



Lenzie Academy

The Way Ahead 2025 – 2026

**An Information Booklet for Prospective
Sixth Year Pupils**

Lenzie Academy

The Way Ahead 2025-2026

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FOREWORD

National Qualifications

The Sixth Year curriculum in Lenzie Academy provides, for all our pupils, a range of courses both academic and vocational, which aims to address individual needs and abilities.

In session 2025 - 2026, the majority of courses will be offered across the following levels: Advanced Higher, Higher and National 5. In addition, we also offer opportunities to study Skills for Work and National Progression Award courses as well courses offered via the EDC Senior Phase Partnership Programme. The curriculum should therefore contain a range of choices for the pupils across all of the option columns.

Guidance Staff have always provided excellent support at times of subject choice and have a crucial role in monitoring pupil progress. They are assisted by the greater availability of excellent web-based careers resources, which provides ease of access to appropriate information helping to facilitate better-informed course choices.

Monitoring pupil progress is a key aspect of sixth year, and Guidance Staff as well as Subject Teachers will continue to review progress and provide feedback to both pupils and parents.

I am confident that Lenzie Academy is offering the widest possible range of curricular opportunities for all of our pupils and that by choosing courses at the appropriate level, pupils will be successful in their studies.

I hope that pupils will recognise this opportunity and respond by giving of their best.



Brian Paterson
Head Teacher

Introduction – Choices

S6 pupils have reached a crucial stage in their education and now have to make important decisions. This booklet is designed to help make these decisions.

Choices available

- **Leaving School**

By S6, all pupils are eligible to leave school. This will be an appropriate choice for some.

- **Further/Higher Education**

Pupils can choose to continue their education via college and/or university courses. College and university courses can allow pupils to focus on a particular subject area which is linked to career aspirations and offers a more relaxed ethos. Many college courses can provide a direct pathway to University. In certain circumstances, a pupil can enter a full time college education programme prior to their school leaving date.

- **Modern Apprenticeships/Traineeships**

Pupils can choose to leave full time education and embark on training alongside employment such as in Modern Apprenticeships and Traineeships. For further information see Section 4 at the end of this booklet.

- **Full Time Employment**

Pupils can choose to embark on full time employment.

- **Employability Programmes**

There are a number of short term employability programmes for post 16 pupils which may be available through Skills Development Scotland. These provide support for young people wishing to gain employment post school and who have been able to do so prior to leaving school.

- **Continuing with Secondary School Education**

This choice will be explained fully in the following pages of this booklet.

All of the above options are discussed with pupils as appropriate individual meetings with Guidance Staff. A meeting with the Careers Adviser from Skills Development Scotland can be arranged upon request, please contact the Guidance teacher in advance to arrange.

Section 1: Choosing an S6 Curriculum

(a) Choosing to become a Sixth Year Pupil

This is an important decision, and is one that each young person, as well as parents/carers, should give a great deal of thought.

Choosing to continue in full time education in S6 involves increased responsibility alongside the drive and commitment to achieve potential both academically and in the wider context.

In choosing to return to school for a sixth year, pupils are committing to:

- a continuation of academic studies in **full time** education
- a continuation of core studies including fitness classes and life skills
- taking on a more active role in school life eg supporting junior classes

(b) Choosing a Course of Study in Sixth Year

Choosing to return for a sixth year, allows pupils to enhance their subject qualifications. In addition to core subjects, pupils have a wide range of subjects and levels of courses from which to choose. Pupils must try to ensure that they choose the appropriate subjects for progression in their chosen career path or college/university courses. Detailed course descriptions for all courses on offer, can be accessed via the school website.

