Hyndland Secondary School

S3 into S4 Transition – 6-week countdown to the Senor Phase

This leaflet has been produced to help support our S3 learners and their families as they prepare to finish off their S3 broad general education and transition into S4 and the Senior Phase of their education in school. The information below details what will be happening in each subject over the 6-week period starting from Monday 21st April.

Will there be a formal diet of exams in the Games Hall for S3 learners?

For both English and Maths, all S3 learners will sit a formal assessment in the Games Hall. This will provide our S3 learners with a valuable 'practice' of sitting some exams prior to them moving into the Senior Phase (S4). In S4, students will sit their SQA prelims in December, so this will be a good opportunity to experience a formal exam diet.

The assessments will take place as follows:

Friday 2nd May – Periods 5 and 6 – English – RUAE Paper

Wednesday 21st May 2025- Periods 1 and 2 – Maths Exam Paper 1

Wednesday 28th May – Periods 1 and 2 - Maths Exam Paper 2

What will happen in the other subjects that I study?

For the other subjects that you study, some subjects may decide to do formal assessments during class time. Teachers will give you notice of when these will take place.

For some other subjects – you may simply be overtaking class work and coursework rather than sitting a formal assessment.

We have collated this information on the next sheets to give you an idea of what each subject will be doing in their '6-week countdown'.

How can young people prepare for these assessments?

Learners should read over their class notes and jotters and take their own notes – this can be done using mind-maps or flash card style notes (see school website).

Completing SQA exam style past papers is also a great way to revise for assessments in S3 and S4. Learners can access SQA past papers and marking instructions at no cost on the SQA website (www.sqa.org.uk)

Learners will be given advice by their teachers on the best way to study for each individual subject.

SPECIFIC SUBJECT INFORMATION – 6-WEEK COUNTDOWN TO THE SENIOR PHASE

Name of subject	Assessment Information	6-week countdown – classwork and coursework
Admin & IT	Formal practical assessment in class – 2 consecutive periods	Completion of practical assessment
Art and Design – Practical Class	Formal assessment in class - week beginning Monday 28th April 2025	*Finish Drawing Skills unit (2 more weeks) *S3 Exam (all Expressive completed) *Then - Return to looking at design units - aim to complete all investigation work by change of timetable **This will result in going into S4 with an Expressive and a Design 'jumping off point'**
Art and Design – Critical Class	Formal assessment in class - week beginning Monday 28th April 2025	*Ensure ALL notes for Kahlo and McQueen are completed and the class have had time to develop flashcards/posters etc. for revision *S3 Exam *Then - Return to looking at a variety of unseen questions, revising key vocabulary for expressive and design **This will result in entering S4 with ALL course notes, revision tools, and a variety of experiences with past paper questions**
Biology	Formal assessment in class – week of Tuesday 6th May 2025	Complete Unit 3 Life on Earth Key Areas 1-4 at N5 Complete Unit 3 Life on Earth Ley Areas 4 & 5 at N4 Complete Unit 3 UASP - N4
Business Management	Formal assessment in class	Completion of assessment – 1 period – theory – covering worked covered so far in S3.
Chemistry	Formal assessment in class – week of Tuesday 6th May 2025	Complete Unit 2 Nature's Chemistry Complete Unit 2 UASP – N4 Bank the N4 AVU and an Outcome 1 - this comprises of research into an issue that has an impact on Society, and a practical investigation with a scientific report.
Computing Science	Formal assessment in class	Completion of assessment – 1 period – theory - covering both Web and Software.

Dance	Formal assessment in class – week of 17th May 2025	Focus on develop technical and performance skills. Develop understanding of N5 performance criteria, prep for performance assessment. Written and Performance Assessment
Design and Manufacture	Formal assessment in class – week beginning 19.5.25	Complete the folio and manufacture of the current project Theory assessment - using N5 past paper questions
Drama	Formal assessment in class – week of 17th May 2025	Week One: Technical Theatre Elements of Page to Stage Unit Completed. Week Two: Final Rehearsals for S3 Performance Assessment. Week Three: S3 Performance Assessment and prep for S3 Written Assessment. Week Four: S3 Written Assessment and beginning Section 2 Written Exam Structures. Week Five: Section 2 Written Exam Learning. Week Six: Complete Mock Section 2 of Written Exam.
Engineering Science	Formal Assessment in class - week beginning 28.4.25	Complete Digital Electronics - Programmable Unit: revising the theory using N5 past paper questions Start Digital Electronics - Logic Unit: consisting of theory and practical problem-solving using hardware and computer simulation
English	**Formal exam in Games Hall:** RUAE Paper – Friday 2nd May 2025	Working on support strategies for RUAE in preparation for the S3 exam, a range of writing skills and some foundation work to embed Scottish Set Text skills in preparation for S4.
Fashion	N/A	

French	N/A	Working on N4 reading listening and writing unit assessments
		Completion of home area topic work
		Completion of a N5 reading paper
		Begin the learning topic, should timing permit
Geography	N/A	Global issues and physical units are completed for all pupils
		Complete the population unit to help prepare pupils for the Assignment/AVU
		Start working towards the Assignment/AVU
History	N/A	Complete WW1 N4 unit assessment and start work on 'Free at Last' USA History unit
		Complete research project to prepare for N5 Assignments in S4
		Complete N5 unit assessment on WW1 unit in August

Maths	**Formal Exams in Games Hall**
	
	Paper 1 – Wednesday 21st May 2025
	AND
	Paper 2 – Wednesday 28th May 2025
		Maths Progress to N5 6-week plan:
		• Pupils to complete Unit 2 covering:
		   ○ Properties of Shape
		   ○ Quadratics
		   ○ Trigonometric Graphs & Equations
		   ○ Trigonometric Identities
		• Pupils to overtake any resit assessments
		• Pupils to sit Unit 2 assessment before summer break
		Maths Progress to N4 6-week plan:
		• Pupils to complete Unit 2 covering:
		   ○ Straight Line
		   ○ Algebra
		   ○ Pythagoras
		   ○ Trigonometry
		• Pupils to overtake any resits assessments
		• Pupils to sit Unit 2 assessments before summer break

Media	N/A	Working on the Role of Media. This is a unit designed to analyse and evaluate media impact in society.
Modern Studies	N/A	Complete Social Issues and Democracy N4 Unit Assessments

		Complete N5 unit assessment on Democracy in Scotland in August - consisting of both KU questions and a source-based conclusions
Music	Performance exams (one piece on each instrument) in w/b 5th May 2025. A timetable will be circulated with individual time slots. Continue with class Understanding Music assessments as units are completed.	**Performing** - have at least one piece on each instrument completed to a good performance standard. **Understanding Music** - Complete the understanding music assessment on World and popular music styles **Composing Skills** - have your first piece completed and recorded.
Photography	N/A	*Complete the Portrait Photography Unit and bank that for S4 **This will result in entering S4, ready to begin the Landscape Photography Unit.**
Physical Education	Formal assessment in class – week of 17th May 2025	Week 1-2: Review Factors Impacting on Performance and Prep for Performance Week 3-4: Review Command Words and Written Assessment Week 5-6: Performance Assessments
Physics	Formal assessment in class – week of Tuesday 6th May 2025	Complete Nuclear Radiation Unit Nuclear Radiation Assessment Complete N4 AVU
Practical Cookery	1st practical exam – week of 21st April 2nd practical exam – week of 5th May	Completion of double dish assessment during the two practical exams.
Spanish	N/A	Working on N3 reading listening and writing unit assessments Completion of home area topic work Completion of a N4 reading unit Begin the learning topic, should timing permit