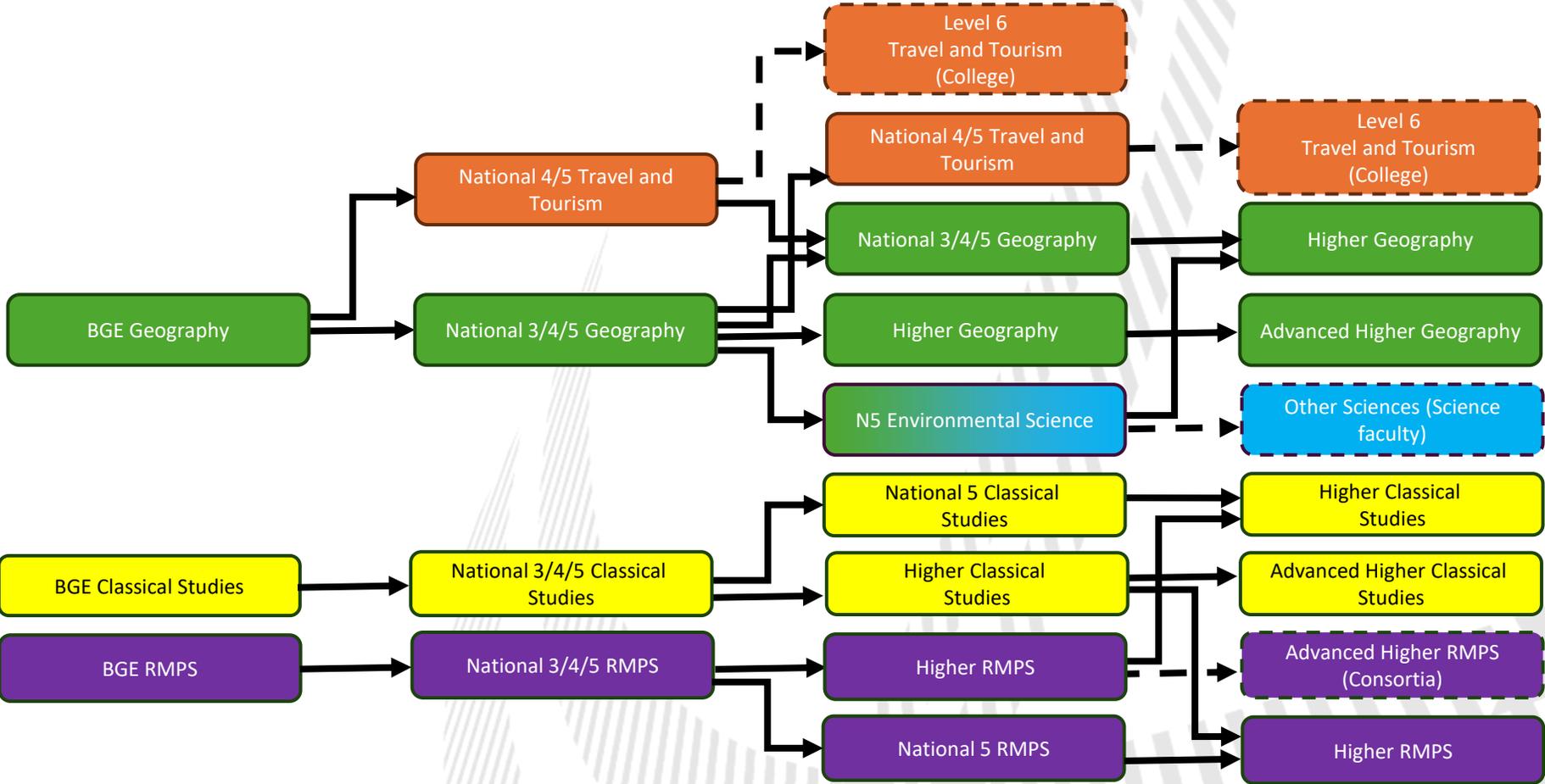


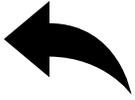
Geography, Classical Studies and RMPS Curriculum Pathway



Explore the curriculum pathway in Geography, Classical Studies and RMPS by clicking on a course to find out more information.

