

Grange Academy

S2 into S3 Personalisation and Choice

2023/24



1 Introduction

Please find relevant information related to this year's Personalisation and Choice (Options) process for pupils moving from S2 into S3. In the coming weeks you will make your choices for your next year of study. During this time you should give yourself the opportunity to reflect on the following:

- your own strengths and interests
- the importance of keeping an open mind about possible pathways
- how to find and use career resources in school

2 Broad General Education and beyond

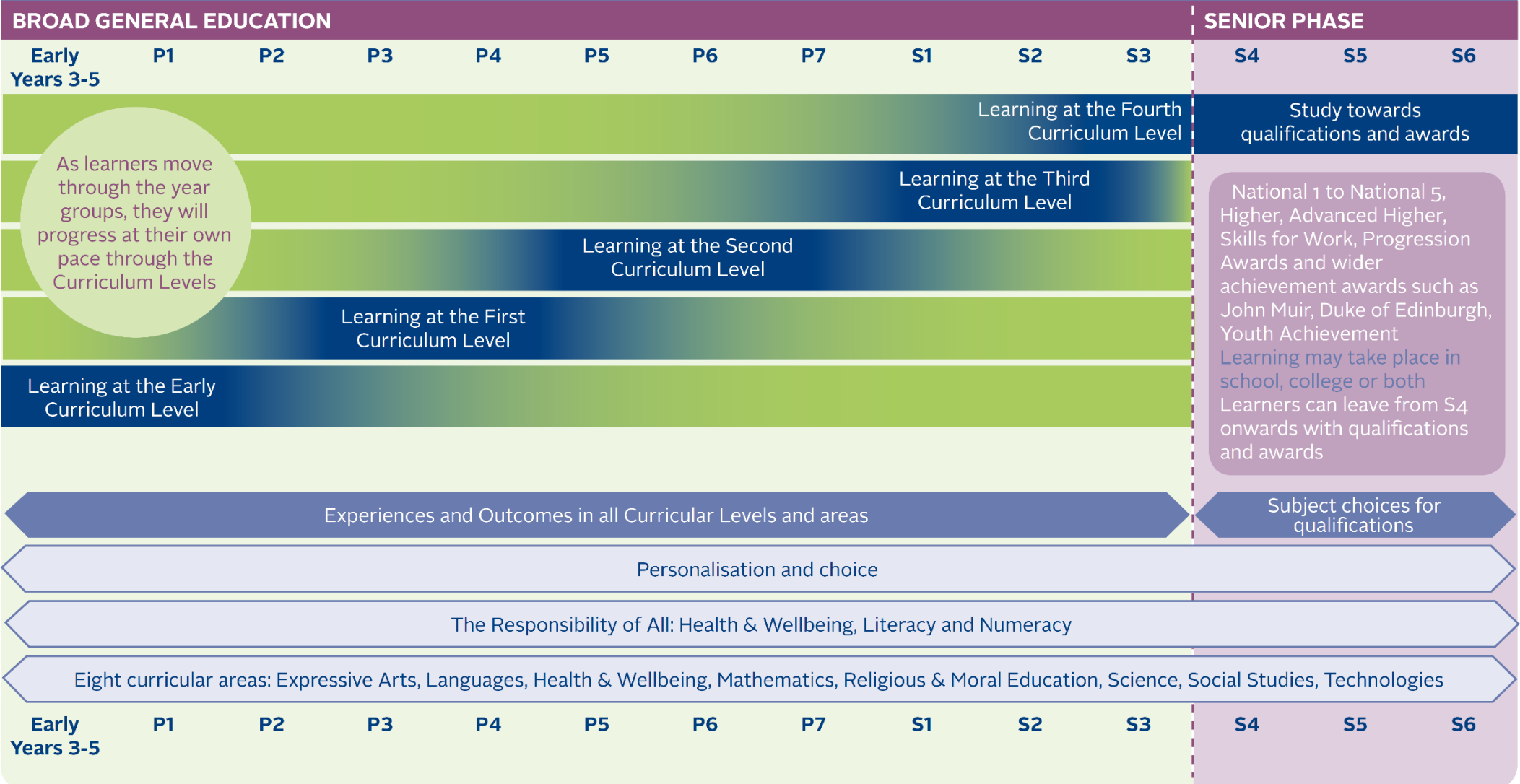
During S1 and S2 you have had the opportunity to study subjects from across the curricular areas:

Languages	English French Spanish Mandarin
Mathematics	Mathematics
Social Studies (Integrated)	History Geography Modern Studies
Technologies	Technical (Integrated Course) Computing
Expressive Arts	Art and Design Drama Music
Health and Wellbeing	PE PSE / RME
Sciences (integrated)	Biology Chemistry Physics

S3 – Part of the 'Broad General Education'

Courses in S3 are still part of the Broad General Education. You will build on what you have learned in S1 and S2. You will usually be working at what is known as 4th Level. Many pupils will have completed 3rd Level work by the end of S2.

THE FOUR CAPACITIES: SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS - CONFIDENT INDIVIDUALS - RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS - EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTORS



As learners move through the year groups, they will progress at their own pace through the Curriculum Levels

S4 – Part of the ‘The Senior Phase’

S4 marks the beginning of what is known as the Senior Phase. During the latter part of S3 you will undertake another personalisation and choice programme where you will select the seven subjects you wish to study in S4. **It is important to consider the pathway you wish to follow in S4 when making your choices for S3.**

In S4, you are usually presented for a qualification at one of three levels:

National 3

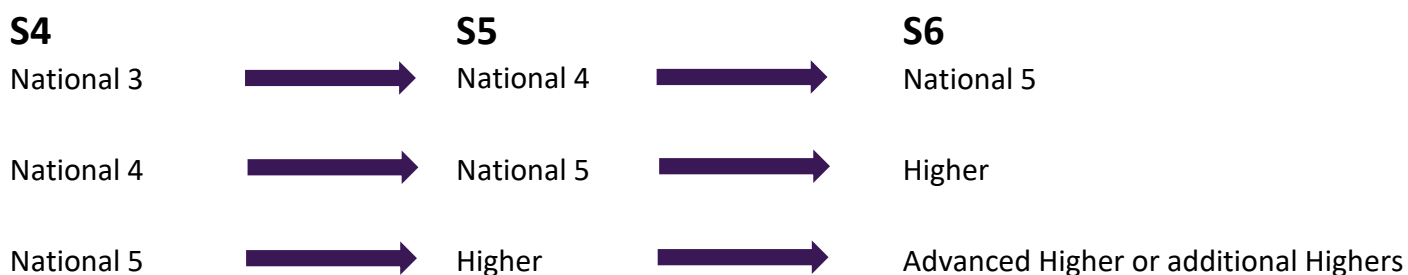
This qualification continues at the level of content covered at Third Level in the Broad General Education. There are no final exams and all of your work is marked in school. A National 3 qualification is graded Pass or Fail.

National 4

There is no exam in a National 4 course. Your work is assessed in school and you can either pass or fail a course. If you pass a National 4 course in S3 then you may progress to the National 5 course in that subject during S5. In some cases progression to National 5 in the same subject may not be the best course of action. Sometimes supplementary National 4 qualifications may be better suited to your needs. Each case can be examined and discussed with Principal Teachers (Pupil Support and Curriculum) on a pupil by pupil basis.

National 5

National 5 courses are on offer in all curricular areas. In nearly every subject you will sit an exam at the end of S4. The marks you gain in this exam will be added to coursework tasks (assignments/folios etc) to determine your final grade. The course is graded using the letters A, B, C, D and F. Progression from an ‘A’ or ‘B’ at National 5 will usually allow pupils to undertake Highers in S5.



In S3 you will study eleven subjects. Four of the eleven are core subjects that you must study. The other seven are choices that you make from within the curricular areas.

