



Cathkin High School

S2 Option Choices 2021

Information for learners, parents and carers



Community Learning Excellence Ambition Respect

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Dear S2 Learner, Parent/Carer

This booklet has been compiled to inform Learners, Parents/Carers about course choices that are available in S3-4. There will also be a virtual pre-recorded Options Information presentation that can be accessed on line from Tuesday 9th March 2021. As part of this, there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions. Please note this will not be live. Details on how to access this will follow in due course.

Your child is currently in S2 of Broad General Education which spans over S1-3. At the end of S2, learners in Cathkin High School have the opportunity to refine their curriculum which gives opportunities for personalisation and choice. Learners continue with their Broad General Education in S3, but during the course of the year will progress towards National Qualification Courses.

Choices at this point in your child's education will lead to the subjects they will take forward in the Senior Phase (S4-6) for National Qualifications and you should bear this in mind when discussing options with your child.

We aim to give as much support to your child as possible so that they make informed choices. Pupil Support staff and our Careers Advisor, Graeme McAuliffe, will work with your child during their on line PSE lessons. Staff in departments will be able to answer any questions your child may have about courses via their Google Classrooms.

When choosing courses, learners should consider the following;

- Don't think of S3&4 in isolation. Think of your plans and consider your pathway/career beyond school.
- Think about the skills you have built up in subject areas and where your strengths are.
- Pick subjects that you enjoy and are progressing well in, as you are more likely to be successful in these areas.
- Read and listen carefully to the information that is given in class discussions and in this booklet as courses in S3 may differ from S1-2.
- Speak with as many people as you can – Teachers, Pupil Support Teacher, family and friends. This will help you to develop a more informed view.

S2 will receive their Full Report and Tracking Report by post and Option Choice Sheet via a Google Form on-line, week beginning 1st March 2021. The Option Choice Sheet should be returned by Tuesday 16th March 2021 at the latest. This will enable us to process all requests and maximise our ability to meet your child's option choices.

Whilst we endeavour to meet all learner choices, it is not always possible. If this happens, we will contact you to discuss alternatives.

We hope that the information included in this booklet and the virtual Options Presentation in March will be helpful to you and your child in supporting informed choices.

Lynn Blair
Depute Head

Art & Design



What will you be learning?:

- **Critical Activity** – learning about artists and designers work
- **Design Activity** - designing and making a 3D head piece on a theme of your choice
- **Expressive Activity** - complete a Still Life Unit based on a personal theme of your choice

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 20%, Design Folio 40%, Expressive Folio 40%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| ➤ Fashion Designer | ➤ Make Up Artist | ➤ Photography |
| ➤ Illustration | ➤ Animation | ➤ Interior Designer |
| ➤ Product Designer | ➤ Web Design | |
| ➤ Architect | ➤ Advertising | |

Drama



What will you be learning?:

- **Drama Skills** - learners will develop ideas for a drama and apply their drama skills in order to portray a character effectively
- **Production Skills** - learners will develop and apply their knowledge of design skills within a drama performance

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 40%, Acting Exam 60%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| ➤ Actor | ➤ Public Relations Officer | ➤ Drama Coaching |
| ➤ Dancer | ➤ Drama Therapy | ➤ Teaching |
| ➤ Events Manager | ➤ Theatre Production | |
| ➤ Community Arts Worker | ➤ Drama Facilitation | |

Music Performing



What will you be learning?:

- **Performing Skills** - learners will develop their performing skills on two instruments or one instrument and voice
- **Understanding Music** - learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of music history and literacy through listening and identifying a wide variety of music styles
- **Composing Skills** - learners will create their own music and analyse the work of other composers

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 35%, Performing Exam 50%, Composing Folio 15%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| ➤ TV/Film Sound Technician | ➤ Teaching | ➤ Musician |
| ➤ Art Administrator | ➤ Artist Management | ➤ Composer |
| ➤ Events Management | ➤ Community Arts Music | |
| ➤ Music Publishing | ➤ Sound Engineering | |

Music Technology



What will you be learning?:

