

Hillhead High School



**Second to Third Year:
Information on
Personalisation and Choice
December 2022**

S2 Personalisation and Choice 2022/23

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child is about to decide which subjects to study in S3 - their final year of the Broad General Education of Curriculum for Excellence. The curriculum areas of the Broad General Education are:

Expressive arts

**Health and
wellbeing**

Languages

Mathematics

**Religious and
moral education**

Sciences

Social studies

Technologies

During this final year of the Broad General Education pupils are able to make some minor personalisation and choice within these areas to allow them to build a foundation for those subjects they may wish to carry through to the Senior Phase.

When making these choices you should consider what subjects your child will be taking forward from third year (S3) to the Senior Phase. These decisions will take into account strengths and weaknesses, enjoyment, ability levels in each area, possible careers options and plans for future education at college or university.

Senior Phase Pathways

At the end of S3, pupils will embark upon their Senior Phase pathways, which for almost all means **two year courses in S4 and S5** in six of the subjects studied in S3, including English and Mathematics, bypassing SQA exams in fourth year (S4) and sitting SQA exams in May of S5. During S4 Pupils also choose a Wider Achievement activity (e.g. SFA Sports Coaching, Debating, CREST Science, Duke of Edinburgh) which takes place on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

Why do pupils embark upon two year courses in S4 and S5 at Hillhead?

- Spending two years on National 4, National 5 and Higher courses in S4 and S5 allows more time for learning and teaching.
- Our aim is to raise attainment by increasing the number of passes and the quality of passes at each level – e.g. If a pupil has more time to study a subject before sitting an SQA exam s/he should do better.
- Our approach cuts down the amount of internal assessments (UASPs) that need to be completed by pupils throughout the subjects and also prevents the “two term dash” that happens with one year courses.
- Since 2014 we have offered the option of a one year S4 curricular pathway to pupils and parents. To date, no pupil has begun S4 with the intention of leaving after one year and so this pathway has not been taken up. We have the highest stay-on rate in Glasgow as a result.

What do other schools do?

- At the moment, most other schools in Scotland continue to offer one year courses in S4, S5 and S6. There are variations in terms of the number of courses at each level but typically a pupil in S4 may study 6-8 subjects and then go on to study 5 subjects in S5 – i.e. a pupil can complete 5 Highers by the end of S5. Our model means pupils are studying six subjects in S5 and so can complete 6 Highers if appropriate.
- We have worked closely with Education Scotland and other schools across Scotland to share information on our approach to the Senior Phase and the benefits of our curricular pathway.

Where can I find more information?

- More information on our curricular model can be found on our school website

To help you and your son/daughter take these decisions, the following support is available:

1. The recently issued S2 tracking reports.
2. This **Personalisation and Choice Booklet** that will allow you to think in more detail about the subjects on offer.
3. **Parents Information Evening 10th January 2023 6.30pm - 7.15pm.** We are delighted to be able to invite parents of S2 pupils moving to S3 into the school. The event will take place in the assembly hall. Mr Brown will deliver a presentation and thereafter answer any questions parents may have. Pupils are welcome to attend also.
4. **The school website.**

There is a draft **Personalisation and Choice Form** included in this booklet for information. Options choice selection **will be undertaken by pupils using an online form.** The paper form will continue to exist for the purposes of taking notes and improving understanding of the process. We will carry out a “Scoping Exercise” with pupils from Friday 9th December onwards. This exercise is designed so that:

- Pupils can learn about accessing the form online and ask any questions about the process.
- Pupils can gain access to an online form similar in style to the final form and begin to think seriously about their options and choices for S3.
- The appropriate school staff can assess the requirement and demand from pupils as regards to subject uptake so as to begin the timetabling process.

The final choices will be made in January once you have had time to discuss with your child and also with Pastoral Care staff or the Head of Year (Depute Head Teacher).

I hope that all of the above will be of real help to you and the pupils as you make these important choices. Please do not hesitate to ask for any information on, or clarification of any aspect of this process at any time, by contacting myself, Mr Brown (Depute Head Teacher who will be in charge of the year group when it becomes S3 and also Depute Head Teacher responsible for the school timetable and Options Choice operations) or the relevant member of the Pastoral Care staff.

Yours sincerely

K. McAlaney

To access the scoping exercise you can scan the following QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/6VHBMfTMNV>



To access the final options choice form you can scan the following QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/aKgLsSj16r>



Second to Third Year

Personalisation and Choice

Calendar

A guide for pupils so as to know what to expect:

November

During this time teachers in departments will begin provide information about options in each subject in the year ahead.

