S5/6 Curricular Pathways & Option Choice

Welcome!

- Ms Nicola Quigley – Acting Depute Head Teacher (Year Head S4)

- Mrs Emma Jane Smedley – Depute Head Teacher (Year Head S5)

- Mrs Claire Kerr – Depute Head Teacher (Year Head S6)

Please turn off your camera and ensure your microphone is muted

Tonight's Presentation Themes

➢ Pupil options – where next?

➢ Senior Phase Options – School Curriculum /Vocational

➢ Option Choice Process / Key Dates

➢ Support Available

➢ Making the most of the Curriculum

Where Next?

1. Leave school – if 16 before 30th September, 2026

2. Stay at school until Christmas then leave – if 16 before 28th February, 2027

3. Attend college, training, work experience etc. until Statutory leaving age – by agreement with Chief Education Officer

4. Stay on, choose subjects that will lead to qualifications for employment, college, university etc.

Senior Phase Options – What next?

- Return to school for S5 and S6*

- University

- College

- Employment

- Modern/Graduate Apprenticeship

- Employability Fund/Training
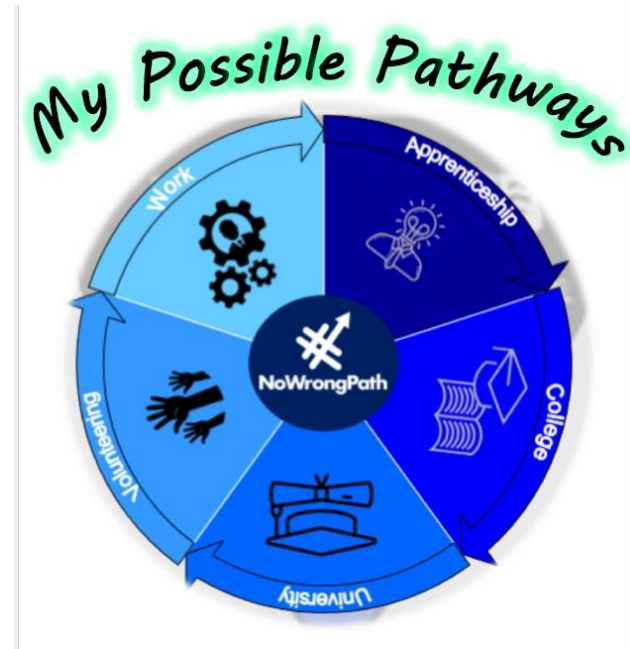
Return to school for S5 and S6

Options Available:

➢ Advanced Highers (Level 7)
➢ Highers (Level 6)
➢ National 4 and 5 (Level 4/5)
➢ National Progression Awards, NPAs (Level 6)
➢ Skills for Work courses, SfW (Level 5)
➢ Senior Phase Programme (Levels 3-7)
➢ Foundation Apprenticeships (Level 6)
➢ Wider Achievement Awards through DYW (i.e. Young STEM Leader Award)

THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

This Framework diagram has been produced to show the mainstream Scottish qualifications already credit rated by SQA and HEIs. However, there are a diverse number of learning programmes on the Framework, which, due to the limitations of this format, cannot be represented here. For more information, please visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk to view the interactive version of the Framework or search the Database.

scqf
scottish credit and qualifications framework

SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications				Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12					Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11					Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10					Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9				Professional Development Award	Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8		Higher National Diploma			Diploma Of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate			Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher					Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5					Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award			SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3					
2	National 2, Awards					
1	National 1, Awards					

*Qualifications you can study through school
*Qualifications you can study through college and university
*Qualifications you can study through work

Progression

S3	S4	S5	S6
Achieved Level 4	National 5	Higher	Advanced Higher
Achieved Level 3	National 4	National 5*	Higher*
Achieved Level 2	National 3	National 4	National 5*

*NPA or Skills for Work courses may also be considered

Senior Phase Programmes

✓ Wide range of courses on offer across a variety of sectors – majority accredited by the SQA
✓ Gives pupils the opportunity to learn in an environment outside of the classroom – developing skills for learning, life and work.
✓ Helps to support the transition from school – exposure to different learning environment / work based learning/independent travel
✓ Two options available to students in S5/6:

Vocational Programme

- Students attend college/ university course two afternoons per week

- This will be one of the subjects of study in S5/6

- Courses range from SCQF Level 4 – 7 (national 4 – Advanced Higher)

