## Graphic Communication

### What are the aims of this course?

The course provides an opportunity for learners to gain skills in reading, interpreting, and creating graphic communications. The course is practical, exploratory and experiential in nature, and combines the creativity of graphic design with production engineering knowledge.

Learners will develop skills in both manual and electronic graphic communication techniques. They will acquire knowledge and gain experience in the use of CAD (computer-aided design), and DTP (desktop publishing) software. They will learn how graphic communication directly impacts their lives, the environment and society they live in.

### What will I be learning about in the course and what skills will I develop?

Pupils in S3 will develop their skills both manually and electronically to create orthographic drawings and 3D models.  They will also enhance their skills and knowledge within the area of Desktop Publishing by completing a variety of tasks.

S4 pupils in Perth Academy will be studying National 4-5 in Graphic Communication. This consists of both **2D** and **3D Graphic Communication** units.

Whilst working through the two units the learner will experience the three "P's" of the design process following it through from Preliminary to Production and finally Presentation. The learner will experience a mixture of both manual presentation and computer skills, they will include:

> **Preliminary** - Manual sketching and layout techniques including pencil and marker pen rendering to show tone, texture and the effect of light on every -day objects and buildings. Planning for the production of desktop published items and CAD models.

> **Production** - Drawn visuals for the production of magazines and posters. Technical drawings for the manufacture of products using CAD software.

> **Promotional** - advertising posters, shop signage and product labelling.

### How will I be assessed?

Within S3 pupils will be assessed by completing various tasks.  The majority of work will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

In S4 all Units in the course are internally assessed on a pass/fail basis. The SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgments are consistent and meet national standards.

National 4-5 Graphic Communication includes an added value unit which is an assignment that will be internally assessed and externally verified by the SQA. All National 4 *and* National 5 candidates in Graphic Communication are likely to complete this unit. National 5 candidates will also sit an SQA external examination.

### What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

You will experience many different approaches to your learning. These will include whole class lessons and demonstrations, as well as learning within small groups and independently. You will be encouraged to take responsibility for some of your learning. There will be a large proportion of work

devoted to Computer Aided Drawing, also some manual work incorporating rendering techniques and drawing board work.

**What are the homework requirements?**

Homework will be provided for you on a regular basis in this subject and will have many forms i.e. question and answer, sketching practice and rendering practice.

**What might the course lead to in the future?**

It is hoped that pupils taking Graphic communication in S3 will complete N4 or N5 in S4. Studying Graphic Communication, at any level, will provide a pathway for learners to continue studying Graphic Communication at National 5 or Higher in S5, or in a wide range of other subjects in colleges and universities. The numeracy, employability, enterprise and thinking skills developed within Graphic Communication are transferable and valued across a wide range of professions.

*Further information*

You can find out more at: http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45651.html