
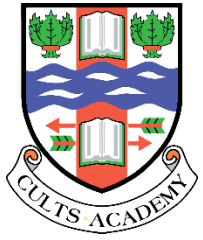


Course Choice for S4

Cults Academy

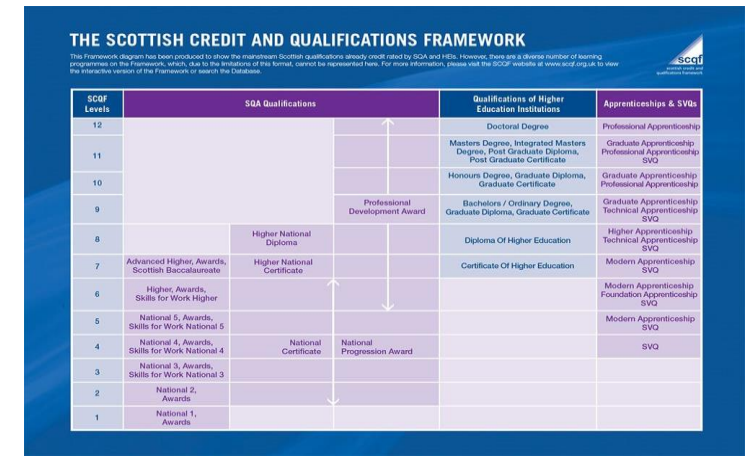
Session 2025/26

These slides will be emailed
to you after the event 



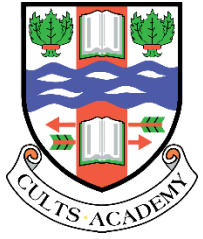
SCQF

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) has 12 levels. Here are some of the qualifications we offer at Cults Academy.



SCQF level	SQA Qualifications			
7	Advanced Higher			
6	Higher	National Progression Awards	Skills for Work	SQA Awards
5	National 5			
4	National 4			
3	National 3			
2	National 2			
1	National 1			





Qualifications explained

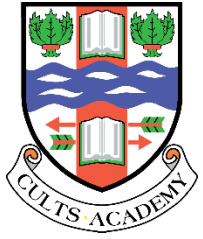
Assessment and Grading

Progression

National 4

- Internally assessed by teachers
- No final exam
- Ungraded

- National 5
- NPA Level 5



Qualifications explained

Assessment and Grading

Progression

National 4

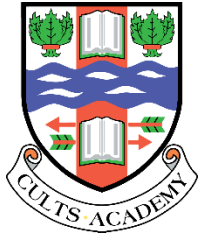
- Internally assessed by teachers
- No final exam
- Ungraded

- National 5
- NPA Level 5

National 5/ Higher

- A combination of coursework and final exam
- Graded from A to D or 'No Award'

- Higher (Level 6) or Adv Higher (Level 7)
- NPA (Level 6)
- Vocational qualifications



Qualifications explained

Assessment and Grading

Progression

National 4

- Internally assessed by teachers
- No final exam
- Ungraded

- National 5
- NPA Level 5

National 5/ Higher

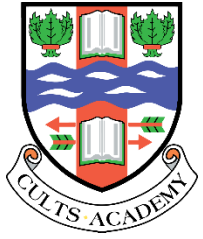
- A combination of coursework and final exam
- Graded from A to D or 'No Award'

- Higher (Level 6) or Adv Higher (Level 7)
- NPA (Level 6)
- Vocational qualifications

National Progression Award (NPA)

- Assessed through practical assignments or projects
- No final exam
- Ungraded

- NPA
- Higher (Level 6)
- Vocational qualifications



Qualifications explained

Assessment and Grading

Progression

National 4

- Internally assessed by teachers
- No final exam
- Ungraded

- National 5
- NPA Level 5

National 5/ Higher

- A combination of coursework and final exam
- Graded from A to D or 'No Award'

- Higher (Level 6) or Adv Higher (Level 7)
- NPA (Level 6)
- Vocational qualifications

