



**ST COLUMBA'S**  
FAITH · AMBITION · INCLUSION · PERSEVERANCE



# SENIOR PHASE OPTIONS

INFORMATION EVENING: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026



# PRAYER

*Be Lord Jesus,  
a bright flame before me,  
a guiding star above me,  
a smooth path below me,  
a kindly shepherd behind me:  
today, tonight and forever.*

*St. Columba..... Pray for us*



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# THE SCQF EXPLAINED...



scottish credit and  
qualifications framework

A GUIDE FOR PUPILS & PARENTS

ST. COLUMBA'S HIGH SCHOOL GOUROCK

S = Scottish

C = Credit &

Q = Qualifications

F = Framework



scottish credit and  
qualifications framework

# Then...

- O-Grade
- Standard Grade
- Higher
- CSYS

# Now...

- National 3/4/5
- Higher
- Advanced Higher
- NPA
- Vocational Qualifications



**All have SCQF Credit Points**



# National Qualifications

- National 3/4/5/H/AH qualifications all have an SCQF level
- These qualifications develop learners' knowledge & understanding but also skills
- SCQF credit points show how much learning is involved in achieving each qualification
- **One SCQF credit point = 10 hours of learning**
- SCQF levels and credits are included on SQA Certificates



Sam Scholar  
SCH 21082310  
Profiles up to August 2024

Core Skill	SCQF Level	Date
Core Skill - Communication Oral Communication	5	06/2024
Written Communication	5	06/2024
Core Skill - Numeracy Using Graphical Information	5	06/2024
Using Number	5	06/2024
Core Skill - Problem Solving Critical Thinking	5	06/2024
Planning and Organising	5	06/2024
Reviewing and Evaluating	5	06/2024
Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework		
Credit Points	SCQF Level	Date
32	7	06/2024
31	6	06/2024
102	5	06/2024
24	4	06/2024



# Other programmes/courses

- Some other learning programmes that pupils may undertake at school, college or clubs could have an SCQF level and credit points associated with them.
- In St. Columba's High School we have an increasing number of wider achievement opportunities available that are on the SCQF.



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# SCQF Points: Exemplars



Qualification	SCQF credit points	Level
National 4 Biology	24	4
NPA Bakery	24	4
National 5 Spanish	24	5
NPA Photography	24	5
Volunteering Skills (Duke of Edinburgh)	18	5
Higher Drama	24	6
Sports Leadership	14	6
Creative Thinking	24	6
Advanced Higher Maths	32	7
Science Baccaulaureate	104	7



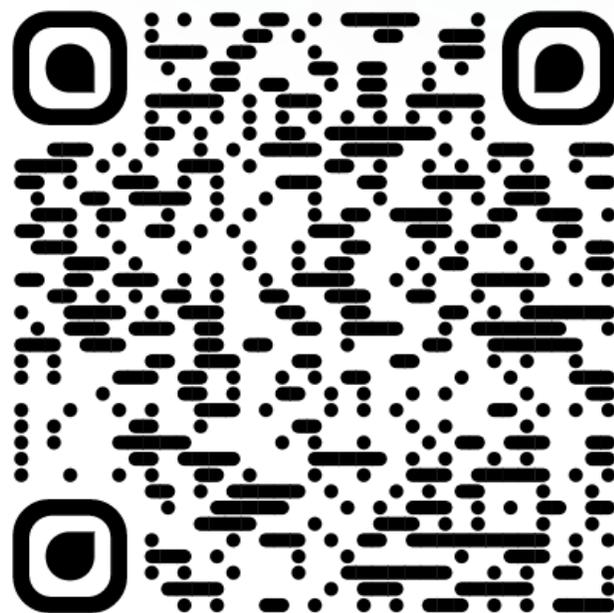
# REASONS WHY WE VALUE THE SCQF:



- it helps to embed a culture of **AMBITION** by recognising and giving credit for all achievements.
- it ensures equal opportunities and parity of esteem for all young people through the recognition of all types of qualifications and learning, not just learning that takes place in the classroom.
- it encourages an awareness of different learning options and how they fit with more traditional learning routes.
- it provides a flexible approach to meeting the needs of individuals beyond formal academic qualifications.



