

**LOUDOUN
ACADEMY** | *Learning together
Achieving together*

KINDNESS | DETERMINATION | EQUALITY

LOUDOUN ACADEMY

Learner Pathways for S5 and S6 next year

- Parent & Carer
Information Session
- **3rd February 2026**



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Introductions

Mr Stephen Cowan
Head Teacher

Mr Bruce Hendry
Depute Head Teacher S3 & S4

Mrs Laura Brown
Principal Teacher HEART

Mrs Lorraine Egerton
Depute Head Teacher S1 & S2

Ms Jennifer Robertson Skills
Development Scotland

Mrs Lesley Whiteside
Depute Head Teacher S5 & S6



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RETURNING TO S5/6

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

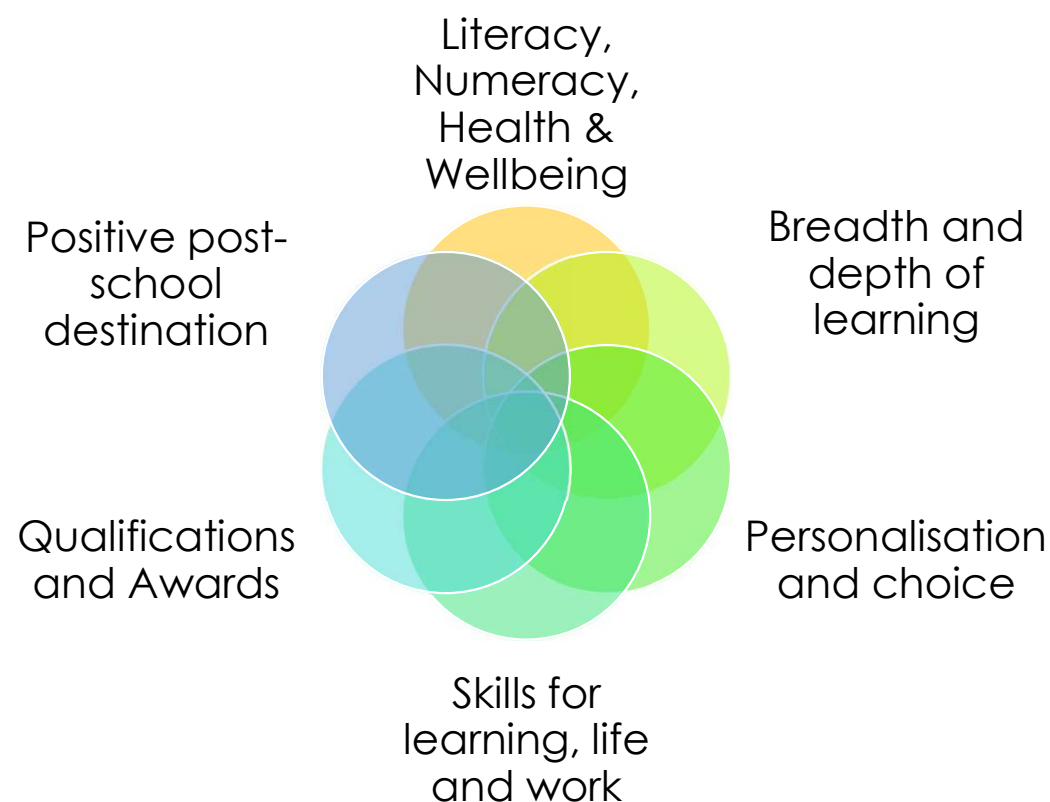
- Learner pathway – personalisation
- Maximising attainment
- Development of skills
- School Values
- Leadership Roles / School Involvement
- Planning for post-school destination



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CURRICULUM PATHWAYS





WHAT'S INVOLVED

S5 and S6 Option Form and Booklet (School Website)
Personal, Social & Health Education, My World of Work

Parent Information Evening 3rd February 2026

S4 Parents Night – 21st January 2026

S5 Full Reports –WB 2nd February 2026

Discuss – at home, PT Pupil Support interview

Link to Future Pathways information

Return signed paper copy w/c 17th February 2026

School college partnership applications 25th Mar 2026



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Curriculum for Excellence

Broad General Education (BGE): S1-S3

Senior Phase: S4-S6

S4: National Qualifications at levels 3, 4 & 5 / College Courses / Units / NPA'S

S5: New Higher Qualifications and National 5 / College Courses / NPA'S / NC's

S6: New Higher & Advanced Higher Qualifications / National 5 / College Courses / YASS



