

Banff Academy

Senior Phase – S4



2018

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Dates and Deadlines

- S3 Parents' Evening Wednesday 17 January, 4.00-6.00pm
- Deadline for submission of Course of Choice Form Friday 2 February
- 2018-19 New Timetable begins Monday 28 May /Tuesday 5 June
(to be confirmed)

What is the Senior Phase about?

The Senior Phase is the second and last of the two stages of Secondary School education. As an S3 pupil, you are in the final year of the Broad General Education which has lasted from S1-S3 and has given you the opportunity to experience learning in every subject. The Senior Phase, which begins in S4 and lasts until you leave school at the end of S4 or S5 or S6 is your opportunity to specialise in the subjects which you enjoy and have strengths in. These subjects should prepare for your career after secondary school whether that will involve going immediately into employment, further training, College or University education.

During the Senior Phase (S4/S5/S6) you will:-

- work to obtain SQA Examination Qualifications at the highest level you can (the levels increase in difficulty and complexity through National 3, National 4, National 5, Higher and finally Advanced Higher);
- continue to develop as a successful learner, a confident individual, an effective contributor, and a responsible citizen
- continue to develop the skills for learning, life and work with a continuing focus on literacy, numeracy, and health and wellbeing;
- receive the personal support that enables you to gain as much as possible from your time in school;
- receive support in moving to a positive and sustained destination after leaving school.

In the Senior Phase in S4 you will study English and Mathematics and four other subjects of your choice. In S5/S6 you may study five subjects per year (which may include English and/or Mathematics but do not have to.)

Although you are making choices for S4 you should also be thinking of how you will continue your education in S5 and S6. An important factor will be an awareness of the qualifications that will lead to entry into your future chosen career or College/University education.

As well as gaining SQA examination qualifications, later on in the Senior Phase you will also have the opportunity to gain other types of qualifications including non-academic achievements that will boost your personal CV.

Exam structure

Courses are designed to progress from your previous level of attainment. The following table gives you an indication on how pupils will progress from S4 to S5 to S6.

	S4	S5	S6
1	National 3	National 4	National 5
2	National 4	National 5	Higher
3	National 5	Higher	Advanced Higher

National 3 or National 4 courses, have **no** national exam at the end of the course but are assessed throughout the year by their class teacher on the basis of work in class and school tests.

In the senior phase, National 5/Higher/Advanced Higher courses are split into 3 units usually, each of which will be assessed during the year, and will end with a final national examination in May. To be awarded a course pass, students will have to pass the final examination. Full details of the requirements of each course will be given to you in the induction programme that you undertake at the beginning of each course.

Literacy and Numeracy

Literacy and numeracy are at the heart of a person's ability to learn and succeed in education, in work and in life. The development of literacy and numeracy among young people is the responsibility of all teachers in all curricular areas. In the senior phase and beyond, learners at all stages, will be able to gain recognition of the literacy and numeracy skills they have developed.

Course descriptors

Course descriptors for courses can be found on the school website, <http://banffacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/subject-course-information/> If parents/pupils require a paper copy of any of the course descriptors, this may be requested on the form (page 6).

NESCoI – School Link Courses 2018/19	
C&G Lv 1 Beauty Therapy (SCQF L4)	SfW N5 Engineering (SCQF L5)
C&G Lv 1 Hairdressing (SCQF L4)	SfW N5 Health Sector (SCQF L5)
C&G Intro to Vehicle Technology (SCQF L4)	SfW N5 Hospitality (SCQF L5)
C&G Lv 1 Hair & Beauty (SCQF L4/5) Yr 2	SfW N5 Laboratory Science (SCQF L5)
SfW N4 EE & Childcare (SCQF L4)	
SfW N4 Uniformed Services (SCQF L4)	FA Accountancy (SCQF L6)*S5/6
STEM College Certification Course (SCQF L4)	FA Mechanical Engineering (Year 1) (SCQF L6)*S5/6
SfW N5 Computing Science (SCQF L5)	NPA SCQF 6 Exercise and Fitness Leadership (SCQF L6)*S5/6
SfW N5 Construction Crafts (SCQF L5)	

College application deadline: Friday 23rd March.