S2 Reports Issued- Your report will have information on your current level in each subject as well as information on your progress, strengths and areas for development. This information will help you when considering your options for S3.

December

Lessons in PSE – Time will be spent in PSE covering what to expect as S2 move to S2. Pupils will be able to try out a 'Just for fun' options form.

9th onwards - "Scoping Exercise" for Options Choice Completed. This is a first opportunity to see how the options process works and to ask any questions you may have. There will be a special assembly to launch this.

18th - Deadline for entry of information using form from "Scoping Exercise".

January

10th – Parents Information Evening

13th to 20th - Consultation with Pastoral Care. During these two weeks you will meet with your Pastoral Care teacher to discuss your options. They will help you with the process and will help make sure you get the right options for you. After consulting with Pastoral Care and your parent/carer you will make your final options choices for S3.

13th to 22nd – Final S3 Options Choice Form 'open' for online completion

22nd – Final S3 Options Choice Form 'closes' for online completion

Careers

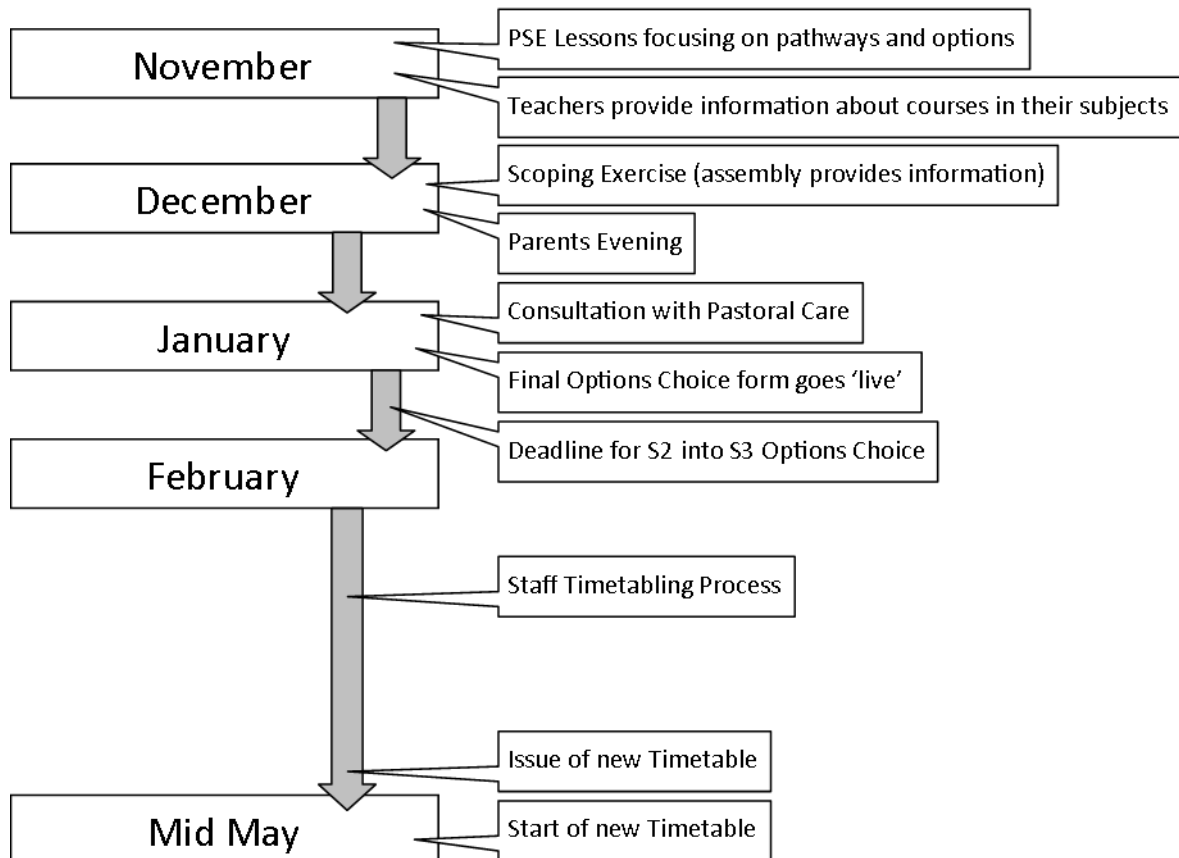
The subjects you select now for S3 will influence the subjects you select in S4 and S5 for your National Qualifications. The subjects you choose now could have an influence on your future career. On this page you will find some information on the possible careers paths in each subject. If you would like access to much more information please visit;

