

# S5/6 SENIOR PHASE COURSE CHOICE FORM - ADVICE

Over the coming weeks, students in S4 and S5 will make their subject choices for next session. In preparation for this, please take the opportunity to talk to your child about what different pathways are open to them and what subjects would help them achieve the best results possible.

- Students must pick a reserve choice
- Students should write down their career aspiration on the form to allow us to check that they are taking the correct range of subjects

## New S5 Students:

- Students moving into S5 will have a full timetable
- In addition to their subjects, students will have Personal and Social Education (PSE), which will offer study skills advice and help with future planning, and Personal Development (PD) which will give them a valuable Level 6 qualification
- Students choosing 5 Highers will not need to choose any other subjects
- Any student sitting National 5s or SCQF Subjects in S5 will be required to choose 2 short courses from a selection available for each N5 selected. This will ensure that they have a full timetable and will maximise the number of qualifications they will achieve.
- Students moving into S6 will be expected to choose a minimum of 4 subjects
- In addition to their subjects, students will have Personal and Social Education (PSE) on their timetable to support UCAS/College applications
- Students will also have the opportunity to add to their CV or UCAS application by taking part in volunteering

## Additional Advice:

Students currently in S4 should think about the subjects they are strongest in to maximise their chances of success. Think about:

- Tracking reports
- Prelim results
- Students thinking about a pathway to University should have 5 Highers, or as close to 5 Highers as possible in S5 to ensure that they meet minimum entry requirements. Entry to many courses is highly competitive and the more Highers you have on first sitting, the greater your chance of an offer!
- Look at University entry requirements/College entry requirements if Further or Higher education is a pathway you are considering
- 'Ambition' is one of our school values and we would urge all of our students to be as ambitious as possible when choosing their subjects
- If you 'start a course' you should 'finish a course'!

**Students currently in S4 will have the opportunity to have a 1:1 meeting with their parent/carer and a member of the Senior Management Team or their HOH.**

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**Students currently in S5 will be called down to the Assembly Hall where a member of the Senior Management Team, along with their Head of House, will help them make their choices. They will then bring a copy of their form home for a parent/carer to check and sign.**

**If any changes to the initial choices are made at home, please make sure they are clear and signed by a parent/carer next to the change.**

## **West Academies Collaborative HUB**

This session some Highers will be available through our West Academies Collaborative HUB. This will be an in-person delivery for two double periods on a Monday/Wednesday afternoon at either Armadale Academy, Whitburn Academy, Bathgate Academy or St Kentigerns Academy. There will be an additional two periods per week allocated to self-study.

## **S6 West Lothian Virtual Academy Offering**

Each year, a number of Advanced Highers are offered through the West Lothian Virtual Academy. Please note that students should only apply for an Advanced Higher place if they are tracking as an A or B pass this session. Additionally, students wishing to take Advanced Higher PE must be playing sport at a National level to qualify for entry. Any student who is studying a Science will be given an 'in school mentor' to assist with practical work.

**If they choose, and are granted, a place in the Virtual Academy, students will be expected to:**

- Join 2 periods of 'live' learning via Microsoft Teams (either Tuesday or Thursday afternoon depending on the course). Attendance will be monitored at this with students at risk of being dropped from the course if have consistently poor attendance.
- Keep their cameras on and participate during the lessons
- Use 'non-contact or free periods for self-study and as time to complete work set by the class teacher
- Attend in-person taught tutorials at a central location at least once per term (transport will be provided)

**Parents/Carers will receive:**

- 3 tracking updates throughout the year
- 1 Parents' evening

Mrs McGee (DHT Support and S6 Year Head) will liaise with the Virtual Academy team and be a point of contact ensuring that all ASN requirements are shared with the delivery school and that students are made aware of any updates.

