

'Achieve Excellence'

S4 Pathways

S3 into S4 Course Choices



What will I study in S4?

- It is a time to think about your future and what curricular area pathways you want to progress in
- S4 should be purposeful and allow you to both achieve and attain for your future
- You will have the chance to select 5 subjects in S4 plus English & Maths – **these will come from the 7 subjects you have been studying in S3 or 6 you have been studying and 1 college course**
- You will study these subjects for 4 periods a week





PATHWAYS BOOKLET

For pupils in S3 choosing their subjects in S4

'Achieve Excellence'

2025-26

What will I study in S4?

All will study:

- English (5 periods)
- Maths (5 periods)
- Skills For Life which consists of 1 period of RME/1 period of PSE (changes throughout year) and 2 Periods of PE
- **They do not appear on the choices sheet**
- **You will then select 5 subjects from the 7 you have been studying in S3 or 4 and 1 college course**



How do I make my choices?

1. Choose 5 courses on the Microsoft Form with subject 1 being your favourite, 2 next and so on.
2. Choose a reserve course (subject 6).
3. We always work hard to get pupils their choices, but we cannot guarantee them – by completing a mock form we should be able to create a final option choice that meets the needs of all our learners to the best of our abilities.



What levels of courses are available to me?

The following link should help explain the key terms and the progression of levels: <https://scqf.org.uk/about-the-framework/interactive-framework/>

- NPAs = National Progression Awards = available in a variety of sectors and aimed at assessing a defined set of skills and knowledge in specialist vocational areas.
- National 4 = courses are made up of units. The units are assessed pass or fail by a teacher/lecturer and learners need to pass units including the added value unit to achieve the qualification.
- National 5/Higher/Advanced Higher = courses assessed through an exam or coursework or both, most of which will be marked by the SQA. Courses graded A to D or 'No Award'.

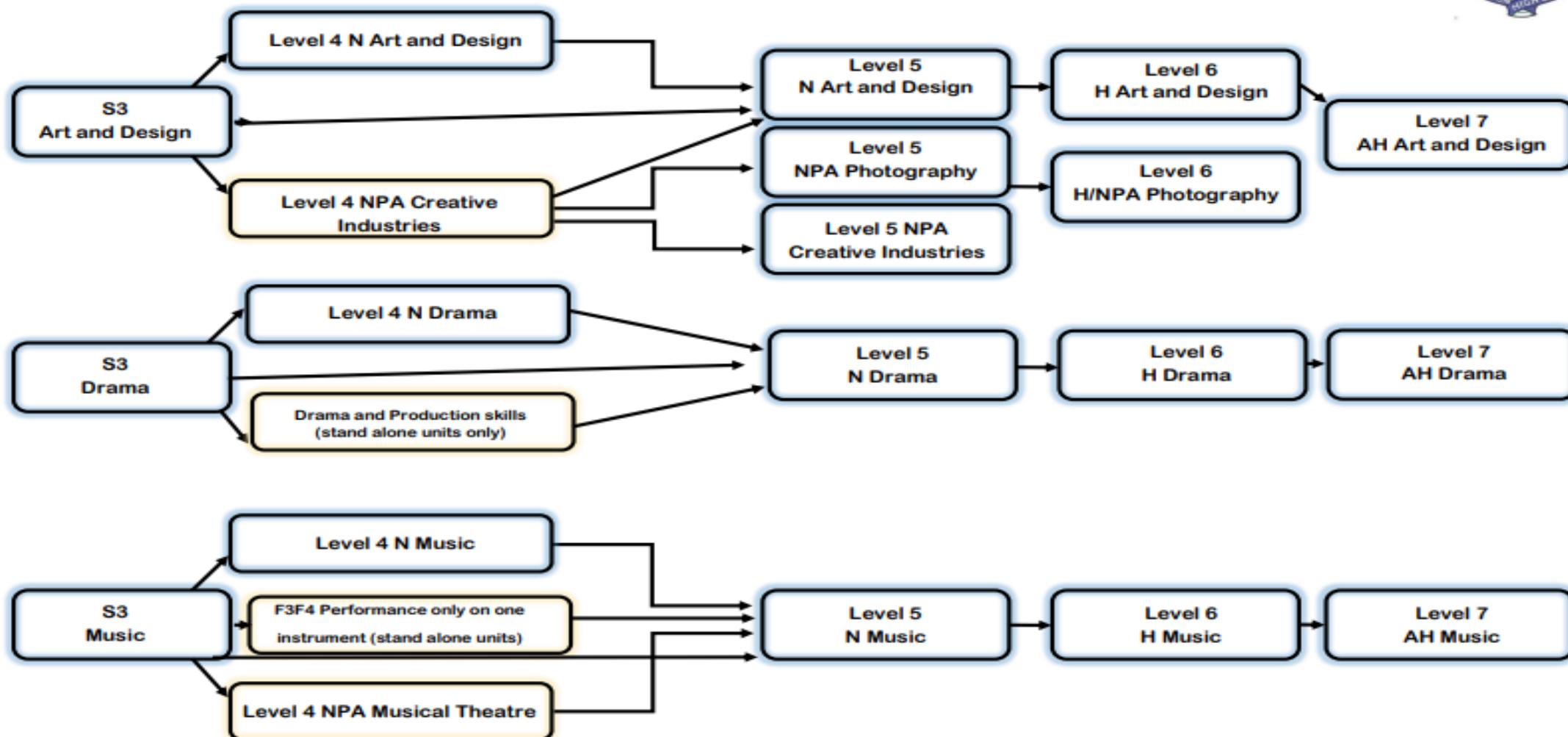


What is a Pathway?

