

KSS Newsletter – March 2026

Learning Together Working Together Succeeding Together

 KNIGHTSWOOD SECONDARY SCHOOL 

OUR SCHOOL CHARTER

BE KIND
GIVE OUR BEST
BE HONEST
RESPECT OTHERS
BE RESPONSIBLE
INCLUDE EVERYONE

 RANGERS CHARITY FOUNDATION   F.A.R.E. Working with Communities

Respect Friendship Honesty Empowerment Happiness

Respect – Honesty – Friendship – Empowerment - Happiness



Key Dates...

W.B. 16th March: S2 Full Reports issued

Tuesday 24th March: S2 Parents / Carers' Evening (4 - 6.30 pm)

W.B. 30th March: S4-6 QS Estimate Grades issued to young people

School closes at 2.30 pm on Thursday, 2 April 2026 – Easter Holidays

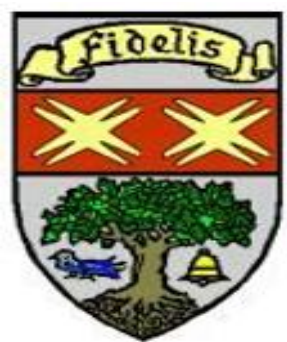
Wednesday 22nd April QS Exam Start / Study Leave for S4 – S6



S2 Options



- Our S2 Options Process is now under way. It is our aim to support young people in making informed option choices based on their unique talents and abilities so that we can prepare them for their National Qualifications.
- We have a wide offer of subjects in S3/4, both in terms of National 5 courses, and National Progression Awards. Pupils are asked to opt for a subject in each of the curricular areas.
- There was a S2 Options Carousel giving pupils the opportunity to ask questions to our current S3 about courses and their experience of these subjects this year.
- Young people in S2 have been having option choice conversations with their Pastoral Care Teacher and are asked to make their choices by 20th March.



S2 Options Time Line



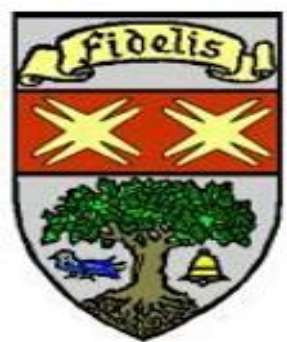
09-Mar-26	S2 Full Report/Learner Conversations complete/S2 Column Structure complete
16-Mar-26	PTPC 1:1 Meetings to discuss S2 options
23-Mar-26	S2 Parent/Carer Evening
30-Mar-26	S2 Options Complete



Communication

- Your young person sees their Pastoral Care Teacher twice a week in Personal and Social Education and they know your young person really well. If you have any questions then their Pastoral Care Teacher is ideally placed to answer these and should always be your first point of contact with the school.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Arran – Ms DiRollo | Bute – Mr. Deveney |
| ■ Harris – Mrs. Schimmel | Islay – Mrs. Adams |
| ■ Skye – Mr. Shields | Tiree – Mrs. Gray |



Parents Evenings Session 2025– 26

It is always great to see our very well attended Parents / Carers Evening and we look forward to meeting with all parents / carers this session.

	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5/6
Rest of session	Full Report issued	Full Report Issued Parent / Carer Evening 24 th March, 4:00 – 6:30pm	Parent / Carer Evening 6 th May, 4:00 – 6:30pm		



School Dress Code

- Our school uniform promotes a real sense of school identity, shared values, self-confidence and a shared sense of community. Please ensure that your young person adheres to our dress code at all times. We do understand that this might be a struggle for some families and we have lots of school uniform available to support with this. Please contact your young person's Pastoral Care teacher who will be happy to support.

The school uniform is:

- School blazer
- White shirt / polo shirt
- School tie
- Black trousers (plain black shorts – not branded or cycling – can be worn along with white shirt or white polo shirt in warm weather)
- Black skirt
- Appropriate school footwear

- Young people in the Dance School of Scotland should either wear the uniform outlined above or Dance School T-shirt and tracksuit
- The school tie is available from the school office and the blazer supplier visits the school on an annual basis. The school office can advise on how to obtain a blazer out with this time.



