

2019/20

Senior Phase Pathways



The purpose of this booklet is to help you make decisions in your pathway towards a career. It should help you make important decisions about subject choices, as well as what to do when you leave Notre Dame High.

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Pathways Booklet

Introduction

You have come to another important milestone - making subject choices for the next stage in your education.

In Notre Dame High School, these opportunities for personalisation and choice take place in S2, S3, S4 and S5. At each stage you are refining your subjects as you get closer to leaving school and either continuing your education at college or university, or entering the workplace.

It is so important that before choosing subjects, you think carefully about;

- your strengths - the subjects you are good at
- the subjects you enjoy
- the subjects you don't enjoy - BE HONEST!
- the job market and growth industries
- possible career interests and the subjects most suited
- possible college/university courses and the entry requirements

You are not on your own as you make these important decisions; the first people to talk to are those who know you best - your family. In school, you will have the opportunity to discuss subject choices with our Careers Advisor, Martin Baillie, and you will meet with your Pastoral Care teacher to agree the best way forward. Our Family Learning events for pupils and parents in S2 and S3 will help parents learn more about the Job Market, the supports available to you, including digital resources, and our school curriculum.

This booklet is designed to give you the information you need about the different pathways available to you and the range of courses on offer at Notre Dame High School and our partner agencies. It includes some real life examples of our pupils and the paths they have chosen to help them achieve their ambitions. Read it carefully, ask questions if you don't understand - if you do this, you will make the best decisions.

Good luck!

Mrs Martin

Supporting your choices

Making decisions about your career path can be very difficult. Therefore, it is crucial that you access as much help and support as possible to ensure that the decision you make is well informed. Many of the job vacancies that exist today, did not exist 5 years ago. It is, therefore, important to make sure that you access every possible source of support available to help you decide which route is right for you.

Below are some websites and supports that you can access to help you in making your choices for the future.

In school

- Pastoral Care Teacher
- Subject Teacher
- Careers adviser

At home

- Parents/carers
- Siblings
- Friends

Online

My World of Work	www.myworldofwork.co.uk
Young Scot Website	www.youngscot.org
Be What You Want	www.bewhatyouwant.org
PlanIT Plus	www.planitplus.net/schoolzone
University/College Websites	eg. www.gla.ac.uk
Apprenticeships in Scotland	www.apprenticeshipsinscotland.com
The Student Room	www.thestudentroom.co.uk
Careers That Move	www.careersthatchange.co.uk
UCAS	www.ucas.co.uk

Notre Dame Curricular Pathways

Employability/Further Education

Broad range of subjects across all curricular areas
In S2, pupils select two DYW Masterclasses

Maths, English, French* plus choose to specialise;

- Two sciences
- Two social subjects
- Two Expressive Arts
- Two Technologies

Plus, all pupils participate in YPI or DofE
Creation of S3 Profile

*Alternatively, some pupils may benefit from Study Support

Continue to develop literacy and numeracy skills plus five other subjects at levels 3, 4 and 5 including

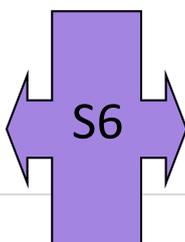
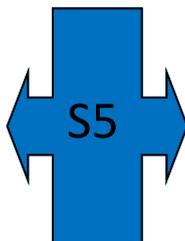
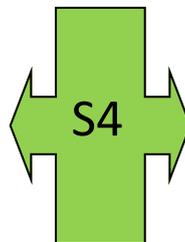
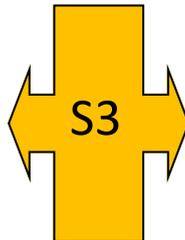
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Part-time college course at level 3, 4 or 5
- Study Support
- Work Placement

Pupils choose five subjects at National 4, 5 or Higher from a wide range including;

- Creative Industries
- Health Studies
- Part-time college course
- Two-year Foundation Apprenticeship
- Work Placement

Pupils choose around four subjects at National 5 or Higher, including;

- Higher Leadership
- Work Placement



Further/Higher Education

Broad range of subjects across all curricular areas
In S2, pupils select two DYW Masterclasses

