

**KIRKWALL GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

# **S2 into S3 Options**



**A GUIDE TO CHOOSING SUBJECTS**

# **2026**

# INTRODUCTION

Dear Student

You are coming to the stage in your education where you will be asked to make important choices.

The courses you choose now are the ones you will follow for the next year. It is very important that you think very seriously about your choices, as you will only be able to "drop" two subjects from S3 to S4.

This is your course choice booklet. It contains information on all the subjects you can choose from.

Whatever your career ambitions are, you'll probably end up changing your mind lots of times before you find the right job for you. That's why it is important to choose a broad range of subjects and courses now. Most pupils will follow 8 courses in S3 and will then streamline these to 6 courses in S4 when you will undertake courses in the National Qualifications at either level 4 or 5.

You will not normally be able to take a course in S4 that you have not studied in S3. You must also ensure that you choose at least five subjects you can study through to Higher Grade in S5. Your Guidance teacher will help you with this. You can also ask advice from your House Head, myself or any other member of staff.

We hope you find this booklet helpful in arriving at a good choice of courses for S3. You will also find useful information about course choice and progression on the following websites:

[www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)

[www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net)

Other useful links can be found in the Pupil Zone 'Career and Education' section of [www.kgsorkney.com/](http://www.kgsorkney.com/)

Best wishes for your future success.

Mr A Harvey  
Depute Headteacher

## **S3 COURSES**

A Third Year Course at Kirkwall Grammar School will consist of the following courses. It is not compulsory to choose a course from each broad area other than English and Maths:

### **SUBJECT**

English

Mathematics

Science subjects

Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics

Social Subjects

Geography  
History  
Modern Studies  
RMPS

Modern Languages

Spanish  
French

Expressive arts

Music  
Music Technology  
Drama  
Art and Design  
PE

Technologies

Admin and IT  
Business Management  
Creative Thinking  
Practical Craft Skills  
Food Technology  
Graphic Communication  
Computing Science

There will be 8 subjects studied in total.

This accounts for 26 periods of your week. The remaining periods are taken up with core subjects such as Personal and Social Education, Religious and Moral Education, S3 Wider Achievement and Physical Education. Pupils will also study Modern Languages for 1 period in S3 as part of the 1 plus 2 Modern Languages initiative.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

We will try to offer you the courses you have opted for. However, it may not always be possible to offer every combination of subjects. Sometimes too many or too few students choose a particular course and sometimes timetabling is not possible due to staffing and accommodation restrictions. S2 into S3 options are a free choice other than Maths and English. However, it is recommended that students choose at least 1 subject choice from each Curriculum Area.



# OPTIONS CALENDAR

Here are some important dates:

12 January 2026 PSE	S2 into S3 options open. Pupils receive practice options sheets in PSE
30 January 2026	S2 into S3 options close

## More Details

To ensure that you choose a course best suited to your ability and interests, and one which will provide you with the qualifications for careers you may have in mind, we take a great deal of care to provide advice and information for pupils, as follows:

### 1. Individual Advice to Pupils

In S2 pupils will be given careers advice as well as an individual interview by their Guidance teacher if required. If Parents/Carers need further advice then Guidance staff will be happy to arrange a meeting time to discuss options.

### 2. Reserve Choice

Please remember to indicate two reserve choices on your option sheet. If your choices don't completely match up with the timetable your Guidance Teacher will discuss with you some alternative choice(s). Parents will be informed if any changes are made. Guidance teachers will also be available to speak with parents if necessary.

Once again we would stress that wherever possible you will be allocated the courses for which you have opted. Where this is not possible, for whatever reason, you will be informed and other options will be discussed

## **SUBJECT CHOICE AND CAREERS**

While today's careers and courses are more flexible in terms of entry requirements than they have ever been, there are still some important features of subject choice in relation to particular jobs or career areas. In general, the more definite you are about your future occupation the more you should seek detailed advice from your Careers Adviser and Guidance teacher.

**If you are planning a career in any of the following areas, medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, languages, architecture, physiotherapy or other medical/health related careers, music, art and design or the merchant navy you should definitely check entry requirements at this stage.**

Where you are not sure of your future career aspirations there are still some general rules to bear in mind when choosing subjects. It may be helpful to think of combinations of subjects rather than each subject in isolation. For example, if you are interested in engineering it would be wise to consider the sciences (especially Physics) and Technological Subjects along with Maths. If you are interested in languages you might consider taking a second Modern Language and extra Social Subjects.

