



Making choices in S2 for S3

7 January 2025

Managing Transitions: Working Together

P Hamilton
Depute Head Teacher



THE CHOICE PROCESS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Input</i>
November / December 2024	Skills Development Scotland (SDS) Interviews
18/11/2024	S2 Consultation Evening
07/01/2025	Careers Event for Pupils/Parents/Carers
07/01/2025 - 04/02/202	PSE Lessons on Careers and Subject choice. Use of My World of Work
17/01/2025	Resources updated on school website
27/01/2025 - 31/01/2025	Subject presentations
03/02/2025 - 07/02/2025	Choice assembly Subject choice form issued Subject choice interviews begin
14/02/2025	Full report issued
21/02/2025	Subject choice sheet returned



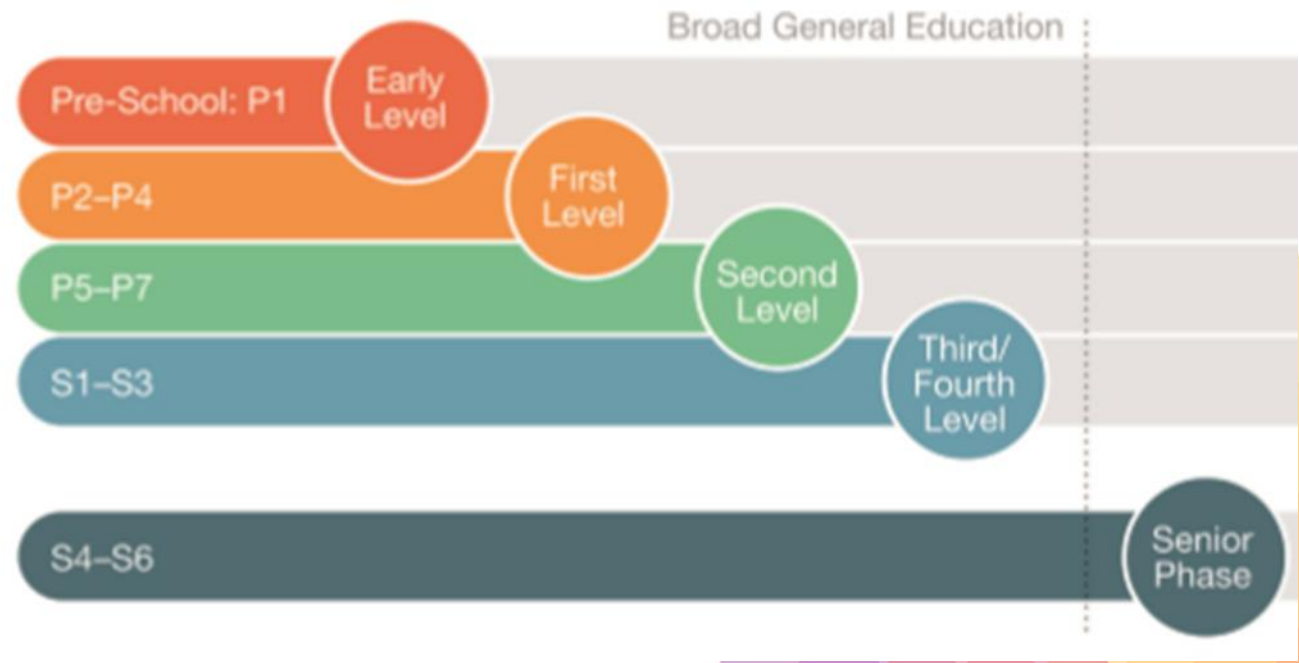


S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6
All subjects	All subjects	All subject areas – specialisation and choice	National 3 National 4 National 5 SCQF 4/5/6 GradU8	(National 4) National 5 Higher SCQF 5/6 GradU8 Foundation Apprenticeships	(National 4) (National 5) Higher Advanced Higher SCQF 5/6 GradU8 Foundation Apprenticeships
Broad General Education			The Senior Phase		
14 subjects + core PE/PSE/RME		8 subjects + core + electives	7 subjects + core	5 subjects + PSE/PE	4/5 subjects + PSE/Elective



S3 COURSES

- A one year course at Level 4 preparing for National Qualifications
- Continuing a broad, general education
- Choices within curriculum areas of language, science, social subjects, technologies and expressive arts
- Choice of 3 electives over the year





S3 SUBJECTS

- Compulsory English, Maths
- 6 choices from other curricular areas
- Core PE, RME and PSE - 4 periods per week
- Electives for 2 periods





