

# S3 into S4 Options Information



# The Options Process

- ▶ Old V's New
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- ▶ Subjects
- ▶ Pathways
- ▶ Progression
- ▶ Options process and key dates

# Old V's New

Old:

- ▶ Column structure
- ▶ Pick one subject from each column
- ▶ Restricted choice
- ▶ Cannot always pick your best subjects

New:

- ▶ Free choice
- ▶ Pick any 5 subjects that you studied in S4
- ▶ Less restricted choice
- ▶ Can pick your best subjects

**With both systems classes only run if there are enough pupils pick a subject and there are enough teachers available. We will try our best to match your choices but this may not always be possible.**

# SCQF Framework

- ▶ This is the system across Scotland which makes sure all qualifications are rated against one framework, from National 1 all the way up to University level and also including apprenticeships
- ▶ Range of subjects available at different levels to meet the needs of all learners – National 3 to Advanced Higher

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



# SCQF Framework – my choices?

In S4 you will study a range of subjects, usually at SCQF Level 3, 4 or 5

SCQF Level 3: These will usually be at National 3, there is no exam at this level.

SCQF Level 4: These will usually be at National 4, there is no exam at this level.

SCQF Level 5:

- ▶ National 5 (Graded A-D) – for example, English or History; these will usually have an external exam
- ▶ NPA Level 5 (Graded Pass or Fail) – for example Digital Media; these will have no external exam

# What subjects should I pick?

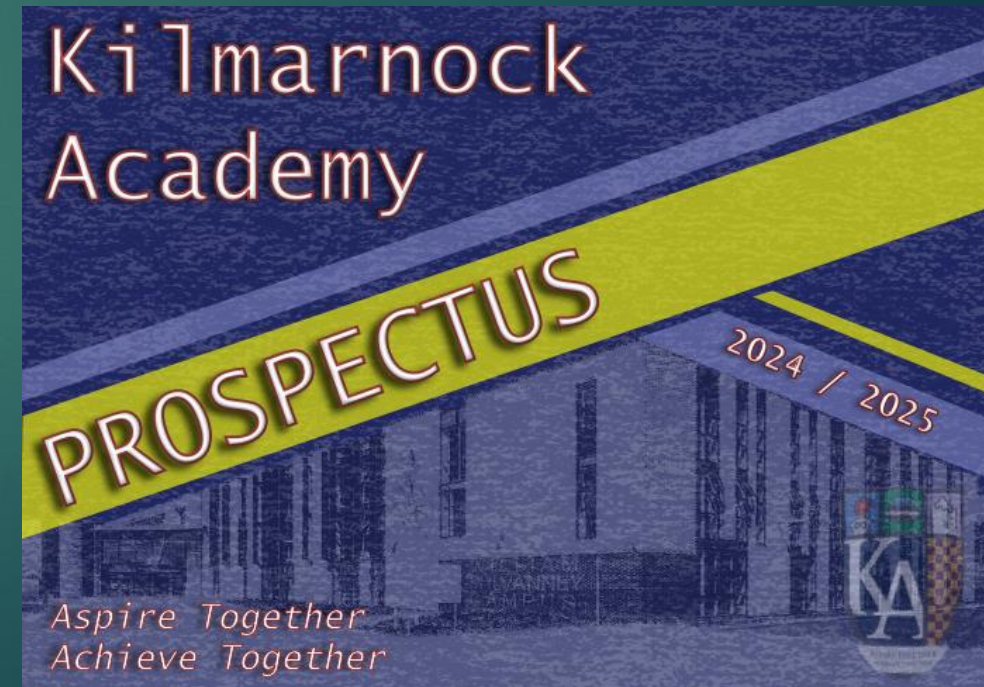
In S4 you must maximise your attainment, this means you should pick the subjects you are going to get the best qualifications in. This will give you the best chance of progression in S5 as you must continue with the subjects you picked in S4.