Courses with dashed lines are offered outside of the faculty.

- Achievement
- Resilience
- Individuality
- Aspiration
- Respect
- Creativity
- Courage



Back to
curriculum
pathways

S3 Geography

3 blocks



Content

- **Land use conflicts** - An in-depth case study into the impact tourists are having in the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, including a trip to the Park to see the conflicts first hand with guided tours from the Park Rangers.
- **Global Health** - Investigate the biggest killers on our planet and find out why different diseases affect different parts of the world, and why Geography is so important to understanding global health. Students will also look at the COVID-19 pandemic and why it so quickly became a truly global disease.
- **Climate Change and Sustainability** - Learn about arguably the biggest challenge the human race faces in the next half a century. Find out the science behind climate change, the impacts both locally and around the world, and what we can actually do about it.
- **Environmental Hazards** - There are some disasters humans can do very little about. Study what causes volcanoes, earthquakes and hurricanes, the impacts they have on people and the landscape and what (if anything!) we can do to manage the effects.

Assessment

Learners will be working through Level 3 and 4 outcomes. You can view the experiences and outcomes covered in BGE Geography [here](#). They will begin to work on research and exam-style skills in S3 to prepare for National 4/5. Learners will also work towards achieving a Level 4 NPA in Climate Change and Sustainability in S3.

Why choose S3 Geography

The S3 course provides a grounding in key areas of Geography, laying the foundations for National 4/5 Geography and beyond. Students will investigate some of the biggest challenges we face, teaching them the skills to prepare them for life and work after school.

Progression

Learners can progress to National 3, 4 or 5 Geography or National 4 or 5 Travel and Tourism in S4.

Achievement

Resilience

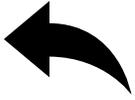
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to curriculum pathways

National Geography

4 blocks



Content

Unit	Topics
Physical Environments	Coasts
	Glaciation
	Weather
Human Environments	Population
	Rural
	Urban
Global Issues	Climate Change
	Environmental Hazards
Assignment	Based on the Population topic

Assessment

Level	COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	%
National 3	Unit assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessed by teacher in class time 		
	Unit assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessed by teacher in class time 		
National 4	Added Value Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research in class Write-up in class 		
	Final exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SQA exam will cover all of the units/topics 	2hr 20m	80
National 5	Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research in class Write-up in class 	1 hr	20

Why choose National Geography

The National course covers a broad range of topics. Learners will develop an increased understanding of the how Scotland has been shaped, our environment, sustainability and the impact of global issues. The broad knowledge and skills gained are relevant to many different courses and careers making the subject a good choice to keep options open.

Progression

Learners can progress to National 4 or 5 Geography, National 4 or 5 Travel and Tourism or National 5 Environmental Science. If they achieve a pass at National 5 Geography they can progress to Higher Geography.

Achievement

Resilience

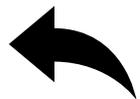
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to curriculum pathways

Higher Geography

6 blocks



Content

Unit	Topics
Physical Environments	Atmosphere
	Biosphere
	Hydrosphere
	Lithosphere – Coasts / Glaciation
Human Environments	Population
	Rural
	Urban
Global Issues	Climate Change
	Development and Health
Application of Geographical Skills (mapwork)	
Assignment - Based on the Hydrosphere topic (river fieldwork)	

Progression

If they achieve an A or B at Higher Geography learners can progress to Advanced Higher Geography.