PE Kit

- It is important that pupils come prepared to learn and for PE this requires appropriate clothing. All jewellery should be removed. Pupils who are not participating in PE must have a note or a medical certificate. Pupils who are unable to participate in practical PE should still bring their kit to allow them to assist in the lesson by refereeing, keeping scores or assisting with the distribution of equipment. This ensures that they are still able to take part in some way in the work of the class and do not miss out on the knowledge and understanding of the course.
- Young people must bring a change of top and bottoms every day that they have PE. Again, we have lots of spare kit which can be borrowed – this is laundered on a daily basis so that it is always clean on issue - or given to young people. Please speak to your young person's Pastoral Care Teacher if this support would be of benefit.

There are forms of dress that are **unacceptable in school**, such as items of clothing which:

- Potentially encourage factions (such as football colours)
- Could cause offence (such as anti-religious symbolism or political slogans)
- Could cause health and safety difficulties (such as loose-fitting clothing, jewellery)
- Could cause damage to flooring
- Carry advertising particularly for alcohol or tobacco
- Could be used to inflict damage on other pupils
- Crocs / sliders



Behaviour in the community

- Almost all of our young people behave extremely well and are ambassadors for our school in the local community.
- However from time to time we receive complaints about the behaviour of a small minority of our young people at lunchtime and at the end of the school day.
- These have included littering as well as throwing objects at vehicles and disrespectful behaviour on public transport. We continually re-enforcing the responsibilities of our young people when they are out in the community through assemblies and PSE lessons.
- Our Campus Officer leads our S2-3 young people on twice weekly litter picks ensuring that we are playing our part in keeping our community tidy.



Parking

- Local residents have been in touch regarding parking outside of our school. If you are dropping off or picking up your young person can you please ensure that you are parked safely. Please do not block the entrance to the flats opposite the school or indeed park in their private parking area. Also, can you refrain from double parking. I do appreciate that this might mean you have to drop your young person slightly back from the school gate but this will ensure their safety and the safety of others. Your cooperation will ensure the safety of all members of our school community.



Parent / Carer Council

- We are looking for new members to join our Parent / Carer Council. This is open to all parents / carers who have young people in Knightswood Secondary School.

What is the role of the Parent Council?

- The Parent Council helps to create an environment where all parents know that their views matter, and where they feel confident and comfortable putting them forward. They work on behalf of all parents to discuss educational matters that are of importance to all. They do not get involved in individual circumstances relating to children or staff in the school.
- Thank you again for your continued support

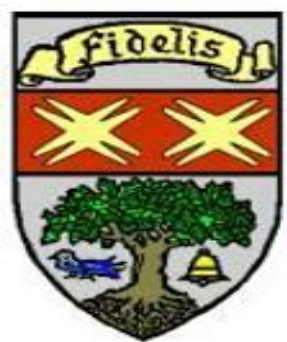


iPad Deployment

- Last term we deployed new iPads to all staff and pupils at Knightswood Secondary School. Almost all pupils have also been issued with a new charger.

The expectations in relation to iPads are as follows in the classroom:

- All pupils should bring their iPads to school every day.
- iPads should be charged and ready to use in the classroom. Pupils should bring their charger to school to use if required.
- Charging stations are available in the library and in S18 should pupils need to use them.
- Pupils should have their iPads on the desk in every lesson (where applicable).



iPad Procedures...

iPad Procedures

Lost iPad	If a pupil thinks they have lost their iPad, they should check classrooms and at home in the first instance. If it is not found, pupils should go to the school office and report the iPad lost using the QR code. This will be followed up by our pupil digital leaders. A message will be sent home to inform parents/carers that an iPad is lost.
Broken iPads	If a pupil is damaged, this should be reported to Miss Grubb (S18) as soon as possible. A message will be sent home to inform parents/carers that an iPad has been damaged
Issues with iPads	If a pupil has an issue with their iPad, for example, they can't get <u>wifi</u> or an app isn't working, they should either report it using the QR code in the office or visit the digital "Genius" bar in the Crush Hall on a Monday lunchtime which is run by the pupil digital leaders.



