

# Welcome to our Senior Phase Options Information Evening

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025

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# Overview of evening:

- The Choices Process – Mrs Forrester DHT & Miss Stewart DHT
- Senior Phase Part Time College Courses – Mr Mullin

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We now have just over **4** full teaching weeks until the Spring break.

This is arguably the most important time of the year for our S5 students, so it is essential that we maximise every opportunity for learning over the next 21 days of teaching time.

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# Top Tips to Success over the next 4 weeks:

1. High attendance – everyday counts
2. Strong timekeeping – every minute counts
3. Meet deadlines for coursework / assignments
4. Access as much supported study as possible
5. Attend any core support put in place for you
6. Study timetable in place from now!
7. Remember to pace your studying – it is not a sprint!

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# Supported Study – after school

Teacher	After School	Higher
Mr Kearney	Monday	Spanish;
Ms Nolan	Monday	PE
Mr Greer	Wednesday	Computing Science
Mr Robertson	Wednesday	Art;Photography
Mr McGunnigle	Wednesday	PE
Mr Henderson	Wednesday	Maths;
Mr Timpany	Thursday	Modern Studies
Mr Thomson	Thursday	History;
Mr Henderson	Thursday	Maths;
Ms Spiers	Thursday	Art
Mr Swan	Thursday	Physics
Ms Gildea	Thursday	Business Management
Ms Fowlie	Thursday	Engineering Science;Design and Manufacture;Practical Woodwork;
Mr Gallacher	Thursday	French;Spanish

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# MATHS SUPPORTED STUDY

Column1	LUNCH	AFTER SCHOOL
MONDAY	ALL LEVELS MRS TALOUB L007	
TUESDAY	ALL LEVELS MRS TALOUB L007	
	N5 & H MATHS MRS AHMED L008	
	NATIONAL 5 MATHS MISS WHEELER/MR KENNEDY L035	
WEDNESDAY	ALL LEVELS MR CONACHER L027	N5 & HIGHER MR HENDERSON L036
	ALL LEVELS MRS TALOUB L007	ALL LEVELS MR RYAN L029
		N5 APPS MRS MILLER L028
THURSDAY	ALL LEVELS MRS TALOUB L007	N5 & HIGHER MR HENDERSON L036
	NATIONAL 5 MATHS MISS WHEELER/MR KENNEDY L035	ALL LEVELS MR RYAN L029
	ALL LEVELS MRS MILLER L028	
FRIDAY	ALL LEVELS MRS TALOUB L007	

# Saturday Study:

Our ever-popular Saturday Study is back and will run up to the Spring Break.

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025:**

**History, Spanish, Biology, Physics, English, PE, Design & Manufacture, Engineering Science, Chemistry and Private Study**

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# Returning for S6:

- **It is vital that our S5 students carefully consider if returning for S6 is the correct decision.**
- S6 is not always the best pathway for all learners.
- If you have not enjoyed S5 we would strongly recommend not automatically returning for S6 as very little will change!
- If you are struggling to think about the subjects you will pick in S6 this may be a sign that S6 is not the best pathway for you.

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# Returning for S6:

- If you are returning for S6 it is vital that you looking to **add significant value** to the SQA qualifications that you have already achieved.
- It is important to look at what you are on track to achieve in S5 and whether you can realistically add to this in S6.
- For example – if you are not on track to pass many courses in S5 – our advice would be to not necessarily come back to simply resit these in S6 as this rarely works. College would be a better option at this point.

# Support for S5 Leavers:

- If there is any doubt about whether you or the school thinks S6 is a good pathway for you – it is vital that you are accessing support from our Careers Advisor Vanessa, our DYW Coordinator Derek Montgomery and your House Team.
- Creating a back-up plan is highly recommended if you are in this position!
- Full time college applications are open just now and are starting to fill up! Apprenticeship applications – some are open and more will open in the coming weeks!

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# Expectations of S6 – The S6 contract:

S6 timetable consisting of:

- Minimum of 4 subjects (not including AH Maths of Mechanics)
- Leadership Opportunity – every S6 must do this – one period per week to ‘give back’ to the school.
- Importance of being a role model at all times with regards to our school values.
- A minimum of 95% sustained attendance and strong time keeping.