www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Expressive Arts (Music, Art and Design, Drama)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture • Photography • Product Design • Fashion Design • Theatre • Film • Television • Teaching • Community Drama • Film Animation • Art Historian • Games Designer 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Health and Well-Being (PE Studies)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching • Teaching • Physiotherapy • Personal Trainer • Sports Science • Sport and Recreational Management • Sports Journalism • Sports Therapy • Professional Sports
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Languages (French, Mandarin, Urdu, Spanish)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business • Marketing • Law • Media • Interpretation • Translation • Fashion • Education • Work Abroad • Journalism • Cabin Crew • Retail • Advertising • IT • Travel and Tourism • Hospitality • Import/Export • Diplomatic Service 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sciences (Chemistry, Biology, Physics)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrician • Optometry • Robotics • Medicine • Engineering • Education • Dentistry • Botany • Biotechnology • Veterinarian • Radiologist • Pharmaceuticals • Journalism • Geochemistry • Industrial Chemistry
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Humanities (Geography, History, Modern Studies, Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture • Estate Agency • Leisure and Recreation Industry • Air Cabin Crew • Town Planning • Transport and Communications • Education • Sales • Research • Journalism • Theology • Politics 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Technologies (Administration and IT, Business, Computing Science, Design and Technology- Graphics/ Woodwork)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HR/PR Management • Advertising • Marketing/Research • Engineering • Architecture • Construction • Publishing • Web, Computer Software & Game Design
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Literacy (English)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law • Media • Journalism • Business • Education • Librarian • Writer • Social Media Manager 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Numeracy (Maths)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics • Engineering • Education • Construction • Banking • Statistics • Architecture • Aviation

Options Process Timeline S2 into S3

What happens when you are moving from S2 into S3?



DRAFT FORM (For reference - All pupil responses will be collected electronically)

Name: _____ **Registration Class 2** _____

One aim in the Broad General Education is to allow pupils some choice (personalisation) in the areas they study. In January of S2 pupils will have the opportunity to make some choices within subject areas for S3. During S3 they will then make decisions about **their two-year S4/S5 courses**, based on their interests and the subjects studied in S3.

For S3 - pupils will be able to make choices from within the Curriculum Areas below, to make their courses more personalised.

1. Core Box	Subjects	Tick 1 st Choice	Tick Further Choices (2)
<p>All the subjects in this box are compulsory so all pupils will continue to experience these.</p>	English	4 periods	Core Subjects
	Mathematics	4 periods	
	PE	2 periods	
	RE	1 period	
	PSE	1 period	
	MTA	1 period	
<p>2. Languages Indicate the language you are studying at present</p>	French		
	Mandarin		
	Urdu		
<p>3. Sciences Choose one science from the list</p>	Chemistry		
	Biology		
	Physics		
<p>4. Social Studies Choose one of the Social Studies from the list.</p>	Geography		
	History		
	Modern Studies		
	Philosophical Studies		
	Business Management		
<p>5. Expressive Arts Choose one of the Expressive Arts from the list</p>	Art		
	Drama		
	Dance		
	PE Studies		
	Music		
<p>6. Technologies Choose one Technology from the list</p>	Graphics		
	Woodwork		
	Administration		
	Computing		
<p>7. Additional Language</p>	Spanish		

And Finally..... You should now choose **TWO** more subjects from different sections **3 – 7** to make your personal choices complete

Information on Subjects

Departments have provided information about their subjects and have suggested careers for which these subjects would be useful. The information is provided on the following pages.

If you have any questions relating to a subject, these should be referred to the relevant Principal Teacher (see list below).

General questions about the type of course and its suitability for a given career should be referred to the Pastoral Care Department.

Courses on Offer	Principal Teachers / Faculty Heads
Expressive Arts	Mr Reid
Science	Miss Ayton
English & Literacy	Miss Southern
Social Subjects	Mr Elder
Information Communication Technology/ Technical Studies	Miss Cuthbertson
Mathematics	Mr Carson
Modern Languages	Mrs Young
Physical Education	Mr Gemmill

Pastoral Care and the Options Process

Pupils nearing the completion of S2 of the Broad General Education are asked to begin to make some choices about the subjects that they wish study in S3. From the subjects studied in S3, pupils will then select **6** to follow in the Senior Phase. As all pupils must study English and Mathematics in S4 and S5 then this will mean that pupils will select **4** others.

We have attempted to give access to subjects in a way which will give maximum scope for interests and aptitudes, continue to offer breadth, depth and progression, leave open most career options and minimise the risk of an unbalanced course choice.