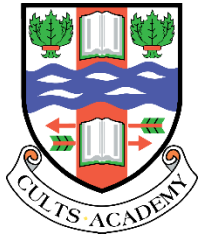
National Progression Award (NPA)

- Assessed through practical assignments or projects
- No final exam
- Ungraded

- NPA
- Higher (Level 6)
- Vocational qualifications

Foundation Apprenticeships

- More information to follow



Qualifications Explained

University Pathway

- 4-6 Highers at A or B required by end of S6 (this varies by course)
- Foundation Apprenticeships can count
- NPAs - only to be taken in addition to Highers/FAs

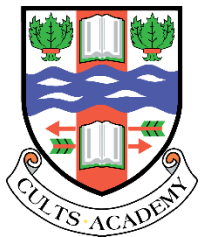
College Pathway

- Colleges will accept a range of qualifications including Highers, Nationals, NPAs, SFW and Foundation Apprenticeships

Employment Pathway

- Employers will accept a range of qualifications including Highers, Nationals, NPAs, SFW and Foundation Apprenticeships

ALWAYS check entry requirements! More information is on the Pathway Planning Website

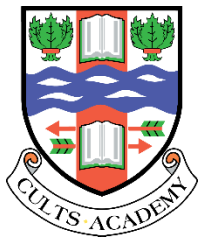


S5 Timetable

- All S5 pupils study a full timetable – 30 periods per week + daily Tutor Time

SQA Subjects (25 Periods)					Core Subjects (5 Periods)		
Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3	Choice 4	Choice 5	Study x 2	PE x 2	PSE

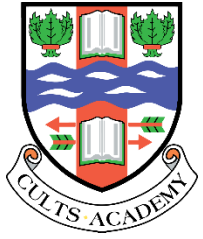
- Pupils choose 5 subjects to continue from their S4 timetable **or** new subjects that do not require study at the previous level.
- Crash Highers in S5 are not recommended and in almost all cases will not be permitted.
- The expectation is that pupils complete the courses that they start.



Entry Requirements

Grade Achieved		Recommended S5/6 progression
National 4		National 5
National 5 C or D		NPA Level 6 Alternative National 5
National 5 A, B (or C)		Higher
Higher C or D		Additional Higher NPA Level 6
Higher A, B or C		Advanced Higher Additional Higher

- Choices are made based on final working grade (SQA Estimate Grade)
- Pupils who perform better than their estimate grade can make changes to their timetables in August



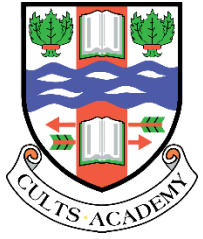
Entry Requirements

National 5 to Higher – Based on Cults Academy 2023 and 2024 results

Grade	Total	Higher A	Higher B	Higher C	Higher D	Higher No Award
N5 A	529	60%	25%	12%	2%	1%
N5 B	152	25%	23%	29%	16%	7%
N5 C	64	5%	5%	28%	36%	27%
N5 D	3	0.00%	0.00%	33%	67%	0%

Higher to Advanced Higher – Based on Cults Academy 2023 and 2024 results

Grade	Total	Adv Higher A	Adv Higher B	Adv Higher C	Adv Higher D	Adv Higher No Award
Higher A	161	48%	27%	14%	7%	4%
Higher B	32	16%	9%	28%	38%	9%
Higher C	8	0%	0%	12%	50%	38%
Higher D	0					



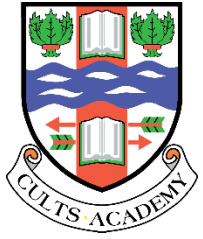
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Higher B	32	16%	9%	28%	38%	9%
Higher C	8	0%	0%	12%	50%	38%
Higher D	0					



Foundation Apprenticeships

Foundation Apprenticeships relate directly to an career/industry. They can add value to both attainment and work experience.

