



# GRANGE ACADEMY

S4/5 into S5/6 Personalisation and Choice 2026/27



Please remember  
to mute your  
microphone.

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

RESILIENCE

# THE SENIOR PHASE – S5/6

There are many types of qualifications available throughout S5/6:

- National Qualifications (National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher exams)
- Level 5, 6 and 7 SCQF Level Awards (internal assessments)
- National Progression Awards (internal assessments)
- Skills for Work Courses (internal assessments)

In **S5**, pupils study **five** subjects, with additional PSE and Wider Achievement periods.

In **S6**, most pupils study five subjects, but there is some additional flexibility to accommodate enrichment opportunities available to this yeargroup.

# THE SENIOR PHASE – S5/6

Subject 1	■	■	■	■	■	■
Subject 2	■	■	■	■	■	■
Subject 3	■	■	■	■	■	■
Subject 4	■	■	■	■	■	■
Subject 5	■	■	■	■	■	■
Wider Achievement	■	■				
PSE	■					

## Wider Achievement Options

- Core PE
- Supporting Attainment
- Additional courses, including:
  - Level 7 SFA Refereeing
  - Level 6 Powering Futures
  - Level 5 Barista

# **SCHOOL COLLEGE COURSES**

- Pupils can also choose a school college course instead of one of our “in school” subjects.
- This is subject to completing an application form and securing a place. There can be a lot of competition for some courses, and some require pupils to attend an interview as part of the application process.
- If your application is rejected, you will need to choose an alternative subject to study in school.

**If you are interested in applying to a School College course, let your Guidance Teacher know as soon as possible!**

Senior Phase  
School College  
Courses  
Ayrshire College

## Why School College Partnership?

**To provide a broad range and depth of subjects, qualifications, skills and experience to:**

- **Get a job in a field you wish to work in**
- **Achieve an apprenticeship**
- **To progress to further / higher level of study**
- **Develop existing skills to further your career**

- Courses start in June and finish at the end of April
- 2 afternoons per week (usually a Tuesday and Thursday)  
2:00 – 4:00 or 2:00 – 5:00
- Attendance may be required during exam leave in May
- Travel to and from college is organised through school
- Attendance is reported weekly to school and parent/carer is contacted if attendance falls below a satisfactory percentage
- Progress is reported to school monthly and sent home to parent/carer in December & March

## BENEFITS

- **Meet students from other schools with same interests**
- **Expand social life**
- **Adult environment**
- **Use of technology and equipment that may not be available in school**
- **Raises awareness of progression opportunities**
- **References from industry professionals**
- **Student card**
- **Help with full-time college applications**
- **Independent learning**

## What Courses Are Available?

- **Level 4 (Equivalent of Nat 4) available from S4+**
- **Level 5 (Equivalent of Nat 5) available from S4+**
- **Level 6 (Equivalent of Higher) available for S5 & S6**
- **Level 7 (Equivalent of Advanced Higher) – (S6) this is two full days in college**
- **Foundation Apprenticeship (Level 6) – 2 year course in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year**

Campus	Course Name	SCQF Level	Delivery Days	Delivery Times
<b>Business and Computing</b>				
Kilmarnock	NPA Software Development Level 4	4	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Kilmarnock	NPA Software Development Level 6	6	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Ayr	NPA Level 6 Accounting	6	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 5:00
Kilwinning	HNC Cyber Security (infill)	7	Tues/Thurs	9:00 - 4:00
<b>Construction</b>				
Kilmarnock	Introduction to the Construction Industry	4	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Kilwinning	SFW Renewable Energy	5	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Ayr	SFW Renewable Energy	5	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Ayr	HNC Architectural Technology and Sustainability (Infil)	7	Mon/Wed	9:00 - 4:00
Ayr	Construction Crafts (Units Only) Level 5	5	Mon/Wed	2:00 - 4:00

Creative				
Ayr	NPA Digital Media with Film Making	5	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Ayr	NPA Acting & Performance	6	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Ayr	NPA Sound Production	6	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Ayr	Portfolio Work (Life Drawing & Printmaking)	6	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
EARLY YEARS				
Kilmarnock	Skills for Work Early Education & Childcare Level 4	4	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Kilmarnock	Skills for Work Early Education & Childcare Level 5	5	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Kilmarnock	NPA Children & Young People Level 6	6	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 4:00
Health and Social Care				
Kilmarnock	Mental Health and Wellbeing Award	5	Tues/Thurs	2.00 - 4.00

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

Engineering and Science				
Kilmarnock	<b>SVQ 1 Performing Engineering Operations</b>	4	Tues/Thurs	2.00 - 4.00
Kilmarnock	<b>SVQ 2 Performing Engineering Operations ( Kilmarnock and Grange Academy)</b>	5	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 5:00
Kilwinning	<b>Foundation Apprenticeship Engineering Y1 (Electrical)</b>	6	Tues/Thurs	2:00 - 5:00
Kilmarnock	<b>HNC Applied Sciences (infill)</b>	7	Tues/Thurs	9:00 - 4:00
Kilwinning	<b>HNC Electrical (Infill)</b>	7	Wed/Thurs	9:00 - 4:00
Kilwinning	<b>HNC Mechatronics (Infill)</b>	7	Wed/Thurs	9:00 - 4:00
Motor Vehicle				
Kilmarnock	<b>Skills for Work: Automotive Skills National 4</b>	4	Tues/Thurs	2.00 - 4.00