Curricular Area	
Language	7 periods
Mathematics	4 periods
Science Option	3 periods
Social Studies Option	3 periods
Expressive Arts /Technologies	3 periods
Free Option	3 periods
Free Option	3 periods
Elective	2 periods
PE	2 period
PSE	1 period
RME	1 period
	Total 32



S3 Choices Form 2025/26 (TBC)

English & Literacy	Mathematics & Numeracy	Modern Languages	Sciences	Social Subjects	Technologies & Expressive Arts	Additional Choices (Choose 2 subjects from the list below)		Health & Wellbeing		
						3	3	2	1	1
English	Mathematics	French Spanish	Biology Chemistry Physics	History Geography Modern Studies Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies	Accounting Administration & IT Art & Design Business Management Computing Science Drama Graphic Communication Home Economics Practical Woodworking Music Physical Education	French Spanish Biology Chemistry Physics History Geography Modern Studies Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies Accounting	Administration & IT Art & Design Business Management Computing Science Drama Graphic Communication Home Economics Practical Woodworking Music Physical Education	PE	RME	PSHE
								Electives		

Name:
Register Class:
Signature of pupil:
<input style="width: 95%; border: none;" type="text"/>



Modern Languages	Sciences	Social Subjects	Technologies & Expressive Arts
3	3	3	3
French Spanish	Biology Chemistry Physics	History Geography Modern Studies Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies	Accounting Administration & IT Art & Design Business Management Computing Science Drama Graphic Communication Home Economics Practical Woodworking Music Physical Education



Additional Choices (Choose 2 subjects from the list below)		Health & Wellbeing		
3	3	2	1	1
French	Administration & IT	PE	RME	PSHE
Spanish	Art & Design	Electives		
Biology	Business Management			
Chemistry	Computing Science			
Physics	Drama			
History	Graphic Communication			
Geography	Home Economics			
Modern Studies	Practical Woodworking			
Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies	Music			
Accounting	Physical Education			



	Modern Languages	Sciences	Social Subjects	Technologies and Expressive Arts	Additional Choices	
1 st choice					1.	2.
					3.(Reserve)	



Electives

- Duke of Edinburgh
- STEM
- Eco school
- Barista
- Practical Electronics
- Hospitality
- Photography
- Cycling
- Strathaven Football Academy
- Introduction to netball coaching/umpiring
- Dance
- IDEAS Award (Business)
- Childcare





SUPPORT

- Talk!
- Ask questions tonight
- Skills development Scotland
- School website
- My World of Work
- Pupil Support (Guidance)



STRATHAVEN ACADEMY

MAKING CHOICES FOR S3

SCIENCE – CHEMISTRY

Course details

The S3 Chemistry course consists of three units:

Chemical Changes and Structure: chemical reactions and how we can control them, acids and alkalis, chemical formulae and the invisible forces which hold everything together.

Nature's Chemistry: fossil fuels, the petroleum and plastics industries, food from plants and their chemistry, chemistry and health.

Chemistry in Society: materials derived from the Earth, metals, ceramics, novel materials, alloys, sustainability, and nuclear energy.

Development of skills

Skills are developed through a solid framework of practical activities, knowledge and problem-solving. Pupils will develop their numerical skills through calculations and their literacy skills through research and open-ended questions.

Progression



Course overview

Chemistry is about understanding everything you can see, feel, touch and breathe, and contributes to many aspects of life.

Scotland has rightfully earned a world-class reputation for innovation in Chemistry. It has contributed to anaesthetics, medicines, iron and steel industries, distilling industries, fabrics, fuels, and plastics. More recent innovations include energy capture and storage technology, computer chips, smart materials and sustainable energy developments.

Career opportunities

These courses contribute to the standard entry requirements for many courses, including medicine, dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, drug research and development, chemical engineering, and forensic science.

SCIENCE – PHYSICS

Course details

The S3 Physics course consists of seven units covering a broad spectrum of Physics disciplines:

Astronomy and space exploration – learners further develop their knowledge of space, building on the topics that have been previously covered in S1.

Exploring the electromagnetic spectrum – examining the whole of the electromagnetic spectrum, this topic develops learner understanding of the importance of the spectrum to their everyday lives.

Electronic system design – using their knowledge of electronics, young people are given a design brief to develop an electronic system to fulfil a specific purpose. This unit gives an opportunity for young people to lead their own learning and develop transferrable skills.

Properties of matter – building on knowledge developed in the S2 Sciences curriculum, this unit aims to equip Physics students with an understanding of concepts including pressure, density, temperature, absolute zero, and gas laws.

