



**National 5
Subject
Options**



Welcome

Ms Johnston
Assistant Head (Academic)

This guide has been designed to help you make informed decisions about the subjects you may wish to study for National 5.

It is important that you are aware of what each course entails so if you have any questions about any of the subjects, please refer to the Head of Department or your current teacher in that subject.

This can be a daunting time, but we are always here to help so please do not hesitate to get

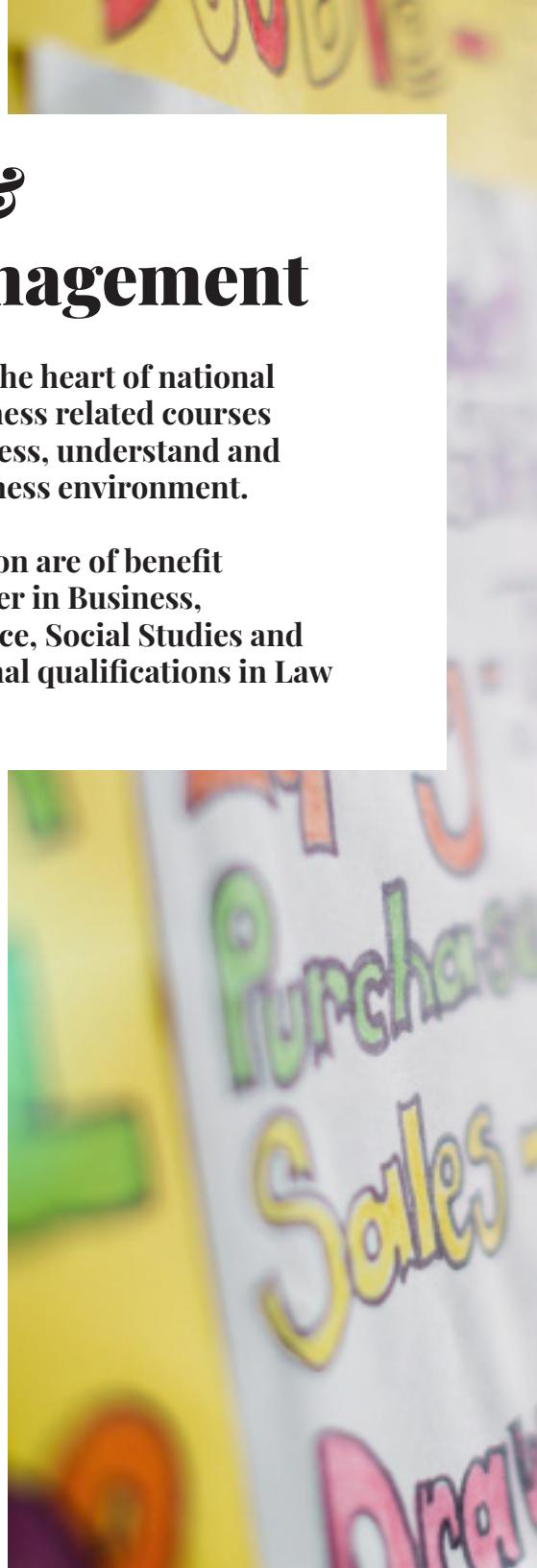
in touch with me, Ms Johnston or your Year Head, Mr McDougall. Subject teachers will also be able to help with any enquiries you have about their subject.

I very much hope that this guide has gone some way in helping you make important decisions and look forward to seeing your progress through the school. Before you know it, it will be time for Advanced Highers!

Accounting & Business Management

Business and enterprise are at the heart of national growth and development. Business related courses offer you the opportunity to access, understand and contribute to the dynamic business environment.

The courses offered at Wellington are of benefit to anyone contemplating a career in Business, Government, Commerce, Finance, Social Studies and Management and for professional qualifications in Law and Accountancy.



Accounting

Summary of Course Content

The course comprises two areas of study:

The purpose of Financial Accounting is to develop skills, knowledge and understanding relating to the preparation of financial accounting information, and the application of accounting regulations, associated with small to medium-sized business structures. The information produced will be used to establish the historical performance and current financial position of the organisation.

The purpose of Management Accounting is to develop skills, knowledge and understanding relating to the provision of internal accounting information, using a range of basic accounting techniques including budgeting and break-even. The information prepared will be used by management to make decisions regarding future planning and control of the business.



Business Management

Equity Purchase Sales

Summary of Course Content

The course is made up of five areas of study:

Understanding Business

Learners are introduced to the business environment while developing skills, knowledge and understanding of enterprise, and the role of different types of business organisations in society. They also learn about the internal and external environments in which organisations operate, and the role of stakeholders in business.

Management of Marketing

Learners will develop skills, knowledge and understanding of the importance to organisations of having effective marketing systems. They learn about the processes and procedures organisations use to maintain competitiveness, and how marketing can be used to communicate effectively with consumers, maximising customer satisfaction

Management of Operations

Learners will develop skills, knowledge and understanding

of the importance to organisations of having effective operations systems. They learn about the processes and procedures used to maintain quality through the effective management of suppliers, inventory, and methods of production in an ethical manner.

Management of People

Learners will develop skills, knowledge and understanding of the issues facing organisations when managing people. They learn about the theories, concepts and processes relating to human resource management, and how employees contribute to the success of organisations.

Management of Finance

Learners will develop skills, knowledge and understanding of the issues facing organisations when managing finance. They learn about the basic theories, concepts and processes relating to financial aspects of business, when preparing and interpreting information to solve financial problems facing organisations.

Art & Design

Alongside the nurturing of talent, Art & Design develops many important skills for later life including problem solving, creative and entrepreneurial thinking, critical analysis, independent learning and the organisation and presentation of ideas.

These not only contribute to the well-rounded education and higher order thinking skills increasingly desired by universities and employers, but are highly relevant within many far ranging careers. Students of Art & Design need not simply choose the subject in order to pursue art-related vocations. In business, creative thinking is vitally important too. Careers may include: Advertising, Animation, Architecture,



Archaeology, Art Therapy, Community Arts, Conservation & Restoration, Dentistry, Fashion/Textile Design, Fashion Management, Gallery/Museum work, Occupational Therapy, Graphic Design (including Digital Design), Interior Design, Product Design (Engineering), Teaching, Photography/Film, Town Planning or Web Design.