They comprise of:

- Theory (Usually completing a linked NPA)
- Work Placement/Engagement (working towards SVQ Unit).
- Foundation Apprenticeships can be studied at NESCol, partnering schools (ABZ Campus) or at Cults Academy.

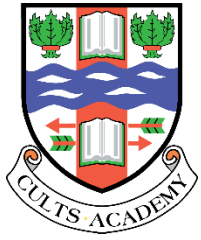
Available Foundation Apprenticeships

SCQF Level 4/5

- Construction
- Hospitality

SCQF Level 6

- Accountancy
- Business Skills
- Creative and Digital Media
- Engineering Systems
- IT Hardware/Systems Support
- Scientific Technologies
- Social Services (Children and Young People)
- Social Services and Healthcare



Foundation Apprenticeships

FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP TO DEGREE OPPORTUNITY

Please check with universities for specific details

- Accountancy
- Business Skills
- Civil Engineering
- Creative & Digital Media
- Engineering
- Financial Services
- Food & Drink Technologies
- ICT Hardware
- ICT Software
- Scientific Technologies
- Children & Young People
- Healthcare

How to read this table:

- ✓ The university offers a degree in this subject area
- ★ The university offers enhanced recognition if applying for a degree in the same subject area (e.g. FA Accounting into Degree Accounting)
- The university doesn't offer a degree in this subject area, FA recognised as a Higher towards other subjects (e.g. FA Accounting in this subject area)
- ✗ The university does not recognise FA frameworks in this subject area
- ⚡ The university does not recognise as a Higher towards same/other subjects (FA in this subject area is not recognised as a Higher towards same/other subjects)

University	Recognition	Accountancy	Business Skills	Civil Engineering	Creative & Digital Media	Engineering	Financial Services	Food & Drink Technologies	ICT Hardware	ICT Software	Scientific Technologies	Children & Young People	Healthcare
Abertay University	1 Higher A, ★ 2 Highers B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Edinburgh Napier University	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glasgow Caledonian University	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glasgow School of Art	Open Recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Heriot Watt University	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open University	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Queen Margaret University Edinburgh	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robert Gordon University	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scotland's Rural College	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Aberdeen ²	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Dundee ¹	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Edinburgh	1 Higher B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Glasgow ²	1 Higher B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of St Andrews ³	1 Higher A, ★ 2 Highers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Strathclyde	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP TO COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY

- Accountancy
- Business Skills
- Civil Engineering
- Creative & Digital Media
- Engineering
- Financial Services
- Food & Drink Technologies
- ICT Hardware
- ICT Software
- Scientific Technologies
- Children & Young People
- Healthcare

How to read this table:

Same subject area applications
(e.g. FA Accounting to HNC Accounting)

- ✓ Direct entry with FA, no additional qualifications required
- ★ Entry with FA plus unspecified qualifications (e.g. FA plus additional Higher and/or Nat 5s)
- ✗ Entry with FA plus specified qualifications (e.g. FA plus Higher English and/or Nat 5 Maths)

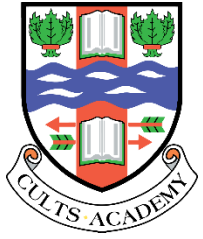
Different subject area applications
(e.g. FA Accounting to HNC Healthcare)

- FA recognised as a Higher
- ✗ No HNC/D provision for this FA (e.g. FA will be recognised as a Higher)

Please check with colleges for specific details

College	Accountancy	Business Skills	Civil Engineering	Creative & Digital Media	Engineering	Financial Services	Food & Drink Technologies	ICT Hardware	ICT Software	Scientific Technologies	Children & Young People	Healthcare
Ayrshire College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Borders College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
City of Glasgow College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dumfries & Galloway College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dundee & Angus College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Edinburgh College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fife College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Forth Valley College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glasgow Clyde College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glasgow Kelvin College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
New College Lanarkshire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
North East Scotland College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
South Lanarkshire College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Highlands and Islands	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West College Scotland	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West Lothian College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

