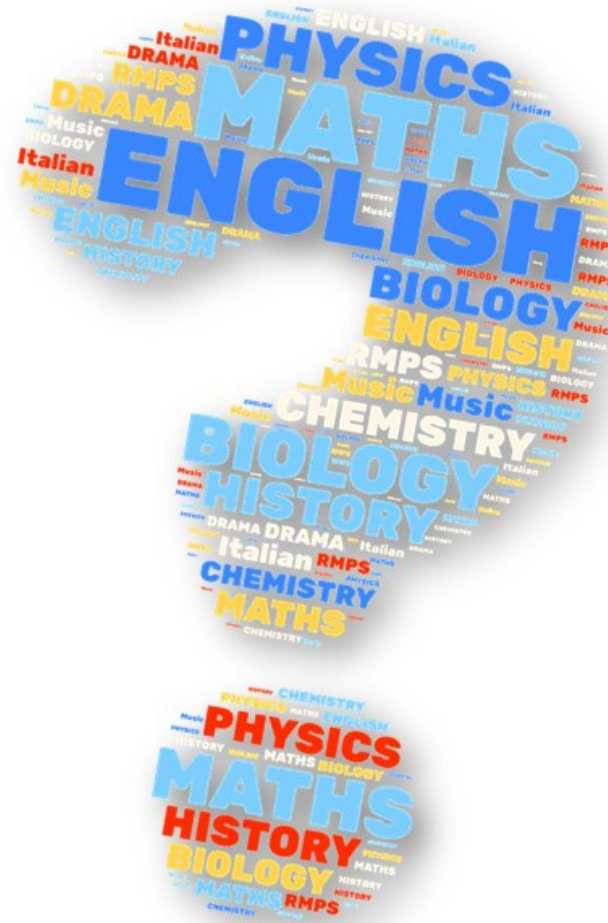


CARDINAL NEWMAN HIGH SCHOOL



S5 - S6 SUBJECT CHOICES
2024

INTRODUCTION



The information in this booklet is designed to help young people as they progress through Senior Phase (S4-6) in Cardinal Newman High School.

In the weeks ahead you will be deciding on the best subjects to study next year – the ones where you are most likely to perform well.

Your Subject Teachers, Pupil Support Teachers and Year Heads will all be working with you to agree a programme of study which will maximise your chances of success in national examinations. We will use assessment information, the school reporting and tracking and monitoring systems and what we already know about you to produce a tailored programme of study. We will do this for every young person in senior phase.

The school will organise a range of information events including one to one conversations, year group assemblies and parent information evenings to explain the process to you and your parents and to let you know what you need to do.

Your subject teachers will also deliver presentations in class about the various subjects on offer in the different subject departments, any entry requirements you might need to study a particular subject and discuss possible career opportunities with you.

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MY PROGRAMME OF STUDY



Your completed and agreed programme of study for S4, S5 and S6 will contain the subjects you will be studying at the highest level. For some young people this will be Higher for others it will be National 5 or National 4.

Some young people will be studying subjects leading to alternative qualifications and awards; including vocational subjects and Foundation Modern Apprenticeships. This will be clearly indicated in your programme of study.

All young people will study 7 Subjects in S4:

This includes maths and English. In addition, all young people will be presented for a national qualification in PE.

All young people will study 5 subjects in S5:

Young people in S6 should also study 5 subjects. In some cases, we may agree to a young person studying 4 subjects in S6. This will be agreed with the young person, parents and the Year Head. This could include allowing a young person in S6 to undertake work experience, to take part in voluntary or charity work or to follow a programme of structured private study.

Once programmes of study have been finalised and agreed there will be no further changing of subjects. Young people are not permitted to “drop” subjects as the year progresses. If you are finding a subject particularly difficult this is a normal experience. We will work with you to find solutions and to put support in place.

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HOW DID WE TAILOR YOUR PROGRAMME OF STUDY?



Before issuing your programme of study we spoke to your teachers. We looked at your school reports and the tracking updates provided by your subject teachers every six weeks.

We also looked at your attendance at school. The main reason why young people do not achieve their full potential in national examinations is due to regular absence from school. Our school target is an attendance rate of at least 90% for all young people.

We spoke to your principal teachers of pupil support who have known you since first year. They know your interests and strengths and your career aspirations.

Most importantly, we now need to speak to you and your parents. During the months of February and March we will be speaking to you and your parents about your programme of study.

We will issue you with a programme of study for you and your parents to discuss and agree. You will have a one-to-one meeting with your Pupil Support Teacher or your Year Head to finalise and agree the programme of study. During this time we can discuss and agree any suggestions you or your parents wish to make.

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SUBJECTS AND COURSES ON OFFER



We will speak to you about all of the subjects and courses we deliver. Your subject teachers have prepared presentations for you which you will see and discuss in classes. We always try very hard to make sure we deliver as many courses as possible. We try to make sure you can study all of the courses at the level you want. Inevitably, every year a small number of young people have to follow an alternative course due to staffing and timetable constraints.

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