Summary of Course Content
The course is made up of two areas of study. You will create a portfolio of work over the two years which will account for 80% of your overall grade in addition to a question paper assessing knowledge and appreciation of the working practices of artists and designers.

Expressive Activity
You will develop a range of creative ideas in response to selected stimuli within a context such as portraiture, still life or landscape painting. This will include analytical studies and experimentation with a range of materials and techniques in 2D or 3D formats, leading towards refined ideas and one major piece of expressive work. This outcome, and a selection of the

research and development ideas that inspired it, will form the first part of a folio. You will also develop a critical understanding of artists' working practices and the social and cultural influences affecting their work.

Design Activity

You will plan, research and develop creative design work in response to a design brief within a single area such as jewellery, graphics, textile, interior, environmental (including architecture) or product design. Using creativity, problem solving and critical thinking skills you will consider a range of possibilities and resolve design issues and constraints.

This process will include experimentation with a range of materials and techniques in 2D or 3D formats, leading towards refined ideas and a solution (one major piece of design work). Your solution, and a selection of the research and development ideas that inspired it, will form the second part of a folio. You will also develop a critical understanding of designers' working practices and the social and cultural influences affecting their work.

Computing Science

Computing Science is vital to everyday life — socially, technologically and economically; it shapes the world in which we live and its future. Computing is embedded in the world around us, from systems and devices in our homes and places of work, to how we access education, entertainment, transportation and communication.

Understanding computational processes and thinking is also vital to many other fields including science, economics, business and industry. While many learners will want to become computing professionals, all will benefit from the development of these foundational skills and the knowledge necessary to meet the needs of society today and for the future.



Summary of Course Content

The National 5 Computing Science course has four areas of study:

Software Design & Development

In this topic, students develop knowledge, understanding and practical problem-solving skills in software design and development. This develops their programming and computational-thinking skills by implementing practical solutions and explaining how these programs work. Students are expected to analyse problems, and design, implement, test and evaluate their solutions.

Computer Systems

In computer systems, students develop an understanding of how data and instructions are stored in binary form and basic computer architecture. They gain an awareness of the environmental impact of the energy use of computing systems and security precautions that can be taken to protect computer systems.

Database Design & Development

In this topic, students develop

knowledge, understanding and practical problem-solving skills in database design and development.

This allows students to apply computational-thinking skills to analyse, design, implement, test, and evaluate practical solutions, using a range of development tools such as SQL.

Web Design & Development

In web design, students develop knowledge, understanding and practical problem-solving skills in web design and development, through a range of practical and investigative tasks. This allows students to apply computational-thinking skills to analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate practical solutions to web-based problems, using a range of development tools such as HTML, CSS and Javascript.

English



National 5 English is an essential qualification that is fundamental to developing the ability to communicate effectively, and understand increasingly complex ideas that apply to all aspects of life.

Central to the subject is the study of a wide range of modern and traditional literature, and the creation of original texts.

Summary of Course Content

There is one internally assessed unit: Spoken Language (Talking and Listening) and two externally assessed units:

1. Portfolio (two pieces, one broadly creative and one broadly discursive)
2. Examination with two question papers

Skills

Learners will be able to:

- Listen, talk, read and write, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- Understand, analyse and evaluate texts, including Scottish texts, in the contexts of literature,

language and media.

- Create and produce texts, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- Apply knowledge and understanding of language

Opportunities for Learners

Learners will be able to:

- Use language to communicate ideas and information
- Use creative and critical thinking skills
- Develops critical literacy skills and personal, interpersonal and team-working skills
- Appreciate a wide range of literature and texts, from their own cultural heritage and history, as well as the culture and history of others

Application of skills

English nurtures the essential ability to communicate well and think critically. As such, it enables the learner to succeed in all aspects of life. It is particularly useful for courses in English Literature, Media, Social Sciences, Humanities, Advertising, Politics, Law, Education, Journalism, Business and Commerce.

Geography

Geography at National 5 provides a broad range of interesting topics from the management of natural hazards to the geography of human health, physical landscape formations and the world's growing population. There is something in the course to suit all candidates due to the breadth of the subject matter and its unique location – spanning the gap between social subjects and science.

Whilst popular as a discreet subject beyond school, Geography can also be successfully combined with a range of other subjects, which could lead to the following areas of further study: Geology, Meteorology, Geophysics, Surveying, Journalism, Banking, Tourism, Planning,

Publishing, Architecture, Cartography, Archiving, Environmental Health, Ecological Science, Coastal Management, Forestry, Land Policy, topographic Science, Navigation, Resource Management, Tourism Management and Zoology.

Summary of Course Content

The specification provides students with the opportunity to cover fundamental concepts with an exciting topic choice. Students will not only develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the subject but will also develop a wide range of ‘transferable skills’, through investigations incorporating geographical skills and enquiry skills, as well as developing analytical and communication skills. These skills will be of use throughout a student’s future career. Students will also learn through the use of new technologies, including GIS, to assist geographical investigation.

In S3 you will cover Coastal Formations and Land Uses,

the developing city of Rio de Janeiro, Hurricane Katrina (2005), World Population Change, the UK’s Weather and Development & Health, where the impacts of various diseases are studied.

In S4 you will undertake a fieldtrip to Loch Lomond where data will be collected for the completion of your Assessment Assignment (worth 20% of your grade). You will also study Glacial Landscapes and the conflicts found there, the Haiti Earthquake (2010) & the volcanic eruption of Eyjafjallajökull (2010), the developed city of Glasgow and Rural Geography. The department also offers a biannual trip to Iceland for National 5 pupils to experience some awe-inspiring geography in a truly exceptional setting.

History

The study of history is extremely important in contemporary society. It spans all cultures, eras, seasons and environments and is an immovable factor that can be called upon for knowledge and insight. History is a subject which gives pupils skills which are attractive to employers such as learning how to work independently or with others; researching, analysing and communicating findings to others and defending and supporting opinions against criticism.