In order to provide breadth, depth and progression in courses to all pupils, certain subjects are compulsory (see Box 1 **of the Personalisation and Choice sheet**). Thereafter the choices on offer should reflect the aptitudes and abilities of pupils in the other Curriculum areas.

Parental involvement and consent to the course choice is essential for the progress of each child throughout the school. Pupils and parents are encouraged to discuss the various options after reading this booklet and then indicate their preferred option to a member of the Pastoral Care Staff during the individual interview that will be offered to every pupil.

Pastoral Care Staff may, however, offer alternative recommendations that should be **most carefully considered**. These recommendations will be made on the basis of a sound knowledge of each course, a full understanding of each pupil's abilities and sound careers information.

A copy of the recommended course choice form will be sent home for parents to discuss and sign, if in agreement. It is possible, of course, for parents to discuss the course choice by requesting a meeting with a member of the Pastoral Care Staff.

2A	Miss K Campbell
2B	Miss K Campbell
2C	Mr B Griffin
2D	Miss L Robinson
2E	Mrs K McLennan
2F	Mr J Greechan

Art & Design



Pupils who chose to move into Art & Design in S3 will continue to build on developing the skills they have learned in S1-S2.

Activities vary from class to class but **ALL** pupils will undertake the following units:

EXPRESSIVE UNIT – Still life & Portraiture work

DESIGN UNIT – (One of the following depending on the teacher) Product Design, Fashion, Jewellery, Textiles, Architecture

ART COMPETITION – Mackintosh The Innovator (linked with the St Enoch Centre, where pupils work is displayed in store)

Whilst participating in these activities you will:

- Produce a piece of work for our annual exhibition
- Use a range of media and technologies to create pieces of expressive and design work which communicate your ideas, thoughts and feelings through 2D & 3D work
- Respond to the work of artists and designers by discussing your thoughts and feelings
- Assess your own work and provide comment on others work
- Work through the design process and explore the Visual Elements in-depth

You will be assessed throughout the year on your practical performance and on completion of homework tasks. This course will help to prepare you for the Nat 4, Nat 5 or Higher course. Undertaking Nat 5 or Higher will also prepare you well for Higher Photography, which is a separate course choice in S6. Not all Photography pupils come with an Art & Design background but it can be helpful.



Drama



Pupils who chose to move into Drama in S3 will continue to build on developing the skills they have learned in S1-S2.

Activities vary from class to class but **ALL** pupils will undertake the following units:

DRAMA SKILLS – At the end of this unit you will have the opportunity to show off your skills by creating a piece of Devised Drama from a stimulus.

THEATRE PRODUCTION SKILLS – Theatre production allows you to not only develop your acting skills but you will also be given the opportunity to work with different aspects of Theatre Arts. At the end of this unit you will give a mini production to a visiting audience of a short scripted piece of Drama.

You will have the responsibility to learn a short piece of script and also take on a technical role from Lighting, Sound, Props, Costume, Set & Makeup.

Whilst participating in these activities you will be working on the following skills.

Characterisation, Voice & Movement, Form & Structure, Script, The Drama Process, Theatre Arts & Theatre Theory

By the end of S3 **ALL** pupils should show they are capable of:

- Working independently as part of a group
- Being able to organise their ideas into a presentation
- Learn a short script in preparation for a performance
- Show a good understanding of drama terminology
- Be able to critically evaluate their own and others work



Music

Pupils opting for music in S3 will receive two periods per week. Each pupil will:

- select two instruments to study
- regularly keep up to date records of performances
- be recorded at various times throughout the session
- in conjunction with his/her teacher discuss progress
- in conjunction with his/her teacher review programmes of study
- be expected to practice their chosen instruments regularly each week

The main thrust of the time allotted is for practical music making. Pupils will develop repertoire for solo performance and in group work, they will either perform arrangements as a whole class or in smaller numbers at the direction of their teacher.

As well as musical skills, pupils develop skills in the following:

Perseverance, confidence, self-discipline and independence.

Pupils already receiving lessons on an instrument from an instrumental teacher will continue with their lessons.

NB: Pupils receiving lessons from an instrumental tutor must attend the relevant after school music ensembles when they reach the appropriate level of musicianship.

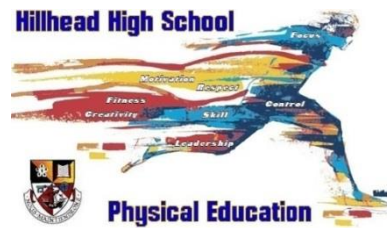
Pupils who miss lessons or are regularly late may be withdrawn from the timetable.