- **Music Technology Skills** - learners will develop their skills and techniques relating to the creative use of music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio, such as, live performance, radio broadcast, composing and/or sound design for film, audio books and computer gaming
- **Understanding Music** - learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of 20th and 21st Century styles and genres of music, and an understanding of how music technology has influenced this

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 30%, Folio 70%

Some Careers to Consider:

- TV/Film Sound Technician
- Art Administrator
- Events Management
- Music Publishing
- Teaching
- Artists Management
- Community Arts Music
- Sound Engineering
- Musician
- Composer

English & Literacy



What you will be learning?:

- **Writing Skills** - you will develop and enhance your creative and discursive writing skills
- **Critical Reading** - you will study at least two literature texts in S3 and undertake textual analysis and critical essays
- **Reading for Understanding, Analysis & Evaluation (RUAE) Skills** - you will develop your ability to answer a range of own words and language questions on non-fiction articles

Assessment:

- ❖ N3 / 4: Internal Assessment
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Folio of Writing (30%), Critical Reading (40%), and RUAE (30%)

Some Careers to Consider:

- Law
- Teaching
- Acting
- Writing
- Journalism & Broadcasting
- Advertising & Marketing
- Film Production, Editing & Directing
- Digital Marketing & Editing
- Events Management
- Psychology

Dance



What will you be learning?:

- **Jazz** - learning Jazz techniques in order to perform a Jazz solo dance
- **Contemporary** - learning Contemporary techniques in order to perform a Contemporary solo dance
- **Choreography** – creating your own dance which will be taught to your peers and presenting in front of the class

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 20%, Dance Practical 40%, Dance Performance 40%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| ➤ Dance Teacher | ➤ Arts Administration | ➤ Physiotherapist |
| ➤ Dancer | ➤ Choreographer | ➤ Pop Musician |
| ➤ Actor | ➤ Drama Therapy | |

Health & Food Technology



What will you be learning?:

- **Food for Health** – explaining the relationship between health, food and nutrition and evaluating products
- **Food Production Development** – understanding the functional properties of food and technological skills related to food production
- **Contemporary Food Issues** – understanding current consumer issues and how to make informed customer decisions

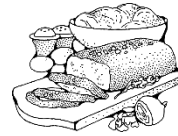
Assessment:

- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 50%, Assignment 50%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| ➤ Hospitality | ➤ Environmental Health | ➤ Teaching |
| ➤ Food Processing | ➤ Sports Nutrition | ➤ Yoga Teacher |
| ➤ Food & Social Care | ➤ Food Manufacturing | |
| ➤ Baking & Confectionary | ➤ Food Science | |

Practical Cookery



What will you be learning?:

- **Cookery Skills** – developing techniques and processes to prepare food
- **Ingredients** – developing an understanding of how to use appropriate ingredients
- **Organisation** – developing individual organisational skills for cooking

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 25%, Practical Performance Exam 62%, Assignment 13%

Some Careers to Consider:

- Catering
- Food Service
- Professional Cookery
- Patisserie
- Food Preparation
- Hospitality
- Baking
- Events Management
- Teaching

Physical Education



What will you be learning?:

- **Factors Impacting on Performance** – understanding how mental, emotional, physical & social factors affect your performance
- **Practical Performance** – learners will develop their practical performance in a range of practical activities and environments

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Two live performances 50%, Portfolio – 50%

Some Careers to Consider:

- Teaching
- Physiotherapy
- Sport Coaching
- Physiology
- Sports Journalism
- Fitness Instruction
- Police
- Fire Service
- Personal Training
- Sports Science

Geography



What will you be learning?:

- **Physical Environments** - Learners will study a river from its source to its mouth as well as examining caves and other features of landscapes made from limestone. They will also learn about the weather and how to do a weather forecast.
- **Human Environments** - Learners will examine two world cities and compare them – Glasgow and Rio de Janeiro. They will also study changes in world population and examine the factors driving these changes. Learners will learn how life is changing in the countryside of the UK and compare this with farmers in developing world countries such as India.
- **Global Issues** - Learners will investigate environmental hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes and hurricanes, and learn how to survive them. Learners will also explore the landscape and people of Rainforests and Tundra lands, and some of the issues they face in a changing world.