Foundation Apprenticeship

- Worked based learning opportunity for students in S5 and S6
- Developed by Scottish Government and Skills Development Scotland
- Addressing skills gaps in Scotland's growing industries
- SCQF Level 6 (Same level as a Higher)
- Qualification delivered through time at college and time on work placement with employer

Apply directly to college following discussion with guidance teacher

Vocational Partners

Glasgow Kelvin College

1. Springburn Campus
2. Easterhouse Campus

City of Glasgow College

1. City Campus

Glasgow Clyde College

1. Anniesland Campus

University of Strathclyde Glasgow

1. University of Strathclyde – City Centre Campus

GCU Glasgow Caledonian University

1. Glasgow Caledonian University – City Centre Campus

Vocational Courses

Around 60 courses offered over 4 sectors:

➤ Care, Health & Sports Industries

➤ Creative & Digital Industries

➤ Business & Service Industries

➤ Science, Engineering, Design & Manufacture Industries

There are also a number of ASN supported courses – Speak to Mrs Slavin (LSR) or Mrs Stevenson (ELR)

Vocational College/FA Courses 2026

Courses	SCQF LEVEL		Courses	SCQF LEVEL
NPA Bakery	4		NPA Criminology	6
NQ Introduction to Barbering	4		NPA Cyber Security	6
NQ Introduction to Hair, Beauty and Make-Up	4		NQ Design, Engineering and Planning for Construction	6
NPA Professional Cookery	4		NPA Esports	6
Uniform and Emergency Services	4		Fashion Brand Retailing	6
FA in Construction Winter Leavers Aug - Dec - 0900-1600	4		NPA Financial Services	6
FA in Construction Summer Leavers Jan - April - 0900-1600	4		Higher Accounting	6
FA Construction - School Term Duration	4		Higher German (Twilight 4.30 - 6.30)	6
Painting and Decorating	4		Higher Italian (Twilight 4.30 - 6.30)	6
Computer Refurbishment	4		Higher Psychology	6
Plumbing	4		NPA International Events and Enterprise	6
Building Service Engineering	4		NPA Legal Studies	6
Construction Skills	4		NQ Set Design, Prop and Model Making for Films & TV	6
Current Trends in Hairdressing	4		NPA Social Services, Children and Young People	6
Introduction to Adventure Games & Sport	4		NPA Youth Work	6
Introduction to British Sign Language	5		FA in Business Skills (Fast-Track)	6
NQ Health, Child & Social Care	5		FA in Financial Services (Fast Track)	6
Hospitality and Cookery Skills	5		FA in Social Services, Children and Young People (Fast Track)	6
NPA Introduction to Graphic Design	5		Computer Games Development	6
NPA Jewellery, Arts and Technology	5		Media, Content and Journalism	6
NC Mechanical Engineering (BAE Pre-Apprenticeship Programme)	5		Building Service Engineering (Mon/Wed All Day)	6
NPA Radio Broadcasting	5		NQ Acting and Musical Theatre	6
NPA Television Production	5		Introduction to Sport & Fitness	6
Up in the Air and Down on the Ground	5		HNC Business (S6 ONLY)	7
Automotive Engineering	5		PDA Psychology	7
BAE Engineering	5		Building Service Engineering (Mon/Wed All Day)	7
Practical Electronics	5		HNC Civil Engineering (2 Full Days - TBC)	7
SfW Early Education & Childcare	5		Electronic Engineering (Wed/Thu All Day)	7
National 5 Psychology	5		Mechanical Engineering	7
Performing Engineering Operations	5		HNC Social Science & Business (Full Days TBC)	7
Automotive Engineering	5		Mental Health & Criminology	L4/5
Award in Mental Health & Wellbeing	6		Introduction to Nursing	L5/6
NPA Computer Games Development	6		Introduction to Teaching	S6 ONLY
			Transitions	TBC

Further Information and How to Apply

- Pupils should discuss Senior Phase courses with their Guidance Teacher during the option choice process. (Highlight if you are interested in a College Programme by selecting the appropriate option within your option form: Vocational College Course / Foundation Apprenticeship)

- This year's Vocational prospectus will be shared via Teams/Satchel.

- Vocational/FA Courses: Apply directly with college following discussion with guidance teacher.

