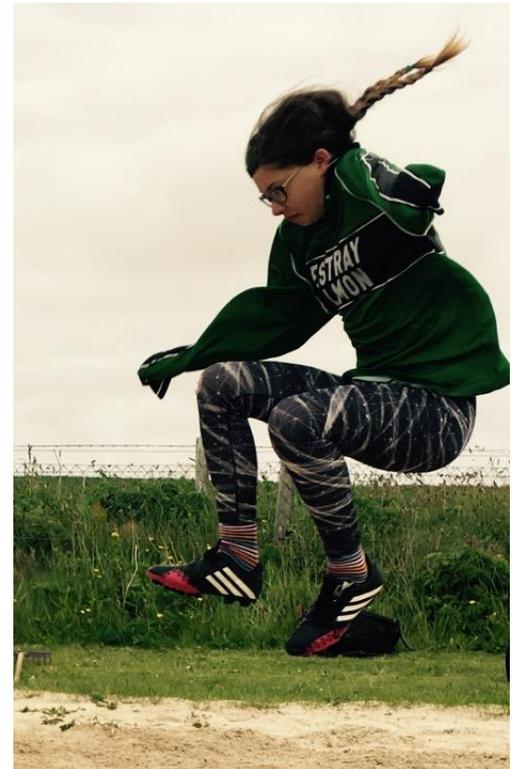




Westray Junior High School

Options booklet



Dear young people and parents,

We have reached the exciting point in the year when subject choices are to be made.

This booklet is designed to help you to choose the courses you wish to take forward for assessments or exams at the end of S4 in Westray Junior High School.

Most Scottish schools make options choices as young people are finishing their Broad General Education (Nursery – S3) and entering the Senior Phase (S4 – S6).

Because some courses are delivered by itinerant teachers in our school, we make our options choices slightly earlier - at the end of S2. This means that the itinerant teachers have the time to deliver the full course over two sessions.

But Scottish Government policy on the curriculum states that young people are entitled to experience a specific range of subject areas until the end of S3.

So, our options will provide some certificated further learning in Modern Languages and Art and Design for those youngsters who choose not to take these subjects forward to N5 level. We have included details of these courses below.

Please take some time to study this booklet. Youngsters must continue to study English and Maths plus one science, and they will have another three options.

We need to have options chosen and options forms returned by the end of the day on Friday, May 17th. This will give us time to prepare our new timetable, which starts on June 4th.

We have already spoken about options at the recent S2 parents' evening. If any further questions come up while you are looking at the booklet and discussing options together as a family, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Kind regards,

Dr Simon Hall

(Head Teacher)

The Senior Phase (S4, S5 and S6)

The Senior Phase in Scottish education is now more flexible and offers more choice than in the past.

You can study and progress between courses at National Four, National Five, or Higher level in any of the three years of the Senior Phase. In S4, it is possible to combine courses at Westray Junior High School with courses at Orkney College.

In S5 and S6, you can also combine study at Kirkwall Grammar School with study at Orkney College, or with work experience - through a Foundation Apprenticeship. It is possible to pick up subjects in S5 that you may not have studied before. You can choose to study any subject that is right for you during any year.

Where staffing and timetabling allow, we may also be able to offer some Higher courses in S4 in Westray Junior High School. In 2019/20, we will be able to offer Higher History in S4.

What different qualifications are available?

National 4: This is an accessible SQA qualification with no end of year exam. Units are assessed in school on a pass/fail basis, with the option of resitting. N4 carries 4 SCQF points.

National 5: This is a more challenging qualification with an end of year SQA exam. (National Five is the equivalent of what used to be Credit Level at Standard Grade.) Most N5 courses are taken in S4, although more youngsters are now taking N5 courses in S5 or S6. N5 carries 5 SCQF points.

Higher: This is the traditional 'gold standard' Scottish qualification used for entry to university or employment. Highers are usually taken in S5 or S6. Higher qualifications carry 6 SCQF points.

Advanced Higher: Studying at a more advanced level again, closer to University level of work. These courses are almost always taken in S6, and carry 7 SCQF points.

