

NATIONALS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of Art and Design National 4

ART & DESIGN
EXPRESSIVE ARTS

NATIONAL
4

2
UNITS

EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITY
DESIGN ACTIVITY

ADDED VALUE UNIT: PRACTICAL ACTIVITY

+
ADDED
VALUE
UNIT

What skills will my child develop?

- knowledge and understanding of artists, designers and their work
- understanding the factors that influence artists and designers
- experimenting with a variety of art and design materials
- practical skills in using materials, techniques and/or technology
- understanding artistic and cultural values, identities and ideas
- developing ideas
- researching and collating information from a range of sources
- understanding his/her own creative practice
- creativity and imaginative expression
- planning, critical thinking and problem-solving to find solutions to design briefs
- confidence in creative practice
- enjoyment in the arts
- communicating and representing ideas, thoughts and feelings visually



WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active and independent learning including planned critiques to discuss choices and monitor progress
- A blend of classroom approaches including experiential, practical learning
- Collaborative learning: discussing, debating and sharing ideas and techniques; peer assessment to develop critical analysis skills as well as whole class learning. Collaboration projects might include: holding an art exhibition, working on a graphic design brief, producing material for a blog or website, organising a fashion show
- Space for personalisation and choice: in both the expressive and the design units and in the practical activity
- Applying learning to practical work with a solution-focused approach
- Embedding literacy skills: researching and presenting information; evaluating; discussing; listening; talking
- The Added Value Unit (Practical Activity) asks learners to produce a 'final solution' or piece of work for both the Expressive Unit and the Design Unit.

ASSESSMENT

- To gain National 4, learners must pass all Units
- Units are as pass or fail assessed by the school/centre (following SQA external quality assurance to meet national standards)
- Unit assessment (or 'evidence of learning') could take a variety of 2D or 3D forms. A portfolio may be prepared.

APPLYING LEARNING TO EXPRESSIVE PROJECTS

Our brief was to produce a poster in the style of an artist of our own choice which promoted an upcoming school show. We had to think about composition, images and symbols, colour and typography. The posters that everyone produced were astonishing and one of them was used to advertise the show!

National 4 progresses onto National 5

For more detailed course information:

SQA: Art and Design National 4: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47385.html

Education Scotland: www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp

Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile:

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf