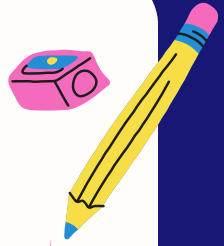




# S1 Subject Guide- Portobello High School



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## Digital Literacy

The S1 Digital Literacy course helps pupils build the digital skills they'll use every day at school and beyond, from creating school projects to staying safe online and preparing for future careers.

**Key Areas** – Pupils engage in practical, project-based tasks like creating presentations and conducting online research. They'll also learn about online safety, get an introduction to coding, explore the basics of the business world, and use OneNote and Teams to access and manage their work.

**Assessment & Progress** - The course is assessed through continuous practical tasks, ensuring that each pupil makes progress at their own pace.



## Science

Science in S1 covers a broad range of topics, in a holistic and exciting way. Students cover a range of science topics, from the smallest cell to the largest body systems. We look at forces and waves and as well as exploring chemical reactions and states of matter. We take pride in supporting our young people to become confident in a lab setting, encouraging their curiosity in a safe environment

## English

In English, we aim to support pupils as they develop their reading, writing, talking and listening skills. This will include opportunities to:

- Show understanding of texts in a range of genres and media
- Read texts in a range of genres and share their reactions to them
- Create new texts to inform, persuade, entertain and reflect on experience.

## Modern Languages

All students study French in S1, aiming to develop skills in reading, writing, talking and listening.

We cover the topics of talking about yourself, school life, sports & hobbies, and home area in S1.

We do a taster of Spanish or Italian in S2 before course choice decisions for S3.



## Physical Education



**Activities** - The activities you will take part are:  
Badminton, Basketball, Fitness, Gymnastics, Swimming,  
Team Games - Blocks of 6 weeks, 2 periods a week.

**PE Kit Policy** - All pupils should come with a change of clothes for PE: sports leggings, shorts and tracksuit bottoms are all acceptable as well as sports team strips. We aim to have 100% participation in lessons, at times pupils will be unable to participate, if this is the case then they should bring a note from home but still bring their kit to wear. We will look to involve them in the lesson.

## FTT-fashion and Textile Technology

The Fashion and Food Technology course is a mix of practical foods, textiles and health and nutrition theory. Learners are required to bring a container to take any food they do not eat in class on the cookery weeks .

### CDT

In S1 CDT, pupils explore the exciting world of design and technology through hands-on, creative projects. They learn essential skills in crafting, problem-solving, and using tools and materials safely. "CDT focuses on designing and making practical items while developing technical understanding, accuracy, and collaborative skills.



## Mathematics

In Mathematics, we aim to cover a range of topics including: numeracy, symmetry, angles, co-ordinates, algebra and problem solving. Pupils will be assessed in a variety of ways, not just written tests.

## Social Subjects and RMPS

Social Subjects covers three different subject areas: Geography, History, Modern Studies. In S1 and S2 pupils are taught all three Social Subjects by one teacher. Examples of topics that we cover in Social Subjects include Scottish History, Mount Everest, Democracy and Dictatorship, The British Empire and Human Rights.

RMPS stands for 'Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies'. In this subject we learn about different beliefs, practices and cultures.

Examples of topics that we cover in RMPS include an Introduction to World Religions, Ultimate Questions, Prejudice and Discrimination, and Sikhism.



## Expressive Arts

As a faculty we are all embedding the development of meta skills through our subject specific teaching. Our aim is to build the awareness of these skills in our learners, facilitating them to see how they are transferable and can be used in a wide variety of situations.



### Art & Design

All S1 learners are introduced to a range of skills and methods including print making, drawing and painting and they will also work on a design project. They will explore a range of Artists and Designers celebrating cultures and practices from around the world.

### Drama

All S1 learners will explore script writing, progress their presentation and performing skills thinking about use of voice and movement and how we use them to communicate our ideas. They will also develop a variety of characterisation techniques and explore some key elements of theatre design. They will work collaboratively in pairs, groups and as a whole class and create and present their own work on a regular basis.

### Music

All S1 learners will develop their performing skills on a range of instruments, before deciding which two to take forward in more detail into S2. They will be introduced to a range of musical genres and learn how to identify different instruments and musical styles. They will develop their musical literacy, reading and writing music and be introduced to Music Technology and Composition.