National 4 and 5 Skills for Work courses: these courses are designed to develop young people's employability skills, and cover subjects like Construction, Hairdressing, Rural Skills or Childcare. We offer Early Education and Childcare at Westray. Orkney College offers a broader range of Skills for Work courses, and students from Westray are able to attend College one day a week in S4 to take these courses.

SCQF level 5 and National 5 Skills for Work courses: these courses are similar to the Skills for Work courses above and are practical routes into particular types of employment. Orkney College offer these courses in subjects like Maritime Skills, Coastal Navigation, Engineering, and Computer Games Design. As above, you may be able to attend college one day a week to take one of these courses if you wish.

Foundation Apprenticeships: You can spend some time in School and/or College studying Highers, and some time in a workplace as an apprentice doing on-the-job training. A Foundation Apprenticeship is considered by colleges and universities to have the same value as a Higher course.

What subjects can I study?

We will do our best to arrange the timetable so that you can study the subjects you want to do, but please be aware that what we are able to offer depends on timetabling and the availability of specialist teachers. The options form lists all subject options and asks you to rank each of these options in your order of preference. The end of this booklet includes information about these courses.

Compulsory subjects	Choices offered in Westray	Courses offered at the College
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English N4/N5 • Mathematics N4/N5 • A science at N4/5 • Physical Education • Health and Wellbeing • RMPS (core - one period) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology N4/N5 • Chemistry N4/N5 • Physics N4/N5 • History N4/N5 • Geography N4/N5 • French N4/N5 • Craft N4/N5 • Health and Food Technology N4/N5 • Music N4/N5 • PE N4/5 (possibly in 2019/20) • Art N4/N5 • Early Education and Childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills for Work N4 • Construction Crafts N4 • Hairdressing N4 • Hospitality N4 • Rural Skills N4 • Coastal Navigation N4 • Maritime Skills N5 • Psychology N5 • Skills for Work in Engineering N5 • NPA Cyber Security with Games Design N5 • NPA Bakery N5 • NPA Horticulture N5

How does it work if I want to study something at the College?

The College offer their courses on a Thursday and Friday morning. Depending on what time your course starts, you may be able to travel in on the day itself, or you may have to go in the night before. If you go in the night before you will stay at the hostel.

You will have practical lessons in the College, or in the Stromness School of navigation, in the morning. You will have to get yourself lunch in the College canteen, or somewhere in Kirkwall. Then you will have the afternoon for independent study in the College library. At the end of the day you would take the evening boat back to Westray.

If you choose one of these options, you will be missing a day of school in Westray. This may mean that you are not able to take one of the courses on offer here. You will also miss a couple of other lessons, so your teacher will give you work that they expect to be done in your independent study in the afternoon at the College.

You do not have to pay anything to stay at the hostel, but you do have to pay your travel costs. If you choose a maritime course there is school transport available to take you to the maritime college in Stromness.

How do I make my choices?

Choose subjects that you enjoy. If you enjoy a subject, you are likely to want to work harder and you will do better. Certain career paths and further courses of study require specific qualifications. The website www.myworldofwork.co.uk, which you have been using in Health and Wellbeing lessons, has a subject choice tool, and advice about different subjects and career paths. Talk to your family and your teachers about which career pathway you are interested in, and they will help you to find out which subjects might be best for you. And remember that you will be able to pick up and try different subjects as you progress through the Senior Phase at WJHS, and later in KGS - it is a very flexible system.

We will support you with your options choices in a range of ways:

- Health and Wellbeing lessons on careers and subject choices.
- One-to-one interviews with Skills Development Scotland for you and your parents.
- Group work sessions with Skills Development Scotland.
- Support from your class teachers and learning mentor.

Course information

The rest of this booklet includes information about possible courses that you could choose.

Art and Design

The focus in the Art and Design course will be the development of creative skills and the learner's satisfaction that they have endeavoured to produce their best work at all stages.

Creative skills covered in **Art and Design** include:

- generating ideas by applying your imagination
- observing and recording
- team work
- thinking, questioning and analysing
- exploring and experimenting with multiple possibilities
- developing personal skills in handling materials
- reflecting on and self-assessing your work and the work of others
- producing outcomes
- presentation

The course builds on learners' prior experiences, outcomes and achievements also providing opportunities to develop or consolidate other skills for life, learning and work including wider literacy skills.

The unit structure of the courses is as follows:

National 4

Art and Design: Expressive

Art and Design: Design

Art and Design: Practical Activity

This course is internally assessed.

National 5

There are two mandatory units in this course:-

Art and Design: Design plus an added value practical activity.

Art and Design: Expressive plus an added value practical activity.

At this level, the course assessment consists of a portfolio of work sent away for external assessment and a question paper.

80% of marks are allocated to the portfolio and 20% of marks to the question paper.

For those choosing not to take Art at N4 or N5 level, there will be a small amount of Art time on the S3 timetable. During this time, youngsters will complete the Design unit from the N4 Art and Design Course.

Biology

Biology offers a modern experimental course at National 3, National 4 and National 5 in a science which is rapidly expanding and seldom out of the headline news. It has been a popular choice for many pupils who have gone on to university to study Biology or a related subject.

Students studying Biology will soon appreciate the employment opportunities the subject opens up to them within Orkney and beyond, for example in agriculture, fish farming, marine biology, food technology, nature conservation, as well as the obvious careers in medicine, veterinary medicine and nursing.

The course comprises three units and will cover major areas of Biology ranging from cellular to whole organisms up to ecosystems. It will be a practically based course using experimental skills gained in science lessons in previous years.

Unit 1 **Cell Biology**

This is about cell structure and processes e.g. cell division, respiration, proteins and DNA, which will lead to a better understanding of the importance of cells and the variety of their uses.

Unit 2 **Multicellular Organisms**

This is the study of various processes in plants and animals (including humans) e.g. nervous and hormonal control, reproduction and inheritance. It also looks at transport systems such as the circulatory system and transpiration in plants.

Unit 3 **Life on Earth**

This looks at how plants and animals fit into their environments and are adapted to survive in sometimes hostile places. It also looks at photosynthesis and how energy and nutrients are passed around from plants to animals and how evolution has occurred over time.

For National 4 there are assessments to be completed in class. This comprises an end of unit assessment for each of the 3 modules and experimental write ups. There is also an assignment to be done which is called an Added Value Unit at National 4 and is marked internally.

At National 5 the assignment is completed in school but sent away to be marked and counts for 20% of the final grade. The remaining 80% at National 5 is from a written exam set and marked by the SQA exam board.

Chemistry

Chemistry, offered at National 3, National 4 and National 5, is the science of matter; metals, plastics, of foods like carbohydrates and of fuels like petrol. In the Chemistry Course we look at the structure and reactions of these chemicals and many more.

Chemistry can lead to career opportunities in the oil industry, renewables, food industry, engineering, medicine and many more.

The course comprises three units. It will be a practically based course using experimental skills and problem-solving techniques gained in science lessons in previous years.

Unit 1 **Chemical Changes and Structure**

This covers atomic structure, rates of chemical reactions, chemical bonding, formulae, equations and acids and bases.

Unit 2 **Nature's Chemistry**

This covers chemicals obtained from fossil fuels, their structure and uses. This unit also considers every day consumer products such as alcohols and carboxylic acids for preserving foods and making soaps and medicines. We will also look at the energy from fuels.

Unit 3 **Chemistry in Society**

This covers metals, their properties, uses and reactivity, plastics properties and uses, radioactive materials, fertilisers and chemical analysis.

For National 4 there are assessments to be completed in class. This comprises an end of unit assessment for each of the 3 modules and experimental write ups. There is also an assignment to be done which is called an Added Value Unit at National 4 and marked internally.

At National 5 the assignment is completed in school but sent away to be marked and counts for 20% of the final grade. The remaining 80% at National 5 is from a written exam set and marked by the SQA exam board.

Skills for Work: Early Learning and Childcare National 5 (at WJHS)

National 5 Skills for Work: Early Learning and Childcare is an introductory qualification that develops the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed for work in the early learning and childcare sector.

At National 5, learners begin to prepare for working in the sector. They also develop transferable employability skills, including:

- An understanding of the workplace and the employee's responsibilities (eg time-keeping, appearance, customer care)
- Self-evaluation skills
- Positive attitude to learning
- Flexible approaches to solving problems
- Adaptability and positive attitude to change

- Confidence to set goals, reflect and learn from experience
- Skills to become effective job-seekers and employees

Structure of the Qualification

The Early Learning and Childcare qualification comprises 3 compulsory units, and a choice of one unit from 3 optional units. You will study 4 units in total.