Assessment

COMPONENT		DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	%
Final exam	Paper 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Environments Human Environments 	1hr 50m	100	73
	Paper 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Issues Application of Geographical Skills 	1hr 10m	60	
Assignment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fieldwork on the Water of Leith Write-up in class time 	1hr 30m	30	27

Why choose Higher Geography

The Higher course goes into greater depth on some of the concepts covered at National 5 as well as introducing new topics. The focus of the course is on the big issues we face as humans and what we can do about them. The broad knowledge and skills gained are relevant to many different courses and careers.

Achievement

Resilience

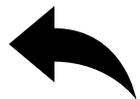
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to curriculum pathways

Advanced Higher Geography

4 or 5 blocks



Content and Assessment

Component	Unit	Details	%
Exam	Map Interpretation	SQA exam (2hr 30m)	33%
	Gathering and Processing Techniques		
	Geographical Data Handling		
Issue essay		Coursework based on personal research – 1 800 words due by Easter	27%
Study project		Coursework based on personal fieldwork – 3 000 words due by Easter	40%

Why choose Advanced Higher Geography

The structure of the Advanced Higher course with the emphasis on learner led coursework gives learners the skills they will require for success in Higher Education.

Progression

There are many university courses Advanced Higher Geography helps prepare learners for including Environmental Science, Geology, Geography, Geopolitics, Geosciences, International Relations, Town Planning.

Achievement

Resilience

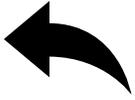
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to
curriculum
pathways

National Travel and Tourism



4 blocks

Content

- Tourism in Scotland
- Tourism in the UK and Worldwide
- Customer Service
- Employability Skills

Assessment

There is no external assessment for this Course. Learners must successfully complete each Unit to achieve the Course.

Why choose National Travel and Tourism

The National 4/5 Skills for Work: Travel and Tourism course is an introductory qualification in travel and tourism. It develops the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed for work in the travel and tourism industry, as well as helping learners prepare for work in any other customer facing industry.

Learners will develop:

- skills to become effective job-seekers and employees
- skills to deal effectively with all aspects of customer care and customer service

There are also visits to Edinburgh College's cabin crew simulation, Kimpton Hotel and other Edinburgh tourist attractions to practise skills.

Progression

- other SQA Travel and Tourism Courses or to Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs) in Travel and Tourism
- further education
- employment in the travel and tourism industry- tour guide, travel agent, catering industry, hotel industry

Achievement

Resilience

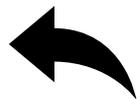
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

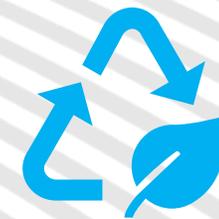
Creativity

Courage



Back to curriculum pathways

National 5 Environmental Science



4 blocks

Content

Unit	Topics
Living Environment	Ecosystems and biodiversity
	Interdependence
	Human influence and biodiversity
Earth's resources	Geosphere
	Hydrosphere
	Biosphere
	Atmosphere
Sustainability	Food
	Water
	Energy
	Waste

Assessment

COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	%
Final exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SQA exam will cover all of the units/topics 	2hr 30m	80
Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research in class Write-up in class 	1 hr	20

Why choose National 5 Environmental Science

Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary subject which draws from the sciences and social sciences. Environmental scientists are involved in tackling issues such as global climate change, pollution, use of land and water resources, and changes in wildlife habitats.

Progression

Learners can progress to National 5 or Higher Geography, or onto other sciences depending on the level they achieve.

Achievement

Resilience

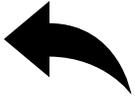
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to
curriculum
pathways

S3 Classical Studies

3 blocks



Content

- **THE UNDERWORLD**– they discover the Olympian Gods, the Underworld, rituals and sacrifice, prophecy and augury.
- **GREEK THEATRE**– students study the ancient theatre and design their own.
- **MEDEA by Euripides** – Students read an entire play in translation which deals with the events that happened to sorceress Medea and her husband Jason.

Assessment

Learners will be working at Level 3 and 4.