Important points to consider when choosing subjects:

- All pupils returning to complete a sixth year are expected to study a minimum of **four** subjects
- When making course choices, pupils must bear in mind that the stated entrance requirements for universities and colleges are the minimum required. Generally, colleges and universities will select pupils who have in excess of the minimum requirements.
- Pupils who have well in excess of the minimum requirements at the end of their fifth year, are advised to select a course suited to their need which includes Advanced Higher subjects as appropriate. Universities do consider carefully the choices undertaken in S6.
- Pupils who at the end of fifth year, just meet the minimum requirements or fail to meet the minimum requirements for university and college courses are advised to improve their qualifications. This may involve re-sitting essential N5 or Higher subjects and undertaking additional N5, Higher and Advanced Higher subjects as appropriate. Sometimes re-sitting a course subject does not always prove successful.
- It should be noted that the entrance requirements for universities or colleges for S6 applicants may be higher than those for S5 applicants, depending on the faculty and subject concerned. To ensure accuracy, we strongly advise making direct contact with individual universities or colleges for up to date and accurate guidance.

(c) Wider Context in S6

In addition to academic subject choice, all S6 pupils will also undertake a programme of core subjects. This includes **three** additional timetabled periods covering personal/career development, fitness, life skills and study.

We also expect all pupils to contribute to whole school and community events. This includes becoming involved in wider activities such as Community Involvement, Work Shadowing, Wellbeing Ambassador and supporting our junior pupils in extra-curricular activities or within the class. S6 pupils are also expected to act as strong role models for our younger pupils. Detailed information regarding these enhanced contributions will be made available to S6 pupils at the beginning of S6.

To be successful in sixth year, a committed and disciplined approach is essential. This includes ensuring excellent attendance, timekeeping and maintaining a high standard of school uniform.

(d) 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 Way Ahead booklet
- Course Descriptions (available via the school website)
- Assemblies
- Curricular Information Presentations
- Reporting
- Individual interviews with guidance staff
- Career Information and access to Careers Advisers
- Lenzie Academy website
- PlanitPlus database <http://www.planitplus.net> or <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk>
- College/University websites

(e) Monitoring progress in Sixth Year

Throughout, S6, progress in courses is monitored in a number of ways including:

- Course work and assessments
- Reporting - Progress Reports and Full Report
- Regular meetings with Guidance staff (including individual meetings) and DHT
- Centrally organised Assessment Blocks

Section 2: Information on courses

(a) Course Descriptions

Detailed course descriptions for all courses currently on offer for Session 2025/26 are available on the school website. To access this information, go to homepage and follow the menu below:

- Learning (along top)
- Subject Options
- Scroll down to S4-6 Course Descriptions **Session 2025-26** (from list of documents)
- Upon accessing the document in order to select a specific subject, press the Ctrl and F keys on the keyboard (the *Find* command). A search engine should appear on the top right hand side. Enter the subject name. Click on the down arrow to get to the relevant section.

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

(b) Levels of Courses and Progression

Courses are offered at different levels within each subject as follows:

SCQF 5 (National 5)

These courses are offered in the vast majority of subjects. They offer progression from National 4 courses undertaken previously. They also provide consolidation of the work undertaken previously at National 5 where a 'D' or No Award has been achieved.

SCQF 6 (Higher)

These courses are offered in almost all subjects previously studied, including some new subject areas. They offer progression from National 5 courses undertaken previously.

SCQF 7 (Advanced Higher)

These courses require a great deal of independent study, and form an important link between school and university. They offer progress from Higher awards at A, B or C. Pupils in sixth year are strongly recommended to study an Advanced Higher course if possible. These courses provide an excellent introduction to the type of study that will be experienced in further education. Individual subject departments will advise on suitability for such a course. Advanced Higher courses can run only where numbers are viable.

Also, on offer are Skills for Work courses and National Progression Award courses. These vocational based courses are certified by the Scottish Qualification Authority at SCQF Levels 4, 5 and 6.

The table below shows the typical progression in each subject from S5 to S6.

