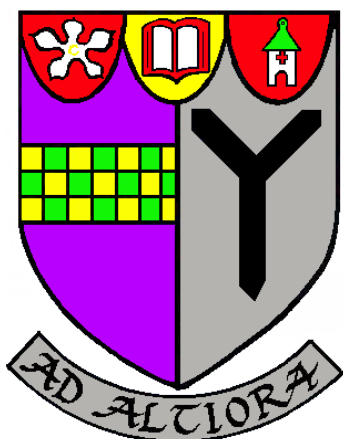


# **JAMES HAMILTON ACADEMY**

## **S5/6 PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET**

# **HOW TO PASS HIGHER.....**



**2015-16**

## CONTENTS

1. **How to help your child at home > General Advice**
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11. **History, Geography, Modern Studies**
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## CONTACT

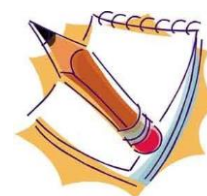
### Who to contact

School Telephone Number **01563 533221**

- Any matter relating to S5/ 6 attainment and progress → Mrs A Brownlie (Year Head) or Mrs Teale (Head Teacher)
- Particular issues relating to pastoral support → Pupil Support teacher
- Specific issues relating to subjects → Principal Teacher of the subject  
(*contact the school office and ask for the subject PT*)

## USEFUL REFERENCES

- School Website : [www.jameshamiltonacademy.co.uk](http://www.jameshamiltonacademy.co.uk) > refer to **PUPIL SECTION**:
  - Information on SQA App to support home study
  - How to pass Higher booklet > covering all James Hamilton Academy subjects in the senior school
  - Higher Revision materials (All CfE subjects)
  - S5/6 Supported Study Timetable
  - S5/6 Attainment Calendar
- [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/59033/html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/59033/html)
- Twitter: @sqanews
- Engage For Education: [www.engageforeducation.org](http://www.engageforeducation.org)
- **Parentzone** is organised into distinct and user-friendly areas covering issues that affect parents during the different stages of their children's education.  
[www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk](http://www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk)



## FURTHER INFORMATION

- A summary of relevant information and website addresses is included on page 3.



# GENERAL ADVICE

## Attendance

***Make sure your child attends school every day.*** If your child is off for 5 days they have lost one week's teaching – i.e. 30 periods.

Non-attendance is one of the biggest factors relating to poor performance at Higher level.

## Attainment Calendars

These highlight important assessment and homework dates over the session in each subject.

***Discuss this with your child and check they are preparing properly for these deadlines.***

You may wish to post this up somewhere for ease of reference.

A copy of the S5/6 Attainment Calendar is on the school website.

## Homework

Your child will have ongoing homework for each subject over the session. (Refer to the Homework summary booklet issued at the beginning of the session)

***Check your child's Homework Diary to see details and monitor their attention to this.***

At this stage pupils should be doing homework most nights which should involve at least two or three hours of work.

If you have concerns about homework, especially if they appear to have little or none, contact the school.

## Learning and Revision

Your child has a lot of learning to do for Higher courses. They have to undertake this **AS WELL AS COMPLETING ONGOING HOMEWORK TASKS.**

They should be learning / revising at home on an ongoing basis.

You can help by :

- ***Checking they are doing this***
- ***Ask to see their learning/ study plans***
- ***Helping them make a plan if they do not have one***
- ***'Testing' them on sections of work they are supposed to have learned.*** You can do this by asking them simple questions from the notes they have.

## Past Papers

Pupils use these to revise exam questions in each subject. Different departments organise these in different ways.

***Check that your child has (or can access) these for all subjects and that he / she knows how to use them and to get the work corrected.***

## Supported Study

Supported Study programmes run from the beginning of December to end of January and again from mid February until the end of March. A copy of this term's arrangement are on the school website.

***Ensure that your child signs up for all the classes on offer.***

## Easter School

This provides crucial last minute teaching just before the final exams. Pupils are able to tell teachers in advance what they want them to cover. A timetable of classes will be issued nearer the time.

***Please ensure your child attends all relevant classes.***

## Study Days

Special Study Days are organised just before the SQA exams while pupils are on Exam Leave. You will receive a letter advising you of arrangements. ***Please ensure your child attends these.***

## Additional Support

Staff offer additional support at intervals, lunchtimes and after school to support pupils outwith formal school arrangements.