- **It is important that all students choosing the senior phase option ensure it is the best progression pathway for their current year of study. If a student in S5 requires 5 Higher passes for entry to University/Apprenticeship, they may wish to consider studying a vocational programme in S6 instead.**

- **Please note – if a student is successful in their chosen vocational programme, this will replace their column E subject choice.**

Option Choice Process - A Big Decision

- Significant impact - Positive Destinations

The Choice

S4 → S5

7 subjects in S4 reduce to 5 in S5

S5→ S6

5 subjects in S5 reduce to a *minimum* of 4 in S6
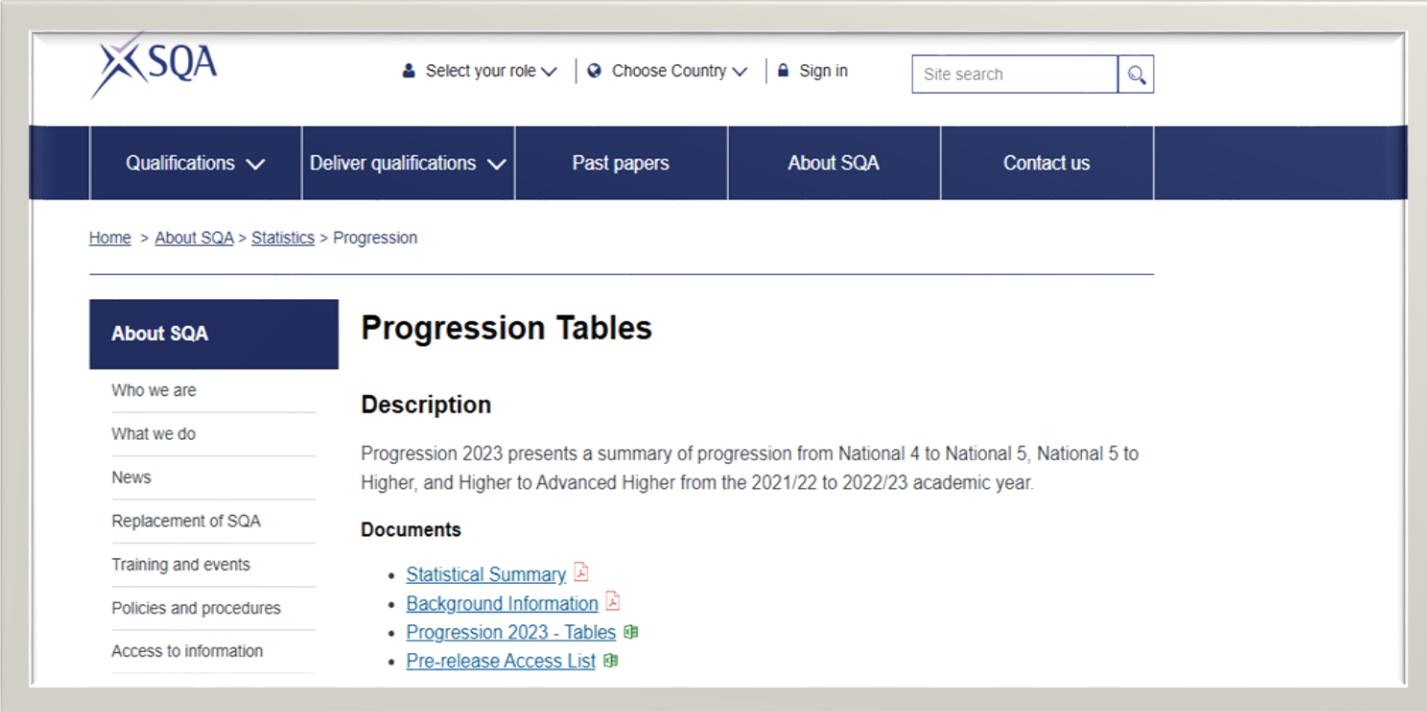
Reasons for Choice

- Ability & aptitude

- Related to possible career or Further/Higher Education

- Certainty over choices

- Enjoyment

Poor Reasons for Choice

- It's what your friends are doing

- You don't like the teachers in that department

- You like a certain teacher

- You were told to do it by your parents

- It sounds good but you have not really checked it out

SQA Progression Tables

What do they tell you?

