practical activities.

What will you learn?

The course is divided into the following units:

- Japanese Culture and Belief - You will explore aspects of Japanese culture including rituals, daily life, beliefs and history. By comparing culture in Japan to other cultures you will consider if the term 'religion' is helpful at describing non-Western societies.
- Religion, Ritual and Sport - You will consider your own responses to challenges and opportunities presented by Scotland's religious and cultural diversity through sport. You will enquire into issues relating to sectarianism, racism, sexism, homophobia and barriers within the sporting industry.
- Gender and Identity - You will consider issues relating to representation such as: What defines us? What is the relationship between gender and societal roles? How is gender understood? What issues do the LGBT+ community face? How do religions respond to issues of gender and identity?
- Philosophy - Philosophical enquiry runs throughout this course, however in this unit you will have the chance to explore some of life's Big Questions such as 'where did we come from?' and 'what is our purpose?'
- Spirited Arts Competition - In this project based unit you will gain knowledge about social justice and discrimination and the role art plays in activism and expression.
- The Edit - In this project based unit you will explore how you can use your voice for change. You will develop your digital literacy skills as you take on a role in creating a 90 second video news report exploring current issues.

What skills will you develop?

- Enquiry skills - the ability to think critically and deeply about issues and how to ask effective questions
- Empathy - the ability to understand another's situation, perception or feelings from their point of view
- Reflection - examination of one's own beliefs and judgements
- Communication skills - the ability to engage in conversation and debate through asking questions and sharing your own views
- Literacy skills - analysis, evaluation and synthesis
- Digital Literacy - creative and communication skills through the use of digital technologies

Sports Academy

Delivered by the Physical Education Department

What will you do?

Our new and improved Sports Academy course in S3 is very much practical in nature, with a focus on physical performance and functional skills in the areas of sport and fitness. Pupils' will experience a blended approach to the assessment of their performance, combining Level 4 outcomes in Physical Education and SCQF Level 5 outcomes in Sport and Fitness. A range of practical activities will be undertaken throughout the year and pupils will learn to analyse and evaluate their own and other's performance in detail. Learners will develop their analytical skills in identifying performance strengths and weaknesses before investigating ways to develop performance through appropriate practice and training methods. Pupils will be introduced to the principles of coaching and structured opportunity will be provided to lead others within a sporting context.

What will you learn?

- How physical fitness can impact on performance.
- How to improve your skill level in team, individual and aesthetic activities.
- How to analyse and evaluate the impact that various personal qualities and cognitive skills have on performance.
- How to take on a variety of roles/responsibilities which allow you to contribute effectively to a team performance, including coaching skills.

What will be expected of you?

Pupils will be required to come prepared for and engage in all activities covered in the course. You will be expected to work with all other pupils in the class and try sporting and fitness activities that may be unfamiliar to you in line with our PE department motto: 'attitude is more important than ability'.

This course is ideal for those pupils considering a career in the fields of sports and fitness, as well as for those looking to improve their physical competencies, cognitive skills and leadership skills.

French.

What will you do?

Pupils will be offered the opportunity to continue studying this language. Pupils will continue to develop an understanding of how this language works and use language to communicate ideas and information. They will also gain a greater awareness and understanding of other cultures.

What will you learn?

The following topics will be studied:

- Environment - environmental issues including deforestation, plastic pollution and fast fashion and what we can do to help
- Film Unit - analysis of the French film "Bienvenue a Marly-Gomont"
- Your Future - future plans, importance of languages, gap year, further education options and developing partnerships with local businesses

What skills will you develop?

Pupils will develop skills in listening, talking, reading and writing which are essential for learning, life and work. This will be done through the use of different media for effective learning and communication.

What will be expected of you?

Learning a language is a process that requires dedication, work and time. Pupils will be expected to practice and learn set language regularly at home, as well as revise important grammar points. They will work in individual, paired and group situations and build up awareness of life in another society and of the issues facing citizens in the countries where French is spoken.



Italian

What will you do?

Pupils will be offered the opportunity to take this language as a beginner. Pupils will begin to develop an understanding of how this language works and use language to communicate ideas and information. They will also gain a greater awareness and understanding of other cultures.

What will you learn?

The following topics will be studied:

- Basics - greetings and introductions, numbers, dates, time, colours, family members
- Food - Italian eating habits and diet vs Scottish eating habits and diet, foods and food groups
- Film and Television - analysis of the Italian film "La vita è bella" and IDL project with History
- Citizenship - politics, gang culture and IDL project with Modern Studies

What skills will you develop?

Pupils will develop skills in listening, talking, reading and writing which are essential for learning, life and work. This will be done through the use of different media for effective learning and communication.

What will be expected of you?

Learning a language is a process that requires dedication, work and time. Pupils will be expected to practice and learn set language regularly at home, as well as revise important grammar points. They will work in individual, paired and group situations and build up awareness of life in another society and of the issues facing citizens in the countries where Italian is spoken.



Media

To be clear - this is not an easy option of simply watching films.



What you will do?

- Study many forms of media - including advertising, films, trailers, printed news etc.
- Create your own film which involves: planning, audience research, storyboarding, scripting, shooting and editing your finished project.

What will you learn?

- To analyse and create media content as appropriate to purpose and audience.
- Basic knowledge of the key aspects of media literacy, as appropriate to content.
- The role of media within society.
- Basic knowledge of contextual factors, constraints and freedoms that affect producers of media content.

Where could this course take me?

This is a useful course to prepare for National Five Media and Higher - both of which are qualifications accepted in creative industries - one of the fastest growing job sectors in the UK.

What will be expected of you?

The pupils will be expected to participate in all activities. Pupils will have responsibility for their own work and homework must be completed on time. They must work to the best of their ability in order to achieve their potential. But also, to be creative, have fun and be open to learning new skills.



Name:	Class:	House:
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The S3 curriculum consists of core elements which every pupil will study during S3. The core subjects and period allocations can be seen below:

English (L)	Maths (M)	Science (S)	Modern Language (L)	Sport and Physical Activity	R.M.E	P.S.E.
4+1 periods	4 periods	4 periods	2 periods	3 periods	1 period	1 period

Specialisation and Choice

Please choose your 4 areas of specialised study from the table below. You must include 1 choice from each of the curricular areas: **T**echnologies, **H**umanities and **E**xpressive Arts. Your fourth choice could be a second course from any of these curricular areas or you may wish to choose from the Media, Sports Academy, French or Italian options. You can therefore choose a maximum of 2 subjects from any curricular area. Each subject is allocated 3 periods per week.

Curricular Area	Code
English & Languages	L
Mathematics	M
Technologies	T
Sciences	S
Humanities	H
Expressive Arts	E

You will soon be asked to enter your 4 preferred subjects into TOOLS via an online link along with 1 additional subject as a Reserve. This Reserve will be kept as a backup preference in case we cannot accommodate your initial subject requests. Your 4 subject choice requests and reserve must be entered before the deadline of 11th February 2022 otherwise you may miss out on your preferred choices.

Course option	Code	Course option	Code
Administration & Information Technology	T	Creating & Developing Art & Design Techniques	E
Business in Society	T	Creating & Performing Music	E
Computing & Digital Solutions	T	Creating & Presenting Drama	E
Design & Manufacture	T	Creative Arts	E
Engineering Science	T	Power & Society	H
Graphic Communication	T	Our Changing Earth	H
Home Economics	T	Revolution, Conflict & Peace	H
		Cultural studies	H
Italian		French	
Sports Academy		Media	