

THE NICOLSON INSTITUTE



Pupil Pathways
February 2024

PERSONALISATION & CHOICE

- In S3, to allow for progression, depth and personalisation & choice you will be able to choose 6 subjects alongside Maths and English.
- Pupils will receive 5 periods in Maths and English and 3 periods in their other 6 subjects. Pupils will also receive 2 periods of PE and 1 period of PSE, RMPS and Wider Achievement.
- Pupils will choose subjects in Science, Social Subjects, Languages, Technologies and Creative & Aesthetic.
- There is also an additional Choice column to allow a double up in many of the Curricular Areas e.g 2 Sciences.

Curriculum Areas
English - Mandatory
Maths - Mandatory
Sciences - Choice
Social Subjects – Choice
Languages - Choice
Technologies – Choice
Creative & Aesthetic – Choice
Additional Subject - Choice
Health & Wellbeing – PSE, PE (core)
Religious & Moral Education – RMPS (core)

SAMPLE OPTION FORM

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
English	Mathematics	Science	Social Subjects	Languages	Technologies	Creative & Aesthetic	Choice		
English	x	Mathematics	x	Biology	Geography	Gaelic	Administration & IT	Art & Design	Biology
				Chemistry	History	Gàidhlig (GME)	Computing Science	Music	Chemistry
				Physics	Eachdraidh (GME)	French	Business Management	Physical Education	Physics
				Practical Cookery	RMPs	Latin	Design & Manufacture	Design & Manufacture	*Environmental Science
				Engineering Science	Nuadh-eòlas (GME)	*Travel and Tourism	Engineering SFW	Fashion & Textile Technology	Administration & IT
				NPA Construction Craft & Technician (UHINW Course)	Modern Studies	*Skills for Work Rural Skills (UHIOH Course)	Fashion & Textile Technology		Business Management
				Skills for Work Maritime (UHINW Course)			Health & Food Technology		NPA Computer Games Development
				NPA Professional Cookery (UHINW Course)			Engineering Science		Engineering SFW
				Skills for Work Hairdressing (UHINW Course)					Gaelic
				NPA Beauty Skills (UHINW Course)					Gàidhlig (GME)
									French
									History
									Art & Design
									Music
									Physical Education

COLUMN 3 INFORMATION – SCIENCE / UHI

3 Science	
Biology	
Chemistry	
Physics	
Practical Cookery	
Engineering Science	
NPA Construction Craft & Technician (UHINW Course)	
Skills for Work Maritime (UHINW Course)	
NPA Professional Cookery (UHINW Course)	
Skills for Work Hairdressing (UHINW Course)	
NPA Beauty Skills (UHINW Course)	

- **You must select one of Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Engineering Science somewhere on this form.**
- **If no Science is selected in this column then a Science must be selected in Column 8.**
- **For the UHINW (College) Courses, limited places are available and a short interview may be required. Please ensure you have a second choice in this column if choosing a UHI option.**

COLUMN 4 INFORMATION-SOCIAL SUBJECTS

4 Social Subjects	
Geography	
History	
Eachdraidh (GME)	
RMPS	
Nuadh-eòlas (GME)	
Modern Studies	

- **Choose 2 subjects from this column and rank them in order of preference (1 & 2)**

COLUMN 5 INFORMATION - LANGUAGES

5 Languages	
Gaelic	
Gàidhlig (GME)	
French	
Latin	
*Travel and Tourism	
*Skills for Work Rural Skills (UHIOH Course)	

For pupils who are unable to continue with a language on S3, Rural Skills or Travel and Tourism are alternative options.

Rural Skills is available as a Level 4 qualification in S3, with a progression to Level 5 available in S4.

COLUMN 6 INFORMATION - TECHNOLOGIES

6 Technologies	
Administration & IT	
Computing Science	
Business Management	
Design & Manufacture	
Engineering SFW	
Fashion & Textile Technology	
Health & Food Technology	
Engineering Science	

Choose 3 subjects from this column and rank in order of preference. (1, 2 & 3)

