



Lenzie Academy

The Way Ahead 2020 – 2021

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

Lenzie Academy

The Way Ahead 2020-2021

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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 2020 - 2021, the majority of courses will be offered across the following levels: Advanced Higher; Higher; 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 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 fulltime 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 via Personal Support and individual meetings with Guidance Staff. A meeting with the Careers Advisor from Skills Development Scotland can be arranged upon request. A programme of workshops and support activities is available in relation to all of the above options.

Section 1: Choosing to Continue Secondary School Education

(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 and ethics classes
- taking on a more active role in school life.

(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
- There are a number of new courses available for S6: Higher Photography, Higher Accounting, National 5 Care, NPA Bakery SCQF level 4 and NPA Computer Games Design SCQF Level 5 & 6.
- 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 Higher subjects and undertaking additional Higher and Advanced Higher subjects as appropriate. Sometimes re-sitting a Higher 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 and life skills.

All pupils are expected to contribute to whole school and community events. Pupils in sixth year are expected to become involved in wider activities such as Community Involvement, Work Shadowing and supporting our junior pupils in extracurricular activities or within the class.

At all times, 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 evenings
- Reporting
- Individual interviews with guidance staff
- Career Events
- Lenzie Academy website
- PlanitPlus database <http://www.planitplus.net> or <http://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
- Progress Reports issued at key points in the year indicating Target Grade, Working Grade and progress in Effort, Behaviour and Homework
- Parent/Staff meeting
- Full Report
- Regular meetings with Guidance staff (including individual meetings) and DHT
- Block of Assessments in October and January

Section 2: Courses in S6

(a) Course Descriptions

Detailed course descriptions for all courses currently on offer for Session 2020/21 are available on the school website. To access this information, go to homepage and follow the menu below:

- Learning (along top)
- Curriculum
- S5/6 Information
- Scroll down to Related Content
- S4-6 Course Descriptions **Session 2020-21** (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 your 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 and Level 5.

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 for 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.

(d) Course Entry Requirements for Higher subjects where the subjects has not previously been studied in S4 or S5 (ie commonly referred to as 'crash higher')

Please see Appendix on page 15

(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 five periods. To assist our S6 Higher pupils, an additional tutorial period may be offered as required.

(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 prelim, 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 Construction at SCQF level 4 through to Anatomy at SCQF level 7.

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. Transport is provided to the college however, pupils must make their own way home at the end of the day. Please note pupils must complete all courses embarked upon – there is no option to drop a course half way through the year.

Courses Available

EDC produce information annually re the programme of courses available. The information booklet is available on the EDC website at: www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/edopps4all. This has also been sent to all senior pupils via *Show My Homework*.

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 to East Dunbartonshire Council. 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 post June when any offer of a place is accepted.

(g) School Courses Offered Session 2020-21

Courses in the subjects listed in the table below may be offered 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			
Applied Mathematics (Mechanics)			
Art & Design			
NPA Bakery SCQF Level 4 only			
Biology			
Business Management			
Care			
Chemistry			
Computer Games Design NPA			
Computing Science			
Dance			
Drama			
Engineering Science			
English			
Fashion & Textile Technology			
French			
Geography			
Graphic Communication			
Health Sector			
Health & Food Technology			
History			
Hospitality - Practical Cake Craft			
Hospitality- Practical Cookery			
Mathematics			
Modern Studies			
Music			
Photography			
PE Studies			
Physics			
Politics			
Practical Metalworking			
Practical Woodworking			
Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies			
Retailing			
Sociology			
Spanish			
Vocational Courses			

SECTION 3: Completing the S6 Course Personalisation & Choice Forms

(a) Completing the S6 Course Personalisation & Choice Form

A copy of the Course Personalisation & Choice form will be issued with this document.

A comprehensive list of all of the subjects and levels currently being offered in Lenzie Academy for session 2020 - 2021 is provided on page 11.

Remember, courses can only run if the numbers applying make it a viable timetabling option.

All pupils entering sixth year:

- Select at least **four** subjects from the choice form (in addition to any planned application for EDC Senior Phase Partnership courses)
- Are encouraged to choose at least one Advanced Higher subject if they are predicted to achieve a C at Higher level. Where Advanced Higher is being requested, this is stated in a separate box and not selected from a column. Each Advanced Higher request counts as one of the four subjects selected.

Use of Problem Box

A problem box is available on the Course Personalisation & Choice Form. Should there be difficulty in selecting a preferred course from the columns available, please indicate the preferred option in the problem box. Please note, that where a preferred option is entered in the problem box, **four** subjects must nevertheless be selected – one from each of four columns on the option form (four subjects for S6). This can then be reviewed later following consideration of the problem area.

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.

(b) School Leavers

Should a pupil intend to leave school at the end of S5, the S6 Course Personalisation & 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 in applying for Apprenticeships, is available from Guidance Staff or the Careers Advisor via drop-in sessions at lunchtime in the Careers Library.

You can find further information on the following websites:

- Job search on www.myworldofwork.co.uk
- www.apprenticeshipsinscotland.com
- www.apprenticeships.scot
- www.mappit.org.uk
- www.gtg.co.uk/apprenticeships-programme
- 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 Open days
- Guidance staff
- Career events
- 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 on line 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 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 possible in Term 1. Check the relevant prospectus carefully. The closing date for these applications is 15th October 2020. 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 Personal Support. The closing date for these applications is 15th January 2021. 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 session 2019–2020 weekly payments were up to £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
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
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-C Pass in Higher English. Alternatively, an A/B pass at N5 in English from S4
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
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
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