# **Environmental Science National 4**

#### **Award Received**

National 4 Environmental Science is graded pass or fail



# Entry Level: What do I need to do it?

Entry into N4 Environmental Science will normally depend on your attainment in Science subject(s) and Geography courses, (or National 4/5 courses if you're enrolling in S5/6)

Your Science and/or Geography teacher will advise you on whether N4 Environmental Science is an appropriate subject and level of study for you.

Alternatively go and see Mrs Stewart for advice.

#### Course Content: What will I learn?

### **Living Environment**



You will learn how plants and animals are adapted to different environments and how they interact with each other. You will also find out about the advantages and disadvantages of fertilisers of and their importance in helping produce food for a growing human population. The key areas covered are: Interdependence; Adaptation for survival;

Impact of population growth; Nitrogen cycle; the impact of fertilisers.

#### Earth's Resources

Our Earth is rich in resources, many of which are used by humans. You will learn about fossil fuels and the impact they have on the environment and contrast that with renewable fuels. You will also study the gases of the air and how changes in the atmosphere can affect us. The key areas covered are: Renewable and non-renewable



resources; Fossil fuels; Carbon cycle; Balance of gases in the air.

# Sustainability



The rapidly increasing human population is having a massive impact on our Earth. You will learn about the importance of meeting the needs of the human population without damaging the environment The key areas covered are: Sustainability of resources;

Human impact on the environment; Agricultural food production; Society's energy needs; Impact of transport.

## Teaching Methods: What will I do?

Much of the course will be teacher-led but you will also be involved in a variety of tasks including practical experiments and investigations, written work, research and presentation tasks.

#### Assessment: How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed as follows:

- \* Unit assessments, covering knowledge and understanding and problem solving
- \* Investigation, including planning, carrying out and reporting on a practical investigation.
- \* Assignment, including researching and reporting on a relevant topic of your choice.
- \* Prelim, although there is no SQA final exam you will be given a prelim to help us decide whether or not progression to N5 is a suitable pathway for you.

#### Homework.

You will be given regular homework tasks, eg practice exam questions, research and revision tasks.

## Progression in the Senior Phase.

High achieving and committed N4 Environmental Science students would be recommended to progress to the National 5 level of study.