



GRANGE ACADEMY

S3 into S4 Personalisation and Choice 2025/26

Please remember to
mute your
microphone

THE SENIOR PHASE

S4

7 subjects

National 3

National 4

National 5

SCQF Awards

S5

5 subjects

National 4

National 5

Higher

SCQF Awards

S6

Up to 5 subjects

National 5

Higher

Advanced

Higher

SCQF Awards

THE SENIOR PHASE – S4

All S4 pupils study 7 subjects and a range of qualifications are available in S4, such as:

- National Qualifications (N3, N4 and N5)
- SCQF Level Awards (L3, L4 and L5)
- NPAs – National Progression Awards (internally assessed)
- SfW – Skills for Work Courses (internally assessed)

NATIONAL 3

Assessed in school
Graded as Pass or Fail
No Examination
Progression to National 4

NATIONAL 4

Assessed in school
Graded as Pass or Fail
No Examination
Progression to National 5

S4

7 subjects
National 3
National 4
National 5
SCQF Awards

NATIONAL 5

**Assessed by mixture of
Exams and Coursework**

Graded as A, B, C, D or F

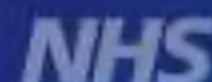
**Progression to Higher (if
attaining an A or B at
National 5)**

SCQF Awards (NPAs, SfW)

Level 3 – broadly Nat 3
Level 4 – broadly Nat 4
Level 5 – broadly Nat 5

SCQF FRAMEWORK

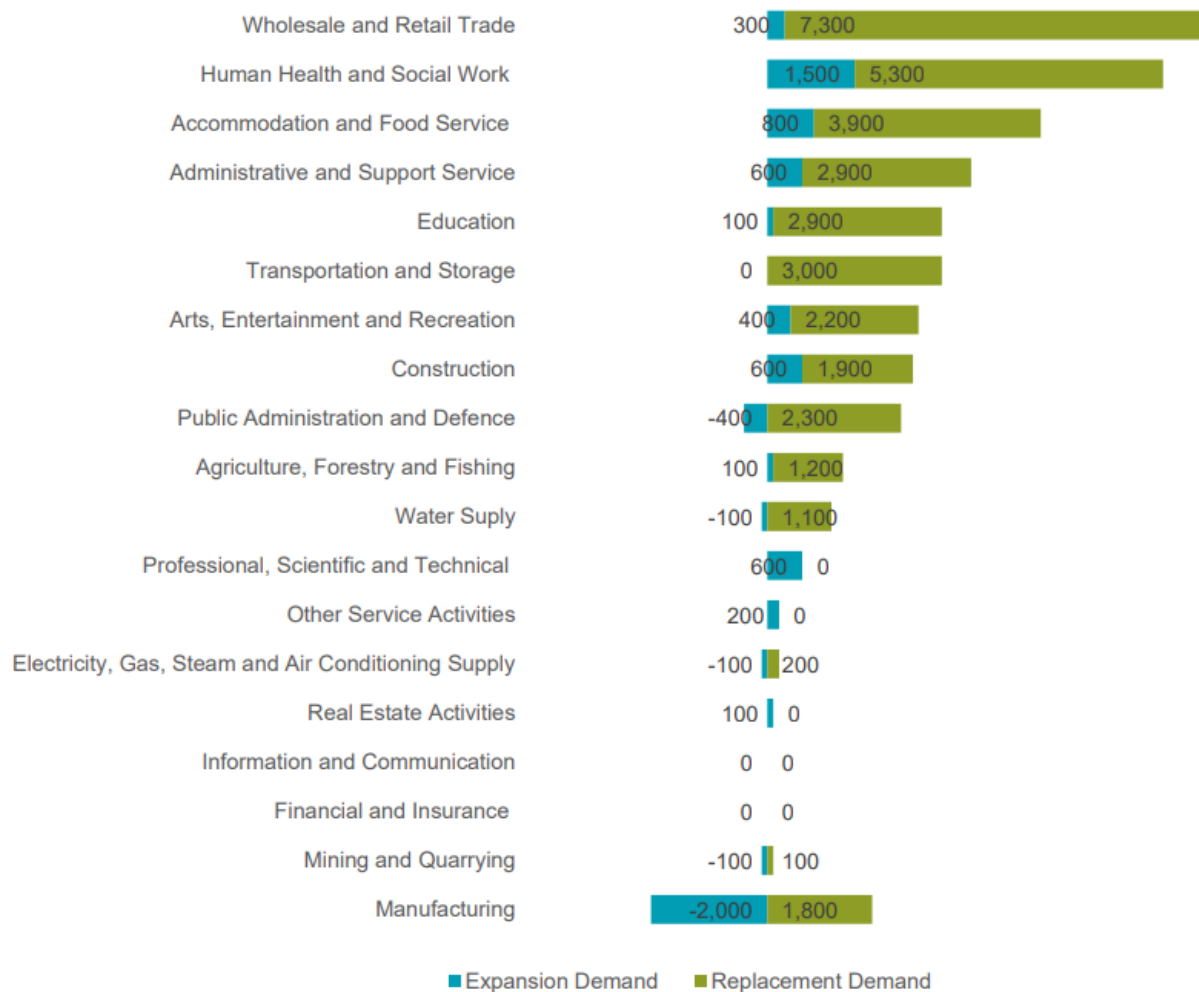
| SCQF Levels | SQA Qualifications | | | Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions | Apprenticeships & SVQs |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| 12 | | | ↑ | Doctoral Degree | Professional Apprenticeship |
| 11 | | | | Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate | Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ |
| 10 | | | | Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate | Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship |
| 9 | | | | Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate | Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ |
| 8 | | Higher National Diploma | ↓ | Diploma Of Higher Education | Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ |
| 7 | Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate | Higher National Certificate | | Certificate Of Higher Education | Modern Apprenticeship SVQ |
| 6 | Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher | ↑ | ↓ | | Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ |
| 5 | National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5 | | | | Modern Apprenticeship SVQ |
| 4 | National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4 | National Certificate | National Progression Award | | SVQ |
| 3 | National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3 | | | | |
| 2 | National 2, Awards | ↓ | | | |
| 1 | National 1, Awards | | | | |



REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET INTELLIGENCE

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.

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



THE SENIOR PHASE – S4

There are a wide range of different qualification types available throughout S4

- National Qualifications (N5 up to Advanced Higher)
- SCQF Level Awards (L5, L6 and L7)
- NPAs – National Progression Awards (internally assessed)
- SfW – Skills for Work Courses (internally assessed)

In Grange Academy we offer a 'free choice' model, where pupils select subjects without the restriction of options columns.

In total, pupils in S4 will study **seven** subjects plus PSE and Supporting Attainment/Core PE periods. In S5, pupils study five subjects and in S6, pupils can study up to and including **five** subjects.

For pupils involved in the **SFA Performance School** – two columns will be blocked off to enable you to access the requirements of the Performance School. In addition to Maths and English you will study **four** additional subjects. National 5 PE (if selected) will take place during Wider Achievement periods.

For **Hearing Impaired** pupils – one column can be allocated for you to work with staff in the Hearing Impairment Department. In addition to Maths and English you could study **four** additional subjects plus time with the HI Department.

EXAMPLE LEARNER PATHWAYS

- A) Some pupils will complete seven National 5 courses (English and Maths plus 5 others)
- B) Some pupils will take a combination of National 3, National 4 and National 5 courses
- C) Some pupils will go study 6 subjects in school and attend College on a Tuesday/Thursday afternoon as part of the School College Partnership
- D) SFA Performance School pupils will study 6 subjects (English, Maths, PE plus 3 others)
- E) Hearing Impaired pupils may choose to study 6 subjects plus have dedicated time with the HI Department.

GRANGE ACADEMY S4

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 S4. 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.

MAKING YOUR CHOICES

- Consider your own skills and talents
- Rely on the support of your family – discuss your choices with them
- Do not base choices on the choices of your friends – these are your choices
- Use My World of Work and the Options Information Booklet to help inform your choice.