Pupils who are contemplating Music as a subject in S4/S5 are advised to opt for music in S3.



HHS_EXPARTS

P.E Studies



Pupils who select P.E Studies should be individuals who thoroughly enjoy the practical aspects of PE. The S3 P.E Studies course will give you an opportunity to develop your practical skills and game knowledge through **5 different activities**. These activities will be negotiated with the class and the teacher but could include some of the following;

- Football
- Basketball
- Badminton
- Gymnastics
- Rowing
- Tumble
- Rugby
- Volleyball
- Dodgeball
- Dance
- Netball
- Athletics
- Hockey
- Handball
- Table Tennis
- Halo

Whilst participating in these activities you will also develop your knowledge of how different factors impact on your performance, for example;

- **Mental-** *Concentration, Decision- Making, Motivation*
- **Emotional-** *Anger, Managing Emotions, Fear*
- **Social-** *Communication, Environment, Team- Work*
- **Physical-** *Fitness, Skill, Tactical*

You will be assessed throughout the year on your practical performance and on completion of homework tasks. This course will help to prepare you to undertake National Qualifications PE in S4 and S5 at National 4, National 5 or Higher level.



@HillheadHighPE

Geography



Course Outline

In S3 Geography all pupils will follow a **Broad General Education**, covering Level 4 Experiences and Outcomes. In S3 Geography pupils will engage with key skills such as Gathering, Recording, Analysing, Processing, Investigating, Evaluating and Discussing.

In S3 pupils will study four engaging topics

A Shrinking World	A Divided World	Scotland's Story	Food & Fashion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The causes of Climate Change.• The impacts of Climate Change on the Tundra and the Amazon Rainforest.• National and global management strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Population distribution and density around the World.• Factors which increase or decrease population such as migration and healthcare.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limestone in Scotland – the formation of caves, stalactites and stalagmites.• Rivers in Scotland – land use and the formation of waterfalls and valleys.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Globalisation in the Developing and Developed World.• The Ethics of our Food Trade• Fast Fashion, sweatshops and fair trade.

Assessment and Homework

- Assessments will be on-going and based upon the breadth of knowledge, depth of understanding and the display of a range of skills. This will be completed through individual and paired tasks.
- Assessments will include a combination of, class presentations, examinations and research investigations using the Internet.

Selecting Geography will open up a pathway to N5 or Higher Geography.

History



Course Outline

In S3 History all pupils will follow a Broad General Education, covering 3rd & 4th Level Experiences and Outcomes. Our pupils will engage in two fascinating topics.

Era of the Great War (1910 – 1921)	'Free at Last' – Civil Rights in the USA (1860-1968)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Great Powers and their Allies• The Naval Arms Race• Assassination at Sarajevo 1914• Life in the trenches and technology of war and Scots on the Western Front• How the war affected;<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ people's lives at home in Scotland○ Industry in Scotland○ Votes for Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• USA in the 1920s• 'Separate but Equal'<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Jim Crow Laws○ KKK and Lynching• Civil Rights Campaigns<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Rosa Parks○ Martin Luther King○ Freedom riders○ Malcolm X• USA in the 1960s



Assessment and Homework

- Assessment will be on-going during the S3 course focusing on knowledge & understanding and a range of skills.
- Key skill areas include researching, analysing, evaluating, making judgements and investigating.
- Assessment will be based on various individual, paired and group task activities. Assessments may include a combination of, class presentations, examinations and also research investigations

Selecting this subject will open up a pathway to National 4, National 5 or Higher History in S4/S5. This could then lead to Advanced Higher in S6.

Modern Studies



Course Outline

In S3 Modern Studies all pupils will follow a Broad General Education, covering 3rd and 4th Level Experiences and Outcomes.


The following topics are studied in S3:

<u>Crime and Law</u>	<u>Democracy vs Dictatorship</u>	<u>Terrorism</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rules and Laws.• Different types of crime.• Reasons for crime.• Notorious Criminals.• Knife Crime.• Prison System and the Police.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• History of democracy and dictatorship.• Current democracies: UK, USA and Switzerland.• Current Dictatorships: North Korea, Rwanda and Chad.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is terrorism?• Methods used by terrorists.• Media and Stereotypes.• Terrorist attacks.• Counter terrorism.



Assessment and Homework

- Assessment will be on-going during the S3 course focusing on knowledge and understanding and a range of skills.
- Key skill areas include researching, analysing, evaluating, making judgements and investigating.
- Throughout the year there will be numerous opportunities to debate and for pupils to make their voice heard on the different topics we study.
- Pupils will also carry out an end of year research project on a Modern Studies topic of their choice.
- Selecting this subject will open up a pathway into National 5 or Higher Modern Studies in S4/5 or help should you wish to study Higher Politics in S6.

