



S5 Parents' Information Evening

September 2017



S5 Information Evening Programme

- S5 Expectations – DHT Roberta Porter
- Assessment in S5 – CL Tracy Graham
- SQA support – HT Graham Hamilton
- Support for pupils – DHT Roberta Porter & (Acting) DHT Morag Carmichael
- Skills Development Scotland – Caroline Graham, Careers Adviser
- My World of Work Ambassadors

S5 Expectations - Partnerships with parents/carers



Senior School Agreement – signed by pupils & parents:

- Leadership: Ambassador for school, positive role model
- Commitment to learning & life of the school
- Respectful
- Attendance & punctuality
- Dress Code
- Equipment: fully prepared
- Homework: set work, coursework, ongoing revision, past papers

DRESS CODE



EXPECTED

School tie and white shirt must be worn and visible.

New Tie update – delay with supplier

A plain fully black V-neck jumper or cardigan to be worn.

Firrhill Blazer is encouraged.

Prefects expected to wear a Blazer Aitken and Niven/Thrift Store

Plain black shoes must be worn.

Plimsolls, trainers or leather shoes can be worn if fully black.



NOT ACCEPTABLE

A coloured or branded top/hoodie.

Is not outdoor wear so cannot be worn inside the school building.

Jogging bottoms, jeans, combat trousers, leggings without a skirt.

Coloured trainers/plimsolls/boots/shoes. Black shoes with white rim/logos/stripes.





S5 Experience

Curriculum Structure:

- ☐ 5 Subjects – 6 ppw/subject (NQs – N4/5 & Higher)
- ☐ Career Ready – business mentor, summer internship
- ☐ PE– 1ppw
- ☐ Registration & PSE – Mentor to track progress & achievements
- ☐ 32 (50 minute) period week



Assessment in S5

Tracy Graham
Curriculum Leader of Expressive Arts



How are students assessed in S5?



- 1) Portfolios
- 2) Performance Exams
- 3) Written exams
- 4) Graded Assignments



1) Portfolios

Final marks often rely on folios of course work:

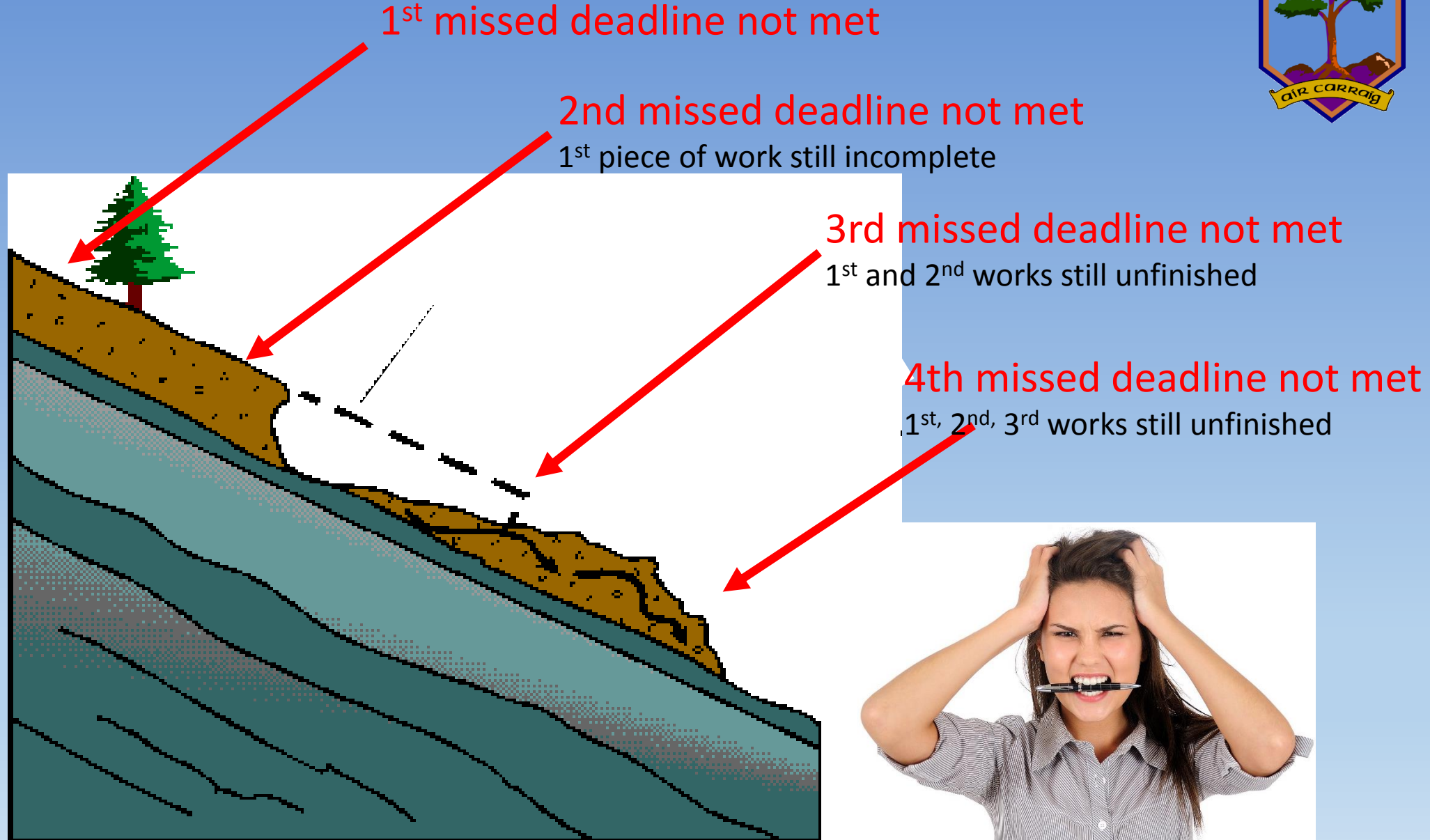
- Subjects requiring folios include Art & Design, Design & Manufacture, Graphic Communications, PE.
- These folios can contribute greatly to the pupil's final grade.
- In Art & Design for example, the practical portfolio is worth **75% of the final grade at Higher**, and **80% at National 5**, with only 25% & 20% respectively coming from the written exam.