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 80%, Assignment 20%

Some Careers to Consider:

- Cartography
- Rural Development
- Meteorology
- Environmental Management
- Environmental Education
- Surveying
- Teaching
- Geographical Information
- Town & Country Planning
- Travel & Tourism

History



What will you be learning?:

- **World War I** - Experience on the Home Fronts - investigate what life was like on the British and German Home Fronts during the war.
- **Hitler and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939** - Learners will find out how Germany tried to recover after WWI and investigate how Hitler came to power and the methods he used to stay in power until 1939.
- **The Atlantic Slave Trade, 1770-1807** - The impact of the slave trade on African, Caribbean and British societies and the changing attitudes towards slavery, which resulted in its eventual abolition.
- **The Scots Wars of Independence, 1286-1328** - The reasons for the war with England and the successes and failures of leaders such as Wallace and Bruce.

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 80%, Assignment 20%

Some Careers to Consider:

- Politics
- Archive Work
- Tourism
- Teaching
- Civil Service
- Cultural Heritage
- Law
- Journalism
- Diplomatic Services
- Museum Work

Modern Studies



What will you be learning?:

- **Social Inequality** - Learners will consider the nature, extent, causes and impact of various types of social inequality in the UK.
- **Crime and the Law** - Learners will consider the nature of crime in the UK; the various types of crime, its causes and impact.
- **Democracy in Scotland** - You will develop your understanding of Scotland's political system, how people are informed, and how they can participate and influence the political system.
- **Poverty in Developing Countries** - Research the causes and consequences of poverty in the developing world and the attempts by organisations to resolve poverty.

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 80%, Assignment 20%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| ➤ Politics | ➤ Law | ➤ Social Sciences |
| ➤ Community Work | ➤ Journalism | ➤ Local Government |
| ➤ Trade Union Work | ➤ Teaching | |
| ➤ Broadcasting & Media | ➤ Sociology | |

RMPS



What will you be learning?:

- **Christianity** - Learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of Christian beliefs and practices including sin, baptism and forgiveness.
- **Morality and Justice** - Learners will understand the moral issues surrounding justice; explore the effectiveness of prison, capital punishment and whole life tariffs.
- **Evil and Suffering** - Learners will present their own viewpoints on the reasons why there is suffering and evil in the world and how this challenges the existence of God.

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units

Some Careers to Consider:

- Civil Service Administrator
- Social Worker
- Youth Worker
- Counsellor
- Law
- Journalism
- Teaching
- Charity Officer
- Archivist
- International Aid/Development Worker

National 3 Application of Maths



What will you be learning?:

- Interpret real-life situations involving mathematics
- Investigate the use of basic mathematical ideas and number processes in real-life contexts
- Select and apply basic mathematical and numeracy skills in real-life contexts
- Interpret and use the results of calculations, measurements and data to make informed decisions
- Communicate mathematical information in an appropriate way

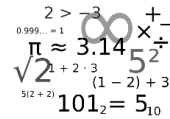
Assessment:

- ❖ N3: 3 Internal Assessment:
 - Manage Money and Data
 - Shape, Space and Measure
 - Numeracy

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| ➤ Construction | ➤ Clerical Work | ➤ Administration |
| ➤ Apprentices | ➤ Floristry | ➤ Librarian |
| ➤ Buying | ➤ Police | |
| ➤ Retail & Sales | ➤ Bookmaking | |

National 4 Maths



What will you be learning?:

- Learners will interpret straightforward real-life situations and problems involving mathematics
- Identify appropriate mathematical operational skills to tackle straightforward real-life situations or problems
- Use mathematical operational skills to an appropriate degree of accuracy
- Use mathematical reasoning skills to assess risk, draw conclusions or explain decisions
- Communicate mathematical information in a appropriate way

Assessment:

- ❖ N4 Internal Assessment:
 - Managing Finance and Statistics
 - Geometry and Measures
 - Numeracy