**Courses offered for session 25/26 are as follows:**

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|              |
|--------------|
| AH Biology   |
| AH Business  |
| AH Chemistry |
| AH Computing |
| AH Geography |
| AH History   |

|              |
|--------------|
| AH Maths     |
| AH PE        |
| H Philosophy |
| AH Physics   |
| AH RMPS      |

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## S5 Example 1 – all Highers

| Levels                      | Column A  | Column B                     | Column C                        | Column D                 | Column E                     |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| N5s                         | Modern Studies N5   | Practical Woodwork N5        | PE Games N5                     | Practical Electronics N5 | Practical Metalwork N5       |
|                             | S5/6 N5 English   | S5/6 N5 Applications         | College                         | S5/6 N5 Applications     | History N5                   |
| Skills for Work and SCQF L5 | Childcare (SfW) N5  | Computer Games Design L5     | Travel & Tourism (SfW) N5       | Retail L5                | Photography (SfW) L5         |
|                             | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5   | Lab Skills (SfW) N5          | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5     | Lab Skills (SfW) N5      | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5  |
|                             | Travel & Tourism (SfW) N5   |                              |                                 |                          | Childcare (SfW) N5           |
| Higher                      | Maths   | English                      | English                         | Applications of Maths    | Computing Science            |
|                             | Art & Design  | Physics                      | Biology                         | Media                    | English                      |
|                             | Photography   | Music                        | Photography                     | Art & Design             | Chemistry                    |
|                             | History   | Modern Studies               | PE Games                        | Human Biology            | History                      |
|                             | Geography   | Maths                        | Admin & IT                      | Modern Studies           | PE Aesthetics                |
|                             | Design & Manufacture  | French                       | Fashion & Textiles              | Business Management      | RMPS                         |
|                             | Accounts  | Business Management          | Graphics                        | Spanish                  | Maths                        |
|                             | Drama   | Applications of Maths        |                                 | English                  |                              |
|                             | Music Technology  |                              |                                 |                          |                              |
|                             | English   |                              |                                 |                          |                              |
| SCQF Level 6                | Scientific Technology L6  |                              | Exercise, Fitness Leadership L6 |                          | Sports Coaching L6           |
| Additional Courses          | Employability HUB   | Customer Service L6          | College                         | Employability HUB        | Statistics L6                |
|                             | Study Class   | Languages for Life & Work L5 | PC Passport L5/6                | Barista L5               | Languages for Life & Work L5 |
|                             |   | Study Class                  | Study Class                     | Study Class              | Study Class                  |
| CHOICES                     | Art & Design  | French                       | English                         | Media                    | History                      |
| RESERVE                     | Modern Studies  |                              |                                 |                          |                              |
| CAREER PLAN                 | I want to study English Literature at University and go into public relations |                              |                                 |                          |                              |

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## S5 Example 2 – mix of N5 and Higher

| Levels                      | Column A                                     | Column B                     | Column C                        | Column D                 | Column E                     |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| N5s                         | Modern Studies N5                            | Practical Woodwork N5        | PE Games N5                     | Practical Electronics N5 | Practical Metalwork N5       |
|                             | S5/6 N5 English                              | S5/6 N5 Applications         | College                         | S5/6 N5 Applications     | History N5                   |
| Skills for Work and SCQF L5 | Childcare (SfW) N5                           | Computer Games Design L5     | Travel & Tourism (SfW) N5       | Retail L5                | Photography (SfW) L5         |
|                             | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5                  | Lab Skills (SfW) N5          | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5     | Lab Skills (SfW) N5      | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5  |
|                             | Travel & Tourism (SfW) N5                    |                              |                                 |                          | Childcare (SfW) N5           |
| Higher                      | Maths  | English                      | English                         | Applications of Maths    | Computing Science            |
|                             | Art & Design                                 | Physics                      | Biology                         | Media                    | English                      |
|                             | Photography                                  | Music                        | Photography                     | Art & Design             | Chemistry                    |
|                             | History                                      | Modern Studies               | PE Games                        | Human Biology            | History                      |
|                             | Geography                                    | Maths                        | Admin & IT                      | Modern Studies           | PE Aesthetics                |
|                             | Design & Manufacture                         | French                       | Fashion & Textiles              | Business Management      | RMPS                         |
|                             | Accounts                                     | Business Management          | Graphics                        | Spanish                  | Maths                        |
|                             | Drama  | Applications of Maths        |                                 | English                  |                              |
|                             | Music Technology                             |                              |                                 |                          |                              |
|                             | English                                      |                              |                                 |                          |                              |
| SCQF Level 6                | Scientific Technology L6                     |                              | Exercise, Fitness Leadership L6 | Ref Development L7       | Sports Coaching L6           |
| Additional Courses          | Employability HUB                            | Customer Service L6          | College                         | Employability HUB        | Statistics L6                |
|                             | Study Class                                  | Languages for Life & Work L5 | PC Passport L5/6                | Barista L5               | Languages for Life & Work L5 |
|                             |  | Study Class                  | Study Class                     | Study Class              | Study Class                  |
| CHOICES                     | S5/6 N5 English                              | S5/6 N5 Applications         | PE Games                        | Ref Development          | Computing                    |
| Additional                  | Study  | Customer Service             |                                 | Employability HUB        |                              |
| RESERVE                     | Sports Coaching L6                           |                              |                                 |                          |                              |
| CAREER PLAN                 | I want to do something with sport at college |                              |                                 |                          |                              |

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## S6 Example

| Levels                      | Column A  | Column B                 | Column C                        | Column D              | Column E                    |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| N5s                         | Modern Studies N5   | Practical Woodwork N5    | PE Games N5                     | N5 History            | Practical Metalwork N5      |
|                             | S5/6 N5 English   | S5/6 N5 Applications     | College                         | S5/6 N5 Applications  | History N5                  |
| Skills for Work and SCQF L5 | Childcare (SfW) N5  | Computer Games Design L5 | Travel & Tourism (SfW) N5       | Retail L5             | Photography (SfW) L5        |
|                             | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5   | Lab Skills (SfW) N5      | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5     | Lab Skills (SfW) N5   | Sport & Recreation (SfW) N5 |
|                             | Travel & Tourism (SfW) N5   |                          |                                 |                       | Childcare (SfW) N5          |
| Higher                      | English   | English                  | English                         | English               | English                     |
|                             | Maths   | Physics                  | Biology                         | Applications of Maths | Computing Science           |
|                             | Art & Design  | Music                    | Photography                     | Media                 | Chemistry                   |
|                             | Photography   | Modern Studies           | PE Games                        | Art & Design          | History                     |
|                             | History   | Maths                    | Admin & IT                      | Human Biology         | PE Aesthetics               |
|                             | Geography   | French                   | Fashion & Textiles              | Modern Studies        | RMPS                        |
|                             | Design & Manufacture  | Business Management      | Graphics                        | Business Management   | Maths                       |
|                             | Accounts  | Applications of Maths    |                                 | Spanish               |                             |
|                             | Drama   |                          |                                 |                       |                             |
|                             | Music Technology  |                          |                                 |                       |                             |
| L6                          | Scientific Technology L6  |                          | Exercise, Fitness Leadership L6 |                       | Sports Coaching L6          |
| Advanced Higher             | English AH  | Music AH                 | Virtual Academy AH              | Art & Design AH       | History AH                  |
|                             | Biology AH  | Modern Studies AH        | LEAPS L7                        | Maths AH              |                             |
|                             |   |                          |                                 |                       |                             |
| CHOICES                     | AH Biology  |                          | AH Chemistry (VA)               | AH Maths              | volunteering                |
| RESERVE                     |   |                          |                                 |                       |                             |
| CAREER PLAN                 | I am applying for Dentistry and would like to do both AH Biology and AH Chemistry |                          |                                 |                       |                             |