Remember that you may have to take subjects that are not necessarily your favourites but because your future career may require it. Also, it is sometimes a good strategy to take subjects you are good at but may not like best because the career you are going for requires you to have good grades in a group of subjects.

Finally, if in doubt, always check with your Careers Adviser or Guidance Teacher because, subject requirements for careers and courses are constantly changing and you need to have the latest information - do not rely on "hearsay" or how it was when your older brother, sister or parents were at school.

## **NOTES ON THE OPTION FORM**

- 1 All of you will study English and Maths.
- 2 A small group of you will be identified and invited to follow a skills course by the Curriculum Support Department. This will be agreed between yourselves, your parents, Curriculum Support Staff and your Guidance Teacher.
- 3 A very small number of you will have your own individualised timetable. This will be agreed between yourselves, your parents, Guidance Staff and Curriculum Support Staff.
- 4 If you have any questions, write them down and ask your Guidance Teacher or House Head.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### ENGLISH PT Mrs H Spence

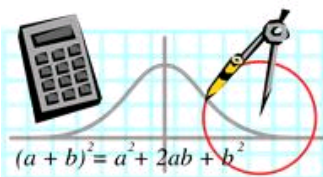
S3 English will develop your skills in Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening.



You will cover a range of texts from factual articles right through to novels, poetry, drama and even film. The aim is to develop your ability to understand increasingly more detailed and complex texts, to ensure you have the literacy skills you require, whatever career path you take.

You will also build on your writing skills, producing many different types of writing for different purposes and audiences. We also develop your ability to communicate in different ways through a variety of listening and talking activities, including group discussion, debate and presentations.

### MATHEMATICS PT



Mathematics plays an important role in many career pathways. Learning mathematics will provide opportunities to pursue further studies and interests in areas such as maritime, engineering, computing science, medicine and finance. Studying mathematics will develop problem solving and logical thinking skills that are useful in any career.

The S3 curriculum will consolidate and develop key skills in Numeracy, Algebra, Geometry, Finance and Statistics required for success in the National Qualifications: Mathematics or Applications of Mathematics.



## EXPRESSIVE

### ART AND DESIGN

PT Mrs Watson

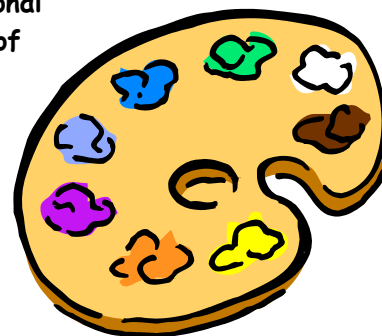
Our lives are made better by good design whether it is in everyday products, graphics, fashion & textiles, jewellery or interior & exterior spaces. Pupils who choose Art & Design in S3 will be given the opportunity to experience a range of creative activities such as working with 2D and 3D materials and print-making.

You will work through Expressive projects that will further develop traditional drawing skills using a variety of materials. You might work on the theme of Portraiture, Still Life, Landscape or the Built Environment for example. You will also work in the area of Design where you will develop problem-solving skills while learning how to work through design briefs individually and as part of a group in the Paper Costume Challenge project.

You will improve your ability to describe and analyse your own work and develop an appreciation of aesthetics and cultural values through learning about the work of artists and designers.

The Art & Design course in S3 develops the skills and knowledge required for further study in S4-S6 and future careers, which require creative problem-solving skills, good communication skills, all areas of Visual Arts and all areas of Design including Architecture.

Pupils will be supported and assessed throughout S3 and at the end of the course.



## DRAMA

PT Mrs C Slade

The S3 Drama course is very practical and focuses on the development of performance skills using theatre arts, production skills and technologies to create drama. Pupils will be working closely with others in group tasks, building skills in cooperation and teamwork.

As you develop practical skills in performing, you will also develop cultural awareness of drama and theatre arts. You will investigate and reflect on how the use of self-expression, language and movement can develop dramatic ideas. You will develop problem-solving and critical thinking skills as you explore and develop dramatic techniques. You will also investigate theatre arts using production skills and technologies to design, create and enhance your performance and the performances of others.



