

S2 into S3 Course Choice Parent/Carer Information Event

FAQs

Following the above event, please find answers to the questions raised during the event by parents/carers. We hope you will find these useful and informative. As always, please don't hesitate to contact us via the designated house email addresses (found on the school website) if you need any more information.

Q. What does it mean (only if recommended) who recommends?

A. Recommendations come from the relevant class teachers / departments. Teachers will direct students to the courses they feel they will be most successful in. We recommend students for either People and Society if we feel they will benefit from a different approach to delivering Social Studies (more holistic approach as opposed to discrete subjects) or for Environmental Science (again, a more holistic approach to 'general' science as opposed to discrete subjects). These options allow for progression in S4 either in these recommended subjects or into discrete subjects at N4/5 so it ensures a range of progression routes are still open.

Q. The video showed the course choice form. Is there a sample on the website that we can use to consider choices?

A. Yes, there is a link on the school website within the S2 into S3 course choice section. Your child will be given a copy of the form during their 1:1 discussion so there is no need to print this at home, but hopefully it is helpful to have a look at it beforehand too.

Q. I understand that S3 is still BGE. At this stage will there be any indication of the level that my daughter is working at or towards?

A. The S3 experience still sits within the Broad General Education (BGE) phase of learning. This is why we have structured the course choice process in the way we have – to allow for some personalisation and choice, but to ensure they still access the full range of curriculum areas within the BGE experience. Most young people will be working within Level 3 / towards Level 4 but this may be earlier or later for some. There are no restrictions on the subjects your child can choose moving into S3, other than ensuring they cover the full range of BGE subjects.

Q. One of the slides says 'your PSE teacher finalises your choices' What does this mean, can they change choices after the form is signed?

A. A PSE teacher is normally your guidance teacher, students will discuss their choices with them and agree together what the best options are based on their knowledge of the student and the coursing advice from teachers. Students will bring this information home and discuss it with their parent/carers and if together you feel changes need to be made you can do that at this point.

Q. My child is currently in the S2 School of Football programme, can they choose this instead of mandatory Expressive Art?

A. As this is the Broad General Education coverage in all areas is needed, students can choose to be part of 'The School of' through one of their free choices, this may again be subject to trials and auditions.

Q. For the "school of" subjects do they need to trial again?

A. If your child wishes to continue with the 'School Of' course they have been following in S1/S2 there will be a process to ensure they will continue in S3 which will involve some practical work. This will most likely result in them continuing with the 'School Of' course and also allows for any other students to trial and pick this up in S3 if there are spaces available.

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Helpful Links:

- General Course Choice Information: <https://lasswadehsc.mgfl.net/course-choice/>
- S2 into S3 Specific information including video and course choice form: <https://lasswadehsc.mgfl.net/s3-course-choice/>
- My World of Work Option Choices Tool: <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/tools/subject-choices>
- Skills Development Scotland – information for parents/carers: <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/what-we-do/scotlands-careers-services/our-careers-service-in-schools/my-kids-career/>
- School College Partnership - Information for parents/carers: <https://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/information-and-advice/information-for-school-pupils-teachers-and-guardians/staying-at-school>
- School College Partnership- courses: <https://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/courses/for-school-pupils>