Progression Information Aug 2025

Subject N5	Subject Higher	Grade	A	B	C	D	NA
English	English	A	46%	33%	16%	5%	1%
English	English	B	7%	24%	34%	25%	9%
English	English	C	1%	8%	23%	39%	29%
English	English	D	1%	3%	16%	34%	46%
English	English	No Award	0%	8%	25%	42%	25%
Mathematics	Mathematics	A	58%	19%	12%	6%	5%
Mathematics	Mathematics	B	7%	15%	21%	21%	35%
Mathematics	Mathematics	C	3%	8%	15%	19%	54%
Mathematics	Mathematics	D	2%	11%	11%	14%	62%
Mathematics	Mathematics	No Award	0%	13%	4%	21%	63%
Business Management	Business Management	A	65%	21%	11%	2%	1%
Business Management	Business Management	B	17%	28%	30%	18%	7%
Business Management	Business Management	C	3%	13%	26%	31%	27%
Business Management	Business Management	D	0%	8%	19%	25%	48%
Business Management	Business Management	No Award	0%	0%	8%	15%	77%



S5 / 6 CURRICULUM

Core subjects

Physical Education

Personal & Social Education

Ideally From S4 Subjects

Choice 1

Choice 2

Choice 3

Choice 4

Choice 5

National 5 – assignment and final exam
SCQF Level 5 – unit assessments and assignments
Higher – assignment and final exam
Adv. Higher – assignment and final exam



Linked to longer term plan

Attainment in S5 and S6 – National/Level 5/Higher

Requirements for entry into:

- College
- University
- Apprenticeship
- Employment

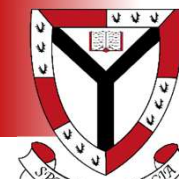
16+

Post school planning is captured as part of the Option Choice process

Process

S5 Option Form

16+ Info



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Loudoun Academy S5 Options Form 2026

Course Title	Levels Available*	Rank order 1-5 & Level
Administration & IT	National 5, Higher	
Applications of Mathematics	National 5	
Applied Science	NPA Level 5	
Art & Design	NPA Level 5, Higher	
Biology	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher	
Business Management	National 5, Higher	
Chemistry	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher	
College	Course Title :	
Computing Science	Higher	
Creative Industries	SFW National 5	
Cyber Security	NPA Level 5 & Level 6	
Design & Manufacture	Higher	
English	National 5, Higher	
Food & Drink Tech	Foundation Apprenticeship Level 6	
French	National 5, Higher	
Geography	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher	
Graphic Communication	Higher	
Health Sector	SFW National 5	
History	National 5, Higher	
Mathematics	National 5, Higher	
Modern Studies	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher	
Music	National 5, Higher	
Personal Finance	Level 4, Level 5	
Physics	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher	
Physical Education	National 5, Higher	
Practical Fashion & Textile	National 5, Higher	
Practical Metalwork	National 5	
RMPS	National 5, Higher	
Scottish Studies	Level 5, Level 6	
Spanish	Higher	
Sports & Recreation	SFW National 5	
Travel & Tourism	National 5	
COMPULSORY CORE: PSE 1 Period & Two Periods of PE		
Career Aspiration :		
Destination (Please tick how you plan to meet your career aspiration)		
Employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Training Apprenticeship <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education (University) <input type="checkbox"/>
Leaving Point (Please tick when you are planning to leave school)		
End of S4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christmas S5 <input type="checkbox"/> S5 <input type="checkbox"/> S6 <input type="checkbox"/>

Process

S6 Option Form

16+ Info



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Loudoun Academy S6 Options Form 2026