How can parents & carers support pupils in preparing their folios?



- Speak to them about their projects.
- Encourage them to attend folio support opportunities at lunchtimes or after school.
- Be aware of course deadlines – available on SQA and school websites
- Courses are planned carefully around these.

Deadline landslide



The solution?



- 1) Maintain effort and a steady pace.
- 2) Minimise absences whenever possible.
- 3) Catch up with missed work quickly – use Office 365 / Edmodo etc to help.



Practical subjects often require a performance or practical exam



S4 into S5what's different?



- Increased Pace
- More Independent Learning
- Managing own time
- Increased expectations
- Increased pressure

IT'S NOT ABOUT
BEING BETTER
THAN SOMEONE ELSE
IT'S ABOUT
BEING BETTER
THAN **YOU**
WERE YESTERDAY



Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service



- Takes place before results are published
- Applies only if we believe a candidate has suffered as a result of an exceptional circumstance (bereavement, serious illness, etc.)
- School informs SQA immediately
- Alternative evidence (e.g. coursework, classwork, assessments) is submitted to SQA
- SQA will consider evidence (and results of other pupils) in determining whether to change/award grade



Post Results Service

- Available after results are issued
- Specific criteria on whether request is submitted
- Requires reasonable evidence that SQA has made a mistake
- Two types of request can be made:
 - **Clerical Check**
 - **Marking Review of the Script**
- Mark/grade can go **UP OR DOWN**



Support for Pupils

Roberta Porter

Morag Carmichael

Pupil Support Structure:



House Class (Registration)	Tutor – Mentor & PSE Teacher	Pupil Support Leader	House Head
5A1	Ms Murphy	Allermuir: Mr Hollis	Ms Statham
5A2	Mr Bradshaw		
5B1	Mr Baillie	Braidlaw: Mr Brodie	Mrs Porter
5B2	Ms Flockhart/Ms Bold		
5C1	Mr Owen	Caerketton: Ms Dunn	Mr McClellan
5C2	Ms Anderson		
5D1	Mr Walkinshaw	Darrach: Ms Kerr	Mr McClellan
5D2	Ms Watson		

Pupil Support



- **Mentor meeting – opportunity to review learning and plan next steps**
- **PSE – study techniques; learning pathways; HWB**
- **Homework Diaries - record H/W and assessment deadlines**
- **Course Choice booklet – course outline**
- ***Edmodo* – course notes/assignments**
- ***OneNote* eg. Graph Comm**
- **Message boards eg. English, Twitter eg. Maths, PE**
- **Scholar**
- **Lunchtime/after-school Study support**



Pupil Support - Tracking progress

- **Reporting:** 27th October 2017
19th January 2017
Working Grade (current performance)
Target Grade (expected by now)
Next Target Grade (aspirational & attainable
- NOT Estimate Grade)
- **Assessment weeks:** 27th November – 7th December 2017
Range of Exam practice, unit assessments,
coursework
- **Parents' evening:** 24th January 2018
- **If you or child have concerns please contact PSL – don't wait!**

The NQ experience

*Nae bothered:
procrastinator exasperator*



*Very bothered:
"we all know
about it!"*

WHO ARE
YOU?

*Very
bothered:
silent angst*



Young person's view – how can parents help?

- Ask but “not too much”
- Listen actively!
- “Subtle” reminders v nagging

Encourage:

- “*Can’t do it ... yet!*”
- Persistence
- Hard work
- Embracing challenge
- Resilience

(Growth mindset values)





Partnerships with parents

Effective study arrangements at home:

- Timetable
- Calendar of key dates/deadlines – set reminders
- Storage for school work
- Quiet space to work
- Revision timetable linked to SQA exam timetable
- Food! Healthy snacks, some treats & water
- Rest – turn off the Wi-Fi at night?

The Teenage Brain benefits from more support with organisation!



Partnerships with parents

- **SQA Website** [sqa.org.uk](https://www.sqa.org.uk): advice for Learners and Parents/Carers
 - **Subject pages**
 - ***Your coursework* page** – gives overview of coursework tasks and rules
 - **Specimen & Exemplar Question Papers**
 - ***Exam Tools* app** - create personal exam timetable and study plan
 - **Register with *MySQA*** – Results Day text
- **National Parent Forum Scotland:**
 - www.npfs.org.uk/highers-in-a-nutshell
- **Success Guides** eg. Leckie & Leckie course notes



“The moment we believe that success is determined by an ingrained level of ability, we will be brittle in the face of adversity.”

Josh Waitzkin

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_oqghnxBmY

What Kind of Mindset Do You Have?



I can learn anything I want to.
When I'm frustrated, I persevere.
I want to challenge myself.
When I fail, I learn.
Tell me I try hard.
If you succeed, I'm inspired.
My effort and attitude determine everything.



I'm either good at it, or I'm not.
When I'm frustrated, I give up.
I don't like to be challenged.
When I fail, I'm no good.
Tell me I'm smart.
If you succeed, I feel threatened.
My abilities determine everything.





A Growth Mindset Drives Motivation and Achievement



Blackwell, Trzesniewski & Dweck (2007) *Child Development*



Partnerships – *Skills Development Scotland*

Caroline Graham

Positive & Sustainable Destinations



2015-16 Leavers

(16/17 Not currently available)

- **42% Higher Education - Degree/HN (National 40%)**
- **22% Further Education – NC/SVQ (National 26%)**
- **27% Employment (National 22%)**



Pathways

College

- NC access courses– N4/5 (English/Maths)
- Entry to HNC - 1 to 2 Highers
- Entry to HND - 2 to 3 Highers
- Articulation from Edinburgh College to Degree courses at Napier, Heriot Watt, Queen Margaret and Edinburgh

Employment

- Modern Apprenticeships – Edinburgh Guarantee

Pathways – University (wwwucas.com)



Business Management 2017 Sample Min. Entry requirements

- **Aberdeen:** Min. 4 Highers at AABB obtained at single sitting
- **U of Edinburgh:** ABBB end S5 or AB BBB/AABB from S4-S6
- **Napier University:** BBBB required (N5 Eng/Maths)
- **Queen Margaret University:** BBBC (Fast Track AB BB)

CAUTION! *Meeting Min. Entry requirements isn't always enough!*

Importance of Personal Statement and experience:

- *“stand out from the crowd”*
- **School leadership & responsibilities**
- **Extra-curricular involvement**
- **Community roles**

2016 U of Edinburgh: 33,000 applications for 2000 places



Pathways – advice & information

- Start researching potential options now
- Set personal goals - consider College/University minimum requirements; importance of “Single Sitting”; other opportunities
- **Support available:**
 - *Skills Development Scotland*
 - *Edinburgh Guarantee*
 - *Edinburgh College – Career Coach, CV Builder*
 - *UCAS*
 - *Individual University websites*
 - *LEAPS (Lothian Equal Access Programme for Schools)*
 - *Twitter account @FHS_SfP*



My World of Work

Callum Wellington

Kelsey Quine

Rachael Allan

We are your MyWOW Ambassadors



What is *My World Of Work*?



- ☐ Scotland's online careers advice service
- ☐ Advises young people on careers and job options
- ☐ Suits skill, preference and choice
- ☐ Provides possible future learning pathways
- ☐ Develops and enhances your CV



What does the *My World Of Work* website offer?

www.myworldofwork.co.uk



The help you need for the career you want



How can it help?



- ☐ Advises on current jobs and future plans
- ☐ Thousands of jobs available on the website
- ☐ Great CV information
- ☐ Learning pathways - explains step by step career choices

For more information visit our
stand in the foyer.



Thank you for your time



Questions?