Boatbuilding – Chevron Project – This takes place on Friday's in the Portsoy Boatshed. (Pupils who are currently taking this option in S3 are expected to continue with this program in S4).

Boatbuilding – School course run in Banff Academy, led by PORT volunteers.

NPA Rural Skills – SCQF Level 5 – This course is led by Scottish Agricultural College and takes place in Turriff Academy on Wednesday mornings. (New for 2017/18)

FLP – Flexible Learning Pathway (Invite only) – Opportunity to prepare for the world of work.

Your future beyond school

It is important that you start to plan for your future beyond school. You may have decided that your future lies in employment or involves going to FE College or University.

Nowadays all these three options are open to just about everyone.

If you intend going directly to University after school then your application will have to be made through the UCAS system and this application will form an important part of your PSE course in September and October in S5 or S6.

If you are eligible to apply for Exceptional Entry to College in S5, you need to discuss the application procedure with your Guidance Teacher during S4 and certainly before the end of March during S4.

Who can help?

Your parents	Subject choice in which both you and your parents should be involved. www.npfs.org.uk is a useful website for parents.
Your teachers	Subject teachers can tell you what is involved in their courses in S4/S5/S6 and can advise you on which level you are most likely to cope with.
Your Principal Teacher of Guidance	You will discuss your choice with this teacher before you make the final decision. He/she will be able to advise on whether or not your choices make a sensible “package” and lead to what you want them to.
Careers Adviser	The careers advisor will speak to your class during PSE and you can be referred by your guidance teacher ask for an individual appointment.
The Librarian	The librarian can help you check what careers follow from particular subjects.
Yourself	You can research careers and qualifications on the internet at the Plan-IT and Progress website www.planitplus.net

Remember that your S4/S5/S6 courses are one linked package that you build up over three years. Have a reason for choosing a course and make it a good reason!



Banff Academy

COURSE INFORMATION



Subject	N3	N4	N5	Higher	AH
Administration		N4	N5	H	
Applications of Maths	N3	N4	N5		
Art & Design		N4/5		H	AH
Biology		N4	N5	H	AH
Boatbuilding* (Vocational)		Chevron/School			
Business		N4	N5	H	
Chemistry		N4	N5	H	AH
Computing Science		N4/5		H	
Dance			N5		
Design & Manufacture		N4/5		H	
Drama		N4/5			
English		N4	N5	H	AH
Engineering Science			N5	H tbc	
French/German/Spanish		N4	N5	H	AH
Geography		N3/4/5		H	AH
Graphic Communication		N4/5		H	
Health & Food Technology		N4/5		H	
History		N3/4/5		H	AH
Hospitality		N4/5			
Mathematics		N4	N5	H	AH
Modern Studies		N3/4/5		H	AH
Music		N4/5		H	AH
Personal Finance & Numeracy		N4	N5		
Philosophy				H	
Photography				H	
Physical Education		N4/5		H	
Physics		N4	N5	H	AH
Politics				H	
RMPS		N4/5		H	
Scots Language		N3/4/5/H			
Scottish Studies		N3/4/5/H			
Woodwork		N4/5			

NESCol – School Link Courses 2018/19	
C&G Lv 1 Beauty Therapy (SCQF L4)	SfW N5 Engineering (SCQF L5)
C&G Lv 1 Hairdressing (SCQF L4)	SfW N5 Health Sector (SCQF L5)
C&G Intro to Vehicle Technology (SCQF L4)	SfW N5 Hospitality (SCQF L5)
C&G Lv 1 Hair & Beauty (SCQF L4/5) Yr 2	SfW N5 Laboratory Science (SCQF L5)
SfW N4 EE & Childcare (SCQF L4)	
SfW N4 Uniformed Services (SCQF L4)	FA Accountancy (SCQF L6)
STEM College Certification Course (SCQF L4)	FA Mechanical Engineering (Year 1) (SCQF L6)
SfW N5 Computing Science (SCQF L5)	NPA SCQF 6 Exercise and Fitness Leadership (SCQF L6)
SfW N5 Construction Crafts (SCQF L5)	

Students need to apply for the courses offered by NESCol and PORT (see PTG for details).

