

Pathways Information Evening

S2

(Thursday 8th January 2026)



Altra Academy is a place where every member of our community is valued, included and respected on our journey to excellence.

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Welcome

Two aims:

- Pathways presentation to outline the process and rationale behind our curriculum
- Opportunity to gain Departmental/Subject Information



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Rationale

- Clear, uninterrupted pathway through to Senior Phase
- Greater focussed preparation in S3 courses for presentation in S4
- Deeper learning across S3/4 subjects
- Increased number of Nat 5 presentations:
 - 696 presentations from 131 pupils
- Improved preparation for transition on to L6/Higher courses



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BGE - Experiences



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Transition from S2 into S3

Curriculum for Excellence to Senior Phase Pathway.

S5 & S6

Students progress to Level 6 SCQF, Higher or Advanced Higher courses as appropriate.

S3 – S4

Students choose 7 subjects for S3 & S4 study. Progress will generally be up to Nat 5.

S1 – S2

Broad General Education Phase for all students. Progressing generally up to 3rd Level Outcomes



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Curriculum in S3

Curriculum in S3 – Moving to 7 subjects.

English	4 periods
Maths	4 periods
PE/HWB	2 periods
RMPS	1 period
PSE	1 period
1x choice from Expressive Arts	4 periods each
1x choice from Social Subjects	4 periods each
1x choice from Science and Technologies	4 periods each
2 x "free choice"	4 periods each
Total	32 periods

All students choose 5 subjects on their Option Form along "reserve" subject(s)

English and Maths and 5 subjects are locked in for S3 and S4



S3 Subject Choice Form

	Social Subjects	Expressive Arts	Science and Technology	Free Choice	Free Choice
Options	Business Management	Art and Design	Administration and IT	Administration and IT	Administration and IT
	Geography	Creative Thinking	Biology	Art and Design	Art and Design
	History	Dance	Chemistry	Biology	Biology
	Modern Studies	Drama	Computing Studies	Built Environment	Built Environment
	RMPS	Music	Graphic Communication	Business Management	Business Management
		Physical Education	Physics	Chemistry	Chemistry
			Practical Metalwork	Computing Studies	Computing Studies
				Creative Thinking	Creative Thinking
				Dance	Dance
				Drama	Drama
				French	French
				Geography	Geography
				Graphic Communication	Graphic Communication
				History	History
				Modern Studies	Modern Studies
				Music	Music
			Music Technology	Music Technology	
			Physical Education	Physical Education	
			Physics	Physics	
			Practical Cookery	Practical Cookery	
			Practical Metalwork	Practical Metalwork	
			Practical Woodwork	Practical Woodwork	
			Spanish	Spanish	

Reserve Option 1

Reserve Option 2

Career Aspiration

Please note that whilst we will do our best to accommodate everyone, in some circumstances it may not be possible for a course option to run. In those cases, a member of the Pupil Support staff will be in touch to recourse a pupil option and contact home.

Pupil Signature

Parent/Carer Signature

Date:

S3 Course Choice - Timeline

Current Stage	Date	Activity
S2	November	S2 Progress Reports Issued
	8th January	Course Choice Information Evening
	12th January	S2 Course choice data and finalised choices completed
	14th January	SLT and Guidance staff meet to clearly communicate course choice process.
	15th January	S2 Progress Information Evening
	19th January - 23rd January	Pupil course choice awareness raising timeslot, faculty planned activities to ensure pupils have a clear understanding of all courses available
	19th January	S2-S3 Course Choice Booklet Available
	26th - 30th January	PSE Course Choice Input in classes
	3rd February	S2 Course Choice Assembly
	5th February	Course Choice Interviews
	16th February	S2 Course Choice Returns
	3rd February	Quality Assurance Checks and Follow ups

Gathering Information

- Outlines of all courses will be contained in the Senior Phase Pathways Booklet which will be on the school website by the 19th January 2026
- Paper copies will be available if required.

Advice from

- Subject Teacher / Principal Teacher
- House Group Leader
- Pupil Support
- Year Head - Depute
- Skills Development Scotland – Careers Advisor
- Parents and Families



Curriculum Pathways

Curriculum Pathways

Technologies



S3

S4

S5

S6

Positive Destinations

S3 Creative Thinking

Creative Thinking
SCQF 5

Creative Thinking
SCQF 6

S3 Graphic Communication

N4 Graphic Communication
SCQF 4

N5 Graphic Communication
SCQF 5

Higher Graphic Communication
SCQF 6

Advanced Higher Graphic Communication
SCQF 7

S3 Practical Woodwork

N4 Practical Woodwork
SCQF 4

N5 Practical Woodwork
SCQF 5

S3 Practical Metalwork

N4 Practical Metalwork
SCQF 4

N5 Practical Metalwork
SCQF 5

S3 Engineering Skills for Work

N5 Engineering Skills for Work
SCQF 5

S3 Built Environment

NPA Built Environment
SCQF 5

DEC level 2
SCQF 6

NPA Automotive Skills
SCQF 4

Further & Higher Education/ Volunteering

Honours Degree in Technological Education SCQF 10
Honours Degree in Architecture SCQF 10
Honours Degree in Structural/Electrical/Civil Engineering SCQF 10
Cartographer Degree SCQF 9 or 10
HNC/D Games Developing SCQF 7/8/9

Careers in Technologies

Architect £30,000 - £60,000
Cartographer £18,000 - £45,000
Games Developer £25,000 - £70,000
Offshore Drilling Worker £20,000 - £60,000
Blacksmith £28,000 - Unlimited
Self-Driving Car Mechanic - ??
Smart City Designer - ??
Robot Recruiter - ??

Useful sources of information

University websites as well as www.ucas.com

My WoW – information on career management skills

Forth Valley College and other College websites

<https://apprenticeships.scot/>

Publications- University / College prospectus

Skills Development Scotland – information on other routes to qualifications and on job vacancies and trends

A wide range of people in and out of school

Alloa Academy Website – Pupils – Course Choice



Progress - Support

How will we keep you up to date?



Important Dates – S2

- November S2 Progress Reports issued
- Thursday 15th January S2 Progress Information Evening
- Monday 19th January Pathways Booklet on website
- Thursday 5th February Student interviews with PTs Pupil Support with parents/carers invited
- Monday 16th February Course Choice Return Date



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Questions



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