National Award at end of S5	Sixth Year S6
Higher (A,B,C)	→ Advanced Higher (if available)
Higher D or No award	→ Alternative Subject or Higher (Repeat)
National 5 (A,B,C)	→ Higher
National 5 (D)	→ Alternative Subject or National 5 (Repeat)
National 5 No award	→ National 5 (Repeat) or Alternative Subject

(c) Course Entry Requirements:

Subjects previously studied

- National 5: National 4 or National 5 (D or No award)
- Higher: National 5 award at grades A, B or C
- Advanced Higher: Higher award at grades A, B or C

Point to note: While entry to a Higher course based on achieving a C award at National 5 is possible, this indicates that the Higher course may prove to be particularly challenging.

For Higher subjects where the subjects has not previously been studied in S4 or S5 (ie commonly referred to as ‘crash higher’) is shown in the Appendix on page 16.

(d) Organisation of Classes

Most National Qualifications courses are hierarchical in structure. This allows courses to run simultaneously within the one class. For example, most National 5 courses can be taught alongside Higher though there are some exceptions to this. Please note, therefore, that while there will be many discrete classes, for example Higher only, a number of classes will operate teaching at more than one level. Clearly, this will vary from subject to subject and is dependent on the numbers choosing each course.

S5 and S6 pupils are timetabled together in the same classes at most levels and each subject is allocated five periods. To assist our S6 Higher pupils, an additional tutorial period may be offered as required.

(e) Length of Course

Pupils must complete all courses embarked upon – there is no option to drop a course half way through completion to undertake private study. Where a pupil is struggling with a course, and following discussion with Guidance staff after the assessment blocks, there may be the opportunity for a change in level of presentation or completion of related free standing units.

(f) EDC Senior Phase Partnership Programme

About the Programme

East Dunbartonshire runs a school/college partnership commonly termed the EDC Senior Phase Partnership Programme. This programme offers young people a wide range of career related vocational options at varying levels. These courses are accredited by the SQA and provide young people with the skills, knowledge and experience specific to the career path/industry sector it represents. The courses range from SCQF level 4 courses through to SCQF level 7 courses.

Method of Delivery

All courses will run for one year and most will be delivered over two school afternoons (likely to be Tuesdays & Thursdays). Pupils may miss some subject time in these afternoons though this will be kept to a minimum. Please note, pupils must complete all courses embarked upon – there is **no option** to drop a course part way through the year. These places are limited and full commitment is required.

Courses Available

EDC produce information annually re the programme of courses available. The information booklet is available on the EDC website at: <http://www.lenzieacademy.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/learning/curriculum/the-senior-phase/>

This is available to all senior pupils via *Teams*.

Why Choose this Option?

This option is particularly valuable to S6 pupils as it provides more career focussed learning. It also allows pupils to gain greater independence and experience of further education. Additionally, those pupils undertaking college courses through the partnership programme in S6 may find colleges are more inclined to consider future applications beyond S6 in a favourable light.

How to Apply

Applications are made online via GLOW form which will be placed on the year group Team with a deadline of 28th March. Pupils should apply for one course only. Pupils should then confirm that the application has been submitted with their Guidance teacher. Information regarding the success of applications is available in June. If a pupil then takes up this offer, the college course would count as one of the four subject choices made by S6. Please note that until then, S6 pupils must select four school subject courses. This can then be reviewed in August when the college course commences.

(g) School Courses Offered Session 2025-26

Courses in the subjects listed in the table are available for consideration at the levels indicated. Please note all subjects/levels offered are dependent on viable uptake.

As a result of timetabling restrictions and/or the non-availability of SQA courses, some classes will not run at certain levels. This is indicated by the use of shaded boxes.

SUBJECT	SCQF 7 (AH)	SCQF 6 (H)	SCQF 5 (N5)
Accounting			
Administration			
Applications of Maths			
Applied Mathematics (Mechanics)			
Art & Design			
Biology			
Business Management			
Chemistry			
Computing Science			
Criminology NPA			
Dance			
Engineering Science			
English			
French			
Geography			
German			
Graphic Communication			
Health Sector			
Health & Food Technology			
History			
Human Biology			
Mathematics			
Modern Studies			
Music			
Music Technology			
Photography			
PE Studies			
Physics			
Politics			
Practical Metalworking			
Practical Woodworking			
Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies			
Retailing			
Sociology			
Spanish			
Sports Development NPA Level 6			

S6 Course Personalisation & Choice Form 2025/2026

Name: _____

Guidance Group: _____

- You must choose **four** subjects even if you plan to take a college course. You must select **one** choice from each column only. Circle your choice. A request for Advanced / higher subjects is made in the section underneath the option columns.
- if there is a problem noted in the problem box, indicate a 2nd choice in the column in case the problem cannot be resolved.
- When indicating a choice, please note classes will only run where staffing and numbers are viable.

