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GUIDE TO SUBJECT CHOICE IN S3

Junior Phase (S1 – S3)

In your first two years at secondary school you have followed a common curriculum which is part of a broad general education. You have been introduced to all subject departments in the school. The curriculum you have been following has been designed to cover seven main areas.

Mathematics	
Languages	(English and Modern Language)
Health/Wellbeing	(RE, PE, PSE)
Science	
Social Studies	(History, Geography and Modern Studies)
Creative and Expressive Arts	(Art, Music and Drama)
Technologies	(ICT, Home Economics, CDT – Craft, Design and Technology)

The broad general education continues into your 3rd year at Secondary. All pupils will continue to study

Mathematics	
Languages	English
Health/ Well Being	RE, PSE, Core PE

However, you will be given a choice of which subjects you wish to study in the following areas:

Languages	French, German, Spanish
Sciences:	Biology, Chemistry, Physics
Social Studies:	History, Geography, Modern Studies
Creative and Expressive Arts:	Art, Music, PE Games, PE Aesthetics
Technologies:	Home Economics, Business and Admin, Computing, Design and Manufacture, Engineering Science, Graphics

This handbook has been prepared to provide information and to help you decide which subjects you should study in S3. To help you arrive at the best choice of subjects you will have the help of your parent(s)/guardian and your teachers.

This booklet should help you have a better understanding of each subject. At the end of S3 you will decide the subjects you intend to study in S4 and beyond.

In S3 homework is very important. Your homework has to be well organised, planned carefully and regularly given. It is your responsibility to complete it and hand it in on time.

In this final stage of your broad general education you have the opportunity to choose subjects, to plan and be organised and to get involved in other school activities.

It is also a period in which you will be faced with more responsibilities as a more senior member of our school community.

The courses you choose, the work habits you establish, in and out of school will give you a firm foundation on which to build for the Senior Phase and your career when you leave school.

Mr JL Carroll
Head Teacher

Things to think about when choosing subjects.

It really is important you think seriously about the subjects you choose. Once you start Third Year you really cannot change them.

What should you think about?

What are you good at?

What do you like doing?

If you know what you want to do when you leave school, what qualifications do you need?

Think about it?

Are these really the subjects that you like?

Did you pick them because you like the teacher? Will you get that teacher next year? You may not!

You think there will not be a lot of homework.

Your friend is doing it.

Remember, at the end of the day it is you who has to do the work and the exams. It will be easier if you like the subject and are interested in it. It is also worth remembering that some of you will follow careers not yet invented!

When choosing your subjects remember to pick a range of subjects. To help you do this you have to choose six subjects in addition to your 'core' subjects and these should include subjects that cover Technology and Creative and Aesthetic Studies.

If you have any doubts or questions ask your Guidance Teacher, Year Head or the Careers Officer. Also talk to subject teachers to find out what is in S3 courses.

WHAT A WEEK WILL LOOK LIKE

The school week is made up of 30 periods. In Third Year you will spend 12 following the same courses as everyone else (The Core). The rest of the time (18 periods) you will follow 6 subjects of your choice.

<u>Core</u>	<u>No of Periods</u>	<u>Options</u>	<u>No of Periods</u>
English	4	6 subjects each with	3 periods
Mathematics	4		
RE	2		
PE	2		
PSE	1		

The options are designed to allow you to choose subjects that you like, that are useful to you and will lead to a National Qualification in S4. They are broadly based to help keep as many choices as possible open to you.

ST PAUL'S R.C. ACADEMY
S3 CURRICULUM 2016-2017

Name..... Class..... D.O.B..... Guidance Teacher.....

Intended Destination_____

English, Maths, RME Core, Core PE and PSE are compulsory subjects in S3. Please ensure you have 6 selections made when this form is completed.