Each piece of practical work will build an overall understanding of your progress and assessment will be ongoing and formative, supporting learning and next steps throughout the session. The Drama course in S3 develops the skills and knowledge required for further study in S4-S6 and future careers in the Creative Industries.

# MUSIC

## Mr Harvey



S3 Music will continue to deliver the Experiences and Outcomes of Expressive Arts developing the skills required for SQA presentations in S4 and S5.

S3 Music will develop pupils' skills in Performing, Composing and Understanding Music. Our aim is to continue building on standards reached at the end of S2. Pupils will learn to how to understand music of different styles.

You will develop skills on your preferred instruments by performing, composing and understanding music in a variety of styles. You will engage in a wide variety of activities which will include both individual and ensemble work. Participation in extra-curricular activities (i.e. Choirs, Wind Band, and String Groups etc) is strongly encouraged to further your understanding and skills.

Each piece of work will build an overall understanding of your progress and assessment will be ongoing and formative, supporting learning and next steps throughout the session. The skills learned in Music during the Broad General Education during S1 to S3 will prepare pupils for certificate courses in S4-S6 (The Senior Phase).

# MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

## Mr Harvey

We are all very used to hearing recorded music in our daily lives, whether it is on the radio, mp3, CD, TV theme tune, in the supermarket or restaurants etc. All of these sounds have been produced using music technology, and involve the ever-expanding music industry to record, edit and produce the work.

This course enables learners to develop basic skills in the use of music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio. You will be introduced to a variety of methods of audio capture including (for example) using a microphone, inputting notes using a MIDI sequencing program, and recording an electric guitar directly into a computer. Once captured, the sound(s) should be manipulated and edited, using appropriate processes and effects.



Learning will be based around short demonstrations, followed by hands - on activities for the learners with the production of short radio programmes and podcasts.

The Course also enables learners to use music technology creatively in sound production and to develop an understanding of a range of 20th and 21st century music styles and genres - including ragtime, swing, skiffle, synth pop, electronica, dance music, rap, jazz, blues, rock and disco.



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PT Mr M Garson

The S3 PE course focuses on developing your performance across a range of activities. You will learn about the four factors that impact on performance (Physical, Mental, Emotional and Social) and how these can affect your performance. Through practical sessions, you will develop an understanding of methods of data collection which can be used to assess these factors as well as different training approaches that can be used to improve any weaknesses identified.



During the course we cover the following activities and topics:

- Hockey - during this block you will focus on gathering data on your performance using a range of different methods of data collection to identify strengths and weaknesses.
- Volleyball - you will gain knowledge and experience of different approaches that can be used to develop your skills.
- Basketball and badminton - during these blocks you will use the knowledge and skills gained from earlier topics in the course to make your own basic training programme.
- Trampolining - your main focus in this block is on developing skills to then complete a performance/routine.
- Fitness - you will be led through a fitness based personal development programme (PDP). Later in the year you will be tasked with planning and carrying out your own PDP.

If you are considering taking S3 PE, you should be highly motivated, always bring a change of kit and display a hard-working attitude both in Elective and core PE. The S3 PE course also involves written work and so you should be prepared to be in the classroom for some lessons and to have regular homework assignments.

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

### FRENCH/SPANISH

PT Mr B Pesci



We are thriving to offer all our S3 pupils a positive language learning experience. Through the skills of talking, listening, reading and writing we aim to enhance pupil's ability to communicate with others in a foreign language, enable them to express their thoughts, feelings and ideas with confidence. We endeavour to arm them with the knowledge of how language works and we attempt to foster cultural awareness and to assist pupils to view themselves as part of a wider European and Global community. We encourage learner independence and co-operation with others as well as highlighting the importance of language skills in the world of work.

At the end of S3 pupils can choose to continue their study of French and/or Spanish/German at National 4, National 5 or even further study at Higher or Advanced Higher levels. We try to ensure that pupils experience is enhanced by the wide range of linguistic, educational and socio-cultural opportunities afforded to pupils' outwith the classroom. Our current S3 pupils have recently embarked on an exchange project with French pupils from Dinan in Brittany and some of our pupils will get the opportunity to visit Paris in June where they will realise how relevant learning a Modern Language is.

### FRENCH/SPANISH (As a second language)

Starting a second language in S3 will build on language learning skills acquired during previous study of French or Spanish. During the course of the year these skills will be developed to the level whereby a learner will be equipped to embark on a national 4/5 course in the senior phase for certification at national level 4 or 5.

