



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

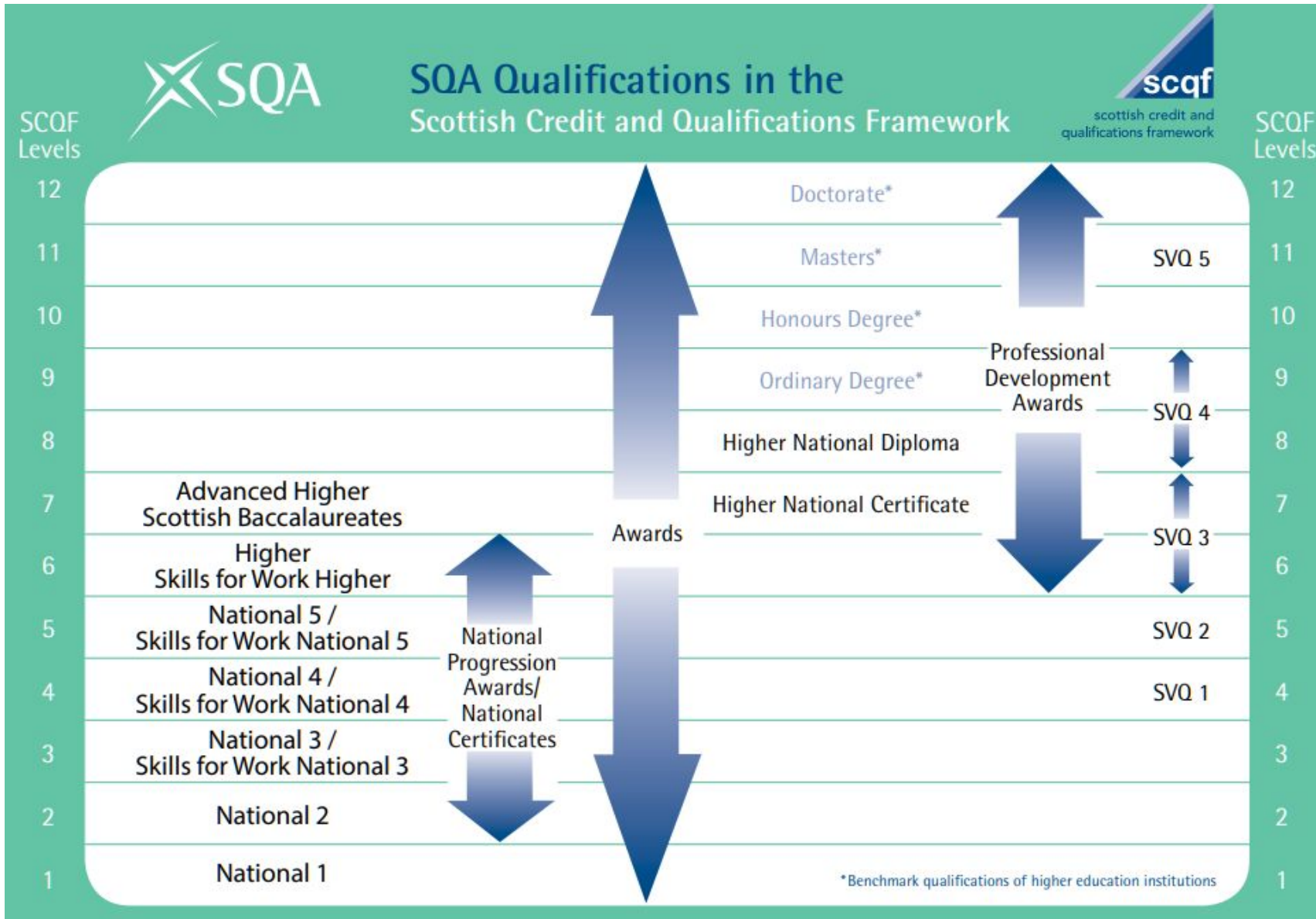


Senior Phase Entitlement

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

Scottish Credit Qualifications Framework (SCQF)



Scottish Credit Qualifications Framework (SCQF)



Ready Reckoner for SQA Qualifications in the SCQF

Customer Contact Centre 0345 279 1000 customer@sqa.org.uk

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) helps people to understand and compare different qualifications in Scotland.

It does this by using two measures:

Levels (1-12) show how complex the learning of a qualification is.

Credit points indicate the volume of learning required to achieve a qualification.

One SCQF credit point represents 10 notional learning hours.

SQA qualifications are developed using SCQF level and credit points. This information is shown on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate. The Ready Reckoner shows the level and credit points for SQA Units, Courses and Group Awards.

