**Ellon Academy English Faculty Parent/Carer Information Course Descriptor and Outline – Higher Media**

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| **Course Component** | **What is this component assessing & how is it assessed?** | **How can you support your child?** |
| **Examination:**    **Paper 1**  **Analysis of Media Content**  50 marks | Paper 1 is called Analysis of Media Content, and is split into two sections.  Section 1 is called Analysis of Media Content in Context, where candidates are required to analyse Media texts in relation to specific points of the Media Key Aspects. Content-based Key Aspects (Categories, Language, Narrative and Representation) and Context-based Key Aspects (Audience, Institutions and Society) are closely linked, and candidates must use their knowledge and understanding to show how these links exist.  Section 2 of Paper 1 requires candidates to analyse two unseen Media texts from a particular form (Movie poster, Magazine cover, or Poster advertisement) and analyse the similarities and/or differences that exist between these texts. | Encourage your child to tell you about the texts they are studying, and the Key Aspects of each.  For many pupils, there is a range of new terminology and concepts to grasp. Discussing them with you will help to reinforce their knowledge and understanding. |
| **Examination:**  **Paper 2**  **The Role of Media**  20 marks | Paper 2 focuses on The Role of the Media, and candidates are required to discuss various viewpoints regarding how Media is motivated by specific purposes. This will be in the form of an essay in which the various viewpoints will be analysed. |
| **Media Course Assignment:**  60 marks | The media assignment requires candidates to respond to a brief, set by the class teacher, by researching, planning, creating and then evaluating a piece of Media Content.  Part 1 of the write-up relates to specific areas of planning and research. The six specific sections of the planning and development section are:   * Creative Intentions in Response to Brief * Content Research 1 * Content Research 2 * Production Roles * Audience Research * Institutional Research   Candidates are required to make a detailed exploration of each area, taking the facts discovered through this research and making appropriate planning decisions to complete the creation of the Media text.  Candidates then must produce a piece of media content as planned. This may be a film, (series of) posters, magazine spread and so on.   * Upon completion of the product, candidates must analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of their media content. | Encourage your child to share their planned ideas with you, in order to help them visualise concepts and ideas.  Encourage them to share footage/ creations, and offer constructive criticism to help with the process of evaluation. |
| **Other Sources for Revision Materials and/support:** | **Google Classroom:** Your child’s teacher has been placing weekly updates of tasks completed in class to support learning in the case of those working from home and also for those who have been off ill. These updates can also be used as signposts to the various materials used in class to support revision.  **Drop-in Sessions:** Over the course of the session, pupils are welcome to attend drop-in sessions. They can use these sessions to seek support on a particular element of the course or to simply avail of a place to study, with help and support available should they require it.  **SQA Understanding Standards website**: This website has examples of exam scripts from candidates, along with the mark awarded and a commentary explaining how this mark was achieved.  **Past Papers:** Past papers are available on the SQA website. An invaluable part of revision is to complete past papers and to bring them in to be marked.  **Scholar:** This is a website with a wide range of materials to support study and revision. Your child will have a username and password. Should they need this replaced, please contact a teacher/librarian.  Should you and/or your child have any queries, or require any support in accessing the materials detailed above, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Warne (PT English) on [sarah.warne@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.warne@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) | |