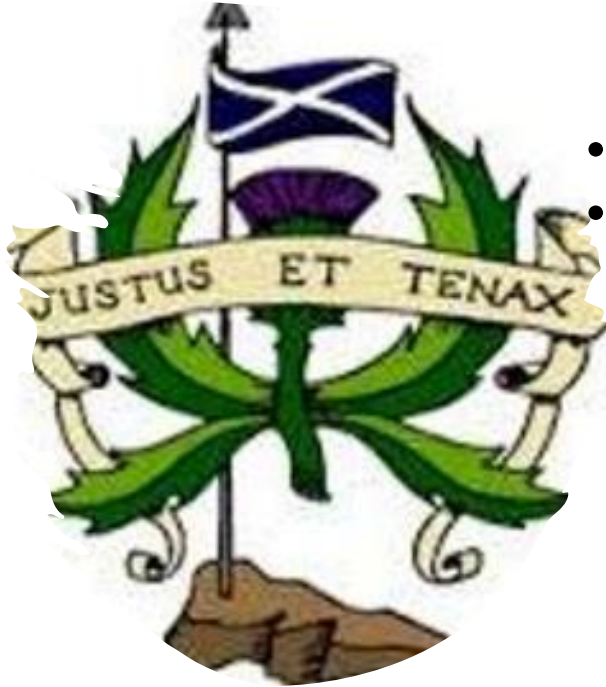


Future Options



Future Options/Course Choice:

- Claire Paterson (DHT)
- Cara Davidson (SDS)

In attendance:

- Fiona Grant, PSL Hartington
- Peter McIlwaine, PSL Montpelier
- Caroline Nisbet, PSL Leamington
- Kerry Scherczer, PSL Bruntsfield
- Chris Brandie, PSL Viewforth

What are the options?



1

Leave school: job (if
16 by September)

2

Leave school:
apprenticeship,
college

3

Part school, part
college (School-
College-Partnership)

4

School in S5, leave in
S6

5

School in S5 and S6



Returning to school for S6

S6 is:

Another chance to get qualifications

Broaden the learning experience by taking new subjects

An opportunity to become an independent learner

Leadership and organisational skills

A full time commitment



Respect, Resilience and Inclusion

- Model our school values
- Punctuality
- Good Attendance
- Completion of Homework
- Meet deadlines
- Involvement with younger pupils
- Wearing school dress
- Planning for the future
- Cooperation, positive attitude and good behaviour

Edinburgh College SCP and Post School Options

Edinburgh Schools and Young People

Post-school Curriculum Areas

Creative Industries

Broadcast Media & Film | Music & Sound Production |
Art & Design | Computing | Performing Arts Studio
Scotland (PASS)



Construction, Engineering, Built Environment & Science

Construction Trades | Electrical & Mechanical
Engineering | Civil Engineering | Automotive |
Renewables | Building Services | Plumbing | Electrical |
Fire & Security



Health Professions & Social Care

Health Care | Social Care | Dental | Pharmacy | Childcare
| Sport & Fitness | Integrated Curriculum Studies

Tourism Hospitality & Business

Enterprise & Commerce | Professional Cookery | Hospitality
Retail & Events | ESOL | Tourism & Modern Languages

School College Partnership Courses

- School college partnership courses are a good way of trying subjects not offered in school e.g. automotive/hair & beauty/psychology
- SCP courses can often lead into full time courses at college
- College has many NPAs these are not accepted for university entry
- College takes place on Tue and Thurs P5/6
- College course applications opened on **Jan 13th 2026**
- Cara and Lesley (SDS) help session for applications for SCP on **Wednesday 28 January** period 3 &4 (library)
- Schools College Partnership (SCP) Courses (see college website <https://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/courses/for-school-pupils>)

**For any Edinburgh College course-related info
please visit edinburghcollege.ac.uk or email
courseinfo@edinburghcollege.ac.uk**