If an arrangement is made with your child (i.e. he / she is told to attend) they must do so as the teacher is giving up their own time to help them overcome difficulties in the course. ***Please support staff if your are contacted regarding this.***

## Problems

***If you have any concerns about my aspect of your child's work or progress, or if you need clarification on any of the above, you should contact staff as noted on page 2.***

## General Study Websites for S5/6 pupils and parents

Many departments have listed specific websites to assist study in their own subject area. The following websites provide excellent opportunities for general and subject specific study skills, advice support, exam technique etc. and cover many of the subjects listed in the booklet.

| Website                           | Address  | Overview  |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| SCHOLAR                           | <a href="http://www.scholar.hw.ac.uk">www.scholar.hw.ac.uk</a>   | A website designed to support the Scottish Curriculum hosted by Heriot Watt University. Features online exercises, video clips, interactive quizzes, study tips and covers many subjects from Intermediate 1 to Advanced Highers. Pupils should already have logins for this but should see Mr Mitchell if this is not the case.  |
| Highland Learning                 | <a href="http://www.highlandlearning.org.uk">www.highlandlearning.org.uk</a>                           | A work in progress covering some Intermediate qualifications and Advanced Highers. Features podcasts which are downloadable free of charge. No login required   |
| GLOW                              | <a href="http://www.glowscotland.org.uk">www.glowscotland.org.uk</a>                                   | An Education Scotland resource which features many departments from James Hamilton Academy. Pupils will already have logins for this resource and should contact teachers if they cannot access the site.   |
| BBC Bitesize                      | <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/higher">www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/higher</a>                       | BBC Bitesize is a long established resource which covers most of the Higher qualifications in an engaging and interactive way involving videos, quizzes, tests and links to other reputable sites. No login required  |
| SQA                               | <a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a>   | A must for parents and pupils alike!! This website features ALL past papers and answers (FREE and downloadable), next year's exam dates, hints and tips for effective study and a parental section to fully involve parents in their child's learning. <b><u>A great site if your child claims to have no homework !</u></b> Also contains exam apps to be downloaded to android and iPhones. No login required |
| Education Scotland (Study Skills) | <a href="http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/studyskills">www.educationscotland.gov.uk/studyskills</a> | Brand new resource designed for the new curriculum, but skills covered are equally applicable to Higher and Intermediate qualifications. Select Senior Phase from the menu to link to the study skills listed. No login required.   |
| Education Scotland (Parentzone)   | <a href="http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone">www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone</a>   | Another new resource designed to support parents in their quest to support the learning of their child from 3-18, once again designed for the new curriculum but some excellent articles applicable at any time.  |

# ART, DESIGN AND FOOD TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

## What you can do to help your child

### ***HIGHER/ NATIONAL 5 ART & DESIGN***

Pupils can be supported through:

- being encouraged to spend at least 2 hours per week on practical tasks
- access to a quiet place to work with good lighting and a table or desk, so that practical drawing tasks can be completed to a good standard
- access to a computer for Design folio research tasks and Critical Studies written tasks
- access to a computer to watch YouTube demos on techniques or documentaries on artists' and designers' work.
- having access to a basic set of art materials – e.g. graded drawing pencils (2B-6B), artist quality coloured pencils; watercolour paints and brushes
- completing Critical Studies practice questions
- being encouraged to watch TV programmes relating to Art & Design.



### ***HIGHER PHOTOGRAPHY***

Pupils can be supported through:

- access to a decent quality camera
- encouragement to spend at least 2 hours per week on practical photography for their folio
- access to a computer for editing and backup of work
- access to editing software (this can be online e.g. Picassa, Pixlr etc.)
- access to a computer for written tasks
- encouragement to watch any TV programmes relating to photography
- access to photography magazines for reading and research
- visiting photography exhibitions.

### ***HIGHER/ NATIONAL 5 DIGITAL MEDIA***

Pupils can be supported through:

- access to a camera phone, camera and/or camcorder
- encouragement to spend at least 2 hours per week on practical filming/animation tasks
- access to a computer for editing and backup of work
- access to editing software - this can be Microsoft Moviemaker Live (free) or online packages
- access to the internet to use Wix software for website design
- access to a computer for research and written tasks
- being encouraged to watch TV programmes related to the course content
- being encouraged to watch and analyse films and animations.

# BUSINESS EDUCATION & IT DEPARTMENT

## HIGHER ADMINISTRATION & IT

### INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

**Attainment Calendars:** Every Higher pupil has access to the Higher AIT Attainment Calendar (via the school website). This calendar allows pupils and parents to plan ahead for tests, National Assessments, Prelims, etc. All National Assessments must be passed/completed in order to sit the final exam and gain an award.

