



**Gracemount High School 2017/18**

**S3 Course Choice**

**“Committed to  
Care and Excellence”**

## S3 COURSE CHOICE

### Introduction

The S1-3 curriculum in Gracemount High School comprises the ethos and wider life of the school, curricular areas and subjects, interdisciplinary learning and planned opportunities for personal achievement. Pupils have the opportunity to enhance their skills and abilities to ensure a strong basis for later learning and also a successful transition towards qualifications in the senior phase.

During S1 & S2 pupils attend all subject departments to ensure a broad general education. Pupils learn best when they are enthusiastic and interested to learn. Giving pupil's choices about what they learn and how they learn can improve enthusiasm for learning. Throughout S1 & S2 pupils are offered personalisation and choice within their learning and with an element of course choice (electives) at the end of S1.

During S3 pupils will continue to follow a broad general education but are able to make choices about which courses they will follow. Pupils will choose 7 subjects including English & Maths which remain compulsory. This enables them to begin to specialise their learning by doing fewer subjects in greater depth. The desired outcome of this is to fully prepare all pupils for their transition to the senior Phase and their 1<sup>st</sup> year of formal qualifications

### Progression to Exams and Qualifications

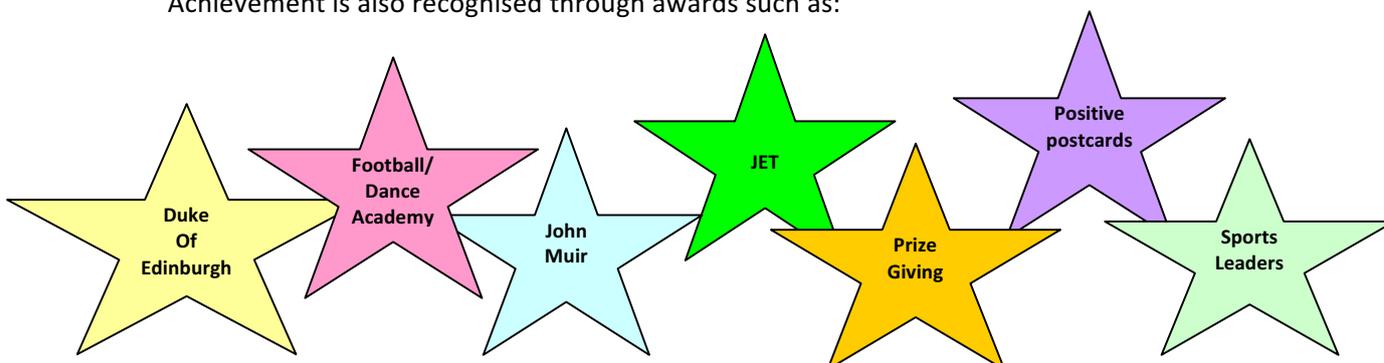
At the end of S3 pupils will enter the senior phase. It is envisaged that most pupils will continue with the 7 subjects they have undertaken in S3 to allow for a natural progression in learning.

All pupils will undertake a "Review of learning" during March of S3, where they will identify the most appropriate progression pathways based on their experience in S3. The progression pathways in S4 will be to begin qualifications in 7 subjects at the following levels.

S4 qualification levels
National 3
National 4
National 5

### Other Achievement & Qualifications

Achievement is also recognised through awards such as:



## S3 COURSE CHOICE

In this section of the website there are outlines of all the courses available in the third year. Before making a final choice, this booklet should be studied very carefully.

If you have difficulty completing the Choice Form, please telephone the school (664 7440) to arrange an appointment with your child's Guidance Teacher or Depute Headteacher.

It is important that all forms are returned to school no later than **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

### Completing the form

- Pupils must select **7 subjects**, picking 1 from each column. Maths & English are included in the 7 subjects and are compulsory.
- Pupils should discuss course choice with their current teachers and find out as much information as possible about each course before finalising their selection.
- Pupils should discuss the course choice process with parent/carers in great detail. All forms must be signed by a parent/carer prior to completion. Forms which have not been signed **will not** be coursed.
- Pupils should research future careers, college courses and university courses to help inform the decision making process. It is not imperative that pupils have a definite career path in mind at this stage but keeping options open and trying to achieve the best results possible is very important.
- Pupils who do not select a modern language will be extracted from PSE for an 8-10 week block to allow them to complete a unit in modern languages as is their entitlement.
- Please highlight any coursing issues on the form and we will address these on an individual basis with each pupil.
- All pupils will have a 1:1 meeting with their Guidance teacher regarding the course choice process. Any issues should be addressed with the Guidance Teacher (Mrs O'Connell, Mr Whale or Mrs Ellis) in the first instance.