You should pick subjects in the following order

- ▶ Those subjects which you are predicted to achieve a National 5.
- ▶ Those subjects you are good at
- ▶ Those subjects you enjoy

# Subjects

- ▶ You will study 7 subjects in total This includes English and Maths – you will then pick **5 other subjects**. This must be **subjects you are currently studying in S3**.
- ▶ There is information about every subjects in the Kilmarnock Academy Prospectus 2024/ 2025. You should read this very carefully it contains information on:
  - ▶ Subjects available
  - ▶ SCQF Level
  - ▶ Entry Requirements
  - ▶ Course Content
  - ▶ Progression



# What subjects are available to pick?


- Geography
- History
- Modern Studies
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Environmental Science
- Science
- PE
- French
- Spanish
- Gaelic
- Gaidhlig
- Music
- Music Technology
- Drama
- Art & Design
- Creative Industries
- Digital Media
- Administration & IT
- Business Management
- Design & Manufacture
- Graphic Communication
- Practical Woodwork
- Personal Development
- Barista
- Cycle Maintenance
- Early Education & Childcare
- College Courses



# The Options Process & Key Dates

From tomorrow the KA Prospectus will be on the school blog.  
Read this carefully and begin discussions at home and with your teachers about subject choices

- ▶ Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January – 6pm: Options information evening for parents/ carers and pupils
- ▶ Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January – S4 Curricular Pathway forms issued. These provide all the information you require on subjects available and how to make your choices.


**S5 CURRICULUM PATHWAY FORM**

NAME	WELLBEING CLASS		
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What Career are you thinking of? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your intended school leaving date?    December 2024    June 2024 (end of S5)    December 2025 (end of S6)

**Pick any 5 subjects from the list below. This must be from the subjects you are currently studying in S4. You cannot pick any new subjects except those from the Other Courses section**

Before you make your choices read the Kilnarnock Academy Prospectus (scan the QR Code below) which gives information about all the subjects, including what level they are offered at and the entry requirements for each level. This form should be completed after you have had your individual meeting with your Pupil Support Teacher then taken home and signed.

The subjects available are detailed below with the level (L5 = SCQF Level 5 or National 5; L6 = SCQF Level 6 or Higher)

Subjects (and level offered)	L5		L6		Choices (L5 + R)		L5		L6	
English	✓	✓								
Maths	✓	✓								
Application of Maths	✓									
Geography		✓								
History		✓								
Modern Studies		✓								
Scottish Studies		✓								
Travel & Tourism		✓								
Politics		✓								
Criminology & Legal Studies		✓								
Biology		✓								
Human Biology		✓								
Chemistry		✓								
Physics		✓								
Health Sector		✓								
PE		✓								
French		✓								
Spanish		✓								
Gaelic		✓								
Gaelic		✓								
Music		✓								
Music Technology		✓								
Drama		✓								
Art & Design		✓								
Creative Industries		✓								
Digital Media		✓								
Photography		✓								
Administration & IT		✓								
Business Management		✓								
Design & Manufacture		✓								
Graphic Communication		✓								
Leadership		✓								
Personal Development		✓								
Milk Bar		✓								
Performing Engineering Operations *		✓								
College Course *		✓								

**Instructions – Please read carefully before competing this form:**

- You must select 5 subjects.
- Select your 5 subjects by completing the 'choices' column in the table opposite. **These should be numbered 1 – 5 (1 being your 1<sup>st</sup> choice, 2 your 2<sup>nd</sup> etc.)**
- Select a reserve subject. Mark this with an 'R'
- Tick (✓) the level (L5 or L6) which you plan to study the subject at in S5
- Select one Short Course from the table below. Please tick (✓) your selection.

Select one short course (✓)	
Short Course	✓
Photography	
Citizenship	
Music for Wellbeing	
Basketball (Participating, Officiating and Organising)	
Football (Participating, Officiating and Organising)	
Netball (Participating, Officiating and Organising)	
German	
Mental Health Award	

Scan the QR Code to access the Kilnarnock Academy Prospectus

Please turn over for important information and to sign this form

# The Options Process & Key Dates

Week Beginning Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Options interviews start. You will have an individual meeting with your Pupil Support Teacher who will discuss the following:

- ▶ What you plan on doing when you leave school
- ▶ Your best 5 subjects
- ▶ The subjects we recommend you pick to maximise your attainment
- ▶ You will then complete together your pathways form and your PTPS will complete a spreadsheet with your choices recorded on it
- ▶ You will take your pathways form home to be signed by your parents/ carers

# The Options Process & Key Dates

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Deadline for returning Curriculum Pathways forms and S5 agreement.

If it is not returned by this date you may not get the options you have selected as your form will not be included in the computer program that is used in the next stage of the options process.

# Where will I find out more information?

- ▶ All the information you require will be on the school blog:
  - ▶ Assembly presentation
  - ▶ Options information evening for parents/ carers and pupils presentation
  - ▶ Kilmarnock Academy Prospectus 2024/2025
  - ▶ Progression Pathways Form
  - ▶ Frequently Asked Questions