Hair and Beauty				
Kilmarnock	Steps to Work Hair & Beauty	4	Tues /Thurs	2.00 - 4.00
Professional Cookery / Hospitality				
Kilmarnock	NPA Professional Cookery	4	Tues/Thurs	2:00-5:00 Tues Remote Thurs Campus
Steps to Work (Hospitality / Professional Cookery)				
Kilmarnock		4	Tues/Thurs	2.00 - 4.00
Social Science				
Kilmarnock	NPA Psychology with Criminology	6	Tues / Thurs	2.00 - 4.00
Sport				
Kilmarnock	Skills for Work: Uniformed Services	4	Tues / Thurs	2.00 - 4.00
Kilmarnock	NPA Sport & Fitness ( Football)	5	Tues / Thurs	2.00 - 4.00
Kilmarnock	HNC Sports Coaching and Development (Infill)	7	Tues / Thurs	9:00 - 4:00

## What's next?

- **Applications for School-College Courses are open from the 19th January 2026 and close on 25th March 2026.**
- **Discuss with Guidance Teacher before making an application**
- **Remember a Personal Statement, for example:**

*I can travel to College easily as it is close to where I live. I visited the College on a taster day, and I liked the great facilities. It is a great place for me to start my hairdressing career.*

## ***What's next?***

- **After you make an application, you will hear back about the next step after applications close at end of March**
- **Each course has a different selection process which you will be informed about after you make an application**
- **An explanation of each selection process is explained on the website under the School-College Courses**

## Questions?

- If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch using the contact details below:

**Ashley Husband**

**School College Partnership Officer (East Ayrshire)**  
**Ayrshire College**

**Tel: 07526566296**

**Email: [Ashley.husband@ayrshire.ac.uk](mailto:Ashley.husband@ayrshire.ac.uk)**

# MAKING YOUR CHOICES

There are several factors to consider when selecting subjects.

**We recommend you prioritise the subjects:**

- required for the university or college course(s) of your choice.
- you perform well in (e.g. an A or B pass this year).
- you enjoy.

# S4/5 into S5/6 Personalisation and Choice 2025/2026



LANGUAGES			MATHEMATICS			EXPRESSIVE ARTS			S6 ONLY		
English	5	H	Mathematics	5	H	Art and Design	5	H	Art & Design		AH
French	5	H	Applications of Maths	5	H	Drama	5	H	Biology		AH
Mandarin	5	H				Music	5	H	Chemistry		AH
Spanish	5	H							Drama		AH
SCIENCES			SOCIAL SUBJECTS			TECHNOLOGIES			English		
Biology		H	NPA Criminology	5		Business Management		H	Mathematics		AH
Chemistry		H	SfW Travel and Tourism	5		Computing Science		H	Music		AH
Physics		H	Geography		H	Design and Manufacture	5	H	Physical Education		AH
Environmental Science	5	H	History		H	Graphic Communication	5	H	YASS Course		7
SfW Lab Science	5		Modern Studies		H	Practical Metalwork	5		Psychology	H	
SfW Energy	5		RMPS		H				Leadership Award	6	
									AH Study Pathway		
HEALTH AND WELLBEING			OTHER			WIDER ACHIEVEMENT			AH Courses via SWEIC (Online)		
Physical Education		H	College (see over)			Supporting Attainment			H Politics		
Practical Cookery	5		Hearing Impairment			Core PE			Adv. Higher Graphic Communication		
NPA Sports Develop.		6				L5 Barista Award	5		Adv. Higher History (Germany)		
						L7 PDA in SFA Refereeing		7	Adv. Higher History (USA)		
									Adv. Higher Modern Studies		
									Adv. Higher Physics		

**THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF LAST YEAR'S COURSES. THE FINAL LIST FOR 2026/27 WILL BE SHARED LATER THIS WEEK.**

## 3 EXAMPLE LEARNER PATHWAYS

- Pupil A - Some pupils will work towards five Higher courses.
- Pupil B - Some pupils will study 4 subjects in school and attend College on a Tuesday / Thursday afternoon as part of the School College Partnership.
- Pupil C - In S6, some pupils will study up to 3 Advanced Highers, additional Highers and then allow time for H Leadership or AH Study periods.

# 3 EXAMPLE LEARNER PATHWAYS

## Learner A

H English (Level 6)

H Applications of Maths (Level 6)

H Chemistry (Level 6)

H History (Level 6)

H Music (Level 6)

Supporting Attainment

PSE

## Learner B

N5 English (Level 5)

H Maths (Level 6)

NPA Criminology (Level 5)

NPA Lab Skills (Level 5)

College

Core PE

PSE

## Learner C

AH Maths (Level 7)

AH Maths (Level 7)

YASS Course (Level 7)

H Music (Level 6)

AH Study Pathway

Powering Futures Award (Level 6)

PSE

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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

In S5/6, there are no mandatory subjects. However, all pupils require a full timetabled curriculum and will receive PSE plus a Wider Achievement Option.