Core Subjects

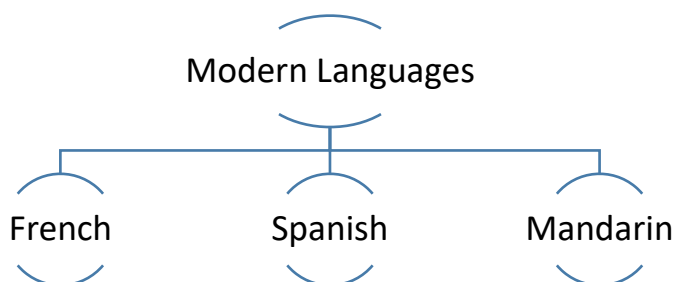
All pupils must study:

- English (4 periods per week)
- Maths (4 periods per week)
- PE (3 periods per week)
- PSE/RME (1 period per week)

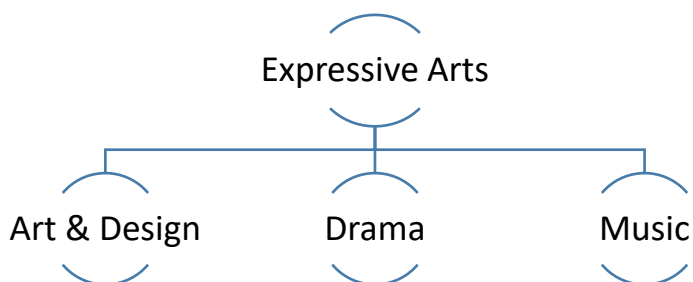
Choices

All pupils must experience all curricular areas. You will be given a choice in each curricular area and then a free choice of two additional subjects which can be taken from any of the curricular areas. This allows pupils to experience two Sciences, two Social Subjects, two Expressive Arts should they wish etc. There is also the opportunity for pupils to embark on one of our DYW (Developing the Young Workforce) Innovative projects – Barista and Customer Service, Cycle Maintenance and Photography.

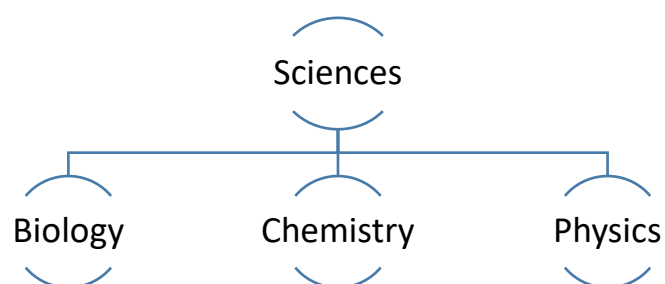
CURRICULAR AREA CHOICE 1 – MODERN LANGUAGES



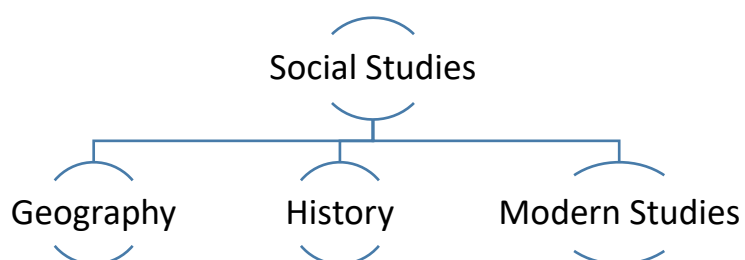
CURRICULAR AREA CHOICE 2 – EXPRESSIVE ARTS