Units	
Type	SCQF credit points
Higher National Units SCQF levels 5-12	8
National Units SCQF level 7	8
National Units SCQF levels 1-6	6
SVQ Units SCQF levels 4-12	varies

National qualifications		
	SCQF level	SCQF credit points
Advanced Higher	7	32
Higher	6	24
National 5	5	24
National 4	4	24
National 3	3	18
National 2	2	18
National 1	1	6

Scottish Baccalaureates	
SCQF level	SCQF credit points
7	104

Group Awards		
	SCQF level	SCQF credit points
Higher National Diploma	8	240
Higher National Certificate	7	96
National Certificate	4-6	72
National Certificate Awards ¹	1-12	varies
Professional Development Awards ¹	6-12	varies
National Progression Awards ¹	2-6	varies

Scottish Vocational Qualifications ²	
	SCQF level
SVQ 5	11
SVQ 4	8-9
SVQ 3	6-7
SVQ 2	5
SVQ 1	4

¹ These are flexible Group Awards. SCQF credit points will vary according to the number of credits that they are made up of.

² Please refer to SQA's website for information on SVQs. The allocation of SCQF credit points and levels to SVQs will be undertaken as and when they are revised.



www.scqf.org.uk

More information on the SCQF, and SQA's interactive ready reckoner, can be found at www.sqa.org.uk/scqf



Progression Pathways

The progression pathways within the Senior Phase are outlined below:

National Qualifications

National 4 » National 5

National 5 » Higher

Higher » Advanced Higher

Higher/Advanced Higher » University

Non-NQ Courses

Level 4 » Level 5

Level 5 » Level 6

Level 6 » college/apprenticeships/training

Pupils can select all subjects from either pathway or a mix of subjects across pathways.



S4 Experience

S4 curriculum is due to begin in June 2024. Between now and Friday, 23 February 2024 (TBC), we require all current S3 pupils to indicate which subjects they wish to study in S4. These subjects will lead to certification at National 3/4/5 or SCQF Level 3/4/5/6.

Curriculum Structure

- Four periods of English
- Four periods of Mathematics
- Five chosen subjects of four periods
- Two periods of Physical Education
- One period of RMPS
- One period of PSHE



S4 Experience cont...

S4 courses are designed to follow on from work completed in S3 and the majority of pupils will continue with seven of the eight subjects that they have studied in S3 (maths & English plus four).

Evidence to consider for deciding appropriate level of study:

- Prior attainment – S3
- Tracking data/parent/carer reports
- Classwork/Homework/Coursework
- Assessments
- Professional Judgement



Choosing Subjects

- ❖ English & Mathematics are compulsory in S4 for all pupils
- ❖ Almost all pupils will then choose their 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

- Accounting (National 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47434.html>
- Skills for Work: Hospitality (National 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/64840.html>
- Practical Cookery (National 4 or National 5):
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45681.html>
- Enterprise & Employability (National Progression Award: SCQF Level 4, Level 5 or Level 6): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/38581.html>
- Skills for Work: Health Sector (National 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/69504.html>
- NPA Applied Sciences (SCQF Level 5): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/65928.html>
- Photography (National Progression Award: SCQF Level 4 or Level 5):
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/63341.html>
- Skills for Work: Travel & Tourism (National 5):
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/65337.html>



HFT pathway from S3

Many of our pupils will have chosen to study Health and Food Technology in S3. As they reach the end of the BGE (S1-S3) in this subject, should they wish to continue studying in that department, they have two options:

- Practical Cookery (National 4 or National 5):
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45681.html>
- Skills for Work: Hospitality (National 5):
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/64840.html>

If a pupil is unsure of which of these they are most suited to/would enjoy the most, they should speak to their HFT teacher and/or their Pupil Support teacher.



Mathematics pathway from S3

In the Senior Phase, mathematics has two pathways:

- Mathematics (National 4, National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45750.html>
- Applications of Mathematics (National 4, National 5, Higher): <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/81277.html>

The mathematics staff should provide information on which pathway they think will give each young person the best chance of success. If a pupil is unsure of which of these they are most suited to, they should speak to their mathematics teacher and/or their Pupil Support teacher.



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, 29 January 2024 (TBC).

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, 23 February 2024 at the latest.

The following websites should be familiar to pupils through PSHE 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/>



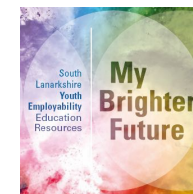
Vocational Courses

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 particularly 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

- PSHE lessons focussed on options and careers
- Tracking Reports issued Wednesday, 20 December 2023
- Senior Phase Choices Information Presentation
- Subject Choice information booklet (website):
<http://strathaven.s-lanark.sch.uk/making-choices-subject-booklets-for-session-2024-2025/>
- Guidance interviews begin Monday, 29 January 2024
- Subject choice sheet issued on S3 Year Group Google Classroom on Monday, 29 January 2024
- Subject choice pupil assembly during w/b Monday, 29 January 2024
- Parent Consultation Evening: Monday, 19 February 2024
- Subject choice sheet returned on Google Form by Friday, 23 February 2024



Further Information

Detailed course information on all subjects available in S4, including GRADU8, is available on the school website:

<http://strathaven.s-lanark.sch.uk/making-choices-subject-boo-klets-for-session-2024-2025/>

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

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STRATHAVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY

CHAPELTON GILMOURTON GLASSFORD KIRKLANDPARK SANDFORD WESTER OVERTON STRATHAVEN ACADEMY

The Senior Phase

Managing Transitions: Working Together

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