	A	B	C	D	E
1 SCOF Level 6/higher	Art & Design Biology English History Mathematics Modern Studies Music Technology NPA in Sound Production Physics	Applications of Maths Biology NPA Computer Games Design Engineering Science Geography Mathematics Modern Studies Physical Education	Business Management Chemistry English French Graphic Communication Human Biology Physical Education NPA Sports Development	Business Management Chemistry Dance English Geography Mathematics Music NPAs in Music Performance and Music for Wellbeing Spanish	Administration Art & Design Computing Health and Food Technology History Human Biology Physics
2 SCOF Level 5/National 5	Art & Design English Media Modern Studies Retail	Applications of Maths NPA Computer Games Design Engineering Science Physical Education Practical Woodworking	Business Management Chemistry Early Learning and Childcare English French Graphic Communication	Barista skills Geography Health Sector Music Spanish	Administration Health and Food Technology History Physics Practical Metalwork Retail
Problem? Unable to choose a subject you wish? Please write subject in this box and the clash preventing the choice.					
If you are applying for a college course as part of the Senior Phase Programme , please name the course here.					
Career Aspiration (important that you give some indication)					
If you have previously studied Hospitality: Practical Cookery and would now like to study either Level 4 Bakery or National 5 Practical Cake Craft please indicate this here.					
Wish to study a subject at Advanced Higher level? Please write the subject(s) in the box opposite.					
Wish to study a subject that is only available to S6? Please write the subject(s) in the box opposite (Photography, Sociology, Politics, Criminology, Accounting, German)					
PT Guidance Signature: _____				Parent Signature : _____	
Comment: _____				Pupil Signature: _____	
				Date: _____	
				Date: _____	

Please return Glow Form by: Monday 24th March 2025

SECTION 3: Completing the S6 Course Personalisation & Choice Form

(a) Prior to submitting your S6 Course Choices

- Undertake research on essential subjects and read through the booklet noting the following:
- Consider choosing at least one Advanced Higher subject if predicted to achieve a C at Higher level.
- The list of subjects and levels currently being offered in Lenzie Academy for session 2025 - 2026 provided on page 10
- Look at the Information regarding the column structure of S6 Course Personalisation & Choices available on page 11
- An indication of the recommended entry requirements for 'crash' higher (where subject has not been studied previously in S4 or S5) in Appendix on Page 16
- Remember, courses can only run if the numbers applying make it a viable timetabling option.

Making your choices via the S6 Course Choice Glow Form

- Select at least **four** subjects from the S6 Course Personalisation & Choice on Page 11 (this is in addition to any planned application for EDC Senior Phase Partnership courses, it is easier to remove options than put in requests should the college course not run).
- Enter these on the [Glow form](#)
- Each choice must be from a **different** column
- Where **Advanced Higher** is being requested, this is indicated separately. Each Advanced Higher request counts as one of the four subjects selected.

Indicating problems or concerns

Should there be difficulty in selecting a preferred course from the available columns, please indicate this in the problem section of the form. If you are indicating there is difficulty, you should nevertheless still select **four** subjects – one from each of four columns on the option form (four subjects for S6). The choices given can then be reviewed later following consideration of the problem you identified.

When the timetable is being constructed, any concerns expressed will be considered. However, please note that, given timetabling constraints, some requests may not be possible.

