

Whitburn  
Academy



# Learner Pathways 2026



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## Progression

The new National Awards allow flexibility for pupils in making their choices and ensures they will receive an award at their appropriate level.

Subject teachers will be able to advise which levels are appropriate for each pupil and how they can progress.

The Scottish Credit & Qualifications Framework helps learners plan their learner journey; helps individuals understand qualifications they are not familiar with; helps employers understand different types of qualifications and also supports effective recruitment and workforce development; helps education and training providers of all kinds to identify the level that has been studied in a particular subject and make it easier to transfer credit points between different learning programmes; and provides recognition of a very wide range of learning programmes. In Whitburn Academy, like most schools; the qualifications on offer are provided by SQA. In the main, learners begin at N4/5 and can progress to Advanced Higher.

SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications		Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12			Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11			Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10			Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9			Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8	Higher National Diploma		Diploma Of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate	Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher			Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5			Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award	SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3			
2	National 2, Awards			
1	National 1, Awards			

<https://scqf.org.uk/>

## **Moving from S2 to S3**

In S3 pupils must continue to study subjects across each of the curricular areas. All pupils continue with Maths, English, RP, PSE and PE. They then choose one subject from the areas of Science, Social Subjects, Expressive Arts and Technologies. Pupils then make some personalisation choices of subjects. From these choices, two will be allocated.

## **Some new S3 or S4 Courses on offer:**

While you will have heard of and know a bit about most subjects on the course choice form, there are some that may not be as obvious as to what they involve. The main focus of these Skills for Work courses is to develop the skills and attitudes required for employability. These courses are ideally suited to students who are likely to leave school at the end of fourth year and are designed to ensure pupils are ready to move directly into a positive destination in the workplace. Here is a short description for some of these new subjects:

- **Early Education and Childcare** - This is a course that develops the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed for work in the early learning and childcare sector. It covers areas such as the Development and Wellbeing of Children and Young People, Play in Early Learning and Childcare, Working in Early Learning and Childcare and basic first aid.
- **Health Sector** - This course is an introduction to the health sector and offers preparation for working in the health sector to develop employability skills valued by employers. Pupils will investigate a range of job roles and career opportunities and participate in a job interview. Pupils will develop a wide range of skills, including research and self-evaluation skills. Emphasis throughout all Units is on the employability skills and attitudes which help prepare pupils for the workplace.
- **Creative Industries** – This is an introductory qualification which develops the knowledge and skills required for employment or further study in the creative industries. Examples of this are, Theatre, Sound Production, Gaming, Animation and Fashion. The Course covers: an Introduction to the Creative Industries, where you will decide your focus. Creative Industries Skills Development, where you will develop practical skills in a chosen area. The Creative Process, and a Creative Project, where you will propose a final project such as an exhibition, cat walk show, CD production, magazine production etc and then in a small group complete the project proposed. As you work through the Course, you will gain an awareness of the opportunities and jobs in the different sectors and you will develop transferable employability skills.
- **Travel and Tourism** - this course is an introductory qualification in Travel and Tourism. It develops the skills, knowledge and attitudes, needed for work in the travel and tourism industry. Students will develop skills to deal effectively with all aspects of customer care and customer service in travel and tourism. They will gain the product knowledge and skills to deal effectively with customer enquiries in relation to travel and tourism in Scotland, the rest of the United Kingdom and worldwide. They will also develop skills to become effective job-seekers and employees.

- **Retailing** - this course is an introductory qualification in Retail. It provides students with the practical skills, knowledge and attitudes needed to work in retailing. Pupils will develop an understanding of the needs of a retailer and an appreciation of the importance of customers. They also gain important employability skills and positive attitudes relevant to both the workplace and learning environments. Areas covered include maintaining, storing and replenishing stock, satisfying customer needs, planning and implementing a retail event.

**Travel and Tourism** paired with **Retailing** ensures that students are equipped with the knowledge and skills required to move directly into the workplace from school.

- **Music Technology** offers pupils an exciting, hands-on introduction to the world of sound recording and production. In an age where podcasts, films, games, and online content shape so much of what we watch and listen to, understanding how audio is created has never been more relevant. In the course pupils will learn to: Record vocals, instruments, and sound effects using appropriate microphone techniques; Edit and mix audio using a range of effects and processes; Create original sound design for media such as film and gaming clips, radio shows and audio books; Understand key musical concepts and apply them in a technological context.

Music Technology is ideal for pupils who enjoy being creative, working with technology, or exploring how sound enhances modern media. It provides a strong foundation for further study in music production, sound engineering, and a wide range of digital-creative pathways.

### **Moving from S3 into S4.**

In S4, all pupils undertake 6 National Qualifications. As well as this, pupils gain qualifications as part of the personal development pathway, evidencing skills, values and other attributes which will make them employable and ready for life and education beyond school.

### **Moving from S4 into S5.**

In S5, any pupil choosing to continue at school will choose 5 or 6 subjects. As well as this, pupils gain two further qualifications in leadership and personal development further evidencing skills, values and other attributes which will make them employable and ready for life and education beyond school.

Crash Highers: These are not advised as pupils will be most successful if they continue with their strongest N5 subjects in S5. The 'typical' Highers we may allow S5 to crash, although not exclusively, are:

- Media – pupil must achieve an A or B pass at N5 English or another literacy based subject such as History, Modern Studies or RMPS.
- Photography – pupil must achieve a pass in N5 Art or N5 English
- History – pupil must achieve an A or B pass in English or Humanities Subject.
- Modern Studies - pupil must achieve an A or B pass in English or another Humanities Subject.
- RMPS – pupil must achieve an A or B pass in English or another Humanities Subject.
- Health and Social Care – pupil must achieve a pass in N5 Care or N5 English.
- Music Technology – pupil must achieve a pass in N5 Music
- Physical Education – pupil must achieve a pass in N5 English and have strong practical skills (strong performer in at least one sport).
- Admin & IT – pupil must achieve a pass in N5 English or a pass in any Humanities subject.
- Politics – pupil must achieve an A or B in N5 English and another Humanities subject.

### **Moving from S5 into S6.**

In S6, any pupil choosing to continue at school will choose 5 subjects, or, if they wish, they can choose 4 subjects and undertake wider achievement in the 5th column. Participating in wider achievement will result in pupils being recognised for their efforts in volunteering through the Saltire Award program. Pupils are free to choose to study more Highers in S6, broadening their skills and knowledge across a wider range of subjects, or they can choose to study at Advanced Higher level which provides the opportunity to study subjects in more depth. The school recommends that pupils study no more than two subjects at Advanced Higher level and only if they have achieved an A or B pass at Higher. If a pupil chooses to study two Advanced Highers within a recognised 'group' of subjects they can also opt to complete an **Interdisciplinary Project** as a 3<sup>rd</sup> subject. Pupils will be awarded a **Baccalaureate** if they pass both Advanced Highers and the Interdisciplinary Project. This is the highest academic achievement possible in school.

## **S6 opportunities:**

### **Paired Reading**

Our S6 pupils can volunteer to support an assigned S1 buddy with reading in the library during tutor time. They will help them to read aloud, pronounce and understand difficult words, think about what they are reading and discuss the book with them to check comprehension. The S6 pupil should encourage their buddy and give them meaningful praise when necessary. They also need to ensure they regularly update their log book and collect different types of evidence photos etc. This time can be counted towards a Saltire Award. Most importantly hopefully they enjoy the experience.

### **Buddying**

S6 pupils can volunteer to support their assigned S1 buddy in class during the periods that have been allocated. S6 pupils should ensure they use strategies to support their buddy. They should help them to focus and give them support to complete their work. They need to be able to listen, encourage effort, explain questions, help pupil's to organise materials and also give meaningful praise. S6 buddies should also support learning in class by reading out questions or text and explain instructions. In addition, pupils also need to ensure they regularly update their log book and collect different types of evidence photos etc. This time can be counted towards a Saltire Award. Most importantly hopefully they enjoy the experience.

### **Departmental Support**

S6 pupils use at least one Wider Achievement period to help/support a classroom teacher with a set class every week. The S6 pupil organizes this with the classroom teacher. Each period has to be written up in the log book and counts towards a Saltire Award.

### **Mentors in Violence Prevention**

Pupils selected will undertake training to become Mentors in Violence Prevention. They will work as a team to put events on, speak to staff, raise awareness and work with targeted pupils about the dangers of violence. Evidence of training, meeting minutes and photos of events should be kept as evidence. This can also be counted towards a Saltire Award.

### **Committees**

The school has a range of committees which run for the duration of the year. Pupils need to commit to meetings and leadership work. They should keep minutes and take photos of events as evidence.