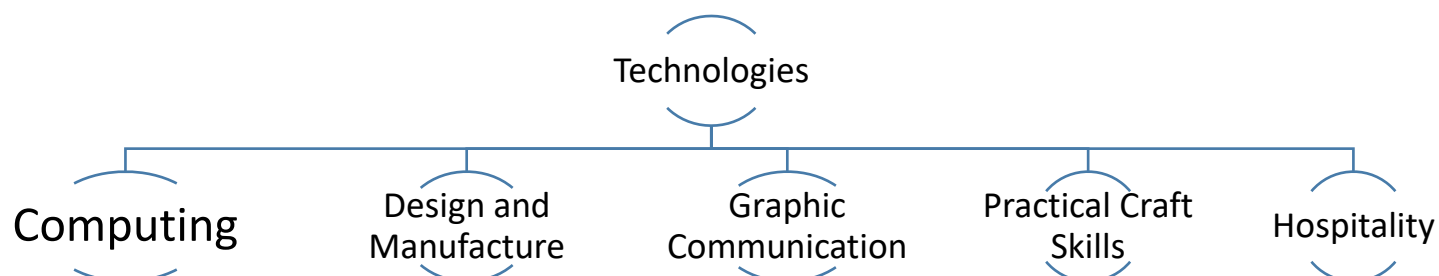
CURRICULAR AREA CHOICE 3 – SCIENCES



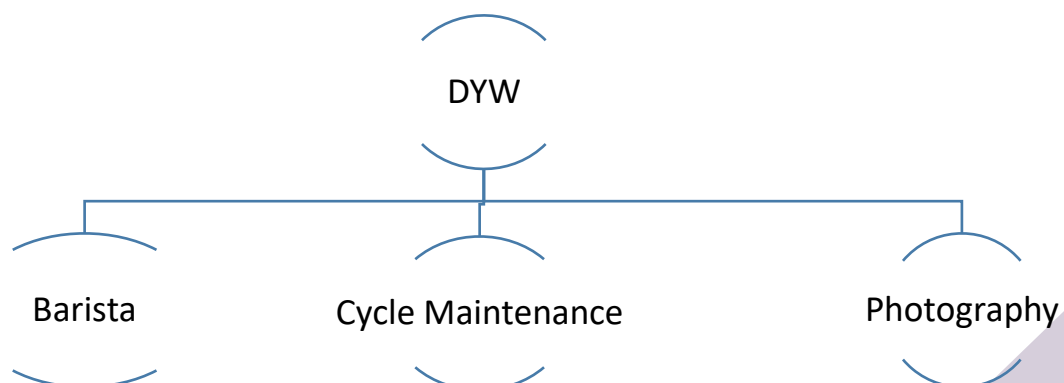
CURRICULAR AREA CHOICE 4 – SOCIAL STUDIES



CURRICULAR AREA CHOICE 5 – TECHNOLOGIES



DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE INNOVATIVE PROJECTS *in conjunction with Ayrshire College - funded by DYW Ayrshire and Princes' Trust*



Will I definitely get to study my first-choice subjects?

We always aim to ensure that all pupils get to study their preferred subjects in S3. However, sometimes courses do not run because of low uptake or due to timetabling constraints. Unfortunately, we do not have an infinite amount of teaching time available and cannot always guarantee that a course will run.

Generally, a course needs at least ten pupils to run. If a course is oversubscribed, we may also have to look at your intended career path before coming to a decision about whether or not we should allocate a space to you.

4 College Partnership

Within our curricular model in S3, we also offer some young people the chance to work with Ayrshire College. The courses on offer are delivered via a mixture of direct teaching from our staff, input from College staff and practical activity. We need to wait for confirmation of timings from Ayrshire College, but some young people would benefit from taking on a college course in S3 with a view to continuing with College input in S4. At the time of writing, courses on offer next session are (subject to change):

- Barista and Customer Service Skills
- Cycle Maintenance
- Photography

Is there any advice that I should follow when choosing my subjects?

Yes, this is an important time of your school life and you should speak to your teachers, family and our careers advisers about your thoughts and ideas. In general it is important to consider the following when making your choices:

Your skills, talents and interests

You should think carefully about your own skills and talents. Some of us are very creative, others very sporty, some enjoy problem solving, others reflective writing or number processing. Think about what you are naturally good at. It is also important to think about subjects that capture your attention or interest out with school.

Your family

Your family knows you best and always have your best interests at heart. The advice that you receive from your family plays an important role in the subject choices that you make. Take time to talk to your family about your choices. Ask those at home to help you decide if you are not sure. Your family will also have an idea of your progress based upon your homework and school reports. Often the advice that your family can provide is crucial at this time of your life. There are some great resources available to families as they help their child make their subject choices.

Parentzone

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-in-scotland/About%20the%203-18%20curriculum>

This website has been designed by Education Scotland to support parents and carers as they strive to understand the curriculum and qualifications.

My World of Work

<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/my-career-options/where-can-option-choices-take-you>

My World of Work is a Skills Development Scotland service that provides a unique mix of resources, features and job information to help people discover more about themselves and the future world of work. You can also access My World of Work from Glow.

My Kid's Career

<http://mykidscareer.com>

This is a new website designed to assist parents/carers to understand growth industries and potential career paths in 2020 and beyond.

