



# GRANGE ACADEMY

S2 into S3 Personalisation and Choice 2026/27



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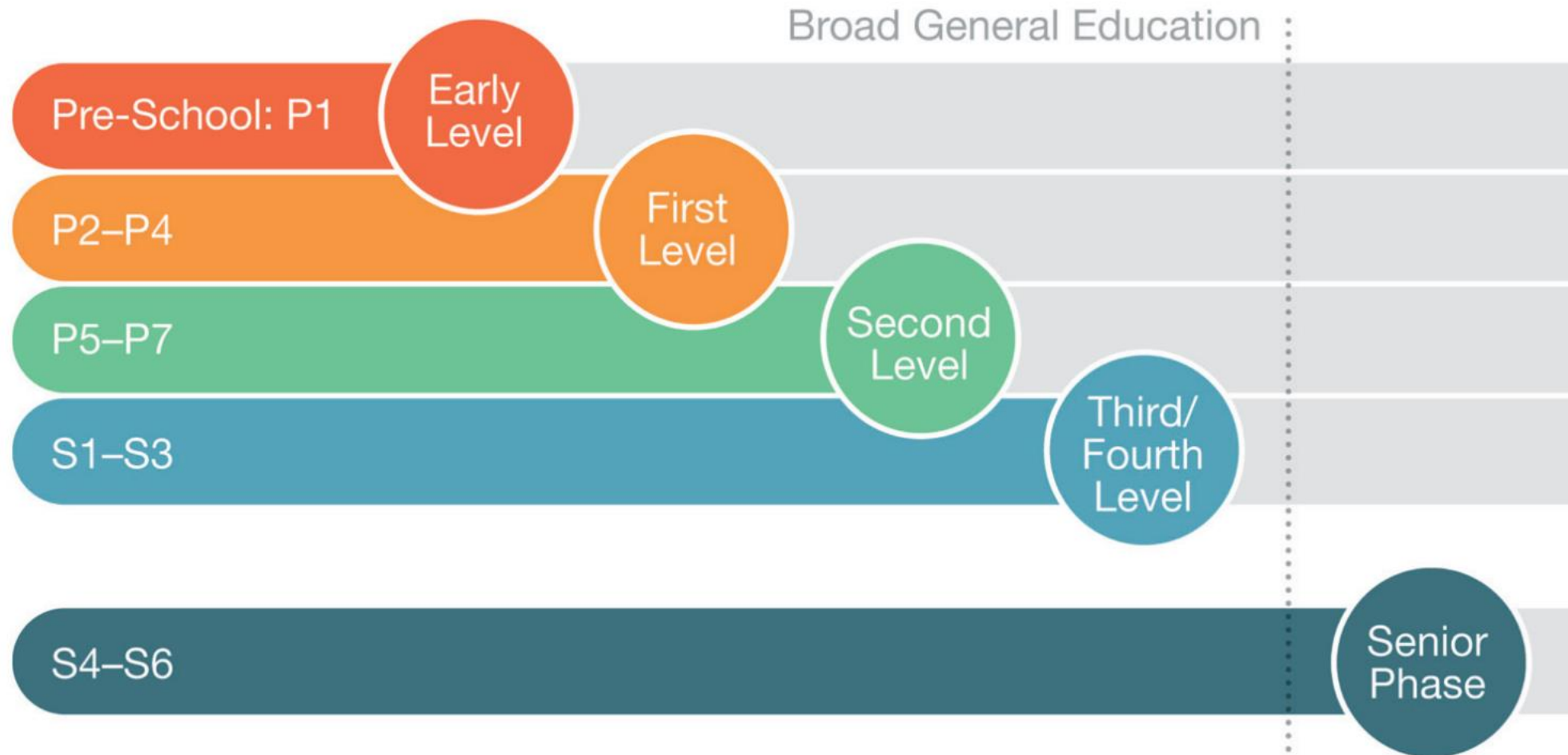
RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RESILIENCE

