



# The Senior Phase

## Managing Transitions: Working Together

S3 into S4 Subject Choices Information  
Parent/Carer Presentation

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# Aims of the Senior Phase

- ❖ The Senior Phase in Scottish secondary schools is from S4 to S6. The aim of the Senior Phase is to ensure that all pupils continue to develop as confident and responsible young people.
- ❖ Pupils embark on appropriate programmes of study in S4/5/6 in order to gain qualifications that:
  - reflect their academic potential
  - develop skills and knowledge
  - provide for progression within school
  - provide for progression beyond school



# Senior Phase Entitlement

**All young people in Scotland have an entitlement to a senior phase of education which:**

- provides specialisation, depth and rigour**
- prepares them well for achieving qualifications to the highest level of which they are capable**
- continues to develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work**
- continues to provide a range of activities which develop the four capacities**
- supports them to achieve a positive and sustained destination on leaving school**



# Progression Pathways

The progression pathway within the Senior Phase is outlined below:

National 4 » National 5  
National 5 » Higher  
Higher » Advanced Higher

We also offer some courses in S4 that young people have not studied in S1-S3. These give a wider range of opportunities and include:

Skills for Work courses  
SCQF courses  
Winter Leavers Programme  
GradU8 Programme



# S4 Experience

**We are currently planning for our new S4 curriculum, due to begin in June 2022. Between now and Friday, 4 February 2022, 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 period of PSHE.**



# S4 Experience cont...

**All pupils will study English and Mathematics plus five other chosen subjects. S4 courses are designed to follow on from work completed in S3 and the majority of pupils will continue with seven subjects that they have studied in S3, while dropping the other one subject studied in S3.**

**Evidence to consider for deciding appropriate level of study:**

- **Prior attainment – S3**
- **Classwork/Homework/Coursework**
- **Assessments**
- **Professional Judgement**



# Choosing Subjects

- ❖ **English & Mathematics are compulsory in S4 for all pupils**
- ❖ **Almost all pupils will then choose 5 'best' subjects to continue into S4**
- ❖ **Ensure subjects link to a career plan**
- ❖ **Consider skills and knowledge already developed through study in S3**
- ❖ **Some pupils may wish to pick up one (or more) of the additional courses we offer in S4 (more information on next slide). In this case, for every additional subject chosen, a pupil would drop another of their S3 subjects. For example, if they wanted to pick up 1 additional subject, they would drop 2 of their current S3 subjects.**



# Additional Courses S4

- ❑ Enterprise & Employability (National Progression Award: SCQF Level 4 or Level 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/38581.html>
- ❑ Skills for Work: Energy (National 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/69530.html>
- ❑ Skills for Work: Hospitality (National 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/64840.html>
- ❑ Skills for Work: Health Sector (National 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/69504.html>
- ❑ Mental Health & Wellbeing (National 4/National 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/83453.html>



# Supporting Pupils to Choose Subjects

Information for pupils will be 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. Pupils will have the opportunity to meet with their Pupil Support teacher to discuss subject choices during the week beginning Monday, 17 January 2022.

The S4 Subject Choices form will be an online Google Form and will be uploaded to the S3 Pupil Information Google Classroom, along with instructions for completion. This form should be submitted by Friday, 4 February 2022 at the latest.

The following websites should be familiar to pupils through PSE and can help with the subject choices process:

Skills Development Scotland: <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/>

My World of Work website: <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/>



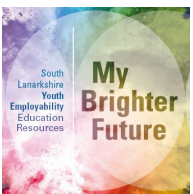
# Vocational Courses

Pupils can also consider vocational study alongside their school subjects. These vocational subjects are delivered in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council, mostly through local college partnerships and are called the GRADU8 programme:

**GRADU8 programme** – One day out of school per week studying for a qualification in:

Beauty Skills, Construction, Early Education & Childcare, Engineering Skills, Hair & Barbering, Health & Social Care, Hospitality, Make-up Artistry, Uniformed & Emergency Services, Sport & Recreation, Work Experience and Winter leavers.

Pupils can get more information on these courses by speaking to their Pupil Support (guidance) teacher who has a detailed brochure on all GRADU8 programmes.





# Vocational Courses cont...

## GRADU8 programme:

This is an excellent opportunity for pupils potentially doing a mixture of National 4 and National 5s.

GradU8 programme is beneficial for pupils who are planning on leaving school at the end of S4 and the chosen course is specific to their career pathway. More information on GRADU8 is available on the following video:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=8-XDq8oWDHo&feature=youtu.be>



# Options Process

- ❑ PSE lessons focussed on options and careers
- ❑ Tracking Reports issued Friday, 7 January 2022
- ❑ Senior Phase Choices Information Presentation (virtual this session)
- ❑ Subject Choice information booklet (website):  
<http://strathaven.s-lanark.sch.uk/s3/>
- ❑ Guidance interviews begin Monday, 17 January 2022
- ❑ Subject choice sheet issued on S3 Year Group Google Classroom on Thursday, 27 January 2022
- ❑ Subject choice sheet returned on Google Form by Friday, 4 February 2022



## Further Information

**If you require further information regarding subjects and courses, we have placed a document titled “Senior Phase Subject Choices 2022 - 2023” on the S3 area of our school website:**

**<http://strathaven.s-lanark.sch.uk/s3/>**

**If you would prefer a printed copy, this is available at the school office.**

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**TOGETHER WE**



**STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY**

CHAPELTON GILMOURTON GLASSFORD KIRKLANDPARK SANDFORD WESTER OVERTON STRATHAVEN ACADEMY

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