# FIND OUT MORE:



[SCQF.ORG.UK](https://www.scqf.org.uk)



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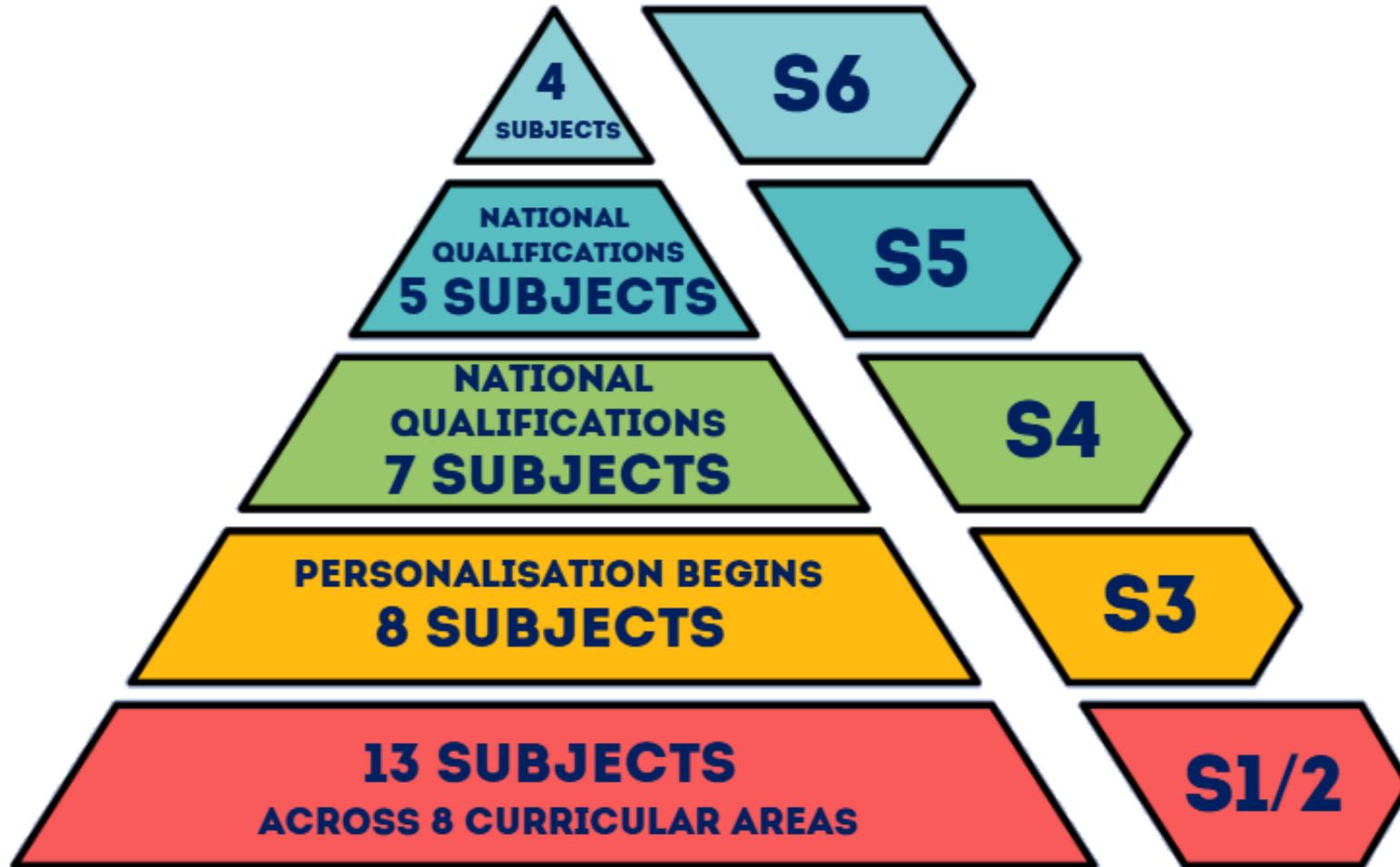
# Progression S1-S6

Faith

Ambition

Inclusion

Perseverance



Progression from BGE to Senior Phase



# NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS



National 3, National 4, National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher.

In S4, most pupils will work at National 4 or National 5 Level.