A degree in History can lead to almost any career but some of the most common include teaching, research, archiving and heritage, politics, media, business, commerce and law.



Summary of Course Content

The course consists of three units of study:

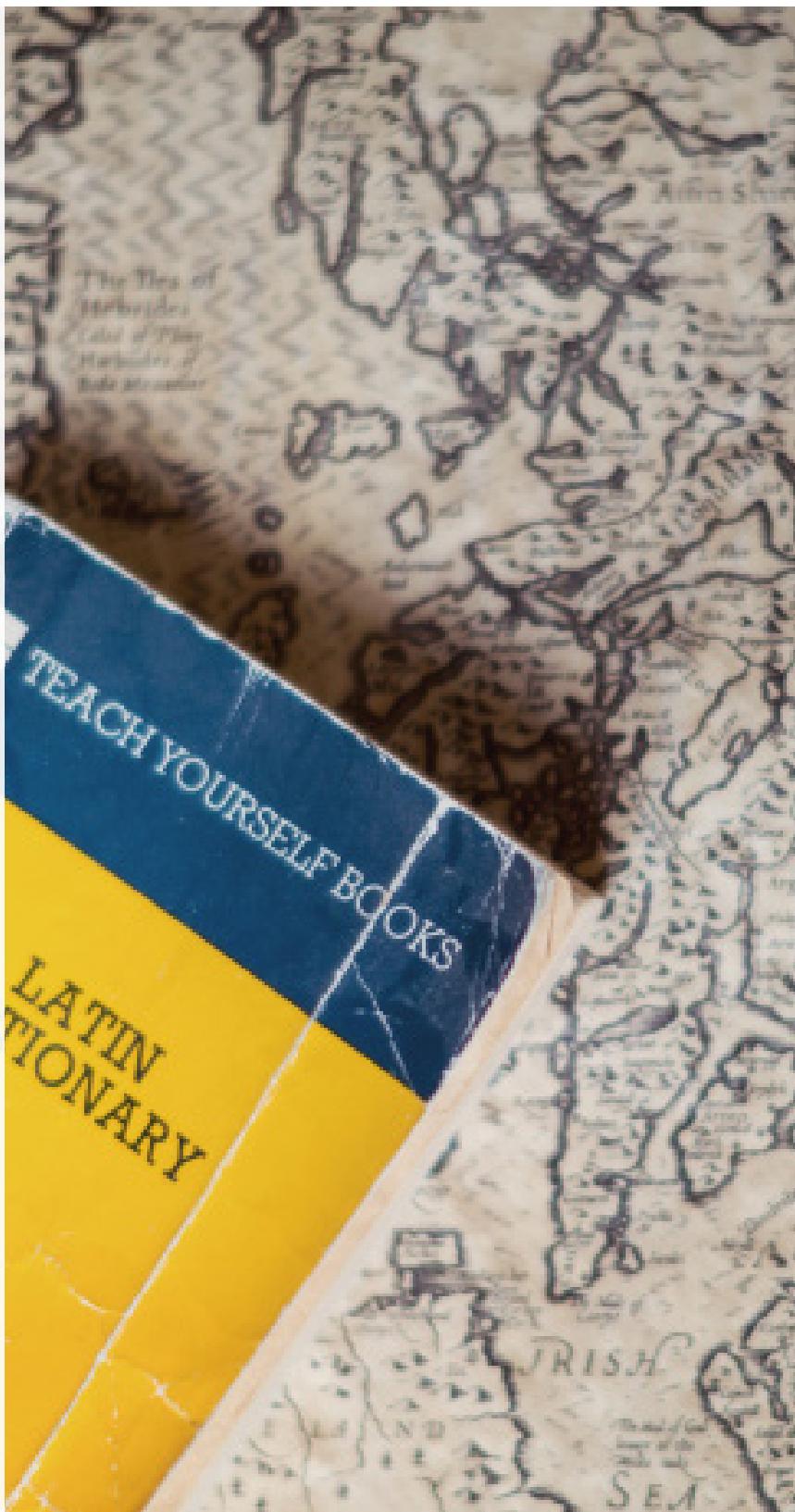
In the **Scottish History** unit (Mary Queen of Scots and the Reformation, 1542 – 1587), the course considers the political and religious changes which took place in 16th Century Scotland, focusing on the themes of crown, church and authority. Scottish society and the Church in the 1540s will be explored. The minority of Mary and the ‘rough wooing’ will be examined along with the situation in Scotland under the Queen Mother. The course will look in depth at a variety of factors following Mary’s return from France, including her personal reign, her marriage, the murders of Rizzio and Darnley and her exile. Additionally the regency of the young James VI and the reasons for Mary’s execution will be studied.

In the **British History** unit (The Atlantic Slave Trade, 1770 – 1807), the course considers the nature of the British Atlantic slave trade in the late 18th Century. Changing attitudes towards the slave trade in Britain and the pressures that led to its abolition will be explored. Focus will

centre on the themes of rights, exploitation and culture. The Triangular trade and its effects will be explored. The impact of Britain’s involvement in the Caribbean will be examined. The course will look in depth at the experience of the captive slaves and the extent of slave resistance. Additionally, the abolitionist campaigns and the reasons for their eventual success will be investigated.

In the **European/World History** unit (Red Flag: Lenin and the Russian Revolution, 1894 – 1921), pupils will examine the collapse of Imperial rule in Russia and the establishment of Communist government, focusing on the themes of ideas, conflict and power. The course will look in depth at Imperial Russia and its government and people. The causes and events of the 1905 Revolution will be examined along with the political changes after 1905. The causes and effects of the February revolution and the failure of the Provisional Government will also be explored. Finally, there will be an examination of the October Revolution including factors such as the Bolshevik seizure of power, Lenin’s return, the Civil War and the nature of the Soviet state.

Latin



Wellington is the only school in the South West of Scotland where you have the opportunity to study Latin and Classical Studies. Future destinations for Latin students may include, but are not limited to degrees in Law, Languages, History, Archaeology and Business.

