

Mackie Academy Senior Phase Pathways Evening 2020



Introduction

Welcome to Mackie Academy's Senior Phase Pathways Evening! This is the starting point for making decisions about your course choices in S4, S5 or S6 in 2019-20. The more thought and time you put into the process now, considering the many different pathways available, the greater the chance that the choices you make will be the right ones for your future!

With the move to the Senior Phase of Curriculum for Excellence, it is important that you think about the following questions when deciding what to study and deciding which additional activities to participate in:

- Can Mackie Academy provide me with the choices I need in order to be able to achieve well in my future learning pathways?
- Is the learning environment at Mackie Academy suitable for me going forwards or would I be better considering other destinations?
- Am I prepared for the demands of the Senior Phase here at Mackie Academy?

For those of you moving into S4 the element of choice is perhaps more limited given that you are still within compulsory education, but for those of you moving into S5 and S6 it is really important that you think carefully about the questions above.

There is a wide choice of courses here at Mackie Academy, but it is important to understand that some courses may only run if there is sufficient demand for them. We will aim to make this decision as swiftly as possible once pupils have given an initial indication of the courses they wish to study. All course information will be available on the Mackie Academy website.

In general S4 and S5 pupils will follow a full programme of academic studies – six or seven options in S4 and five options in S5. However, where relevant, a degree of flexibility is possible if it aids the learning, attainment and achievement of an individual. The number of subjects chosen reflects what will be required of pupils if they choose to go into particular pathways post school, for example, higher education or work related learning. In S6 there is a greater degree of flexibility which reflects the different opportunities pupils may be preparing for when they leave school and we would expect pupils to study a minimum of three subjects.

The Senior School plays an important role in Mackie Academy and the wider community. As role models for our younger pupils we expect every pupil to take on additional responsibilities alongside their academic studies so that when they leave us – whether that is the end of S4, S5 or S6 – they are fully prepared for the demands of the modern world. Further details on this will be made available to pupils through the induction process in June 2019.

“I can identify the skills I have learnt across the curriculum, how these relate to the world of work and can apply these appropriately during work placements and other work-related learning.”

The Home-School Partnership Agreement

The school will:

- Help you to progress in subjects that you have already studied in the Broad General Education (S1-3) and experience new subject areas found only in the Senior Phase of the school.
- Help you to become clearer about your interests, aptitudes and career aspirations so that this can become a reality for you in the future.
- Develop your subject specialist skills, depending on your career aspirations, through as broad a choice of subjects and levels as we can offer.
- Help you to develop skills in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing as key themes which are crucial to your success in the future.
- Allow and aid you to develop an ability to think critically, to plan and organise work and carry it through to completion, to judge the quality of your work and identify ways of improving it.
- Support you in developing increasing independence and responsibility alongside key qualities such as:
 - A respect for yourself and for others
 - A sense of responsibility towards others and to your environment
 - A commitment to learn
 - A sense of belonging to and a willingness to participate in the life of the school and its community.
- Staff provide support by helping you to identify your interests, strengths, needs and career aspirations. They will help you in the decision making process by looking at all the data surrounding your attainment so far so that you make the right choices for the future.
- By providing the range of courses and levels which we do, we expect you to accept that you have certain responsibilities relating to yourself, your relationship with others and to the life of the school.

As senior pupils at Mackie Academy the school has high expectations around how you can develop yourself as an individual and as a role model for the younger pupils.

- We want you to have high expectations of what you will achieve in your studies by setting yourself challenging targets, and not being satisfied by just doing enough
- We want you to give the commitment to your education that will result in you achieving the best you possibly can.
- We want you to persevere to achieve your goals; failure is acceptable as it is part of the learning process.
- Take more responsibility for your future; you reap what you sow.
- Think about how you can contribute to the community of Mackie Academy and how your behaviours reflect on that community.
- Set an example to younger pupils by modelling good behaviours and showing respect to them at all times.
- Work at maintaining positive relationships with pupils, staff and home where at all possible; this has a significant impact on your ability to succeed.
- Participate in the range of experiences which are offered to you – think about what you can learn from these experiences

Developing the Young Workforce



What is *Developing the Young Workforce*?

