

# Course Choice S5 to S6

Cults Academy
Session 2025/26

These slides will be emailed to you after the event





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

	ersion of the Framework or search the C		spresensed here. For more informat	ion, please visit the SOOF waters at www.socf.org.uk	C TO View sortish up- questioning the
SCQF Levels		SQA Qualifications		Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SV
12			1 1	Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprentices
11				Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeshi Professional Apprenticesh SVQ
10				Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticesh Professional Apprenticesh
9			Professional Development Award	Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticesh Technical Apprenticesh SVQ
8		Higher National Diploma		Diploma Of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticesh SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate		Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeshi SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher				Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticesh SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5				Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award		svQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3				
2	National 2, Awards				
1	National 1, Awards				

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



Assessment and Grading	Progre
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N	a	ti	0	n	a	4

- Internally assessed by teachers
- No final exam
- Ungraded

#### **Progression**

- National 5
- NPA Level 5



	Assessment and Grading	Progression
National 4	<ul><li>Internally assessed by teachers</li><li>No final exam</li><li>Ungraded</li></ul>	<ul><li>National 5</li><li>NPA Level 5</li></ul>
National 5/ Higher	<ul> <li>A combination of coursework and final exam*</li> <li>Graded from A to D or 'No Award'</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Higher (Level 6) or Adv Higher (Level 7)</li> <li>NPA (Level 6)</li> <li>Vocational qualifications</li> </ul>



	Assessment and Grading	Progression
National 4	<ul><li>Internally assessed by teachers</li><li>No final exam</li><li>Ungraded</li></ul>	<ul><li>National 5</li><li>NPA Level 5</li></ul>
National 5/ Higher	<ul> <li>A combination of coursework and final exam*</li> <li>Graded from A to D or 'No Award'</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Higher (Level 6) or Adv Higher (Level 7)</li> <li>NPA (Level 6)</li> <li>Vocational qualifications</li> </ul>
National Progression Award (NPA)	<ul> <li>Assessed through practical assignments or projects</li> <li>No final exam</li> <li>Ungraded</li> </ul>	<ul><li>NPA</li><li>Higher (Level 6)</li><li>Vocational qualifications</li></ul>



	Assessment and Grading	Progression
National 4	<ul><li>Internally assessed by teachers</li><li>No final exam</li><li>Ungraded</li></ul>	<ul><li>National 5</li><li>NPA Level 5</li></ul>
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Foundation Apprenticeships	More information to follow	



#### **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! Website

More information is on the Pathway Planning



### **S6 Timetable**

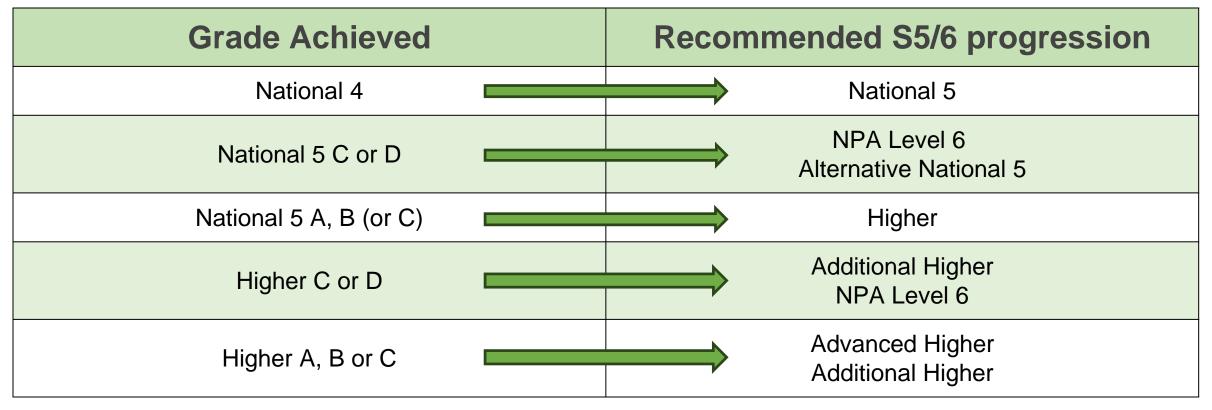
 In most cases pupils study a minimum of 4 subjects. The only exception is for those studying 3 Advanced Higher courses.

The expectation is that pupils complete the courses that they start.

• 'Crash' Highers are an options for learners. They must have demonstrated attainment at Higher in a comparable subject



# **Entry Requirements**



- 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					



# **Entry Requirements**

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

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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 studies 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





# Social Services and Healthcare Foundation Apprenticeship (SCQF Level 6)

- 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**



- 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

Digital Media

Early Education and Childcare

Engineering

Laboratory Science

Travel and Tourism

Vehicle Technology

Uniformed Services



## When to take Advanced Highers

We would recommend that, where possible, learners are on track to achieve the entry requirements fully by the end of S5 if they are considering taking Advanced Highers.

#### Why?

- Most universities/courses will not 'double count' a Higher and Advanced Higher in the same subject.
   This can vary by university and course.
- Even if one of your options does double count, your options may be limited as a result.