These tables Progression 2023 presents a summary of progression from:

- National 4 to National
- National 5 to Higher
- Higher to Advanced Higher.
- They reflect the % pass rates across Scotland.
- They show the % chance of getting an A at Higher from an A at National 5, % chance of getting a B at Higher from an A at National 5, a C at Higher from a C at National 5 and so on…..

National 5 to Higher Progression

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I

Table 5: National 5 to Higher grade breakdown

This worksheet contains one table.

Some shorthand is used in this table, [c] where the value is suppressed to protect against the risk of disclosure of personal information, [low] for a value less than 0.5% and [z] for not applicable.

National 5 Title	Higher Title	National 5 Grade	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	No Award	Total
Mathematics	Mathematics	A	56%	22%	11%	6%	5%	100%
Mathematics	Mathematics	B	6%	17%	23%	22%	31%	100%
Mathematics	Mathematics	C	2%	7%	13%	21%	56%	100%
Mathematics	Mathematics	D	2%	8%	10%	15%	65%	100%
Mathematics	Mathematics	No Award	0%	0%	0%	11%	89%	100%

National 5 to Higher Progression

Table 5: National 5 to Higher grade breakdown

This worksheet contains one table.

Some shorthand is used in this table, [c] where the value is suppressed to protect against the risk of disclosure of personal information, [low] for a value less than 0.5% and [z] for not applicable.

National 5 Title	Higher Title	National 5 Grade	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	No Award	Total
English	English	A	48%	32%	15%	5%	1%	100%
English	English	B	6%	23%	35%	26%	9%	100%
English	English	C	1%	7%	21%	38%	32%	100%
English	English	D	[low]	3%	11%	34%	52%	100%
English	English	No Award	0%	6%	25%	31%	38%	100%
English for Speakers of Other Languages	English for Speakers of Other Languages	A	38%	42%	17%	3%	0%	100%

National 5 to Higher Progression

Table 5: National 5 to Higher grade breakdown

This worksheet contains one table.

Some shorthand is used in this table, [c] where the value is suppressed to protect against the risk of disclosure of personal information, [low] for a value less than 0.5% and [z] for not applicable.

National 5 Title	Higher Title	National 5 Grade	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	No Award	Total
History	History	A	59%	25%	11%	3%	2%	100%
History	History	B	17%	31%	25%	14%	12%	100%
History	History	C	5%	17%	25%	24%	29%	100%
History	History	D	1%	7%	13%	23%	57%	100%
History	History	No Award	0%	10%	10%	24%	57%	100%
Italian	Italian	A	85%	7%	2%	2%	2%	100%

National 5 to Higher Progression

Table 5: National 5 to Higher grade breakdown

This worksheet contains one table.

Some shorthand is used in this table, [c] where the value is suppressed to protect against the risk of disclosure of personal information, [low] for a value less than 0.5% and [z] for not applicable.

National 5 Title	Higher Title	National 5 Grade	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	No Award	Total
Business Management	Business Management	A	68%	22%	8%	2%	[low]	100%
Business Management	Business Management	B	19%	32%	28%	14%	7%	100%
Business Management	Business Management	C	6%	11%	29%	29%	25%	100%
Business Management	Business Management	D	0%	5%	15%	27%	54%	100%
Business Management	Business Management	No Award	5%	27%	5%	27%	36%	100%
Care	Care	A	25%	38%	31%	6%	0%	100%

Higher to Advanced Higher Progression

Table 6: Higher to Advanced Higher grade breakdown

This worksheet contains one table.

Some shorthand is used in this table, [c] where the value is suppressed to protect against the risk of disclosure of personal information, [low] for a value less than 0.5% and [z] for not applicable.

Higher Title	Advanced Higher Title	Higher Grade	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	No Award	Total
Accounting	Accounting	A	51%	18%	16%	10%	4%	100%
Accounting	Accounting	B	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%	100%
Accounting	Accounting	C	0%	0%	40%	20%	40%	100%
Accounting	Accounting	D	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]
Accounting	Accounting	No Award	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]
Art and Design	Art and Design (Design)	A	51%	31%	16%	1%	[low]	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Design)	B	28%	31%	33%	7%	[low]	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Design)	C	17%	27%	45%	10%	2%	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Design)	D	3%	19%	52%	19%	6%	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Design)	No Award	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Expressive)	A	55%	34%	11%	1%	0%	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Expressive)	B	26%	36%	35%	3%	[low]	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Expressive)	C	12%	29%	50%	8%	2%	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Expressive)	D	7%	14%	59%	16%	5%	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design (Expressive)	No Award	0%	17%	50%	33%	0%	100%
Biology	Biology	A	38%	33%	20%	7%	2%	100%
Biology	Biology	B	3%	14%	28%	40%	15%	100%
Biology	Biology	C	1%	3%	18%	44%	34%	100%
Biology	Biology	D	0%	0%	0%	33%	67%	100%

National 4 to National 5

Table 4: National 4 to National 5 grade breakdown

This worksheet contains one table.

