

# HIGHERS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of Higher Art and Design

ART & DESIGN  
EXPRESSIVE ARTS

CfE  
HIGHER

2  
UNITS

EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITY  
DESIGN ACTIVITY

+  
COURSE  
ASSESSMENT

PORTFOLIO + QUESTION PAPER



## Skills

Learners will be able to:

- communicate personal thoughts, feelings and ideas through the creative use of art and design materials, techniques and/or technology
- analyse a range of art and design practices
- critically reflect on the impact of external factors on artists and designers and their work
- plan, develop, produce and present creative art and design work
- develop personal creativity, using problem solving, critical thinking and reflective practice skills



## Opportunities for Learners

Learners will be able to:

- develop knowledge of art and design practice
- experience a range of practical media handling skills in both expressive and design contexts
- exercise imagination and creativity
- analyse the factors influencing artists' and designers' work and practice
- explore how to visually represent and communicate their personal thoughts, ideas and feelings through their work



## Assessment

- To gain Higher Art and Design, learners must pass the two Units and the Course Assessment (Portfolio and Question Paper for 220 marks)
- Units are assessed as pass or fail by the school/centre and are quality assured by the SQA. Achievement of Units is recorded on the learner's qualifications certificate
- The SQA has provided examples of Unit assessments that teachers/lecturers can use as they are, or adapt to suit the needs of their learners
- The Course Assessment consists of a Portfolio (160 marks) and a Question Paper (exam for 60 marks) which is in two sections (see below). These are marked externally by the SQA
- Higher Art and Design is graded from A to D or as No Award.



**Question Paper** Section 1: Expressive Art Studies (2 questions, 30 marks)

2 hours

Section 2: Design Studies (2 questions, 30 marks)

60 marks

**Specimen Paper** [www.sqa.org.uk/files\\_ccc/ArtandDesignSQPH.pdf](http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/ArtandDesignSQPH.pdf)

**Portfolio**

Two pieces of work, one expressive piece of art and one design solution, with development ideas and evidence of critical reflection, are required for the Portfolio.

160 marks



**Progression** Higher courses can stand alone or follow on from National 5 qualifications and may lead to Advanced Highers, the Scottish Baccalaureate and a range of qualifications within Further and Higher Education.



For course information, specimen question papers and past paper guidance visit:

Higher Art and Design: [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47892.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47892.html)

[Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile](#)

[www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview\\_tcm4-665983.pdf](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf)

[Further Information for Parents and Learners](#) Information on assessment, skills, progression, revision resources and summaries of National Qualifications

[www.parentforumscotland.org](http://www.parentforumscotland.org)



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Forum of Scotland

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