

# S2 Curriculum Pathway Course Choice

## Parent Carer Information



# S2 Curriculum Pathway Course Choice Aims

- Curriculum Pathway Introduction
- Stages of Education/Progression
- Curriculum for Excellence - background
- Support available to pupils as they make choices
- Course Choice process for current S2 pupils



# S2 Curriculum Pathway Course Choice Aims



- All transition points in education are important – going to primary, joining secondary, making choices about pathways to follow in curriculum areas.
- All of the transition points in St John's Academy have led your child to this point – Making decisions to help prepare for a future when they are ready to leave us at St John's Academy.



# Curriculum Pathway

- A Curriculum Pathway is the journey through school that a pupil may take to achieve and attain the best outcome possible for themselves and their future.
- Many pupils will progress through different courses at their pace and at a level appropriate to them.
- Our aim is to help all our pupils feel safe, happy and able 'to seek the good' through their achievements, and we will provide support throughout their journey.



# St John's Curriculum Plan



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TG	TG	HWB	HWB	HWB
Broad General Education (BGE)	Primary	0.7FTE input from secondary staff across the primary school, particularly PE, DET and Modern Languages. P7 PE (0.4FTE) in Our Lady's served from the secondary department. Extensive transition arrangements in place - bespoke programmes for St John's Academy P7s, for cluster P7s and for non-cluster P7s. Cluster programme includes common residential in P7 and a residential follow-up in S1 for all pupils.																																	
	S1 (third level)	English & Literacy (4)	Mathematics & Numeracy (4)	Modern Languages (3) through French	Social Subjects (3) History, Geography, Modern Studies IDL approach by assigned teacher	Science (3): Biology, Chemistry, Physics taught on rotation by assigned teacher	Technologies (4) through DET (2) and ICT (2)	Expressive Arts (4) through Art and Design (1); Drama (1); Music (2)	Health & Wellbeing (3) through PE (2) and Home Economics (1)	Religious Education (2)	2 x 30 minutes in vertical groups arranged by House.	3 x 30 minutes in Year groups to deliver PSE programme and Personal Support.																							
	S2 (mainly third level)	English & Literacy (4)	Mathematics & Numeracy (4)	Modern Languages (3) through French (2) and Spanish (1)	Social Subjects (4): History, Geography, Modern Studies IDL approach by assigned teacher (3), plus Business Awareness (1)	Science (4): Biology, Chemistry, Physics taught on rotation by assigned teacher	Technologies (2) through DET (1) and Computing Studies (1)	Expressive Arts (3) through Art and Design (2); Music (1)	Health & Wellbeing (4) through PE (2) and Home Economics (2)	Religious Education (2)	2 x 30 minutes in vertical groups arranged by House.	3 x 30 minutes in Year groups to deliver PSE programme and Personal Support.																							
	S3 (mainly fourth level)	English & Literacy (4)	Mathematics & Numeracy (4)	Modern Languages (2)	Social Subjects (2)	Science (2)	Technologies (2)	Expressive Arts (2)	PE (1)	Choice (2)	Choice (2)	Wider Achievement through a selection of skills based courses leading to certification	Health & Wellbeing (2) through Core PE	Religious Education (2)	2 x 30 minutes in vertical groups arranged by House.	3 x 30 minutes in Year groups to deliver PSE programme and Personal Support.																			
Senior Phase (S4-6 timetabled as one)	S4 (mainly N4/5)	English & Literacy (4)	Subject choice 1 (4)	Subject choice 2 (4)	Subject choice 3 (4)	Subject choice 4 (4)	Mathematics & Numeracy (4)	Health and Wellbeing through Core PE (2) and a choice of NQ PE (2); REHIS Course; DoE (Silver); Mental Health & Wellbeing	Religious Education (2)	2 x 30 minutes in vertical groups arranged by House.	3 x 30 minutes in Year groups to deliver PSE programme and Personal Support.																								
	S5 (mainly N5-H)	Column A (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	Column B (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	Column C (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	Column D (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	Column E (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	A B C D E	Health & Wellbeing (3) 2 periods of PE along with PGS (Sports Comprehensive) and 1 period of PSE	Religious Education (2)	2 x 30 minutes in vertical groups arranged by House.	3 x 30 minutes in Year groups to deliver PSE programme and Personal Support.																								
	S6 (mainly N5-AH)	Column A (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	Column B (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	Column C (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	Column D (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	Column E (4 - N4/5, 5 - H)	A B C D E	Health & Wellbeing (3) 2 periods of PE along with PGS (Sports Comprehensive) and 1 period of PSE	Religious Education (2)	2 x 30 minutes in vertical groups arranged by House.	3 x 30 minutes in Year groups to deliver PSE programme and Personal Support.																								
		<p>Choose 4 subjects in addition to English and Maths. An optional 7th SQA qualification can be studied by opting for NQ PE from the HWB column. Pupils intending to leave at the end of S4 have access to more than 1 Skills for Work course. Pupils intending to leave at the end of S4 should take a S4W course.</p> <p>Choose 5 subjects. Courses are offered at N4 (4), N5 (4), Higher (5), Advanced Higher (4/5). The alignment of columns for S4-6 gives a greater number of opportunities for S5/6 pupils studying Nat 4/5 courses as they take these classes with S4 pupils. N4/5 courses are undertaken in 4 periods with the 5th period either allocated for study to a specific subject (Maths and Sciences); for general study or for a wider achievement opportunity. Progression from S4 into S5 given primacy in the timetabling process. N4 and N5 courses receive 4 periods with 5th period in column. Foundation Apprenticeships on offer via Perth College UHI in Column E over S5 and S6. Pupils intending to leave at the end of S5 have access to more than 1 Skills for Work course. S5 leavers who are likely to achieve 1 Higher or no Highers must take a Skills for Work course in S5 if they have not achieved this in S4.</p> <p>Choose 3-5 subjects dependent on demand of courses. Courses are offered at N4 (4), N5 (4), Higher (5), Advanced Higher (4/5). The alignment of columns for S4-6 gives a greater number of opportunities for S5/6 pupils studying Nat 4/5 courses as they take these classes with S4 pupils. N4/5 courses are undertaken in 4 periods with the 5th period either allocated for study to a specific subject (Maths and Sciences); for general study or for a wider achievement opportunity. Perth City Campus courses run in two columns (D + E) expanding the number of options available for S6 pupils (and some in S5). An additional column (C) is aligned with Perth Grammar School to further increase opportunities for pupils of both schools. S6 students who are likely to achieve 1 Higher or no Highers must take a Skills for Work course in S6 if they have not achieved this in S4/5.</p>																																	