 @HHS_Humanities

Philosophical Studies



This is the kind of course for students who like to question, argue and discuss – and who are willing to keep an open mind and explore different opinions and points of view.

In S3 pupils focus on Level 4 Philosophy outcomes on Critical Thinking and Moral Philosophy:

- What is an argument?
- What makes for reliable or unreliable argument?
- What makes for good reasoning and clear thinking?
Can we ever 'know' anything for certain?
How do the beliefs I have influence the kind of person I will become?
How do we decide what's right and wrong?
Can we be sure that the decision we make is the right one?
- We will also explore current moral issues like Assisted Dying and A.I.

Assessment and Homework

- Assessment will be on-going during the S3 course focusing on a range of skills including analysis and evaluation. Evidence will be kept as a folio record.
- Assessment will be based on various individual, paired and group task activities. Evidence will be used to recommend course progression into S4/5.
- Relevant homework will be issued where appropriate and will usually consist of research/reflection or interviewing in preparation for forthcoming classroom debate.
- It is used to deepen understanding of course topics and provide evidence of individual performance.

Selecting Philosophical Studies will support continued learning in S4 and further learning in S6 should you choose Philosophy at Higher or National 5.



@HHS_Humanities

Modern Languages



“Speak to a Man in a Language he understands,

It goes to his head.

Speak to him in his own Language,

It goes to his heart “

Nelson Mandela



In S3 you will continue to study the language you chose in S1 - French, Mandarin or Urdu. In addition, there is the option to choose Spanish, which you will study as a beginner. Any of these languages are then available to continue into the Senior Phase at National 5 or Higher in S5, and Advanced Higher in S6.

What will I study?

We build on work done in S1 and S2 and aim to give you the skills necessary to give you the best chance of success in the Senior Phase. You will become more confident talking and writing about yourself and your interests, and how to get around in the country, but also consider some of the topics relevant to society in general such as social media. You will also find out about Glasgow and Scotland and how to market our country to foreign tourists, and develop your skills for work by finding out how to apply for a job, write a CV and have an interview, all in the foreign language you have chosen.

In addition you'll find out more about the culture of the country by studying

- Films
- Music
- History

You will be assessed throughout the course, not based on a one-off exam, and if you are achieving 4th Level outcomes at the end of the course you will then be able to go on and study the language at National 5 or Higher in the Senior Phase.

祝你好运 ! 😊 Bonne chance! 😊 Buena suerte! 😊 Viel Glück ! 😊 اچھی قسمت ہو !



@HHSModLang

Spanish



You have the option to take an additional Language in S3, and pupil survey results showed Spanish to be the most popular choice.

What will I study?

Using a mixture of online resources, textbooks, film and music, you will start from the beginning, learning all the basics to enable you to talk to someone from Spain or a Spanish speaking country about yourself and where you come from, what you like doing, as well as more practical things like how to order food in a restaurant. You'll also find out about the culture of Spain and some Spanish speaking countries.

This is an excellent base to build on and you can then choose to take the language further into the Senior Phase to be presented for National 5 or Higher in S5, and then on to Advanced Higher in S6.

Lots of people find Spanish quite easy to learn, particularly if they know French, because they are both from the same language base.

Spanish is spoken by millions of people all over the world, and some surveys now place it second after French as the language most sought after by UK employers.

Learning any language encourages you to be

- open-minded
- resilient
- inquisitive
- tolerant

as well as developing your communication skills. It's also fun!

¡vamos, muchachos!

 @HHSModLang

English

The S3 English course will give you the opportunity to apply the skills you developed in S1 and S2 with increasing independence and in a variety of new and challenging contexts, securing your skills across the Significant Aspects of Learning:

Reading

- Prose, Poetry, Drama & Media (Critical Essays)
- Analysis & Evaluation of Literature and Journalism
- Personal Reading and Research for your writing

Writing

- Short stories, Poems, Drama scripts (creative)
- Diary entries, Personal accounts, letters (reflective)
- Biographies and Reports (informative)
- Persuasive and Discursive essays (deploying ideas)

Talking & Listening

- Group work, feedback, group and class discussion...
- Debates, public speaking, role play, performance...
- Individual and group presentations
- Analysis of spoken texts and peer assessment

Homework

Personal reading will continue to be an important part of your weekly homework: every lesson will begin with a short period of personal reading and you will visit the library fortnightly.