**Homework:** The majority of homework involves answering SQA Past Papers questions. Solutions or exemplary pupil answers are provided by the teacher to help pupils prepare for the final exam. In this subject homework is issued on a Thursday (pupils are given one week to complete).

**Command Words:** At Higher level it is essential that pupils know and understand the command words which will be used in the National Assessments, Prelims and SQA Exams. For Higher Administration they must know and understand:

DESCRIBE, JUSTIFY, COMPARE, DISCUSS, CONSEQUENCES AND IMPLICATIONS  
(see the weblink below)

**Study Support:** This takes place every Monday from 3.45 pm – 4.30 pm – pupils can come along and get extra help with individual topics, homework, revision, etc. If your son/daughter is absent from school, encourage them to come to Study Support to catch up with any work missed. Easter School will operate in 2016 if there are sufficient numbers.

**Resources:** Pupils in this class have or will be issued with the following resources free of charge – they should be using them to complete homework, practice and revise:

- Textbook
- SQA Past Papers/Solutions
- Administrative Theory and Practice Powerpoints



**IT Solutions:** 70% of this course is practical and involves pupils using MS Office software. There is often a misconception that you cannot ‘study’ or ‘revise’ for this element. Pupils with access to MS Office or GLOW at home should be using their Past Papers folders and the files (which are available to download from the SQA) to prepare for the Prelim and final exam. Alternatively the department computers are available at lunchtimes, after school and during free periods.

#### What you can do to help your child

- ⇒ Study the Attainment Calendar with your child so that you know when key assessments are.
- ⇒ Encourage them to attend Study Support every Monday.
- ⇒ Check that your child is using the resources listed which are available to them.
- ⇒ Check that your child is using the Past Paper folders and files at home to prepare for the final exam

Websites:

SQA - <http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47918.html>

GLOW – <https://glow.rmunify.com>

EDUCATION SCOTLAND (Higher AIT) -

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/subjects/administration.asp>

BIZED - <http://www.bized.co.uk/>

BUSINESSEDTV - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdB8itde5Qwa4FPK\\_0Xm14w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdB8itde5Qwa4FPK_0Xm14w)

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

## HIGHER ENGLISH

### What you can do to help your child

#### Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

- Encourage your child to read articles from the broadsheets.
- Encourage your child to read.
- Discuss articles with them.
- Test (and work to improve) vocabulary.
- Assist with difficult vocabulary.
- Buy a decent dictionary.
- Test their knowledge of reading for understanding, analysis & evaluation strategies/technical vocabulary.

#### Critical Reading

- Test knowledge of the text.
- Test knowledge of quotations.

#### Writing

- Read the work they produce.
- Ask them to point out the changes they have made when redrafting.
- Discuss topical news stories/ideas for writing.

#### General

- Encourage them to watch the news and take an interest in the wider world.
- Discuss the literature studied in class.
- Encourage them to practise under exam conditions.
- Encourage attendance at Supported Study.
- Ensure homework deadlines are met.



### What your child must do

#### Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

- **Learn close reading strategies**
- **Learn how to answer :**
  - Context questions
  - Link questions
  - 'In your own words' questions
  - 'How effective?' questions
  - Word choice questions
  - Imagery questions
  - Sentence structure questions
  - Tone questions
  - Last questions
- **Learn Features of Sentence Structure :**
  - Type
  - Length
  - Order
  - Punctuation
  - Pattern
- **Read (and annotate) articles from broadsheets**
- **Learn Figures of Speech**
  - simile
  - metaphor
  - extended metaphor
  - personification
  - alliteration
  - onomatopoeia
- **Learn Technical Vocabulary**
  - paradox
  - oxymoron
  - euphemism
  - juxtaposition
  - cliché
  - contrast
  - rhetorical questions
  - ambiguity
  - irony

#### Critical Reading

- Learn literature notes.
- Create notes on plot/character/theme/setting /language as appropriate.
- Learn quotations.
- Look at critical essay questions and plan responses.

#### Writing

- Take an interest in the world around them. Topical news stories make good choices for creative writing.
- Read widely – all good writers do.

#### General

- Contribute in class – be active not passive.
- Keep up to date with homework.
- Re –do work if mark is low.
- Attend Supported Study.
- Ask for help when needed.

# MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

## *HIGHER MATHEMATICS*

### What you can do to help your child

- Go over the following information with your child
- Ensure your child has the correct equipment including Past Papers
- Ensure that all homework is completed to the best of their ability
- Ensure they **SEEK HELP** immediately if in any doubt

### Equipment required:

- Pencil, rubber, ruler and scientific calculator.
- A book of Higher Past Papers.