Select 1 Science from BIOLOGY CHEMISTRY PHYSICS	My selection 1:	Select 1 from the following BIOLOGY CHEMISTRY PHYSICS HISTORY GEOGRAPHY MODERN STUDIES ART MUSIC P.E. Games P.E Aesthetic DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE ENGINEERING SCIENCE GRAPHICS ADMIN & BUSINESS COMPUTING SCIENCE HOME ECONOMICS FRENCH GERMAN SPANISH	My selection 6:
Select 1 Social subject from HISTORY GEOGRAPHY MODERN STUDIES	My selection 2:		
Select 1 Creative and Expressive from ART MUSIC P.E. Games P.E Aesthetic	My selection 3:		
Select 1 Technological subject from DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE ENGINEERING SCIENCE GRAPHICS ADMIN & BUSINESS COMPUTING SCIENCE HOME ECONOMICS	My selection 4:		
Select 1 Modern Language from FRENCH GERMAN SPANISH	My selection 5:		

Parent/Guardian's Signature of Approval.....

Date

Art and Design

S3 Curriculum - 2 periods a week

Why Study Art and Design in S3

Do you enjoy working with creative materials and using your imagination? Do you want to learn to use a wide range of techniques with paper, clay, and fabrics, or perhaps you like to sit quietly and do some drawing and painting using a wide variety of excellent materials? You might even be interested in computer graphics or in editing your own photographs.

If the answer is "yes" to this little taster of all the exciting possibilities, come to the Art and Design department in S3. You should seriously consider choosing this very enjoyable and rewarding subject.

What will you learn?

Pupils will complete two short courses in S3 Art and Design, which will give them a taster of the main elements of the S4, S5 and S6 courses. Pupils will

- Complete a small Design unit, looking at, and working with the methods of a real designer.
- Produce a small Expressive Unit (drawing, painting etc.)

Look at the work and methods of contemporary and historical artists.

Pupils will explore:

- a wide range of two- and three-dimensional materials,
- using the computer as a design tool,
- using photography to help with composition.
- create, express, and communicate ideas.

Progression: What next?

Pupils will be able to progress to National 4 or National 5, based on ability. This can then lead to studying Higher Art and Design, Higher Photography and S6 Advanced Higher.

Pupils who have a flair for and an interest in this subject may find it useful when choosing a career in Fashion, Photography, Product Design, Architecture, and many more careers in the creative industries.

Biology

S3 Curriculum - 3 periods a week

Why study Biology in S3?

Biology really is an amazing subject. How many times do you hear Biology topics mentioned in the news? Which other subject gives you the chance to find out more about what keeps us alive and the importance of other animals, plants and the environment around us?

Biology can be studied along with Chemistry or Physics. It can lead to a variety of career options, such as Sports Science, Medicine, Environmental Science, Physiotherapy and Biomedical Sciences. Even if you decide not to continue with Biology at a higher level, the skills you will learn can be applied to almost any degree or career choice.

Topics you will cover include:

Nature Detectives
Biological Helpers
Body Balance
From Egg to Adult
Inside Me!
Plants 'R' Us
Wee Beasties

How will you learn?

By developing knowledge and understanding of science concepts; using inquiry, investigation and practical techniques you will develop skills for learning, life and work.

Progression in Biology

Level 3/4 --National 4/5—Higher

Business & Administration

S3 Curriculum - 3 periods a week

Why study Business & Administration?

Business & Administration is not just for those who would like to run their own business, but for anyone who wants to understand the business world. The course will give pupils an insight into the structure, organisation, aims and workings of business.

In addition pupils will learn IT skills. IT is not just for those who want to work in an office, but for anyone who wants to learn skills for life. It is a valuable and exciting subject which looks at how people work in business.

This is a subject that prepares you with skills for the world of work whether running your own business or working for others.

What will you learn?

- IT Solutions – creating a range of business documents for your own business
- Coca-Cola Real Business Challenge – creating your own juice brand
- Administrative Practices – investigate and present findings on recruitment, customer service and health & safety
- Marketing – produce a marketing campaign for a real local business

How will you learn?