Developing the Young Workforce is a seven year programme to reduce youth unemployment by 40% by 2021. 2020 is year six of the programme.

It is a key education policy, as highlighted by John Swinney: “*Our education policy is enshrined by three major policies, Getting it Right for Every Child, Curriculum for Excellence and Developing Scotland's Young Workforce.*”

What does DYW Look Like in Schools?

The key aim at the heart of DYW is to increase work-based learning in the classroom, across all subject areas. This is achieved by:

- Creating clear links for pupils between the curriculum and employability skills
- Providing work-based experiences in school
- Engaging with external employers to support learning and teaching in schools
- Supporting pupils in their pathways to positive destinations

Key Contacts

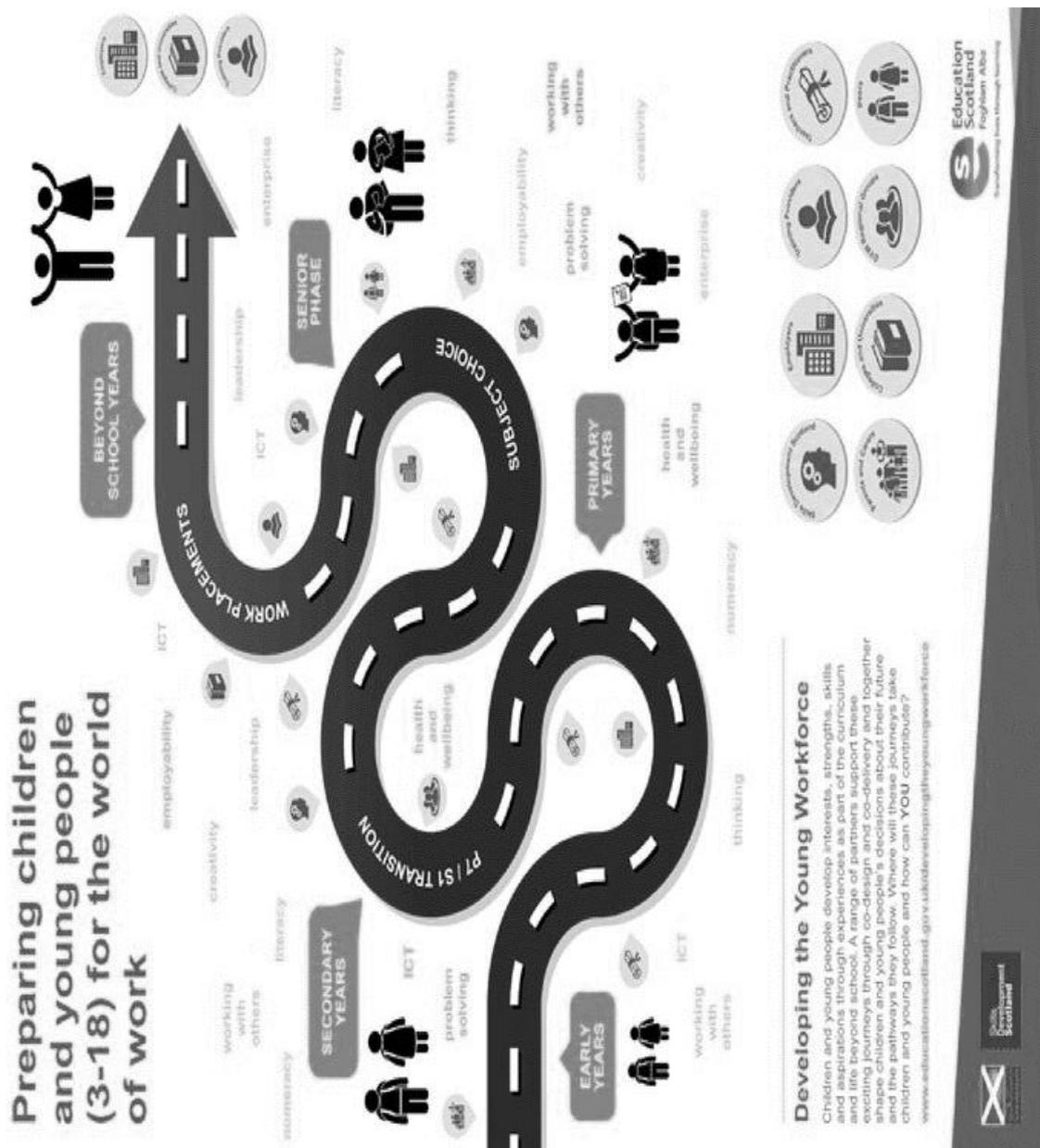
At Mackie Academy, the initiative is led by Lucy Angel, Principal Teacher of Developing the Young Workforce, and is supported by Jill Black, Principal Teacher of Pupil Support and Attainment.