Summary of Course Content

National 5 Latin has two components: Translation and Literary Appreciation.

You will study a series of passages based on Roman texts on topics such as Roman History, philosophy and so on. These texts will equip you with sufficient knowledge of grammar and syntax to reach the standard required for National 5 Translation. In S3, you will study translation using stories based around the fascinating myth of Cupid and Psyche as told by the Roman author Apuleius in the second century AD.

You will also develop your knowledge of the language and skills of analysis and

interpretation. Texts used include: Pliny's story of the Haunted House, and the myth of Daedalus and Icarus contained in Ovid's poem, the Metamorphoses.

Mathematics

Mathematics is important in everyday life, allowing us to make sense of the world around us and to manage our lives. Using mathematics enables us to model real-life situations and make connections and informed predictions. It equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk, and make informed decisions.

Aims

National 4 and 5

Mathematics courses are designed to develop the learner's skills in using mathematical language, to explore mathematical ideas, and to develop skills relevant to learning, life and work in an engaging and enjoyable way. It will build on prior learning and develop:

- operational skills in algebra, geometry, trigonometry and



- statistics
- reasoning skills of investigation, problem solving, analysis and modelling
- numeracy skills in number processes and information handling

Learning & Teaching

Learners develop these skills at different rates and will thus be divided into classes according to their ability and learning needs. A variety of approaches will be used including direct teaching and investigation. Pupils will have the opportunity to work individually as well as in pairs or groups. The main resource will be textbooks; pupils will also use worksheets and ICT resources.

Homework

Pupils will be expected to spend at least 1 and a half hours each week on homework. Homework will take a variety of forms. Pupils may be asked to finish off an exercise that they were working on in class in order to get sufficient practice or work from their homework booklet. Pupils might be set revision or asked to research a topic.

Summary of Course Content

National 5

Expressions and Formulae

This Unit covers simplification of expressions and evaluation of formula covering aspects of number, algebra, geometry and reasoning.

Relationships

This Unit covers relationships in algebra, geometry, trigonometry and reasoning. Pupils will develop their skills in solving equations, analysing graphs and carrying out calculations on the lengths and angles of shapes.

Applications

This Unit allows pupils to further develop knowledge and skills in geometry, trigonometry, number processes and statistics which can readily be applied to solving real-life problems.

National 4

Expressions and Formulae

This Unit covers manipulation of abstract terms, simplification of expressions and evaluation of formulae covering aspects of algebra, geometry, statistics and reasoning.

Relationships

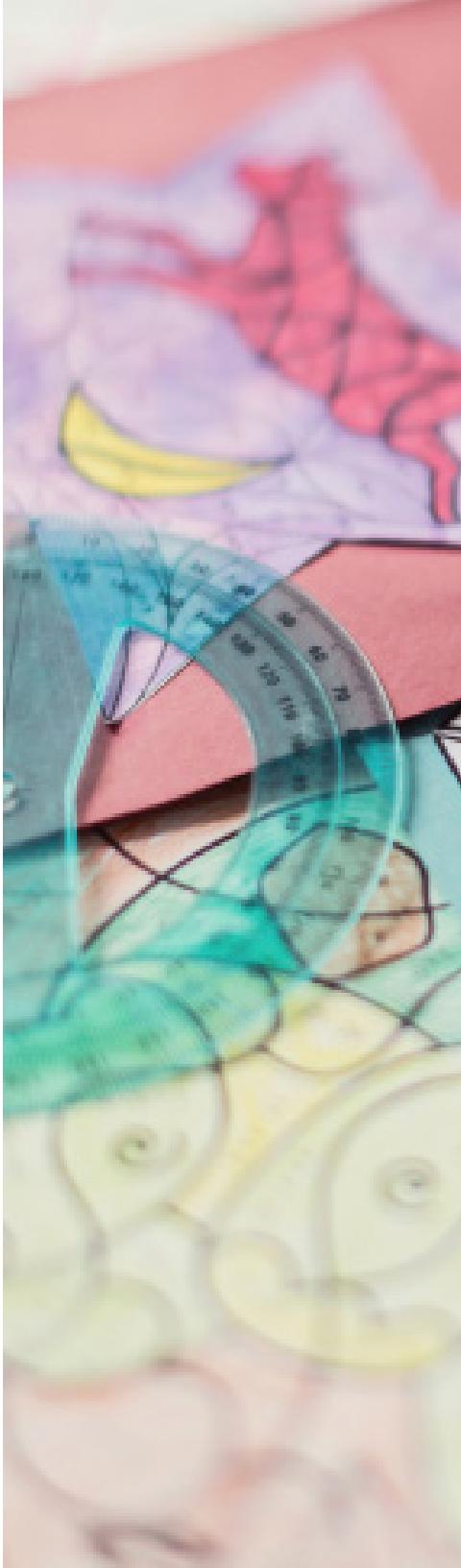
This Unit covers straightforward relationships in solving equations, understanding graphs and working with trigonometric ratios. Pupils will develop their skills in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, statistics and reasoning.

Numeracy

This Unit will allow learners to develop numerical and information handling skills to solve real-life problems involving number, money time and measurement. Pupils will decide what numeracy skills to use and how to apply these skills to an appropriate level of accuracy. Learners will also interpret graphical data and probability to make and explain decisions.

Added Value Unit

This Unit develops mathematical skills acquired from across the other three Units of the Course for use in more challenging problems, to enable the learner to apply them in unfamiliar situations and sometimes in integrated ways.





Modern Languages

The importance of learning a language stretches far beyond the school classroom. Wellington School is the only school in Ayrshire which offers four languages (French, German, Latin and Spanish).

Modern Languages can be combined with almost any degree, making graduates more attractive to employers. Degrees partnered successfully with languages include, but are not limited to, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Law, Accountancy, Business, Music, International Relations, Finance, Engineering, Psychology, and Biomedical Sciences. At least two languages are required for unique courses such as the triple language degree at the University of St Andrews or one of the Interpreting and Translating degrees offered by Heriot Watt University.



