

GREENFAULDS HIGH SCHOOL

S5/S6 Information Booklet 2019 - 2020



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S5/S6 COURSE CHOICE BOOKLET 2019 - 2020

This booklet has been produced to provide information on the educational opportunities available in Greenfaulds High School in the session 2019 - 2020.

Enquiries are welcomed and further information can be obtained from:

- The Depute Head Teacher (S5/S6) - Mr. R Bowie
- The Pupil Support teacher allocated to each individual pupil
- The School Careers Officer (Morven Jarvis)

The following addresses and telephone numbers may be useful:

Greenfaulds High School
Auchenkilns Road
Greenfaulds
Cumbernauld
G67 4AQ

Telephone: 01236 794876

Education Offices
North Lanarkshire Council
Municipal Buildings
Kildonan Street
Coatbridge
ML5 3BT

Telephone: 01236 812222

Skills Development Scotland
Careers Scotland Centre (Careers Officer - Morven Jarvis) Morven.Jarvis@sds.co.uk
Cumbernauld College
Tryst Road
Cumbernauld
Telephone: 01236 720889
www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk

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NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

S5/S6 pupils choose courses based on achievement in S4 and S5 and the level at which these courses are studied will depend on the grade achieved in S4 and S5.

NQs are available, as appropriate for the school, taking into account local priorities and needs.

The levels are:-

- **National 4 (SCQF 4)**
- **National 5 (SCQF 5)**
- **Higher (SCQF 6)**
- **Advanced Higher (SCQF 7)**
- **Foundation Apprenticeships SCQF 6 (in partnership with NLC Colleges)**

Information on courses and levels and further information on National Qualifications can be found on the school website at www.greenfaulds.n-lanark.sch.uk

The following pages give **GENERAL INFORMATION** on aspects of the senior school.

Session 2010/2011 saw the start of the Scottish Baccalaureate. This is a qualification which groups together relevant subjects at Advanced Higher Level and links them with an inter disciplinary project.

The Scottish Baccalaureate will be available only in Science this session. For further information, please contact Mrs. Muirhead (Faculty Head of Science)

LEAVING DATES

A pupil whose 16th birthday falls between the 1st of March 2019 and the 30th of September 2019 may leave school at the end of May 2019.

A pupil whose 16th birthday falls between 1st October 2019 and the last day of February 2020 may leave school at Christmas 2019.

A pupil leaving school at the summer or at Christmas should register at the local SDS Office (01236 720889).

All pupils on leaving school are required to complete a leaver's form and a Careers Destination Form, available from the school office.

THE JUNE TIMETABLE

In common with other pupils in the school 4th and 5th year pupils begin the new timetable on June 3rd.

It is important that regular attendance is maintained during this period when new courses are starting. Failure to attend at this time can **seriously** affect progress.

ATTENDANCE

I cannot stress strongly enough the importance of good attendance and good timekeeping at all times.

The difference in the pace and volume of work in the senior school, demands good attendance at all times so that you can progress towards the examinations, well prepared, at the end of the year.

PREFECTS (S6 only)

Pupils in 6th year can volunteer to be considered as School Prefects. From S6, School Captains (Boy and Girl) and Vice Captains will be selected to lead the student body in the school.

Captains and Vice Captains meet regularly with the Depute Head Teacher - Upper School to discuss aspects of school life e.g. community involvement, social events and the duties required of a Prefect.

Becoming a Prefect is a chance to develop a sense of community, to represent the school in the wider community and most importantly gives you an opportunity to give something back to the school and to make a difference to the younger pupils in the school.

As a Prefect you must be prepared at all times to carry out the duties of a Prefect and to set an example to younger pupils in your dress, manner and behaviour.

All pupils in the Sixth year are given the opportunity to become more involved in the life of the school and are encouraged to do this by helping younger pupils by becoming paired readers, in the paired scribing scheme and as Peer Tutors or as Subject Ambassadors. Fifth and Sixth year pupils are also encouraged to become 'Buddies' to the incoming S1 to help them settle into secondary school which, for some youngsters, can be a very daunting time.

CAREERS

The school Careers Adviser, Morven Jarvis, provides career advice, information and support to all pupils in Fifth and Sixth year. The areas covered include career planning, career options, course choice and personal support on Higher Education, further Education, training and employment.