Course Title	Levels Available*	Rank order 1-5 & Level
Administration & IT	National 5 & Higher	
Applications of Mathematics	National 5	
Applied Science	NPA Level 5	
Art & Design	NPA Level 5, Higher & Advanced Higher	
Biology	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher & Advanced Higher	
Business Management	National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher	
Chemistry	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher & Advanced Higher	
College	Course Title :	
Computing Science	Higher	
Creative Industries	SFW National 5	
Cyber Security	NPA Level 5 & Level 6	
Design & Manufacture	Higher & Advanced Higher	
English	National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher	
Food & Drink Tech	Foundation Apprenticeship Level 6	
French	National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher	
Geography	National 5 (S4 Class) & Higher	
Graphic Communication	Higher & Advanced Higher	
Health Sector	SFW National 5	
History	National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher	
HE: Barista/Mxology/Counter Service	S6 Only Foundation Apprenticeship L5	
Leadership Award & Short Course Bundle	S6 Only Level 6	
Mathematics	National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher	
Modern Studies	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher & Advanced Higher	
Music	National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher	
Physics	National 5 (S4 Class), Higher & Advanced Higher	
Physical Education	National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher	
Practical Fashion & Textile	National 5 & Higher	
Practical Metalwork	National 5	
RMPS	National 5 & Higher	
Scottish Studies	Level 5, Level 6	
Spanish	Higher	
Sport & Recreation	SFW Level 5	
Travel & Tourism	National 5	
YASS	Level 7 Course Title:	
COMPULSARY CORE: PSE 1 period & two periods of PE		
Career Aspiration :		
Destination (Please tick how you plan to meet your career aspiration)		
Employment <input type="checkbox"/>	Training Apprenticeship <input type="checkbox"/>	College <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education (University) <input type="checkbox"/>
Leaving Point (Please tick when you are planning to leave school)		
End of S4 <input type="checkbox"/>	Christmas S5 <input type="checkbox"/>	S5 <input type="checkbox"/> S6 <input type="checkbox"/>

DEADLINE FOR HANDING TO PRINCIPAL TEACHER PUPIL SUPPORT – 17th February 2026



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Foundation Apprenticeship

L5 Foundation Apprenticeship in Hospitality

Introduced in session 2022/23

Runs in conjunction with Barista Skills over 1 column.

Taught by Loudoun Academy and Ayrshire College Staff

Pupils will study in school and cover the following

Skills for Working in the Hospitality Industry

Introduction to Events

Skills for working in the Professional Kitchen

Front of House Operations

Work based Challenge Unit



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Foundation Apprenticeship

L6 Foundation Apprenticeship in Food and Drink Technology

Introduced in session 2019/20

Runs over 2 columns, Taught by Loudoun Academy and external partners - SVQ

Pupils will study in school and cover the following:

- Product Development
- Food and Drink Science
- Nutrition
- Technology and Manufacturing
- Design and Marketing

Skills and Attributes:

- Good communication skills
- Team working skills
- Ability to think creatively
- Problem solving

Senior Phase
School College
Courses
Ayrshire College

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

SCHOOL COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP

- 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

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

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 5th and 6th year

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

Courses 2026 - 27

Campus	Course Name	SCQF Level	Delivery Days	Delivery Times
Business and Computing				
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
Construction				
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

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

Courses 2026 - 27

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

Courses 2026 - 27

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

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

Courses 2026 - 27

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
Kilmarnock	Steps to Work (Hospitality / Professional Cookery)	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

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

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 to complete your Personal Statement as it is important for the selection process..

