A person writing on a paper

Description automatically generated

**Higher English**

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| **What are the recommended entry levels for this course?**  Ø  For entry to this course, a National 5 pass is required.  However, automatic entry is not guaranteed unless teachers are agreed that a pupil is capable of sustaining both the intellectual rigour and the endeavour that is demanded by Higher. |
| **What is included in this course?**  Ø  The Higher course provides the opportunity to develop a variety of critical responses to both fiction and non-fiction and to explore the ways in which language works to influence us.  Not only is this a valuable grounding for life but it forms an essential qualification for most career paths. You will develop already existing skills in reading and writing to the level required by universities. |
| **What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?**  Ø  A variety of learning and teaching approaches are used all focussed on enhancing your already existing skills in reading and writing, talking and listening. |
| **How will I be assessed?**  Ø  **Internal Assessment**  Internal Assessment is on a pass/fail basis.  Aspects of Higher English will be internally assessed; this includes assessment of talking and listening. |
| Ø **External Assessment**  The examination in May involves two papers, each an hour and half long:    Paper 1 – a paper composed of comprehension and interpretation questions on two extracts of non-fiction, at least one of which is usually a newspaper article.    Paper 2 –  a paper devoted to answering questions based on literature studied over the year.  Only two questions must be answered so a pupil may select which texts to answer on. One question must address a Scottish text.    Writing Folios – Pupils must submit two written pieces of different genres.  The folio makes up 30% of the overall mark. |
| **What are the homework requirements?**    Ø  You will be given a number of clear deadlines at the start of the course work, which should be completed at home.  This is a rigorous course that will demand regular home study of at least two hours a week.    In addition you should read articles in newspapers written by good journalists and should try to sample different genres such a comic writing, thrillers, novels and poems.  Challenge yourself by reading texts that to begin with – you find just that little bit difficult.  Talk about our reading and writing! |
| **What are the possible progression routes?**    Ø  Higher English is required by the majority of university courses.  It is also a pre-requisite if you intend to follow Advanced Higher English at school. |