- You will be given the opportunity to specialise in your chosen subjects in S4
- We want you to think about various curricular pathways so we have included the progression and possible attainment that each subject and curricular area bring
- Each curricular area has created a pathway picture to help



SENIOR PHASE PATHWAYS EXPRESSIVE ARTS



How do I know what the courses are like?

For each subject we have provided a course choice table

This gives you:

- What will I cover = Key content areas of the course
- Assessment = Is there an exam or is it internally assessed or a mix of both?
- Attainment = What qualifications can you get at what levels
- Homework = what's the out of class commitment
- Progression = What can you go onto study in S5/6
- Entry Requirements = what do I need to get on the course?
- Information from = Who can I talk to for more information



COURSE	History National 4/5
What will I cover?	<p>The course consists of three units:</p> <p>Unit 1 – The Era of the Great War 1910-1928 A study of the experiences of Scots in The Great War and its impact on life in Scotland.</p> <p>Unit 2 – Changing Britain 1760-1914 A topic examining the social, economic and political developments that transformed life across Britain between 1760 and 1900 including the birth of the railway system and life in the coal mines.</p> <p>Unit 3 – Hitler and Nazi Germany 1919-1939 A study of the rise to power of Hitler and The Nazis and how it impacted on aspects of German life 1919-1939.</p>
Assessment	<p>Internal Assessment We will prepare for the exam with an assessment on each topic.</p> <p>External assessment An <u>80 mark</u>, 2 hour 20 minute exam paper testing knowledge and skills. An added value essay written up in exam conditions in 1 hour. This is out of 20 marks and makes up 20% of the overall award.</p>
Homework	Homework will be issued on a regular basis. Homework should last about an hour per week and may include specific activities, completion of classwork, consolidation of learning and revision.
Attainment	National 4 or 5 History
Entry Requirements	Having studied S3 History
Progression	Higher History National 4 or 5 Travel & Tourism
Information from	Mrs Grant

Borders Schools Academy 2025/26

There are also courses offered by Scottish Borders College.

All will run on a Friday from 10.00 am to 2.30pm unless stated otherwise.

Please note that college students will have transportation to and from the school but as their return to EHS is after our school buses leave on a Friday, **students will have to make their own way home.**

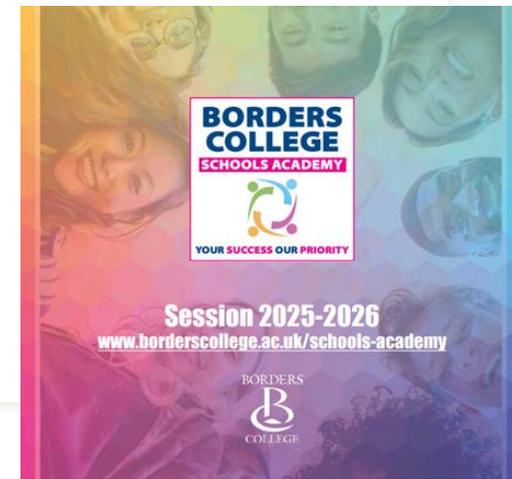
Due to the timings you can only apply for 1 college course

You can find these on: <https://www.borderscollege.ac.uk/schools-academy>

The Borders Schools Academy courses booklet link is:
<file:///N:/downloads/SchoolsAcademyBooklet2025.pdf>

Please speak to your Guidance Teacher if you want to select a Borders Schools Academy course as one of your 7 choices.

If applying for a Borders Schools Academy course you must apply yourself through the Borders College website <https://www.borderscollege.ac.uk/>



When do I make my choices?

- Mock Form deadline is Wednesday 22nd January
- Options interviews with Guidance Teachers & parents/carers 2 week window opens 29th January
- **Deadline is Final Microsoft Form Monday 12th February**
- Final checks in class by Guidance in Learner Journey 23rd & 24th Feb
- Late forms run the risk of losing out on choices
- Please note – we will do our best to give you your choices, but we cannot guarantee them
- You cannot change your choices until the creation of timetable



What support will I have?

- Access to S4 Pathways Choices booklet in S3 Year Group Team
- Class teachers able to go over choices/pathways options
- You will get a Mock Choice Form to complete online with support from parents/carers (Completed by 22nd January)
- Guidance Teacher will meet with you and parent/carers from 29th January (2 week window for this)
- You will receive an up-to-date tracking report on your class progress
- **You will receive a final options form to be completed by 12th February**
- Forms can be checked by Guidance Teachers in Learner Journey classes on 23rd & 24th February



Pathway options beyond EHS

- Graduate Apprenticeships
- University
- College
- Modern Apprenticeships
- Employment
- Travel
- Training Programmes
- Entrepreneurship



Online Support

My World of Work:

<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/>

Pathways-Subject Choice Planit : Career Pathways [Planit : Career Pathways \(planitplus.net\)](http://planitplus.net)

A-Z Career Options [Planit : Careers A to Z \(planitplus.net\)](http://planitplus.net)