University Entrance

- Scottish Universities – 4/5 Higher passes by the end of S5 (1st sitting)
- **Additional passes** at Higher in S6 if minimum not met in S5
- Repeating to upgrade...caution...check it is acceptable
- Most courses at Scottish Universities require Highers not AHs
- **Don't pick Advanced Highers if you don't have a good set of Higher from S5**
- **English** Universities - require 2 or 3 Advanced Highers in addition to 4/5 good Higher passes in S5



- Earn while you learn
- Achieve industry qualifications
- Range of levels from Higher level to under-graduate level
- Entry requirements typically National 5/Higher attainment
- Approx. 90 different frameworks available: IT, Care, Engineering, Paralegal, Sports, Hospitality, Creative Digital Media, Nursing, Jewellery, Project Management
- Huge range of employers involved
- Vacancies and more information at www.apprenticeships.scot



- Graduate apprenticeships offer the chance to get a degree
- Employed status, earn as you learn
- Many Scottish universities involved
- Growing list of frameworks, including: Data Security, Engineering, IT Management for Business, Software Development, Construction, Civil Engineering, etc
- 4 years
- Vacancies and more information at www.apprenticeships.scot/graduate

Tips for Course choice

- If you want to go to College or University **look up the entry requirements** to the course you are interested in and check for **essential subjects** – eg: law requires Higher English; Nursing Higher English and 1 science
- Think about **other subjects that could be useful** – these are not essential but may be helpful.
- **Apprenticeships and employment** require basic Maths and English and depending on the type of apprenticeship they may ask for relevant subjects (work experience will also be really important) – have a look at <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/> to help research.

What help is available?

- Pupils can **book an appointment** through emailing me or Lesley or letting their guidance teacher know they would like an appointment. My email is: Cara.davidson@sds.co.uk, Lesley is Lesley.Robertson@sds.co.uk
- I will also be offering a **SCP (college) application support session** on **Wednesday the 28th of January** periods 3 and 4 in the library.
- Please note for popular SCP applications e.g. hair & beauty/automotive/Higher Psychology it is advisable to apply as soon as possible - it is important not to leave it until the last minute!
- If they would like to attend this support session they can email me or speak with their guidance teacher so their name is added to my list
- A step by step guide for applying to college has been emailed out to all parents/carers

Research to help with future planning/goals

- Useful websites to help are...
- **Career options:**
 - www.myworldofwork.co.uk
 - <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree>
 - www.planitplus.net
- **College:** [*For School Pupils | Edinburgh College*](#)
- **Apprenticeships:**
 - <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/>
 - [*Opportunities Board \(thegarantee.org\)*](http://thegarantee.org)
- **University**
 - <https://digital.ucas.com/search>
 - www.UCAS.com
 - www.discoveruni.org.uk
 - <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk>



Course Choice Process





Course format for S6

- ❖ Minimum : **17 Hours**
Maximum: **22 hours**
- ❖ 3 Advanced Highers (English Universities/Medicine/Dentistry/Vet)
- ❖ 2 Advanced Highers + 1H/N5
- ❖ 1 Advanced Higher + 2H/N5
- ❖ 3 or 4 subjects at Higher level/N5
- ❖ Everybody has a period for PSE and a period for assembly

School Entry Requirements



Read the website
carefully

Pupils do not have
automatic right of
entry to courses

S5 pupils are placed
first

AH courses we
would advise A/B at
Higher



Neighbourhood/College

- ❖ Neighbourhood schools may offer additional courses at H & AH level
- ❖ S6 pupils can solve clashes by going to JGHS/Tynecastle/Firrhill & other neighbourhood schools
- ❖ College courses detailed in Course Choice booklet & online at Edinburgh College- Tues/Thurs afternoon
- ❖ Must choose 3 courses being offered at Boroughmuir in first instance

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/curriculum-pathways/>



[Our School](#)

[Parent & Carers](#)

[Pupils](#)

[Faculties & Curriculum](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[S2 - S3 Course Choice Information](#)

[S4 - S6 Course Choice Information](#)

