## Hyndland Secondary School



# S5 into S6 Options Information Guidance Leaflet for students & families



March 2022

#### Dear S5 families,

We thought it may be helpful at this stage to provide a short leaflet for both our S5 learners and their families which will give a short overview of the Options Process to date and what the next steps are between now and June 2022. Returning to school in S6 is a big commitment and we would like to highlight to our students the importance of being committed to returning for the full year and completing all courses chosen at the start of the session. Research is also vital as young people make these important decisions. If any student is having any doubts about returning to school for S6, we would encourage them to consider making 'back-up' college applications NOW – this will allow the learner to take the summer with their family to consider what option is best suited for them. If required, they can decline any college courses during the summer / in August. In this leaflet on the back page, there are a number of websites which are particularly helpful, that have been signposted in the information noted in this leaflet. Please remember to contact your child's Pastoral Care Teacher if you have any queries regarding the options process via email – they will be more than happy to help.



#### **KEY DATES FOR S5 STUDENTS & FAMILIES**

S5 into S6 Options Information Evening – delivered via Teams – link to meeting will be emailed home to families on 25/3 and posted on school website.	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March – 7.00pm via Teams
S5 SQA Final Working Grade Report	Issued to families via email by Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
Indication of S6 Subjects form to be completed via Glow Form.  Please note that we realise this may be subject to some minor review following interview with PTPC and SQA exam results.	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April
Final day of current timetable – study leave, tutorials and SQA exams commence and a separate timetable will be provided for this.	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April
First timetabled SQA Exam	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April
All students in S5 will receive a 1-2-1 interview with a member of their House Team to discuss their options to ensure the correct choices have been selected. Young people will be notified by email of their appointment time via Glow.	Tuesday 24 <sup>th,</sup> Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
New S6 Induction – students will be invited into school in House Groups for a 2-period induction session – this will be communicated to families and posted on the S5 year group team.	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2022
New Timetable begins – students start their new S6 courses	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
SQA Exam Results are issued to learners	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2022
Opportunity for re-coursing calls / interviews will be made to students via Pastoral Care Team – Students will be able to book a call by completing glow form which will be emailed to families and posted on the year group team on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> August.	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2022

### WHERE CAN PARENTS AND S4 LEARNERS ACCESS INFORMATION REGARDING THE S6 OPTIONS PROCESS?

#### SCHOOL WEBSITE - www.hyndland-sec.glasgow.sch.uk - Select the S5 year group section on menu

- \* Options Information Evening presentation this will take place on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm via Teams we will then publish the presentation on the school website.
- \* S5/S6 Options Information Booklet this contains descriptions of each course available in S6.

#### S5 YEAR GROUP TEAM - THIS CAN BE ACCESSED VIA YOUR YOUNG PERSON'S GLOW ACCOUNT

- \* Presentations above are all posted on the S5 Year Group Team
- \* In the files section (S5 into S6 Options 2022 folder) presentations will be posted here from Principal Teachers about the subjects on offer in their departments in S6.

#### WHAT WILL THE S6 OPTION FORM LOOK LIKE?

The electronic S5 into S6 Options Form **must be submitted no later than Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April** – the form will be made live to families on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April. This will be a glow form – the link will be emailed to families and posted on the S5 year group team.

The Option Form will be a series of questions – it will ask learners to select a minimum of 4 courses with one additional back-up course.

It is important to note that some learners may be asked to select 5 courses for S6, based upon their prior attainment in S5, in order to secure as many qualifications as possible by the end of S6.

The Option Form does not involve columns i.e. only certain subject combinations in each column – the glow form is essentially a 'free choice' where we are simply asking our young people to select their 4 preferred courses along with a back-up. We will then inform families if we cannot accommodate particular combinations of choices.

#### WHAT CAN I DO TO SUPPORT MY YOUNG PERSON IN THE OPTIONS PROCESS?

- \* Encourage them to read over the S6 Options Booklet including the course descriptions for each subject so that they know what is involved in the courses they are planning to select for S6.
- \* Encourage them to do research into careers by using the 'My World of Work' website and by speaking to the school's Career Advisor if they are unsure of career pathways.