MAKING CHOICES

There are several factors to consider when selecting subjects:

You should not select a subject that you did not study in S3 (unless it is a subject, such as Health Sector or Travel and Tourism, which is appearing for the first time in S4)

Only in exceptional circumstances should you select to study three subjects within a curricular area (Sciences, Social Subjects etc). At this stage it is important not to narrow your curriculum too much – in these situations we would discuss them on a case by case basis.

PROGRESSION FROM N5 TO HIGHER

What is the advice about requiring an A or a B pass at National 5 based on?

The latest SQA progression statistics (2023) for those moving from a C pass at National 5 to Higher are as follows:

| S4 National 5: C pass | Rate of Progression to an A-C pass at Higher |
|------------------------|--|
| Art and Design | 40% |
| Biology | 21% |
| Business Management | 29% |
| Chemistry | 21% |
| Design and Manufacture | 18% |
| Drama | 29% |
| English | 21% |
| French | 11% |
| Geography | 26% |
| Graphic Communication | 35% |
| History | 25% |
| Maths | 13% |
| Modern Studies | 25% |
| Music | 30% |
| PE | 39% |
| Physics | 26% |
| Spanish | 16% |

SENIOR PHASE PATHWAY PLANNING

| Pupil Name | House Group | Date of Birth |
|------------|-------------|---------------|
|------------|-------------|---------------|

| Preferred Route | University | College | Apprenticeship | Employment | Other (please detail) |
|-----------------|------------|---------|----------------|------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | |

| Career Aspiration _____ | Anticipated Leaving Date | end S4 | end S5 | end S6 |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | | | |

S3

| | |
|------------|--|
| English | |
| Maths | |
| Mod Lang | |
| Social | |
| Science | |
| Technology | |
| Exp Art | |
| Choice 1 | |
| Choice 2 | |
| PE | |
| PSE | |

S4

| | |
|-----|---------|
| 1 | English |
| 2 | Maths |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |
| PSE | |

S5

| | |
|-----|--|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| PSE | |

S6

| | |
|-----|--|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| PSE | |

S3 INTO S4 OPTIONS

ENGLISH AND MATHS PLUS 5 FREE CHOICE

Maths and English have already been selected above. You would now choose your additional choices from the remaining options. You **do not** need to select a subject in every area – you choose freely from the other subjects.

Below they are grouped by their curricular area to help you find them.

S3 into S4 Pathways 2025/2026



LANGUAGES

| |
|----------|
| English |
| French |
| Mandarin |
| Spanish |

MATHEMATICS

| |
|-------------|
| Mathematics |
|-------------|

EXPRESSIVE ARTS

| |
|--------------------|
| NPA Art and Design |
| NQ Art and Design |
| Drama |
| Music |

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

| |
|--------------------------|
| Physical Education (SQA) |
| SfW Hospitality |

SCIENCES

| |
|------------------------|
| Biology |
| Chemistry |
| SfW Health Sector |
| Physics |
| Science (SCQF L4 only) |

SOCIAL STUDIES

| |
|------------------------|
| Geography |
| History |
| Modern Studies |
| SfW Travel and Tourism |

TECHNOLOGIES

| |
|------------------------|
| Computing Science |
| NPA Games Development |
| Design and Manufacture |
| SfW Engineering |
| Graphic Communication |
| Practical Woodwork |

OTHER

| |
|--------------------------------|
| College (please refer to list) |
| Hearing Impairment |
| SFA Performance School 1 |
| SFA Performance School 2 |

SCHOOL COLLEGE COURSES

- All young people wishing to attend college must complete an online application form in order to secure a place on a programme of study.
- School staff will provide support and guidance in relation to the application process.
- You may be invited for interview and Ayrshire College will decide who is accepted on to each course.
- Should your application be rejected, you will need to select an additional subject to study in school.

If you are interested in applying to a School College course please let your Guidance Teacher know by sending them a message TODAY!