French

On the world stage, French is a major language of communication, second only to English. Language learning is a transferable skill and learning one language can make it easier to learn others later on. Pupils may also choose to continue their German/ Spanish studies. In a world where the workforce is becoming increasingly mobile, many of our pupils can expect to live, work or study abroad in the future.

The course covers four contexts which are subdivided into themes and topics. These are: Society (lifestyles, environment); Learning (school, college, lifelong learning, future plans); Employability (job skills, world of work); Culture (customs and celebrations, holidays, literature, film and television). Studio for National 5 will be the course textbook.

There are also opportunities to go on exchange visits to the Institut Saint-Dominique, Mortefontaine.



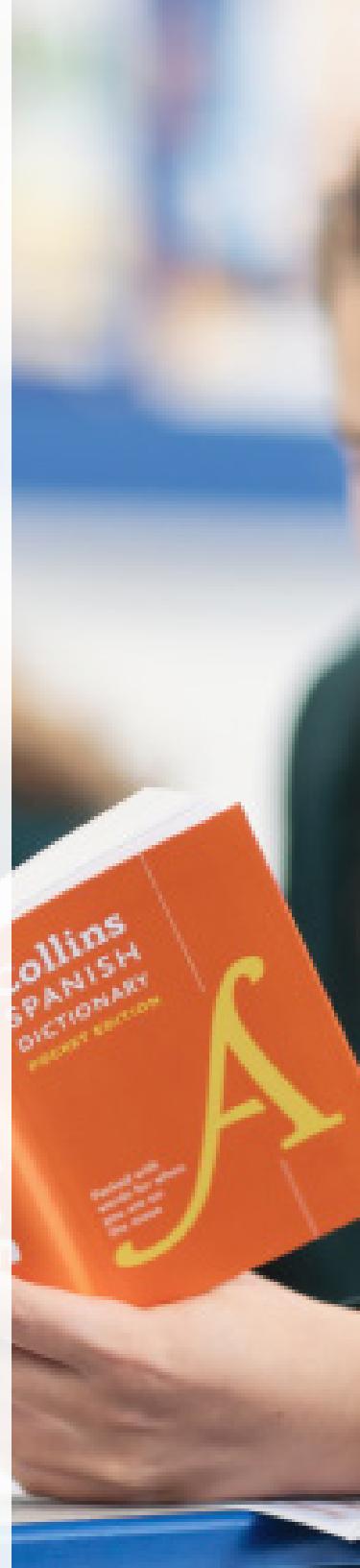
Spanish

Spanish is widely used in Latin America as well as in Spain. Language learning is a transferable skill and learning one language can make it easier to learn others later on. Pupils who take Spanish may also choose to continue their French and German studies.

The course covers four contexts which are subdivided into themes and topics. These are: Society (lifestyles, environment); Learning (school, college, lifelong learning, future plans); Employability (job skills, world of work); Culture (customs and celebrations, holidays, literature, film and television).

iViva! will be the core text used for National 5.

There is also the opportunity to go on an exchange visit to the CCE Virgen de Pasico, Torre Pacheco.



Modern Studies



Modern Studies is the subject where we examine the big issues in an ever-changing world. The units studied will inform pupils about current affairs and give them the ability to understand the world around them – at both a local, national and international level. It will teach them the ability to question and think critically, to construct detailed, persuasive arguments and is truly ‘modern’ in that pupils will learn about events happening right now, and the content is constantly being updated as a result. The courses on offer are designed to interest pupils and challenge them to think differently about the society they live in and are shaped around key themes of rights, participation, representation and power.

The National 5 course consists of 3 areas of study:

Democracy in the United Kingdom

- Students will study the UK Parliament, power and influence of Pressure Groups and Trade Unions, how people can participate across the country and

media involvement in politics. They will also examine in-depth the work of MPs, how they are elected and whether changes need to be made to ‘re-engage’ voters. They will have the chance to meet their MP and visit the House of Commons in S4.

- Students will develop evaluation skills by answering source based questions. In this unit there will be a focus on detecting and explaining bias and exaggeration.

Social Issues in the United Kingdom: Crime and the Law

Students will study the following areas:

- Types of crime, including youth crime.
- Impact of crime on victims, offenders and communities.
- Social & economic reasons why people commit crime.
- The role of the Police.
- The Criminal Justice System – Courts and Penal System.
- Students will develop evaluation skills through decision making tasks concerning the social issues raised by crime and law in the UK.

International Issues: Brazil

As one of the G20 world powers, students will examine Brazil's role internationally and its influence over other countries, including the UK. Students will also look at the people of Brazil, their rights and ways in which they can participate.

There will also be an in-depth study of the political system and on social and economic issues such as income, housing, health, crime and education, and government attempts to address these issues.

Students will develop evaluation skills by answering source based questions. In this unit there will be a focus on drawing and justifying conclusions based on sources about the country's political, social or economic issues.

Assignment

At National 5, all pupils must complete an assignment. This will involve researching a sub-topic from one of the three units and writing an assignment under exam conditions featuring research content and applying evaluation skills.



Music

At Wellington, all music courses are practical in nature and flexible in structure so that you develop confidence in progressing your skills at a rate that suits you.

Opportunities for pupils who study music are ever-increasing, especially as new technology develops. Courses that require an SQA qualification in Music for entry may include Music Performance (Classical, Popular, Musical Theatre), Production Technology & Management, Teaching and Music Technology. Careers may include teaching (music at junior, senior, further and higher level or specialist instrumental teaching), music therapy or sound engineering. Many of our pupils go on to pursue careers as professional musicians.