### The Course:

- The course is demanding.
- Pupils will learn new skills/techniques almost every day.  
(It is **essential** that pupils catch up with missed class work)
- Pupils who are experiencing difficulties should in the first instance ask their class teacher for extra support during or at the end of a lesson. If more help is needed this can usually be arranged at lunchtime or after school either with the class teacher or with Mrs Brotherwood (PT)



### Nightly Homework:

This will include

- Completion of examples from the textbook to practise skill/techniques taught that day in class.
- Completion of revision questions.
- Reading over notes.

These tasks must be completed fully for next Maths period in order to achieve potential.

### Formal Homework:

- This will be issued approximately every two weeks and will be based on exam type questions.
- Completion is **essential** in order to track progress and highlight areas of concern.

### Study

Pupils should get into good study habits early in the course. In addition to the homework tasks set out above they should ensure that they regularly:-

- Use the review exercises in the textbook to check learning.
- Use **Scholar** and other web based revision sites.
- Use their Higher Past Paper booklet to prepare for exam questions.

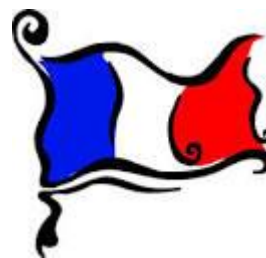
### ASSESSMENT TIMETABLE

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| SQA Block 1 Assessment | September         |
| SQA Block 2 Assessment | October           |
| Extended Block 1 & 2   | October/ November |
| SQA Block 3 Assessment | November          |
| SQA Block 4 Assessment | December          |
| Prelim                 | January           |
| SQA Block 5 Assessment | February          |
| SQA Block 6 Assessment | March             |
| Full Course Prelim     | April/ May        |



# MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

## HIGHER FRENCH / SPANISH



### What pupils must do:

*Pupils need to practise all 4 skills of Reading, Listening, Talking and Writing within the 4 contexts of Society, Learning, Employability and Culture*

### SKILL OF READING

Pupils are often asked to complete Reading/Translation work at home. Being able to use a dictionary well is an essential skill when reading for understanding and translating.

- **Have a good dictionary at home**

*(Collins French Dictionary and Grammar ISBN 978-0-00-732315-9 £12.99 or can be found cheaper on some internet sites)*

### SKILL OF LISTENING

Pupils should be encouraged to use the scholar website and to complete online homework as advised by their teacher. Use can also be made of a variety of short clips on the internet under BBC class clips / secondary / French.

- **Use scholar and other language websites as advised by teacher**

### SKILL OF TALKING

As we progress through each topic of the 4 contexts pupils prepare answers to a variety of topic based questions which are corrected by the teacher and redrafted by the pupil.

- **Pupils must learn these prepared answers**

### SKILL OF WRITING

In Paper 1 of the final exam pupils have to write an essay on a scenario from one of the four contexts. The essay is made up of an introduction with 4 bullet points. Through the session we will be working on a variety of bullet points from each of the contexts.

- **Learn bullet points for Directed Writing**
- **Complete grammar work in grammar booklets**



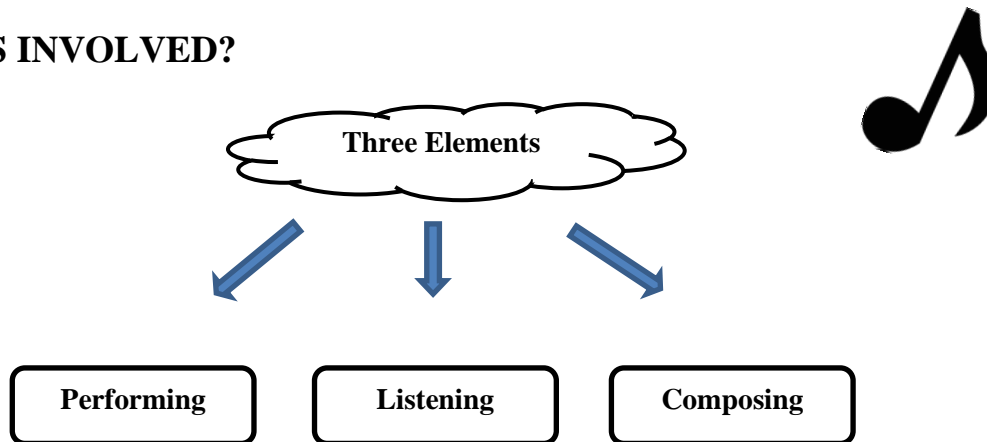
### What you can do to help your child

- Ensure your child spends enough time **LEARNING** preparation for Talking performance and Writing in final exam
- Ensure they have a good French dictionary for reference as noted above
- Ensure they spend time correctly completing grammar exercises
- Encourage your child to use SCHOLAR to practise and learn vocabulary
- Encourage use of BBC clips and online homework
- Ensure they learn bullet points for Directed Writing