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

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

Option Choices & Pathways Information Evening

Jennifer Robertson
Careers Adviser
Loudoun Academy

Changing World of Work & Career Management Skills

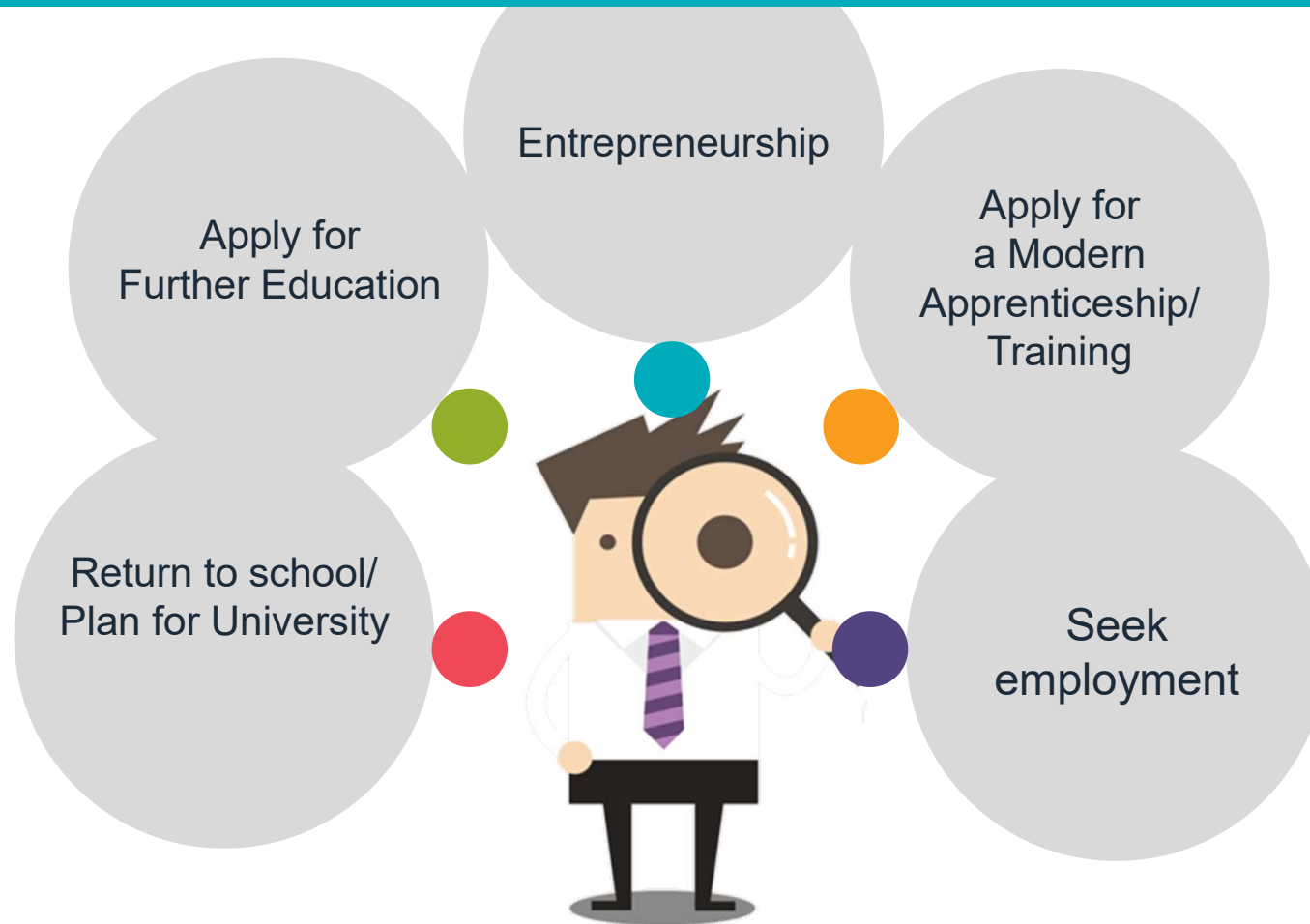
Jobs exist today which didn't exist five years ago, and this will continue to be the case.

Changing nature of work, including WFH and hybrid approaches, requires flexibility

What is important is that your young person is able to use their career management skills and find the right career path for them.