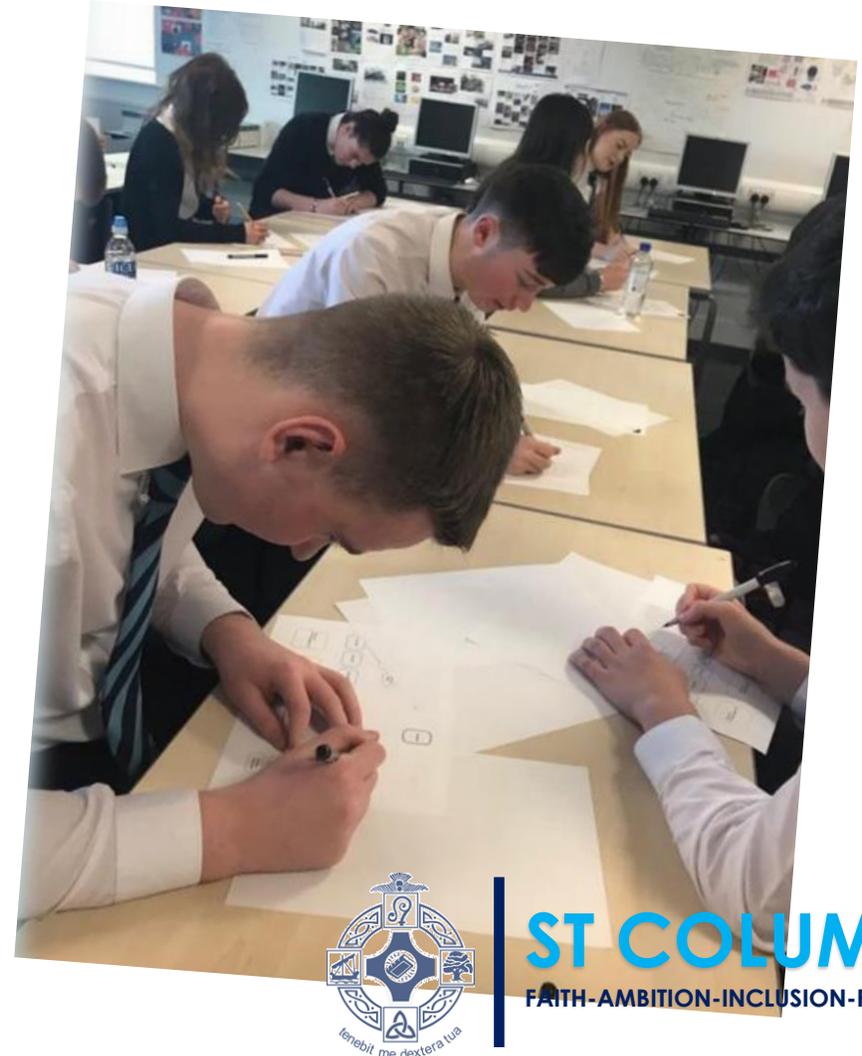


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# NATIONAL 4



- Internally assessed.
- No final examination.
- Graded as Pass/Fail
- Can lead on to further study at National 5.



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# S4 OPTION CHOICES

- 7 subjects in S4 for qualifications
- Maths and English are compulsory
- Pupils must choose 5 additional options from 24 choices



# S5 OPTION CHOICES

- 5 subjects in S5 for qualifications
- English or Communication & Literature is compulsory
- Pupils must choose 4 additional options from 24 choices



# Choose Success

## Choices should be based on...

- Skills and Strengths
- Enjoyment and Interest
- If a subject is needed for a career/college/university
- Keeping options open
- A recommendation of a particular level in that subject



# WHAT SHOULD YOU CONSIDER?



## Where do you want to go?

- University?
- College?
- Apprenticeship?
- Training?
- Employment?
- Somewhere Else?



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# SUPPORT AVAILABLE



## Pupils have access to:

- Interviews with Careers staff (Michelle Purdue, Stephanie Stinson)
- The support of our Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Coordinator (Joyce Little)
- Guidance Interviews



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# New Courses

- We are delighted to offer a range of additional courses for pupils in the Senior Phase at a variety of different levels.
- These courses will provide pupils with an increasing range of opportunities to gain accreditation and develop skills for the future.