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## HIGHER MUSIC

### WHAT IS INVOLVED?



#### Performing

- Candidates perform on 2 instruments and will have a set programme for each instrument agreed between teacher and pupil.
- Assessment : External Examiner visits and samples a prepared programme (Feb – Apr)
  - **Instrument 1 & Instrument 2** – 12 minutes combined

#### Listening

- Candidates study various periods in music history and the associated features within each.
- Assessment : One question paper lasting 1 hour (May)

#### Composing

- Candidates will compose two original, contrasting pieces of music
- Assessment : Internal assessment by class teacher on a pass/fail basis

### What you can do to help your child

There are two main points for action which will ensure your child is working thoroughly through their coursework and homework revision

- **Revising their Listening/A-Z concepts**
  - Quality coursework is issued in class with individual audio clips which are designed to allow thorough revision of all Listening coursework **at home**. A CD player is required. ***Please ensure that your child is spending time at home practising listening using the CD issued.***
- **Quality Practice Time**
  - Please ensure your child practises at home. They should have access to their chosen instrument and they can certainly practise singing at home.
  - 15 minutes practice daily at home is better than ‘cramming in’ 1 hour blocks at the weekend. ***Ensure your child finds the time to make this a good habit.***

Two excellent websites are used in S5/6 to compliment and enhance all work covered within class

- [www.musiclisteningrevision.co.uk](http://www.musiclisteningrevision.co.uk)
- [www.educationscotland.gov.uk/learnlisteningonline](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/learnlisteningonline)

# HIGHER PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Exam Paper (40 Marks)

This paper will last 1 hour 30 minutes and will assess the pupils knowledge of factors impacting on performance and the development process.

### Section 1 (24 Marks)

Pupils will be asked question relating to the mental, emotional, social and physical factors. Pupils must be able to **describe, explain, analyse** and **evaluate** the following:

- The impact that factors have on performance
- Methods of collecting information on the factors
- Approaches to develop each of the factors
- How to plan and prepare an effective development programme
- The process of monitoring performance development.

### Section 2 (16 Marks)

Pupils will be given a short scenario. They must use the information given and apply the knowledge they have gained from the course to the situation.

The knowledge required in section 1 will be applied in Section 2.

## Single Performance Task (60 Marks)

To complete this task, pupils will choose an activity to specialize in. The task is split into 3 sections:

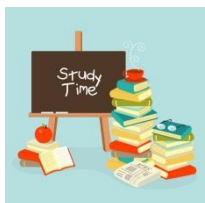
- **Planning and preparation** – Pupils will prepare for their single performance by investigating and developing their performance in their chosen activity. (8 Marks)
- **Single performance** – Pupils will participate in a single performance within their chosen activity. (40 Marks)
- **Evaluation** – Pupils will analyse the effectiveness of their preparations and evaluate their performance. (12 Marks)

### What you can do to help your child

- Ensure they are using their course notes to study regularly
- Ensure they are making use of the “What you need to know” revision sheet they will be given
- Ensure they are using the list of potential questions list and timing themselves completing these questions.
- Advise them to ask the teacher for support when necessary and to do so well before homework deadlines
- During study leave ensure they come to ask the teacher for help if needed.
- Ensure your child attends as regularly as possible.
- If possible encourage your child to participate regularly in their chosen sport.
- Ensure they attend supported study



# SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



## What your child must do in all Science subjects

- **Use Mind Maps/ Bubble Diagrams/ Flow charts/ Post-it notes/ etc...** Pupils should find the method that helps them best to understand the concepts and to retain them long-term
- **Practise Multiple Choice:** Use multiple choice practice books. Approximately one quarter of the exam is multiple choice and pupils should be prepared for this style of question
- **Use Past Papers:** These provide an opportunity to test understanding of topics using actual questions and should be used from the start of the session. During each topic pupils should seek out questions on that topic and complete these at home. If they have any difficulty they should ask for help and advice.
- **Seek help early and often:** Where there are difficulties pupils should talk to their teacher to make an appointment to discuss areas of concern. They will be pleased to help.
- **Use SCHOLAR:** This is useful for the animations in many topics and the brief end-of-topic tests. There are also end of unit and end of course practice tests.
- **Use the internet :** This will give pupils access to SQA arrangement documents, links to relevant and useful websites (*see individual subjects for useful website addresses*) for revision and review.