The 3 compulsory units are:

- Development and Wellbeing of Children and Young People
- Play in Early Education and Childcare
- Working in Early Education and Childcare

The optional units are:

- Contemporary Families
- Introduction to First Aid
- Care and Feeding of Children and Young People.
- Children and Young People; Rights and Protection

(You choose which one out of the four units you wish to study.)

As part of the qualification you will be spending time in the Nursery/Preschool. This will allow you to learn in a real workplace setting.

Assessment

There is no S4 end of course external assessment.

Each Unit has outcomes which require to be met in order to pass the unit. Some units have three outcomes, some units have four. Some of the outcomes are assessed via a closed book assessment. You will have covered all the work in class to be able to pass any closed book assessments. A number of the outcomes will also be assessed via production of a portfolio of work.

English

In the National Five course, you will continue to develop the skills you have been working on in English during the broad general stage, i.e. reading, writing, talking and listening. The National Five course involves studying and analysing more challenging literary, non-fiction, media or online texts, and talking and/or writing about these texts. The course also involves the creative aspects of presenting to a group or an audience, and producing texts of your own.

This course will help to build your confidence and skills in written and spoken language. You will have the opportunity to choose some of the texts you study, and to choose some of the topics you will work on for your written and spoken outcomes.

There is a final exam for National 5 English, where you will be assessed in reading and writing. There is also a portfolio of two pieces of writing.

National Five English is a very useful qualification to have for entry to college courses, or employment. If you pass at National 5, your teacher may recommend that you go on to Higher English.

There is also the option of taking English at National Four level. This course is similar to National Five English, but without the final exam element. If you are working at Second Level at the end of S2, then National Four may be an appropriate English course for you.

French

The study and acquisition of a foreign language has many benefits for pupils. The modern foreign language offered to pupils at Westray Junior High is French.

Why should pupils study French? Did you know that French is the second most taught language after English? It is spoken by approximately two hundred million people over 5 continents. It is one of the official languages of several important worldwide organisations including NATO, the United Nations, and the International Olympic Committee. Furthermore, through the study of the French language pupils will learn and develop invaluable skills, for example problem solving, communication, memory, and creativity to name but a few. These skills can be used throughout pupils' academic careers and beyond. Pupils can also increase their awareness of different cultures through learning a foreign language. Learning a language is also great fun!

The main purpose of the French course is to enable pupils to develop the four main skills of reading, writing, listening, and talking. Different topics which improve on these four skills are studied including Family and Friends, Planning a Trip, Lifestyles, School etc. As far as possible the topics will be planned around pupils' interests and likes to make the learning as meaningful as possible.

French is available at National 3, National 4, and National 5 at Westray Junior High.

National 3, and National 4 are both internally assessed with no external exam in May. For National 3, pupils require to pass two units to achieve the award. For National 4, pupils require to pass two units, and an Added Value Unit, to pass the award.

National 5 is the only award which requires pupils to sit an external exam in May. This external exam assesses the skills of reading, writing, and listening. Pupils are also required to do a speaking exam (with myself) in French, and a writing assignment. These contribute to the final overall grade at National 5.

Geography

By studying Geography you will learn about other places, peoples and cultures. You will study areas in Scotland and the UK as well as in other countries. Environmental and global issues such as renewable energy, conservation of the rainforests, marine pollution, climate change and natural hazards, form an integral part of the course. You will learn about sustainability, your responsibility as a global citizen, and also how to improve your map interpretation, reading, writing and thinking skills.

You will follow the new Geography courses at National 4 / National 5 level depending on your

progress in S3 and S4. The courses are divided into three sections which include the following topics:

1. Human Environments:

International issues such as population growth and its management; migration, refugees and asylum seekers; cities, urban and industrial landscapes; shanty towns and their problems (e.g. in Brazil); agriculture and the countryside in the developed and developing world; changes affecting rural areas such as farm diversification, organic farming, biofuels and GM crops.