# New Courses

- Barista and Bakery (S5/6)
- Creative Thinking (S5/6)
- Criminology
- Lab Skills
- Mental Health and Wellbeing (S5/6)
- Music Tech
- NPA Drama (S5/6)
- N5 RMPS
- Sport & Fitness (S5/6)
- Travel & Tourism
- Powering Futures (S5/6)
- Personal Finance (S5/6)
- Scottish Studies (S5/6)



<b>Name:</b>		<b>Class:</b>	
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- Please confirm option choices in columns 1-6 below.
- Please choose at least one option from each curricular area. Where you have not selected a subject in a particular curricular area then you should pick this curricular area/s as one of your options in column 7.
- No subject can be chosen twice
- In Column 7, please choose 3 options (plus two reserve options) to study for 2 periods on rotation throughout the year.
- Classes will only run where there are viable numbers
- All pupils in S3 will study English (4 periods), Maths (4 periods), RE (2 periods), PSE (within SFF class) and Core PE (2 periods).

<b>Curricular Areas</b>
Languages
Expressive Arts
Science
Technologies
Social Studies



	1	2	3	4	5	6		7 - Skills for the Future
<i>No. of periods:</i>	<i>x 3 periods</i>		<i>x 2 periods</i>					
	Art	Art	Biology	Drama	Admin & IT	Admin & IT		Hospitality Enterprise
	Biology	Biology	Chemistry	History	Computing	Business		Conversational French & Spanish
	Chemistry	Chemistry	Geography	Modern Studies	Drama	Fashion Textiles		British Sign Language
	French	Music	History	Music	Practical Cookery	Graphics		Basic Lab Skills
	Business	Physics	Physics	Spanish	Woodwork	Modern Studies		Sound Production
	Architecture	Woodwork	Computing		History	Practical Cookery		Digital Photography
								Creative Industries
								Criminology
								Sport & Fitness
	1	2	3	4	5	6		7
<i>My choices</i>							Option 1	
<b>Pupil Signature:</b>							<b>Date:</b>	
							Option 2	
<b>Parental Signature:</b>							<b>Date:</b>	
							Option 3	
If any of your preferred options to not fit in the columns, please provide details below and we will try, where possible, to accommodate these.							Reserve 1	
							Reserve 2	



# SCHS - S4 Options 2026-27 v1



S4 must choose one subject from each column (1,2,3,4,5)

1	2	3	4	5
Art & Design	Biology	Art & Design	Art & Design	Admin & IT
Biology	Business Management	Admin & IT	Biology	Chemistry
Geography	Chemistry	Chemistry	Creative Thinking	Computing Science
History	Fashion & Textiles	Computing Science	Modern Studies	Drama
Lab Skills	French	Criminology	Physics	Modern Studies
Practical Cookery	Graphic Communication	History	Spanish	PE
Practical Woodwork	Music Tech	Music	Travel & Tourism	Physics
	Practical Cookery	PE		Practical Woodwork

My Choices:

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Tick here if you would like to attend a College Course (Wed AM):

The college course I am interested in is:

Name:

Parental Signature:



## SCHS - S5/6 Options 2026-27 v1



S5 must choose one subject in columns A, B, C, D & E (English is compulsory and can be selected in column A or B)

S6 must choose 4 subjects - one subject from any four columns

LEVEL / COLUMN	A	B	C	D	E
SCQF Level 7/ Adv Higher	English	Art & Design	Maths	Science Baccalaureate	Chemistry Music
Higher SCQF Level 6	Admin & IT Business Management English English - Comms & Lit Politics Spanish	Art & Design English French Geography Maths Music Tech RMPS Maths Applications	Chemistry Drama Drama NPA Fashion & Textiles Design & Man Maths PE	Chemistry College Course Computing Creative Thinking Graphic Communication History Human Biology	Human Biology Mental Health & Wellbeing Music Modern Studies Photography Physics
National 4/5 SCQF Levels 4/5	Art & Design Barista & Bakery Biology Geography History Lab Skills Practical Cookery Practical Woodwork	Biology Business Management Chemistry Fashion & Textiles French Graphic Communication Maths Music Tech Practical Cookery	Art & Design Admin & IT Chemistry Computing Science Criminology History Maths Music PE	Art & Design Biology Creative Thinking Modern Studies Physics Spanish Travel & Tourism Metalwork	Admin & IT Chemistry Computing Science Drama Modern Studies PE Physics Practical Woodwork Sports Leader
My Choices:					
Level:					
College Course:					
Any choice which does not fit in current columns:					
Name:					
Class:					
Parental Signature:					
Date:					