“I can confidently access and interpret the information I need to make well informed choices about my learning options, pathways and how these relate to possible future careers.”

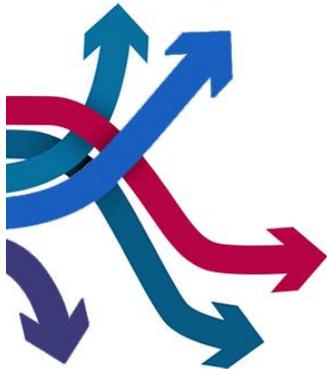
The Career Education Standard Scotland

The standard recognises the journeys children and young people make as they learn about the world of work from the early years to the senior phase. It sets out what children and young people will learn and what parents/carers, teachers/ practitioners, employers and Skills Development Scotland will do to support their learning. Implementation of the standard will improve the quality and consistency of learning about work and careers. It will improve young people's ability to make informed decisions about future pathways.

This document can be downloaded from Education Scotland's website:
www.educationscotland.gov.uk/developingtheyoungworkforce



Pathways



Pathways through the Curriculum

The aim of the learning experience at Mackie Academy is to prepare each young person to participate positively in life beyond school. It is important that they develop personal qualities and skills which will be of value to them in and beyond school and provision of a variety of experiences, in addition to academic courses, is aimed at developing such skills. All pupils are encouraged to develop this element of their study as they move through the Senior Phase with greater flexibility in their timetable allowing for this.

As part of our Developing the Young Workforce strategy, our aim as a school is to create a consistent approach across all faculties regarding the way we use Employability Skills in lessons, and how we inform pupils of future pathways linked to each subject area.

The list below is compiled from research of a variety of sources and encapsulates the key employability skills our pupils will require as they look towards the world of work.

All of our Faculties are represented at our Senior Phase Pathways evening and will be happy to speak to you about the employability skills and future pathways linked to different subject areas.

Pathways into Higher Education

We are very fortunate this year to be able to welcome a number of higher education providers from across Scotland to Mackie Academy. Each provider listed below will have a representative available from whom pupils and parents may gather information regarding courses of interest and other relevant information, for example, entry requirements to specific courses as well as course content.

There is a myriad of routes through higher education and representatives will be able to provide you with information about courses on offer from each provider and progression through levels of qualifications. This information will inform option choices as pupils progress through their Senior Phase at Mackie Academy and into the next

"I can assess the opportunities and challenges that entrepreneurship/self-employment can provide as a career option including financial and legal aspects."

stage of their lives.