Assessment

Assessment is continuous (not a one off exam) and part of everyday learning (never based on one piece of work). You will receive constructive feedback on your skills as judged against success criteria, highlighting your strengths and next steps.

We hope that the majority of our pupils will be *secure learners* at *third level* by the end of S3 and that a great many will be securing their skills across the Experiences and Outcomes at *Fourth Level*.



@EnglishDept_HHS

Mathematics

The Mathematics curriculum aims to develop a secure understanding of mathematical concepts and skills and allow the opportunity to apply these in different contexts. The curriculum aims to ensure that everyone has the essential numeracy skills required for study in other subjects and for life after school. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics including;

- Fractions
- Decimals
- Percentages
- Algebra
- Solving Equations
- Trigonometry
- Pythagoras
- Data Handling
- Area and Volume
- Shape

Whilst learning these topics you will develop the following skills;

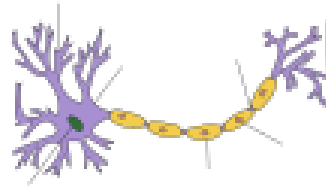
- Interpreting problems and communicating processes and solutions
- Using mathematical notation and vocabulary
- Use mental agility
- Reasoning skills
- Apply mathematical skills to real life contexts
- Interpret the reasonableness of solutions in context

You will be assessed at the end of each Phase of work – this is normally after the study of four or five topics. There are nightly homework exercises after almost every lesson.



@HillheadMaths

Biology



Biology affects everyone and aims to find solutions to many of the world's problems. Biology, the study of living organisms, plays a crucial role in our everyday existence, and is an increasingly important subject in the modern world. Advances in Biological technologies have made this varied subject more exciting and relevant than ever.

This S3 course is designed to encourage and build pupils' capacity in the areas of: scientific investigation; creative and analytical thinking; and problem solving. These skills will be developed through a programme of practical application of knowledge and scientific literacy where pupils research topical Biological issues and communicate them using the knowledge and understanding they have acquired throughout the course.

The S3 course will be particularly relevant to pupils who show an interest in all aspects of biology as the course covers a wide range of topics from the disciplines of Cell Biology, where pupils will study cells, 'the smallest units of life', to the complexities of Multicellular organisms, including humans, and how they interact with their environment.

You will be assessed throughout the year on your performance in coursework and on completion of homework tasks. This course will help to prepare you for National Biology Qualifications in S4 and S5 at National 4, National 5 or Higher level and beyond.

Chemistry



Chemistry is the subject for you if you have a natural curiosity regarding why things are the way they are. The S3 Chemistry course is made up of three units where we study a wide range of topics including:

- The Periodic Table
- Formula
- Bonding
- Fuels
- The Environment
- Acids & Alkalis
- Plastics

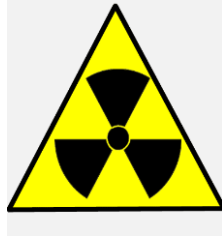
Throughout your learning of Chemistry you will be given many opportunities to participate in experimental work, in order to demonstrate principles you are learning about in class.

As well as developing your fundamental Chemistry knowledge you will also be developing skills in:

- Numeracy
- Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Research

You will be continually informally assessed throughout the year through your participation in class, as well as through completion of homework activities. There will be two formal closed book assessments at the end of each unit, one 3rd Level assessment and one 4th Level assessment. Your performance in all aspects of learning will be taken into consideration when making recommendations for S4-5 National courses.

Physics



Physics gives learners an insight into the underlying nature of our world and its place in the universe. From the sources of the power we use, to the exploration of space, it covers a range of applications of the relationships that have been discovered through experiment and calculation, including those used in modern technology.

An experimental and investigative approach is used to develop knowledge and understanding of physics concepts.

Physics courses encourage resourcefulness, which leads to becoming a confident individual.

Successful learners in physics think creatively, analyse and solve problems. Physics can produce responsible citizens, through studying the impact it makes on their lives, on the environment, and on society.

S3 Physics

In third year, our physicists study

- Dynamics & Space • Electricity & Heat • Sound & Radiation

Each unit lasts approximately ten weeks each unit will be assessed with a 3rd level and 4th level assessment.

Regular homework will be issued to pupils throughout the year and pupils will be expected to follow a regular revision schedule. This course will help to prepare you for National Physics Qualifications in S4 and S5 at National 4, National 5 or Higher level.

Administration and IT

The S3 Administration and IT course will contribute to pupil's broad general education while focusing learners' administrative, organisational and IT skills.