**Yearbook:** Assist and work as part of a team to organise and create the school yearbook for all S6 pupils. Use the logbook to keep track of all meeting and work completed for the committee.

**Prom:** Assist and work as part of a team to organise the end of year Prom. Use the logbook to keep track of all meeting and work completed for the committee.

**Events:** Assist and work as part of a team to organise a variety of events throughout the school year to help subsidise the yearbook and Prom costs. Use the logbook to keep track of all meeting and work completed for the committee.

**Charities:** Assist and work as part of a team to organise a variety of events throughout the school year to help raise money for the charities of the school's choice. Use the logbook to keep track of all meeting and work completed for the committee.

**Rights Respecting School:** Pupils work as part of a team to raise awareness of the 'rights respecting' agenda across the school. This includes organising events, assemblies, talking to staff. Meeting minutes should be kept and photos of all events and work as evidence.

**College Courses:** There are many great benefits to completing a college course while still at school. Details of School partnership college courses can be found on the West Lothian College Website.

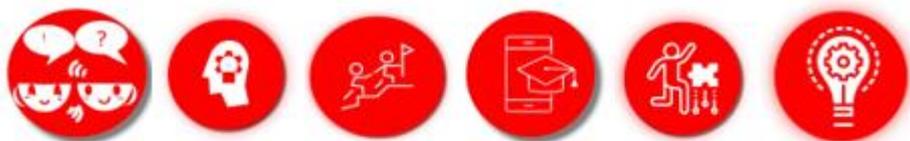
# Art and Design

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Art (Expressive)
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Art (Design)
SCQF Level 6	Higher Art and Design
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Art and Design
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Art and Design
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Art and Design

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

In Art and Design you will develop:

**Creativity** – Ability to think creatively and originally

**Problem Solving** – Ability to think through aspects of a problem and create a successful solution

**Visual accuracy** – Ability to create work which shows an accurate likeness to the subject matter studied

**Hand Eye Coordination** – Ability of the vision system to coordinate the information received through the eyes to control, guide, and direct the hands.

**Crafting and 3D Modelling** – Ability to create and Build objects and products in 3D

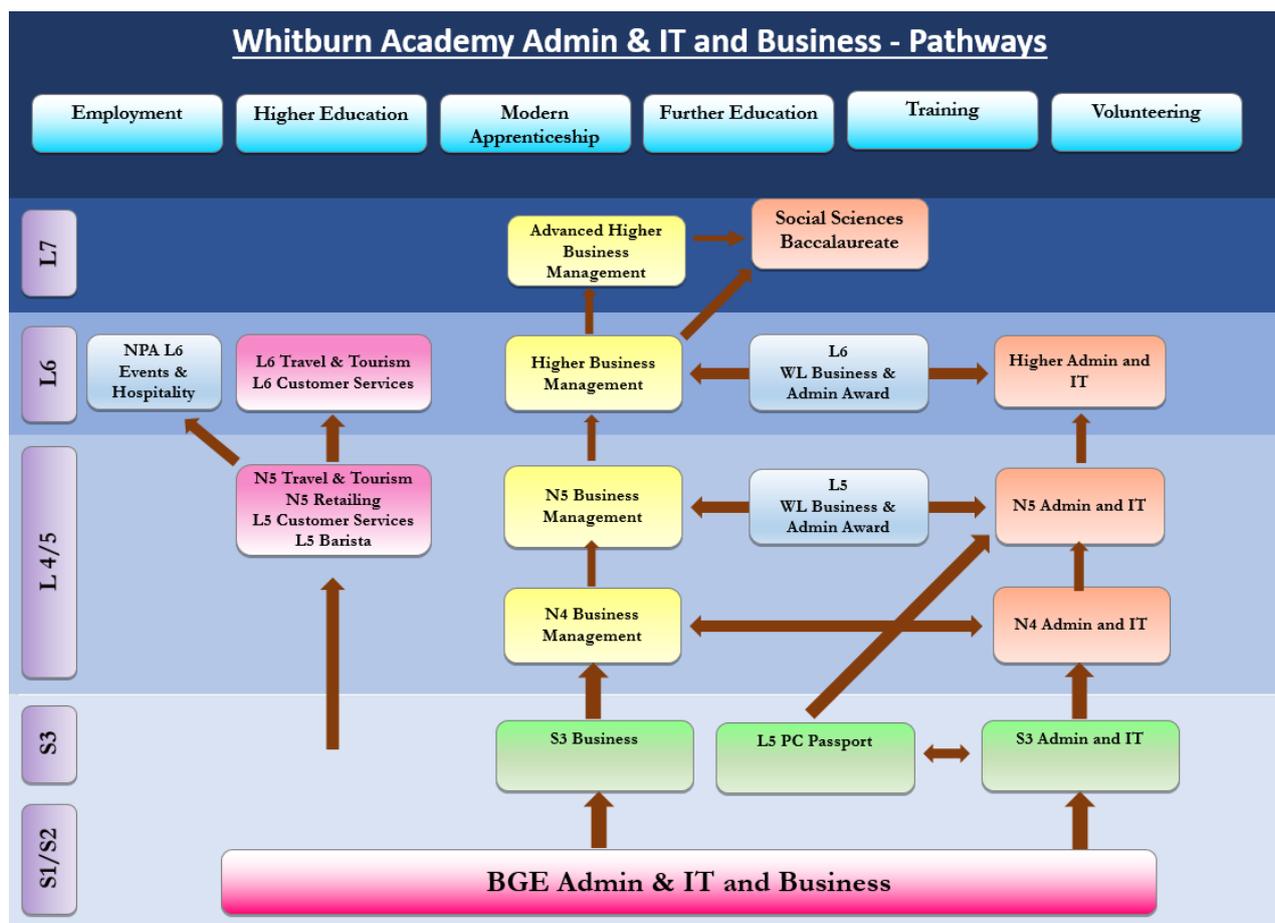
## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Artist	Primary teacher
Graphic Designer	Early Years Practitioner
Web Designer	Computing Industry
Art Teacher	Computer Program/App Design
Set Designer	Journalist/Media/Film Industry
Fashion Designer	Crafts Person
Textile Designer	Engineer
Garment Technician	College/University Lecturer
Illustrator	CDT Teacher
Games Designer	Joiner
Concept Artist	Glass Blower
Architect	Metal Worker
Landscape Architect	Painter and Decorator
Commercial Architect	Plasterer
Interior Designer	
Product Designer	
Sculptor	
Community Artist	
Photographer	
Ceramicist/Potter	

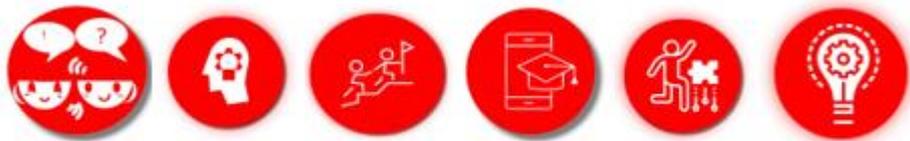
# Admin & IT and Business

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications		
	Business Management	Admin & IT	Other Related Subjects
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Business Management		
SCQF Level 6	Higher Business Management	Higher Admin and IT	L6 Travel and Tourism NPA L6 Business and IT L6 Customer Service L6 Events and Hospitality
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Business Management	National 5 Admin and IT	National 5 Retail National 5 Travel and Tourism L5 Customer Services L5 Barista NPA L5 Business and IT
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Business Management	National 4 Admin and IT	
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Business Management	National 3 Admin and IT	