View our Curriculum Pathways

ART & DESIGN

BUSINESS

COMPUTING

CRAFT, DESIGN
& TECHNOLOGY

ENGLISH &
LITERACY

DRAMA

GEOGRAPHY

HEALTH FOOD
& TECHNOLOGY

HISTORY

MATHEMATICS
& NUMERACY

MEDIA

MODERN
LANGUAGES

MODERN STUDIES

MUSIC

PHYSICAL
EDUCATION



S2

S3 / S4 / S5

S6



Music

Level: Advanced Higher

ENTRY REQUIREMENT

Higher Music grade A or by negotiation with Curriculum Leader

PROGRESSION ROUTE

College/University/Employment
 Careers: Performer, composer, journalist, primary and secondary teaching, sound engineer, media and TV, radio, film industry, music therapy, computer game design, graduate training schemes, music theatre

COURSE FORMAT

Unit 1: Performing
 Unit 2: Understanding
 Unit 3: Composition and Analysis

COURSE DETAILS

This course suits three types of learners: those studying music for enjoyment, those seeking a qualification for non-music pathways, and those aiming to pursue music in further education.

Assessment Breakdown

Performance Exam (50%): Perform on two instruments (any style, grade 5 standard), totalling 18 minutes (minimum 6 minutes per instrument).

Written Paper (35%): Covers musical knowledge from the Renaissance to modern genres like EDM and opera.

Assignment (15%): Compose a piece and analyse a chosen work's key features.

S5 to S6 Curriculum Information

S5 pupils make 5 x course choices at end of S5 for S6

Choose **3 subjects + 2 Study periods** (called *Study 1* and *Study 2*) **or**

Choose **4 subjects + 1 Study period** (called *Study 1*)

Choose subjects in **preference order**

You must **choose 2 reserve** subjects (labelled **R and S**)

You will also have PSE, an Assembly and some Study periods

Other reminders:

- Do not put Study 1 or Study 2 as a reserve subject (R or S)
- Level 7 is Advanced Higher, L6 is Higher/L6NPA; L5 is N5 or L5 NPA

Post Course Choice

- ❖ All courses require viable numbers - we will confirm courses that are running asap
- ❖ Confirmation of College places in June – with induction
- ❖ Confirmation of school courses by end of August
- ❖ Opportunity to re-course in August (in-service day)





S6 Non-contact/Study Periods

- Additional study for subjects
- In class support
- Work for committees
- Attendance marked as OAT (other attendance out of school) - parental responsibility



Extra Curricular Involvement

Helping with extra curricular activities – STEM club/homework club/PE activities

In class support

Baccalaureate

Mentors in Violence Prevention

Committees

Young Enterprise

Prefects

Head team

House captains



Work Experience 2026

June 22nd-
26th

All S5 are expected to take part if they are intending to return for S6

Students should undertake a **self-found placement**

Deadline is **Thursday 2 April** forms to be back, please return ASAP

It usually takes at least a few weeks for DYW to process placements and carry out Health and Safety checks

We cannot authorise placements which have not been checked

Key Dates & Deadlines for Course Choice

- Parents in-school Course Choice Information Evening Thurs 22nd January
- **w/b 2 February** Course choice website login details issued to pupils. Course choices are entered using <https://www.pupiloptions.co/Senior-BOR/>
- Progress Report (tracking & teacher comments) – issued **w/b 9 Feb 2026**
- Opportunity to speak to guidance teacher/teachers/SDS for advice
- Final date for course choice submission is **Monday 23 February**
- After pupils have entered their course choices they may meet with their guidance teacher to review post February break



Other Important dates

- 2 April - Work experience forms to be in to school
- 22 April – First SQA exam
- Exam leave tbc
- 1 June – new timetable
- 11 June - Awards ceremony
- 22-26 June – Work Experience
- Summer hols - receive letter from Mrs Paterson re what to do next post results (recoursing info)
- 4 August – SQA results issued
- 11 August –in-service day appointments for re-coursing
- 12 August - new term begins



Questions?