Initially the focus will be on basic grammar, communication skills and building pupil's confidence in the language. Pupils will study varied topics such as leisure activities, health, media and employability. From module 2 onwards, pupils will be encouraged to work more independently, express personal opinions in spoken and written form and to hone their presentation skills. By the end of S3 pupils should also have a good knowledge of nouns, use of adjectives, punctuation and the present tense of regular and irregular verbs. The learning of new languages provides the opportunity for learners to reflect on their first language and actively seek comparisons between the features of their first and second languages.



Pupils will engage in a wide variety of activities designed to further skills not only in Spanish/French/German but also in general understanding of language and communication. Assessment will be formative and designed to demonstrate what they have learned and enable them to decide their next steps. It is important for the Scottish nation's prosperity that young people are attracted to learning a modern language. They will become confident speakers and therefore equipped with the skills needed in the new Europe and in the global marketplace. It is anticipated by the Government that Scottish pupils will be expected to learn at least two languages as well as their own language.

# SCIENCES

PT Dr E Johnston

## BIOLOGY

In Biology you will gain an understanding of yourself and the natural world in which you live. The course uses practical activity and investigation to develop your skills and knowledge.

The scope of Biology is wide and varied and covers not only the traditional study of plants and animals but also areas such as Molecular Biology and Biotechnology which have clear relevance to modern society.

The following broad topics will be covered in S3, developing knowledge and skills for National Qualification courses in the senior phase:

- Multicellular Organisms
- Cell Biology
- Life on Earth

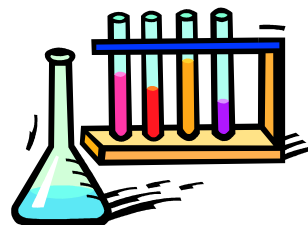


## CHEMISTRY

In Chemistry you will study the elements that make up matter, their properties and some of the substances they form when they react together. This course looks at the application of Chemistry in everyday life and includes practical experiments, discussions, demonstrations, and group work that all help to stimulate interest and develop skills. Many careers make use of Chemistry, directly through knowledge of chemicals themselves, and indirectly through transferrable skills such as investigation, problem solving and communication.

The following broad topics will be covered in S3, developing knowledge and skills for National Qualification courses in the senior phase:

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

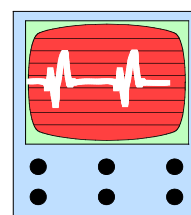


## PHYSICS

In Physics you will study how things around us work, from electric motors to the universe and the particles that make up atoms. Many careers make use of Physics from construction and engineering to architecture and medicine. Physics has many applications and is important in the development and production of technology used in telecommunications and computing.

The following broad topics will be covered in S3, developing knowledge and skills for National Qualification courses in the senior phase:

- Electricity and Energy
- Waves & Radiation
- Dynamics and Space



# SOCIAL STUDIES

PT Mr N Ewing

## GEOGRAPHY

S3 Geography will develop your skills in understanding, investigative work and research. Our aim is to continue building upon the skills and standards reached at the end of S2. The S3 continent-based courses will provide a comprehensive understanding of the world's physical and human landscapes across different continents. These courses also explore the dynamic interactions between people, places, and environments, to develop critical thinking and analytical skills through real-world geographical contexts.

- **Physical Geography** - Study the natural processes that shape the Earth's surface, including: rivers, coasts and glaciated uplands, landforms and land use conflicts, weather and climate.
- **Human Geography** - Explore how humans interact with their environment and how societies develop, including: Developed and Developing world cities, recent developments within housing and transport, population structures and consequences.
- **Global Issues** - Investigate worldwide challenges that connect different continents and communities, including: climate change and sustainability, tourism, trade and globalisation, environmental hazards, development and health.
- **Map Skills** - Develop practical mapping skills, including: 6 figure grid references, measuring distances, interpreting contour patterns, identifying map symbols and features to describe land forms and land uses.
- **Assignment Skills** - Enhance your ability to gather data using fieldwork methods and secondary sources, and apply appropriate techniques to process and interpret your results.