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

- IT skills
- Numeracy
- Problem solving
- Literacy

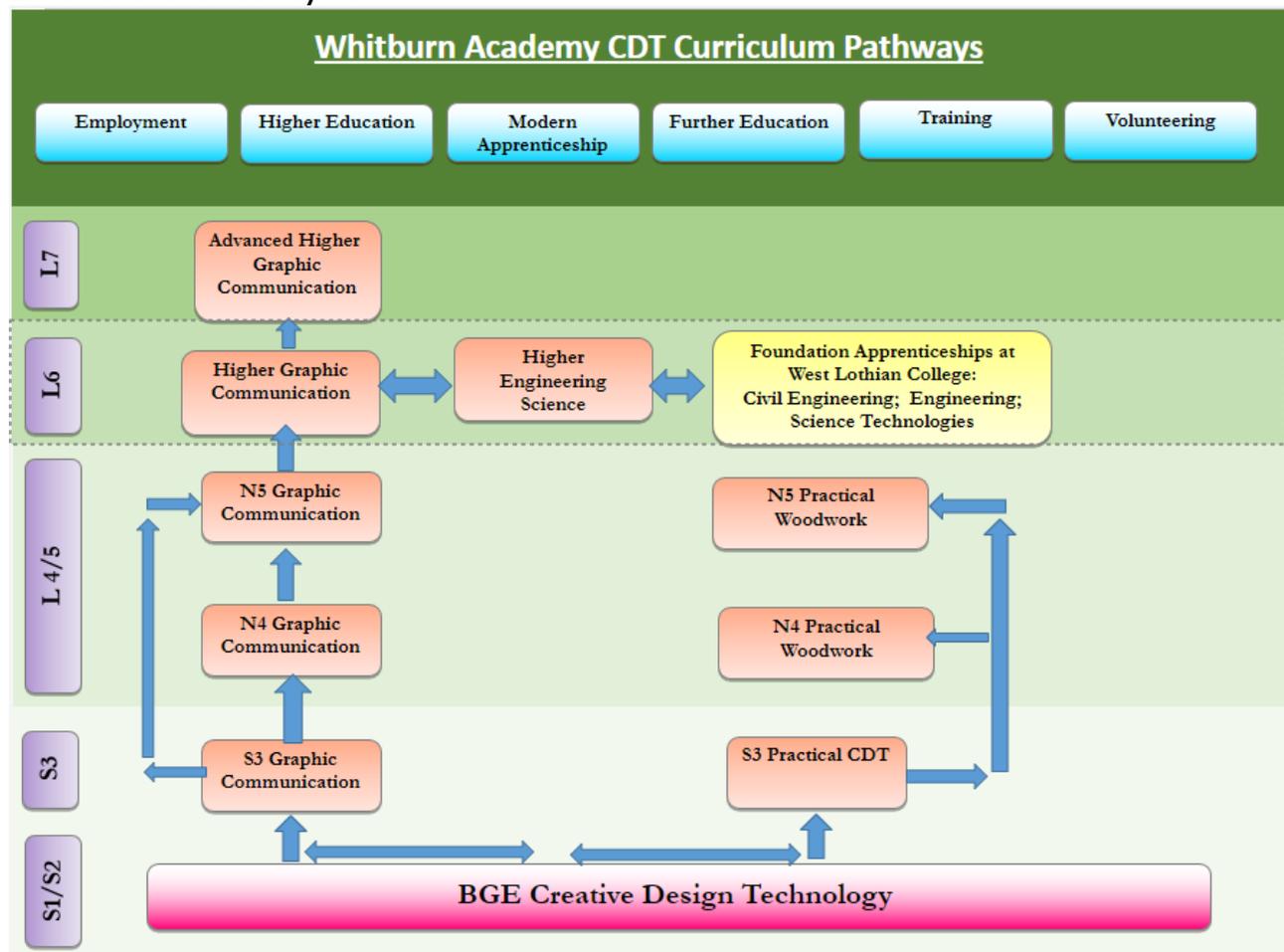
## Career Pathways:

Careers through Admin and IT and Business		
Teacher	Administration	Business Advisor
Business Analyst	Public Relations	Event planner
Human Resources	Marketing Advisor	Retail Manager
Accountant	Advertising	Management Consultancy
Finance	Sales Representative	Mortgage Advisor
Data Analyst	IT Support	Software Developer
Careers through Travel and Tourism		
Travel Agent	Receptionist	Tour Guide
Cabin Crew	Holiday Representative	Event Planner
Hotel Manager	Cruise Ship Steward	Security Officer
Careers through Retail (with Customer Services)		
Shop Assistant	Customer Service Advisor	Stock Controller
Fast Food Assistant	Cashier	Merchandiser
Hotel Manager	Call Centre Advisor	Warehouse Worker

# CDT (Creative Design Technology)

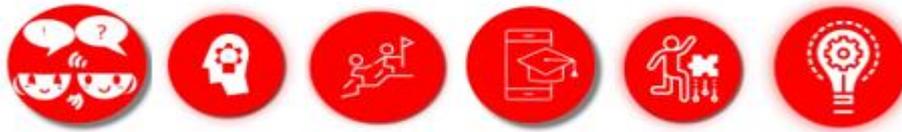
Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Graphic Communication
SCQF Level 6	Higher Graphic Communication Higher Engineering Science
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Graphic Communication National 5 Practical Woodwork
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Graphic Communication National 4 Practical Woodwork

## Learner Pathways:



Engineering Science has pathway links with Physics and Mathematics

## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

- Literacy and Numeracy
- analysing information
- idea-generation techniques
- graphic techniques
- modelling techniques
- planning techniques
- evaluation techniques
- tools, materials, and processes
- manufacturing techniques
- knowledge and understanding of the impact of a range of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society
- spatial awareness in straightforward but unfamiliar 2D, 3D and pictorial graphic situations
- using standard graphic communication equipment, software and materials effectively for simple tasks with some complex features
- applying design skills, including creativity, when developing solutions to simple graphics tasks with some complex features

## Career Pathways:

Careers through Engineering Science		
Aerospace Engineer	Design Engineer	Product Designer
Architect	Fabricator	Structural Engineer
Building Technician	Merchant Navy	Telecommunications Engineer
Civil Engineer	Model Maker	Waster Energy Engineer

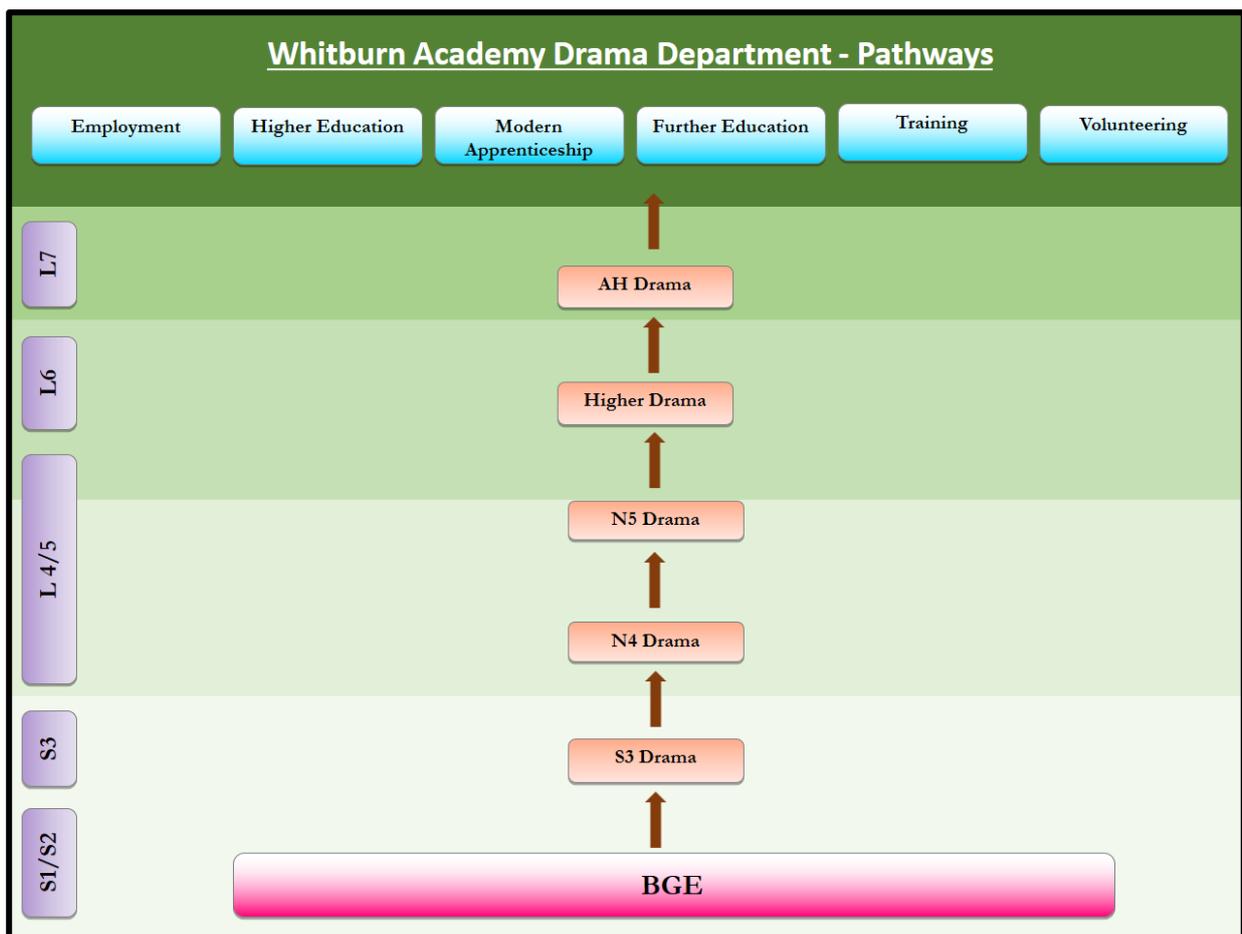
Careers through Graphic Communication		
Architect	Graphic Designer	Storyboard Artist
Civil Engineer	Media Physicist	Structural Engineer
Film Media Technician	Model Maker	Technical Surveyor
Games Designer	Sign Writer	Web Designer

