



**MONIFIETH HIGH SCHOOL
CURRICULUM RATIONALE 2023 - 2024**

Respect, Fairness, Kindness

We are preparing young people for success now and in the future by developing skills and values through inspiring learning and teaching in a nurturing and supportive environment,



Through the provision of the highest quality of inspiring learning and teaching, Monifieth High School aims to engage, enable and empower our young people, equipping them for life within the local community, Scotland and the wider Global society. Our curriculum will help children and young people become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors and is defined as 'all that is planned for our young people both within and beyond Monifieth High School'. We recognise that while the curriculum must meet both national and local policy and have the school's vision and values at its centre, it must also be flexible enough to respond to both the needs of our young people and Monifieth's own unique situation. Our Curriculum seeks to ensure that staff can be: passionate about what they are teaching by having ownership of their discipline content; precise in their practice supported by on-going professional development; purposeful in their determinations of both content and pedagogy in order to achieve strong learner progress. With this in mind, the following is an outline of Monifieth High school's curriculum for 2023/24.

Structure

In Monifieth High School the curriculum is divided into the Broad General Education (S1-S3) and the Senior Phase (S4-S6). Formal exams are usually attempted in the Senior Phase.

The Broad General Education (BGE) Curriculum

Our S1 to S3 phase of the curriculum embraces the principles of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) with all young people receiving their entitlement of access to the experiences and outcomes for all eight curricular areas of up to and including Fourth level where appropriate. At this stage of learning, the curriculum provides young people with a broad learning experience from S1 to S3 and a strong platform for later learning and for successful progression to the Senior phase. In S1 & S2, the vast majority of pupils experience a common curriculum across all eight curricular areas, with opportunities for personalisation and choice incorporated within departmental courses, wider achievement and Leadership Academy options.

The eight curricular areas that must be covered in the BGE: the subjects, if different, through which these curricular areas are delivered are shown in brackets.

- Expressive Arts (Art, Music and Drama)
- Languages and literacy (English, Modern Languages and Literacy)
- Health Improvement (Physical Education, Home Economics and Personal & Social Education)
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Religious & Moral Education
- Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- Social Studies (Geography, History, Modern Studies)
- Technologies (Business Studies, Information Technology, Enterprise, Computing and Technical)

In S1/S2 the 33 periods in each week are distributed as follows:

S1 Subject	Number of Periods per week	S2 Subject	Number of Periods per Week
Art, Music Rotation	3	Art, Music Rotation	2
Drama	1	Drama	1
English	4	English	4
Modern Languages	3	Modern Languages	3
Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2
Home Economics	2	Home Economics	2
Social Education	1	Social Education	1
Personal Support (Numeracy, Literacy, Health and Wellbeing Rotation)	1	Personal Support (Numeracy, Literacy, Health and Wellbeing Rotation)	1
Mathematics	4	Mathematics	4
Religious and Moral Education	1	Religious and Moral Education	1
Science	4	Science	3
Social Studies	3	History	2
Technical	2	Geography	2
Information Technology	1	Modern Studies	1
Study Skills	1	Technical	2
		Information Technology	1
		Enterprise	1

Every young person has been allocated to a form class (9 minutes per day) allowing for daily contact with the same member of staff. S1 pupils participate in a Study Skills class once per week. This class covers aspects of Visible Learning (<https://visible-learning.org>) as well as teaching our young people Retrieval Practice techniques (<https://learningscientists.org>). By assisting pupils to better understand themselves as learners and through the development of efficient self-study techniques, we aim to empower pupils to experience success as they progress along their learning journey. An IT period is also included in the S1 curriculum. Here pupils gain confidence in the use of Microsoft Office and other apps commonly used across the school. In S2, IT classes move towards increasing programming skills. An additional period, Enterprise, has been introduced this session to increase pupil familiarity with aspects of Business Management and Accounting.



Personal Support in S1 and S2 consists of Literacy, Numeracy, Health and Wellbeing rotations, taught by teachers from across the school, under the supervision of Principal Teachers of English (Literacy), Mathematics (Numeracy) and Health and Wellbeing (Health and Wellbeing).

In S3, pupils are encouraged to follow a broad curriculum, studying subjects across the main curricular areas, however where a young person has clear interests and career path, they have the opportunity to choose a range of subjects to make the progression from the BGE into the Senior Phase a smoother journey. Our young people select six subjects in addition to English and Mathematics, which reflect their interests and career aspirations. Learning is focused on providing opportunities for pupils to attain and achieve fourth level experiences and outcomes. Where course choice allows, pupils also work towards achieving an SQA National 4/5 Scottish Studies qualification. In the Spring term, pupils participate in a course choice exercise and identify which 4 subjects, in addition to English and Mathematics they will continue with to SQA certification in S4.