THE HEART OF ALL THAT WE DO

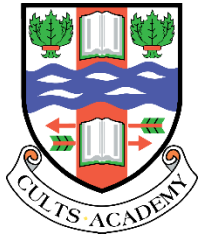


Social Services and Healthcare Foundation Apprenticeship (SCQF Level 6)



**Bon
Accord
Care**

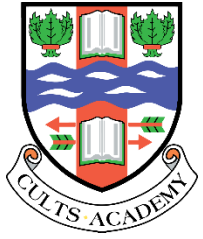
- Exciting new partnership
- Course based at Cults Academy
- 3 Elements – NPA Social Services and Healthcare, 4 SVQ Units, Extended Work Placement
- Particularly suited to those with aspirations to work in the health sector:
Social Care, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Midwery, Social Work, Mental Health Services, Paramedic, Pharmacy, Speech and Language, Medicine...



ABZ Campus



- Partnership between Schools, NESCol and industry partners to deliver courses
- Requires travel (some virtual courses)
- N5s, Higher, Advanced Highers, Foundation Apprenticeships, HNCs, NPA
- Anytime/twilight Courses Available
- Online application – via ABZ Campus Portal
- [More information - ABZ Campus Website](#)



School Links Courses

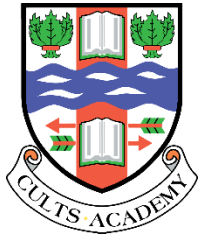
**NORTH EAST
SCOTLAND
COLLEGE**



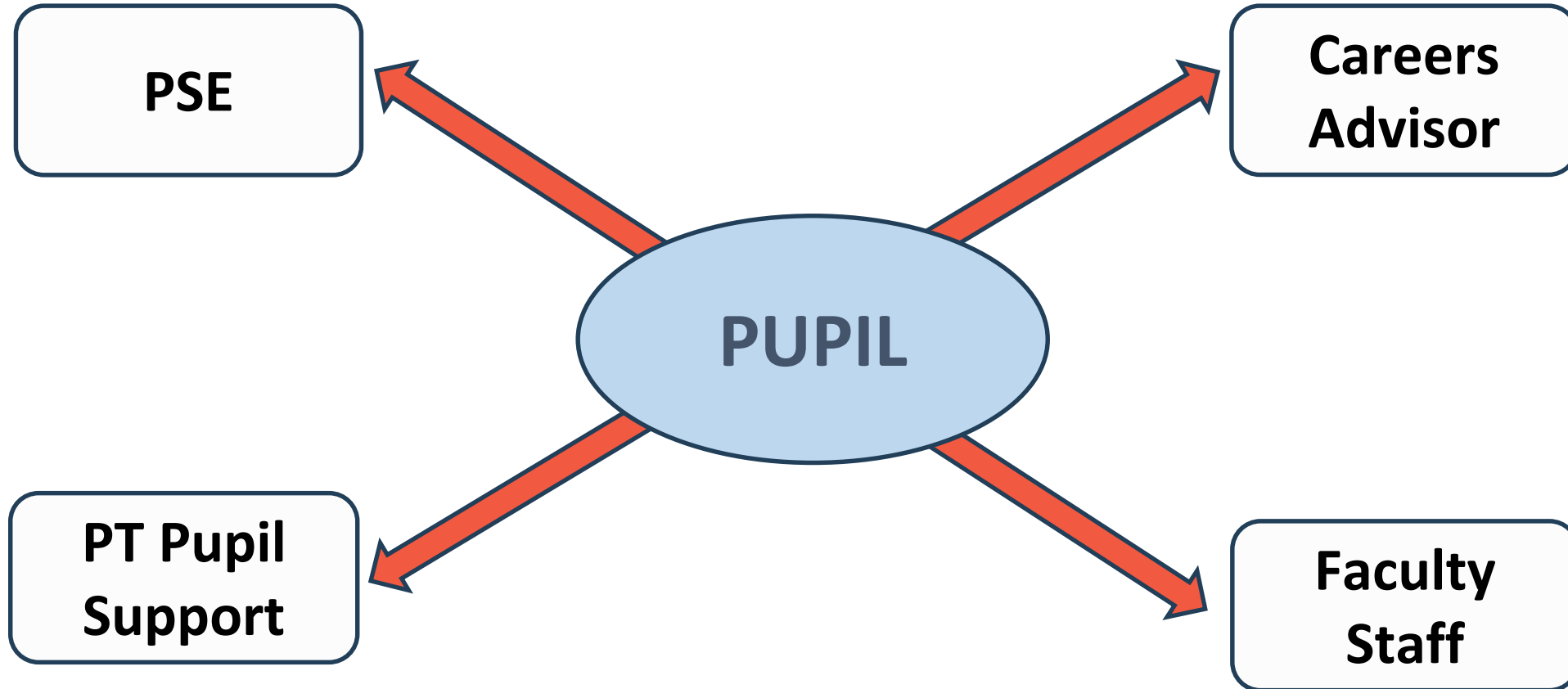
- Hosted by North East of Scotland College
- Range of courses – especially ‘work based learning’ opportunities
- Travel afternoons – Mon/Wed (Column A) or Tues/Thurs (Column B)
- Requires travel
- Online application – via ABZ Campus Portal