Course descriptors can be found on the school website. (Pupil – Course Information). Should you require a print-out of course information, please identify which subject/level and return this form to the school office.

Name: _____

Class: _____

Banff Academy – Senior Phase Options – 2018/19 – S4 Version

	A	B	C	D	E	F
S4/5/6 Nat 4/5	Business English N4 English N5 ESOL (Invite only) French Geography History Hospitality N4 App of Maths *S5/6 Maths *S5/6 Modern Studies PE Physics	Art Biology Chemistry FLP (Invite only) Graphic Comm History Maths *S5/6 Music PE Personal Fin *S5/6 NPA Rural Skills L5 Woodwork	Art Chemistry Design & Manufacture Drama English N5 Graphic Comm Hospitality N5 Modern Studies PE Physics Scots Language	Administration Biology Dance N5 Design & Manufacture Engineering Science N5 English N4 English N5 French German HFT Music RMPS Spanish	*Boatbuilding - School *Boatbuilding-Chevron Biology Computing Science English N5 Geography History Woodwork NESCoI Courses	Maths (S4)
S5/6 Higher (Proposed)	Economics English Engineering Science ESOL (Invite only) French Geography Maths Philosophy Physics	Art Business Man Chemistry Computing Science History Maths PE	Art Chemistry Design & Manufacture English Music Scots Language	Administration Biology German Graphic Comm HFT Modern Studies Photography RMPS Spanish	Biology English History Physics Politics	
S6 AH	Art, Biology, Chemistry, English, French, Geography, German, History, Maths, Modern Studies, Music, Physics, YASS courses. CLASSES WILL ONLY RUN WITH VIABLE NUMBERS.					

S4: Every pupil must select 1 option from columns A-E, which must include English. They will also study Maths, PE and PSE.

S5/6: Every pupil must select from columns A-E. They will also have PSE and PE as core subjects.

PROGRESSION PATHWAY

Pupils in S3 must complete the progression pathway as follows:

Look at the subjects on offer at N4/5 across columns A-E, list your subjects in **order of preference**, remembering that you must select 1 subject from each column. All pupils in S4 will study English and Maths, English can be selected from column A/C/D or E. You **must** also add a reserve subject, this can be from any column A-E. You must also add the course level as recommended by your class teacher and indicate if this subject is new (not studied in S3). This will complete your S4 course selection. For courses which are oversubscribed, places will be allocated based on an individual's order of preference choice.

Pupils must now indicate what their plans are for S5, this is not fixed but rather allows the pupil to plan ahead to identify what subjects they are likely to continue with during this year. If pupils are planning to leave school at the end of S4, they should circle the most appropriate option and leave the columns blank.

Finally, pupils are asked to indicate what subjects they are thinking of studying in S6, if they are still at school. The number of subjects that a pupil will study, will vary depending on the level of course that a pupil will study from 3 AH subjects or 4 courses (2 AH & 2 H) or 5 courses (5H/N4/5). PTG will be able to advise pupils when they are in S5 as to the correct number of courses for each individual.

S4				
Option	Subject	Col	Level N4/N5	New in S4
1 st				
2 nd				
3 rd				
4 th				
Core	Maths	F		
Core	English			
Res				

S5 Plan				
Option	Subject	Col	Level N4/N5/H	
1 st				
2 nd				
3 rd				
4 th				
5 th				
Leaving Job College Apprentice				

S6 Plan				
Option	Subject	Col	Level N4/N5/H/AH	
1 st				
2 nd				
3 rd				
4 th				
5 th				
Leaving Job Uni College Apprentice				

Name & Class _____

Parental signature _____

PTG Signature _____

Please return your completed form to your Guidance teacher by Friday 2 February, 2018

Note that no courses can be guaranteed – courses will only run if both staff availability and class size permits. If your preference becomes unavailable then you will be required to select another course from the option structure.