**WELCOME!**

**Mr Graeme Crosbie: Depute Head Teacher (Douglas House)**

**Mr Scott Robertson: Head Teacher**

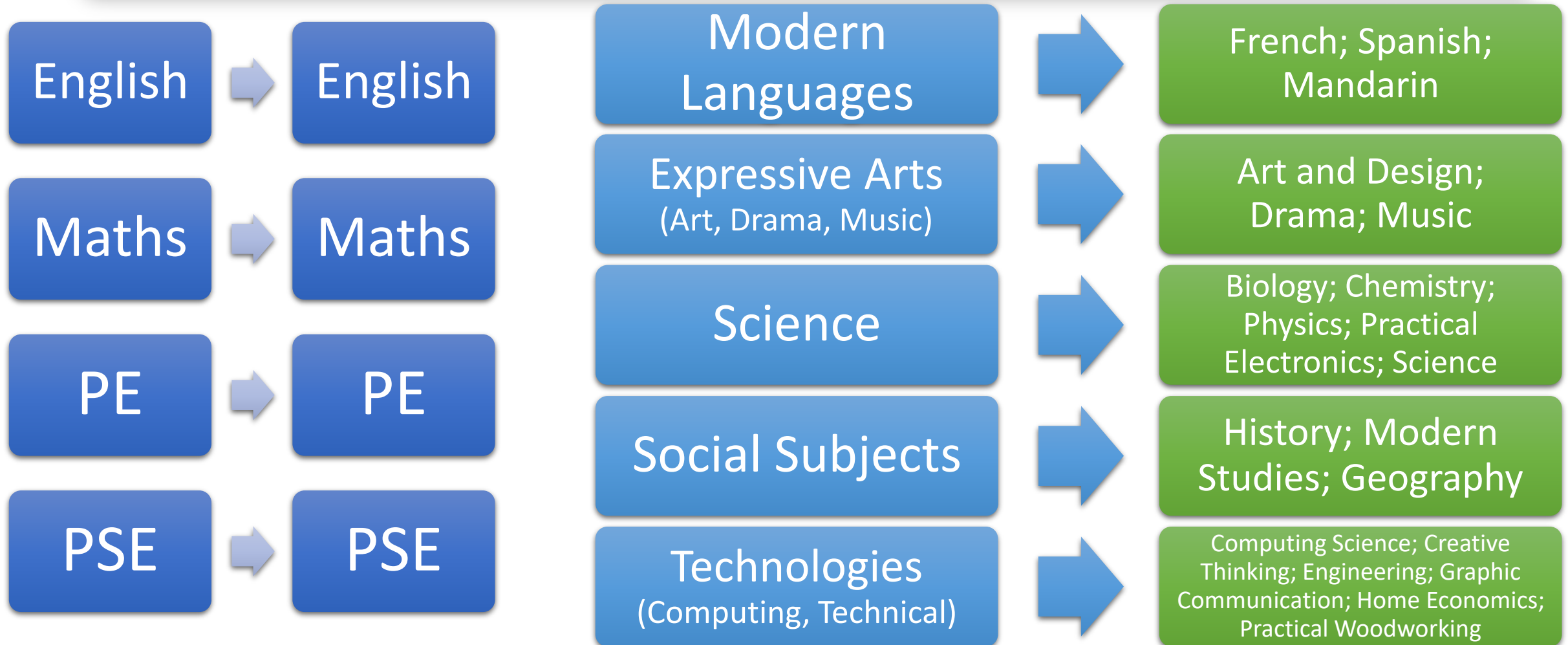
# CURRICULUM



## 33 PERIOD WEEK

- English: 4 periods
- Maths: 4 periods
- PE: 3 periods
- PSE: 1 period
- 7 Subject Choices: 3 periods each

# CURRICULUM REFINEMENT



## S3 TIMETABLE

- All S3 pupils study **11** subjects.
- Your first **4** subjects are compulsory: English, Maths, PE and PSE.
- You then choose **1** subject from each of the following curricular areas:
  - Modern Languages
  - Expressive Arts
  - Science
  - Social Subjects
  - Technologies.
- You then choose **2** additional subjects from the Free Choice column.

**CORE SUBJECTS**

English	✓
Mathematics	✓
PSE/RME	✓
Physical Education	✓

**MODERN LANGUAGES (Select 1)**

French
Spanish
Mandarin
Hearing Impairment

**EXPRESSIVE ARTS (Select 1)**

Art and Design
Drama
Music

**FREE CHOICE (Select 2)**

French
Spanish
Art and Design
Music
Biology
Chemistry
History
Modern Studies
Computing Science
Creative Thinking
Graphic Communication
Dance
SFA Performance School 1
SFA Performance School 2
School of Football
DYW Barista (S3 only)
DYW Photography (S3 only)
DYW Nails and Beauty (S3 only)

**SCIENCES (Select 1)**

Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Practical Electronics
Science

**SOCIAL SUBJECTS (Select 1)**

History
Modern Studies
Geography

**TECHNOLOGIES (Select 1)**

Computing Science
Creative Thinking
Engineering
Graphic Communication
Home Economics
Practical Woodworking

## UNIQUE OPTIONS

- Current Performance School pupils must choose SFA Performance School as 3 of their 7 options: 2 of their Free Choice options and 1 other curricular area.
- Barista, Photography and Nails and Beauty are single-year courses. Pupils cannot continue with these in S4.
- Dance is a new option and will be run from Jam Street School of Dance on either a Tuesday or Thursday afternoon. The first auditions for places take place on Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> of February.