Qualification Scotland Exam Diet 2026

W.B. 30th March: S4-6 QS Estimate Grades issued to young people

QS Exam Diet Wednesday 22nd April – Friday 29th May Inclusive

Wednesday 22nd April Study Leave begins for S4 – S5

Tuesday 21st April S6 Study Leave begins

Some young people will be required to attend school during study leave to complete qualifications. Arrangements will be sent out.



What are National Qualifications?

National Qualifications are mainly taken by learners in secondary schools, colleges and some training providers in Scotland. You will likely be studying for some of the following National Qualifications:

National 1 units and National 2 to 4 courses are assessed as 'pass' or 'fail' by your teacher or lecturer.

National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses have course assessments. These typically include coursework and an end of year exam marked by SQA that is graded A to D.

Skills for Work courses focus on the general skills needed for success in the workplace and are usually assessed by a range of practical activities.



Assessment Arrangements

These arrangements allow learners who are disabled and/or have additional support needs to use different ways to complete an assessment.

These arrangements have to be

- ❑ Proven to improve assessment performance by a candidate with ASN's with assessments throughout the year
- ❑ Agreed with the candidate and parent / carer



Coursework

Plagiarism

You must not pretend that other people's work is your own. Passing off other people's work and ideas as your own is called 'plagiarism' and it's cheating.

If you don't reference sources as explained above, that's also plagiarism.

It's not your own work if:

- all or some of it has been produced, or worked on, by someone else
- it has been done by someone who has produced similar coursework in the past
- it is example work that has been prepared by your teacher or lecturer, or
- you've copied it from a book, website or an essay bank without trying to put it in your own words.

Collusion

Working with others when you should be working alone is called 'collusion'. This applies to giving help, getting help, and sharing files, passwords and paperwork.

Everyone involved in collusion is breaking the rules – not just the person who has asked for help. If another learner (for example, someone in your class) asks you for help, you should tell them to speak to the teacher or lecturer.

If you are working as part of a group (for example, a group project), you must make sure that the written work you provide as part of the group work is your own.

If you are having difficulty with coursework, ask your teachers and lecturers for advice. No other person can be involved, at any stage, in the discussion or review of your coursework.

What if I break the rules?

If an investigation finds you've broken any rules, there may be a penalty.

The range of penalties includes:

- Your marks can be reduced, or you can be awarded zero marks.
- Your qualification for that subject can be cancelled.
- All of your qualifications for the entire year can be cancelled.



Preparing for Exams

Exam timetable available at

www.sqa.org.uk/timetable

The **MyStudyPlan** app helps you to organise your revision by creating a personal study plan.

You can also create your own personal exam timetable using the online

Personal Timetable Builder

Find out more at

www.sqa.org.uk/studyplan



SQA apps

There are free apps to support you at exam time.

The **MyExams** app lets you create and view your personal timetable, add notes, and add your personal timetable to other calendars.





Preparing for Exams

Past papers

You can prepare for your exams by practising with previous exam papers.

You can download these, together with instructions for marking them and course reports about what learners did well and areas they found difficult, from

www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers

Your Scottish Candidate Number

Your Scottish Candidate Number (SCN) is your personal identification number. We use your SCN to record and track all of your achievements.



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Arriving for Exams

You should be outside the exam room at least 10 minutes before the exam is due to start. If you are late, you must report to the teacher in charge of SQA exams on the day. They will let you know if you can sit the exam.

Desks

In most schools, you will be given a desk or seat number for each exam. Make sure you know this number before each exam.