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## **S4: 8 subjects (National 4 and National 5)**

- National 4 – internally assessed no external SQA examination
- National 5 – some internal assessments, some coursework assessed by the SQA and external SQA examination

## **S5: 5 subjects (National 5, Level 5 and 6 NPAs and Higher)**

- National 5 and Higher courses may have some internal assessments, some coursework assessed by the SQA & an external SQA examination

## **S6: 4 subjects (Higher, Level 5-7 NPAs and Advanced Higher)**

- Higher & Advanced Higher levels have some internal assessments, some coursework assessed by the SQA and an external SQA examination

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# S6 Options



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# Learner 1 Pathway – S4 into S6

## S4 SQA results:

N5 English	N5 Maths	N5 Chemist	N5 Physics	N5 History	N5 Music	N5 Comp Sc	N5 Design
A	A	A	A	C	A	B	B

## S5 Predicted SQA results:

Higher English	Higher Maths	Higher Chemistry	Higher Physics	Higher Music
A	A	B	B	A

## S6 Chosen subjects:

Adv H English	Adv H Music	Higher Comp Sci	Crash H Economics
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# Learner 2 Pathway – S4 into S6

## S4 SQA results:

N5 English	N4 Maths	N4 Biology	N4 Design	N5 PE	N4 History	N4 Comput	N5 Art
B	PASS	PASS	PASS	C	PASS	PASS	B

## S5 Predicted SQA results:

Higher English	National 5 Maths	Higher PE	National 5 Practical Woodworking	Higher Art
B	C	B	B	B

## S6 Chosen subjects:

Level 6 NPA Digital Bundle	Higher Design	Level 5 NPA Health Sector	Senior Phase College Course – Construction Level 5 NPA
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# Learner 3 Pathway – S4 into S6

## S4 SQA results:

N5 English	N5 Maths	N5 Physics	N5 Eng Sci	N5 Chem	N5 Comp Sci	N5 PE	N5 Spanish
B	A	A	A	A	A	A	B

## S5 Predicted SQA results:

Higher English	Higher Maths	Higher Physics	Higher Comp Sci	Higher Eng Sci
A	A	A	A	A

## S6 Chosen subjects:

Advanced Higher Maths	Advanced Higher Physics	Advanced Higher Maths of Mechanics	Higher PE	Level 6 NPA Cyber Security
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# Learner 4 Pathway – S4 into S6

## S4 SQA results:

N5 Applic Maths	N5 English	N5 Geog	N4 Mod Studies	N5 PE	N4 Chemis	N5 Pract Cook	N4 Comp Sci
D	B	C	PASS	B	PASS	B	PASS

## S5 – Predicted SQA grades:

Higher English	N5 Applic of Maths	Higher PE	N5 Lab Skills	Level 5 NPA Computer Games
C	C	B	PASS	PASS

## S6 – Chosen Subjects:

Level 6 NPA Digital Bundle	Higher Geography	Level 6 NPA Cyber Security	Higher Chemistry
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# The Senior Phase Options Process - Timeline

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S4 and S5 Options Information Evening	Careers Event for families from 6pm until 7pm Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7pm Letter to be issued to families and posted on year group team w/b 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2025.
S4 Year Group Assembly focusing on options key messages with some senior speakers	4K1, 4T and 4R – Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March period 5 (core study skills period)  4K2, 4L1 and 4L2 – Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March period 5 (core study skills period)
Skills Development Scotland Careers Advisors will conduct targeted 1—2-1 interviews with targeted young people. If anyone wishes an interview, they can request one by emailing their Careers Advisor	These will take place from Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March onwards
S4 and S5 Options Presentation to students delivered by Pastoral Care Staff during PSE	Week beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2025

S5 and S6 students to visit S4 core study skills classes to share experience of options process	Week beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
S4 and S5 SQA Estimate Report	Issued to family's week of 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2025 - this should help to inform students in S4 of their '5 best subjects' for selection in S5 and should help to identify levels of progression for S5 into S6 students.
Targeted one to one interview with House team for individual learners	Week of 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2025
Final options form to be completed via Glow Form	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2025

# Over the coming weeks:

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**S5 FINAL TRACKING REPORT – ISSUED WEEK OF  
21.3.25**



Use this report to help inform you of the subjects that you should be selecting for S6. Your results are unlikely to change significantly from this report.