# THINK AHEAD: SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND

Whether you know what subjects you want to choose, or you haven't given it much thought yet, it's important that you keep your options open. You'll find lots of useful tools and information on the career website, [My World of Work](#). There's a dedicated section on option choices with top tips on things to think about and videos to help inspire and learn about different careers. The Option Choices tool can also help explore the jobs choices could lead to.

Allyson and Scott, our Careers Advisers, are always happy to arrange a time to talk with pupils, parents and carers about career choices and pathways. They can be contacted through the information tab on the school app or using one of the options below:

**Allyson Barclay**

Telephone: 01563 601 232

Email: [allyson.barclay@sds.co.uk](mailto:allyson.barclay@sds.co.uk)

**Scott Masterton**

Telephone: 01563 601 235

Email: [scott.masterton@sds.co.uk](mailto:scott.masterton@sds.co.uk)



You can also contact your local centre on **01563 527165** to speak to an adviser or call the SDS helpline on **0800 917 8000**.

# THINK AHEAD: S4/5/6

What do you plan to study in S4? You will only take **7** main subjects forward in S4. This will the reduce to **5** main subjects in S5 and S6.

S3	
English	
Maths	
PE	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
PSE	

S4	
English	
Maths	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
WA	
PSE	

S5	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
WA	
PSE	

S6	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
WA	
PSE	

## COMMON QUESTIONS

### ***Do I need to take \_\_\_\_\_?***

In S3, you are still part of the Broad General Education. This means that we need to ensure you experience a curriculum which covers all the Curricular Areas, including English, Maths, PE and PSE.

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

At Grange Academy, we offer a “free choice” model, where pupils select their subjects without the restriction of options columns. We then try to accommodate as many pupil choices as possible. Sometimes courses do not run because of low uptake or timetabling constraints. Sometimes courses are oversubscribed and not every pupil can get a place. If this happens, we may look at your intended career path before deciding whether or not we can allocate a space to you.

### ***Can I change my 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 this happens, you should speak to your guidance teacher as soon as possible. However, we can't always guarantee that changes will be possible. We would need to explore whether there is any space in the requested subject and – if the change is requested after courses have started – we would need to consider how much of the course has been missed.

## DECISION TIME!

There are a lot of big decisions to make in the coming weeks. Please remember the following:

- Consider your future pathway post-school and what might be required for that.
- Consider your own skills and talents.
- Do not base choices on what your friends are doing. These are your choices!
- Rely on the support of your family. Discuss your choices with them.
- Use [My World of Work](#), our Careers Advisers and the information available from individual subject areas to help you make your decisions.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- S2 tracking reports have now been issued. These will help you to identify your strongest subject areas.
- S2 Parents' Evening is next Thursday (the 5<sup>th</sup> of February).
- Your guidance teacher will talk to you about the subject choice process during PSE lessons.
- Your guidance teacher will meet with you to give you advice and help you make your choices. You'll get a copy of what you've decided on to take home.
- During February and March, Mr. Crosbie will determine the viability of courses (based on uptake and staffing) and will contact individual pupils if they need to make alternative choices.
- Courses will start in May.

## CONTACTS

B1 – Mrs Quinn: [cherylanne.quinn@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:cherylanne.quinn@eastayrshire.org.uk)

B2 – Mrs McCormack: [michelle.mccormack@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:michelle.mccormack@eastayrshire.org.uk)

D1 – Mrs Marshall: [hollie.marshall@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:hollie.marshall@eastayrshire.org.uk)

D2 – Mrs Causer: [lyndsey.causer@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:lyndsey.causer@eastayrshire.org.uk)

G1 – Ms Bonnar: [katie.bonnar@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:katie.bonnar@eastayrshire.org.uk)

G2 – Mr Bruce: [derek.bruce@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:derek.bruce@eastayrshire.org.uk)

H1 – Miss Brown: [katy.brown@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:katy.brown@eastayrshire.org.uk)

H2 – Mrs McDowall: [jamila.mcdowall@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:jamila.mcdowall@eastayrshire.org.uk)