

# SQA Update & School Assessment Arrangements

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# SQA Arrangements for 2021-22

- Full exam diet for National 5, Higher, Adv Higher planned for May / June 2022
- Course content has again been reduced slightly to reflect the lost learning of candidates
- If exam diet is cancelled, then candidate estimates submitted by schools to the SQA will become final grades
- Schools to gather wide ranging evidence throughout the year in a continuous assessment model to generate candidate estimates
- Authority wide quality assurance procedures are being set up to ensure consistency of assessments, marking and grading



# What does this mean for pupils at Braidhurst?

- Classes and learning will run as normal
- The expectations on pupils to attend, work, and revise will continue as normal
- What will alter is the value that is placed on assessments throughout the year to produce candidate estimates
- In addition, the school will continue to prepare pupils for the demands and experience of an exam diet



# Mid Assessment Arrangements

- To reflect the change in status of the assessment process prelims will be called 'mid assessments'
- S4 Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December (at least three exams will be in the hall with external invigilators)
- S5/6 Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January (at least two exams will be in the hall with external invigilators)
- Performance in these assessments will help to indicate likely performance but they will not guarantee any pupil estimate or final exam performance
- S4-6 pupils will receive one further tracking report and one subject report



# Senior Phase Monitoring & Tracking

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Senior Phase Monitoring and Tracking

## *What is happening*

- All young people are being tracked within departments / subjects using attainment data – assessments / homework
  - I. They should expect to have conversations about their learning with the relevant member of staff
- Senior Management has an overview of each pupil and how they are doing in each of their subjects. This information is updated and shared with all teaching staff.
  - I. As part of this process all pupils will receive a one to one Learner Conversation at three points throughout the session
    - ❖ October – November (prior to the mid assessment)
    - ❖ January – February (post mid assessments)
    - ❖ March – (prior to SQA exam diet)

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Senior Phase Monitoring and Tracking

## *The Learner Conversation*

- The Learner Conversation will be with either the young person's Pupil Support Teacher or a Senior Manager.
- A tracking sheet will be used to record the outcomes of the conversation.
  - The Learner Conversation will consist of:
    - ❖ A self evaluation of their current and expected attainment as detailed in their report
    - ❖ Target setting including setting targets and reviewing the progress of previous targets



# Senior Phase Monitoring and Tracking

## *The purpose & outcomes*

- The purpose of the Learner Conversation is to encourage all young people to consider their learning by offering advice and practical strategies that they can use to help them set realistic targets to hopefully attain at the highest level possible.
- The outcomes will be:
  - ❖ Target setting plans discussed and reviewed
  - ❖ Potential parent / carer involvement based on the Learner Conversation
  - ❖ Improved preparation and outcomes in terms of qualifications



# Senior Phase Monitoring and Tracking

## *What can parents / carers do?*

- Ask them about their learning and their targets - it lets them know they have your support.
- Try and show an interest in what they are learning, even if you don't understand what they're learning – going over their report with them can be helpful.
- Please remember you don't need to be good at a subject to have a conversation about what they are learning.
- Finally - please let us know if there is anything you think we can help with – no matter how trivial.



# Progression Pathways - Curriculum

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Progression Pathways at Braidhurst High School



*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Progression Pathways at Braidhurst High School

## *Progression That Both Vertical and Horizontal*

There are many ways that pupils can progress in their academic careers at Braidhurst. Some of this progression is vertical, where pupils increase the level of study at every stage, while other progression is horizontal. This means that pupils have the opportunity to study a wider breadth of subjects at the same or similar level of study throughout the Senior Phase. In addition, there are opportunities for pupils to be involved in college courses, Foundation Apprenticeships and National Progression Awards (NPAs).

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Progression Pathways at Braidhurst High School

- Curriculum for Excellence – Broad General Education (BGE)

S1-3



- National Qualifications – National 3, 4 and 5 S3-6



- Higher S5&6



- Advanced Higher S6

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Progression Pathways at Braidhurst High School

S3 – Pupils will be likely to work at Level 2, 3 or 4.

Those who are working comfortably at Level 3 or 4 are likely to progress to National 5 courses in S4.

