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| **GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION    (Higher)** |
| **What are the aims of this course?**  The aims of the Course are to enable learners to develop:   * skills in graphic communication techniques, including the use of equipment, graphics materials and software * creativity in the production of graphic communications to produce visual impact in meeting a specified purpose * skills in evaluating the effectiveness of graphics in communicating and meeting their purpose * an understanding of graphic communication standards protocols and conventions, where these apply * an understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society |
| **What are the recommended levels of entry for this course?**  Pupils who have a pass at National 5 in Graphic Communication or Higher Grade Art would normally be accepted into this course.  Pupils who have a pass at National 5 in Computing or Art and Design will be considered, but this will be at the discretion of the Principal Teacher. |
| **What is included in this course?**  There are two distinct units within this course. They are:  2D Graphic Communication  3D and Pictorial Graphic Communication  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 skis, 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 everyday 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** – Desk top publishing to create advertising posters, shop signage and product labelling. |
| **What skills will I develop?**  Pupils will enhance the skills that they learned in National 5 Graphic Communication.  They shall extend both their visual literacy and their graphic spatial awareness some of which will involve complex features. Pupils will also gain abroad range of computer-aided graphics techniques including commercial/industrial practice as well as an informed understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society and their likely impact in the future. |
| **What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?**  This course uses a wide range of teaching and learning approaches. Lessons will be delivered using individual work, small and whole group discussions and through extensive use of ITC. (Candidates will use industry standard software extensively within this course). |
| **How will I be assessed?**  Pupils will be required to pass both units listed above.  In addition they will complete an Assignment which will be internally assessed and externally verified by the SQA. They shall also have an external examination which will be externally assessed.  To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all of the Units as well as the Course assessment. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award. |
| **What are the homework requirements?**  Homework will take the form of either sketching practice, CAD practice or written questions. |
| **What are the possible progression routes?**  This Course or its components may provide progression to:  Advanced Higher Graphic Communication Course, other technological Courses at Higher and ultimately, for some, to **University degrees, Further Education and Employment.** |

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| **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 have many forms i.e. question and answer, sketching practice and rendering practice. |
| **What might the course lead to in the future?**  Studying Graphic Communication, at any level, will provide a pathway for learners to continue studying Graphic Communication at Higher in S6, 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. |