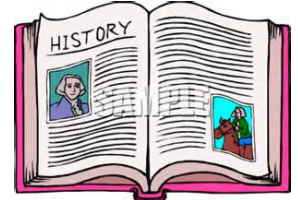
You will learn by engaging in a variety of activities designed to further your understanding and skills. This will include map and fieldwork investigative tasks, group work, critical skills tasks, as well as reporting and presentation skills. Your work will be assessed to build up a complete picture of your progression throughout S3, and prepare you for National 3, 4 and 5 courses. Assessment will be ongoing and used to support learning and next steps throughout the session.

# HISTORY

S3 History will develop your skills in Historical understanding, investigative work, research and source handling. Our aim is to continue building upon the skills and standards reached at the end of S2.

There are three main areas of study:

- **World War One (1914 - 1918)** - You will examine the causes of the war, recruitment, changing military technology, the experience of trench warfare, the home front and undertake research on different battles of WW1.
- **Hitler and Nazi Germany 1919-1939** - In this fascinating unit pupils will gain an insight into post WW1 Germany and follow the story of Adolf Hitler as he rises from veteran to dictator. This unit contains themes of political strategy and discrimination.
- **The British Empire-** You will analyse what impact Britain had on parts of the empire such as Australia and India. You will also learn about the impact the empire had on Scotland. This leads into our Migration and Empire N4/5 topic.



You will learn by engaging in a variety of activities designed to further your understanding and skills. This will include investigative work, group work, critical skills tasks as well as reporting and presentation skills. Assessment will build up a complete picture of your progression throughout S3, and prepare you for National 3, 4 and 5 courses. Assessment will be ongoing and used to support learning and next steps throughout the session.

## MODERN STUDIES

S3 Modern Studies will develop pupils' skills in understanding, investigative work, research and source handling. Our aim is to continue building upon the skills and standards reached at the end of S2. The following topics are looked at:



- **World Power** - This course examines how ideologies shape lives in China and/or the USA, focusing on political systems such as authoritarianism and democracy. We'll explore their impacts on human rights and individual freedoms, analysing how leadership styles in different nations influence governance and society. Through discussions and case studies, students will gain insights into the effects of ideology on ordinary people's lives. By the end, you'll understand how these differing ideologies define nations and affect individuals worldwide
- **Crime and the Law** - This unit explores the causes and types of crime through engaging case studies. This unit is aimed at helping students build towards National 4 and 5 level skills in analysis, decision-making and drawing conclusions while examining the factors influencing criminal behaviour. By the end, you'll gain a clearer understanding of crime's societal impact, making this a valuable exploration of the criminal justice system.
- **Pressure Groups** - Join us in exploring the dynamic world of Pressure Groups! This course dives into how citizens, particularly young people, can influence political decision-making. We'll look at inspiring movements like Fridays for Future and examine a range of case studies of groups like Greenpeace and the Scottish Youth Parliament. Through discussions and analysis, you'll gain insight into their impact on government policies. Plus, you'll have the chance to team up with classmates to create your very own Pressure Group!

Pupils will learn to recognise bias, exaggeration and selectivity as well as making and justifying decisions and conclusions. Pupils will learn by engaging in a variety of activities designed to further their understanding and skills. This will include investigative work, group work, critical skills tasks as well as reporting and presentation skills. Pupils' work will be assessed to build up a complete picture of their progression throughout S3. Assessment will be ongoing, formative and will be used to support learning and next steps throughout the session.

## RMPS

In the S3 RMPS elective, you will develop knowledge and skills in analysing and evaluating religious, moral and philosophical issues building on the topics and skills gleaned at the end of S2. Topics covered will include:



- **Crime and motivations for crime** including looking at serial killers and the brain.
- **Methods of punishment** from the past and present, including prison and the death penalty.
- **Origins of the universe and life**, exploring religious and scientific approaches.
- **Buddhist beliefs and practices** such as reincarnation and meditation.

This course gives you the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities to develop your understanding of issues that affect the world, exploring the questions they raise and the solutions or approaches they offer and gives you the opportunity for you to reflect on your own views on these important topics.

It will also develop your skills in critical thinking, analysis, evaluation and how to offer a balanced view. Your work will be assessed to build up a complete picture of your progression throughout S3 and prepare you for the National 5 course. Assessment will be ongoing and used to support learning and next steps throughout the session

# **BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY**

PT Ms L Greenwell

## **ADMINISTRATION & IT**

If you wish to present information in a professional manner, this is the subject for you. Administration plays an important role in providing the information, support and services which help organisations achieve their goals.



Administration and IT courses are unique in that pupils are given the opportunity to work towards workplace standards in an administration-related context.