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| ➤ Construction | ➤ Bookmaking | ➤ Market Research |
| ➤ Apprentices | ➤ Police | ➤ Financing |
| ➤ Banking | ➤ Business Advisor | |
| ➤ Management | ➤ Firefighting | |

National 5 Application of Maths

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What will you be learning?:

- Develop the ability to analyse real-life problems or situations with some complex features involving mathematics
- Develop the ability to select, apply, combine and adapt mathematical operational skills to new and unfamiliar situations in life and work to an appropriate degree of accuracy
- Develop the ability to use mathematical reasoning skills to generalise, build arguments, draw logical conclusions, assess risk, and make informed decisions
- Develop the ability to use a range of mathematical skills to analyse, interpret and present a range of information

Assessment:

- ❖ N5: 100% External Exam

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| ➤ Economics | ➤ Investment Banking | ➤ Merchant Navy |
| ➤ Teaching | ➤ Sound Technology | ➤ Accountancy |
| ➤ Insurance | ➤ Pharmacy | |
| ➤ Business | ➤ Surveying | |

National 5 Maths



What will you be learning?:

- Develop skills in manipulation of abstract terms to generalise and to solve problems
- Allow learners to interpret, communicate and manage information in mathematical form: skills which are vital to scientific and technological research and development
- Develop learners skills in using mathematical language and in exploring mathematical ideas

Assessment:

- ❖ N5: 100% External Exam

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| ➤ Actuarial Work | ➤ Research Scientist | ➤ Meteorology |
| ➤ Operational Researcher | ➤ Medicine | ➤ Veterinary Medicine |
| ➤ Architecture | ➤ Statistician | |
| ➤ Engineering | ➤ Air Traffic Controller | |

French



What will you be learning?:

- Describe your school and make comparisons with French schools
- Discuss healthy living and keeping fit
- Talk and write about your holidays
- Watch a French movie and deliver a presentation on it
- Apply for a job in France

Assessment:

- ❖ N3/4: Internal Assessment (Listening, Reading, Talking, Writing)
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Listening 25%, Reading 25%, Talking 25% Writing 25%
(Talking exam and Writing Assignment both done in school and sent to SQA)

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| ➤ Car rental agent | ➤ International aid worker | ➤ Chef |
| ➤ Ski chalet host | ➤ Immigration Officer | ➤ Air cabin crew |
| ➤ Teacher | ➤ Tour manager | |
| ➤ Interpreter | ➤ Translator | |

Spanish



What will you be learning?:

- Say how you get on with your family and research a famous person
- Discuss healthy living and keeping fit
- Talk and write about your holidays
- Watch a Spanish movie and deliver a presentation on it
- Describe your school and make comparisons with Spanish schools
- Apply for a job in Spain

Assessment:

- ❖ N3/4: Internal Assessment (Listening, Reading, Talking, Writing)
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Listening 25%, Reading 25%, Talking 25% Writing 25%
(Talking exam and Writing Assignment both done in school and sent to SQA)

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| ➤ Hospitality manager | ➤ Diplomat |
| ➤ International lawyer | ➤ Tour manager |
| ➤ Teacher | ➤ Translator |
| ➤ Interpreter | ➤ Estate agent |
| ➤ Tourist information centre
assistant | ➤ Air cabin crew |

Due to the high level of Numeracy required to access Biology, Chemistry or Physics, learners opting for any of these courses should be working towards National 5 in Mathematics and be currently in Maths sections 1-4.

Biology



What will you be learning?:

- **Cell Biology** - learning about the biological and chemical processes within cells
- **Multicellular Organisms** - learning about the relationship between cells, tissues, organs and systems
- **Life on Earth** - learning about the interaction between organisms and their environment

Assessment:

- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 80%, Assignment 20%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| ➤ Medicine | ➤ Physiotherapy | ➤ Sports Science |
| ➤ Dentistry | ➤ Biotechnology | ➤ Nursing |
| ➤ Pharmacology | ➤ Radiography | |
| ➤ Marine Biology | ➤ Veterinary Work | |

Chemistry



What will you be learning?:

- **Chemical Changes and Structure** – learning about the basic chemical principles
- **Nature's Chemistry** – learning about carbon-based molecules
- **Chemistry in Society** – learning about classic and modern materials

Assessment:

- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 80%, Assignment 20%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| ➤ Dentistry | ➤ Medicine | ➤ Oil & Gas Production |
| ➤ Engineering | ➤ Chemical Engineering | ➤ Pharmaceuticals |
| ➤ Biochemistry | ➤ Forensic Science | |
| ➤ Environmental Science | ➤ Nursing | |

Due to the high level of Numeracy required to access Biology, Chemistry or Physics, learners opting for any of these courses should be working towards National 5 in Mathematics and be currently in Maths sections 1-4.