Additional Information

- You will also be asked to provide information on form of any college courses applied for as part of the EDC Senior Phase Partnership Programme
- Some indication of career aspirations (if know) would also be requested

(b) School Leavers

Should a pupil intend to leave school at the end of S5, the S6 Course Choice Form **should still be completed**. This ensures that a space is available within the subject classes should the pupil decide to remain at school. When a pupil leaves school, the options can easily be removed at this time.

SECTION 4: Leaving School and Finance

(a) Training within Employment

The opportunity is available for those who wish to do so to begin work and train 'on the job'. This is available via the Modern Apprenticeship scheme and other trainee opportunities. You must be eligible to leave school in order to apply for such positions.

Advice re applying for Apprenticeships is available from Guidance Staff or the Careers Adviser.

Useful websites:

- Job search on www.myworldofwork.co.uk
- www.apprenticeshipsinscotland.com
- www.apprenticeships.scot
- www.mappit.org.uk
- Individual company websites.

A careers interview with the Careers Adviser is available in school upon request. This can also be arranged after pupils leave school by contacting Skills Development Scotland as detailed below:

Skills Development Scotland
Careers Centre
NCL Kirkintilloch Campus
50 Southbank Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1NH

Website: www.myworldofwork.co.uk
Telephone: 0141 777 5860

(b) Continuing Education at College or University

Pupils may choose to continue their education at a College or University. The advantage here is that students can study a course in line with specific career aspirations rather than the more broad general education studied at school. There are various courses on offer ranging from National Certificate Courses to Degree Courses.

College

College courses are available for pupils at various levels ranging from SCQF 4 (equivalent of National 4) and upwards. Some college courses have no formal entry requirements. Others will have very specific entry requirements which are detailed in the college prospectus and on college websites. Many college courses can provide pathways of progression from National Certificate awards through to Higher National Diplomas, and again, information regarding progression routes is available in the college prospectus and on college websites.

Some college courses have a direct link to degree courses in Universities. Courses such as this can provide direct entry into the third year of a degree programme at University. Please check to confirm possibilities with individual universities and colleges.

University

University courses are available for pupils at various levels. Increasingly, most university courses ask for a minimum of four Highers. The specific entry requirements are detailed in the university prospectus and websites. The entrance requirements given here tend to be the minimum requirements which often means that in reality, places are offered based on qualifications above the minimum stated.

For those pupils completing a sixth year, please note that there may be increased entry requirements.

You can access further information re College and University courses from:

- Individual College/University websites – this is the most accurate/up to date information
- College and University (Virtual) Open days
- Guidance staff
- Careers websites such as: www.myworldofwork.co.uk and www.planitplus.net
- Skills Development Scotland

When should you apply for entry to college and university courses?

College Applications

Almost all colleges now have an electronic application system through their college website and this is the most direct way of making an application. It is essential to apply early as popular course fill quickly.

For courses starting in August:	Check websites and apply early January
For courses starting in January:	Check websites from October and apply as soon as online applications are available

While in some cases, late applications may be considered, this would only be where places are still available. Support with college applications is available via Guidance Staff, Developing the Young Workforce staff and the Careers Service.

University Applications

Applications for admission to full time undergraduate courses in all United Kingdom Universities are made through UCAS. Those applying to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, medicine, dentistry and vet medicine must contact their guidance teacher as early as June. Check the relevant prospectus carefully. The closing date for these applications is 15th October 2025 Please note, the **school deadline will be earlier**.

For all other applicants, UCAS applications are made on-line at www.ucas.com. Full guidance and support is given via assemblies and PSE classes. The closing date for these applications is 29th January 2026. A series of school deadlines will be issued in advance of this and must be adhered to. This is to enable the school to check, verify and complete a personal reference for each candidate.

(c) Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

An Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a weekly payment determined by your household income. During recent times weekly payments were approx. £30. How much you will get will depend on the financial circumstances of your household.

When to apply

You are encouraged to apply by 31 July even although in some cases the EMA will not be payable until January.

Who can get an EMA?

You could get an EMA if you are 16 years old and stay on at school. Eligibility will be determined by your household income.