## AND MOST IMPORTANTLY

- **Don't fall behind :** Even falling behind by a chapter or two in note-taking and questions can have a very adverse effect on understanding. Pupils should read ahead, as prescribed, and be prepared to ask and answer questions during lessons.
- **Revise often:** pupils should revise by focussing on understanding and inter-relating knowledge from different areas of the course.

## ASSIGNMENT

All Higher Science courses include an assignment. Pupils will research a topic and communicate their findings in a written report. This is worth 20 marks out of the 120 course marks and is submitted to the SQA for marking. Pupils must take responsibility for their research and complete some of this in their own time. This is a very important part of the Higher course.

## What you can do to help your child

- Check your child is addressing all of the above points
- Encourage them to use Scholar and the internet at home to access SQA documents, revision websites etc.
- Ensure they are using Past Paper questions to practise exam type answers and that they are learning exam techniques as these are corrected and returned
- Advise them to talk to their teacher and to ask for help when they need it.
- Make sure your child has the correct equipment for the exam (e.g. HB pencil, calculator)

# HIGHER BIOLOGY

## Higher

**Entry requirements** – National 5 Biology at grade A or B. *National 5 English qualification also required.*



## Course content

The Higher course will extend your Biology knowledge and introduce you to new areas of study. There are 3 units of study:

- **DNA and the Genome** including structure and replication of DNA, gene expression and genomics.
- **Metabolism and Survival** including maintaining metabolism and metabolism in microorganisms.
- **Sustainability and Interdependence** including science of food production, interdependence and biodiversity.

## Assessment

Assessment is similar to National 5. Each unit is internally assessed with an end of unit assessment. In addition pupils must pass assessment tasks throughout the year including an investigation. Pupils will complete an assignment that is worth 20 marks of their final award. The final exam consists of a 100 mark question paper covering all 3 units.

## Useful resources

### Websites

SQA website <http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/39306.html>

- SQA website has Past Papers and marking schemes which should be used for study purposes from August onwards.

BBC Bitesize <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zmbtyrd>

- Revision notes, animations and check tests.

Scholar <http://scholar.hw.ac.uk>

- Revision notes, animations and check tests.

### Textbooks

CfE Higher Biology Student Book (Leckie & Leckie)

Higher Biology for CfE (Hodder & Gibson)

### Study Guides

CfE How to Pass Higher Biology (Hodder & Gibson)

CfE Higher Biology Study Guide (Bright Red)

Higher Biology Success Guide (Leckie & Leckie)



### Past Papers

CfE higher Biology (Leckie & Leckie)

Higher for CfE Biology (Hodder & Gibson)

# HIGHER CHEMISTRY

## Higher

**Entry requirements** – National 5 Chemistry at grade A or B. *National 5 Mathematics qualification also required.*

## Course content

The Higher course will extend your Chemistry knowledge and introduce you to new areas of study.



This course contains many practical demonstrations and experiments. There are 4 units of study:

- **Chemical changes and structure** ½ unit including rates of reaction, periodicity, structure and bonding.
- **Nature's Chemistry** 1 unit including esters, fats, oils, proteins, soap, detergents and emulsions.
- **Chemistry in Society** 1 unit including reactions, chemical energy and chemical analysis.
- **Researching Chemistry** ½ unit including familiarity with apparatus and techniques.

## Assessment

Assessment is similar to National 5. Each unit is internally assessed with an end of unit assessment. In addition pupils must pass assessment tasks throughout the year including an investigation. Pupils will complete an assignment that is worth 20 marks of their final award. The final exam consists of a 100 mark question paper covering all 3 units.

## Useful resources

### Websites

SQA website: <http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/48220.html>

- Past papers and marking schemes from the Revised Higher can be found on this site, which should be used for studying the new CfE Higher Chemistry.
- 

SQA website: <http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47913.html>

- The CfE specimen paper with exemplar questions can be accessed from this site.
- The 2015 CfE Higher Chemistry past paper and marking instructions can be accessed here.