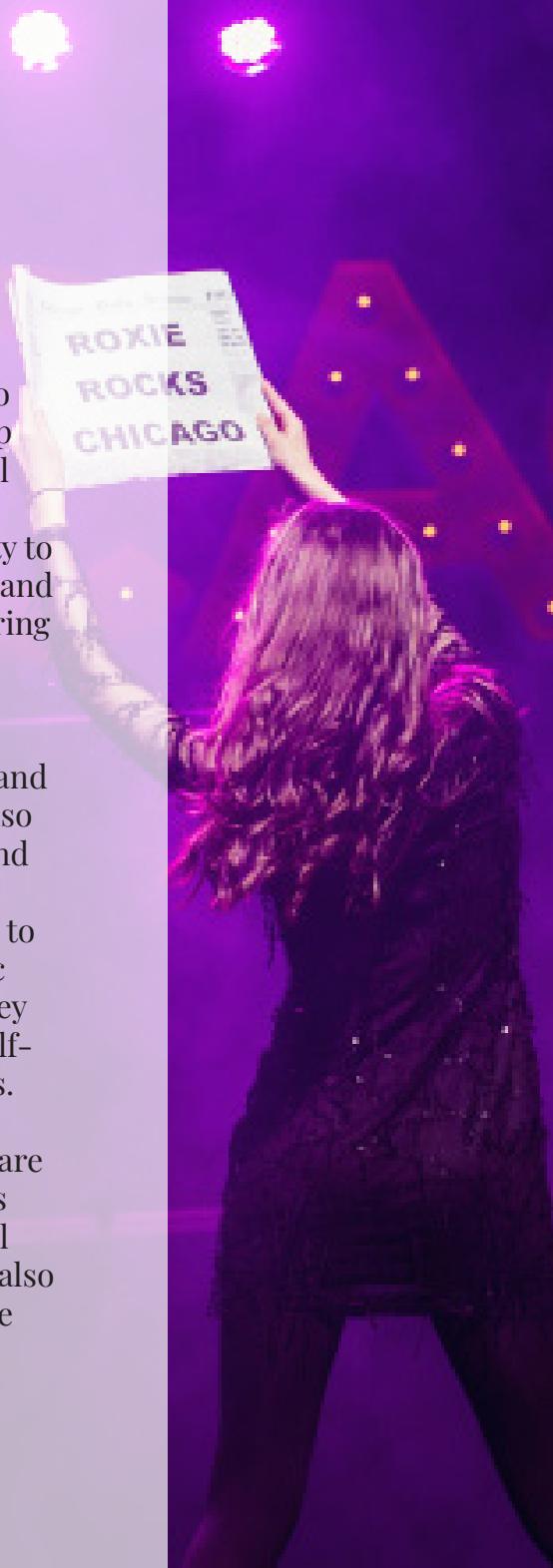
Music

Summary of Course Content

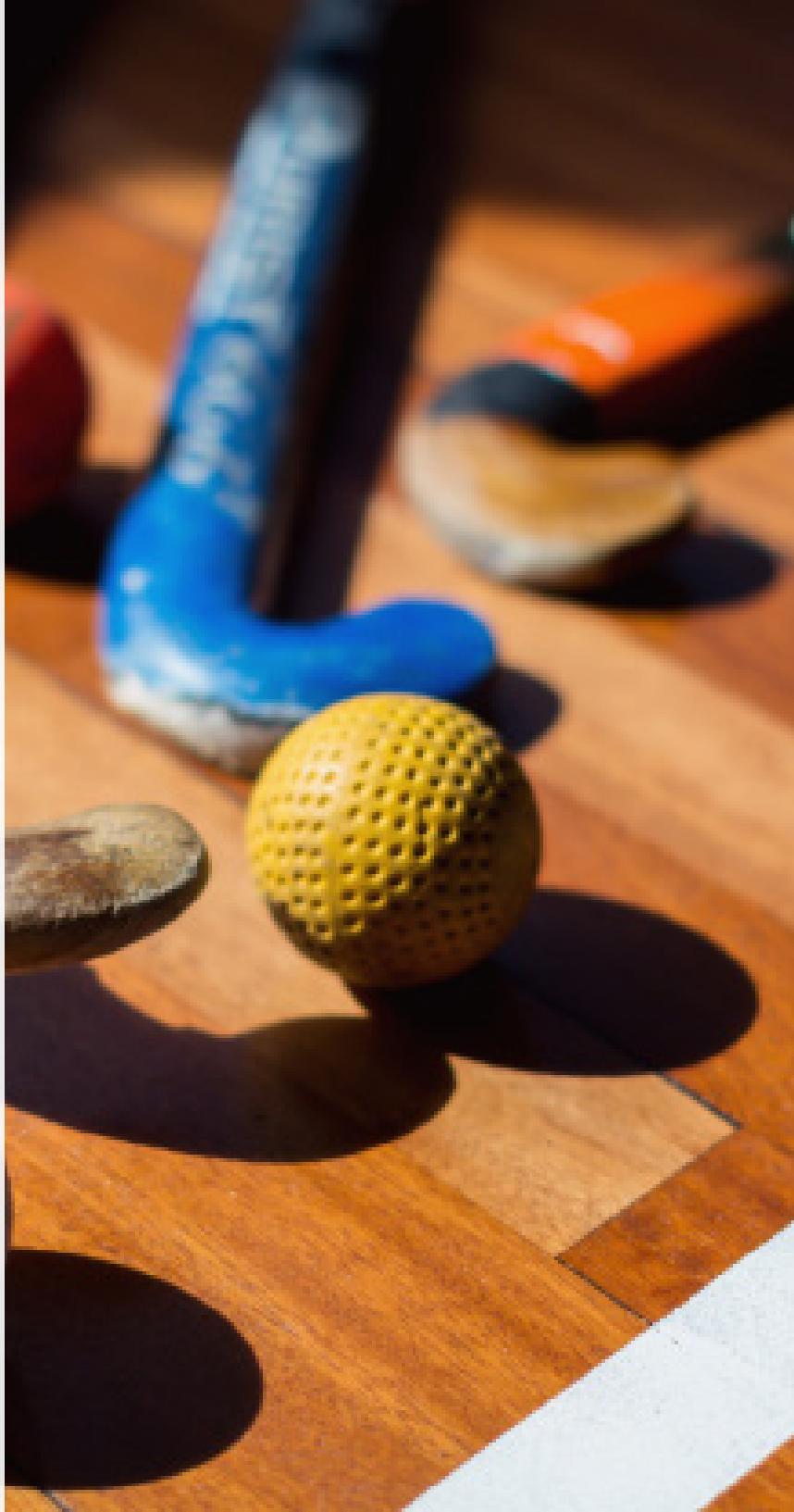
The course focuses on three main areas:

- Performing Skills is designed to consolidate and further develop pupils' group/solo instrumental and singing skills. To this end, pupils are given the opportunity to perform in front of their peers and offer constructive feedback during class discussion.
- Understanding Music involves listening to a range of musical styles and identifying features and musical concepts. Pupils will also develop their music notation and literacy skills.
- Composing Skills allows pupils to experiment with and use music concepts in creative ways as they compose original music and self-reflect on their creative choices.