Conditions for the EMA

As well as financial circumstances of the household, pupils will require 100% attendance or it will affect weekly payments. Pupils also require to have excellent time-keeping.

In General:

- Pupil must have reached the age of 16
- Pupil must go to school for more than 21 hours of programmed study each week
- Pupil must sign an appropriate Learning Agreement, and have it signed by the other relevant parties
- Pupil must have 100% attendance (you can self-certificate for up to 5 days absence in any one school year)
- Pupil must have excellent time-keeping or weekly payments will be affected
- Application forms are available from school at the lower office or from East Dunbartonshire Council.

(d) Grants (Pupils' Allowances) and Loans

Pupil allowances (Grants) are no longer available for pupils entering full-time higher education. However, it is possible to obtain assistance for the payment of tuition fees, loans towards meeting living costs. Moreover, special grants are paid for pupils with dependents or those with disabilities. Further information can be obtained from the following website: www.saas.gov.uk

Appendix

Entry Requirement for Higher courses where subject has not been studied previously in S4 or S5

Higher Subjects	Entry Requirements for crashing a subject at higher (ie you did not study this subject in S4 or S5.
Accounting	A-C pass in Higher Maths
Administration	A-C Pass in one of the following Highers: Higher English, Higher Maths, Higher Computing or Higher Graphic Communication. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in Computing or Graphic Communication from S4, competence in use of ICT
Art & Design	A-C Pass in Higher English. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in English from S4. Additionally, involvement in Art clubs/classes
Biology	A-C pass in another Higher Science and an A-C pass at N5 Maths
Business Management	A-C Pass in either Higher English or another Social Subject
Chemistry	A-C pass in Higher Maths or another Higher Science
Computing Science	A-C pass in either Higher Maths or Physics and an A/B pass in N5 Maths
Criminology	A-C Pass in either Higher English or another Social Subject
Dance	A-C Pass in Higher English. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in English from S4. Additionally, participation in Dance clubs also preferable
Drama	A/B pass at N5 English. Additionally, involvement in Drama or Theatre groups
Engineering Science	A-C Pass in Higher Maths or Physics. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in Maths or Physics from S4
English	
Fashion & Textile Technology	A/B pass at N5 English. Additionally, an interest in Art and Design would be advantageous
French	A-C pass in either Higher English or another Modern Language. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in another Modern Language from S4. Recognised ability in chosen language
Geography	A-C pass in either Higher English or another Social Subject. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in another Social Subject from S4
German	A-C pass in either Higher English or another Modern Language. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in another Modern Language from S4. Recognised ability in chosen language
Graphic Communication	A-C pass in either Higher English, Computing or Art
Health & Food Technology	A-C Pass in Higher English.
History	A-C Pass in either Higher English or another Social Subject. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in another Social Subject from S4
Human Biology	A-C pass in either Higher Chemistry or Physics and an A-C pass at N5 Maths
Mathematics	
Modern Studies	A-C Pass in either Higher English, another Social Subject or Higher Business Management. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in another Social Subject from S4
Music	A/B pass at N5 in at least two subjects. Ability to play an instrument or sing at a reasonable standard
Music Technology	A keen interest in music or music technology. Playing an instrument and good ICT skills can help but is not required.
Photography	A-C Pass in Higher English. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in English from S4. Additionally, competence in use of ICT
PE Studies	A-C Pass in Higher English. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in English from S4. Additionally, participation in sports clubs also preferable
Politics	A-C Pass in either Higher English, another Higher Social Subject or Business Management. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in another Social Subject from S4
Physics	A-C Pass in Higher Maths or another H Science

Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies	A-C pass in either Higher English or Higher History/ Modern Studies. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in English or another Social Subject from S4
Sociology	A-C pass in either Higher English or another Higher Social Subject
Spanish	A-C pass in either Higher English or another Modern Language. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in another Modern Language from S4. Recognised ability in chosen language
Sports Development	Shows a distinct interest in pursuing a career in sport