Look carefully at the ‘Learner Pathways’ section for each of the subjects that you are studying in S5. This should guide your choices for S6.

**Friday  
28<sup>th</sup>  
March  
2025**



This is the deadline for the final S6 Options Form to be completed.



This will be submitted via a glow form.



This is NOT a draft as we will base our school timetable and classes on the numbers collected from this.



The form will be emailed to families and posted on the year group team.

# Key Advice for S5 students when choosing subjects for S6:

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# 1. Do I have to study English in S6?

- Every learner should aim to secure a minimum of National 5 in English by the end of S5.
- If you are on track to achieve a C in N5 English – choosing level 6 NPA in Literacy and Communications is a good option in S6.
- If you are on track to achieve a grade A or B in Higher English – you may wish to consider Advanced Higher English – but we would only recommend this if you plan to go on to University to study a literacy and/or arts based course.

# English learner pathways:

## Learner 1 Pathway

### **S4 Qualification Secured:**

National 4 Pass in English in S4  
and / or Level 5 Literacy Unit Pass in S4.



### **S5 Progression Route:**

SQA National 5 English



### **S6 Progression Route:**

Level 6 Literacy and Communications

Or

Potentially SQA Higher English – dependent upon other SQA attainment

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# English learner pathways:

## Learner 2 Pathway

**S4 Qualification  
Secured:**

Grade A or B in National 5  
English



**S5 Progression Route:**

**SQA Higher English**



**S6 Progression Route:**

Grade A or B at Higher  
achieved in S5:

SQA Advanced Higher English

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## 2. Do I have to study Maths in S6?

- Every learner should aim to secure a minimum of National 5 Maths or Application of Maths by the END OF S6.
- **If you are currently studying National 5 Maths or National 5 Application of Maths and are not on track to pass, you must seek guidance from the Maths department.**
- Resitting Maths for the second time in S6 is not always successful so college may be a better option.
- If you are on track to achieve a grade A or B in Higher Maths – you may wish to consider Advanced Higher Maths – but we would only recommend this if you plan to go on to University to study a Maths / Science / Engineering based course.

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# Maths - learner pathways:

## Learner 1 Pathway

### **S4 Qualification Secured:**

Achieved National 4 Maths



### **S5 Progression Route:**

National 5 Applications of Maths  
And/or  
National 5 Numeracy



### **S6 Progression Route:**

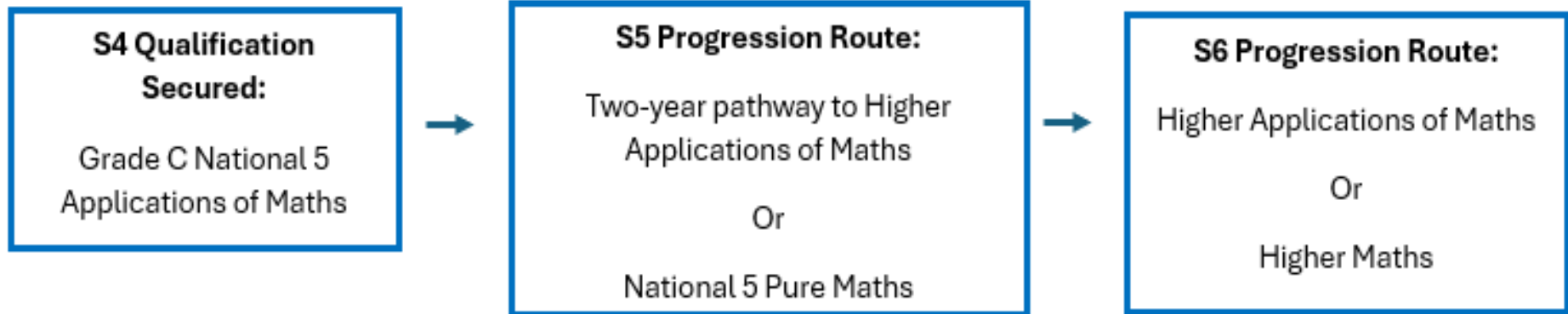
National 5 Pure Maths  
or  
Higher Applications of Maths  
(A/B required from National 5 Applications)

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# Maths - learner pathways:

## Learner 2 Pathway

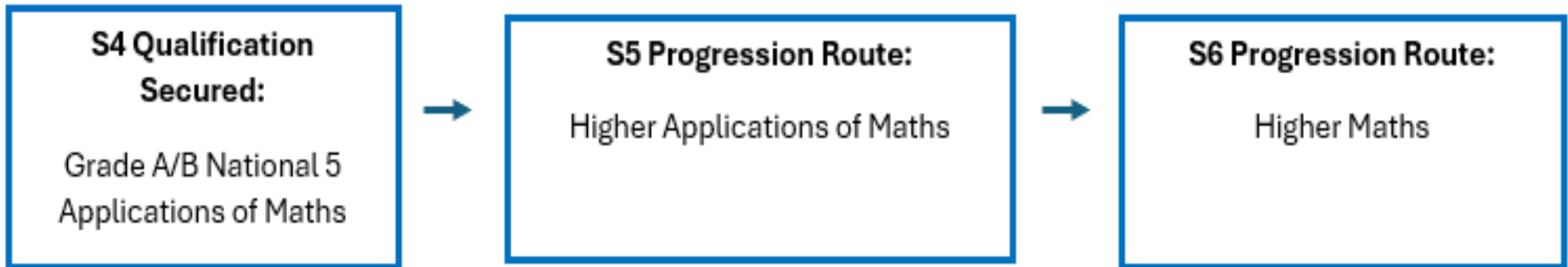


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# Maths - learner pathways:

## Learner 3 Pathway



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# Maths - learner pathways:

## Learner 4 Pathway

### S4 Qualification Secured:

Grade D National 5 Pure Maths



### S5 Progression Route:

Two-year pathway to Higher Maths

Or

National 5 Maths Upgrade

Or

National 5 Applications of Maths



### S6 Progression Route:

National 5 Applications of Maths

Or

Higher Maths

Or

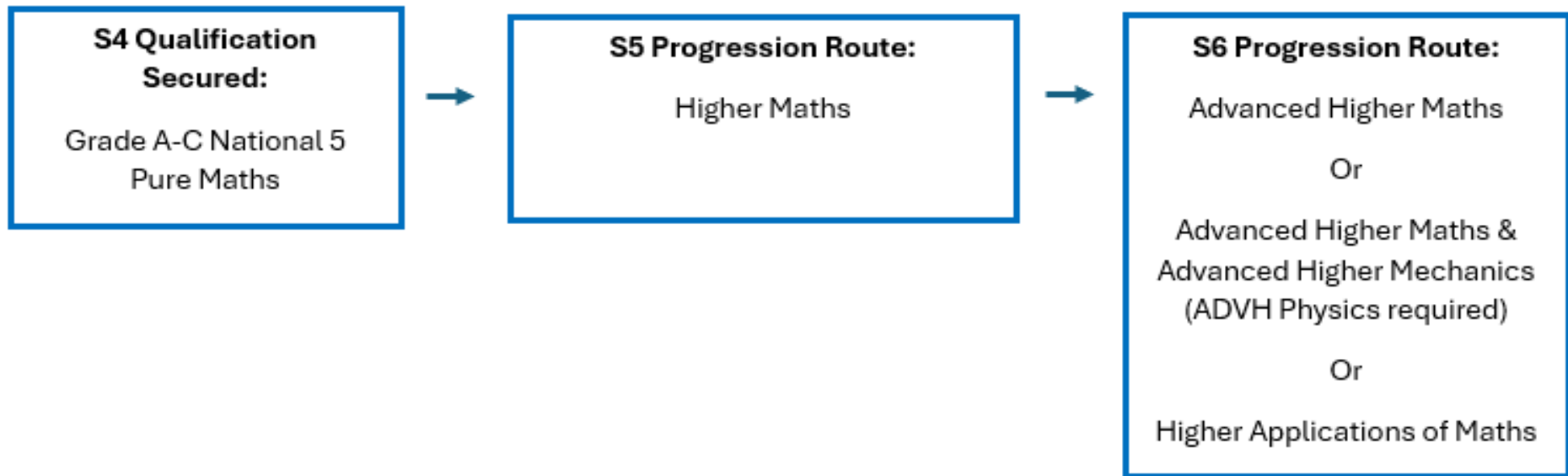
Higher Applications of Maths

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# Maths - learner pathways:

## Learner 5 Pathway



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### 3. How many Higher subjects should I sit?