National Parent Forum for Scotland

<https://www.npfs.org.uk/>

The National Parent Forum for Scotland website contains a series titled 'Nationals in a Nutshell'. The online guides can be used to find out more about National 4, National 5 and Higher qualifications.

Your friends

Friends are important people in your lives and you will often share similar interests. However, it is important to remember that your friends may have skills and talents that are different to yours. Sometimes this means that you won't choose to take the same subjects as your friends. Even if you pick the same subject as your friend, there is no guarantee that you would end up in the same class. Be careful that you don't pick a subject just because your friend has taken a subject. You could end up studying a course that doesn't make best use of your talents and skills.

Your teachers

All of your teachers are highly professional and strive to offer you a first class education. Naturally, you may have teachers that you get on with very well or who bring subject content to life and inspire you. In a similar way to the influence of your friends, this is an important part of school life. However, you do not know if your teacher will be able to take your class in S3. The relationship that you have with your teacher is very important but it should not be the only factor that you consider when taking a subject on.

Your class teachers should, from time to time, share with you your current working level within the BGE. Progression is not always linear, and it is not unusual to be working at different levels across each curricular area or subject.

BGE levels notionally operate as follows:

Early Level	Pre-School and P1
First Level	P2 – P4
Second Level	P5 – P7
Third Level	S1 and part of S2
Fourth Level	part of S2 and S3

It can be the case that a young person is working at First or Second Level when in Secondary School. For a number of reasons, and as we are all unique, a young person may progress through the levels in one curricular area at a faster rate than in another.

Your future

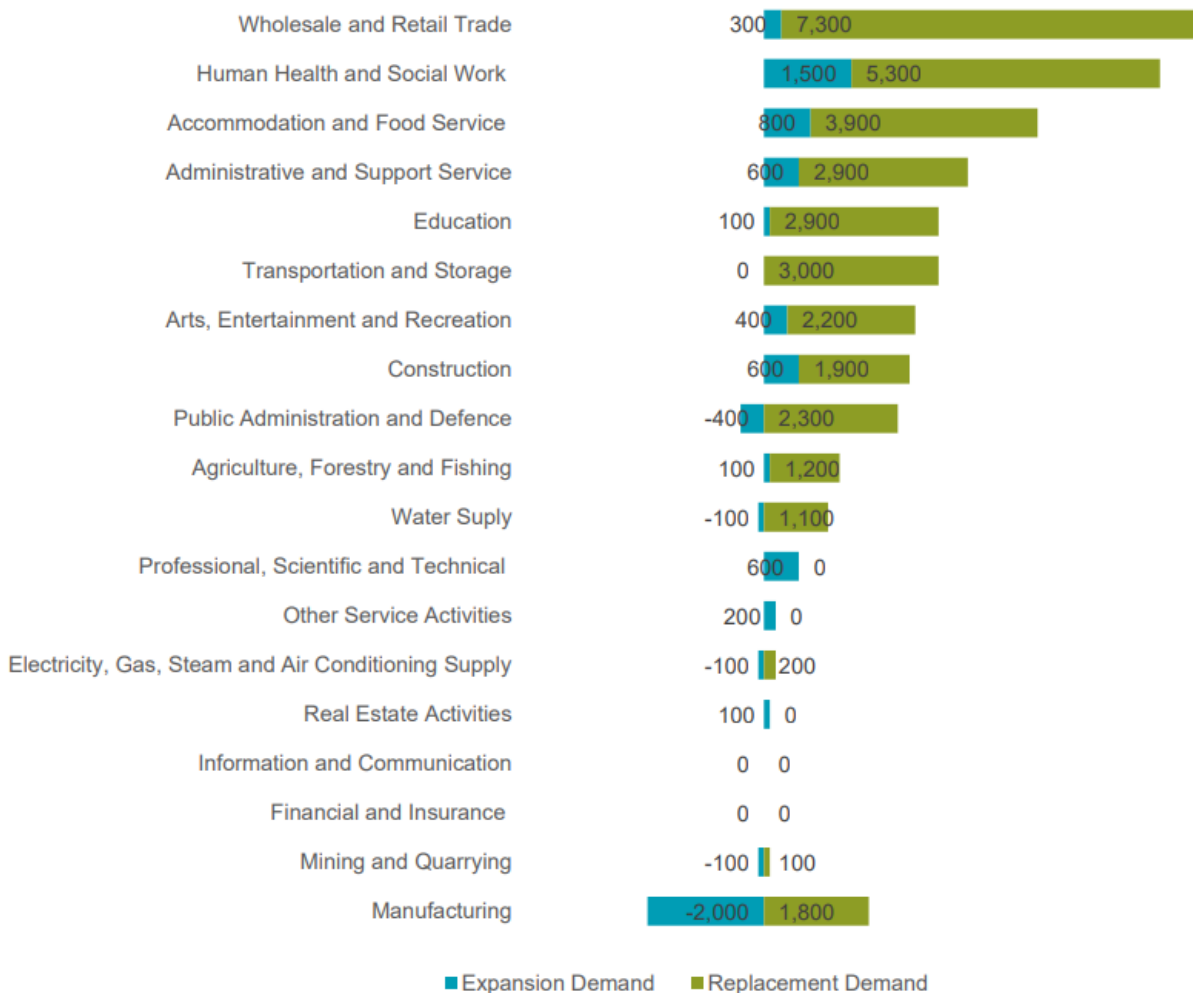
Some pupils will have a clear idea about what they want to do when they leave school. Other pupils will not yet have thought about the future or decided on a pathway. If you have a clear idea about what you would like to do then talk to your Pupil Support teacher or our Careers Adviser about what you need to take on in S3. If you are undecided then don't worry. Think about your skills and talents and make choices that will bring out the best in you.

