



STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY
RESPONSIBLE RESPECTFUL RESILIENT

Education Resources
Executive Director Tony McDaid
Head Teacher Kevin Boyd

Strathaven Academy

Our ref: WH/CD
Your ref:
If calling ask for: Mr Fleming
Phone: 01357 524040
Date: February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We are currently planning for our new S4 curriculum, due to begin in June 2021. At this stage, we require all current S3 pupils to indicate which subjects they wish to study in S4. These subjects will lead to certification at National 4 or 5.

As a school, we have agreed that pupils moving into S4 will have seven subjects of four periods each, two periods of core PE, one period of core RME and one of PSHE. All pupils will study English and Mathematics and five other chosen subjects. All courses are designed to follow on from work done in S3.

If you require further information regarding subjects and courses, we have placed a document entitled "Senior Phase Subject Choices" on our school website: www.strathaven.s-lanark.sch.uk. If you would prefer a printed copy, this is available at the school office. Information for pupils has been posted on the S3 Pupil Information Google Classroom. If you or your child would like to discuss any issue with regard to their options, please contact the appropriate Pupil Support teacher or me.

The S4 Subject Options form is an online Google Form and has been uploaded to the S3 Pupil Information Google Classroom, along with instructions for completion. This form should be submitted by **Monday, 1 March** at the latest.

Yours sincerely

I Fleming
Depute Head Teacher



STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY
RESPONSIBLE RESPECTFUL DECISION



FAIRTRADE
FOUNDATION



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



Healthy
Working
Lives

MAKING CHOICES FOR S4 SESSION 2021-2022

Pupils current curriculum in S3 is Maths, English and 6 subjects that they chose at the end of S2.

In S4, pupils will continue with English, Maths and five other subjects. From their current S3 curriculum, they will drop one subject. Pupils should indicate on the Options Form their first and second choice of subjects with which they no longer wish to continue. Please note English and Maths cannot be included in your choice.

We will try to accommodate all first choices but no guarantees can be given.

New courses for S4

There are some new courses in S4 that pupils can consider. If a pupil is interested in one of these subjects, they can select them on their options form. The courses are:

- **Enterprise & Employability**
- **Skills for Work: Energy**
- **Skills for Work: Hospitality**
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

Further information about each of these courses is shown below:

Enterprise & Employability

The purpose of this course is to enable pupils to identify, develop and demonstrate enterprise and employability skills. The overriding aim is to equip individuals with relevant and transferable skills, which can be used in self-employment or any employment setting.

National Progression Award (Level 4)

A total of four credits are required to achieve the NPA at each level. One mandatory unit must be completed, with the remaining credits coming from a range of optional units. Assessment is through a range of practical activities, folios, self-evaluation,



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planning and review. Throughout the course, pupils will experience a range of activities, including enterprise initiatives, talks from guest speakers and involvement in community events.



Career Opportunities

Candidates might go on to do further vocational courses such as Skills for Work or business-related awards at SCQF levels 5 and 6. Candidates who undertake an NPA in Enterprise and Employability could expect increased employment opportunities. They will develop improved work-related skills and qualities, following a successful work placement.

Skills for Work: Energy

There are many technologies used in the production of energy and this course has been designed to contain both an electrical generation element using wind turbines and a heat generation element using solar panels. These elements were selected to ensure learners develop a range of skills using different technologies that are involved in the generation of energy. Other systems used to generate energy from both the traditional/conventional and renewable systems will be discussed and evaluated during the course.