As part of National 5, you will prepare a performance on two instruments that will be assessed by an external examiner in S4. Compositions are also assessed in S4, however, sent to the SQA for external marking.



Physical Education



In National 5 PE you will learn about your own performance and how it can be improved. The course has two units: Performance Skills and a Portfolio.

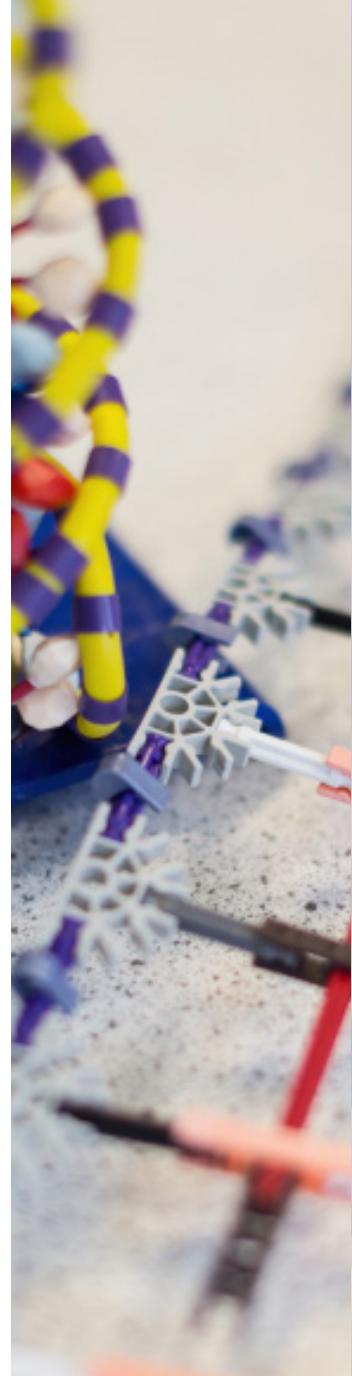
Summary of Course Content

The main group activities covered in the course will be Basketball, Badminton, Football, Gymnastics and Fitness. Pupils may select two different activities that they would like to be assessed in for their one-off performances. The performance comprises two single performances that showcase different activities. Each activity will be internally assessed and will be subject to external verification from SQA.

Pupils will also produce a Portfolio, a collection of evidence showing your learning throughout the course and will include the skills of planning and evaluation. The portfolio will be subject to external marking by SQA.

You will also cover the mental, emotional, social and physical factors of performance. Data

collection is a major part of the process and evidence will be continually assessed throughout the course.



The Sciences

Biology



Biology affects everyone and aims to find solutions to many of the world's problems. It explores the use of genetic modification to produce new plants and drugs, devising fertility treatments, curing genetic diseases, and developing new sources of food. The Course will be of interest and value to students wishing to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of biology.

The Course develops scientific understanding of biological issues and aims to develop learners' interest in and enthusiasm for biology, by using a variety of approaches, with an emphasis on practical activities. Biology plays a crucial role in our everyday existence, and is an increasingly important subject in the modern world. Advances in technologies have made this varied subject more exciting and relevant than ever.

Summary of Course Content

Cell Biology

This area of study examines cell structure, transport across cell membranes, DNA and the production of proteins, proteins, genetic engineering and respiration.

Multicellular Organisms

This unit will study producing new cells, control & communication, reproduction, variation & inheritance, transport systems and absorption of materials in animals and plants.

Biology: Life on Earth

This unit studies ecosystems, distribution of organisms, photosynthesis, energy in ecosystems, food production and the evolution of species.

Chemistry



National 5 Chemistry allows pupils to develop their interest and understanding of the world in an engaging and enjoyable way. They will engage in a wide range of investigative tasks which, while fostering an enjoyment of Chemistry and learning, allow them to develop important skills to become creative, inventive and enterprising, in a world where the skills and knowledge developed in Chemistry are needed across all sectors of society.

Chemistry provides an excellent training for many careers, both scientific and non-scientific. The study of Chemistry promotes the development of transferable skills such as: problem solving, analytical thinking, numeracy, practical skills and co-operation with others. These skills are much sought after in many occupations and fields of employment.

Summary of Course Content
Chemistry courses in S3 & 4 consist of 3 mandatory units.

Chemical Changes & Structure

The main topics under study are Rates of Reaction, Atomic Structure, Formulae & Reaction Quantities, Bonding and Acids.

Nature's Chemistry

The main topics under study are Hydrocarbons, Alcohols, Carboxylic Acids and Energy from Fuels.

Chemistry in Society

The main topics under study are Metals, Plastics, Fertilisers, Nuclear Chemistry and the techniques involved in chemical analysis. Candidates will take tests in each unit to enable progress to be monitored.

Assignment

All pupils will undertake a chemical investigation which will assess the application of skills of scientific investigation and research, data handling and report writing. The assignment is worth 20% and is marked by the SQA.

Physics



The National 5 Physics course deals with much of the theory and technology that enables the modern world to function - if it's not alive and not a chemical, then it's physics that makes it work! Physics is not maths, but it does help if you are good with numbers!

Summary of Course Content

Six topics are studied over the two year course, split into three units:-

Waves & Radiation:

Students will investigate wave parameters and behaviour including use of the wave equation, observation of the electromagnetic spectrum, refraction and reflection of light, and the nature of alpha, beta and gamma radiation.

Applications of nuclear radiation, half-life calculations and nuclear safety will also be investigated.