# Curriculum for Excellence - Background

## Principles for curriculum design:

- Challenge and enjoyment
- Breadth
- Progression
- Depth
- Personalisation and Choice
- Coherence
- Relevance

curriculum for excellence





# Curriculum for Excellence - Background

## Other key principles/entitlements :

- A broad general education to the end of S3
- Opportunities for developing skills for learning, life and work
- Opportunities to move into positive and sustained destinations beyond school

curriculum for excellence



Achievement    Respect    Fairness    Love

ST JOHN'S ACADEMY

# Curriculum for Excellence - Background

## S3 should focus on:

- Completion of the entitlement to a BGE across all curriculum areas
- Specialise and extend their learning where possible into fourth level Experiences and Outcomes and beyond
- Experience learning and make progress which paves the way to success and provides a strong and robust preparation for attainment and achievement in the Senior Phase.





# Preparing to make choices – info to pupils

## What pupils should consider when making choices

### CHOOSE FOR THE RIGHT REASONS

- Progression from subjects they have already studied
- Planned positive destination
- Good range of subjects
- Challenge
- Enjoyment
- Recommendations and views of class teachers, PTs, Parents and carers.

### DO NOT

- Pick for the sake of it
- Choose based on friendship groups or teachers
- Have expectations that it will be easy/difficult

MAKE  
GOOD  
CHOICES



# Important decisions

## Informed and appropriate choice

Courses studied in S3 will continue the BGE, but also prepare our pupils for National Qualifications which they will complete in S4.