Subject	Number of Periods
English	4
Mathematics	4
Expressive Arts Choice	3
Sciences Choice	3
Technologies Choice	3
Social Subjects Choice	3
Modern Languages Choice	3
Choice 6 (from across curricular areas)	3
Physical Education/School of Sport	2
Religious and Moral Education	1
Social Education	1
Personal Support	1

S3 pupils can opt in to the Monifieth High School School of Sports (netball, football or rugby) in place of core Physical Education.

The Senior Phase Curriculum

Our Senior Phase curriculum has been designed to maximise attainment and achievement for all learners by providing them with knowledge, skills and experience for learning, life and work. As the world of work and employment changes, due to new demands and a rapidly evolving workplace, the range of opportunities that we provide to our pupils, to be successful in the future, also grows. To support our young people towards a successful pathway post school, learners progress along a flexible learner journey towards National Qualifications, Skills for Work, National Progression Awards and alternative learning experiences.

Our S4 Curriculum provides continuity and progression from the S3 Broad General Education. The assessment, tracking and monitoring of young people through the BGE and into the senior phase ensures that learning can be planned for meaningful progression and to facilitate success. The majority of young people will attempt SCQF Level 5 qualifications in S4 before moving on to SCQF Levels 6 and 7 in S5 and S6. However where appropriate, the young person may sit qualifications ranging from SCQF Levels 2 – 6 (in any combination) in S4 depending on the best fit for them. The presentation arrangements for each individual pupil will be agreed throughout the session.

In addition, pupils may select Dundee and Angus College courses running on Friday mornings. The timetable runs on a non-deficit model to ensure that our young people can attend all school run SQA subject classes.

Pupils may continue with either core PE or School of Sport (netball, football or rugby).

The 33 periods in S4 are allocated as follows:

Subject	Number of Periods
English	4
Mathematics	4
Choice 1	5
Choice 2	5
Choice 3	5
Choice 4	5
Physical Education/School of Sport	2
Religious and Moral Education	1
Social Education	1
Personal Support	1



In S5, the majority of young people will choose to study 5 subjects at SQA certificate level. Pupils are given the opportunity to travel to Dundee and Angus College campuses (Arbroath, Gardyne) to participate in a variety of courses such as Foundation Apprenticeships and Skills for Work courses. Most of these courses run on Monday and Wednesday afternoons (timetabled in column A) or Friday mornings.

S5 pupils participate in 2 periods of PE and meet with their Guidance Teacher for 1 period of Personal Support per week.

Pupils in S6 are asked to select a minimum of 4 subjects, one of which may come from a range of wider achievement options. In addition to courses offered in-house, young people can choose from the range of Dundee and Angus College courses or take up an advanced higher course offered online by the Tayside Regional Improvement Collaboration (TRIC).

Wider achievement courses include the following:

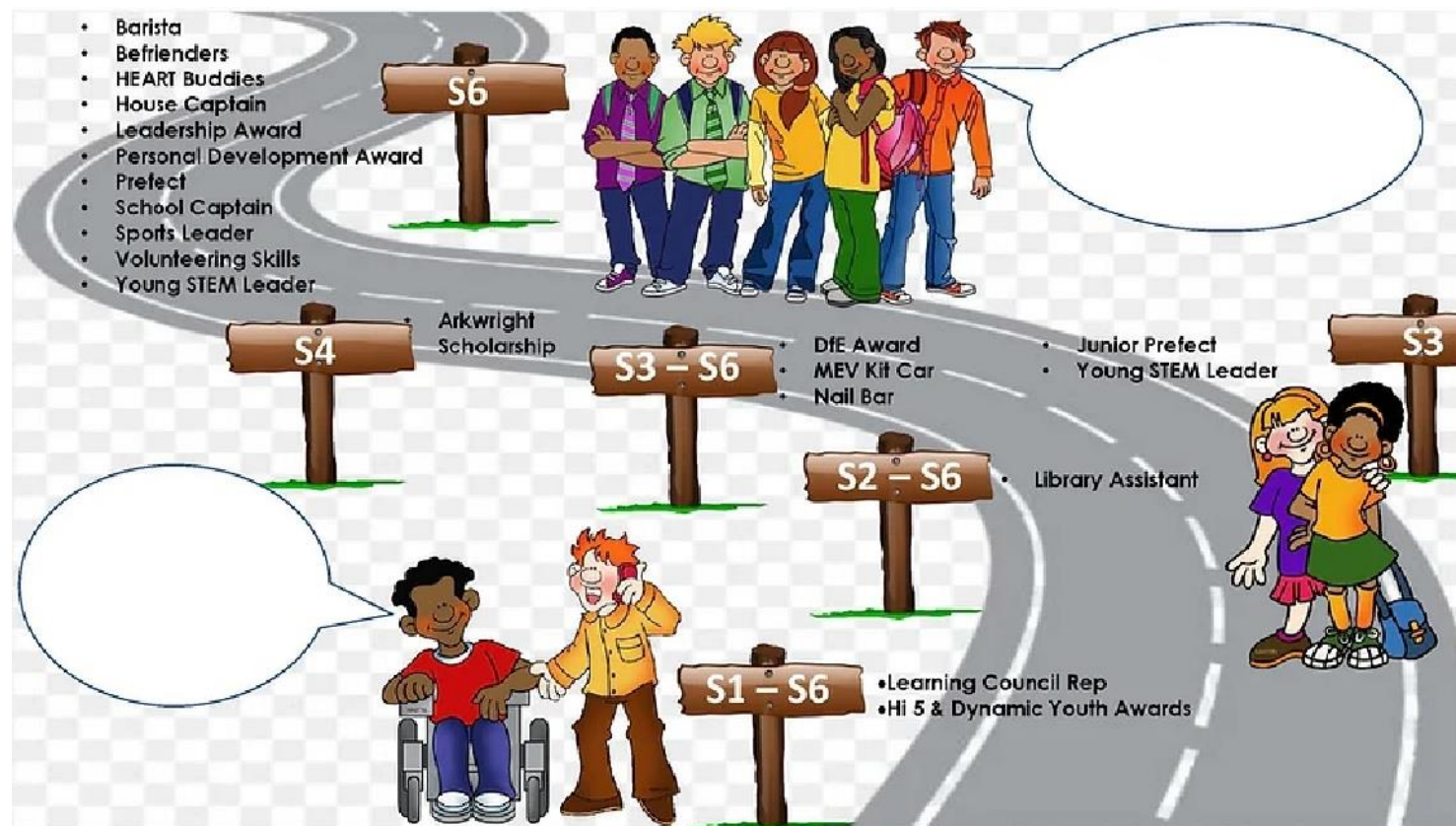
- Barista
- Befrienders
- Leadership
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Sports Leaders
- Refereeing
- Lifeguarding
- Volunteering

S6 pupils meet with their Guidance Teacher for 1 period of Personal Support per week.



Leadership Academy

The Leadership Academy provides our young people with the opportunity to be involved in the life of the school and to further develop a wide range of metaskills, essential for life at work, training or further education. Job cards advertising each Leadership Academy option are displayed on the school website and opportunities are advertised through our school bulletin, assemblies and social media, with pupils in all years being encouraged to take up a role in the school. Parents are kept up to date with Leadership Academy activities through social media, including our Monifieth Meets DYW online meetings.



Job cards for our Leadership Academy opportunities can be viewed on the school website.

Self-Study for Courses not offered by Monifieth High School

There are occasions when young people request to study courses not currently offered by Monifieth High School. In some cases, particularly Level 7 Advanced Higher Courses, our partnership with other local secondary schools allows pupils to travel to the other school for in-person teaching. Where it is not possible to travel to another school, or where the course is simply not available, families are issued with a letter providing details of the course that is being considered along with details of examination arrangements. An example is shown below.

Dear <<parent or carer>>,

Thank you for your enquiry regarding self-studying towards an SQA Level 5 Award in Latin. Monifieth High School is able to accommodate this and will register <NAME> for this SQA qualification should you so wish.

As your child will not be undertaking this course within a timetabled class, staff will not be in a position to deliver any aspect of the course, mark or provide feedback on any course work undertaken by your child.

Monifieth High School will be responsible for making sure that external assessments are completed under the conditions required by SQA. There are two components which are assessed externally:

Component 1: question paper 1 Latin: literary appreciation

Component 2: question paper 2 Latin: translating

Please refer to the course specification for more information on the course content and assessment structure. This can be accessed on the SQA website using the link below:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47413.html>

If you wish your child to be registered for SQA National 5 Latin could you please contact <NAME>'s Pupil Care and Support teacher and he/she will arrange for an in-person meeting with yourself.

Yours Faithfully,



MONIFIETH HIGH SCHOOL

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Helping everyone to be happy, healthy,
resilient and responsible