There are **three** ways to get advice from the careers Adviser:

Careers Interviews - arranged on a priority basis to provide advice and pupil support on a more in-depth basis. Pupils can request an interview by completing a contact card which is available in the Careers Library.

Drop-In Sessions - which provide general careers information. The Careers Adviser holds these sessions in the Careers Library situated in the School Library. They are generally held at the start of lunch break on a Monday and Wednesday and no appointment is necessary.

Group Sessions - again provided on a priority basis throughout the year on a variety of topics i.e. S4/S5 career options, career planning, applications to UCAS (Higher Education) and Christmas leavers.

Pupils in the senior school are encouraged to make use of the Careers Library for information on job search, college/university courses and training. In addition www.planitplus.net is a useful career database website.

The School Careers Adviser may also be contacted at the Skills Development Scotland Centre in Cumbernauld (located within Cumbernauld College - 01236 720 889).
www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.org.uk

In addition to this, the school organises talks by speakers from various job areas, colleges and universities.

Arrangements are also made for pupils to attend careers conventions and University/College Open Days.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT AT 16+ FOR FURTHER STUDY IN SCHOOL

Pupils attending school beyond the school leaving age may apply for an Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA). Applications forms will be sent to the school in May/June and these should be sent to the Education Offices when completed. Towards the end of the session information about EMAs will be given in the daily bulletin and on posters throughout the school.

Pupils in receipt of an EMA are required to have 100% attendance - self certification of illness is permitted for five days (10 absences) throughout the session, any illness beyond this must be covered by a medical certificate. Pupils are also required to be in school on time and are only permitted 5 late comings throughout the session. Failure to adhere to these conditions will result in non-payment of EMA (£30 per week). Coupled with attendance/timekeeping, pupils are required to sign a Learning Agreement which will identify academic targets.

Pupils applying for an EMA must adhere to the conditions of the EMA as soon as the term begins (ie August) regardless of when they become eligible to receive payment.

POST SCHOOL STUDY

FURTHER EDUCATION

Further Education courses are usually taken at the local college and entry requirements vary from none up to two Higher passes. Courses usually last for one or two years and are mostly 'vocational' i.e. they relate to a specific area of work, although most colleges now run HND courses which can lead to access to university.

Each college produces its own Prospectus describing the college and the courses it offers. These are available in the School careers Library. Bursaries are available for Further Education. Applications are made directly to the individual College from January in the year of entry.

HIGHER EDUCATION

These courses are usually taken at University.

The general entrance requirements for University are:

3 Higher passes plus National 5 awards at A - C (one of which must be English).

or

4 Higher passes (one of which must be English).

Please note that a Foundation Apprenticeship can be used to gain entry to University as an alternative to a Higher as it has the same SCQF level 6. Please research this when looking into University courses.

The Faculty (University Department) requirements and course requirements will be higher than the general entrance requirements.

The school will organise applications for pupils in good time through UCAS (University and Colleges Application Service). Any pupil intending to apply to university during the session should make good use of the Prospectuses and other information in the school Careers Library before application begins in September. There will be an information evening for Parents of pupils who wish to apply to University. This is usually late August/early September. Pupils should of course attend this evening.

Any pupil applying to University will require a reference from the school. This reference will be written by the relevant Pupil Support teacher after consultation with class teachers. It will include references to the quality of work, enthusiasm for the subject and a prediction of the grade which the teacher judges will be achieved in the examinations. Final applications are processed by the Depute Head Teacher S5/S6 and sent to UCAS with the appropriate fee before the final school deadline date in December. **It is important that pupils keep to the school deadlines for completion of applications.**

Student Allowances - Loans are paid by the Student Awards Agency for Scotland to students entering full time Higher Education. The amount paid will depend on parental income. Applications must be accompanied by a document from the University or College making an offer of a place which the student has accepted.

Application forms are available from:

Student Awards Agency for Scotland (www.SAAS.co.uk)

Glenview House

3 Redheughs Rigg

South Gyle

Edinburgh EH12 9HH

Telephone 0131 244 8075.

