

Notre Dame High School



S2 into S3 Options



S2 into S3 Options

» Progression

Curriculum

Dear Parent,

S2 pupils will soon be making their options choices for S3.

This can be a challenging time for young people and we think it is important that they are given as much information as possible to help them to make sensible and informed decisions. Please be assured that your child has studied these curricular areas since Primary school and therefore is ready to make this decision.

This booklet is designed to outline the rationale behind our curriculum offering in S3 and to provide pupils and parents with some guidance around how to pick subjects most effectively.

School staff will be on hand to provide support and guidance to pupils throughout the options process. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the school should you have any questions or require any additional information.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.













Progression





S2 into S3 Options—Is my child ready?

Broad General Education

Your child has experienced a range of subjects and since the age of 3. The range of curricular areas they have been taught has developed their knowledge and skills. They are confident and successful learners who are ready to make this transition.

S2 Progress and Achievement Evening

In November the S2 progress and achievement evening took place which provided parents with information on where their child was on in their learning journey. An up to date tracking report was also issued.

Pupils/Parents should use the information in this report, and the feedback from teachers, to support them as they select their options for S3.

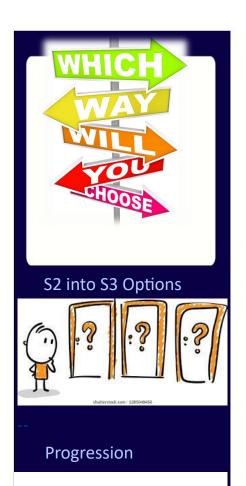
Positive Pathways Assemblies and Mock Options

All pupils have received information on new subject areas from teachers and pupils in S3 during their assemblies.

We have taken all S2 pupils through the mock options process and a final options form will be issued based on these.







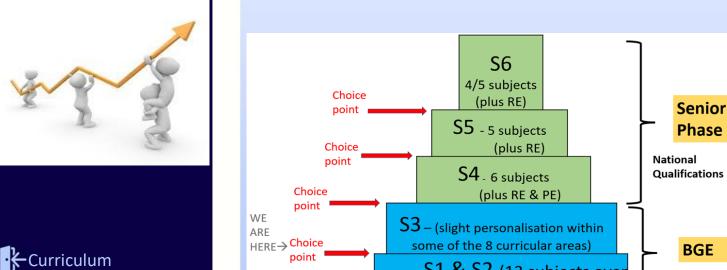
Progression

S2 into S3 Options choices are the first in a range of subject choices that pupils will make.

As they move into S4, pupils will be asked to confirm the six subjects that they will study as part of their National Qualifications.

Pupils will then have the opportunity in S5 and S6 to specialise in certain subjects, as well as return to subjects that they had studied earlier in their school career.

Even at this early stage, pupils should consider where their chosen subjects could take them.



Phase National Qualifications **BGE** point S1 & S2 (13 subjects over

8 curricular areas







Curriculum for Excellence







In line with the framework of Curriculum for Excellence, the Broad General Education (S1-S3) provides a focus on skills development for pupils across eight curricular areas.

Languages and Literacy

Mathematics and Numeracy

Sciences

Social Studies

Expressive Arts

Technologies

Religious and Moral Education

Health and Wellbeing

In S3 all pupils personalise their curriculum within these curricular areas and therefore have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding and progress in subjects they have enjoyed and are more engaged in.











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Progression





Our Curriculum

Certain subjects in S3 remain compulsory in order to continue to develop literacy and numeracy skills in addition to supporting health and wellbeing. These subjects are:

- English
- Maths
- PF
- **PSE**
- RE

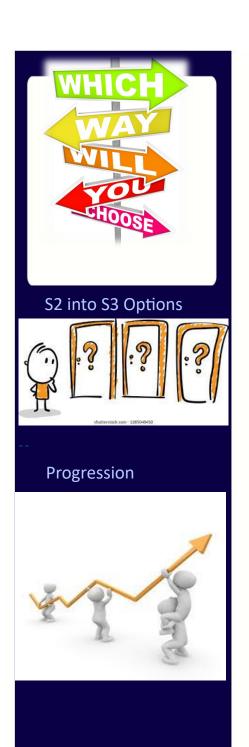
Our learners will then chose one subject out of the remaining five curricular areas.

Sciences	Biology, Chemistry, Physics; Science
Social Subjects	Geography, History, Modern Studies
Expressive Arts	Art and Design, Media; Graphic Communication; Music; PE
Technologies	Admin & IT; Computing Science; Design and Manufacture; HFT; Music Technology; Spanish; Woodwork









The Leadership Academy

There is also an element of free choice and a leadership academy. Pupils will have the opportunity to rotate between two leadership academy options

One subject they will study from May until November and the second from December to May. (* some options will run for the whole session)

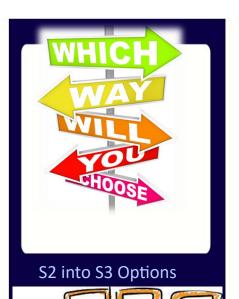
The purpose of this option is to allow young people to apply their knowledge of the curricular areas to the world of work and develop their transferrable skills.

Please scan the QR code below to find out more about our leadership options.









Progression



Curriculum



Our Advice

There are a number of things that parents can do to support their child as they make their options choices. Always remember that school staff will be available to discuss your child's options and offer advice and support throughout the process.

- Consider the subjects your child enjoys
- Consider the subjects your child is doing well in
- Ask your child about the career path they wish to follow





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School Staff

Remember we are here to support your child trhough this process and subject specialist have been supporting your child during class time by providing them with information on their subjects and the possible career paths they can lead to.

However should your child require enhanced support this is always available from:

- Guidance staff;
- Year Head;
- Careers Advisor—Julie Mulholland
- DYW Co-ordinator

Please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are committed to 'Getting it Right' for your child.