## ***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.

## ***Do we get ‘free’ periods?***

There are no ‘free’ periods in S5. Pupils in S6 may select an AH Study Pathway if they are studying two or more Advanced Highers. In addition, some S6 courses may involve some unsupervised private study periods.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ***Do I need to attain to a particular level at N5 to start a Higher course?***

The answer to this varies from person to person. However, for most pupils we would recommend an A or B at National 5 before considering Higher level.

## ***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, they should speak to their guidance teacher as soon as possible.

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.

# GRANGE ACADEMY S6

S6

Academic

Enrichment

# GRANGE ACADEMY S6: TWO SCENARIOS

*I need to stay on so that I can gain enough qualifications to apply for college / university / employment.*

If you need to increase your attainment, we would highly recommend that you study four or five subjects in S6. Our experience shows that you are more likely to attain well (and meet entrance requirements) if you study as many subjects as possible.

*I already have the qualifications I need to secure a college place.*

If you have decided upon a college pathway and have already met the entrance requirements, you may benefit from moving onto college at the end of S5. College provision can prepare you well for the world of work and open pathways to HNC or HND qualifications that are not possible in school. You should make an appointment with our Careers Adviser as soon as possible.

# ADVANCED HIGHERS

## ***How do universities view Advanced Highers?***

Advanced Highers are not usually required for entry to Scottish universities. It is more important to achieve the Highers required for entry level before considering Advanced Highers.

Some universities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland accept Highers for entry to their degree programmes, but some will ask for up to three Advanced Highers.

However, for competitive programmes (e.g. medicine, dentistry or veterinary science) students are likely to need five Highers achieved in the fifth year, and then two Advanced Highers and an additional Higher in the sixth year sitting.

**The priority should be checking specific entrance requirements and talking directly to the universities if you have any questions about the Advanced Higher(s) or the combination of Highers and Advanced Highers you are considering in S6.**

# ADVANCED HIGHERS

In recent years, we have offered Advanced Higher Maths, Biology, Chemistry, English, Music, Drama, Art and PE.

We also offer the opportunity for pupils to take other Advanced Higher courses through links with other East Ayrshire schools and through the online SWEIC programme.

S6 ONLY

Art & Design		AH
Biology		AH
Chemistry		AH
Drama		AH
English		AH
Mathematics		AH
Music		AH
Physical Education		AH
YASS Course		7
Psychology	H	
Leadership Award	6	
AH Study Pathway		

AH Courses via SWEIC (Online)

H Politics
Adv. Higher Graphic Communication
Adv. Higher History (Germany)
Adv. Higher History (USA)
Adv. Higher Modern Studies
Adv. Higher Physics

# S6 ENRICHMENT

## **YASS (Young Applicants in Schools Scheme)**

Independent Learning Opportunity to study through Open University at Level 7 (AH). Courses available in subjects such as Law Making in Scotland, Economics, Statistics.

## **Leadership Award**

Level 6 award with opportunities to build confidence, work with others and apply their skills in a practical setting.

## **AH Study Pathway**

Available when studying two or more Advanced Highers

## **School Responsibilities**

Buddying

In-class support for younger pupils

Supporting PSE

Leadership Opportunities

# SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND

Whether your young person knows what subjects they want to choose, or they haven't given it much thought yet, it's important that they keep their options open. You'll find lots of useful tools and information on your 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 and/or parents/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**.



# SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND SURVEY

## Feedback on Skills Development Scotland's (SDS) career service

Parents and carers are key influencers over young people's career ambitions and choices. SDS work in close partnership with this school to support our young people to make informed career choices and they would value feedback from parents and carers on their services.

You can do this here: [Qualtrics Survey](#) | [Qualtrics Experience Management](#).

All responses are confidential and anonymous, and the results will be used to inform SDS services. The survey should only take about 10 to 15 minutes to complete.



# FUTUREFEST

28<sup>th</sup> January

5pm – 7pm

Grange Assembly Hall

Over 45 stalls from a range of colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers and employers

Open to S1 – S6



# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- Options Interviews start on **Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> of January**. This year, we are taking a new approach to this and will be giving parents the opportunity to join pupils and their guidance teachers when they meet. Parents will also be able to get involved in this process through e-mails or phonecalls if that suits them better.
- S4 Reports will be issued on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of January. S5/6 Reports will be issued on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of February.
- FutureFest takes place on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of January.

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 June, but there will be an opportunity to make changes following exam results in August, if necessary.

# 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](#), the [Ayrshire College](#) website, our Careers Advisers and the information available from individual subject areas to help you make your decisions.

# THANK YOU

## Questions?

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 – TBC: [graeme.crosbie@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:graeme.crosbie@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.mcdochall@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:jamila.mcdochall@eastayrshire.org.uk)