#### STEPS TO SUCCESS – SOME KEY ADVICE TO S5 LEARNERS & FAMILIES:

## STEP 1 – Ensure that you do your research in advance – check out University / College and Apprenticeship Websites for entry requirements BEFORE selecting your courses in S6

- \* Listen to the presentations by PTs and read the course descriptors for each subject in the S5 year group team so that you know what is required and what you will study in each course.
- \* Look at entry requirements are they asking for particular subjects or numbers of Highers as entry requirements? Will you be able to meet these entry requirements by the end of S6 with the subjects you have selected for study?
- \* If you are selecting Advanced Higher Courses check with each University will they accept a Higher and Advanced Higher in the same subject as two grades for entry requirements?

## STEP 2 – Think about the number of qualifications that you will leave with at the end of S6 i.e. the end of the Senior Phase

- \* It is good to leave with as many Highers by the end of S6 as you can a <u>minimum of five</u> is expected but the more the better.
- \* We would not recommend repeating courses in S6 to upgrade **UNLESS** you need this as a specific entry requirement again research is key here!
- \*Ideally you should be leaving school at the end of S6 with a minimum of a N5 in Maths or Application of Maths, and preferably Higher, if not N5 English ensure your subject choices in S6 will allow this to happen.

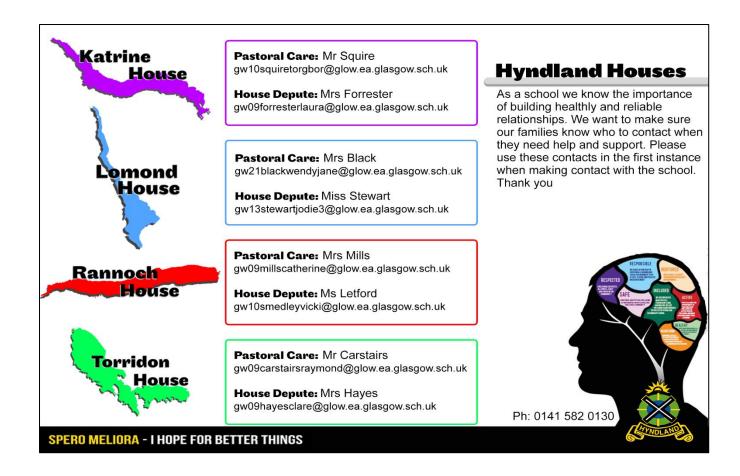
#### STEP 3 – It is vital that you are 'adding value' in S6 to the qualifications you have secured in S5

- \* Remember EVERY S6 learner MUST select a minimum of four subjects **this is not negotiable** and is expected of every S6 learner. S6 Students will be asked to sign a S6 commitment contract in June stating their commitment to fulfilling the requirements of their full timetable during S6.
- \*If you think that you do not want to study 4 courses in S6, we would strongly recommend that you consider looking alternatives to S6 such as college or training opportunities. The school Careers Advisors can help you with this.
- \*If a student in S6 is finding it difficult to select four subjects to study in S6, we would strongly recommend that they consider looking at alternatives to S6 such as a full-time college course we are confident that the wide range of courses available in the senior school provides sufficient choice for our learners.

#### STEP 4 – Expectations of S6

- \*If you are returning for S6, it is important to note that you will be expected to act as a role model demonstrating the highest standards in attendance, time-keeping and positive attitude towards both learning and the wider life of the school.
- \*You will be expected to participate in the wider life of the school in some capacity as a S6 student.

#### **USEFUL WEBSITES / CONTACT DETAILS FOR FAMILIES TO SUPPORT THE OPTIONS PROCESS**



#### SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND - SCHOOL CAREERS ADVISORS:

Katrine and Torridon House Students - Vanessa Kokota

Email: Vanessa.Kokota@sds.co.uk OR gw21kokotavanessa@glow.org.uk

**Lomond and Rannoch House Students – Nicky Mearns** 

Email: Nicola.Mearns@sds.co.uk OR gw20mearnsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Drop in session for Carers Advisors – Monday to Friday during lunchtime in the school library – any student can pop in to speak to the Careers Advisors then and/or make a further appointment by dropping in at this time.

Miss Kathleen Cusick is our Developing Young Workforce Coordinator – she can also help to assist students with general careers enquiries – Miss Cusick can be found in the Pupil Support Area.