

SENIOR PHASE COURSES IN DINGWALL ACADEMY

Welcome to the Senior Phase Option Choices webpage. These pages provide information on the courses and subjects in the Senior Phase, where S4, S5 and S6 pupils choose courses from a similar option form. The Senior Phase builds on the Broad General Education pupils experienced from S1 to S3.

During the Senior Phase pupils can opt into National Qualifications at the following levels:

National 3	National 4	National 5	Higher	Advanced Higher
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Information on the content of courses and how they are assessed can be found on individual subject pages. More detailed information on subjects/levels can also be found at:

<https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/category/in-a-nutshell-series/nationals-in-a-nutshell-series/>

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The Senior Phase is about preparing pupils for their future and we hope that pupils take full advantage of the opportunities available to them.

A great deal of hard work is required of pupils in the Senior Phase. Senior Pupils are also expected to set high standards in terms of appearance and behaviour. The Senior Phase is about preparing pupils for their futures and we hope that pupils will take full advantage of all opportunities offered to them.

As well as timetabled, school based courses pupils in the Senior Phase also have the opportunity to:

- Attend college courses
- Study a variety of subjects via distance learning (e.g. Advanced Highers and university modules)
- Take part in work experience
- Set up their own Social Enterprise
- Volunteer in the community

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OPTION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

When making option choices pupils must consider –

- **Recommended levels as provided by subject teachers on report cards**
- **Entry requirements as detailed on each subject's webpage**
- **University and College entry requirements**
- **Possible career choices**
- **Advice of Pupil Support staff**

The option form is based on a points system. The option form details the points awarded for each level, these points reflect the amount of time required for each course.

All Higher Courses will receive 6 periods per week and all National Courses will receive 5 periods per week. Allocated periods for S6 pupils following Advanced Highers will depend on course numbers - pupils will also be expected to commit to additional study time for the subject.

Please note that, as with all courses, the delivery of Advanced Higher depends on a viable number of pupils opting for the course. It is becoming increasingly difficult for all schools to offer a full range of Advanced Higher courses. However, there may be opportunity to study some Advanced Highers via distance learning.

In addition to their certificated courses, pupils will receive 1 period of PSE and 2 periods of PE each week.

Pupils are required to choose subjects that meet the following points requirement –

Pupils moving into S5 Subjects totalling a minimum of 27 points

Pupils moving into S6 Subjects totalling a minimum of 22 points

There may be exceptional circumstances that allow a pupil to follow a curriculum that does not meet the above points requirement. This must be arranged and agreed with the Principal Teacher Pupil Support and the appropriate Depute Head Teacher.

Pupils will have the opportunity to change options in August following receipt of exam results .