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HONESTY

FRIENDSHIP

EMPOWERMENT

HAPPINESS

respect

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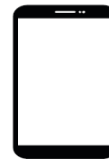
Prohibited items

Prohibited items are things that you must not have with you at your allocated seat or desk in the exam room, unless they have been approved by us as part of an assessment arrangement for the exam you are sitting.

Prohibited items include the following:



Electronic devices such as iPods, tablets, earpods, smartwatches or any



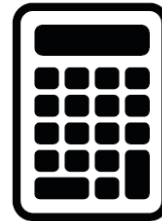
Mobile phones



Extra information – books, sketches or paper, and anything



Pencil cases or calculator cases



Calculators, except for exam papers where calculators are allowed



Dictionaries, except for exam papers where dictionaries are allowed



Notes, except for exam papers where notes are allowed

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Invigilators

The people who supervise exams are called 'invigilators'. Their job is to make sure your exams take place according to the rules and that the rules are applied fairly. You must listen to and follow any instructions the invigilators give you.

If anything unexpected happens to you during an exam, such as feeling unwell, you should tell the invigilator immediately.

Exceptional Circumstances

The Examination Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service (EECCS) will support you if:

- ♦ you have been unable to attend the exam or prevented from completing the exam due to a personal circumstance outwith your control (such as a medical issue) or
- ♦ you have been affected during the exam by a disruption, or other exam circumstance, reported by the chief invigilator

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Your results

Getting your results

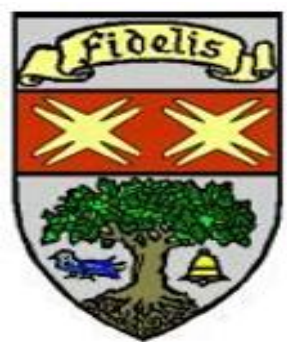
You will receive your exam results by post on

4th August

Your school will also receive your results. If you have applied to a university or college through UCAS, they will also receive your results.

If you don't receive your certificate on results day, contact your school immediately. They will be able to tell you your results and will work with us to find out what has happened to your certificate.





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Appeals

Who can appeal?

You can appeal if you feel you underperformed on the day of your exam. You must meet the following criteria:

- Your estimate must be higher than the grade shown on your certificate. For example, if the grade shown on your certificate is a C, your estimate must have been an A or a B.
- Your school, college or training provider must have submitted an estimate to SQA for the subject and level you are appealing.
- You must have taken and/or submitted all SQA coursework and formal assessments, including exams.

Submitting an appeal yourself

You or your representative (such as your parent or carer) will be able to submit an appeal directly to SQA. More information on how to do this will be available before Results Day.

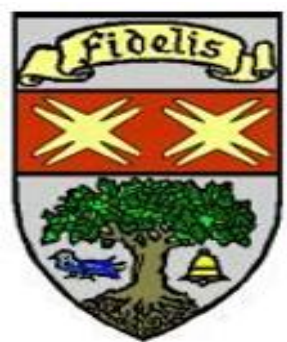
You should speak to your teacher or lecturer even if you intend to submit a direct appeal, to get their advice and guidance.

The service opens on Tuesday 9 August at 9 am. You will be asked for the following information to register:

- your name
- your date of birth
- your Scottish Candidate Number (you can find this on your certificate)
- the subject and the level of the course
- whether you are waiting for a result for a university or college place or for an employment or training programme – if so, your request will be processed as part of the priority appeal service (there's more information about this on page 6)

Once registered, you can:

- submit an appeal
- withdraw an appeal if you change your mind



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What happens once an appeal is submitted?

Once we receive an appeal, we will carry out two separate checks:

- A clerical check of your exam paper(s) and SQA coursework.
- A review of the alternative assessment evidence gathered throughout the year and submitted by your school, college or training centre. Your SQA coursework will also be reviewed.