2. Physical Environments:

Natural landscapes and the scenery of glaciated areas (e.g. the Alps), coastal environments, rivers and their valleys; weather forecasting and the impact of weather systems affecting the British Isles; managing and protecting natural environments, tourism and conservation issues in areas such as UK National Parks (e.g. Cairngorms).

3. Global Issues:

Global climate change, its possible causes and effects; the impact of human activities on natural environments such as Brazil's tropical rainforests and the Arctic tundra; natural hazards and natural disasters; strategies used by national governments, the United Nations and aid organizations such as the Red Cross to manage these global environmental problems.

A variety of resources including digital presentations, video clips, maps, atlases, DVDs, websites and modern text books are used. You will carry out a small amount of local fieldwork but sometimes there may be field trips to other areas. All pupils will undertake a research project.

For N4 there are 3 course units that must be passed. These are marked by the school. There is an Added Value Unit or project that is also assessed by the school as Pass or Fail. At National 5, assessment is by exam (80%) and an Investigation (20%). Pupils collect and process information for their investigation during school or personal time. The write up is then conducted under exam conditions. Both the exam, and the investigation write-up are sent to SQA to be marked. N5 results are graded A-D.

Health, Food and Technology

This course covers 3 main units at National 4 and 5:

Food for Health

This Unit develops knowledge of health, nutrition, dietary needs and advice, as well as lifestyle choices and their impact on health. It looks at different dietary diseases, how they impact on our health and ways to prevent them. It develops practical skills and knowledge in food preparation techniques and safe, hygienic practices.

Food Product Development

This Unit allows students to participate in practical activities that demonstrate the functional properties of food and its uses. Students will design, make and evaluate food product solutions to meet specified needs whilst gaining a range of different skills using a variety of tools and equipment.

Contemporary Food Issues

This Unit allows learners to participate in activities to develop an awareness of current factors affecting food, lifestyle and wider consumer choices such as Fairtrade, allergies, and factory farming. Students will also consider technological developments in food and the organisations that protect us. They will also develop the skills to apply that knowledge in practical classes.

Additional Units:

National 4: Added Value Unit: Assignment

This course will be assessed through an assignment in which learners will produce a solution to an appropriately challenging problem.

National 5: Assignment and Question Paper

The Course will be assessed by an assignment and a question paper. The assignment will require application of knowledge, understanding and skills from across the Units in which students will develop a product or products to a given brief. The assignment will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

This Course can lead to:

- Other SQA qualifications in health and food technology such as Higher Health and Food Technology, hospitality or related areas
- Further study, employment or training.

History

The course is made up of three units, covering Scottish, British, and European & World History, each of which is used as a means of training pupils in a different history skill. At National 4, the course is assessed in class as a simple pass or fail through end of unit assessments and a piece of individual research, while National 5 is assessed through a combination of exam (80%) and individual research assignment (20%), and is graded A – D.

The exact choice of topics within these units can be decided in negotiation between teacher and pupils at the start of S3, though they are likely to be taken from the following selection.

Historical Study: Scottish

- Mary Queen of Scots and the Reformation 1542 – 1587
- Migration and Empire 1830 – 1939
- The Era of the Great War 1910 - 1928

Historical Study: British

- The Atlantic Slave Trade 1770 – 1807
- Changing Britain 1760 - 1900
- The Making of Modern Britain 1880s – 1951

Historical Study: European & World

- Hitler and Nazi Germany 1919 – 1939
- Free at last? Civil Rights in the USA 1918 – 1968
- Appeasement and The Road to War 1918 – 1939
- The Cold War 1945 – 1989

Mathematics

Mathematics is a necessary tool for life. It is used in many subjects in school. Mathematics helps us to think logically. In S4, pupils will be encouraged to consolidate their numeracy skills and to begin to assemble the toolkit of mathematical knowledge necessary for study at a more senior level.

Pupils will follow the Mathematics course at National 4 / National 5 level depending on their earlier progress. There are a variety of Mathematical courses available. The National 5 Mathematics Course is intended to meet the needs of those pupils who may wish to go on to Higher or to terminate their study of Mathematics in S4. The qualification which reflects a broad fundamental understanding of the subject is given as National 4.

The following topics will be covered.