- A variety of stimulating individual/paired/group tasks – a practical application of business theory
- Problem-solving and presentation skills encouraged and developed – decisions are made by pupils
- Use of a wide range of ICT to present work – pupils have a choice over the software they use

Progression

- National 3 & 4 Business
- National 5 and Higher Business Management
- National 3, 4, 5 and Higher Administration & IT
- SCQF Level 6 Personal Development

Chemistry

S3 Curriculum - 3 periods a week

Why study Chemistry?

Everything you see, touch, feel, smell and even hear has got chemistry written all over it.

What you will learn in S3

Level 4 leading onto National 4 / 5

Level 4 includes:

Properties and uses of Substances

The foundations of chemistry – reactions, identifications of chemicals, predictions of possible structures

Earth's Materials

This explores Earth's resources, how and why we use them. Not only will this include looking at fossil fuels and alternative sources of energy but also the overall picture of society's needs, risks and benefits of differing energy sources.

Materials and Chemical Changes

Controlling chemical reactions. Producing electricity.

Investigating novel materials – not what they do but also how it happens as well as looking into their discoveries as well as advantages and disadvantages.

How will you learn?

The course will rely on experiments, problem solving activities, projects and a variety of presentations.

You will also be involved in cross curricular areas such as numeracy, citizenship and, of course, analysing, carrying out your ideas and evaluating them to improve your project.

Progression from Level 4

National 4/5 ➤➤ Higher ➤➤ Advanced Higher

Craft, Design & Technology

1. Design & Manufacture

S3 Curriculum – 3 periods a week

Why study Design and Manufacture in S3?

Design and Manufacture courses aim to develop skills that can be seen in entrepreneurs from Dragon's Den to professional designers and craftspeople in industry. Pupils will spend part of their time designing products but will also manufacture a range of items from wood, metal and plastic.

Employment opportunities related to Design and Manufacture are: ***Product Designer, Furniture Designer, Plumber, Joiner***

What will you learn?

Pupils selecting Design and Manufacture in S3 will design and make a series of items in wood, metal and plastic.

How will you learn?

Pupils will undertake graphic work in the form of pencil sketching as well as the use of CAD (Computer Aided Design) software such as Google SketchUp and Autodesk Inventor.

Practical work will follow in the workshop where pupils will develop their skills in joining, shaping and finishing a range of materials.

Knowledge and understanding of design, materials and processes will be built upon as the course progresses.

Please note that a single payment of £8 will be requested at the start of the course as the projects made become the pupil's property.

Progression

National 4/5 courses in Design and Manufacture, and Practical Woodworking/Metalworking. All of these courses lead on to relevant courses at university and college.

2. Engineering Science

S3 Curriculum – 3 periods a week

Why study Engineering Science in S3?

Engineering Science focuses on active learning in electronics, computer programming, pneumatics (use of compressed air), and mechanical systems (gears, pulleys etc). In the real world this could lead on to employment in Civil, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering amongst others. The imminent establishment of Dundee as a major manufacturer of renewable energy systems, such as off shore wind energy, will open up many opportunities in this area.

Further employment opportunities related to Engineering Science are: Civil Engineering, Computer Programming, Electrical Engineering, Environmental Engineering

What will you learn?

Pupils selecting Engineering Science in S3 will learn about electronics, computer control, pneumatics, mechanisms, structures and energy systems.

How will you learn?

The series of topics listed above are taught via the use of computer simulation and physical modelling.

Pupils complete a set of topic based workbooks as they progress through the course and have the opportunity to bring all of their learning together at the end in a final project.

Many parts of this course require pupils to work through calculations so a reasonably strong background in maths is beneficial.

Progression

National 4/5 courses and Higher courses in Engineering Science. These courses lead on to relevant courses at university and college.



3. Graphic Communication **S3 Curriculum – 3 periods a week**

Why study Graphic Communication in S3?

Graphic Communication is concerned with producing detailed drawings and promotional graphics that help in the real world of production and advertising. A typical example of the work of someone in this field would be the design of the graphics for a child's toy and the associated information leaflet including assembly instructions.