Why choose S3 Classical Studies

The study of the Classical world has an extremely proud and long heritage at the Royal High School, originally incorporated into its Royal Charter in medieval times. Classical Studies is a study of the civilisations of classical Greece and Rome without involving the study of the Greek or Latin languages. The classical culture of Greece and Rome dominated the European world for approximately half of recorded history and all aspects of modern society are based upon the developments and attitudes of this culture.

Progression

Learners can progress to National 3, 4 or 5 Classical Studies.

Achievement

Resilience

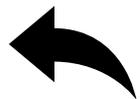
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to curriculum pathways

National Classical Studies

4 blocks



Content

- **LIFE IN CLASSICAL ATHENS** – Students are introduced to the great city state of Athens, were they look at what life would be like growing up in the Ancient World, what life was like for a slave, and how women were treated
- **POMPEII AD 79** – Here students look at life in a normal town in the Roman Empire, and the great eruption of Mount Vesuvius which wiped out the town of Pompeii
- **THE ODYSSEY** – The legendary journeys of Odysseus as he tries to return home are examined and 4 chapters of the epic are looked at in detail, main universal themes are examined such as heroism, fate, and women.

Assessment

COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	%
FINAL EXAM:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SQA exam will cover all of the units/topics 	2 Hours	80%
ASSIGNMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research in class • Write-up in class 	1 hour	20%

Why choose National Classical Studies

Students are encouraged to develop analysis, evaluation skills as well as formal writing at extended length, which are all vital skills for future employment. There are certain areas of the job market who look exceptionally well on Classical Studies, which is one of the oldest subjects in the University curriculum

Progression

Learners can progress to Higher Classical Studies.

Achievement

Resilience

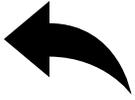
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to curriculum pathways

Higher Classical Studies

6 blocks



Content

- **THE ILIAD** – the epic poem of Homer’s account of the war between Greece and Troy is looked at in detail. Along side the study of its universal themes.
- **ROME** – We focus on the late Republican era and examine government, voting, and a special focus on imperial administration during the Emperors looking at the revolts of Boudicca and Judaea.
- **ATHENS** – 5th Century Athens is looked at including social aspects, and a detailed study of democracy and the growth of Athenian Imperialism.

Assessment

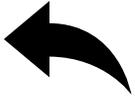
COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	%
FINAL EXAM:	There are two papers:			
	1. Classical Literature	1hr 10 mins	30	70%
	2. Classical Society	1hr 50 mins	60	
ASSIGNMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research in class • Write-up in class 	1hr 50 for write up	30	30%

Why choose Higher Classical Studies

Students are encouraged to develop analysis, evaluation skills as well as formal writing at extended length, which are all vital skills for future employment. There are certain areas of the job market who look exceptionally well on Classical Studies.

Progression

Learners can progress to Advanced Higher Classical Studies. A lot of learners with a background in Classical Studies have success in Higher RMPS as well due to the overlap in skills.



Back to curriculum pathways

Advanced Higher Classical Studies

4 or 5 blocks



SATIRE, COMEDY AND SOCIETY

Aristophanes – Students examine the life and historical context of the comedic playwright Aristophanes, and examine the role, function and effectiveness of Satire in society. 5 plays are studied, Archonians, Knights, Clouds, Peace and Assembly Women.

Horace and **Juvenal** – students then read selected satires from the Roman masters.

There is common themes that runs through all satire, and students are expected to examine modern examples alongside the Classics whilst considering their impact upon democracy and society.

Dissertation - students pick a topic of their own choosing concerning the ancient world and then research and write up a dissertation of approximately 4000 words across the year, this is submitted to the SQA for external marking and forms part of their overall mark.

COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	%
FINAL EXAM:	There is one paper: 1. Satire, Comedy and Society	3 hrs	100	66%
DISSERTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research in class Write-up in class and at home 	Completed over the year	50	33%

Achievement

Resilience

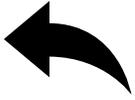
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to
curriculum
pathways

S3 Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS)

3 blocks



Content

- **Religion in Popular Culture:** Is religion really linked to everything in society in the modern day? Explore how music, fashion, sport and more all have complicated relationships with religion!
- **Morality and Relationships:** Gender roles, relationships, marriage, divorce and exploitation are issues which affect many people, and on which there are many strong opinions held! To be explored by examining case-studies and moral, religious and non-religious viewpoints.
- **Intro to Existence of God:** Pupils will begin to understand challenging philosophical questions by exploring some religious, philosophical and scientific arguments for and against the existence of a god or gods.

Assessment

- Learners will work through Level 3 & 4 outcomes. They will begin to work on research and exam-style skills in S3 to prepare for National 4/5.

Why choose S3 RMPS?

- All pupils will already do 'core RMPS' however this is a separate class with the opportunity for deeper engagement with the subject in order to prepare for National 5 in S4. RMPS is an excellent subject for pupils to develop their own moral views and beliefs by exploring different perspectives through research and discussion.

Progression

- Learners can progress to National 3, 4 or 5 RMPS in S4 which can lead to Higher in S5 or S6. RMPS also has excellent curricular links with subjects including Modern Studies, History, Criminology and Geography.

Achievement

Resilience

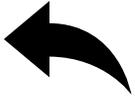
Individuality

Aspiration

Respect

Creativity

Courage



Back to curriculum pathways

National Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS) 4 blocks



Content

- **World Religion – Islam/ Christianity**
Key beliefs and practices of the religion and the impact of follower’s lives in society today).
- **Morality Unit – Morality, Medicine and the Human Body**
Introduction to medical ethics by examining current ethical dilemmas in modern medicine)
- **Religious and Philosophical Questions Unit – Evil and Suffering**
Exploring why it exists from a philosophical and religion perspective i.e. can a God exist that allows suffering?).

Assessment

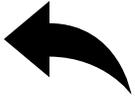
Level	COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	%
National 3	Unit assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessed by teacher in class time 		
	Unit assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessed by teacher in class time 		
National 4	Added Value Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research in class Write-up in class 		
	Final exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SQA exam will cover all of the units/topics 	2hr 20m	80
National 5	Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research in class Write-up in class 	1 hr	20

Why choose National RMPS?

Critical thinking and awareness of others; cultures/ religions are imperative in our modern-day society, resulting in transferrable social and written skills. Many pupils take this in preparation for tertiary education and careers including Law, Criminology, journalism, medicine, teaching and the military

Progression

Learners can progress to Higher RMPS. RMPS also has excellent curricular links with subjects including Classical Studies, Modern Studies, History, Criminology and Geography.



Back to curriculum pathways

Higher Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS) 6 blocks



Content

- **World Religion – Islam**
Key beliefs and practices of the religion and the impact of follower’s lives in society today), they also teach an S2 lesson!
- **Morality Unit – Morality and Justice**
Examining the purposes of punishment, the UK criminal justice system and Capital Punishment as a moral issue)
- **Religious and Philosophical Questions Unit – Origins (of the universe)**
Using sources from religions and science to explores the question as to how our earth and human life originated).

Assessment

COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	%
FINAL EXAM:	1. World Religion and Morality and Belief	2hr 15 mins	60	70%
	2. Religious and Philosophical Questions	45 mins	20	
ASSIGNMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research in class • Write-up in class 	1hr 50 for write up	30	30%

Why choose National RMPS?

Critical thinking and awareness of others; cultures/ religions are imperative in our modern-day society, resulting in transferrable social and written skills. Many pupils take this in preparation for tertiary education and careers including Law, Criminology, journalism, medicine, teaching and the military

Progression

Learners can progress to Advanced Higher RMPS (currently run as a consortia between NW Edinburgh schools. A lot of learners with a background in RMPS have success in Higher Classical Studies as well due to the overlap in skills.