National 4

Numeracy - The aim of this unit is to develop the numerical skills and information handling skills needed to solve real life problems involving number, money, time, and measurement.

Expressions and Formulae - The aim of this unit is to develop skills linked to mathematical expressions and formulae. These include the manipulation of abstract terms, the simplification of expressions and the evaluation of formulae.

Relationships - The aim of this unit is to develop skills linked to mathematical relationships. These include solving equations, analysing graphs and making reasoned deductions.

National 5

Expressions and Formulae -The aim of this unit is to develop skills linked to mathematical expressions and formulae. Techniques and methods used to manipulate algebraic expressions, apply operations appropriately and understand number theory

Relationships - The aim of this unit is to develop skills linked to mathematical relationships. These include solving equations, analysing and creating graphs and equations. Using more advanced understanding to reason abstractly.

Applications -This unit underlines the importance of mathematics in our everyday lives and covers a host of topics from compound interest to creating mathematical models. It shows how we can apply

the subject to inform us and help us make decisions about everyday life and describe the physical world.

Modern Languages for Life and Work Award

Anyone who doesn't want to choose French at N4 or N5 in S3 will complete a shorter course called Modern Languages for Life and Work.

The Modern Languages for Life and Work Award is available at SCQF Levels 3 and 4. There is no end of year assessment. Pupils are assessed as they work through the course. The Modern Languages for Life and Work Award comprises 3 units; Modern Languages for Work Purposes, Modern Languages for Life, and Building Own Employability Skills.

Modern Languages for Work Purposes Unit: The purpose of this Unit is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop basic skills in talking and reading.

Building Own Employability Skills Unit: The purpose of this Unit is to provide learners with the opportunity to acquire the skills needed in order to gain employment. These skills include finding out about job opportunities and employers, and the skills needed to apply for a job.

Modern Languages for Life Unit: The purpose of this Unit is to develop basic skills in listening and talking in practical and relevant contexts using the language studied. Learners explore the culture and everyday life in countries where the modern language is used.

Music

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- develop performing skills in solo and/or group settings on their selected instruments or on one instrument and voice
- perform music with sufficient accuracy while maintaining the musical flow
- create original music using compositional methods and music concepts when composing, arranging or improvising
- develop knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural factors influencing music
- develop knowledge and understanding of music and musical literacy by listening to music and identifying level-specific music signs, symbols and concepts
- reflect on their own work and that of others

Course structure

The Course has an integrated approach to learning and includes a mixture of practical learning and underpinning understanding of music. In the Course learners will draw on their understanding of music styles and concepts as they experiment with using these when performing and creating music.

To achieve the Course, learners must successfully complete the three mandatory Units and the Added Value Unit. Each of the component Units of the Course is designed to provide progression to the corresponding Unit at National 5.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a number of ways.

Music: Performing Skills

In this Unit, learners will develop performing skills on two selected instruments, or on one selected instrument and voice. They will perform level-specific music with sufficient accuracy while maintaining the musical flow. Learners will, through regular practice and reflection, develop technical and musical performing skills.

Music: Composing Skills

In this Unit, learners will experiment with and use compositional methods and music concepts in imaginative ways when creating their own music. Learners will reflect on their own creative choices and decisions, and develop a basic understanding of how composers develop their ideas and create their music.

Understanding Music

In this Unit, through listening, learners will develop knowledge and understanding of a variety of level-specific music concepts and music literacy. They will identify the distinguishing features of specific music styles, recognise music concepts in excerpts of music, and understand and recognise common music signs and symbols used in music notation.

Added Value Unit: Music Performance

This Unit adds value by introducing challenge and application. In the music performance, learners will draw on and extend their performing skills in a new context. Learners will prepare and perform a programme of music in a solo setting and/or as part of a group.

Physics

Physics gives learners an insight into the underlying nature of our world and its place in the universe. From the sources of the power we use, to the exploration of space, it covers a range of applications of the relationships that have been discovered through experiment and calculation, including those used in modern technology.

The Course will enable learners to develop confidence in exploring and communicating ideas on scientific phenomena. Learners will develop the ability to solve problems and establish relationships in physics by acquiring a broad knowledge base, practical skills and mathematical skills. Learners will practice scientific methods of investigation from which general relationships are derived and explored.