Careers through Practical Woodworking		
Cabinet Maker	Plant Operator	Thermal Insulation Engineer
Demolition Operative	Product Designer	Trace Maintenance Operative
Furniture Manufacturing	Roofer	Vehicle Body Repairer
Joiner	Toolmaker	Wood Machinist

# Drama

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Drama
SCQF Level 6	Higher Drama
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Drama
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Drama
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Drama

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

**Creativity** – You will develop an ability to think creatively and originally by responding to a range of stimuli

**Problem Solving** – You will learn to consider all elements of a problem in order to overcome it and achieve your desired end result

**Communication** – You will strengthen both your verbal and non-verbal communication skills in a performance setting, or in the role of director

**Literacy** – In order to enhance your Literacy skills, you will be part of group discussions, you will communicate during rehearsal/performance activities, give and receive feedback and read/produce essays and scripts

**Employability** – You will be working with others, learning to negotiate and build on others' ideas

**Thinking Skills** – You will analyse and evaluate throughout

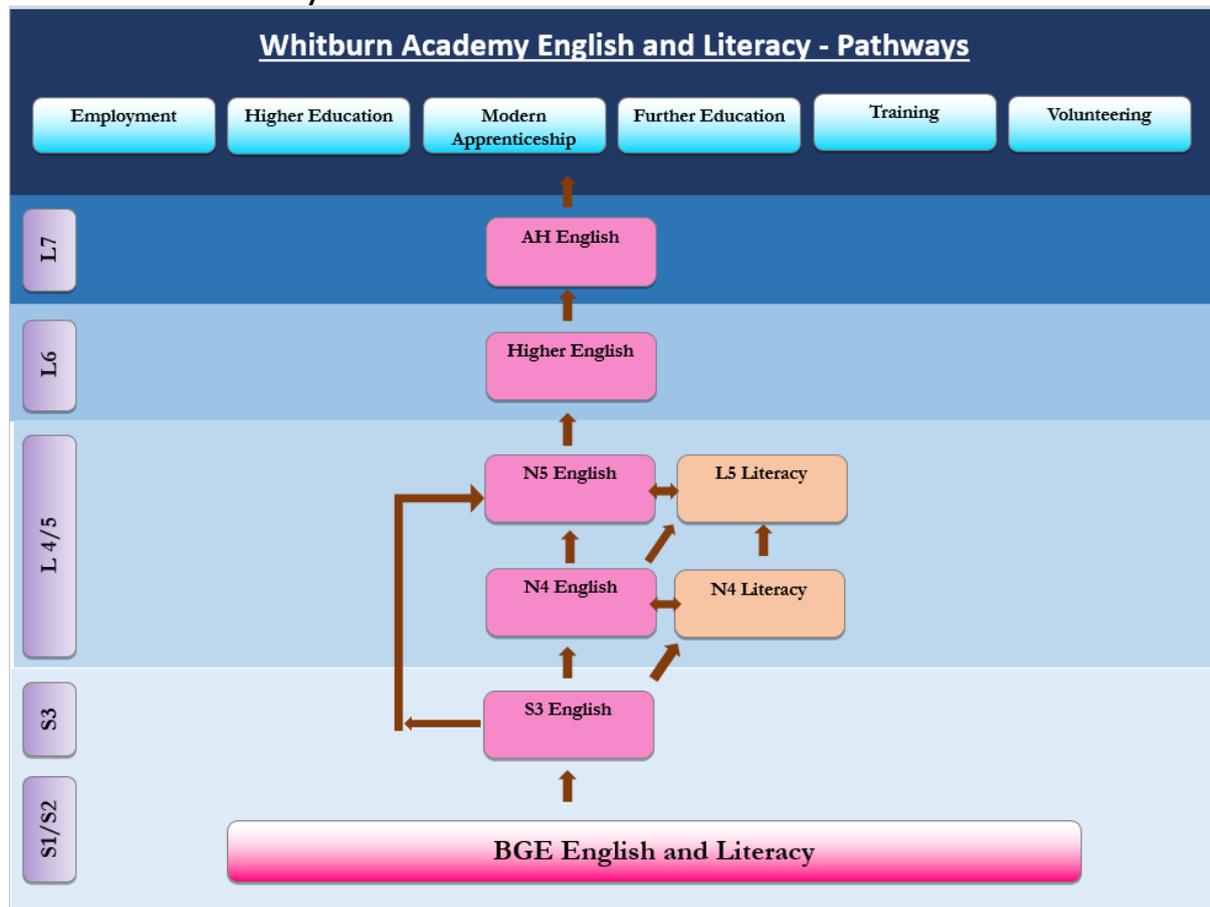
## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Actor/Broadcaster	Primary teacher
Director	Early Years Practitioner
Drama/Media teacher	Computer Games Design
Set designer	Events Management
Cinematographer	Lecturer
Location scout	Theatre in Education Practitioner
Soundtrack designer	
Stage Manager	
Sfx make-up artist	
Costume designer	
Props designer	
Lighting/sound designer	
Producer	
Journalist/Media/Film Industry	

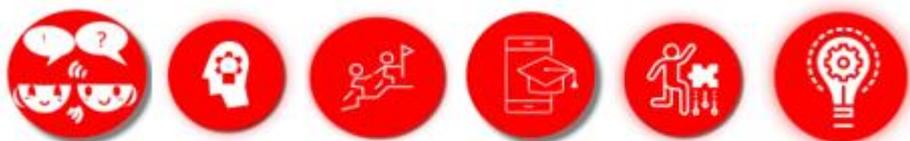
# English

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher English
SCQF Level 6	Higher English
SCQF Level 5	National 5 English
SCQF Level 4	National 4 English
SCQF Level 3	National 3 English

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

In English you will develop:

**Creativity** – Ability to think creatively and originally

**Problem Solving** – Ability to think through aspects of a problem and create a successful solution

**Analysis** – Ability to think explain the underlying meaning of different genres of texts

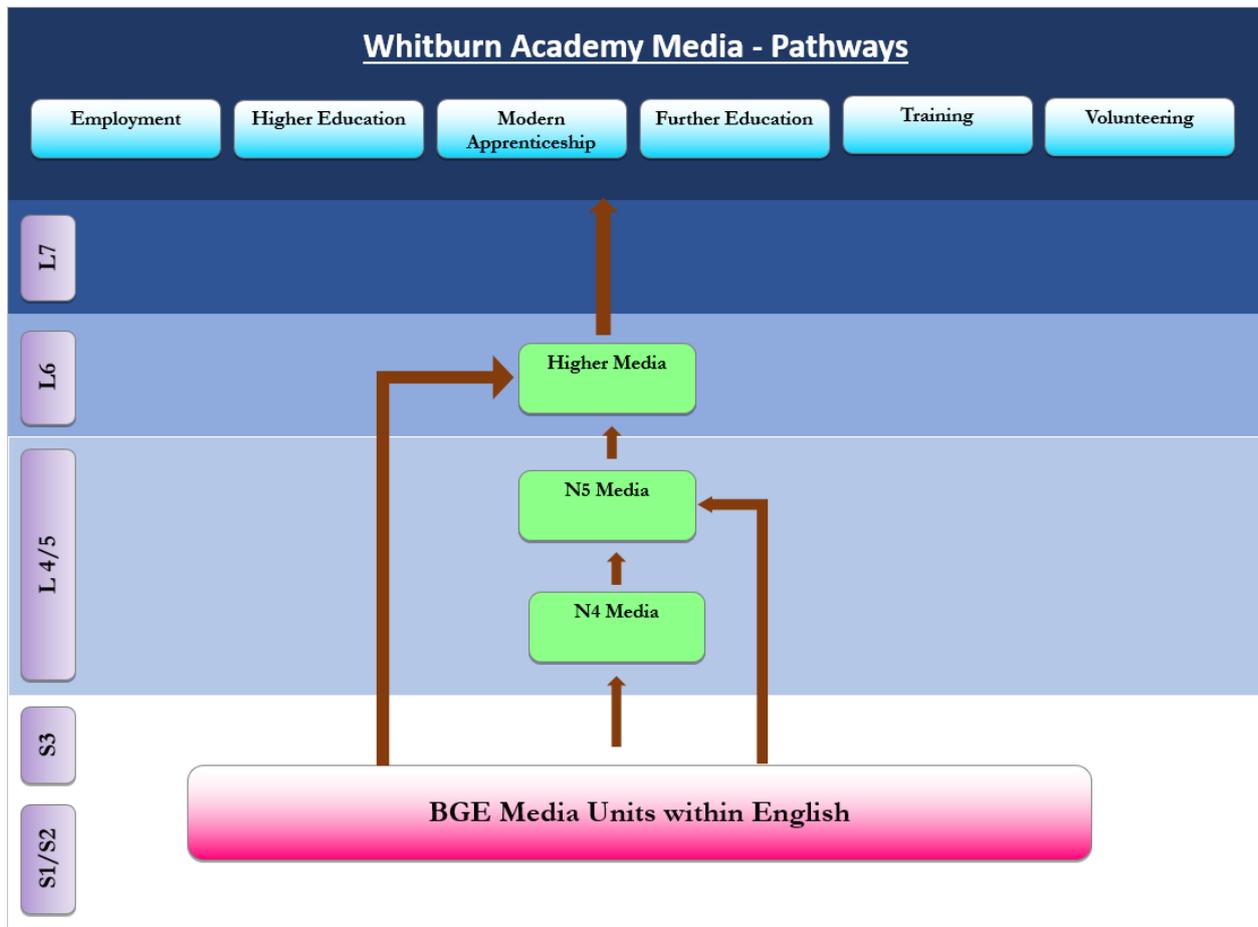
**Evaluation** – Ability to effectively convey your opinion based on the analysis on different genres of texts

## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Journalist	Primary teacher
Author	Early Years Practitioner
Teaching English as a Second Language	Technical Writer
English Teacher	Public Relations
English Lecturer for College/University	Media/Film Industry
Editor	Law
Actor/Broadcaster	Librarian
Director	Administration
English/Media teacher	Editor and Content Manager
Set designer	Human Resources
Cinematographer	Grant Writer
Location scout	
Soundtrack designer	
Stage Manager	
SfX make-up artist	
Costume designer	
Props designer	
Lighting/sound designer	
Producer	

# Media

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 6	Higher Media
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Media
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Media
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Media



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

In Media you will develop:

**Creativity** – Ability to think creatively and originally

**Problem Solving** – Ability to think through aspects of a problem and create a successful solution

**Analysis** – Ability to think explain the underlying meaning of different media texts

**Evaluation** – Ability to effectively convey your opinion based on the analysis on different media texts

## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Journalist	Primary teacher
Author	Early Years Practitioner
Media/Film Industry	Technical Writer
English Teacher	Public Relations
English Lecturer for College/University	Human Resources
Editor	Law
Actor/Broadcaster	Librarian
Director	Administration
English/Media teacher	Editor and Content Manager
Set designer	
Cinematographer	
Location scout	
Soundtrack designer	
Stage Manager	
SfX make-up artist	
Costume designer	
Props designer	
Lighting/sound designer	
Producer	

# Home Economics

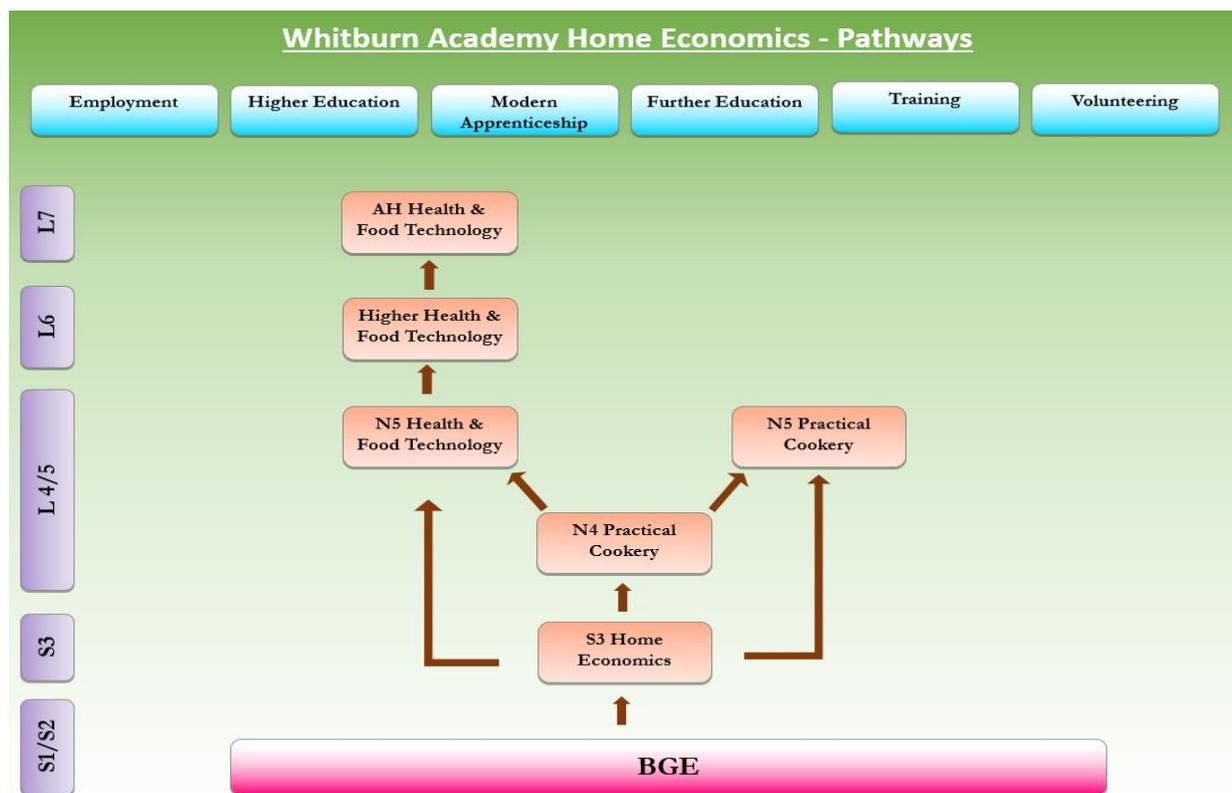
## Practical Cookery

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Practical Cookery
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Practical Cookery
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Practical Cookery

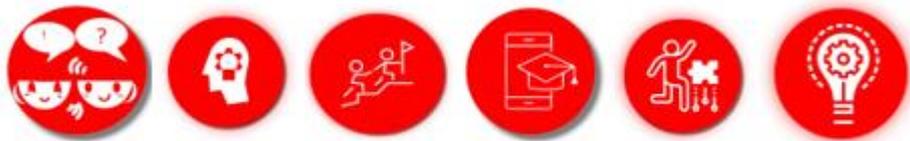
## Health and Food Technology

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Health & Food Technology
SCQF Level 6	Higher Health & Food Technology
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Health & Food Technology
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Health & Food Technology
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Health & Food Technology

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

**Numeracy** – Money, time and measurement – Costing, cooking times & measuring ingredients

**Employability** - Planning, working with others, time management – time plans, team projects

**Thinking Skills** – applying food preparation techniques and cookery processes to different context

**Practical skills** – Application of food preparation techniques and cookery processes

**Creativity** – producing own cake designs, application of these designs in different context

## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Baker / Chef	Primary teacher
Catering Manager	Journalism
Hospitality Industry Staff	Environment Health Officer
Teacher	Trading Standards Officer
Dietitian	Nursing
Food Product Developer	NHS Worker