Those who are working at Level 2, or are inconsistent at Level 3, are more likely to progress to National 3 or 4.

To progress to Higher pupils **must** have passed at National 5, preferably at A or B. However, this is not a guarantee of success.

To progress to Advanced Higher pupils should have passed Higher, preferably with an A or B.

**NB** S6 pupils can 'crash' some subjects that they have not studied before.

# Progression Pathways at Braidhurst High School

## *Possible Pathway to Apprenticeship*

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S4	Nat 4 English	Nat 4 Maths	Nat 4 Music	Nat 5 History	Nat 4 French	Nat 5 Biology	Nat 4 Chemistry
S5	Nat 5 English	Vocational	Nat 5 Music	Higher History	Nat 5 French		
S6		Vocational	Higher Music	Vocational			Nat 5 Chemistry

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Progression Pathways at Braidhurst High School

*Possible Pathway to a High Tariff Course like  
Medicine/Dentistry/Engineering*

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S4	Nat 5 English	Nat 5 Maths	Nat 5 Chem	Nat 5 Biology	Nat 5 Physics	Nat 5 Geog	Nat 4 Music
S5	Higher English	Higher Maths	Higher Chem	Higher Biology	Higher Physics		
S6	Adv Higher English		Adv Higher Chem			Higher Geog	

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Progression Pathways at Braidhurst High School

## *Possible Pathway – Gradual Progress*

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S4	Nat 4 English	Nat 4 Maths	Nat 4 History	Nat 4 French	Nat 4 Music	Nat 4 Admin	Nat 5 PE
S5	Nat 5 English	Nat 5 Maths	Nat 5 History	Nat 5 French	Nat 5 Music		
S6	Higher English		Higher History		Higher Music	Nat 5 Admin	

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



# Progression Pathways – Post School (Skills Development Scotland)

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*



The logo for Skills Development Scotland, featuring a vertical line of seven dots to the left of the text.

**Skills  
Development  
Scotland**

A man and a woman are standing in a server room. The man, on the left, is wearing a black polo shirt with a logo that says 'DMGCS INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY CENTRE' and safety glasses. The woman, on the right, is wearing a black polo shirt, a high-visibility yellow safety vest, and safety glasses. They are both looking at a laptop screen. The background is filled with server racks and various cables.

# Which Path is Right for You?

**Joseph Martin, School Careers Adviser**

Careers Room located bottom of tower round from Pupil Support Base

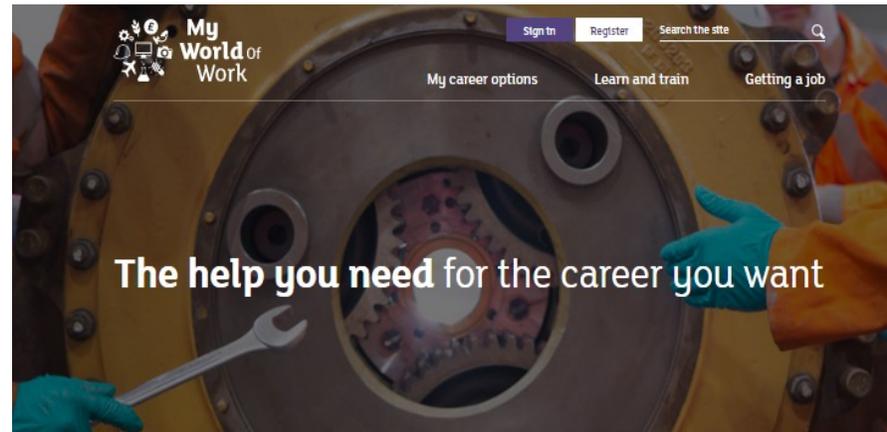
# CAREER MANAGEMENT SKILLS



# My World of Work – Scotland's Careers Website

What's out there?

How to find the right information?



## My career options

Start by learning more about yourself, including where your strengths lie. You'll get suggestions to help you explore your options, from school subjects through to changes in your career.

[Explore options](#) >



## Learn and train

Search for courses, and get advice on UCAS and college applications. There's info on qualifications, volunteering, and funding – including SDS Individual Learning Accounts.