An experimental and investigative approach will be used to develop knowledge and understanding of Physics concepts. The Course will develop learners' interest and enthusiasm for Physics in a range of contexts. Skills of scientific inquiry and investigation will be developed throughout the Course by investigating the applications of Physics. This will enable learners to become scientifically literate citizens, able to review the science-based claims which they meet.

The course is structured within three units:

Electricity and Energy

Waves and Radiation

Dynamics and Space.

Students will carry out an investigation at National 5 level, which will be written up under exam conditions and submitted to the SQA for marking. The National 5 level course will also include a final written exam.

Practical Woodwork

There are 3 units at National 4 and National 5:

1. FLAT-FRAME CONSTRUCTION
2. CARCASE CONSTRUCTION
3. MACHINING AND FINISHING

The National 4 Added Value Unit (Practical Activity) will require learners to produce a finished product in wood, completing a record of progress and an evaluation of the project.

For National 5, the Course Assessment consists of a Practical Activity which requires learners to produce a finished product in wood, with working drawings, a record of progress and an evaluation of the project. This will be marked by the school in accordance with SQA guidelines and will be graded A to D.

What skills will I develop?

- skills in woodworking techniques for tasks with some complex features
- using a range of woodworking tools, equipment and materials safely and correctly
- reading and interpreting drawings and diagrams
- measuring and marking out timber sections and sheet materials
- cutting and shaping tasks with some complex features
- practical creativity in the context of woodworking tasks with some complex features
- following given stages to take a practical problem-solving approach to woodworking tasks
- awareness of safe working practices in a workshop environment
- knowledge and understanding of the properties and uses of a range of woodworking materials
- knowledge and understanding of sustainability issues in a practical woodworking context

N4 Construction - Orkney College

This Skills for Work course contains practical construction crafts units in 4 important construction trades. It is especially suitable for candidates with an aptitude for and an interest in practical crafts

work. Candidates will learn a variety of skills in the trades-specific Units. In addition, they will develop skills and attitudes that enhance employability, not just in the construction industry, but in employment generally.

Course Content:

Employability skills: this unit highlights generic skills that you will develop and use as you carry out practical activities in the trade-specific units. These are skills which employees require to be successful in the workplace, and include: punctuality and timekeeping, taking instructions and advice; keeping the workplace tidy; interpreting simple drawings and developing measuring skills.

Half Brick Walling: in this unit you are required to set out and build short lengths of half-brick thick wall to given drawings and to prescribed standards and tolerances.

Decorative Painting: in this unit you are required to produce decorative finishes involving the use of brushes and rollers as well as stencilling.

Site Carpentry and Bench Joinery: in this unit you are required to carry out small-scale tasks in both first-fix and second-fix joinery. You will learn skills in measurement, cutting and fixing of timbers and sheet materials.

Plumbing: in this unit you are required to cut, assemble and join plastic pipework in accordance with given drawings using proprietary bends and tee-pieces.

Brickwork Techniques: this unit builds on the unit Half Brick Walling. You are required to set out and build extended sections of half-brick wall thick. This extended work will require the use of 'builders' line. The work will be carried out in accordance with given drawings and to prescribed tolerances.

Carpentry and Joinery Techniques: in this unit candidates are required to erect a small-scale framed and panelled assembly and to fabricate and replace one panel to carefully match existing.

Roof Tiling: in this unit you are required to complete a small-scale exercise in single lap roofing tiling to correct gauge and lap.

Career Options:

On completion of this course candidates can progress to:

- SVQ level 2 and 3 in Carpentry & Joinery if employment can be secured.
- General Building Operative Level 2 or Apprenticeship in Bricklaying if employment can be secured.
- Plumbing, further training and/or employment
- Painting, further training and/or employment

N4 Hairdressing – Orkney College

This Skills for Work course will give such candidates an introduction to hairdressing, build confidence and give the opportunity to develop a range of employability and core skills.

Course Content:

Salon Awareness: This unit introduces candidates to the roles and responsibilities of team members in a hairdressing salon and explores the diversity of available roles in the hairdressing industry. Candidates will participate in a number of activities which will help them to develop knowledge and understanding of their role within the salon structure. The unit also covers basic knowledge of working safely and an awareness of health and safety legislation.