Universities

Universities in attendance at the Senior Phase Pathways Evening are as follows:

University of Aberdeen
Robert Gordon University
Abertay University
University of St Andrews
University of Glasgow
University of Edinburgh
Queen Margaret University
Heriot-Watt University
Glasgow Caledonian University
Stirling University
Scotland's Rural College (SRUC)

Pathways to Positive Destinations

Colleges

North East of Scotland College
Dundee and Angus College

Apprenticeships

In addition to pathways through university courses, we will have representatives from two alternative pathways into the world of work, Aberdeenshire Apprenticeships and Aberdeenshire Work Experience.

Apprenticeships incorporate a work based qualification (SVQ level 2 or 3) earned while gaining valuable work experience in your chosen career path. While it's great if you have some experience in the chosen area it is by no means essential as full training is provided from experienced colleagues during on the job training.



Foundation Apprenticeships

We will also have staff on hand to talk about Foundation Apprenticeships. Foundation

"I can assess the opportunities and challenges that entrepreneurship/self-employment can provide as a career option including financial and legal aspects."

Developing the Young Workforce

Apprenticeships provide the chance to get a head start on their careers by gaining an industry-recognised qualification, work on real projects and broaden their career options when they leave school.

Lasting two years, pupils typically begin their Foundation Apprenticeship in S5. Young people spend time out of school at college or with a local employer, and complete the Foundation Apprenticeship alongside their other subjects like National 5s and Highers. Foundation Apprenticeships are currently available in subjects including civil engineering, software development and accountancy. Foundation Apprenticeships are linked to growth sectors of the Scottish economy, so young people are getting industry experience which will help them kick-start a successful career in their chosen field

Pathways into Industry



Opportunity North East (ONE) was launched in December 2015, following extensive consultation with the region's business community and discussion with the public sector. It is the private sector's response to the economic challenges in the region.

ONE is working with Skills Development Scotland and within the Developing Scotland's Young Workforce agenda therefore, we as a school are looking to support the four priority sectors identified by ONE through our Senior Phase Evening and other upcoming events in school.

We are fortunate to have attendance on the evening by the following companies and hope that their input with our pupils will provide opportunities for education and awareness of career pathways in the above sectors:

- The Springboard Charity
- Subsea 7
- Construction Industry Training Board (CITB)
- The British Army
- Aberdeen City and Shire Health and Social Care Partnership

Representatives from the above organisations will be available in the foyer to meet with pupils and parents with regards to relevant further and higher education options and alternative career pathways into their organisation.

"I can assess the opportunities and challenges that entrepreneurship/self-employment can provide as a career option including financial and legal aspects."

The Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF)

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) promotes lifelong learning in Scotland. Through the Framework learners, employers and employees can find out about all mainstream qualifications in Scotland and plan future learning.

THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

This Framework diagram has been produced to show the mainstream Scottish qualifications already credit rated by SQA and HEIs. However, there are a diverse number of learning programmes on the Framework, which, due to the limitations of this format, cannot be represented here. For more information, please visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk to view the interactive version of the Framework or search the Database.

scqf
scottish credit and
qualifications framework

SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications	Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12		Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11		Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10		Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9		Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8	Higher National Diploma		Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate		Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher		Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5		Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4		SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3		
2	National 2, Awards		
1	National 1, Awards		

Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our representatives who have given up their valuable time to attend our Senior Phase Pathways Evening at Mackie Academy.

We are very proud of all our pupils and of the staff who work extremely hard to support them all on their pathways to a positive destination, wherever that may be.

This, however, would not be possible without the support of our valuable partners: further and higher education providers; local businesses; Flagship Partners; and our parents and carers. We thank you most sincerely for all of your help.

We run an increasing number of career pathway events in school for all age groups, and welcome input from any willing organisation. If you are a parent or representative who is willing to share your experiences with our pupils regarding your route into your own career or any relevant knowledge you may have regarding career pathways within your industry, we would very much appreciate your input.

Please could you email Lucy Angel on the email address below and we will be in touch. Your support would be much appreciated.

lucy.angel@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

We look forward to working with you all again at future events at Mackie