



1st December 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

Re. S4 Course Choices 2024

During Key Adult Time your child should have received their pathways booklet which outlines the course choices available to your young person as they move from S3 into S4. This booklet contains key information about the course choice process including our curriculum structure, the types of qualifications offered to learners, career pathways and the courses we hope to offer next session.

A copy of the pathways booklet can be found using the link below:

[Pathways S3 | Portobello High School](#)

Please study the Pathways booklet with your young person to help them identify the most suitable courses for them. In S4, students choose five courses from those they are already studying in S3. Alongside these, all young people follow Mathematics, English, Core Physical Education and Personal Social Education. As well as the courses available in school, there is also the option to take college courses at Edinburgh College and the Job, Education and Training (JET) programme.

Once your young person has chosen their five preferred courses (and two reserves), they should complete the Course Choice form provided and ask you to sign it. **They will need to bring this completed, signed form to a meeting with their Key Adult in the week commencing 29th January** where they will discuss their aspirations for the future and course choices. For any pupils who have selected college as one of their options they will be support by their pupil support leader to make an application.

Whilst we do our best to match students to their preferred course choices, we may need to allocate your young person to one or both of their reserved course choices if this is not possible. This might happen, for example, if too few students opt to study a course or some of their chosen courses are running at the same time on the timetable.

Whilst we hope the information provided is accessible, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your young person's Pupil Support Leader if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully

David Dalgleish

Depute Head Teacher