Some shorthand is used in this table, [c] where the value is suppressed to protect against the risk of disclosure of personal information, [low] for a value less than 0.5% and [z] for not applicable

National 4 Title	National 5 Title	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	No Award	Total
Administration and IT	Administration and IT	14%	26%	27%	18%	14%	100%
Applications of Mathematics	Applications of Mathematics	7%	11%	19%	22%	40%	100%
Art and Design	Art and Design	11%	23%	38%	24%	4%	100%
Biology	Biology	4%	9%	20%	27%	40%	100%
Business	Business Management	4%	16%	31%	30%	18%	100%
Care	Care	[c]	[c]	[c]	[c]	[c]	[c]
Chemistry	Chemistry	11%	13%	20%	24%	32%	100%
Chinese Languages	Chinese Languages	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]	[z]
Classical Studies	Classical Studies	[c]	[c]	[c]	[c]	[c]	[c]
Computing Science	Computing Science	7%	19%	22%	23%	29%	100%
Design and Manufacture	Design and Manufacture	7%	18%	29%	31%	15%	100%
Drama	Drama	21%	26%	28%	14%	12%	100%
Engineering Science	Engineering Science	9%	18%	14%	23%	36%	100%
English	English	9%	23%	32%	22%	15%	100%
English for Speakers of Other Languages	English for Speakers of Other Languages	12%	25%	29%	21%	13%	100%
Environmental Science	Environmental Science	0%	0%	25%	6%	69%	100%
Fashion and Textile Technology	Fashion and Textile Technology	5%	5%	58%	11%	21%	100%
French	French	38%	29%	13%	11%	11%	100%
Gaelic (Learners)	Gaelic (Learners)	20%	30%	40%	10%	0%	100%
Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig	8%	17%	42%	17%	17%	100%
Geography	Geography	4%	9%	19%	26%	42%	100%

Search: Progression Tables

- https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/105163.html

https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/105163.html

Showing Progression

Admissions officers at College/University , Employers and Apprenticeship providers all look for PROGRESSION within a young person's curriculum.

S5 Progression (examples)

- *If you are completing National 5's this year – you should be aiming for Higher subjects next year.*

- *NPA's and Skills for work courses should only be considered if you are working on a mixture of National 4 and 5's this year and are looking to progress into a skills/employability based course.*

- *Avoid taking the easy option and remember a lot of courses will be looking for you to get your results in your **first sitting!***

Showing Progression Cont….

S6 Progression

If you require additional qualifications you should use S6 to:

- Meet any specific subject and grade requirements
- Take subjects which will develop and demonstrate relevant skills, e.g. essay based subjects for Social Sciences or Business; Art/Graphic Communication for Architecture
- Take subjects you are good at, to help you gain strong grades and ultimately build a strong CV

Examples

- ***If you are sitting Highers this year – ideally you should be aiming for at least 1 Advanced Higher subject next year***

- *NPA's and Skills for work courses should only be considered if you are working on a **mixture of National 4 and 5's** this year and are looking to progress into a skills/employability based course.*

Curricular Structure (S5/6*)

CHOOSE BEST SUBJECTS – COHERENCE WHERE POSSIBLE

Column A　　　　　6 periods

Column B　　　　　6 periods

Column C　　　　　6 periods

Column D　　　　　6 periods

Column E　　　　　6 periods

+ 2 periods – PSE/PE/Wider Achievement (S5)

+ 2 periods – PSE/PE/Wider Achievement (S6)

*S6 pupils will choose from 4 columns. The column left blank will be allocated to study time.

Online Option Form

S4-5 Option Choice Form 2026-27

Pupils in S5 must choose 5 subjects.
You must only select a subject once.
Please make sure you pay attention to the level of the subject you are selecting (Higher, N5, etc)
All subjects will be allocated 6 periods each and you must have previously undertaken them in S4.