SCHOOL COLLEGE COURSES

For some pupils, the most appropriate pathway in S5/6 includes a course at Ayrshire College. At the time of writing, the courses scheduled to run next session are shown below. **Please be aware – there are a lot of courses!**

| Campus | Course Name | Delivery Location | SCQF Level | Delivery Days | Delivery Times |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|
| BUSINESS AND COMPUTING | | | | | |
| Kilmarnock | NPA Software Development Level 4 | Kilmarnock Campus | 4 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Kilmarnock | NPA Software Development Level 6 | Kilmarnock Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Kilwinning | HNC Cyber Security (infill) | Kilwinning Campus | 7 | Tues/Thurs | 9:00 - 4:00 |
| CONSTRUCTION | | | | | |
| Kilmarnock | Introduction to the Construction Industry | Kilmarnock Campus | 4 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Kilwinning | SFW Renewable Energy | Kilwinning Campus | 5 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Ayr | SFW Renewable Energy | Ayr Campus | 5 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Ayr | HNC Architectural Technology and Sustainability (Infil) | Ayr Campus | 7 | Mon/Wed | 9:00 - 4:00 |
| CREATIVE | | | | | |
| Ayr | NPA Digital Media with Film Making | Ayr Campus | 5 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Ayr | NPA Acting & Performance | Ayr Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Ayr | NPA Sound Production | Ayr Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Ayr | Portfolio Work (Life Drawing & Printmaking) | Ayr Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Ayr | Production Arts (Including Technical Theatre) (Level 6) | Ayr Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| EARLY YEARS | | | | | |
| Kilmarnock | Skills for Work Early Education & Childcare Level 4 | Kilmarnock Campus | 4 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Kilmarnock | Skills for Work Early Education & Childcare Level 5 | Kilmarnock Campus | 5 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Ayr | NPA Children & Young People | Ayr Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |
| Kilwinning | NPA Children & Young People | Kilwinning Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 4:00 |

SCHOOL COLLEGE COURSES

ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

| | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|---|------------|-------------|
| Kilmarnock | SVQ 1 Performing Engineering Operations | Kilmarnock Campus | 4 | Tues/Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |
| Kilmarnock | SVQ 2 Performing Engineering Operations (Kilmarnock and Grange Academy) | Kilmarnock Campus | 5 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 5:00 |
| Kilmarnock | SVQ 2 Performing Engineering Operations (Robert Burns Academy) | Kilmarnock Campus | 5 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 5:00 |
| Kilmarnock | SVQ 2 Performing Engineering Operations (infill) | Kilmarnock Campus | 5 | Thur/Fri | 9:00 - 4:00 |
| Ayr | Foundation Apprenticeship Engineering Y1 (Aeronautical) | Ayr Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 5:00 |
| Kilwinning | Foundation Apprenticeship Engineering Y1 (Electrical) | Kilwinning Campus | 6 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00 - 5:00 |
| Kilmarnock | HNC Applied Sciences (infill) | Kilmarnock Campus | 7 | Tues/Thurs | 9:00 - 4:00 |
| Kilwinning | HNC Electrical (Infil) | Kilwinning Campus | 7 | Wed/Thurs | 9:00 - 4:00 |
| Kilwinning | HNC Mechatronics (Infill) | Kilwinning Campus | 7 | Wed/Thurs | 9:00 - 4:00 |

HAIR AND BEAUTY

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| Kilmarnock | Steps to Work Hair & Beauty | Kilmarnock Campus | 4 | Tues /Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |
|------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------|-------------|

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

| | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|---|------------|-------------|
| Kilmarnock | Mental Health & Well Being Award | Kilmarnock Campus | 5 | Tues/Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |
| Kilwinning | NC in Oral Healthcare (Schools in-fill) | Kilwinning Campus | 6 | Mon/Wed | 9:00 - 4:00 |

HOSPITALITY

| | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|---|------------|---|
| Kilmarnock | NPA Professional Cookery | Kilmarnock Campus | 4 | Tues/Thurs | 2:00-5:00 Tues plus one hour remote on a Thursday |
| Kilmarnock | NPA Hospitality | Kilmarnock Campus | 5 | Tues/Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |
| Ayr | HNC Hospitality and Operations (infill) | Ayr Campus | 7 | Mon/Wed | 9:00 - 4:00 |