- Consider possible future destinations/career plan
- Keep a balance of areas of study
- Realise the importance of a language in today's society
- Remember their choice will lead into their S4 choices (where they will continue with seven subjects)

## Prompt questions...

- What subjects does your child enjoy?
- What are they good at... In school? Out of school?
- What are they best suited to?
- Do they have any post-school ideas?
- Encourage them to find out about courses, jobs and qualifications



# Preparing to make choices

## Pupils have help to make the right choices:

- Tracking Reports from teachers (issued in December)
- Ask for advice on their Curriculum Pathway from their Guidance Teacher and/or class teacher/ or PT
- Read through the Course Choice booklet information available on the school website at [LINK](#)
- Careers interviews - All S2 pupils have been offered an appointment with our Skills Development Scotland Careers Adviser: [erni.hamilton@sds.co.uk](mailto:erni.hamilton@sds.co.uk)
- Research career plans and use My World of Work - Choose My Subjects Advice.  
<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/>
- More information on careers can be found on the school website [here](#)
- College and university websites



# How do you make your choices?

- Pupils should take time to reflect on their choices by using the Course Descriptor information booklet available [here](#).



**Pupils should also:**

**Look at the S2 into S3 Option Choice form that is on the website [here](#)**

**Enter chosen choices in the online course choice form [here](#)**



# S4 Pathways

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
National 5 / Level 5 (4 periods)	Administration & IT Biology Drama Graphic Communication Modern Studies Physics	Art Engineering Science Geography History Music Perf Spanish	Chemistry Computing French History Modern Studies Music Technology	Art Biology Business Mgt Chemistry Design & Manufacturing Health & Food Tech RMPS	English	Mathematics	PE (NQ) OR choose Core PE for 2 periods + 1 of the following for 2 periods: Nutrition and Health (REHIS) Employability and Enterprise DofE (Silver) Mental Health & Wellbeing Award Modern Languages for Life and Work
National 4 / Level 4 (4 periods)	Administration & IT Biology Drama Graphic Communication Modern Studies Physics Science	Art Engineering Science Geography History Music Perf Spanish	Chemistry Computing French History Modern Studies Music Technology	Art Biology Business Mgt Chemistry Design & Manufacturing Health & Food Tech RMPS	English	Mathematics	PE (NQ) OR choose Core PE for 2 periods+ 1 of the following for 2 periods: Nutrition and Health (REHIS) Employability and Enterprise DofE (Silver) Mental Health & Wellbeing Award Modern Languages for Life and Work
National 3 / Level 3 (4 periods)	Administration & IT Drama Graphic Communication (Design & Technology) Modern Studies Science	Art Geography History Music Perf Spanish	Computing French Modern Studies Music Technology	Art Business Mgt Design & Manufacturing (Design & Technology) Health & Food Tech RMPS	English	Mathematics	PE (NQ) OR choose Core PE for 2 periods + 1 of the following for 2 periods: Nutrition and Health (REHIS) Employability and Enterprise DofE (Silver) Mental Health & Wellbeing Award Modern Languages for Life and Work
Skills for Work *	Metalwork (levels 3-5)	Woodwork (levels 3-5) Early Learning and Childcare (level 4 only)	Sport & Recreation (levels 3-5) Practical Cookery(levels 3-5)	Hairdressing Levels 3-4 (Perth College) Construction Craft Multiskills Level 4 (Perth College) NPA Horticulture Level 4 (Perth College)			



# S3 Choices

- S2 Pupils select 8 subjects they wish to study in S3 (in addition to core subjects English, Maths, PE & RE); they will study these throughout the year from June onwards when they move into S3.
- From these they will then select which 6 or 7 subjects they wish to take forward into S4 at: Nat 3, Nat 4, or Nat 5 levels.
- Pupils also have the opportunity to choose a wider achievement option which is available in the final column.



Technologies (A)	Social Subjects (B)	Modern Languages (C)	Science (D)	Expressive Arts (E)	Health & Wellbeing (F)	Extra choices Select 2 subjects (G/H)	Wider Achievement (W)
Administration & IT Computing Science Design & Manufacturing Graphic Communication Music Technology	Business Management Geography History Modern Studies	French Spanish	Biology Chemistry Physics Science	Art & Design Drama Graphic Communication Music Performing	Health & Food Technology Physical Education Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies	Art & Design Biology Chemistry French History Modern Studies Music Technology Physical Education Early Learning & Childcare Practical Cookery Metalwork Woodwork	Please select one Wider Achievement option. The course will lead to a nationally recognised qualification. Cyber Security Creative Aesthetics (Gymnastics, Dance, Trampolining) Engineering Science Hairdressing (max 12) Photography Sport & Recreation Fashion Textiles Theatre and Stage Production skills Duke of Edinburgh (Bronze)

# Online Course Choice

## S2 into S3 Option Choice 2022/23

Before you select your S3 courses, please consider carefully what your course choice would be in S4. Pupils in S4 cannot take subjects they have not studied previously in S3.