If in doubt contact the admission office of each university you are applying to



#### **S5** Results

H Maths - B

H English - C

H Biology - A

H Chemistry - A

H Physics - C



#### **S6 Results**

AH Maths - B

AH Biology - B

AH Chemistry - B



#### **Preferred Course**

**BSc Biomedical Science** 

Standard Entry

Requirements – **AAAB** 

Minimum Entry



#### **S5** Results

H Maths - B

H English - C

H Biology - A

H Chemistry - A

H Physics - C

3 Highers from S5 that contribute to achieving entry requirements



#### **S6** Results

AH Maths - B

AH Biology - B

AH Chemistry - B



#### **Preferred Course**

**BSc Biomedical Science** 

Standard Entry

Requirements – **AAAB** 

Minimum Entry



#### **S5** Results

H Maths - B

H English - C

<del>H Biology - A</del>

<del>H Chemistry -</del> A

H Physics - C

3 Highers from S5 that contribute to achieving entry requirements



AH Maths - B

AH Biology - B

AH Chemistry - B

Universities will not double count\* the same subject at Higher and Adv Higher

\*This can vary for some degrees and universities - please check

#### **Preferred Course**

**BSc Biomedical Science** 

Standard Entry

Requirements – **AAAB** 

Minimum Entry





#### **S5** Results

H Maths - B

H English - C

<del>H Biology - A</del>

<del>H Chemistry - A</del>

H Physics - C

3 Highers from S5 that contribute to achieving entry requirements



AH Maths - B

AH Biology - B

AH Chemistry - B



#### **Preferred Course**

**BSc Biomedical Science** 

Standard Entry

Requirements – **AAAB** 

Minimum Entry

Requirements – **ABBB** 

Universities will not double count\*
the same subject at Higher and Adv
Higher

\*This can vary for some degrees and universities - please check

Applicant may not receive an offer as they have only achieved 3 out of 4 grades



#### **S5** Results

H Maths - C

H English - A

H History - C

H Biology - C

H Business - A



#### **S6 Subjects**

AH English

**AH Business** 

**H Modern Studies** 

**H** Economics



#### **Preferred Course**

MA Business Management

Standard Entry

Requirements – **AAAA** 

Minimum Entry



#### **S5** Results

H Maths - C

H English - A

H History - C

<del>H Biology - C</del>

H Business - A

2 Highers from S5 that contribute to achieving entry requirements



#### **S6 Subjects**

AH English

**AH Business** 

**H Modern Studies** 

**H** Economics



#### **Preferred Course**

MA Business Management

Standard Entry
Requirements – **AAAA** 

Minimum Entry Requirements – **ABBB** 



#### **S5** Results

H Maths - C

H English - A

H History - C

H Biology - C

H Business - A

2 Highers from S5 that contribute to achieving entry requirements



**AH English** 

AH Business

**H Modern Studies** 

**H** Economics



#### **Preferred Course**

MA Business Management

Standard Entry
Requirements – **AAAA** 

Minimum Entry Requirements – **ABBB** 

Advanced Highers <u>will not</u> improve chances of getting an offer. Offers given will likely related to S6 Higher performance. However, Advanced Higher workload will be considerable.



# Things to think about when choosing subjects

Which subjects do you enjoy most?

Do you know what you want to do when you leave school? If you do make sure that you:

- Check entry requirements to college or university courses plan how you will meet these
- What subjects are related to that career?



# Things to think about when choosing subjects

What levels are you working at in each of your subjects this year?

Do you have the entry requirements for the course?

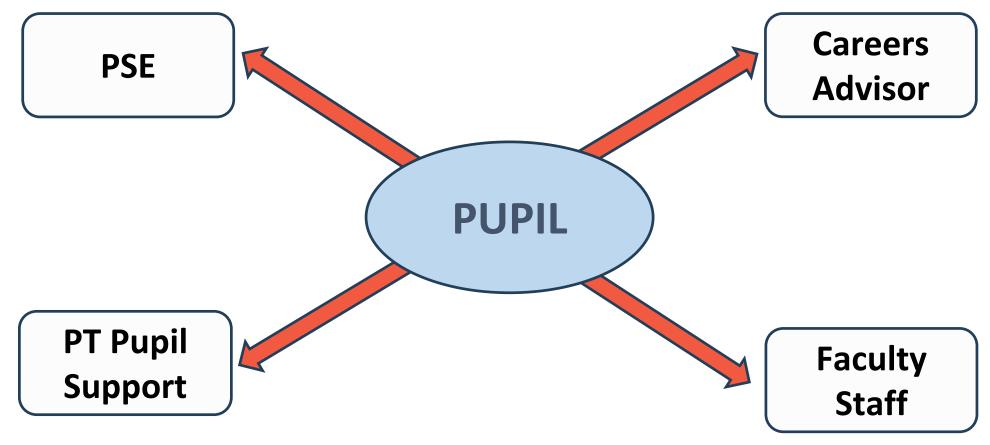
 You can get more details on Entry Requirements for each course on the Pathway Planning Website

#### Are you considering a ABZ Campus Course?

Do you have the commitment and motivation to travel to another location to complete your course?



# In School Support





# 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



## **Subject Choice Process**

**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** 



### Free Choice

- No longer selecting from pre established
- 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



# **Key dates for S5**

From 20 <sup>th</sup> January	•Issue paper course choice sheet in PSE •Show pupils the <u>Google site</u> •Post Course choice sheet on Google classroom
23rd January	Curriculum Evening
23rd-28th February	S5 course choice assembly + Pupil consultation period
24th February	S5 Google form open
26th February	S5 Tracking Issued
28th February	S5 Subject Choice Deadline, Google form closes
3rd-5th March	Faculty QA
10th-11th March	1 to 1 Interviews



# **Pathway Planning site**