[Get started](#) >

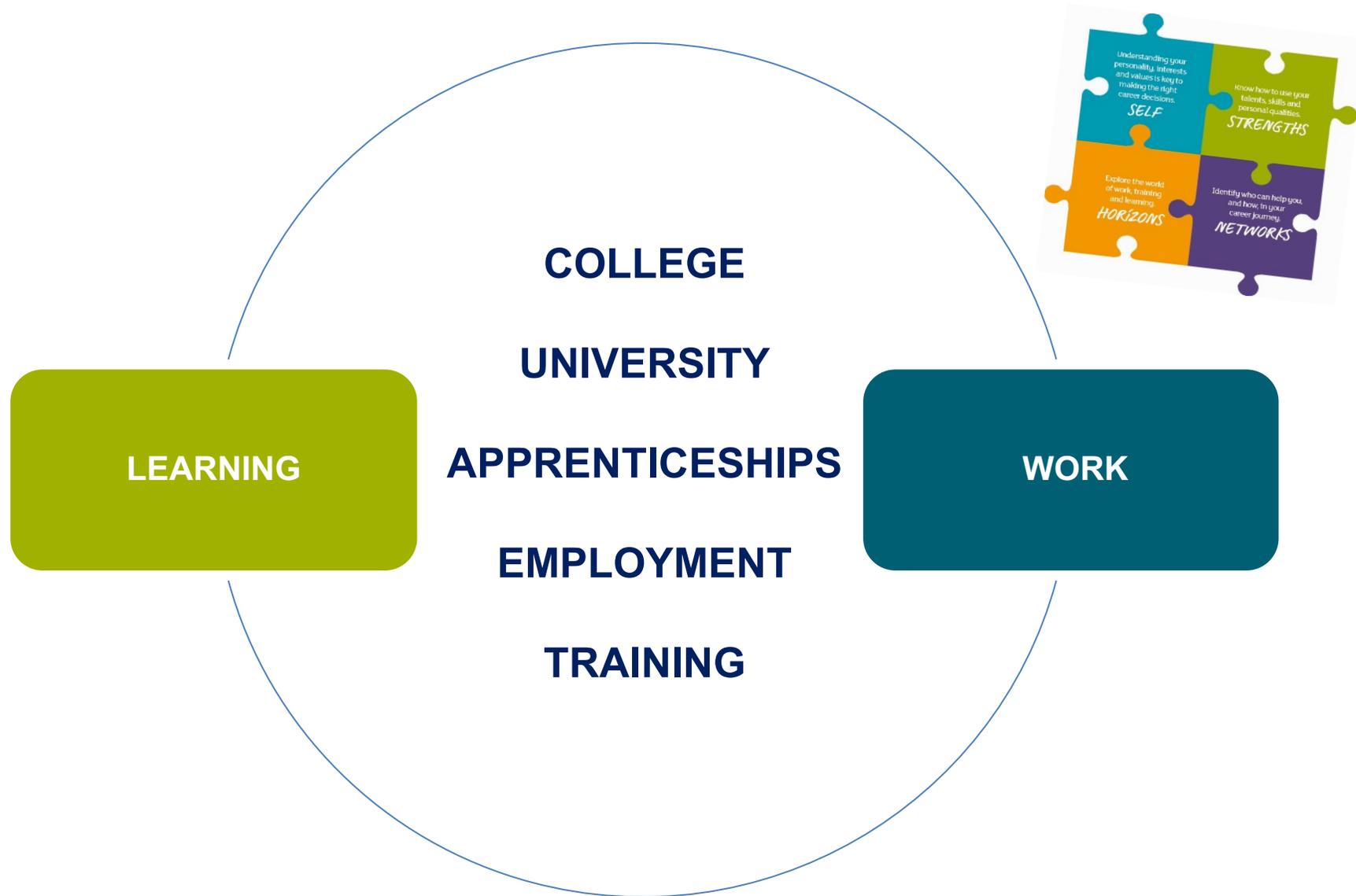


## Getting a job

Find job or Modern Apprenticeship vacancies. Then use our tips and tools for CVs, application forms and interviews to help you get it.