Maths, English, French* plus choose to specialise;

- Two sciences
- Two social subjects
- Two Expressive Arts
- Two Technologies

Plus, all pupils participate in YPI or DofE
Creation of S3 Profile

*Alternatively, some pupils may benefit from Study Support

Continue to develop literacy and numeracy skills plus five other subjects at levels 3, 4 and 5

Pupils choose five subjects at National 4, 5 or Higher from a wide range

Pupils can also begin a two-year Foundation Apprenticeship

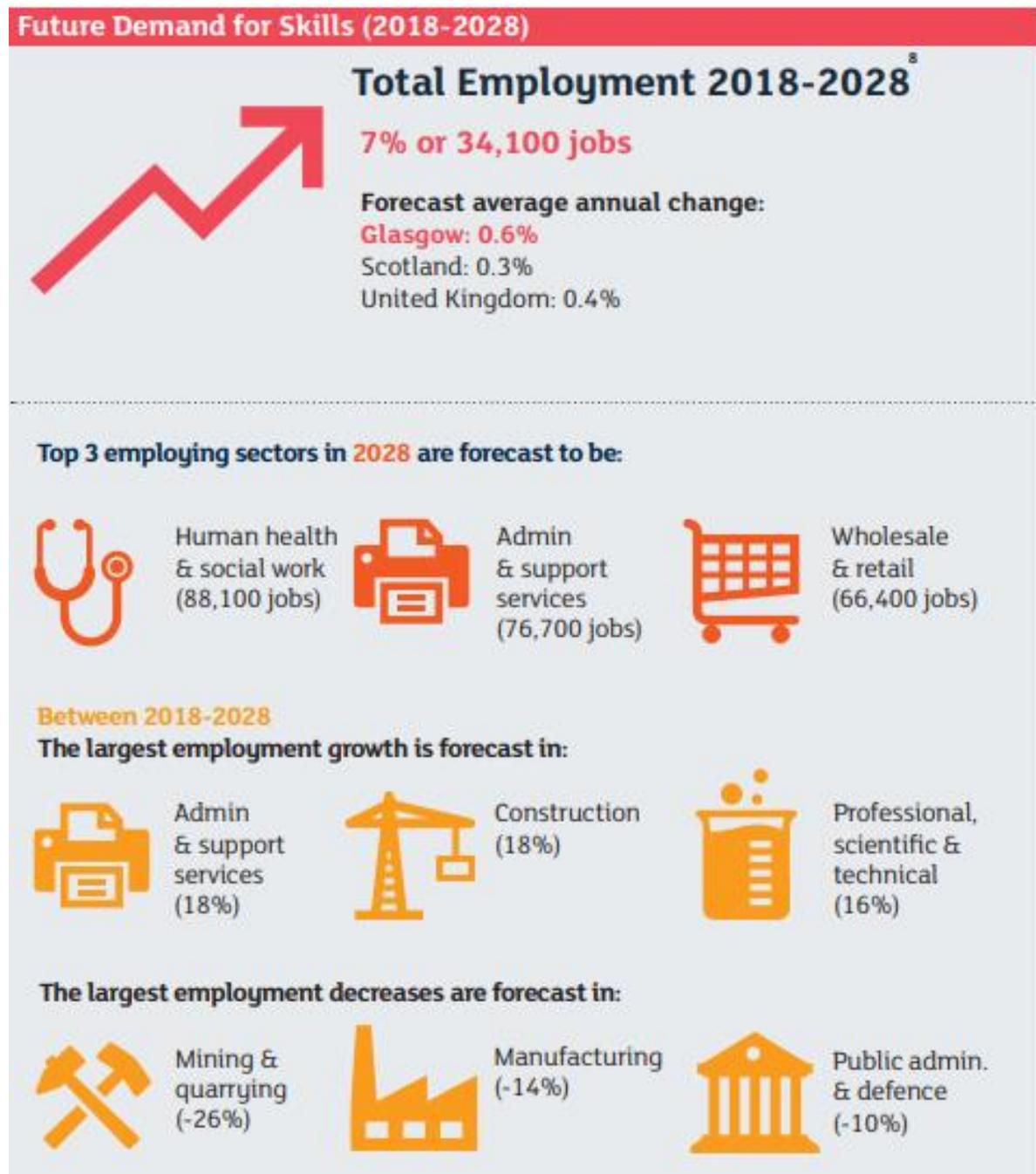
- Work Placement

Pupils choose around four subjects at National 5, Higher and Adv. Higher including;

- Higher Leadership
- Higher Psychology
- One year Foundation Apprenticeship
- Open University short courses

Where are the Jobs going to be?