Further employment opportunities related to Graphic Communication are: Architect, Games Designer, Graphic Designer, Car Stylist

What will you learn?

Pupils selecting Graphic Communication in S3 will develop their skills in sketching, rendering, desk top publishing and CAD.

How will you learn?

Pupils will undertake graphic work in the form of pencil sketching as well as the use of CAD (Computer Aided Design) software such as Google SketchUp, Autodesk Inventor and AutoCAD.

The majority of the coursework, including technical drawings, is done on computer. This is supplemented with rendering and sketching in a range of 2D and 3D formats.

Further learning is delivered via PowerPoints and workbooks to cover the theory of graphic communication. This includes reading and understanding CAD drawings, the use of colour, presentation techniques, emphasis and impact in general.

Progression

National 4/5 and Higher courses in Graphic Communication. These lead on to relevant courses at university and college.



English

S3 Curriculum – 4 periods a week

Why study English in S3?

- To improve your Communication and Literacy skills
- To develop your creativity
- To explore the richness and diversity of language and literature
- To develop your critical thinking skills
- To develop an understanding of Scottish culture and that of other countries
- To prepare you for life and the world of work

What will you learn?

- How to improve your Reading, Writing, Listening and Talking Skills
- How to analyse and evaluate fiction, non-fiction and media and digital texts

How will you learn?

- Through active learning and by working independently and with others
- By studying and creating a range of texts including: novels; short stories, poems; reports, newspapers; films; graphic novels; posters and digital media by building on the progress you've made already by setting targets for improvement

Progression:

National Qualifications (depending on progress made) at:

- National 3
- National 4
- National 5



Geography

S3 Curriculum – 3 periods a week

Why study Geography in S3?

- Pupils will explore many issues focusing on their knowledge and understanding of people, the places they live and the environment. They will study a variety of case studies from many parts of the Globe including their local area and Rural/Urban Environments.
- They will develop their Mapping, ICT, Literacy and Numeracy skills across all units with an emphasis on Health and Wellbeing.
- Pupils will learn to make links with current events in order to further their understanding and interest in Geography as a subject.
- They will build on their learning from S1-S2 Social Subjects and make appropriate links across departments where possible.
- Pupils will make use of the expertise of Visiting Speakers and will venture out into the local area to bring their classroom learning to life.

What will you learn?

Global Issues – ‘Violent Volcanoes’, ‘Roaming the Rainforests’, Physical Geography – ‘Waterworld’, Human Geography – changing urban spaces

How will you learn?

Pupils will be encouraged to develop:

- ❖ ☐ Independent thinking
- ❖ ☐ Leadership
- ❖ ☐ Research skills
- ❖ ☐ Presentation skills
- ❖ ☐ Creativity and imagination
- ❖ ☐ Group work/pair work
- ❖ ☐ Active Learning skills
- ❖ ☐ Individual talents
- ❖ ☐ Confidence



Progression

Pupils can continue into S4 following the National 3/4/5 curriculum with the possibility of studying Higher Geography in the future. KU and skills developed in Geography can be transferred to other Social Subjects and vice versa.

History

S3 Curriculum – 3 periods a week

Why study History in S3?

You will develop

- your understanding of the world by learning about other people and their values, in different times, places and circumstances.
- your understanding of and respect for the values, beliefs and cultures of others.
- an openness to new thinking and ideas and develop a sense of responsibility and an understanding of global citizenship.
- your investigative, creative and critical thinking skills.
- your literacy and numeracy skills.
- skills valued by employers and also key skills for success in enterprise.

History will contribute to your understanding of the society in which you live and work by helping you to understand the forces which have shaped the world today.

What will you learn?

Topic 1: Era of the Great War

Topic 2: The Transatlantic Slave Trade

How will you learn?

As has been the case in S1 and S2, your learning experience will be as active as possible. We want you to play a key role in your learning.

In class you will have opportunities to:

- Work in groups on given tasks/challenges
- Present your work to the class in various formats
- Work in pairs
- Use ICT appropriately
- Work independently
- Have fun and enjoy learning!

