



# **Lenzie Academy**

**Moving Through the Senior Phase  
2025 – 2026**

***An Information Booklet for S5 Pupils***

# **Lenzie Academy**

## **Moving through the Senior Phase**

### **2025-2026**

## **CONTENTS**

<b>Introduction – Choices</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Choosing an S5 Curriculum</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Information on Courses</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Completing the S5 Form</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Leaving School and Finance</b>	<b>11</b>

March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Our S4 pupils are about to embark on the next step of their journey through 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 reducing to 5 subjects in S5. This allows additional time for study (six periods a week) in the subjects pupils have chosen. This increased subject time in S5 helps ensure our pupils are well equipped to achieve strongly at Highers or National level in S5.

Ensuring that all pupils select the most appropriate courses is key to achieving potential and a number of sources of information are available to help with this choice.

1. **March PSE lessons** – Focus on Personalisation and Choice.
2. **Mid March** - Issue of S4 Reports and S4 Assembly explaining the process.
3. **Mid March** – Moving Through the Senior Phase Booklet on website.
4. Guidance Interviews **commence 12<sup>th</sup> of March**.
5. **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of March** return of completed GLOW FORM for personalisation and choice applications.
6. Career Information and access to Careers Advisers
7. PlanitPlus database <http://www.planitplus.net> or <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk>
8. College/University websites

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.

Ms R Sinclair

Depute Head Teacher (S4)

## Introduction – Choices

Many S4 pupils will choose to stay on at school to S5 and beyond, however there are other options available to pupils which can be considered.

### Choices available

- **Continuing with Secondary School Education**

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

- **Further Education**

Pupils can choose to continue their education via college courses. College 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.

- **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.

All of the above options are discussed with pupils as appropriately during 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 S5 Curriculum

### (a) Choosing Subjects in Fifth Year

Choosing to return for a fifth 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 fifth year are expected to study five 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.
- When making course choices, pupils should consider whether the subject is needed for a possible future career, whether it is an area of strength and offers the best chance of success and whether it is an area they enjoy and will be motivated to study.
- Pupils in S5 cannot crash Higher subjects. Any subject chosen at Higher must be a continuation of a subject studied in S4. New National 5/Level 5 subjects can be chosen at this time if appropriate.
- Some pupils may be also offered the option of Learning across the Curriculum as one of their five choices. This is not an open option and the appropriate pupils will be contacted by the Support for Pupils department.
- Use the Expected Progression in your March Report to guide you to which level you should study.

## 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.

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 S4	Fifth Year S5	Sixth Year S6
National 5 (A,B,C)	→ Higher	→ Advanced Higher
National 5 (D)	→ Alternative Subject or National 5 (Repeat)	→ Higher
National 5 No award	→ Alternative Subject or National 5 (Repeat)	→ Higher

**(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

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.

**(d) Monitoring progress in Fifth Year**

Throughout S5, 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

**(e) 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 six periods.

**(f) 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.

## **(g) 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 valuable to S5 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 S5 may find colleges are more inclined to consider future applications beyond S5 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 five subject choices made by S5. Please note that until then, S5 pupils must select five school subject courses. This can then be reviewed in August when the college course commences.



## (h) School Courses Offered Session 2025-26

Courses in the subjects listed in the table are available for consideration for S5 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 6 (H)	SCQF 5 (N5)
Administration		
Applications of Maths		
Art & Design		
Barista Skills		
Biology		
Business Management		
Chemistry		
Computing Science		
NPA Computer Games Design		
Dance		
Early Learning and Childcare		
Engineering Science		
English		
French		
Geography		
Graphic Communication		
Health Sector		
Health & Food Technology		
History		
Human Biology		
Mathematics		
Media		
Modern Studies		
Music		
NPA in Music Performance and Music for Wellbeing		
Music Technology		
PE Studies		
Physics		
Practical Metalworking		
Practical Woodworking		
Retailing		
NPA in Sound Production		
Spanish		
Sports Development NPA Level 6		

## 55 Course Personalisation & Choice Form 2025/2026

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guid Group: \_\_\_\_\_

- A subject must be identified from all 5 columns (A-E). Circle your choice.
- Pupils can choose either a subject in row 1 (continuing a current subject to Higher) **OR** row 2 (continuing a N4 subject to N5, or starting a new N5). Choices can include different levels but you can only have one choice in each column. (For example: 4 Highers from Col A-D and 1 N5 from Col E.)
- If there is a problem noted in the problem box, indicate a 2<sup>nd</sup> 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
<b>1</b> <b>SCQF Level 6/Higher</b>	Art & Design Biology English History Mathematics Modern Studies Music Technology Physics NPA in Sound Production	Applications of Maths Biology 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
<b>2</b> <b>SCQF Level 5/National 5</b>	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
<b>Problem? Unable to choose a subject you wish? Please write subject in this box and the clash preventing the choice.</b>					
If you are applying for a college course as part of the <b>Senior Phase Programme</b> , please name the course here.					
<b>Career Aspiration</b> (Important that you give some indication)					
If you have previously studied <b>Hospitality: Practical Cookery</b> and would now like to study either <b>Level 4 Bakery or National 5 Practical Cake Craft</b> please indicate this here.					
<b>PT Guidance Signature:</b> _____			<b>Parent Signature :</b> _____		<b>Date:</b> _____
<b>Comment:</b> _____			<b>Pupil Signature:</b> _____		<b>Date:</b> _____

Please return Glow Form by: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## SECTION 3: Completing the S5 Course Personalisation & Choice Form

### (a) Prior to submitting your S5 Course Choices

Undertake research on essential subjects and read through the booklet noting the following:

- 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 S5 Course Personalisation & Choices available on page 11
- Remember, courses can only run if the numbers applying make it a viable timetabling option.

#### Making your choices via the S5 Course Choice Glow Form

- Select **five** subjects from the S5 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**

#### 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 **five** subjects – one from each column on the option form. 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 S4, the S5 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](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)
- [www.apprenticeshipsinscotland.com](http://www.apprenticeshipsinscotland.com)
- [www.apprenticeships.scot](http://www.apprenticeships.scot)
- [www.mappit.org.uk](http://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](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)  
Telephone: 0141 777 5860

### (b) Continuing Education at College

Pupils may choose to continue their education at a College. 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.

## **When should you apply for entry to college 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 courses 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.

### **(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.