Pupils who would like to take a Vocational College Course or Foundation Apprenticeship must choose 5 subjects and answer the additional questions below.

You must complete the form below by Tuesday 20th January 2026

If you have any questions please contact your Guidance Teacher.

1. Forename (first name) *

   Enter your answer

2. Surname (second name) *

   Enter your answer

3. Registration class *

   ○ 4B1

   ○ 4B2

Online Option Form

4. Please state your desired occupation (leave blank if unknown)

> Enter your answer

5. Column A   *

- ◯ Administration and IT (Higher)
- ◯ Application of Maths (Higher
- ◯ Engineering Science (Higher)
- ◯ Enterprise & Business (Lv 6 NPA)
- ◯ Photography (Higher)
- ◯ Psychology (Higher)
- ◯ Mathematics (Higher)
- ◯ Music Technology (Higher)
- ◯ Administration and IT (National 5)
- ◯ Application of Maths (National 5)
- ◯ Health Sector (SCQF Level 5 Skills for Work)

Important to do prior research to check entry and subject requirements:

- University/College websites

- Apprenticeships.scot

- Careers advisors on hand for further support.

10. Please check the appropriate box below if you would like to undertake a Vocational College Course or Foundation Apprenticeship. **(Please note: If you are allocated a place onto a vocational course, this will replace your column E Option choice)**

○ Vocational College Course (Tuesday/ Thursday afternoons)

○ Foundation Apprenticeship (bespoke timetable)

11. Please state the name of the College Course or Foundation Apprenticeship you are interested in in the box below

Enter your answer

12. Please check the box below to confirm you have checked and meet the minimum entry requirements for your chosen course.

○ Yes I meet the minimum requirements

○ No I do not meet the minimum requirements

Use this box to highlight any subject concerns:

13. Comments

Enter your answer

i.e – I would like to study Higher Psychology instead of Music in column D.

Bishopbriggs Academy
S5 Course Choice Form 2026-27   Name...................................   Class ....   Desired Occupation ....

- S5 must choose 5 subjects.
- Pupils going into S5 MUST not "crash" a subject. You should pick your 5 strongest subjects from S4.
- All choices will be subject to staffing.

Level	Col A	X	Col B	X	Col C	X	Col D	X	Col E	X
SCQF Level 6	Administration & IT		Business Management		Accounting		Business Management		Administration & IT	
	Application of Maths		English		Art & Design		Chemistry		Art & Design	
	Engineering science		ESOL		Computing Science		Engineering Science		Acting & Performance (NPA)	
	Enterprise & Business (NPA)		Exercise and Fitness (NPA)		Childcare and Development		Geography		Chemistry	
	Photography		Gaelic Learners		English		Health & Food Technology		Drama	
	Psychology		Geography		French		History		Gaidhlig	
	Mathematics		Health & Food Technology		Modern Studies		Human Biology		German	
	Music Technology		Musical Theatre (NPA)		PE Studies		Mathematics		Graphic Communication	
			Digital Media (NPA)**		Physics		Music		Human Biology	
					RMPS		PE Studies		Mental Health & Wellbeing (SQA Award)	
					Social Services (Children & Young People) NPA		Spanish		Physics	
							Travel & Tourism (NPA)			
SCQF Level 5	Administration & IT		English		Accounting		Early Learning and Childcare (SfW)		Criminology (NPA)	
	Application of Maths		Hospitality (SfW)		French		Hospitality (SfW)		Drama	
	Health Sector (SfW)		Business Management		Media		Practical Woodworking		Energy (SfW)	
	Mathematics		Biology		Applied Science				German	
			Digital Media (NPA)							

* SfW = Skills for Work course
* NPA = National Progression Award

Vocational College Courses and Foundation Apprenticeships (SCQF Level 4-7):
Please tick the option below if you would like to undertake a Vocational College Course or Foundation Apprenticeship
- ☐ Vocational College Course (Tuesday/ Thursday afternoons)
- ☐ Foundation Apprenticeship (bespoke timetable)

Please state the name of the College Course or Foundation Apprenticeship you are interested in ....