CONSORTIUM SCHOOLS, including New College Lanarkshire

Greenfaulds High School also operates within the local consortium of schools Our Lady's High, St Maurice's High, Chryston High, Cumbernauld Academy, Kilsyth Academy and New College Lanarkshire. There is also links with some Glasgow Colleges. This allows us to extend the choice of courses for pupils in the senior school. While Sixth year pupils have a more flexible timetable allowing travelling time between schools this may now be possible for S5 pupils also. Therefore if a pupil in the senior school would like to study a specific course and we cannot offer that course at Greenfaulds High School it may be on offer at one of the other schools and that particular course could be studied there. Equally pupils could come to Greenfaulds High School to study courses we offer here that are not on offer at their own school. **Please consider the implications of travelling before choosing a course at another venue.**

Transport between the schools is by taxi or bus, the cost of which is met by the school.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE SENIOR SCHOOL

As a member of the Senior School you may have the opportunity to become involved in activities out with the formal curriculum e.g. Peer Tutoring, Subject Ambassador, Youth Achievement Award and Mentor in Violence prevention. (MVP), Young Enterprise, Duke of Edinburgh (Bronze award) and Leadership. **For further info on these courses see your Pupil Support teacher.**

THE CURRICULUM IN THE SENIOR SCHOOL

Pupils will follow courses at the level appropriate for them, which will build on their achievement in Fourth Year and Fifth Year, and they will be credited with all that they achieve.

Courses under National Qualification will be at four levels **NATIONAL 4, NATIONAL 5, HIGHER and ADVANCED HIGHER.**

ASSESSMENT

National Qualification courses will be assessed as follows:

In general, at the end of the course each pupil at Nat 5, Higher OR Advanced Higher level, will sit an **End of Course Examination**. This will be assessed **externally** and will be graded -A, B and C. (D). National 4 which has no Externally Assessed examination but requires the completion of an AVU (Added value unit).

In order to achieve a **COURSE AWARD** in Nat 5 OR Higher from next session, pupils **must** pass the **COURSE EXAM** at level D or better.

In addition to the above a pupil will be credited on their certificates with the **CORE SKILLS** they have achieved.

The **CORE SKILLS** are - Communication, Problem Solving, Numeracy, Information Technology and Working with Others.

All courses contribute to the Core Skills profile.

REPORTING IN THE SENIOR SCHOOL

Each pupil in the fifth and sixth year will have a tracking report which will go home to parents twice over the session and is updated on targets, working level and attendance. I feel these three factors are very important in the senior school and this allows Parents to be kept informed on a regular basis. A full report is issued at the end of February which takes into account performance in the prelim exams.

At these points in the year, pupils will be asked to make a self-assessment of their progress and this along with reports from teachers will form the basis of meetings with their Pupil Support teacher to further discuss progress. The Pupil Support teacher will make a report of this interview detailing advice on targets for the immediate future.

There is a 'flagging' system included in our monitoring of pupils in the upper school. This allows teaching staff, on a monthly basis, to 'flag up' pupils who were failing to hand in homework, handing in homework late and who either by poor attendance or general lack of application were giving cause for concern. Each of these pupils is interviewed with a view to redressing the concern.

COURSE INFORMATION

Information on all of the courses offered is on the Greenfaulds High School website via links.

The course choice sheet is a sample and for information only and is also available to view on the website. You will be given an actual course choice sheet for completion. This should be completed and returned, signed by your parents, to **Mr Bowie by February 22nd**. Following this you will be given an interview with your Pupil Support Teacher to go over your choice of courses. Once your course choice has been finalised you will begin with that choice when the new timetable starts at the beginning of JUNE. You may make a change to your course choice once you have received your SQA examination results when you may not have done as well as you expected or you may have done better than expected. Changes to your course choice **MUST** be done **BEFORE** the school returns in August. I will send you out an appointment time for a meeting, during the week before the school returns.

Instructions for completing the course choice sheet are on the reverse of the sheet. You should read the information on each of the courses available, paying attention to the entry requirements and make your choice based on the best prediction for your examinations in May/June. Clearly, the better your performance in the SQA examinations, the wider your choice.

Any questions about courses should be directed to the **Principal Teacher of the subject**.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Curriculum pathways in the Senior Phase - showing progression from National 4/5 in fourth year and from National Qualification levels in S5/6.