- The aim is to ensure where at all possible that you leave with a minimum of 5 at level 6 by the end of S6.
- This could be a mixture of Higher and Level 6 NPAs.
- If you sat 5 Highers in S5 and are on track to do well – try to do at least 1 Advanced Higher with your other Highers so that you are progressing to a higher level of qualification (level 6 to level 7).

## 4. S5 into S6 – Continue to build on your strengths from S4/S5

- Look at the most recent tracking report - what subjects are the strongest? What type of subjects do you do best in?
- Every year we see students thriving in S6 when they have selected from their strongest National 5 and Higher qualifications.
- Look back at your S4 results – if you did well in a N5 but did not study this in S5 – considering returning to this in S6.
- Look at similar subjects in S6 from where you were successful in S5 e.g. Modern Studies to Politics, Business to Economics.

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# 5. Can I 'crash' any subjects in S6?

- In S6 you can 'crash' subjects BUT do this with careful consideration!
- Some subjects may expect you to have 'acquired knowledge from N5' which can sometimes make crashing a subject harder.
- Pick subjects that play on your strengths from S5 if you are thinking about crashing a subject e.g. if you were excellent at Physics/Maths – crash Computing or Engineering Science. Excellent at French – considering crashing Spanish.

Courses that  
could be  
potentially  
selected to  
study next  
year:

N5	Higher	AH	Level 5 NPA	Level 6 NPA	Level 7 NPA	Bundles
Art	Admin & IT	Art	Digital Bundle	Computer Games		Level 6 STEM Leader
App of Maths	App of Maths	Biology	Exercise & Fitness and Sports Leaders	Creative Thinking		Level 6 Powering Futu
Dance	Art	Chemistry	Travel & Tourism	Digital Bundle		D of E Gold
Enviro Science	Biology	Computing		Literacy & Comm		SQA Leadership
Health Sector	Business	English		Musical Theatre		
Lab Skills	Chemistry	Maths		Cyber Security		
Maths	Computing	Maths of Mechanics				
Practical Cookery	Dance	Music				
Practical Woodwork & Manual Handling, Heath & Safety	Design	PE				
	Drama	Physics				
	Economics					
	Engin Science					
	English					
	Fashion					
	French					
	Geography					
	History					
	Maths					
	Media					
	Modern Studies					
	Music					
	Photography					
	PE					
	Physics					
	Spanish					

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# 6. Can I study a Part Time College Course in S6?

- This is a very good option if you are considering applying to college at the end of S6! It gives you priority access to full time places at college after S6 if you do well in this course.
- However, it is important that you choose the correct level of study. For example, if you are passing lots of Higher courses in S5 – you should be looking at level 6 or 7 courses – not level 5.
- If you are sitting mostly N5s in S5 – then a level 5 or level 6 course would be a good option.

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# What should I do if I wish to study a senior phase college course?

- If your young person is interested in studying a part time college course they must look at the information on the S5 year group team ASAP – posted by Mr Mullin.
- There is a link to the prospectus along with information about applying.
- Anyone applying **MUST** complete a glow form for Mr Mullin so that we can track applications.
- You should apply for this asap.

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# Here are some examples of college courses that may suit some S6 learners:

- **Higher Psychology – Glasgow Clyde College - Anniesland**
- **Level 5 Up in the Air and on the Ground – City of Glasgow**
- **Level 5 Child, Health & Social Care – City of Glasgow**
- **Level 6 – Fashion Brand Retailing – City of Glasgow**
- **Higher Accounting – City of Glasgow**
- **Level 6 NPA Criminology – City of Glasgow**
- **Level 5 NPA Radio and Podcasting – City of Glasgow**

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# Research for S6 Options is vital

- We are basing our school timetable upon the options that you ask for in March.
- So it is **VITAL** that you do your research **NOW**.
- It may not be possible to select a different subject in August because you have noticed it is an entry requirement for a course you wish to study.
- Look at University and College entrance requirements **NOW** in order to ensure you are making the right decisions.

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Option form will be posted on  
year group team on Monday  
24<sup>th</sup> March.

Deadline for completion – Friday  
28<sup>th</sup> March 6pm

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