I acknowledge that if I am accepted onto my college course it will replace my column E option choice ☐
Do you have the qualifications to meet the minimum entry requirements? YES/NO
S4 pupils must complete the Microsoft form (link on Satchel and S4 TEAMs page) by 20/01/26

Exceptions to 'crashing' include:

Higher Business
NPA Enterprise & Business
Higher Admin
Higher Psychology
Higher Childcare

Bishopbriggs Academy
EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Bishopbriggs Academy
S6 Course Choice Form 2026-27   Name………………………………   Class ………..   Desired Occupation ………………………………..

- S6 must choose 4 subjects. All choices will be subject to staffing.

Level	Col A	X	Col B	X	Col C	X	Col D	X	Col E	X
(S6 only)	History		Art & Design		Biology		Chemistry		Geography	
SCQF Level 7	Mathematics		English		French		Drama		German	
	Modern Studies		Physics		Music		Health and Food Technology		PE Studies	
	Business Management				RMPS		Spanish		Gaidhlig	
SCQF Level 6	Administration & IT		Business Management		Accounting		Business Management		Administration & IT	
	Application of Maths		English		Art & Design		Chemistry		Art & Design	
	Engineering science		ESOL		Computing Science		Engineering Science		Acting & Performance (NPA)	
	Enterprise & Business (NPA)		Exercise and Fitness (NPA)		Childcare and Development		Geography		Chemistry	
	Photography		Gaelic Learners		English		Health & Food Technology		Drama	
	Psychology		Geography		French		History		Gaidhlig	
	Mathematics		Health & Food Technology		Modern Studies		Human Biology		German	
	Music Technology		Musical Theatre (NPA)		PE Studies		Mathematics		Graphic Communication	
			Digital Media (NPA)**		Physics		Music		Human Biology	
					RMPS		PE Studies		Mental Health & Wellbeing (SQA Award)	
					Social Services (Children & Young People) NPA		Spanish		Physics	
							Travel & Tourism (NPA)			
SCQF Level 5	Administration & IT		English		Accounting		Early Learning and Childcare		Criminology (NPA)	
	Application of Maths		Hospitality (SfW)		French		Hospitality (SfW)		Drama	
	Health Sector (SfW)		Business Management		Media		Practical Woodworking		Energy (SfW)	
	Mathematics		Biology		Applied Science				German	
			Digital Media (NPA)							

* SfW = Skills for Work course
* NPA = National Progression Award

Vocational College Courses and Foundation Apprenticeships (SCQF Level 4-7):
I acknowledge if I am accepted onto my college course it will replace my column E option choice ☐

Please tick the option below if you would like to undertake a Vocational College Course or Foundation Apprenticeship
- ☐ Vocational College Course (Tuesday/ Thursday afternoons) **Please state the name of the course you are interested in:** _____
- ☐ Foundation Apprenticeship (bespoke timetable)   **Please state the name of the course you are interested in:** _____
Do you have the qualifications to meet the minimum entry requirements? <u>YES/NO</u>

S5 pupils must complete the Microsoft form (link on Satchel and S5 TEAMs page) by 2/02/26

Key Dates

- All option forms will be completed electronically via Microsoft Forms and will be available on year group Teams Pages/Satchel.

- **S4→S5: Process starts on 13/1/26. Forms to be completed by 20/01/26**

- **S5→S6: Process starts on 26/1/26. Forms to be completed by 2/02/26**

Links to forms must be accessed through pupil GLOW account

Making the Most of the Curriculum

- Competition for positive destinations is greater than ever

- Currency in the form of exam results and skills/experiences makes the difference

- 'Banking' highest qualifications possible in S5 allows pupils to utilise the flexibility of the S6 timetable

- One way to differentiate between two students applying for the same course is by giving greater weight to academic achievements on 'first sitting'

Keys to Success in the Senior Phase

- Getting the **options** right

- need to do your homework in advance of picking options - check requirements to ensure you are picking the correct subjects.

- lengthy process, reviewed in August

- 5 best subjects

- avoid crashing*

- dropping subjects not possible

- 3 year plan to meet requirements

Support from Key Adults

- Mrs Ailsa Slavin P.T. Learner Support Resource (LSR)

- Mrs Michele Stevenson P.T. Enhanced Learning Resource (ELR)

- Mr Cameron Carey – P.T. Developing the Young Workforce (DYW)

- Ms Sandra Fleming / Ms Neve Collins – SDS Careers Advisers

- Family

Support from Key Staff - Guidance Team

Mr Rushworth	BURNS
Mrs Penman	FLEMING
Ms Ramage/Mr McNair	KELVIN
Ms McSherry	MACDONALD
Mrs Dawson	MUIR
Mr Wilson	THOMSON