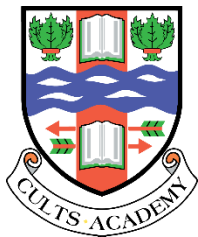
- Example courses:

Construction Crafts	Hair and Beauty courses
Criminology	Healthcare
Cyber Security	Laboratory Science
Digital Media	Travel and Tourism
Early Education and Childcare	Vehicle Technology
Engineering	Uniformed Services



In School Support





In School Support

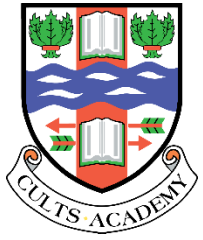
PSE

- Completion of 'My Thoughts' section of the Course Choice Booklet.
- Emphasis on exploring;
 1. Subjects they enjoy.
 2. Subjects where they are attaining well.
 3. Subjects relevant to future career aspirations.

PUPIL

PT Pupil Support

- 1 to 1 meeting using the information captured in PSE and input from subject staff.
- PT Pupil Support will use their overview of pupil progress to ensure pupils are considering subjects where they will attain well. Pupils will be responsible for knowing entry requirements for desired pathway if known.



In School Support

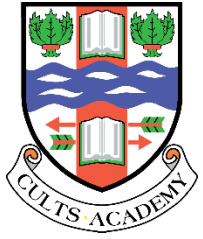
Access to Careers Advisor

- Pupils can arrange an appointment with the career's advisor with emphasis given to exploring pupils';
 1. Key skills and strengths.
 2. Using these to explore employment sectors related to areas of interest.
 3. Linking school subjects to areas of interest.

PUPIL

Faculty Staff

- Give pupils a good indication of academic challenge of a subject and the pupil's suitability - (A/B - 'C')
- In addition, faculty staff will can give additional information about course content and structure as well as advising suitability for entry.



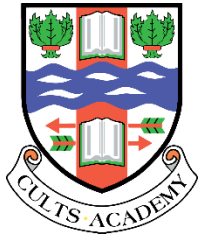
Where to access further support

[Pathway Planning Site](#)

[My World of Work-tools and quizzes/option choices](#)

[My World of Work- tools and quizzes/my strengths](#)

[My World of Work-search job profiles](#)



Free Choice

- No longer selecting from pre-established column structure
- Rank choices 1 to 5
- Pick one back up

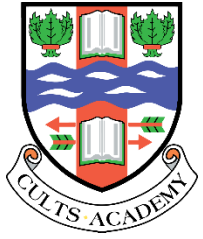
Benefits of this approach:

- Greater choice satisfaction
- Create the best possible columns for pupils
- No subject restrictions due to columns
- Ranking helps decision making, and ensures fairness