COLUMN 7 INFORMATION – CREATIVE AND AESTHETIC

7 Creative & Aesthetic	
Art & Design	
Music	
Physical Education	
Design & Manufacture	
Fashion & Textile Technology	

- Choose one subject

COLUMN 8 INFORMATION - CHOICE

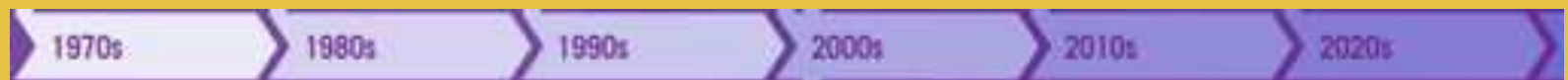
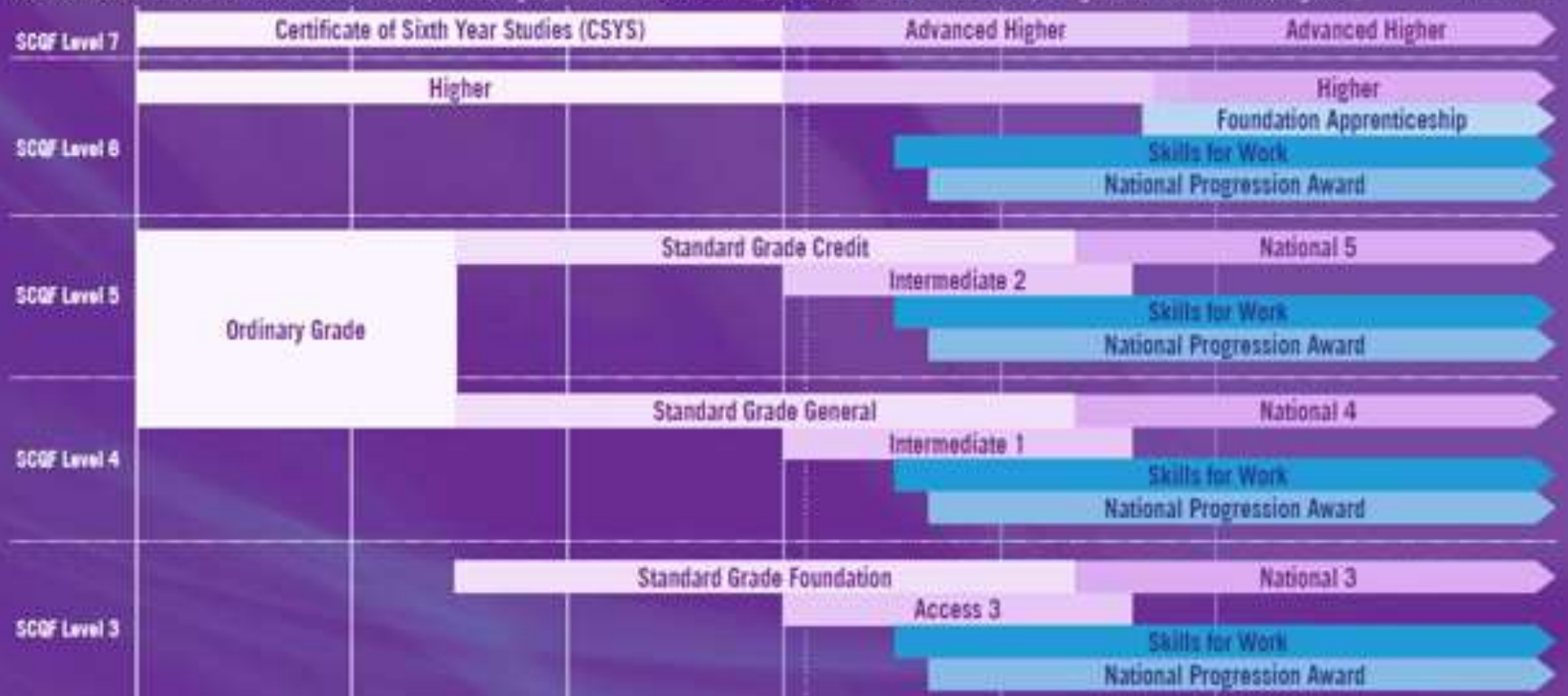
8 Choice			
Biology		Engineering SFW	
Chemistry		Gaelic	
Physics		Gàidhlig (GME)	
*Environmental Science		French	
Administration & IT		History	
Business Management		Art & Design	
NPA Computer Games Development		Music	
		Physical Education	

**Choose 3 subjects
from this column and
rank in order of
preference. (1, 2 & 3)**

TYPES OF QUALIFICATIONS

SCOTTISH NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS - SCQF LEVELS AND TIMELINES

This table shows how current and old qualifications relate to one another in terms of their SCQF level. The SCQF level of a qualification provides a way of comparing how demanding or difficult the learning involved in achieving a qualification is. This table can be used by anybody with a need to understand National Qualifications (previously awarded at school), for example employers when recruiting. More information on the SCQF can be found on our website (www.scqf.org.uk). More information on current qualifications in the table can be found by visiting the DQA website (www.dqa.org.uk/dqa).



POSSIBLE PROGRESSION PATHWAYS

S4	S5	S6
National 5 NPA SfW Level 5 Courses	Higher NPA Foundation App. Level 6 Courses	Advanced Higher Level 7 Course Foundation App. Level 6 Course
National 4 NPA SfW Level 4 Courses	National 5 NPA SfW Level 5 Courses	Higher NPA Foundation App. Level 6 Courses
National 3 Level 3 Courses	National 4 NPA SfW Level 4 Courses	National 5 NPA SfW Level 5 Courses

REASONS FOR MY CHOICES

- **What do I need to think about?**
 - What am I good at? Where have I been successful so far in S1 & S2?
 - Which subjects do I enjoy the most?
 - What skills can I learn from the subject?
 - What are the subjects I might wish to study in the senior phase?
 - Do I have a possible career in mind? Unlikely for most at this stage.

POOR REASONS FOR CHOICE

- It's what your friends are doing
- You don't like a teacher in that department
- You like a certain teacher
- You were told to do it by your parents
- It sounds good but you have not really checked it out

WHERE CAN I FIND HELP

Reflect on:

- **Some career ideas I am thinking about for the future are:**
- **Some subjects I am considering choosing are:**
- **I can find out more information from:**

<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/my-career-options/choosing-my-subjects>

My World of Work

- This website can give lots of information for pupils and parents to help with career information and to link classroom learning with skills development.
- There is information about the entry requirements for different courses.



COURSE CHOICE ARRANGEMENTS

We recognise that this is a very important choice and we want young people to choose subjects where they can be successful; where they enjoy learning, and where they can move onto further study or employment post-school.

- Pupils will meet with their Guidance teacher to discuss their choices.
- Using Reports and Tracking Information staff can guide and advise.
- Advice is to choose your best subjects to progress into the final year of BGE.
- *Remember that selecting the subject will not guarantee a place – but will depend on numbers – we recommend choosing a 2nd and 3rd option in some columns as per the instructions on the back of the form.*

COURSE CHOICE ARRANGEMENTS

Key Dates:

Wednesday 7th February S2-S3 Options Information Evening

Wednesday 28th February Deadline for Options form to be
returned