



Lenzie Academy
Moving Forward – The Senior Phase
2025-2026

S4 information booklet

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February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Our S3 pupils are about to embark on the next step of their educational journey - the Senior Phase in Lenzie Academy.

Throughout the Broad General Education (S1-S3) there have been opportunities for personalisation in choice of subjects leading to increased specialisation in curricular areas. This takes on increased significance as pupils enter the Senior Phase and National qualifications.

Within Lenzie Academy, our framework for Senior Phase involves pupils in reducing from nine subjects in S3 to seven in S4. This allows additional time for study (four periods a week) in the subjects pupils have chosen. This increased subject time in S4 helps ensure our pupils are well equipped to achieve strongly at National level in S4 and begin the preparatory work for Higher qualifications in S5.

Ensuring that all pupils select the most appropriate courses is key to achieving potential and we provide a number of supports to assist choice at this time .

1. **January - February PSE lessons** – Focus on Personalisation and Choice.
2. **Friday 31st of January** - Issue of S3 Reports and S3 Assembly explaining the process.
3. **Monday 10th of February** – Moving Forward Booklet on website.
4. Guidance Interviews **commence 20th of February**.
5. **Tuesday 25th of February** – Curricular Information Presentation in the evening in school.
6. **Friday 7st of March** return of completed GLOW FORM personalisation and choice applications.

We hope you find the information available in this booklet and on our website useful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Mrs J Hutton

Depute Head Teacher (S3)

Curriculum for Excellence to Senior Phase

1. Courses

At the beginning of S3, pupils reduced their curriculum to nine subjects and, in S4, this will reduce further to enable pupils to undertake coursework in more depth. Pupils will **study seven subjects** and will be allocated four periods in each of their subjects in S4. In addition, the core subjects of PE, PSE and RMPS will continue to be studied.

Pupils can opt to complete National 5 or National 4 courses in S4 with a view to selecting Higher courses or National courses in S5.

2. Assessment







All courses will be assessed and marked throughout the session by teachers and may include a combination of practical work, case studies, subject tests and examinations.

How will qualifications be graded?

- National 4 is internally assessed with SQA verification. These will be Pass or Fail.
- National 5 will also sit an external examination. Some courses incorporate a folio or assignment. These courses are graded A to D.

3. What can a pupil do after S4?

There are natural progression routes for pupils in S5 and S6. The diagram below sets out typical progression routes.

PROGRESSION ROUTES Learner Journeys							S4 Personalisation and Choice Form
S3 CfE level Achieved	Expected Progression	S4		S5		S6	Select
Level 3 or Level 4 Achieved	Nat 5	National 5		Higher for most		Advanced Higher	ROW1 N5/SCQF Level 5
Level 3 Achieved and coping well with Level 4	Nat 5	National 5		Higher for some. New National 5 subject for some		Higher * New National 5 subject for some	ROW 1 N5/SCQF Level 5
Level 3 Achieved and struggling with Level 4	Nat 4	National 4		National 5 for some		Higher * New National 5 subject for some	ROW 2 N4/ SCQF Level 4

(* in S6 there will be the opportunity to study Higher courses in 1 year)

In addition, the EDC Senior Phase Partnership Programme is available to pupils in S5 and S6. This offers opportunities provided by partner Further Education colleges.

Choosing Subjects – A Guide for Parents

In principle there is no compulsion to choose any specific curricular areas, however East Dunbartonshire Council does expect that **all pupils will study English and Maths until at least the end of S4**. This then dictates that these subjects must be included in the choices made.

- Pupils **must choose a subject in each column** of the course application form (copy on page 10).
- Use the Expected Progression in your January Report to guide you to which level you should study.
- Pupils are **strongly** advised to choose the subjects that will provide the best opportunity of attaining the highest qualifications possible.
- If studying at National 4, then pupils should indicate their choice in **row two**.
- Some pupils may also be offered the option of **Learning across the Curriculum/ Prices Trust XL** as one of their six choices. This is **not** an open choice and the appropriate pupils will be contacted by the Support for Pupils department.
- If there is a clash of subjects or a specific combination of choices is not possible, this should be noted at the bottom of the glow form. This will be reviewed as the timetable is constructed. While we may be able to resolve some issues, unfortunately there can be no guarantees. We will make every effort to ensure pupils are coursed as they choose but this will depend on staffing, timetable configuration, time constraints and pupil choice patterns. Consequently, if indicating an issue with choice, pupils should select another subject in the column where the issue is identified in case the problem cannot be rectified.
- Choices should be made **from the nine subjects** being studied in S3 to facilitate clear progression. Pupils will **not** at this time be allowed to choose new subjects.
- New subjects may be possible in S5/6.
- On the following pages, guidance is given to pupils on how to choose subjects. This will be supported by interviews with Guidance staff, PSE lessons and presentations at Assembly.