# Health & Care Sector

## Care

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Care

## Early Learning and Childcare

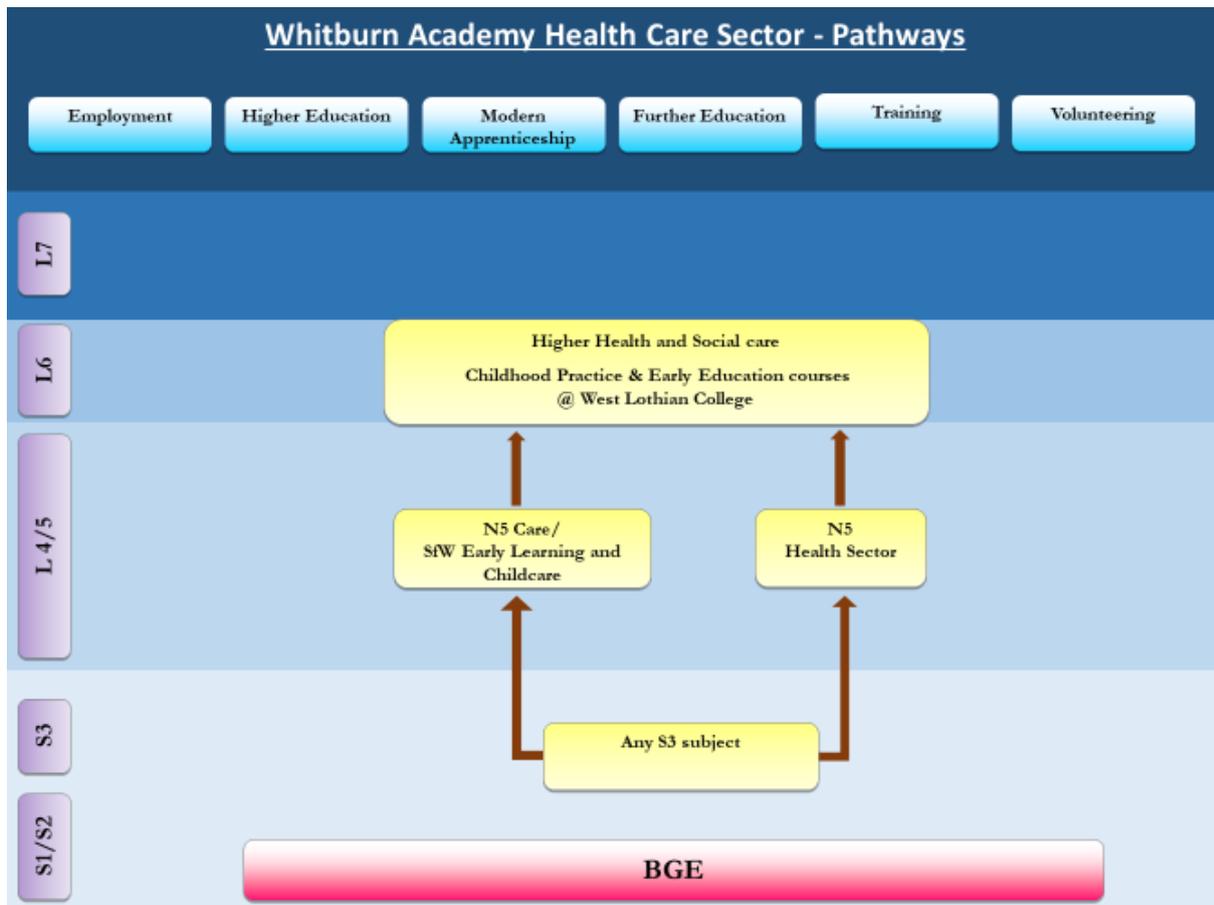
Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Early Learning and Childcare
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Early Learning and Childcare

## Health Sector

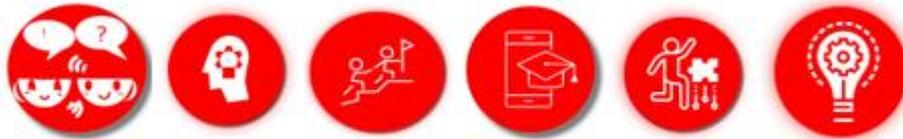
Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 5	Level 5 Health Sector

## Health and Social

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 6	Higher Health and Social Care



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

**Literacy** – Group discussions, communication through play and care provision, listening and talking, writing, project work

**Employability** - Working with others, understanding of health and care industry, legislation awareness, communicating effectively with others

**Thinking Skills** – Research and independent investigation work

**Practical skills** – Developing the ability to work with others, role play

**Health and Wellbeing** – Relationships, psychology sociology, individual needs and care provision

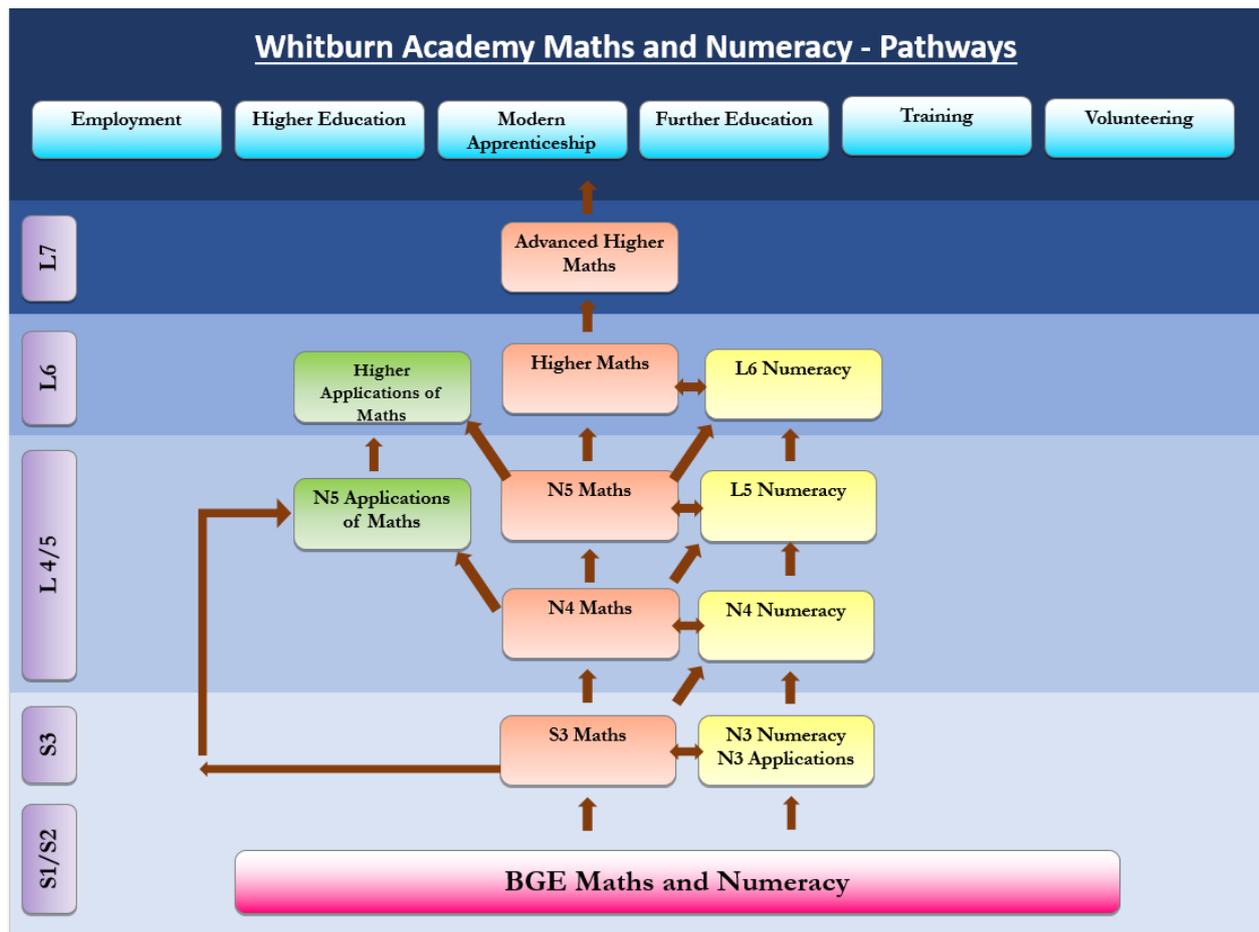
## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Classroom assistant	Primary teacher
Nursery nurse	Life sciences industry
Care assistant	Nursing
NHS Worker	
Early Years Teacher	

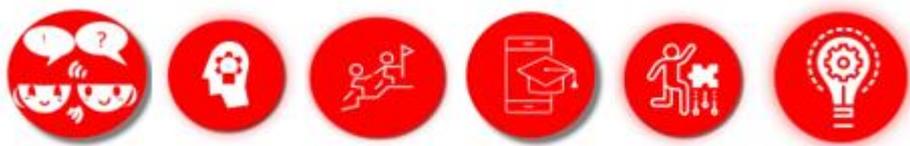
# Mathematics

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications	
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Mathematics	
SCQF Level 6	Higher Mathematics Higher Application of Maths	
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Mathematics National 5 Application of Maths	Level 5 Numeracy
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Mathematics	National 4 Numeracy
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Applications	National 3 Numeracy

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

In Mathematics you will develop:

**Numeracy** – Ability to carry out basic calculations to aid in everyday life

**Problem Solving** – Ability to think through aspects of a problem and create a successful solution

**Communication** – Ability to set out work in a logical fashion and explain thought processes

## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Banking	Primary teacher
Actuary	Secondary teacher
Statistician	Computing Industry
Engineering	Computer Program/App Design
Meteorology	Armed Forces
Scientist	Retail
Architect	Engineer
Financial Advisor	College/University Lecturer
Forensics	Joiner
Games Designer	Electrician
Economist	Media
Market Researcher	Self-employment
Quantity Surveyor	HMRC
Retail Manager	Leisure Manager
Pension Manager	Bar Manager
Product Designer	Political Advisor
Teacher	Film Producer
Sound Engineer	Data Analysis
Astronomer	Entrepreneur
Software Tester	Town Planner

# Maths and Applications of Maths Information

**N5 Maths** – National 5 Mathematics provides keen learners of mathematics with an opportunity to study a course which covers a wide range of topics. As well as key numerical topics such as fractions and percentages, pupils will explore the early stages of algebraic maths such as quadratic equations and geometrical skills such as properties of 3D shapes. Pupils will also learn how to make conclusions and arguments using statistical reasoning. This course will enable every pupil to develop their critical thinking skills whilst also developing their computational skills.

**N5 Applications of Maths** – Applications of Maths provides keen learners of mathematics with an opportunity to study a course which has real every day topics built within. As well as key numerical topics such as fractions and percentages, pupils will explore the early stages of financial maths which will teach them how to budget, calculate wages and income tax whilst also learning how key concepts such as mortgages, loans and interest work in the real world. This course will enable every pupil to develop their critical thinking skills whilst also developing a vast number of transferrable skills and knowledge.

**Higher Maths** – The higher maths course offers pupils a chance to further develop their understanding of the fundamentals of mathematics. By exploring new geometrical topics such as circle properties and vectors, pupils can make connections with the content at national 5 and apply it to context. In addition, the course also includes the opportunity to learn more within the field modelling using recurrence relations which has curricular links to finance, science and many more. Throughout this course, pupils will improve their problem solving skills and become able into thinking mathematically.

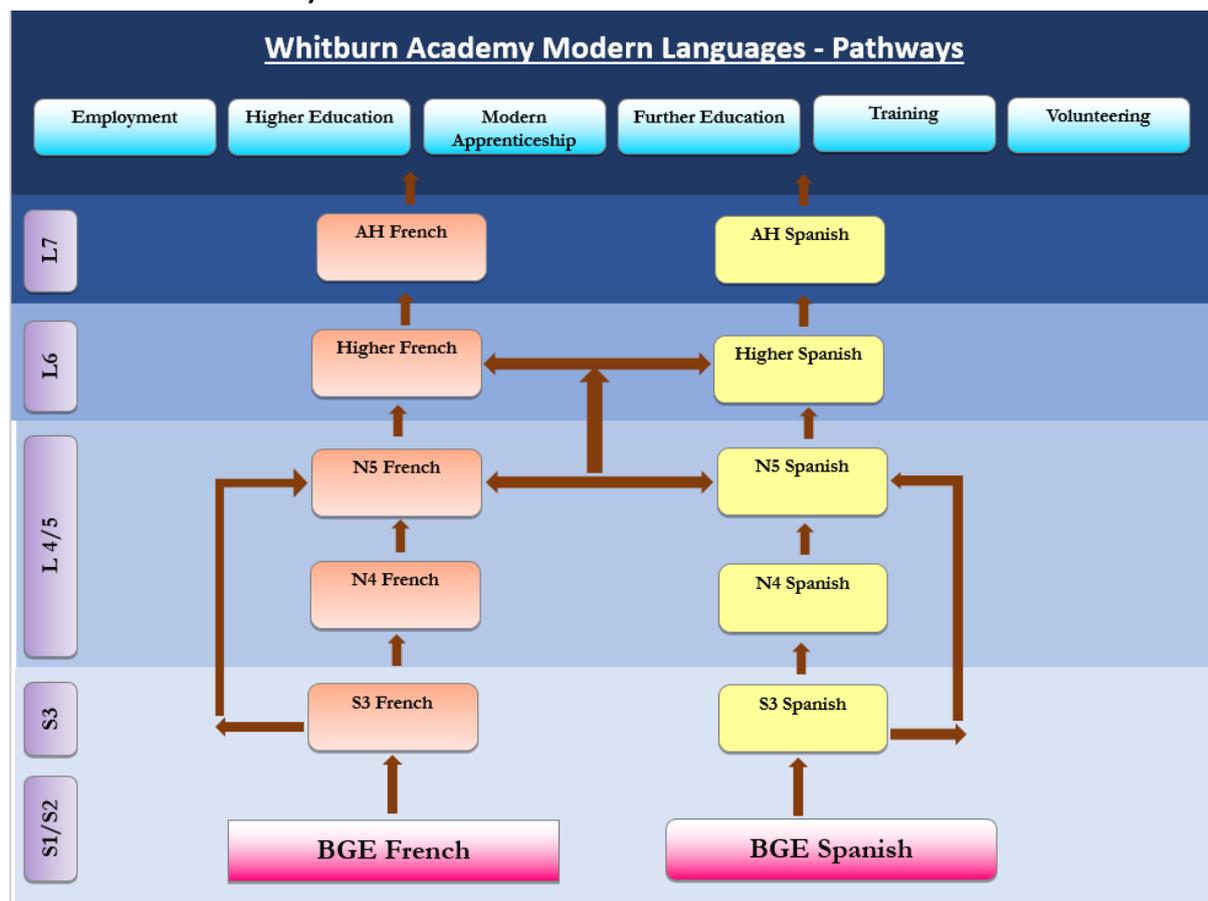
**Higher Apps of Maths** – Higher Applications of maths offers pupils a chance to explore the world of mathematical modelling. Using mathematical software such as "R", pupils will partake in a mathematical project where they get the opportunity to research and model the outcome of a given topic in society. In addition, the course also includes the opportunity to learn more within the field of statistics and probability whilst also delving more into financial maths. Pupils will learn many underlying concepts of finance such as insurance and the risks involved within credit cards.

\*\*Pupils can only continue with Higher Maths or Apps of Maths if they achieve an A or B at N5 in S4.

# Modern Languages

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher French / Spanish
SCQF Level 6	Higher French / Spanish
SCQF Level 5	National 5 French / Spanish
SCQF Level 4	National 4 French / Spanish
SCQF Level 3	National 3 French / Spanish

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

In Modern Languages you will develop:

**Literacy** – Ability to read, write, listen, and talk with greater understanding of language in both the Modern Language and English

**Problem Solving** – Ability to think through aspects of a problem (understanding unfamiliar language) and create a successful solution to come to greater understanding

**Interpretation** – Ability to gather, assess and interpret information

**Intercultural / international awareness** – Ability to understand and respect different viewpoints and perspectives through learning about similarities and differences in values, beliefs and behaviour.

