The National Parent Forum of Scotland National 5 Summary

NATIONAL

# **Environmental Science**

SCIENCES

## What skills will my child develop?

- Knowledge and understanding of environmental science
- Understanding environmental science's role in scientific issues and in society
- The ability to apply environmental science knowledge to new situations
- Practical fieldwork skills
- Scientific awareness of environmental issues and the validity of source material
- Using scientific technology, equipment and materials safely
- The ability to research and communicate findings
- Scientific literacy and scientific analytical skills
- Scientific inquiry and investigative skills to test hypotheses and to illustrate effects
- Creative thinking, analysing and problem-solving
- Selecting information from a range of sources
- Presenting and processing information appropriately in a variety of forms (using calculations and units where appropriate)

#### WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active and independent learning through self and peer evaluations, reflecting on learning, making independent decisions
- A blend of classroom approaches including hands-on practical and experiential learning; experiments; one-to-one, whole-class, group and peer learning and discussion; field work; visits
- Collaborative learning: working in pairs or small groups; working with partners in science and social studies as this course has a strong interdisciplinary nature; employers; businesses; STEMNET
- Space for personalisation and choice: learners can choose their assignment topic in discussion with the teachers/lecturer
- Applying learning
- Embedding literacy and numeracy skills: information-handling; processing data; measuring; communicating; analysing and evaluating; using technology; discussing.

### 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 100 marks and makes up 80% of the total assessment mark. Sections 1 and 2 involve a series of restricted response questions. In section 3, learners answer two extended-response questions.
- The assignment is worth 20 marks and makes up 20% of the total assessment mark. Learners carry out an experiment or fieldwork procedure and investigate a topic relevant to environmental science, before producing a report of their findings.

National 5 progresses onto Higher Environmental Science

#### For more detailed course information:

SQA: Environmental Science National 5: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47429.html Education Scotland: https://education.gov.scot/nationalqualifications Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile: https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/Documents/CfEFactfileOverview.pdf www.parentforumscotland.org enquiries@parentforumscotland.org f parentforumscotland parentforumscot

the National Parent Forum of Scotland