Choosing Subjects – A Guide for Pupils

You have reached an important stage in your secondary education as you approach the Senior Phase. You will now be given an opportunity to exercise even greater personalisation and choice by reducing your current nine subjects. This will allow you to focus and specialise more in the subjects of your choosing.

You **must** choose from the subjects you have already been studying and you must choose **English and Maths** in one of the available columns. This is because East Dunbartonshire Council requires that every pupil study English and Maths until the end of S4.

The Final Decision

Before making any final choices you should look carefully at the course descriptions on the school website for S4-6 pupils. The course descriptions may be updated in light of any new SQA information received. Course Descriptions can be located on the website by selecting the tabs below:

- Learning
- Subject options
- S4-6 Course Descriptions (please scroll down)

Please also note that there is no guarantee all courses will run. This will depend on staffing and timetabling efficiency.

How do I decide?

When choosing your subjects consider the following:

1. **Do I need it for a possible future career?**
2. **Is it an area of strength for me and offer me the best chance of success?**
3. **Am I interested in it and will I enjoy the subject and be motivated to study effectively?**

Support with Course Choice

As a wide range of subject options are available, it might be difficult for pupils and parents/carers to decide which to choose. The school supports pupils by providing information via:

- The “Moving Forward” booklet
- Assemblies/PSE inserts
- Reporting and links with Guidance staff
- Individual interviews with Guidance staff
- Lenzie Academy website

Length of Course

Pupils studying National 4 or National 5 will complete the course at the end of S4. The nature of the work undertaken will vary from subject to subject and more details will be available from the relevant principal teachers.

School Courses Offered to S4 2025-2026

Administration	Engineering Science	Maths
Art	English	Modern Studies
Biology	French	Music
Business Management	Geography	Physical Education
Chemistry	Graphic Communication	Physics
Computing	History	Practical Woodwork*
Dance	Practical Cookery*	Princes Trust XL*
Applications of Maths	HFT	Spanish
Early Learning and Childcare	Human Biology	Music Technology
Media		

(*Does not continue to Higher)

Remember

1. You must choose **7 subjects**.
2. You must choose a subject in **all columns** (even if a problem is highlighted in the box).
3. If choosing National 5, circle one subject in row one.
4. If choosing National 4 choose in row two.
5. Raise any concerns with your Guidance teacher during interview.
6. Parents are welcome to attend the guidance interview. Specific times will be allocated to all pupils.
7. Further enquiries can be directed to Mrs Hutton (DHT S3) or Ms Sinclair (DHT S4).
8. A copy of the Course Choice form is on the next page. Please note that course choice selections must be submitted by **GLOW FORM**. A link to this form will be emailed to you. The final date for submission of the completed Glow form is **Friday the 7th of March**.

S4 Course Personalisation and Choice Form 2025/2026 **Name:** _____ **Guid Group:** _____

- You must choose one option from all 7 columns (A-G). Circle your choice.
- In each column (A-F) pupils choose either a subject in row 1 (SCQF Level 5/National 5) **OR** row 2 (SCQF Level 4/National 4). Choices can include different levels but you can only have one choice in each column. (For example: 4 National 5s from Col A-D and 3 N4's from Col E -G.)
- If there is a problem noted in the problem box, indicate a 2nd choice in the column in case the problem cannot be resolved. Mark it (2nd) and explain below.
- When indicating a choice, please note classes will only run where staffing and numbers are viable.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1. SCQF Level 5/National 5	English	Maths Applications of Maths	Art & Design Biology French History Music Physical Education Princes TrustXL	Biology Business Management Early Learning and Childcare History Graphic Communication Practical Cookery RMPS Spanish	Art & Design Business Management Chemistry Dance Engineering Science Health and Food Technology Modern Studies Practical Woodwork	Administration Computing Geography Modern Studies Physical Education Physics Practical Woodwork Spanish	Chemistry French Geography Media Music Technology Physics Practical Cookery Princes TrustXL
2. SCQF Level 4/National 4	English	Applications of Maths	History Music Physical Education Princes TrustXL	Biology Business Management Graphic Communication Practical Cookery RMPS	Art & Design Chemistry Dance Engineering Science Health and Food Technology Practical Woodwork	Administration Computing Modern Studies Physical Education Spanish	French Geography Music Technology Physics Princes TrustXL
Unable to choose a subject you want to take? Please write subject in the next box and detail the clash preventing choice.							
PT Guidance Signature: - _____				Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____		Pupil Signature: _____ Date: _____	
Comment: _____							

Return date: 7th March 2025