BBC Bitesize <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zjmtsbk>

- Revision materials for all three units can be accessed with check tests

Evan2Chemweb <http://www.evans2chemweb.co.uk/>

- Various revision material
  - Username- jameshamilton
  - Password- rainbows

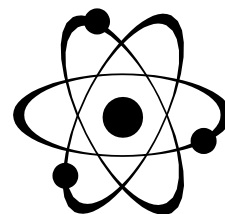
Scholar <http://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

- Lots of excellent material

## Textbooks

- Bright Red Revision: Higher Chemistry
- How to Pass Higher Chemistry
- Leckie Higher Chemistry Success Guide

# HIGHER PHYSICS



## Higher

**Entry requirements** – National 5 Physics at grade A or B. *National 5 Mathematics qualification also required.*

## Course content

This course has 4 units:

- **Particles and Waves** 1 unit including nuclear reactions, interference, diffraction and spectra.
- **Electricity** ½ unit including current, potential difference, power and resistance.
- **Our Dynamic Universe** 1 unit including motion, gravity, relativity and our expanding universe.
- **Researching Physics** ½ unit including developing skills relevant to undertaking research in physics

## Assessment

Assessment is similar to National 5. Each unit is internally assessed with an end of unit assessment. In addition pupils must pass assessment tasks throughout the year including an investigation. Pupils will complete an assignment that is worth 20 marks of their final award. The final exam consists of a 110 mark question paper covering all 3 units.

## **Useful resources**

### Websites

SQA website <http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47916.html>

- SQA website has Past Papers and marking schemes which should be used for study purposes from August onwards.

BBC Bitesize <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/higher/physics/>

- Revision notes, animations and check tests.

Higher Physics Zone [http://www.helpmyphysics.co.uk/higher\\_zone.html](http://www.helpmyphysics.co.uk/higher_zone.html)

- Find virtual experiments, assignments

Scholar <http://scholar.hw.ac.uk/Scotland/>

- Lots of excellent material

Mr Marshall <http://smarshallsay.weebly.com/cfe-higher.html>

- Summary notes, revision and past papers

## **Textbooks**

Bright Red Revision: Higher Physics *John Taylor*

How to Pass Higher Physics *Hugh McGill*

Leckie Higher Success Guide

# **SOCIAL SUBJECTS/ RE DEPARTMENT**

## **What you can do to help your child**

- Ensure they complete all homework tasks on time and to the best of their ability.
- Advise them to ask the teacher for support when necessary and to do so well before homework deadlines.
- Ensure they catch up on missed work after any absence.
- Check that they revise course work regularly by reading over notes on a weekly basis.
- Ensure they prepare thoroughly for class assessments, end of unit tests and Prelims.
- Ensure they use the SQA Past Paper and Marking Scheme website to improve exam skills.

## ***HIGHER HISTORY***

### **The Exam**

Candidates will have 2 hours and 20 minutes and will be required to:

- Write two essays – one from the topic Britain 1851-1951 and one from the topic Germany 1815-1939. In both the Britain and Germany topic candidates will have to write one essay from a choice of three. Both essays are worth 20 marks.
- Answer three source based questions on the topic the Scottish Wars of Independence 1286-1328. The questions are related to the four sources provided in the question paper. The three different question types are as follows:
  - a) Source evaluation question worth 6 marks
  - b) Source comparison question worth 5 marks
  - c) “How fully” question worth 9 marks.

### **The Assignment**

Candidates have an excellent opportunity to enhance their overall grade with this piece of work. The essay is worth 30 marks and is written up in a 1 hour 30 minute period under examination conditions. The essay is then sent away to be externally marked. The mark for this essay will then make up a third of the overall mark.

Candidates select their own essay question and plan the essay over a number of months. The essay is submitted to the class teacher for advice and comments. This feedback is then used to perfect the essay ready for the final write-up.

### **What should my child be doing to prepare?**

1. Reviewing essays that have been written up at home and in class. Make sure that special attention is paid to teacher comments and suggestions for improvements.
2. Using the hand-outs and printed plans to practise writing up essays.
3. Reviewing the list of possible exam essay questions and writing up plans and essays based on these plans.
4. Learning the Revision Notes for the Wars of Independence topic.
5. Complete drafts of Assignment as required by the class teacher. Please ensure that your son/daughter makes full use of this opportunity to enhance their mark by encouraging them to spend time researching and writing up drafts of the essay.
6. Your child will be given homework each week. This homework will be in the form of past exam questions or revision topics to learn. This is in addition to the ongoing revision which your child must be doing.
7. Your child should also be attempting past exam questions. This work can be marked by the teacher on request.



# ***HIGHER GEOGRAPHY***

## **The Exam**

The exam in May will be worth 60 marks (66% of the final mark.)

It will comprise of 4 sections:

- Physical Environments (15 marks)
- Human Environments (15 marks)
- Global Issues (20 marks)
- Application of Geographical Skills (10 marks)

**Physical Environments** is made up of the following topics : **Lithosphere, Biosphere, Atmosphere and Hydrosphere.**

**Human Environments** is made up of the following topics : **Urban, Population and Rural.**

**Global Issues** is made up of the following topics : **Global Climate Change and Development and Health.**

Application of Geographical Skills is usually a map based question asking pupils to solve a particular problem using geographical skills.

## **The Assignment**

The assignment is worth 33% of the final mark and is a research based activity which is written up in class under exam conditions.

## **What should a pupil be doing to prepare?**

1. Keeping up to date with revision. Each pupil should spend at least 15 minutes every evening reviewing the work of the class that day.
2. Making sure homework is completed on time. Homework will be issued once a week and will take the form of past paper questions. This is an ideal way to prepare for an exam and therefore it is essential that it is completed on time in order that follow up work in class is as useful as possible for the pupil. When a question is completed poorly it should be redone, this ensures the pupil has demonstrated an understanding of the topic before an exam. Pupils should also refrain from copying directly from classroom notes when completing homework questions. This is on top of revision at the end of each day.
3. Keeping themselves organised. Pupils will receive, and learn, a lot of information in the course of Higher Geography. It is essential that pupils keep their notes organised and catch up on any work missed through absence.



# ***HIGHER MODERN STUDIES***

## **General Advice:**

Modern Studies requires that pupils take an active interest in current affairs. This involves regularly reading a quality newspaper such as the Herald or the Scotsman – Sunday editions are particularly useful. Television news is also an important method of keeping up to date with events – the Scottish news in particular. Radio Scotland News Drive in the evening before 6.00pm also provides lots of useful information on events for use in Modern Studies.

## **The Exam**

The exam requires candidates to write three essays and answer two Enquiry Skills questions in 2 hours and 15 minutes.

The exam total is 60 marks.

## **Course Topics**

- Devolved Decision Making
- Voting Systems/Behaviour
- Health and Wealth Inequalities
- South Africa.

## **The Assignment**

Candidates must complete an Assignment based on a research topic chosen from within the main study themes of the course.

The Assignment is worth 30 marks and is completed under exam conditions.



# TECHNICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Your son/daughter should be well into their preparation for future exams in either Graphic Communication or Design & Manufacture, or both.

**Homework, Supported Study, Easter School, Study Days and Past Papers** will play a major part in this preparation.

In the Technical Education department, there are on-going 'unit tests' in class to reinforce learning. A chart is attached to your child's homework booklet informing them of when each unit test and exam occurs (Approximate dates). You should discuss this with them and remind them when these are due to take place.

Here is a list of important topics that you should be encouraging your child to study:

## ***HIGHER GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION***

- Common scales for floor plans, site plans and location plans.
- Features contained within/outwith these type of plans.
- British Standard (BS8888) symbols.
- British Standard (BS8888) line type.
- British Standard (BS888) dimension styles.
- Types of sectional views.
- Desktop features and layout styles.
- Explanation and purpose of the 3P's.
- Manual drawing using instruments, maintaining a tolerance of +/-1mm.
- Computer Aided Design Terminology (AutoCAD & Inventor).
- Computer model planning.
- Design Principles & Elements.
- Spatial Awareness.



## ***HIGHER DESIGN & MANUFACTURE***

- Materials identifying features, uses, positive and negative points.
- Commercial manufacturing techniques identifying features, uses, positive and negative points. e.g. Injection moulding.
- The design process and design issues (FEEDSCAM).
- Evaluation methods for different products. e.g. consumer survey.
- Modelling types including rapid prototyping types and their benefits and limitations.
- Issues surrounding sustainability and designers responsibility to eco issues.
- Design team : roles and responsibilities.

All of the topics highlighted above will have been covered in class and within homework tasks. Additional notes are available upon request. It is important that you encourage your son/daughter to spend at least 2 hours per week revising previous homework. You could possibly assist by asking them about this to 'test' their knowledge.

### **What you can do to help your child**

- Look at your child's assessment calendar (attached to your child's Homework Booklet) and remind them when unit tests and exams are coming up
- Ensure homework is completed on time and to the best of their ability. Encourage them to spend at least 2 hours per week revising previous homework
- Ensure your child attends Supported Study, Easter School and Study Days
- Encourage use of Past Papers to help them learn exam techniques.
- 'Test' what they have learned by asking them questions about work they have learned.