## **S4 College Vocational Options 2026-27**

**Sandra Gardiner**  
School coordinator

- **Wednesday 9:30-12:00**
- **Engineering**
- **Construction**
- **Computer Games Development**
- **IMI Award in Vehicle Accident Repair**
- **SFW Early learning and Childcare**
- **Television Production**
- **Introduction to professional Cookery**
- **Sport level 5**
- **Introduction to Hair Makeup & Beauty**
- **Sound Production**
- **Rock School Live performance level 5**
- **Forensic Science level 5**
- **Health Science level 5**

## Delivery

- **Wednesday Morning 9:30-12:00**
- **Make your own way to and from college**
- **PPE is provided**
- **Attendance is monitored, all absences reported back to school**
- **2 Progress reports November/March time.**

## What do I do now?

- **Read over booklet (on college website)**
- **Speak with Parents Teachers**
- **College options will be part of your school options.**

## Course Duration

**Course starts Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2026**

**Finish's Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2027**

**Any Questions ?**

## **S5-6 College Vocational Options 2026-27**

**Sandra Gardiner**  
School coordinator

- **Tuesday Thursday College Options**
- **SFW Engineering**
- **Babcock Engineering**
- **NPA Construction**
- **Introduction to Plumbing**
- **NPA Computer Games Development**
- **Artificial Intelligence and Big Data**
- **IMI Award induction to Motor Vehicle Industry and Technologies**
- **Skills for work Early Learning & Childcare**
- **Higher Childcare and Development**
- **Higher Psychology**
- **NPA Criminology**
- **Film and Screen Award**
- **NPA Professional cookery**
- **Sport**
- **Skills for work Hairdressing**
- **NPA Music**

## Foundation Apprenticeship Offer

- Accountancy Level 6 (Paisley Campus)  
**Tuesday Wednesday Thursday pm**
- Engineering (Paisley Campus)  
**Tuesday Thursday Friday all day**

## HNC & PDA OFFER 6<sup>th</sup> year Pupils only

- **HNC Music**  
**Tuesday Thursday all day**
  
- **HNC Sound Production**  
**Tuesday Thursday all day**
  
- **HNC TV Production**  
**Tuesday Thursday all day**
  
- **HNC Applied Science**  
**Tuesday Thursday all day**
  
- **PDA in Modern Biological Techniques**  
**Tuesday Thursday afternoons**
  
- **Human Body Structure & Function**  
**Tuesday afternoon**

# Additional Science offer 6<sup>th</sup> Year pupils only Remote delivery



## Pharmacology/Pharmacy Units

- Pharmacotherapeutics and The Human Body 2 (cardiovascular and respiratory systems)
- Pharmacotherapeutics and The Human Body 4 (infectious and malignant disease)

*Your chance to develop knowledge and understanding of the human body, common diseases and the actions and uses of medicines, these units will provide you with a taste of Higher Education but in a flexible format. You will learn remotely at a time that suits your own sixth-year timetable and will have access to a lecturer for support and to answer any queries. Ideally suited to those looking to pursue a degree in pharmacology or pharmacy, but also anyone with an interest in medicine and health sciences, these SQA SCQF Level 7 units will also strengthen your UCAS application.*

Applicants must be S6 and already have Higher Biology/Human Biology at Grade C or above. Attendance on campus will be for assessment only.

## Delivery

- **Tuesday-Thursday afternoon 1:30-4:00pm**
- **Transport is provided,**
- **Make your own way home**
- **PPE is provided**
- **Attendance is monitored daily, all absences reported back to school**
- **2 Progress reports November/March time.**

## What do I do now?

- **Read over booklet (on college website)**
- **Speak with Parents Teachers**
- **College options will be part of your school options.**

## Course Duration

**Course starts Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2026  
(Finish's Thursday 22nd April 2027)**

**Any Questions ?**

# Levels of Accreditation

- Each of these courses will offer accreditation on the SCQF Framework as discussed by our young people at the start of our presentation



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# Decisions Ahead



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