Physics



What will you be learning?:

- **Dynamics & Space** – learning the physics behind how the world works, space exploration and the universe
- **Electricity & Energy** – learning about electrical circuits, electronics and generation of energy
- **Waves and Radiation** – learning about Electromagnetic wave and medical uses of radiation

Assessment:

- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 80%, Assignment 20%

Some Careers to Consider:

- Astrophysics
- Medicine
- Radiography
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Physiotherapy
- Electronics
- Telecommunications
- Sound Technology
- Meteorology

Science (National 3 or 4 Only)



What will you be learning?:

- **Fragile Earth (Metals and Food units)** – learning about the science behind environmental issues
- **Human Health** - developing an understanding of factors which contribute to a healthy lifestyle
- **Applications of Science** – learning how science helps us understand risk and how it can be reduced in modern life

Assessment:

- ❖ End of Unit Assessments for each unit covered at Level 3 and/or 4

Some Careers to Consider:

- Laboratory Work
- Nursing
- Food Science
- Agriculture
- Research & Development
- Renewable Energy Science
- Environmental Science
- Geology
- Auto Electrical Repair
- Healthcare

Business Management



What will you be learning?:

- **Understanding Business** - the theory of how business set up and improve overall performance
- **Management of Marketing** - understanding the methods businesses use to make customers aware of their products and services
- **Management of Operations** - exploring the processes businesses use to make their products and deliver their service
- **Management of People** - apply knowledge and understanding of key business theories and concepts relating to human resource management
- **Management of Finance** - analysing factors influencing financial management and suggest strategies for improved performance.

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 75%, Assignment 25%.

Some Careers to Consider:

- Economics
- Clerical work
- Hospitality Management
- Insurance
- Call centre work
- Marketing
- Administration
- Retail & sales
- Entrepreneurship
- Banking

Computing Science



What will you be learning?:

- **Software Design and Development** – learning to create programs using Python programming language.
- **Information Design and Development** – designing and creating webpages using HTML and CSS code, manipulating data in a database using SQL programming language, understanding the internal components of a computer system and how they work together.

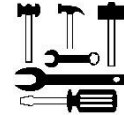
Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Practical SQA Assessment 30%, Exam Question Paper 70%

Some Careers to Consider:

- Computer Hardware Engineer
- Computer Aided Design
- IT Consultant/Support Services
- Computer Games Programming
- Software Programming
- Cyber Security
- Multimedia Development
- Web Development
- Teaching
- Systems Analyst & Design

Practical Woodworking



What will you be learning?:

- **Flat-frame construction** - making woodworking joints and assemblies commonly used in flat-frame joinery
- **Carcase construction** - making woodworking joints and assemblies commonly used in carcase construction
- **Machining and finishing** – practical skills in using a range of woodworking machine and power tools and a variety of surface preparation and finishing techniques

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Question Paper 30%, Practical activity 70%.

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ➤ Joinery | ➤ Cabinet maker | ➤ Movie or stage sets manufacture |
| ➤ Furniture manufacture | ➤ House Builder | ➤ Maintenance fitter |
| ➤ Construction crafts | ➤ Kitchen fitter | ➤ Model maker |
| ➤ Wood machinist | | |

Graphic Communication



What will you be learning?:

- **2D and 3D graphics** – produce a portfolio of graphic with visual impact using different techniques and medium including computer aided drawing
- **Graphic knowledge and understanding** - gain K&U regarding digital and paper-based graphic communication

Assessment:

- ❖ N4: Internal Assessment Units
- ❖ N5 External Assessment: Internal Assignment 33%, Exam 67%

Some Careers to Consider:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| ➤ Digital design | ➤ Illustrator | ➤ Games Designer |
| ➤ Animator | ➤ Civil Engineer | ➤ Product Designer |
| ➤ Web Design | ➤ Exhibition Design | ➤ Print Design |
| ➤ Computer Aided Design | ➤ Graphic Designer | ➤ Book Printing |
| ➤ Architecture | ➤ CAD Technician | |

Routes to a Positive Destination after school



There are many possible careers which are open to young people today. Some of these will be familiar, while others are very new. However, while you may not yet be absolutely certain of the career you want to pursue, you may well know the area of work or the kind of career you are interested in. To help you plan, we have listed below the main routes to these different kinds of career.

Universities

Universities offer degree level courses which can lead to professional jobs or into highly specialised areas of work. Degrees may be a requirement for some jobs such as teaching, accountancy, law or medicine, or may be a route to promotion in other jobs. Universities set their own entrance requirements for each course. Some courses and some universities require higher levels of qualifications for entry than others.

They will also ask for a Personal Statement. This is where you can tell them why you want to do the course and what other skills and qualities or personal achievements you have which will make you a suitable person for the course.

You may also be invited for an interview for some courses.

You will need to check the individual courses and universities for their entry requirements for the course you want. However, there are general themes:

Route 1 – Major Universities

In Scotland there are a small number of more traditional universities including Glasgow University, Strathclyde University, Edinburgh University, Aberdeen University and St. Andrews University. These are very competitive. Courses such as Law, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine generally require at least 4 or 5 A grades at Higher that you must pass in S5.

For other courses they generally require at least 4 Highers at A or B grades.

Route 2 – Smaller Universities

Smaller Universities such as University of the West of Scotland or Glasgow Caledonian University often require fewer Highers or may accept lower grades.

Colleges

HND (Higher National Diploma)

HNDs are generally 2 year courses which are more focussed on specific job areas. Entry requirements are generally 2 Highers or an HNC. Some courses may want specific Highers or National 5 qualifications if they are relevant to the course. E.g. Engineering courses may ask for Mathematics. HNDs can sometimes lead on to Degree courses at a university and may allow you to enter the degree course at 2nd or 3rd year level.

HNC (Higher National Certificate)

HNCs are 1 year courses similar to HNDs but at the level below and can lead on to an HND. Gaining an HNC also allows you to apply for numerous Degree courses with possible entry at year 1 or 2. An HNC can usually requires 1-2 Highers.

NC (National Certificate)

NCs are similar to National 5 qualifications but are designed to be more work focussed. They can sometimes lead on to HNCs.

Apprenticeships

Foundation Apprenticeship

Foundation Apprenticeships are offered from S5-6 and are taught 1 day a week out with the school. They are at the same level as a Higher but include both a college and a workplace element. They can lead on to employment, Foundation Apprenticeships are a recognised entry qualifications for College or University.

Modern Apprenticeship

Modern Apprenticeships offer a route into employment through gaining a real job, earning a salary, developing skills and experience as you work towards an industry recognised qualification. Although it involves work based learning, there may be a college element included as well. Opportunities are available across nearly every career sector and this is the most popular route for young people leaving school and looking to enter employment.

Graduate Apprenticeship

Graduate Apprentices learn in a job and work towards a degree at the same time. This has the benefits of earning while you learn and gain work experience as well as qualifications when you complete your degree. Employers will normally look for Highers similar to those required for Degree course at University.

Employment

For many people, there is always the route directly into work when you leave school. Each job, and each employer will be looking for different things. However, they will usually ask for a combination of qualifications, experience and personal qualities which will be needed to be successful in that job.

Experience can be gained in different ways. You might already have a part time job, or you might do voluntary work. You might be a member of an organisation which has given you opportunities to develop the skills relevant to a specific job. Or you might simply have a particular interest which you have used to develop your skills and abilities to help you in a particular job.

For further information on Apprenticeships: apprenticeships.scot

For general career advice and information: myworldofwork.co.uk