Please Note:

- No system will lead to 100% satisfaction

Course	Level	Qualification	Faculty
Applications of Maths	5	National	Maths
Art and Design	5	National	Expressive Arts
Biology	5	National	Sciences
Drama	5	National	Expressive Arts
Environmental Science	5	National	Sciences & Social Subjects
English	5	National	English
French	5	National	Modern Languages
Maths	5	National	Maths
Music	5	National	Expressive Arts
Music Technology	5	National	Expressive Arts
Photography	5	NPA	Expressive Arts
Practical Cookery	5	National	Health and Wellbeing
Personal Finance Award	4/5	SQA Award	Maths
Practical Woodworking	5	National	Expressive Arts
Spanish	5	National	Modern Languages
Accounting	6	Higher	Technologies
Applications of Maths	6	Higher	Maths
Art and Design	6	Higher	Expressive Arts
Biology	6	Higher	Sciences
Business Management	6	Higher	Technologies
Business with Information Technology	5/6	NPA	Technologies
Chemistry	6	Higher	Sciences
Computer Games Design	5/6	NPA	Technologies
Computing Science	6	Higher	Technologies
Design and Manufacture	6	Higher	Technologies
Drama	6	Higher	Expressive Arts
Economics	6	Higher	Technologies
English	6	Higher	English
Engineering Science	6	Higher	Technologies
Enterprise and Employability	6	NPA	Technologies
Exercise and Fitness Leadership	6	NPA	Health and Wellbeing
French	6	Higher	Modern Languages
Geography	6	Higher	Social Subjects
Graphic Communication	6	Higher	Technologies
History	6	Higher	Social Subjects
Leadership Award	6	SQA Award	Health and Wellbeing
Literature and Communication	6	SQA Units	English
Maths	6	Higher	Maths
Modern Studies	6	Higher	Social Subjects
Music	6	Higher	Expressive Arts
Music Technology	6	Higher	Expressive Arts
PE	6	Higher	Health and Wellbeing
Photography	6	Higher	Expressive Arts
Physics	6	Higher	Sciences
RMPS	6	Higher	Social Subjects
Spanish	6	Higher	Modern Languages
Technical Theatre in Practice	6	NPA	Expressive Arts



Subject Choice Process for pupils

Step 1: Look at the subject choice forms to see which courses are available

Step 2: Use the Pathway Planning website to research courses and entry requirements.

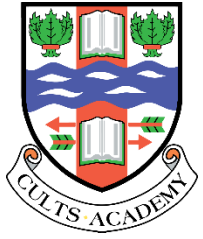
Do the same for College/University/Employment options.

Step 3: Seek advice from subject teachers, PTPS and Parents

Step 4: Decide your subjects

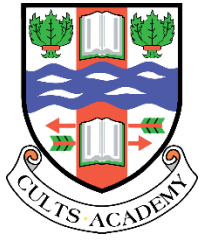
Step 5: Input your choices in the Google Form

Step 6: Complete any other application forms you need to e.g NESCOL, ABZ Campus or Foundation Apprenticeships



Key dates for S4

23rd January	Curriculum Evening
30th January	Pupil consultation period + S4 course choice assembly
17th February	S4 Google form open
19th February	S4 Tracking Issued
21st February	S4 Subject Choice Deadline, Google form closes
24th-26th February	Faculty QA
3rd-4th March	1 to 1 Interviews



Pathway Planning site



[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [CALENDAR](#) [EXTRA CURRICULAR](#) [FACULTIES](#) [PUPIL ZONE](#) [PARENT ZONE](#) [FAMILY LEARNING](#)

[P7 > S1 TRANSITION](#) [PATHWAY PLANNING](#) [ACHIEVEMENTS FORM](#) [REVISION TIPS](#) [SQA GUIDANCE](#) [PUPIL LEADERSHIP TEAM](#) [LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTRE](#) [LOST PROPERTY](#)



YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF ALL THAT WE DO