Dynamics & Space

Students will study vectors and scalars, specifically displacement and velocity; they will learn to interpret velocity-time graphs, calculate acceleration and learn to apply

Newton's Laws of motion. Projectile motion will be studied and an introduction to space exploration will be investigated. The final part of the Space topic will give an introduction to cosmology.

Electricity & Properties of Matter

Students will study electrical charge carriers and electric fields, practical electrical and electronic circuits, potential difference, ohms law and electrical power (enabling pupils to evaluate circuits and solve problems) specific heat capacity, enabling the pupils to carry out heat energy calculations and the gas laws and kinetic model.

Extracurricular & Curricular Opportunities

Art & Design

The Department hosts art exhibitions to reflect the breadth of skills and abilities of pupils and art, meanwhile, pupil work is regularly displayed throughout the school, promoting inclusion at all levels.

Visiting artists and designers are an enriching aspect of creative studies and form part of the department's reoccurring annual activities. These visits have taken place both during class time and externally. Developing pupils' creativity has also been delivered through ERASMUS projects with workshops in graphic design, architecture, textiles, printmaking and photography.

The Art & Design department makes effective use of competitions in order to augment pupil experience. Pupils have participated in a number of competitions including national fashion competition, Junk Kouture, the Royal Scottish Academy Art Award and the John

Byrne Drawing Competition. Wellington pupils have been successful both locally and nationally.

The department is open throughout the lunch hour and pupils are encouraged to use the facilities to develop their skills.

Business Enterprise

Business skills are encouraged and teamwork is valued and actively nurtured in Business Education pupils of all levels. They are encouraged to participate fully in a wide range of challenges and competitions, both in school and in extracurricular activities including S2 Fair Trade



Day; Subway Challenge, Fiver Challenge, Lions' Laircontest; Foreign Exchange Programme Enterprise Days.

Trips and visits are organised to local businesses and we arrange for local business owners to come and speak to pupils on business and entrepreneurship. Recent trips have included the Caledonian Paper Mill, Ardagh Glass and Tesco.

Computing

There are a number of activities offered by the Computing Science Department including the weekly Computing Science Club. A highlight for S1 to S3 pupils is chance to take part the annual Beaver Computing Challenge, an international computational thinking competition.

Debating

The Debating Club continues to be very popular. Weekly coaching sessions take place in Room 5 at lunchtimes.

The school participates in a wide range of competitions including the Rotary Public Speaking Competition; English Speaking Union (ESU) Junior and Mace Debating competitions; the ESU Public Speaking Competition; the

Law Society Debate; the Mock Court Case Project. The McKinstry Debate is held every June.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Wellington School has been delivering the Duke of Edinburgh's Award or DofE since 1987. The DofE is the world's leading achievement award for young people. It is a balanced programme of activities which develop the mind, body and soul in an environment of social interaction and team working. It encourages young people to live life as an adventure!

There are three progressive levels of DofE programmes which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. There are four areas of the Award: Volunteering, Skills, Physical Recreation and Expeditions. Involvement in the Award requires commitment and initiative, and develops independence and confidence. In S3, you will be encouraged to sign up for Bronze level meanwhile, in S4, you will progress to Silver. Pupils aged 16 or over are offered the possibility of attaining their Gold Award.

Geography

Each June, National 5 pupils

undertake a field trip to collect data for use in their assessment assignment, focusing on the impact of tourism in the National Park. There is an urban field trip in S4 to supplement the course learning and a biannual residential trip to Iceland for S3/S4 pupils. S3 pupils are also invited to take part in the department's Geography Quiz team as they represent the school in national competitions.

History

In S3, pupils have visited various sites such as Craigmillar Castle, Holyrood Palace and the Mary Queen of Scots Exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland (all in Edinburgh). In S4, pupils attend a joint trip to London to the Museum of Docklands and Westminster Parliament.



Mathematics

Pupils from every year group part in the Scottish Mathematical Challenge, a problem-solving competition for individual pupils in Scottish secondary schools and upper primary schools.

Music

We offer many opportunities for students to develop their musical ability. Opportunities exist within the academic curriculum, performing at one of the frequent concerts or external engagements, one to one instrumental and/or voice lessons and participation in the wide and varied extracurricular provision offered.

Instrumental & Vocal Tuition

It has been accepted worldwide that learning to play an instrument or studying voice can improve academic performance and also develop social, emotional and cognitive skills. We are proud that Wellington School can attract instrumental instructors of the highest calibre. We currently have 17 specialist tutors teaching a wide variety of instruments. Individual Instrumental Tuition is available for all pupils from Primary and Senior School.

Groups & Ensembles

We encourage all pupils to fully and actively take part in the vast array of extra-curricular groups available in the department. This not only fosters great camaraderie but also encourages pupils to work as part of a team. They would also be key contributors to promoting the ethos of the school through their music.

International Trips

The music department regularly provides International platforms for pupils to experience and develop as musicians. Successful trips in the past have included New York and Dortmund.

Modern Languages

Pupils have a wide range of opportunities to use their language skills at home and abroad. We offer classic exchanges, theme-based exchanges, trips, conferences and international projects.

The Modern Languages Department works closely with other departments in the school on developing cross-curricular activities, and through these, pupils can gain evidence of core skills, which universities and employers are looking for, including enhanced communication skills,



working with others, flexibility, an international outlook and sensitivity towards other cultures and speakers of other languages.

Wellington School has accessed Turing funding to work with partner schools on shared projects.

Physical Education

Dance

The Dance club is extremely popular. Each year, there is a Dance Showcase where pupils choreograph and perform their own pieces.

Hockey

The school fields teams from

P6 to S6. There are practices held throughout the week and matches against other school on Saturday mornings.

Sports Tours

National and international tours (visiting countries such as Holland, Spain, France and Italy) take place throughout the year.

Science

Two Science Captains are elected each academic year from the S6 class. As part of their remits, the Captains assist younger pupils in class and run a supported study group for S3 to S5 pupils.

Science has strong links with Modern Languages and has been involved with many Comenius, UCAPE and Erasmus projects over the years.

Writing

Pupils have been fortunate to receive visits from authors including Allan Bissett, Catherine MacPhail and Lisa Ballantyne to talk about their writing or run writing workshops.

