 Grove Academy

Mr T Woodcock – Head Teacher

24 Claypotts Road, Broughty Ferry

Dundee DD5 1AB

Tel 01382 436800

Email address -

groveacademy@dundeeschools.scot



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21st December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

**S3 to S4 Course Choice**

Our course choice process for S3 Learners has begun. All S3 Learners will be asked to select their choices for S4. They will continue with some subjects from S3 and these subjects are English, PE, RE and SE. They will also be asked to select either Applications of Mathematics or Mathematics to study in S4. Learners will then be asked to select 5 further subjects. It is recommended that in order to build on skills and knowledge from S3, Learners should be opting to continue with subjects that they have studied in S3. There are new courses on offer in school and also a wide range of courses to study at Dundee and Angus College. Leaners selecting a course based at college should ensure that they have read the college course choice information so they are aware of the content of the course and also where the course is based (Gardyne or Kingsway Campus) as although pupils will be bused to college (bus leaves during lunchtime) they will need to make their own way home.

Information about the courses on offer can be found in our S3 into S4 course choice sway which can be accessed through clicking on the link or scanning the QR code below and is also on the Grove Academy website. Next term all S3 Learners will be receiving a course choice form (also can be found on our website).

As part of preparing for making their course choice, our learners will spend time during their Personal and Social Education lessons looking at a variety of resources to help them make informed choices for their future. They will also have a presentation in a Course Choice Assembly to explain the process to them and support and information available.

We are asking that Parents/Carers support this process by also looking at information with their Young Person at home to ensure that they, along with their Young Person, are aware of topics being covered in subject areas, progression routes from those subjects and potential career pathways. General information about the courses offered can be found in the sway but recommendations from teachers about suitable progression can be found in the S3 report which will be issued on 26th January.

Qr code

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All S3 Parents and Carers are invited to our S3 Course Choice Information Evening in school on Wednesday 10th January at 6-8pm. During this evening, there will be presentations from key staff to explain the Course Choice process and there will also be an opportunity to speak to subject staff and pupil SCQF ambassadors about S4 courses.

The S3 Parents Evening on Tuesday 30th January is another opportunity for Parents and Carers to speak to Class Teachers to find out about their Young Person’s progress to date, next steps in learning and also recommendations for study in S4.

All S3 Learners will discuss their choices with their Guidance Teacher, and Parents and Carers have an opportunity to book an online meeting with Guidance staff before the course choice deadline of 12th February when the forms are due to be in and finalised. Details of how to book an appointment with the Guidance Teacher will be shared next term. Information about the course choice process has been summarised by the Guidance staff in the following pages.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact your Young Person’s Guidance Teacher in the first instance.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Barbour and Mr M Robertson

DHTs overseeing Course Choice

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Dear Parent/Carer

Your child will be undertaking their Course Choice selection for the next academic year during the course of January. Below we describe the process required by school and home in order to support the learner to their successful course selection. Note:PTG = Principal Teacher of

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| **Action** | **Timing** | **Materials** | **Who** | **Due Date** |
| **View the School Website at home** | Christmas Holidays through to Jan 22nd 2024 | School Website: Course Choice Page  Sway videos  Course Descriptors | Learner  Learner Family | Wed 10th Jan 2024 |
| **Course Choice Sheet handed out in PSE** | Mon 8th Jan-Fri 12th Jan | Course Choice Printout Sheet | PTG | Fri 12th Jan 2024 |
| **Attend Course Choice Information Evening** | 6 – 8 pm Wed 10th Jan 2024 | Course Choice Printout Sheet and any questions for Subject Staff | Learner  Learner Family | Wed 10th Jan 2024 |
| **Course Choice Preparation in PSE (+)** | Mon 8th Jan – Fri 9th Feb 2024 | ICT: My World of Work, UCAS Hub, School Website, [www.apprenticeships.scot](http://www.apprenticeships.scot) and other relevant sites  PTG/Learner Conversations | PTG  Learner | Fri 9th Feb 2024 |
| **Course Choice Preparation at home: Part 1** | Christmas holidays – Mon 12th Feb 2024 | ICT: My World of Work, UCAS Hub, School Website, [www.apprenticeships.scot](http://www.apprenticeships.scot) and other relevant sites | Learner  Learner Family | Mon 12th Feb 2024 |
| **Course Choice Preparation at home: Part 2** | Christmas holidays – Mon 12th Feb 2024 | S3 Reports:  Learner strengths  Teacher recommendations | Learner  Learner Family | Mon 12th Feb 2024 |
| **Home-School Communication Option 1** | Thurs 11th Jan – Friday 9th Feb 2024 | General questions to be communicated via email or telephone with PTG | PTG  Learner  Learner Family | Fri 9th Feb 2024 |
| **S3 Parents’ Evening** | Tues 30th Jan 2024 | Subject specific and general questions following information shared via reports | Teacher  Learner  Learner Family | Tues 30th Jan 2024 |
| **Home-School Communication Option 2** | Wed 31st Jan – Frid 9th Feb 2024 | Optional Online Parent Evening appointment with PTG to discuss issues with Course Choice (*Set Date PTG dependent*) | PTG  Learner  Learner Family | Fri 9th Feb 2024 |
| **Final Course Choice Selection handed in to PTG** | Wed 31st Jan – Mon 12th Feb 2024 | Agreed/Completed/Signed Course Choice Form | Learner | Mon 12th Feb 2024 |

Guidance

Yours faithfully,

Grove Guidance Team