



**Education Resources**  
Executive Director **Tony McDaid**  
Head Teacher **Richard McGowan**  
**Lesmahagow High School**

**If calling ask for:** Barbara Lee  
**Phone:** 01555 896010  
**Date:** 25 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope that you and your family are keeping safe and well. Thank you for everything that you are doing to support your child whilst they are learning at home.

### **S4 course choice**

Over the next two weeks, we would like to ask all S3 students to consider their intended learner and career pathway, including their course choices for S4. Advice will be given at assembly, by Pupil Support Teachers and in PSE classes to support course choice. Students are then asked to select their course choices by completing a Google form, which can be found at: <https://forms.gle/EMFxqaCQE3deexoh8>. The questions contained on the Google form are shown on the S4 Course Choice form, which is enclosed as an attachment.

Students are asked to indicate on the Google form when they intend to leave school to help plan their learner and career pathway. Those who are 16 before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 can choose to leave school after exams and coursework are completed in May 2022. Students who are 16 on or between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 and the end of February 2023 must return to school until at least Christmas 2022. Those who are considering leaving school in 2022 are encouraged to meet with our careers adviser, Adele Duffy, who can provide guidance with applications to college and job vacancies. Some school leavers may also benefit from the support of our Aspire team in their final term, who can provide a bespoke programme to support a young person into a positive post school destination. Further information on the Aspire programme can be found in 'My Brighter Future' at <https://tinyurl.com/y56bsb6y>

All S4 students study English, Maths, Core PE, Core PSE, Core RME and five other subjects from the subjects that they have chosen to study in S3. Students can also choose to study National Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies or National Physical Education in S4, both of which have been studied as Core subjects in S3. Course choices should be selected in order of preference, choice 1 being the subject that the student needs the most. Students are also asked for an additional 6<sup>th</sup> choice as a reserve choice in case one of their options is not available. All subjects are offered subject to student uptake and staffing resources. Further information about the courses offered can be found in our S4 course choice booklet on the school website (Pupils> Course Choice booklets > S4 course choice booklet).

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S4-S6 students also have the opportunity to study a one-year college course on Mondays through the GradU8 programme. In S5 and S6, they may wish to consider studying a two-year Foundation Apprenticeship course on two afternoons in S5 and one day per week in S6. Students who are embarking on a Foundation Apprenticeship course should be planning to return to school for both S5 and S6. Further information about the Foundation Apprenticeship and college courses can also be found in 'My Brighter Future' at the web address above or on the Skills Development Scotland Foundation Apprenticeship website at: <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/about/>

Pupils are asked to complete the Google form indicating their course choices by **Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021**.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara A. Lee".

Barbara Lee  
Acting Head Teacher