

SQA Courses

For the most part, SQA courses will be selected from three levels:

SQA Personal Achievement
SQA National 1
SQA National 2

Courses all have clearly defined assessment criteria which largely take the place of the PLP targets which parents/carers will have been familiar with during the earlier Broad General Education years. As learners progress through courses, staff begin to build up assessment evidence in the form of photos or videos, or of work completed by the learners.

It is important to note that although there are 3 levels of course to choose from, the wide variety of needs and abilities of our learners means the matching of learners to courses is not always straightforward.

As a result, we may find that where a learner may readily be able to complete the demands of a Nat 1 course, the progression to Nat 2 may not suit the learner in terms of its format or requirements.

A simple illustration of this might be a Nat 1 Literacy course which has an overall requirement that a learner can recognise 6 written words. Where the learner is able to do so, we can meet this demand and go beyond to learn to identify 20 or 30 words. However, it may be the case that the jump to a Nat 2 course requiring the learner to read entire sentences is unsuitable.

Therefore, in Rosslyn, our policy is to select the courses that seem most suitable and achievable, around which we are able to develop an individualised programme of learning for school and for future transfers into adult services.

Rosslyn School



**Senior Phase
(S4-S6)**



Developing a Senior Phase Plan

When learners at Rosslyn move into the senior phase in school (usually from age 15 onwards) they make the change from following a course of Broad General Education (up until the end of S3) to a more bespoke format built around the selection of SQA courses (S4-S6).

This mirrors the format of mainstream secondary education where learners at a roughly similar stage of their education make course choices.

As in mainstream secondary schools, the selection of courses is built around learner preference as well as educational needs. Typically, in Rosslyn, a set of courses is likely to contain an element of Literacy, one of Numeracy, as well as one of Health & Wellbeing, beyond which there is a fairly wide scope for selection.

Towards the end of the S3 year (usually at the time of the Education Review meeting) there will be discussion between the school and family in order to identify those courses which would be most beneficial, relevant and enjoyable for the learner.



Personal Achievement Award - Personal Presentation



Nat 1 - Preparing a Healthy Snack

First, a Person Centred Plan is completed outlining progress so far, health and support requirements, and hopes for the future.

With the help of this information, and in discussion with the family, a Senior Phase Plan is created. The plan outlines likely course progression over the final 3 years of school, and takes into consideration the learner's likely destination after school.

The plan is a guide to the likely pathway over the senior phase years, and there is flexibility for change.

The plan is reviewed and amended/updated towards the end of the S4 and S5 years in discussion with the family.

In general, where courses are completed early, others can be added; a course which is found to be unsuitable can be discontinued; a course requiring more time for completion, or one from which the learner continues to derive particular benefit, can be extended.