Progression to S4, S5 and S6

Remember that the choices you make now will have an influence on what you can study in S4, S5 and S6.

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) release data every year which identifies trends in the 'labour market'. This means that they look at employment opportunities in a geographical area and provide advice about where there may be opportunities for work. This intelligence is a critical part of the decision making process when you begin to think about your future. Take time to sit with your parents or carers to look at this information.

Figure 12: Forecast total requirement by industry (2025-2032), Ayrshire



What happens next?

Following your PSE Presentation we will issue this booklet, a copy of the presentation and will be invited to an interview with your Guidance Teacher. After this interview you will take a copy of your choices home to discuss, make any amendments and return to the office with your parents/carers signature.

Who will help me?

- Subject teachers will clarify the different learning pathways open to you in each department
- A member of the Pupil Support team will carry out personalisation and choice interviews and talk to you about the decisions that you intend to make
- Finally, and most importantly, you will complete your options form in discussion with your parents or carers

Grange Academy S2 into S3 Personalisation and Choice 2023/2024



Pupil Name _____ House Group _____ Date of Birth _____

Career Aspiration _____

Anticipated Leaving Date end S4 end S5 end S6

All pupils will study **eleven** subjects. English, Mathematics, PE and PSE are core - these have been pre-selected. Select the other subjects you would like to study next session. At the time of writing, the following courses will run unless numbers are so low that they are not viable.

CORE SUBJECTS

English	✓
Mathematics	✓
PSE/RME	✓
PE Core	✓

MODERN LANGUAGES (Select 1)

French	
Spanish	
Mandarin	

EXPRESSIVE ARTS (Select 1)

Art and Design	
Drama	
Music	

CHOICE (Select 2)

Art and Design	
Biology	
Chemistry	
Computing Science	
Design and Manufacture	
Graphic Communication	
History	
Music	
Mandarin	
Modern Studies	
Spanish	
SFA Performance School 1	
SFA Performance School 2	
School of Football	
DYW PROJECTS (optional)	
DYW Barista*	
DYW Cycle Maintenance*	
DYW Photography*	

SCIENCES (Select 1)

Biology	
Chemistry	
Physics	

SOCIAL STUDIES (Select 1)

Geography	
History	
Modern Studies	

TECHNOLOGIES (Select 1)

Computing Science	
Design and Manufacture	
Graphic Communication	
Hospitality	
Practical Craft Skills	

Pupil Signature _____

Grange Staff Signature _____

Parent/Carer Signature _____

For further careers information and guidance please visit www.myworldofwork.co.uk

*You can only select one DYW course