Skills Development Scotland have produced the following graphic. It shows what the likely trends are in employment in the Glasgow area. This could help support your decisions by helping you identify where there are going to be opportunities.



Source: Skills Development Scotland

Examples of jobs

Doctor, surgeon, dentist, midwife, nurse, pharmacist, psychologist, social worker, care worker, cleaners, caterers

Pupil Profile

Priscilla Adupong

Career

Doctor

Course

Dundee University



Senior Phase - S4 Choices

English, Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Geography, French, Graphics, Art

Senior Phase - S5 Choices

English, Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Geography, Caritas

Choosing my destination

When choosing my career path, I considered my subject interest, my grades and where my skills and qualities were. I did a lot of research, participated in a number of programmes and Open Days. I also considered if I had the work ethic to pursue a career in medicine.

Skills

I have developed excellent communication, teamwork and leadership skills. I enjoy problem solving, pay close attention to detail and manage my time effectively. These are all fundamental skills a doctor should have.

Extra curricular

Medic Insight Programme

Volunteering at my local dentist

Volunteering at Oxfam

Advice

- Have a good work ethic - work hard
- Be resilient - do not lose hope or give up if you fail
- Make sure you have a deep insight into a career in medicine



Examples of jobs

Engineer, architect, landscape architect, quantity surveyor, building surveyor, builder, site management, bricklayer, stonemason, carpenter, joiner, electrician, painter and decorator, plumber, scaffolder.

Pupil Profile

Thelma Ejihkeme

Career

Engineer

Course

Strathclyde University



Senior Phase - S4 Choices

English, Maths, Geography, Biology, French, Music, Drama, Graphics

Senior phase - S5/6 Choices

English, Maths, Geography, Drama, Graphics, Physics, Leadership, Caritas

Choosing my destination

I attended school careers events and discussed my options with the careers adviser, as well as the Graphic Communications teachers in the school. I also researched online about which subjects to do, which courses were best and where the jobs might be in the future.

Skills

Education is important, take as many opportunities before starting work. I like the creative side as well as the mathematical/logical side of things. Confidence, communication, problem solving, working with others and leadership skills are all qualities that I have developed in the last few years.

Advice

Follow your ambition to the best of your ability. Try to organise a work placement to give you a real idea of the career. Use as many websites as you can to find out about what the job might be like.

Extra-curricular

Social Mobility Foundation was amazing as it gave me work experience over the summer and gave me a taster of university.



Examples of Jobs

Physicists, astronomers, chemists, mathematicians, actuaries and statisticians, botanists, zoologists, civil engineers, and building architects.

Pupil Profile

Lyna Naimi

Career

Biochemist

Course

Strathclyde University

Senior Phase - S4 Choices

English, Maths, Geography, Biology, Chemistry, French, Admin, Art

Senior phase - S5/6 Choices

English, Maths, French, Biology, Chemistry, Psychology

Choosing my destination

I attended various open days and career events to have a better understanding of the course before I made a final decision. I also took into account the subjects, skills and qualities that were necessary.

Skills

Working with others and independently, as well as confidence and problem solving, are skills I have gained and developed over the years, and they are necessary skills for many careers in this sector.

Advice

Take every opportunity that is available to you, because it will help you to move forward in many aspects of life and it will give you the necessary skills that will help you make stand out.