Progression

Pupils' who study History in S3 can continue to study the subject in S4 at one of the following levels:

Access 3

National 4

National 5



Home Economics

S3 Curriculum - 3 periods a week

Why study Home Economics in S3?

Home Economics provides opportunities for boys and girls to develop skills that are important in life after school. Home Economics encourages pupils to make informed decisions and also promotes literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing and communication skills.

Please note: Parents and pupils must be aware that in order to achieve all learning outcomes pupils must participate in all practical cookery/textile workshops. There is a one-off payment of £25.00, which covers that cost for practical cookery/textile workshops. This amount must be paid at the start of S3.

What will you learn?

- Practical cookery skills
- Textile skills
- Food technology
- Diet and health
- Consumer issues
- REHIS food hygiene certificate

How will you learn?

Through:

- Practical cookery workshops
- Textile workshops
- Food technology workshops
- ICT activities
- Interdisciplinary learning projects done within technology subjects
- Investigative work e.g. design and make
- Active learning/formative assessment strategies

Progression

National 2 – Food, Health & Wellbeing

National 3 – Hospitality: Practical Cookery, Health & Food Technology,
Fashion & Textile Technology

National 4 – Hospitality: Practical Cookery, Health & Food Technology,
Fashion & Textile Technology

National 5 – Hospitality: Practical Cookery, Hospitality: Practical Cake Craft, Health & Food Technology, Fashion & Textile Technology

Higher – Health & Food Technology

Mathematics

S3 Curriculum - 4 periods a week

Why study Maths in S3?

Maths is everywhere in our lives. Many jobs require skills taught in maths. Eg. Builders, plumbers, accountants, shop keepers, BANKERS!!!, ...

Maths courses also teach you valuable life skills for when you leave school. These range from the obvious time and money to being able to work out our wages and keep a track on our finances.

What will you learn?

Numeracy, Shape, Algebra, Finance, Problem Solving, Trigonometry

How will you learn?

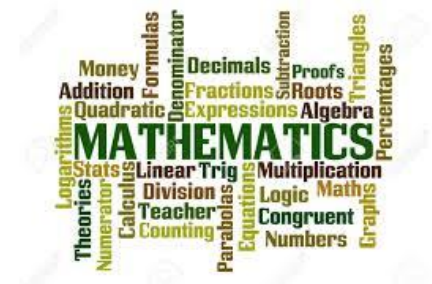
You will be placed carefully into classes with pupils of similar ability. You will continue to study CfE Level 3 or 4.

You will be given opportunities to:

- Work independently
- Work in pairs and groups
- Research and present topics
- Evaluate your own progress
- Evaluate how you learn best
- Discuss strategies
- Complete practical tasks

Progression

Pupils will start National 3/4/5 depending on ability shown in S3.



Modern Languages

S3 Curriculum – 3 periods a week

Why Learn a Foreign Language (French/German/Spanish)?

Learning a language is an interesting way to find out about the world around you. It enables learners to make connections with different people and their cultures and to play a fuller part as global citizens. It is becoming more important that as many people as possible can get by in a foreign language, as more and more people travel in Europe and throughout the world and businesses expand and make contacts abroad.

It is not true that all foreigners speak English. As well as being an interesting and rewarding course, a certification in a foreign language is a usable skill for a school leaver. You would already know enough language to cope quite well in a foreign country.

What Will I Learn?

The courses on offer in S3 and S4 cater for a wide range of pupils. You may choose to continue with French or start afresh with German or Spanish. You may even choose to do two languages as separate options e.g. French & German, French & Spanish or German & Spanish. You will continue to build on the skills you have already developed, increase your confidence in the language and extend your knowledge about language and different cultures.

You will continue to listen and talk, read and write in the foreign language. You will listen to and take part in more detailed conversations to exchange information, experiences and feelings. In addition, you will write more extensively over a widening range of topics, expressing feelings and opinion.

You will explore themes such as Leisure, T.V & Cinema (incorporating a Film Unit) and Tourism.