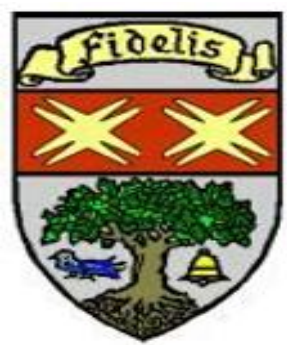
Clerical check

We will check that:

- All parts of the exam paper have been marked.
- The marks given for each answer on the exam paper have been totalled correctly.
- The total/result was entered into the system correctly.

Priority appeals service

An appeal can be prioritised if you have a conditional offer for university, college or training, or if an employment opportunity depends on your grade. All priority appeals must be validated by your school, college or training provider. You can tell us that you need a priority appeal when you use the learner direct service. If your school, college or training provider is submitting your appeal, please tell them if you have a conditional offer.



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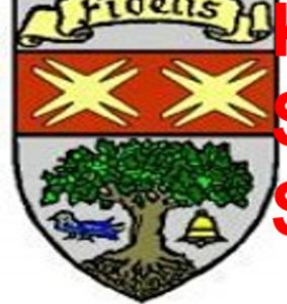
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Appointee outcome review	Final grade decision
A clerical check demonstrates that you have achieved a higher grade than the grade on your certificate.	You will be awarded the higher grade.
A review of your alternative assessment evidence and SQA coursework demonstrates a higher grade than the grade on your certificate.	You will be awarded the higher grade.
A clerical check highlights that you have achieved a lower grade than the grade on your certificate; however, your alternative assessment evidence demonstrates a higher grade than the grade on your certificate.	You will be awarded the higher grade.
A clerical check confirms there is no change required to the grade on your certificate and your alternative assessment evidence does not demonstrate a higher grade.	Your grade will remain the same.
A clerical check highlights that you have achieved a lower grade than the grade on your certificate; however, your alternative assessment evidence demonstrates the same as your certificate.	Your grade will remain the same.
A clerical check highlights that you have achieved a lower grade than the grade on your certificate and your alternative assessment evidence supports a lower grade.	Your grade will go down.



KNIGHTSWOOD SECONDARY SCHOOL

Project Based learning Events: S1/S2

Why?

- Aim to shift the focus from doing research on or about children to **with** children
- 2019 School Strike action: young people questioned the point of an education for a potentially non-existent future
- Today's children have inherited environmental crisis; therefore, we in Education should allow for them to have ownership of approaches to solutions

S1: Diversity/Protected Characteristics: 08/06/26

Scottish Ad Campaign – 'Dear Haters': English, Drama, Technical, Maths, PE, PSE, HFT.
Anti-bullying and Equalities Policy to be incorporated into lessons.

Award Ceremony Assembly; Summer Fayre – Celebration of Learning (17/06/26)

S2: Sustainability: 27/04/26

Young people have opted for a Project based on the subjects they are interested in: Eco Café. Sports Science; Conal Connections;

S2 will be taken off of normal timetable for two weeks in the afternoons to complete project.

They will present their projects to panels

Award Ceremony Assembly; Summer Fayre – Celebration of Learning (17/06/26)



Respect – Honesty – Friendship – Empowerment – Happiness
Working with Communities



Campus Police Officer



Hi, I am PC Darren Morrison and I am the new Campus Officer having replaced PC Coultas on the 23rd of February. I have just moved from the Community Policing Team at Drumchapel where I covered the local area so some of you may have met me before.

I still have the same powers, duties and responsibilities as any other police officer and I hope to create a positive relationship between the police and young people who attend Knightswood Secondary as well as their parents/carers. I hope to get to get to know people a little better whilst I am here and I will be delivering or arranging lessons on issues such as drugs/alcohol, knife crime, gangs and online safety.

I am based within the Partnership Office on the ground floor, next to Pastoral Care and I can be contacted via the school office. If you need to speak to me about anything in person, please contact me through the school office and we can arrange an appointment that suits us both.

Thank you.