



# Careers Advice in School

June Cunningham  
Careers Adviser

## Career Planning

What issues do young people face?

- More choices than ever before
- More qualifications and/or more skills
- Career change throughout working life
- A changing job market
- Lifelong learning

## Working Together with Parents

You can get involved through:-

- Becoming more aware of the information and resources students can access
- Encourage pupils to take advantage of the information and help available
- Helping them focus on what they are good at and what they can achieve
- Encouraging a positive attitude towards planning for the future

## Preparing for University in S5

- Research jobs and courses
- Find out about entry requirements
- Attend Open Days (September)
- Apply after S5 or stay on for S6?
- Work experience / work shadowing



## UNIVERSITY

- Meeting the entry requirements doesn't guarantee a place
- Entry requirements from S6 are higher than from S5 if the minimum requirements have not already been met.
- If S5 qualifications fall very short of requirements develop a back-up plan – consider other universities and/or college
- English universities require Advanced Highers
- Scottish universities prefer a range of Highers

## College

- Entry level – Access, NC or NQ
  - No formal entry requirements or some Intermediate level qualifications
- HNC – 1 year, may form first year of HND
  - 1 or 2 Highers
  - may lead to 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a university degree course
- HND 2 years
  - 2 or 3 Highers
  - may lead to 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a university degree course

## Modern Apprenticeships

- Extremely competitive
- Applicants need to sit an aptitude test
- Most Modern Apprenticeships are not advertised
- Many people get a Modern Apprenticeship through someone they know
- Employers usually require at least Intermediate 2 qualifications in Maths, English and a subject relating to the apprenticeship e.g. computing, physics, woodwork, administration.
- Vacancies are advertised from February until April/May. Don't wait for results apply NOW

## 1:1 Careers services

- Impartial careers advice and guidance – career interviews last from 15 – 45 minutes
- Career interest guides
- Labour market information
- Employability skills – CVs, Interview preparation, application forms
- Advice on completing your UCAS Personal Statement
- Mock interviews
- Action Plan





## Careers Interviews

- Who? June Cunningham
- When? Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
- Where? Health Suite (across from Pupil Support Base)
- How? Complete a Contacting Careers Scotland card (available in the Pupil Support Base)
  - or referral from Guidance Teachers
- Drop-in clinic in the Health Suite at lunchtime on Thursdays or Fridays, no appointment required.

## Useful Websites

- [www.careers-scotland.org.uk](http://www.careers-scotland.org.uk) – Career Planning
- [www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net) – Job and Course Information
- [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) – University Courses and online application
- [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) – Graduate Employment
- [www.ssascot.org.uk](http://www.ssascot.org.uk) – Modern Apprenticeship information