Extra-curricular

- Volunteering at the British Heart Foundation
- Placement at the Microbiology Department at Glasgow University





Examples of Jobs

Web developer, computer games developer, IT and telecoms, computer science

Pupil Profile

Lori Bell

Career

Software Development

Course

Glasgow University - Computing Science



Senior Phase - S4 Choices

English, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, French, Computing, Music

Senior phase - S5/6 Choices

English, Maths, Biology, Geography, Computing, Music, Foundation Apprenticeship - ICT Hardware

Choosing my destination

My favourite subject is Computing, which influenced my decisions. I also went on several visits to companies such as JP Morgan and Morgan Stanley to make myself aware of all the options I had when leaving school. There are so many paths you can take that aren't just getting a degree at university,

Skills

I have good people skills and I always keep a positive attitude. Taking part in awards such as Duke of Edinburgh has improved my determination and drive to succeed.

Advice

There are so many ways to get to where you want to go and sometimes life doesn't always plan for you to take the most obvious one. My advice would be to look at all your options for leaving school and make sure you do a subject that you enjoy.

Extra-curricular

- Little BIG Awards in S3
- Taster Week at Glasgow University
- Top Up Programme in S6
- Glasgow University Summer School
- Duke of Edinburgh

Pupil Profile

Alice McGettigan

Career

Video Game Design

Course

City of Glasgow College - HND Digital Arts



Senior Phase - S4 Choices

English, Maths, Computing, Music, Biology, Art, History

Senior phase - S5/6 Choices

College/Steps to Work - Computer Games Development and Ethical Hacking, English, Maths, Music, Computing, Art,

Choosing my destination

I've been really interested in gaming for many years. I've realised that gaming can have an educational side as well. Through Steps to work and college with school, I was able to find out more about the career and how to get into it.

Skills

I'm interested in creative planning, by looking at character personas, their looks and their general feel. I like figuring out how I can make a character connect with an audience. I feel that I think outside the box and through my artistic talents I am able to express that.

Advice

I nearly gave up on gaming because I found out that Nat 5 Maths was needed for the course I originally wanted to do. However, I have found other routes and the one I am taking will get me to where I want to be. I would advise that you listen to the advice you are given and really research the possible ways to get your goal and you will be successful.

Extra-curricular

- Cisco Little Big Awards
- Computer Games Club
- Mentoring/supporting other pupils
- Volunteering at the Primary School Show (costumes)



Examples of Jobs

Photography, hairdressing, textiles, graphic design, fashion, events management

Pupil Profile

Anita McGarry

Career

Hairdressing

Course

Modern Apprenticeship



Senior Phase - S4 Choices

Drama, Business, Hospitality, Maths, English

Senior phase - S5/6 Choices

Drama, Business, Hospitality, Maths, English

Choosing my destination

I found out a lot about following a career in hairdressing through Career Ready. I have a part time job in a salon and this gave me the experience I needed to follow this path.

Skills

I've always had a flair for anything creative and this has driven my career goals. I have also developed my confidence in communicating and this is really important in working with the public.

Advice

Although plans and choices change, there is always a way to get to where you want. Things always work out in the end and you should try and stay focused on the future.

Extra-curricular

- Career Ready
- Fire reach
- Mentoring younger pupils



Pupil Profile

Brogan Carberry

Career

PE Teacher

Course

Stirling University



Senior Phase - S4 Choices

Eng, maths, chemistry, biology, geography, computing, French, music

Senior phase - S5/6 Choices

Eng, maths, chemistry, biology, geography, music, History, Psychology, PE

Choosing my destination

Always wanted career in sport, but I also have a real passion for teaching others. Through coaching and helping out in school with other pupils, I realised that I am talented in this area and should develop as best I could. I also want to move abroad and I feel that this is a profession that will give me opportunity to do that.

Skills

I have developed real leadership skills in Notre Dame. As my communication skills have improved, so has my confidence. I also have a really strong work ethic, which has helped me get to where I want to be.

Advice

Find something you're interested in and look for careers in that field - not where the money is necessarily. Look where the jobs might be available. I also tried some things, such as catering and also medicine, but realised that they were not for me.

Extra-curricular

- Sports Captain
- Fire Reach
- Lessons from Auschwitz
- Volunteering in Primary and Secondary schools
- Running the rugby club