Working in the Salon: This unit introduces candidates to the general salon duties which will be undertaken by someone initially entering work in a hairdressing salon. Candidates will also learn how to shampoo and condition hair and will develop skills in drying techniques, which will be beneficial to them as they progress in the hairdressing industry.

Employability Skills: This unit focuses on the employability skills identified by employers in the hairdressing industry. They will have the opportunity to identify strengths and weaknesses and identify their own development needs. These skills are transferable to other employment areas and will in general enhance candidates' employability.

Creativity: This unit will encourage candidates to express their creativity. The unit is based on a creativity assignment which allows candidates to explore and interpret their own individuality and style. They will also plan, prepare for and produce, with support, an image on a mannequin head. Candidates will have an opportunity to use existing skills and develop new skills.

Career Options:

Progression to further training in Hairdressing.

N4 Hospitality – Orkney College

This course is aimed at school pupils who are interested in working in the Hospitality Industry, introducing them to a range of cookery, hygiene and customer service skills.

Course Content:

This course consists of four units at Intermediate Level 1

Career Options:

Full time NC in Hospitality or HNC in Professional Cookery
Part time SVQ2 in Professional Cookery

N4 Rural Skills – Orkney College

Skills for Work: Rural Skills is an introductory qualification that will develop your skills, knowledge and attitudes needed for work in the land-based industries.

This Rural Skills course allows candidates to begin to develop some of the basic practical skills necessary to work in most of the land-based disciplines - areas such as agricultural livestock, equine industries, horticulture, landscaping, agricultural crops and animal care.

The course also provides the opportunity to explore the very diverse employment prospects that exist in land-based industries.

Course Content:

Land-based industries - an introduction: you will be given the opportunity to investigate the nature of some of the very diverse industries of the land-based industries and also to examine some of the job opportunities of the sector.

Estate Maintenance - an introduction: you will be given the opportunity to develop some of the employability skills considered important in the land-based sector, such as good time-keeping, attendance, good team-working and safety awareness. Evidence for this unit should be generated through practical activities carried out throughout the course.

Crop Production: this unit allows you to develop some of the basic skills and knowledge required to contribute towards the production of plants in a work setting. You will have the opportunity to develop some of the basic skills relating to preparing the growing medium, establishing and maintaining the plant. Plants may be agricultural, forestry, horticultural, edible or non-edible.

Soft Landscaping - an introduction: this unit allows you to develop some of the basic skills and knowledge required for soft landscaping, including establishing and maintaining soft landscaping. The unit is appropriate for a range of contexts including agriculture, countryside management and landscape horticulture.

Career Options:

This course may provide candidates with opportunities to progress to:

- SVQs in appropriate land-based sector vocational areas
- other suitable training and employment

N5 Maritime Skills – Orkney College

Course consists of 5 units covering a wide range of maritime skills and knowledge. This course is both practical and theoretical and is an excellent grounding for the maritime industry (Maximum in class 15)

N5 Coastal Navigation – Orkney College

Navigation builds on the short chart-work module in Skills for Work. This is an ideal course for those new to Maritime Studies or those wishing to continue from Skills for Work and has been a launch pad for a number of previous students who have gone on to sponsored officer training.

Although classroom based we include practical boat work and by the end of the course students can bring a boat to a point at sea from co-ordinates.

N5 Skills for Work in Engineering – Orkney College

This National 5 course provides a basis for progression into Further Education or for moving directly into training, the course develops developing the generic and practical skills, knowledge and understanding and employability skills.

It focuses on the broad areas of Mechanical, Fabrication, Electrical, Electronic, Maintenance, and on an element of Design and Manufacture.

At SCQF level 5, learners work alone or with others on straightforward tasks with support.

Candidates would be expected to have a minimum of 4 National 4's. (Maximum 8 in class).

N5 NPA Games Design and Security – Orkney College

This course is designed to get learners looking at the design, development and rollout of games. Students get the opportunity to play and evaluate various consoles, games and interfaces. In addition each student gets the opportunity to create a game using industry leading software involving the drawing and animation of their own graphics. In addition students will be given the chance to investigate forensic technologies relating to cyber-crime and how this can be put to use by law enforcement agencies.