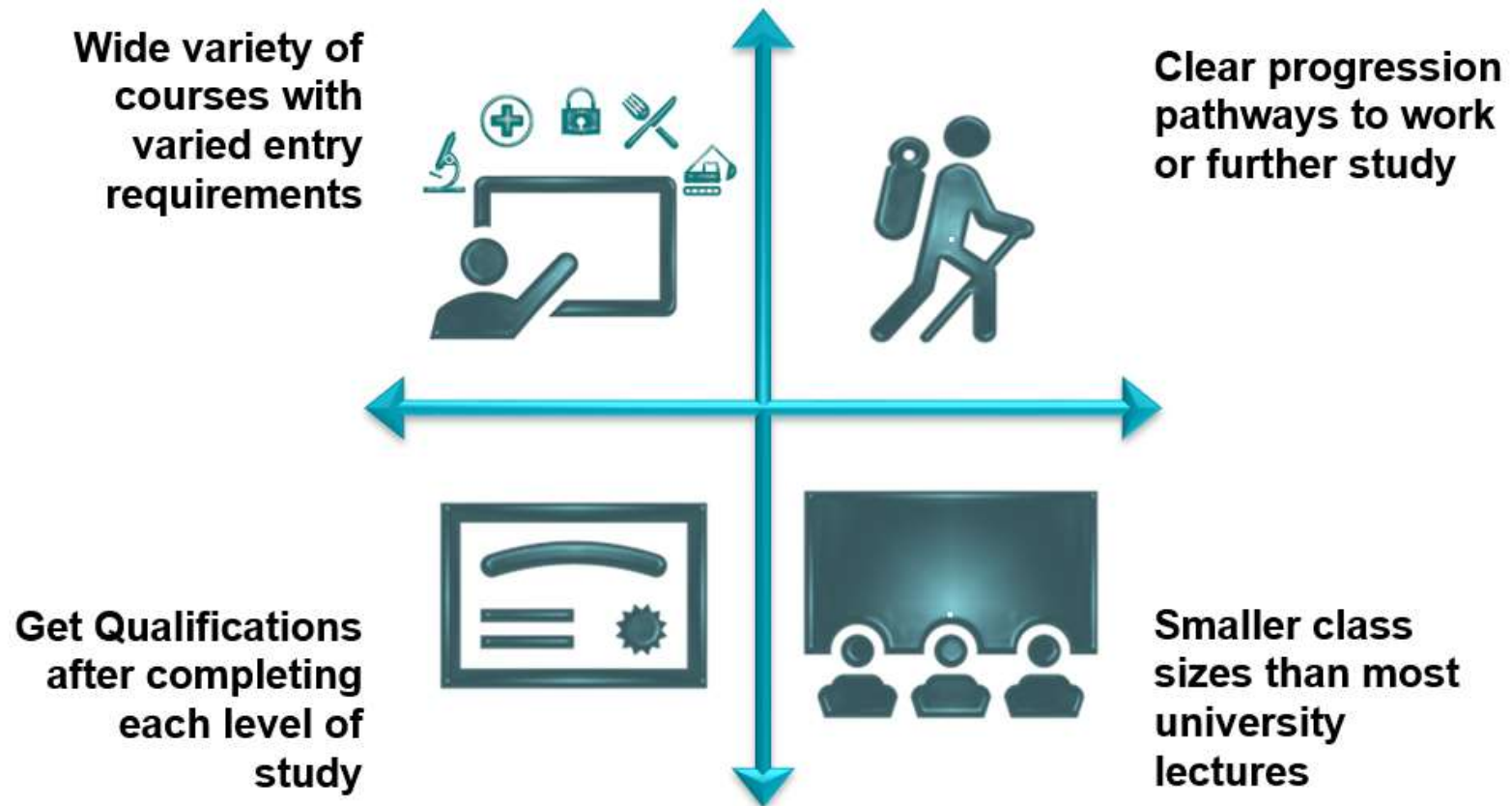
Routes & Pathways



Build on school qualifications

- Take time to explore options available in school
- Ensure you know essential/useful subjects for future career plans
- Consider new subjects/courses such as a Foundation Apprenticeship or a college option

COLLEGE PATHWAYS



College

Wide variety of courses

Vocational/work focus

Entrance requirements vary depending on level of course:

HND Higher National Diploma 2 Highers or HNC

HNC Higher National Certificate 1-2 Highers or NC/NQ

NC/NQ National Certificate/National Qualification
National 4 or 5

Apply directly to colleges from **January** – online through individual college websites

University

- Degree – at **LEAST** 4 Highers or HNC/HND – check individual university websites for detailed information
- Vocational or interest-based course
- Evidence of motivation & relevant work experience
- Be aware of admissions tests - UCAT (Medicine/Dentistry) and LNAT (LLB Law at University of Glasgow)
- Aim high, be aspirational but also realistic with course choices
- If in any doubt about achieving grades, consider college as a back-up

APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAYS

**Over 80 different
types of Modern
Apprenticeship**



**Earn while you
learn. Work &
get Qualified**



**Qualifications
SCQF level 5 to
SCQF level 12**



**Get the
qualifications
and experience
employers want**



Apprenticeships: the basics

Foundation Apprenticeships

- You spend time at college or another learning provider while getting work experience.
- Lasts 1 to 2 years.
- **Is an option choice,** usually in S4 or S5.
- Offers a qualification at SCQF Level 4, 5 or 6 (same level as a Nat 4, Nat 5 or Higher).

Modern Apprenticeships

- You earn a wage by working while also spending time at college.
- Lasts 1 to 4 years.
- Is open to anyone at the age you can leave school.
- Offers a qualification, ranging from SCQF Level 4/5 to SCQF Level 11.