National 5 (SCQF: Level 5)

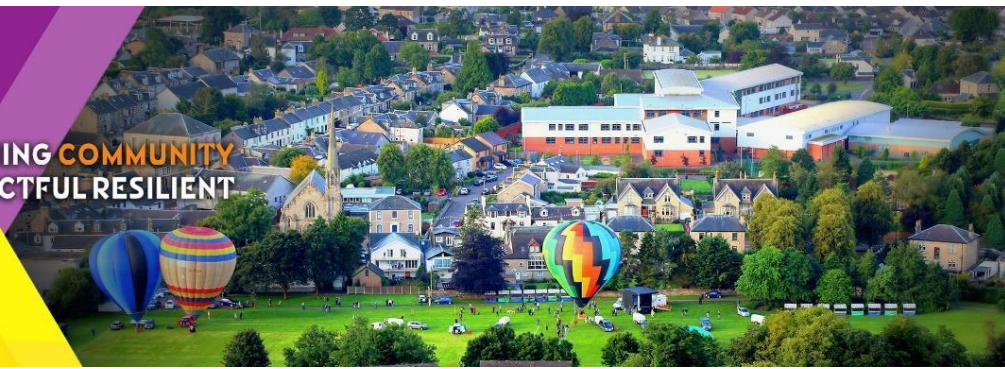
Learners explore the various UK-based energy industries and develop practical skills by building a small-scale solar hot-water system and wind turbine. They also develop their employability skills and review their strengths and weaknesses. These are then used to help them choose the most appropriate career for them within the energy sector. There is an opportunity to specialise in one subject area, such as analysing your carbon footprint, developing a deeper knowledge of oil and gas production in the North Sea, or learning more about the conventional energy generation systems used in the UK.

Career Opportunities

With a focus on skills development, the National 5 Skills for Work: Energy course provides a basis for progression into further education or for moving directly into training or employment within the energy sector. This course also provides young people with a valuable skillset for those moving directly into employment or apprenticeships.



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Skills for Work: Hospitality

Skills for Work Hospitality at National 5 (SCQF level 5) provides an introduction to the different commercial and non-commercial sectors of the hospitality industry and the types of provision they offer. Candidates will also learn about the organisational aims of hospitality establishments and the products and services they provide.

National 5 (SCQF: Level 5)

Candidates will develop vocational skills and knowledge and gain practical experience in menu-planning, preparing, cooking and presenting a range of foods in a professional kitchen, serving food and drinks, undertaking reception duties and customer care, and planning, organising and running a small hospitality event.

All units in the course place emphasis on the employability skills and attitudes which will help to prepare candidates for the workplace. Candidates will have the opportunity to prepare for, and take part in, a job interview.

Career Opportunities

This course may provide candidates with opportunities to progress to:

- NC Hospitality
- a Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) in Catering and Hospitality
- training or employment

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Course Overview

This award is designed to enable learners to increase understanding and awareness of issues around mental health and wellbeing. As a result, they will be better equipped to undertake further education, training or employment, live a healthy lifestyle and become responsible, contributing citizens.



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This qualification seeks to address the inaccuracies surrounding perceptions of mental health and, instead, provide accurate information, promote understanding

and equip learners with positive coping strategies to improve and maintain mental health and wellbeing. The award aims to:

- reduce stigma surrounding mental health.
- arm young people with healthy coping strategies.
- promote knowledge of the impact of mental health on behaviour.
- dispel myths surrounding mental health.
- promote understanding of positive and negative impacts on mental health.
- help individuals to make the right choices.
- promote understanding of the potential uses and impact of social media and the internet.
- create resilience.

National 4

This award has been designed to enable you to acquire and develop understanding and skills around mental health and wellbeing. You will be required to complete all three mandatory units to gain the full award.

The mandatory units are

Understanding Mental Health Issues

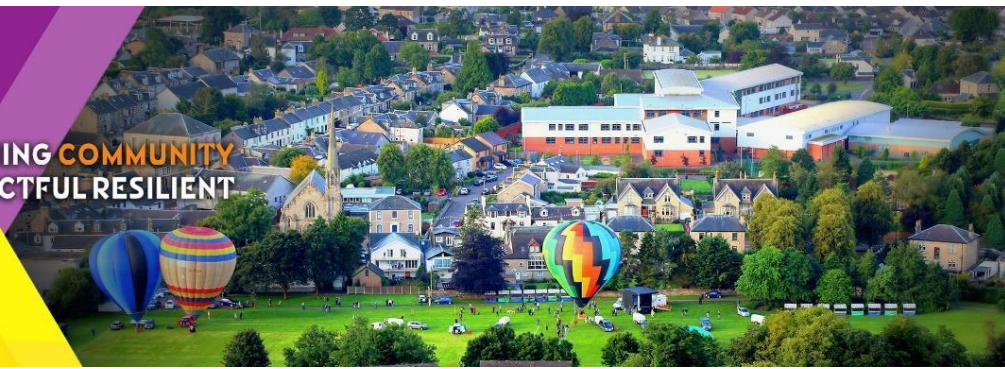
Influences on Mental Health and Wellbeing

