

Modern Studies

SOCIAL STUDIES

What skills will my child develop?

- Detailed knowledge and understanding of the main democratic processes, institutions and organisations in Scotland and/or the UK
- Detailed knowledge and understanding of social and economic issues at local, Scottish, national and international levels and ways of addressing needs and inequalities
- Awareness of different views about the extent of state involvement in society
- The ability to detect and explain bias and exaggeration
- An awareness of the nature and processes of conflict resolution
- Straightforward understanding of human and legal rights and responsibilities and their application in different societies
- A range of research and information handling skills
- The ability to draw valid conclusions from evidence
- Critical thinking skills such as explaining, analysing, evaluating



WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active and independent learning through self and peer evaluations, reflecting on learning, setting targets, learning logs
- A blend of classroom approaches including visits and real life contexts; teamwork approaches; whole class learning; staff-led questioning; discussion and debate
- Collaborative learning: in groups and with others locally, nationally and internationally; inter-curricular projects with English, maths and other social studies
- Space for personalisation and choice: flexibility in the themes which can be studied. Learners also choose their assignment topic and their methods of researching and presenting evidence
- Applying learning
- Embedding literacy and numeracy skills: researching and presenting information including statistics; evaluating; communicating.

ASSESSMENT

- The course will be assessed through a question paper (exam) and an assignment, which will be marked by SQA and graded A to D.
- The question paper is worth 80 marks and makes up 80% of the total assessment mark. It has three sections - Democracy in the United Kingdom, Social Issues in the United Kingdom, and International Issues - which each contain questions on two topics. Learners must answer questions on one topic from each section.
- The assignment is worth 20 marks and makes up 20% of the total assessment mark. Learners research and analyse a Modern Studies topic or issue of their choice, then present a written report on their findings.

National 5 progresses onto Higher Modern Studies

For more detailed course information:

SQA: Modern Studies National 5: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45702.html

Education Scotland: www.education.gov.scot/nationalqualifications



Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile:

www.education.gov.scot/parentzone/Documents/CfEFactfileOverview.pdf



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