How Will I Learn?

You will have the opportunity to work independently, in pairs and in groups working with a variety of materials such as flip cameras, MP3 players, DVDs, text books, music and computer programmes.

What Will I Need?

A foreign language dictionary is essential.

Progression:

National 3, National 4 and National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher

bienvenidos
欢迎 **bienvenue**
benvenuto
مرحبا بكم
willkommen *salve*

Modern Studies

S3 Curriculum – 3 periods a week

Why study Modern Studies in S3?

You will develop:

- your understanding of the principles of democracy and citizenship through experience of critical and independent thinking and explore and evaluate different types of sources and evidence
- the skills to investigate a social issue by gathering information and assessing its impact, and the attitudes of the people affected.
- Skills to evaluate the role of the media in a democracy, assess its importance in informing and influencing citizens, and explain decisions made by those in power.

What will you learn?

Topic 1: Crime and the Law

Topic 2: The Media

How will you learn?

Pupils will continue to engage in active learning activities such as:

- Think, pair, share
- Group/Individual presentations
- Outside speakers (Police, Reporter)
- Field Trips (court room, prison)
- ICT activities
- Group discussions
- Debates
- Independent research

Progression:

Pupils who study Modern Studies in S3 can continue to study the subject in S4 at one of the following levels:

Access 3

National 4

National 5

Music

S3 Curriculum - 3 periods a week

Why study Music in S3?

You will develop:

- Skills on two instruments
- Techniques for Composing
- Knowledge and understanding of a variety of different styles of music.
- Appreciation of various styles and cultures of music
- Your own style of creativity
- A sense of responsibility through independent learning and ownership of your personal progress
- Communication Skills
- Confidence and performing skills

What will you learn?

Performing
Composing
Listening

How will you learn?

In class you will have the opportunity to:

- Work in groups
- Develop your skills independently on your two chosen instruments
- Use ICT for classwork and composition
- Be involved in peer presentations and assessment
- Complete research about different styles of music and composers

Progression

Pupils who study music in S3 can continue to study the subject in S4 at one of the following levels:

National 3 National 4 National 5

“Music
speaks what cannot be expressed
soothes the mind and gives it rest
heals the heart and makes it whole
flows from heaven to the soul.”

Physical Education

S3 Curriculum - 3 periods a week

Why study PE in S3?

- To improve performance
- To further develop skills and techniques
- To experience the enjoyment of competition
- To develop self-esteem and to understand the importance of improving aspects of fitness to enhance performance

What courses are available?

- PE Games Elective- Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Fitness, Football, Swimming, Table Tennis and Volleyball.

OR

- PE Aesthetic Elective- Athletics, Dance, Gymnastics, Fitness, Synchronised Swimming and Trampolining.

Swimming is compulsory in both courses and all pupils must swim and participate in every activity in both the courses.

What will you learn?

- To improve performance by developing skills and techniques across various different activities.
- Identify individual and group strengths and weaknesses through participation.
- Develop an understanding of leadership and coaching skills.

How will you learn?

- Through Performance and Practical Experience
- Working independently and as part of a group.
- Through video analysis.
- By creating, designing, leading and organising.
- Theoretical Analysis in the classroom

Progression

Pupils who work hard will be able to study

- National 4 Physical Education
- National 5 Physical Education
- Higher Physical Education

Leading on to Sport and Dance Related Study in Colleges/ Universities



Physics

S3 Curriculum - 3 periods a week

Why study Physics in S3?

- S3 will serve as an introduction to some of the Units that will be studied in S4 and S5.
- The Units will also be taught in such a way as to be a grounding in Physics for pupils who decide to study Physics later in life.

What will you learn?

The Physics topics dealt with in S3 will be.

- Electricity and Energy
- Waves and Radiation
- Dynamics and Space

How will you learn?

There are a variety of methods used in Physics classes to teach the Units dealt with; these include

- Computer simulations
- Practical Activities
- Book work
- Problem solving

Progression