Graduate Apprenticeships

- You earn a wage by working while also spending time at college or university.
- Lasts 2 to 5 years.
- Is open to anyone at the age you can leave school.
- Offers you a qualification up to master's degree level.

Get a Job

- Start to earn money
- Key skills employers value: communication, creativity, teamwork, initiative/self motivation, reliability and positive approach.
- A flexible approach to work is important with working from home and hybrid working opportunities
- Importance of being proactive
- Check online recruitment websites, ask friends/family and contact employers to ask if they are recruiting
- Have a CV ready to send to employers

Support and conversations we have in school

SDS careers advisers might speak to your young person about:



Finding out about their self, strengths and skills



Routes into careers including apprenticeships



Making decisions such as option choices



Building and developing networks



Different types of careers and how to research them



Help with creating CVs



Developing the types of skills that are useful in a job



Making applications and applying for courses



Search My World of Work

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[Create an account](#)

[Explore careers](#) ▾

[Skills and tools](#) ▾

[Getting a job](#) ▾

[Courses and funding](#) ▾

[Career support](#) ▾

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[Primary school pupils](#)

[Secondary school pupils](#)

[Adults looking for a change](#)

[Parents and carers](#)

[Educators](#)

Say hello to a wide world of career choices

Explore roles, develop your skills and get the right job for you.



Parents and carers

You're a big influencer in your child's life – use our advice and tools to empower them, whatever stage they're at.

Here are some ways you can **support your child**



Start with a career conversation

Discover how My World of Work can help you chat to your child about their career.

[View article →](#)



Look after your child's mental health

A helping hand with your child's wellbeing. Find free helplines and expert online guidance.

[View article →](#)



Additional support for you and your child

Find sources of help and advice for parents, carers and anyone who needs additional support.

[View article →](#)



How to help your child get work experience

Discover how you can support your child get a taste of the working world.

[View article →](#)



A guide to Option Choices

Help your child get career inspiration. Show them where the subjects they do could take them.

[View article →](#)



Support your child as they leave school

Read top tips on how you can help and use our handy resources.

[View article →](#)

Parent & Carer Voice Survey 2025-2026

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 the 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 by taking part in a short survey.

All responses are confidential and anonymous, and the results will be used to inform SDS services.

The survey should only take about 10 minutes to complete.

Survey link will be available on school app.





Get in touch!

Jennifer Robertson
Careers Adviser

Contact me on:

In school Monday - Friday
Office, 1st floor next to
Maths base

Drop in over interval and
lunch

Speak to Guidance

Teacher



www.myworldofwork.co.uk

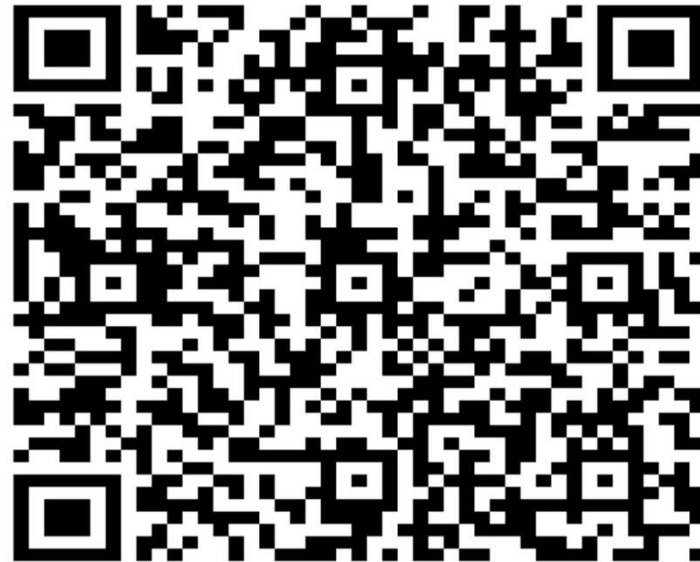


07827083301



Jennifer.robertson2
@sds.co.uk

Loudoun Academy Careers appointments





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RETURNING TO S5/6

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Forms must be returned to Principal Teachers of Pupil Support / Communication Centre by 14th February 2026
- This follows research, discussion at home and in school, and planning
- Forms must be signed by a parent or carer



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Questions