Coping Strategies and Building Resilience

You do not need any prior qualifications to begin this award. To achieve a unit within the award, you will need to pass the unit assessment. Throughout all 3 units, you will identify and describe relevant issues. Unit assessment may include practical work, written work and discussion. By completing this award you will gain awareness and understanding of mental health and wellbeing.



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National 5

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The mandatory units are

Understanding Mental Health Issues

Influences on Mental Health and Wellbeing

Coping Strategies and Building Resilience

You do not need any prior qualifications to begin this award. To achieve a unit within the award, you will need to pass the unit assessment. Throughout all 3 units, you will describe and explain relevant issues. Unit assessment may include practical work, written work and discussion. By completing this award you will gain awareness and understanding of mental health and wellbeing.

Career Opportunities

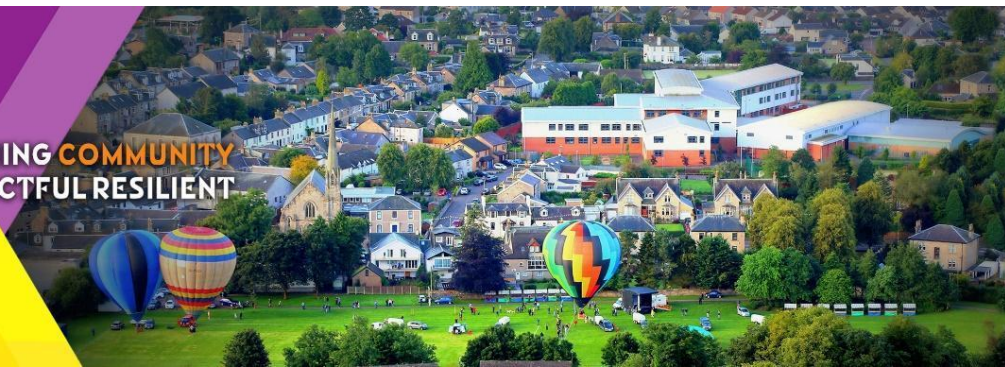
Mental Health and Wellbeing lends itself to a range of career pathways such as psychology, counselling, medicine, teaching, social work and care. The award is designed to enable learners to increase understanding and awareness of issues around mental health and wellbeing. As a result, they will be better equipped to undertake further education, training or employment. Candidates will also have the opportunity to develop skills such as self-reliance, resilience, problem solving, self-esteem, self-confidence and personal responsibility. All of these skills would be beneficial to any future career or job.

Progression





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YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY

South Lanarkshire Youth Employability Service (Education Resource) 'My Brighter Future' provides employability support, work-based learning opportunities and qualifications for young people in the Senior Phase of school and those who have left school (up to the age of 19, or 24 if care-experienced). Pupils in S4 are able to apply to study a GradU8 course in conjunction with South Lanarkshire Council Youth Employability Service. If a pupil is interested in this, they can select it on their options form.

GradU8

This programme offers pupils in S4 – S6 the opportunity to study at college for a work-based learning qualification at SCQF level 4 or 5 in a variety of subject areas, which they may wish to pursue after leaving school. The GradU8 programme is delivered over one academic year, one day per week. All GradU8 courses will be from 9.30am to 2.30pm, and schools will be given an allocation of places and a reserve list. The allocated day for Strathaven Academy pupils is Friday.

GradU8 Courses
Early Years and Child Care
Construction
Uniformed Services
Engineering
Beauty
Make-Up Artistry
Hair and Barbering
Hospitality
Health and Social Care
Digital and Media
Business and Marketing
Sports Fitness



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