This course is designed for learners who are interested in administration and the practical uses of IT. The course will allow pupils to develop the following skills:

ICT	Organisation
Literacy & Numeracy	Time Management
Problem Solving	Employability

In S3 you will be learning about:

	<u>Practical</u>	<u>Theory</u>
You will be	Databases	Customer Care
	Spreadsheets	File Management
	PowerPoint	Events Management
	Electronic Communication	Health and Safety
	Word Processing	
	Publisher	

assessed throughout the year on your practical skills, theory and on completion of homework tasks. This course will help to prepare you to undertake National Qualifications in Administration and IT in the senior phase.

Business



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Management



Business plays an important role in society. We all rely on businesses and entrepreneurs to create wealth and well-being, prosperity, jobs and choices. Therefore it is essential that society has effective businesses and business managers to sustain this role.

This course will provide opportunities that allow learning to develop in a challenging and enjoyable way. The aim is to relate the study of business to real-life contexts in order to develop the following skills:

ICT	Working with others
Literacy	Numeracy
Enterprise	Employability

In S3 you will be learning about:

How businesses operate	Business Ethics
Starting your own business	Business Enterprise
Marketing	Finance

In the classroom you will experience a wide variety of learning and teaching approaches – some of which include working co-operatively with others, teacher-led lessons, quizzes, individual research using the internet.

Your progress will be assessed through the completion of course task booklets and progress tests. Homework will be issued on a regular basis to reinforce learning and may involve reading/researching and keeping up-to-date with business news.

This course will help to prepare you to undertake National Qualifications in Business Management in the senior phase.

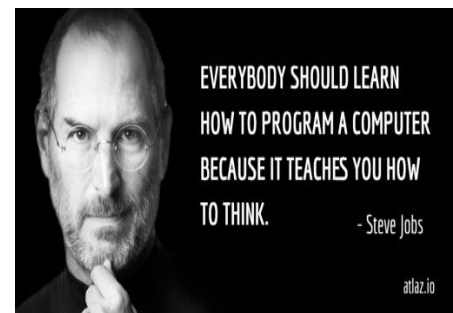


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Computing

Science

Pupils who choose Computing should be individuals who are adaptable, creative, open to fresh ideas and practices and willing to constantly update their knowledge.



The principle focus of the S3 Course is **Computational Thinking**. The course will allow pupils to develop the following problem solving skills and techniques:

Abstraction

Algorithmic Thinking

Decomposition

Pattern Recognition

Generalisation

Digital Literacy

Problem Solving

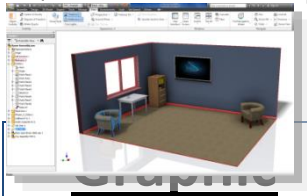
In S3 you will be learning about:

You
will
be

- Programming
- Databases
- Computer Systems

- Web Development
- Networking

assessed throughout the year on your skills and knowledge and on completion of homework tasks. This course will help to prepare you to undertake National Qualifications Computing Science in the senior phase.



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Communication



The Graphics course gives you the opportunity to represent ideas, concepts and products through a variety of graphic media. It provides skills for those wishing to pursue a career in:

Architecture

Engineering

Publishing, Journalism & Graphic Design

Advertising & Marketing

Web, computer software & games design

Product Design

Sketching – 2D and 3D

Rendering - applying texture, tone and colour

Graphic displays – posters, brochures, websites

Desktop Publishing principles

Informational Graphics – charts, graphs

Orthographic drawings

Pictorial drawings – perspective, isometric

Building standards, conventions and symbols

3D Computer Aided Design – SketchUp,
Inventor

Computer Aided Graphics – Serif

Computer Aided Manufacture – laser
cutter

Digital Rendering and Animation

In S3 you will be learning about:

You will be assessed throughout the year on your skills and knowledge. This course will help to prepare you to undertake National Qualifications Graphic Communication in the senior phase.

Woodwork

Throughout the course young people will be provided with a range of different experiences that cover the main aspects within Woodworking. The course will develop a range of different skills and techniques within a workshop environment as well as the classroom.



The course will allow pupils to develop the following skills:



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Manual Dexterity

Communication

Leadership

Digital Literacy

Problem Solving

Working with Others

The course includes two aspects: practical abilities as well as maintaining a reflective journal.

In S3 you will learning about:

Designing and creating a footstool

Designing and creating a storage
Box

Designing and creating a planter

Health and Safety

Woodworking Materials

Operating manual and power tools

Sustainability

You will be assessed throughout the year on your skills and knowledge and on completion of practical tasks. This course will help to prepare you to undertake National Qualifications Woodwork in the senior phase.



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