Ohm's Law – through a practical approach, young people develop their knowledge and understanding of this essential law of Physics.

Sports and motion – this unit allows pupils to develop their understanding of Physics through its application in sports. Young people investigate speed, distance, time, acceleration, forces, and how these apply to projectiles.

Sound and magnetism – the final unit of the course allows young people to develop their skills as sound engineers.

Development of skills

Skills are developed through a solid framework of practical activities, knowledge and problem-solving. Pupils will develop their numerical skills through calculations and their literacy skills through research and open-ended questions.

Progression



Aims of the course

Scotland's physicists have long been at the forefront of innovative ideas that have led to major research and engineering projects. Space Physics, telecommunications (eg smartphones TV and radio), electronic devices, cutting edge technology in hospitals – these only scratch the surface of the contribution made by physicists to our world.

Through a mixture of practical work and theory, the Physics course develops transferable skills and an understanding of the important role Physics plays in the world around us.

Career opportunities

Studying Physics gives young people the opportunity to engage with a wide range of careers, including medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, energy industry, and many more.



S2

Making Choices in S2 for S3 (updated 21-01-2024)

The following information is to help parents/carers to support our current S2 pupils with choosing their subjects for S3.

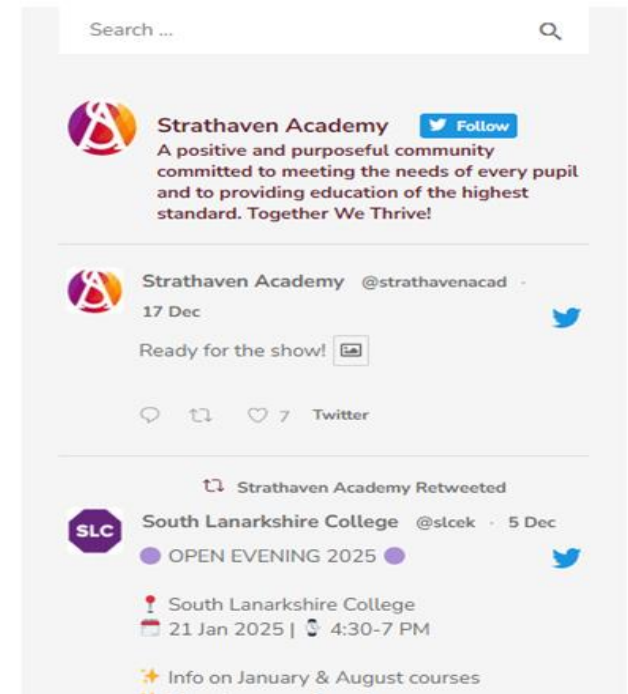
STRATHAVEN ACADEMY S2 Choices Parents-Carers January 2024

BGE Subject Choices 2024-2025

The following resources are useful for parents/carers during the option choice process.

- My World of Work

<http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/parents>



[Making choices S2 into S3](#)



**My
World of
Work**

[Sign in](#)

[Register](#)

[Search the site](#)



[My career options](#)

[Learn and train](#)

[Getting a job](#)

The help you need for the career you want





1

How do you like to learn?

Do you like English and drama because you get to talk and listen? Or woodwork because you are good with your hands? Working out how you like to learn can help you choose your subjects.

2

Where could they take you?

Know what you want to do when you leave school? Picking the right subjects could help you get there, or keep your options open if you haven't decided yet.

3

What subjects do you enjoy?

You're more likely to get better marks in subjects that you find interesting. Does time fly by in some subjects and go at a snail's pace in others?

4

What subjects are you good at?

What do you get your best marks in? There may be some you've never studied before but would do well in. Use your [My World of Work account](#) and try the [Strengths quiz](#) for ideas.

5

What do others think you're good at?

Talk to your parents, friends, family, teachers and careers adviser. What do they think would suit you and why? Ask for their opinions, and see how they weigh up with your own thoughts.



Choosing subjects?

- Ability
- Needed for career choice
- Interest
- Enjoyment
- Constraints – class viability, over subscription, unusual combinations, staffing





IMPORTANT DECISIONS

Message for pupils

- Listen to advice
- Talk to others
- Be realistic
- Make choices for the right reasons
- You cannot change a subject halfway through S3!





HERE TO HELP

- Miss Harvey- Acting Principal Teacher Pupil Support (AV)
- Mr S McNulty- Acting Principal Teacher Pupil Support (DU)
- Mr J Dunn - Principal Teacher Pupil Support (KY)
- Ms R McGinlay - Principal Teacher Pupil Support (LE)
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