[Read more](#) >

# PATHWAYS



# COLLEGE PATHWAYS

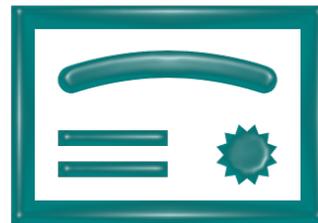
Wide variety of courses with varied entry requirements



Clear progression pathways to work or further study



Get Qualifications after completing each level of study



Smaller class sizes than most university lectures



# UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS

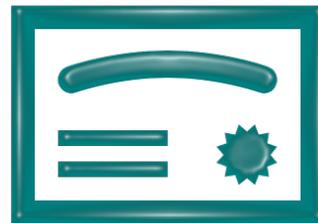
Wide variety of courses with Higher qualifications required for entry



Clear progression pathways to work or further study



Get a Degree Qualification



A mix of lectures (formal presentations) and small class sized tutorials



# UCAS Application Process

*Supporting Aspirations, Achieving Excellence*





# APPLYING TO UCAS

Braidhurst High School

# WHAT IS UCAS?

UCAS is a Universities and Colleges Admissions Service.

It is a centralised service that students can use to apply up to a maximum of 5 courses over 164 Universities over the UK.

The service is completely online and as a school we will support pupils through the application process and in the creation of a personal statement.

# BEFORE APPLYING TO UCAS

There are 18 Universities in Scotland, with 50,000+ courses to choose from.

Take the time to look at the Universities that you would be willing to travel to and the courses that they have available.

Check course application deadlines, as some courses (e.g. Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine) have a much earlier application date.

## UCAS Timeline (2022 Entry)

- 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 - Applications open to all students**  
(Use Buzzword: Braidhurst2022 to ensure that you link with the school)
- 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - Application Deadline for Music Courses at the Conservatoires**  
(Application should be complete a week prior to this to allow staff to complete reference)
- 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - Application Deadline for Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Oxford and Cambridge.**  
(Application should be complete a week prior to this to allow staff to complete reference)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 - Predicted grades to Pupil Support Staff**  
(Forms should be collected from your Pupil Support Teacher prior to this)
- 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Completion of UCAS Application**  
(This date is to allow Pupil Support staff to complete references)
- 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - £26.50 Application Fee to Mrs Neilson by this date.**
- 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - Applications will be finalised by staff and sent to UCAS.**

# APPLICATION PROCESS

Pupils will split into Senior PSHE classes dependant on their post school destinations.

University applicants will be taken through the application process as part of their PSHE lessons.

The current cost to apply to UCAS is £26.50. Pupils should hand this money into the school.

Pupils should input a Buzzword which the school will give them. This allows their application to link with the school so that staff can input predicted grades and references.

## UCAS Timeline (2022 Entry)

- 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 - Applications open to all students**  
(Use Buzzword: Braidhurst2022 to ensure that you link with the school)
- 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - Application Deadline for Music Courses at the Conservatoires**  
(Application should be complete a week prior to this to allow staff to complete reference)
- 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - Application Deadline for Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Oxford and Cambridge.**  
(Application should be complete a week prior to this to allow staff to complete reference)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 - Predicted grades to Pupil Support Staff**  
(Forms should be collected from your Pupil Support Teacher prior to this)
- 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Completion of UCAS Application**  
(This date is to allow Pupil Support staff to complete references)
- 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - £26.50 Application Fee to Mrs Neilson by this date.**
- 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - Applications will be finalised by staff and sent to UCAS.**

# APPLICATION PROCESS

The Personal Statement is the biggest and most time consuming part of the application process.

A personal statement supports your application to study at a University or college and articulates why you'd like to study a particular course. It's a chance to list past experience and sell yourself.

As part of the PSHE programme pupils will meet one to one with a University Tutor who will give advice and support on this.

# DECISIONS

Once applications have been processed Universities will consider applications and decisions will be sent to pupils.

Decisions:    Unconditional  
                  Conditional  
                  Unsuccessful

Once pupils have exam results through they can make their choice of which offer they wish to accept.

# USEFUL WEBSITES

Parents Guides online: - Google UCAS advice for parents  
- Funding SAAS/bursaries/loans

How to Guides: - [www.ucas.com/connect/videos](http://www.ucas.com/connect/videos)