The S3 course contains a significant practical component, where pupils will be using computers where they will build skills in problem-solving, organising and managing information. In addition to these practical skills, pupils will learn some background business information about the use of admin in the workplace.

Skills are developed using Microsoft programs such as:

- Word
- Spreadsheets
- Databases
- PowerPoint
- Desktop Publisher

## **BUSINESS**

In Business Management you will develop a deeper understanding of business functions through the use of practical activities and business theories. This will be taught with the use of real-life contexts. Learners will be given opportunities to be involved in learning that is designed to inspire, challenge and motivate them, as well as giving them an insight into the steps that business takes to remain competitive and successful.

Pupils will engage in practical and written activities, which will develop analytical, communication and decision-making skills. These skills should enable learners to cope more easily in our rapidly changing business environments and engage in a wide variety of activities designed to further their understanding of the business world.

Topics for study include:

- Types of business
- Sectors of Industry
- Sectors of Economy
- Sources of finance
- Stakeholders
- Marketing
- Customer Care





# COMPUTING SCIENCE

Computing Science is the study of computers and computational systems, studies range from microphones to MacBooks, and from sensors to servers. Computing Scientists deal mostly with software and software systems; this includes their theory, design, and development following a systems development lifecycle.

Principal areas of study within Computer Science include artificial intelligence, computer systems, networking, security, database systems, human computer interaction, vision and graphics, binary analysis, programming languages, software engineering, problem solving, website development and the theory of computing.

To be a Computing Science programming knowledge is essential and this course will take you from no knowledge of programming to being a capable of programming in at least 5 different languages. Although knowing how to program is essential to the study of computer science, it is only one element of the field. Computer scientists design and develop algorithms to solve programs and study the performance of computer hardware and software. The problems that computer scientists encounter range from the abstract-- determining what problems can be solved with computers and the complexity of the algorithms that solve them - to the tangible - designing solutions that perform well in real life, that are easy to use, and that uphold security measures.

The S3 Computing Science course at KGS is a blended course that offers pupils the chance to develop creativity and resilience as it covers a variety of interesting computing related topics including:

- Building skills in computational thinking
- Games design
- Hardware and software
- Databases
- How the internet works
- Website development - HTML and CSS
- Computing programming challenges
- Binary Mathematics
- Micro:Bit, IoT, and Raspberry Pi
- Problem solving
- Cyber security, hacking and cracking



©Toons4Biz \* illustrationsOf.com/7803

# **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY**

PT Mr S Woodrow

## **CREATIVE THINKING**

"Creativity is seeing what others see and thinking what no one else ever thought." - Albert Einstein



Creative thinking is a new course to the school. It will, through a series of creative projects, help pupils to harness creative skills that will be useful to build on for the rest of their lives and help to support their progress in other subjects. The focus being on how they get to their chosen end rather than the conclusion itself. The Daydream Believers Creative Thinking course has been named in the top 100 education innovations in the world this year.

This course will teach pupils to:

- 'Research'- Learn to find information to explore a problem. Demonstrate use of two or more research methods and be able to draw conclusions from the outcomes.
- 'Conceptualise' - Propose imaginative and creative concepts, which demonstrate understanding of the research outcomes.
- 'Fail & Fix' - Test and improve initial ideas. Compare, contrast and develop solutions to deal with a problem, situation, or issue.
- 'Communicate' - Independently select and use appropriate media to clearly and creatively communicate ideas and potential solutions.
- 'Evaluate' - Demonstrate creative bravery in the evaluation of independent work and show awareness of roles and potential for improvement in own practices and performance.

In this brand new S3 course we will prepare pupils for entry into the Level 5/6 (N5/Higher equivalent respectively) Creative Thinking course that we will offer from S4 onwards. For more information on the course go to this website: <https://daydreambelievers.co.uk/>

## GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

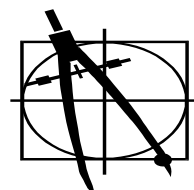
S3 graphic communication will develop pupils' skills in the use of graphic techniques. Our aim is to develop ideas and techniques in the area of graphic communication building on standards reached at the end of S2.

You will learn *Graphic Communication* in many ways ranging from how to draw geometric shapes and sketching to convey information planning. Modelling objects in a virtual environment with the use of 3D modelling software is a large part of the course and reflects the moves in the related industries to work more in augmented reality and simulation.