Careers Advice

Some useful websites for careers research:

- www.myworldofwork.co.uk

- www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk

- www.planitplus.net

- www.prospects.ac.uk

- www.ucas.com

Preparation for Choice

Key information	Dates
Information evening	
Guidance interviews	w/b 12th Jan for S4 and w/b 26th Jan for S5
Departmental advice	Ongoing
Nationals and Highers in a nutshell	Available now on the school website
Option Choice Booklets	Available now on the school website / Teams pages
S4 prelim results	Shared via Satchel
M&T data	Ongoing
Return of Option Form for S4 into S5	20th January
Return of Option Form for S5 into S6	2nd February
Review of option choices after SQA results	August 2026

Preparation for Choice- Understanding Courses

Option Choice Booklet
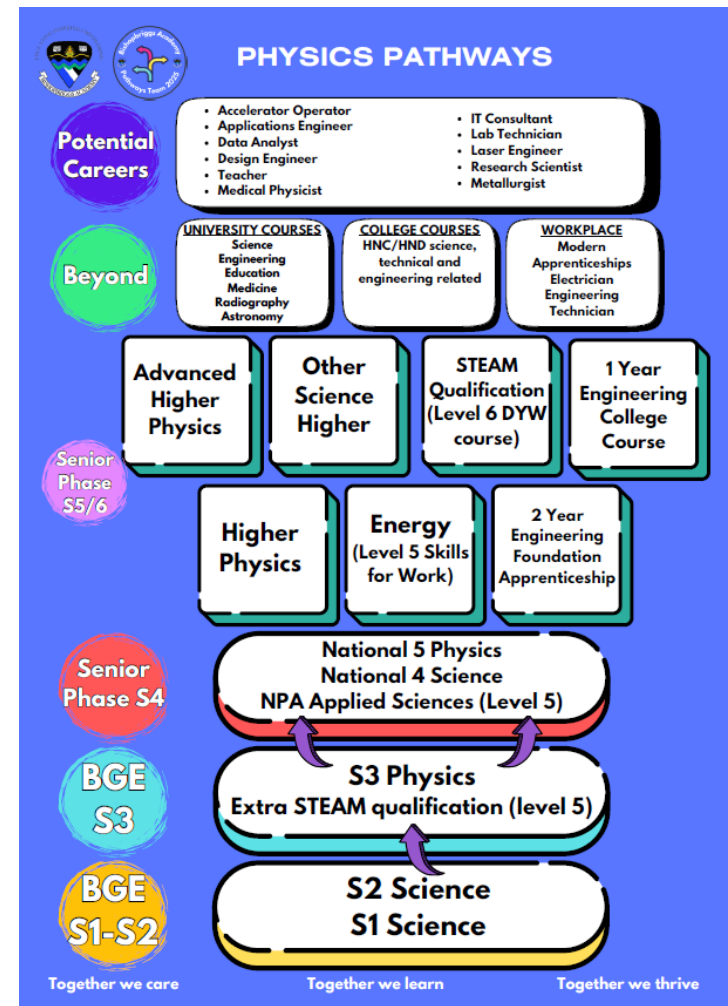
Subject Pathway Posters

Preparation for Choice- Understanding Courses

Online Resources: All hyperlinked

- Nationals and Highers in a Nutshell

- Information on National Progression Awards (NPAs)

- Information on Skills for Work courses (SfW)

- Information on Foundation Apprenticeships (FAs)

- Vocational College Programmes (last year's prospectus link is at bottom of page)

Next Steps: Preparing for life after BA

▸ Senior phase is used to gain currency for next steps; academic / skills / experiences

▸ PT DYW shares many other opportunities during weekly assemblies including apprenticeships, summer schools, transition courses, volunteering and work experience opportunities (This enhances the work already being undertaken in the curriculum)

▸ Pupils are supported by their Guidance Teachers, Careers Adviser and Year Head to move on to a positive, **sustained** destination.

▸ Goal? To ensure pupil successes are celebrated and they have every opportunity to embark on their chosen career pathway.

▸ The options they choose now, will have a significant impact on their next steps. Take your time, think it through and don't be afraid to ask for help!

- Individual questions can be answered by Guidance Teacher / Ms Quigley / Mrs Smedley / Mrs Kerr by contacting school.