FOR EACH COLUMN CHOOSE ONE SUBJECT AS YOUR FIRST CHOICE AND ONE SUBJECT AS YOUR ALTERNATIVE CHOICE.

In addition to these subject choices all pupils will take English, Maths, Religious Education (core) & Physical Education (core)

Please note that these are provisional choices to be confirmed in a pupil interview with Guidance and subject to change based on teacher recommendations.

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

\*Required

FULL NAME \*

Your answer

WHAT TUTOR GROUP ARE YOU IN? \*

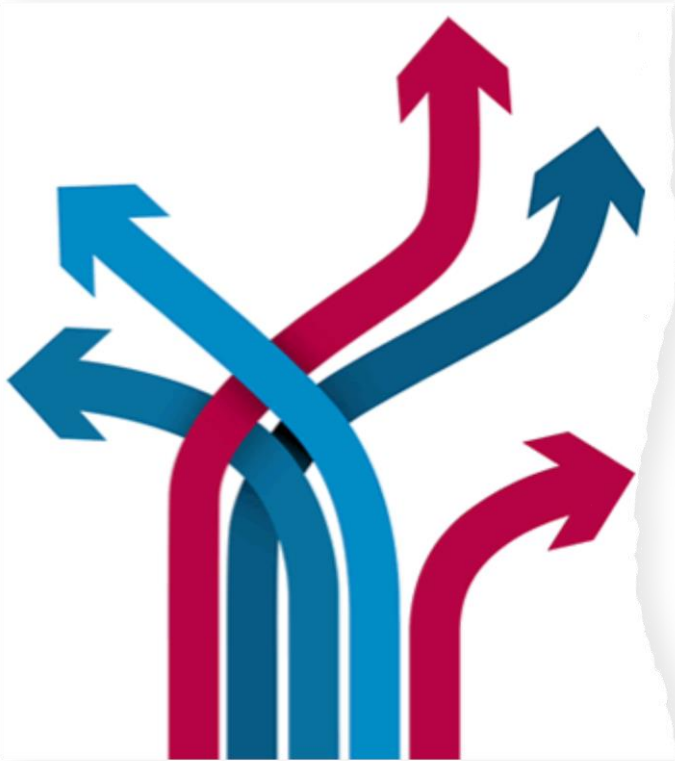
Your answer

- After reflecting on courses, pupils must enter their chosen subjects into the Online Course Choice Form by Wednesday 26 January 2022.
- They will need to go to the online S2 into S3 Option Choice form to enter your choices:  
<https://forms.gle/jqQspkSSED3GgPh78>
- Parents and carers will be able to support pupils with their online choices at home.





# No Guarantees



- Please note that we will make every effort to provide pupil choices but this cannot be guaranteed.
- Some courses will only run if there is sufficient staffing and pupil uptake.



# Reporting Update



## Step 1

Prior to pupils making initial Course Choices online

Research potential career pathways e.g university/ college course, entry requirements, employment options, apprenticeships etc...

Read the S2 Course Choice Booklet

Discuss at home



## Step 2

Complete online S2 into S3 Option Choice form by **Wednesday 26 January 2022**

Select options from the columns provided.



## Step 3

Interview with Guidance Teacher (if required) to discuss choices



# Timeline of S2 Course Choice

Week beginning 17 January 2022	S2 course choice information sent home via Groupcall and made available on school website
Thursday 20 January 2022	S2 Parent Evening takes place. S2 to S3 Course Choices link sent home.
Wednesday 26 January 2022	All online initial course choices to be completed in preparation for course choice interviews with Guidance Teachers
Thursday 27 January 2022	Course choice interviews with Guidance Teachers start



Thank you for your support in helping your child make informed course choices in their S2 Curriculum Pathway.



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