MOTOR VEHICLE

| | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|---|------------|-------------|
| Kilmarnock | Skills for Work: Automotive Skills National 4 | Kilmarnock Campus | 4 | Tues/Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |
|------------|---|-------------------|---|------------|-------------|

SCHOOL COLLEGE COURSES

SOCIAL SCIENCE

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|--------------|-------------|
| Ayr | NPA Criminology | Ayr Campus | 6 | Tues / Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |
| Kilwinning | NPA Criminology | Kilwinning Campus | 6 | Tues / Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |
| Kilmarnock | NPA Psychology | Kilmarnock Campus | 6 | Tues / Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |

SPORT

| | | | | | |
|------------|--|-------------------|---|--------------|-------------|
| Kilwinning | Skills for Work: Uniformed Services | Kilmarnock Campus | 4 | Tue / Thu | 2.00 - 4.00 |
| Kilmarnock | NPA Sport & Fitness (Football) | Kilmarnock Campus | 5 | Tues / Thurs | 2.00 - 4.00 |
| Kilmarnock | HNC Sports Coaching and Development (Infill) | Kilmarnock Campus | 7 | Tues / Thurs | 9:00 - 4:00 |
| Kilwinning | HND Year 1 Applied Sport Science (incorporating HNC Fitness) | Kilwinning Campus | 7 | Tues / Thurs | 9:00 - 4:00 |

ESOL

| | | | | | |
|------------|------|-------------------|-----|--|--|
| Kilmarnock | Esol | Kilmarnock Campus | TBC | | |
|------------|------|-------------------|-----|--|--|



SOME FREQUENT QUESTIONS

Why only take three of the same curricular area in exceptional circumstances?

At this stage, in S4, we are keen that pupils do not narrow their subject choice too much. In Science, for example, very few University level courses state the need for three Sciences as an entry requirement.

Do I need to take ... ?

In S4, the only mandatory qualification subjects are English and Maths. In addition all pupils will receive PSE and Core PE (unless studying PE as a National Qualification).

Where can I find out about ... ?

Please see the next two pages for the variety of resource we have created to support this process.

Can they change their mind?

Yes! We understand that pupils will sometimes make a wrong choice. We will always aim to support a young person to find the right pathway. If, once they have submitted their option form, you would like to make an amendment – please contact the school office in the first instance.

If a request to change subject happens after the start of the course – this might not always be able to be met. We would need to explore whether there is any space in the requested subject and we would need to consider how much of the course has been missed.

USEFUL RESOURCES

My World of Work

<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/option-choices/>

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. We strongly encourage parents/carers to use this site with pupils.



Ayrshire College Course Information Website

<https://www1.ayrshire.ac.uk/schools/>



USEFUL RESOURCES

Skills Development Scotland – Rebecca and Scott

Rebecca and Scott, our Careers Advisors, are always happy to arrange a time to talk with pupils and/or parents/carers about career choices and pathways.

If you wish to arrange an appointment with your school Careers Adviser they can be contacted through the information tab on the school app or using one of the options below:

Rebecca Munn

Telephone: 01563 601 241

Email: Rebecca.Munn@sds.co.uk

Scott Masterton

Telephone: 01563 601 235

Email: scott.masterton@sds.co.uk

Please be aware that career information and advice is available online for anyone who needs it at [My World of Work](#). You can also contact [your local centre](#) on **01563 527165** to speak to an adviser or call the SDS helpline on 0800 917 8000

WHAT HAPPENS NOW ...

Parent/Carer Information Evening (tonight)

S3 Tracking Reports should be issued tomorrow Period 7 (PSE)

Options process starts later this week

Parents Evening – Tuesday 11th March 2025

Quality Assurance Process

Timetabling and Validity Process – can all courses run etc

Re-Options Process (if required)

Timetable Change – planned for mid May (to be confirmed)