You will develop skills in the use of instruments, software, print media designed to aid communication in a visual way and how these *Graphic Communication* technologies impact upon our environment and society. You will engage in a series of projects designed to build skills in 2D, 3D and pictorial drawing.

You will use:

- Manual drawing instruments (pencils etc)
- Colour media (rendering markers, colouring pencils etc)
- Computer software (Desktop publishing, 3D modelling etc)



In a various range of activities designed to develop your understanding and skills. Each piece of work will build an overall understanding of your progress. The work done in third year will vary in levels but at times pupils will be given tasks at both N4 and N5 level, this will both prepare pupils for the coming years and also give the department an understanding of appropriate levels should the student take the subject at certificate level.

## FOOD TECHNOLOGY

In S3 pupils build upon their cooking skills gained in S2, further developing food preparation techniques, cookery processes and organisational skills. Alongside the practical work pupils further develop their knowledge of Food Hygiene, Nutrition and Health and learn new skills and techniques that are associated with Food and its production, e.g. sensory analysis, functions of ingredients in recipes and uses of a range of equipment. This is done through theory lessons each week



The course aims to prepare pupils for the National 4 and 5 courses available in S4-S6.

Pupils are required to provide a suitable container to transport products made home. This forms part of the organisational element of the course and pupils homework. Recipes are available from their class teacher one week in advance.

## PRACTICAL CRAFT

S3 Practical Craft will develop pupils' skills in using a range of tools in both wood and metal. Our aim is to enable learners to be confident and safe in the workshop, while building upon standards reached at the end of S2.



You will learn to select and use the correct tools for a given task, experience a range of hand and machine processes including marking out, fabrication skills and thermal joining in metal and cutting and fitting joints in wood.

You will engage in a series of individual Project tasks while also being taught the appropriate theory work to understand the knowledge behind the use of tools, machines and materials. Each piece of work will build an overall understanding of your progress and assessment will be ongoing and formative, supporting your learning and next steps throughout the course.

This BGE craft course will be split equally between wood and metal which will allow a greater choice in S4, depending on pupil numbers and staffing. Pupils are expected to take home projects as they finish them.

## CORE SUBJECTS

### PERSONAL AND SOCIAL EDUCATION

PSE is a taught subject which covers a range of health and wellbeing topics - aspects of planning for choices & changes, substance misuse, relationships, sexual health & parenthood, in addition to aspects of physical & emotional health. Also during PSE we invite partners to speak to pupils on relevant topical subjects such as internet safety.



### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

It is important that all pupils get exercise and given that the Scottish Executive is currently very concerned about obesity in children it is even more vital that exercise and fitness be part of the school curriculum.

### RELIGIOUS AND MORAL EDUCATION

All people have beliefs, values, attitudes and practices and this class provides a context for these to be explored and developed. Pupils will investigate moral issues of their choice from a selection provided by their teacher over the course of two years. They will do this through research, discussion, and debate. The RME department has linked with the English department to enable pupils to use the content of their RME research as the basis of the discursive writing piece required for their English portfolio in S4 at National 4 or 5 level.



#### Issues studied in S3:

Making moral decisions: Moral issues in a multi-cultural society (Islamophobia, homophobia, xenophobia)  
Applied ethics (environmental and medical ethics)  
Justice and fairness - practical applications



### MODERN LANGUAGES

Languages equip you with many of the skills needed for life, work and learning. Knowledge of a language is vital in the job market where companies operate throughout the world. When learning a foreign language you study the culture of a country which leads to a greater appreciation, respect and tolerance of how other people live; vital in today's multi-cultural society. An ability to speak the language when on holiday allows you to integrate more fully into the foreign environment. The study of a foreign language enhances social skills. Social interaction played out in the classroom can be transferred to real situations. Pupils become more confident and self-assured.

You will continue to build on the language skills you have acquired in S2, with the focus on

- Understanding language - reading and listening
- Producing language - speaking and writing

(More information on Core Modern Languages can be found in Modern Languages section of this booklet)

## **WIDER ACHIEVEMENT**

Every pupil in S3 will have one period per week of Wider Achievement. Each elective course will run for either the whole of S3 or pupils will chose two for half year blocks. The S3 Elective will extend the skills pupils have gained in S1 and S2. More detailed information about course content will be provided at assemblies before selections are made.