**Creativity** – Ability to think creatively and originally

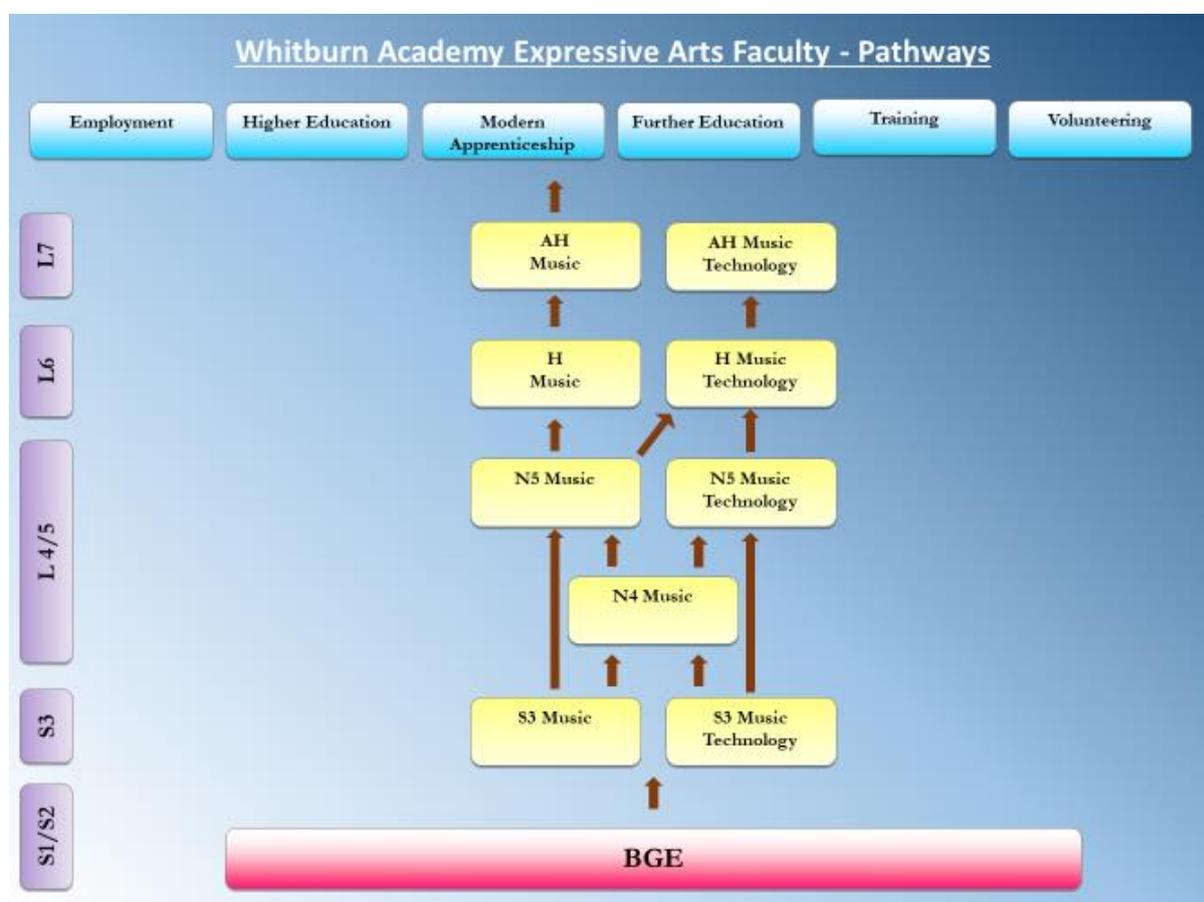
## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Translator	Diplomacy
Interpreter	Politics
Journalist	Business
Proof reader / editor	Retail / trade
Researcher	Customer service
Primary teacher	Law
Writer / blogger	Recruitment
Tour guide	(International) sports (players; trainers; physiotherapists; management)
International aid worker	Education
Liaison officer	Hospitality
Intelligence officer	Museum curator

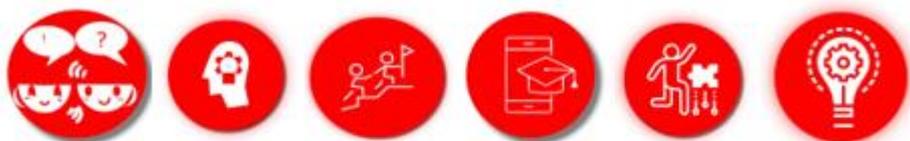
# Music

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Music Advanced Higher Music Technology
SCQF Level 6	Higher Music Higher Music Technology
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Music National 5 Music Technology
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Music National 4 Music Technology
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Music National 3 Music Technology

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

In Music you will develop:

**Creativity** – Ability to think creatively and originally

**Problem Solving** – Ability to think through aspects of a problem and make progress to achieve a desired end result

**Communication** – Ability to communicate verbally and non-verbally in a performance setting

**Hand Eye Coordination and fine motor skills** – Mastery of instrument-specific skills through determination and resilience during practice sessions

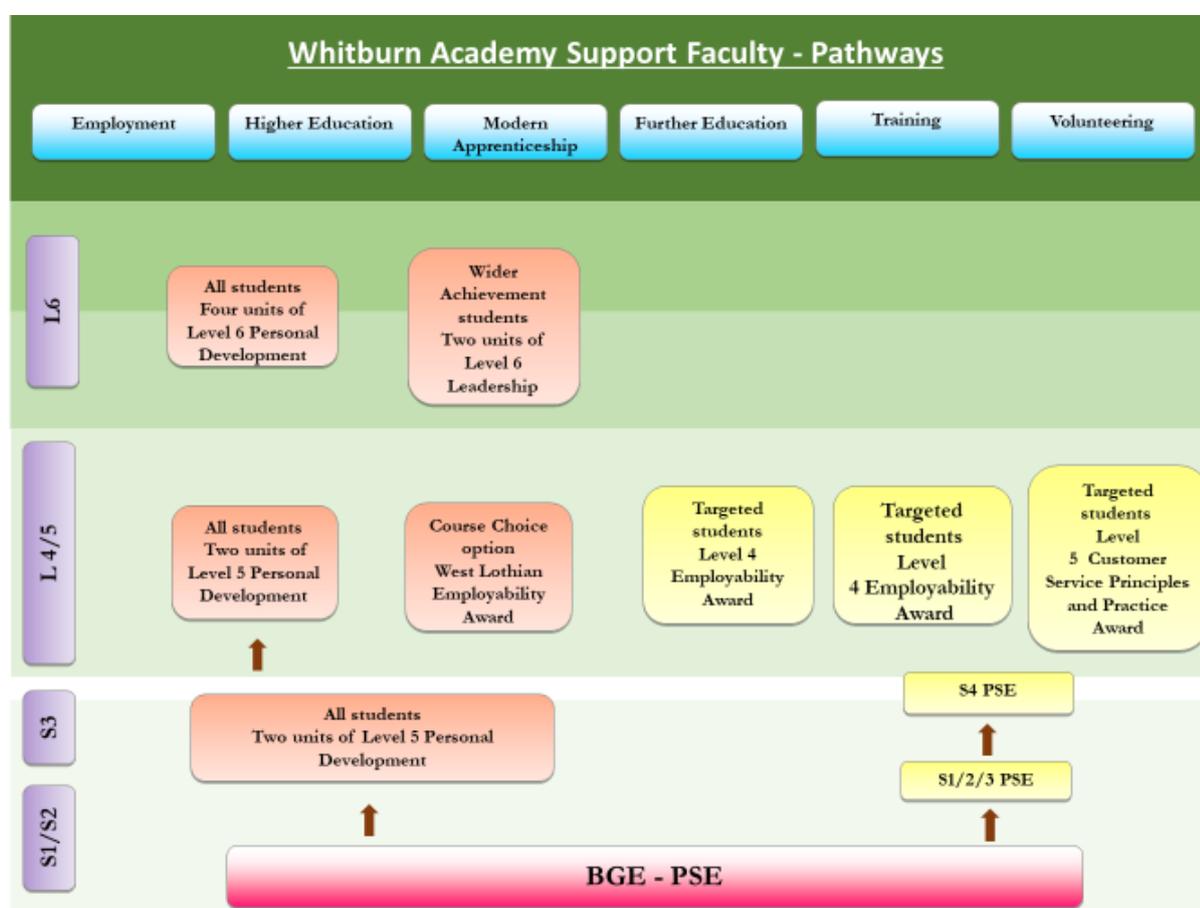
## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
Music Teacher	V, Film & Radio Production Assistant
Music Instructor	Primary Teacher
Performer	Doctor
Music Therapist	Childminder
Composer	Nursery Nurse/ Teacher
Song Writer	Business
Music Journalism	Events Management
Music Recording	Community Arts Music
Sound Production	Arts Administrator
Music Publishing	Radio Broadcasting Engineer
Conductor	Marketing Executive
Music Producer	Radio Broadcasting Assistant
DJ	Theatre Stage Manager
Programme Researcher	Tour Manager
Instrument Maker	Lecturer
Instrument Repairer	Sound Design (Games and Tech)
Music Historian	Sound Design (Theatre)

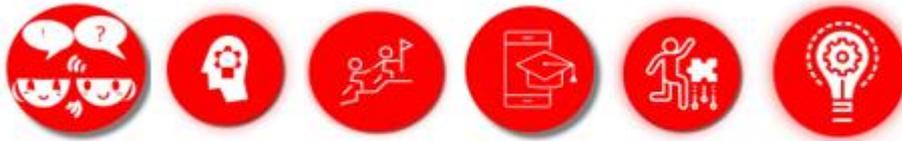
# Personal Development and SCQF Additional Qualifications

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 6	Personal Development Leadership Enterprise and Employability Award
SCQF Level 5	Personal Development Wellbeing West Lothian Employability Award Enterprise and Employability Award Customer Service

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

In Personal Development you will develop:

**Self-awareness** – through self-analysis students should become aware of their attributes and their skills.

**Task Management Skills** – valued by employers especially.

**Interpersonal Skills** – these skills are essential for any activities which involve working with others in a range of environments.

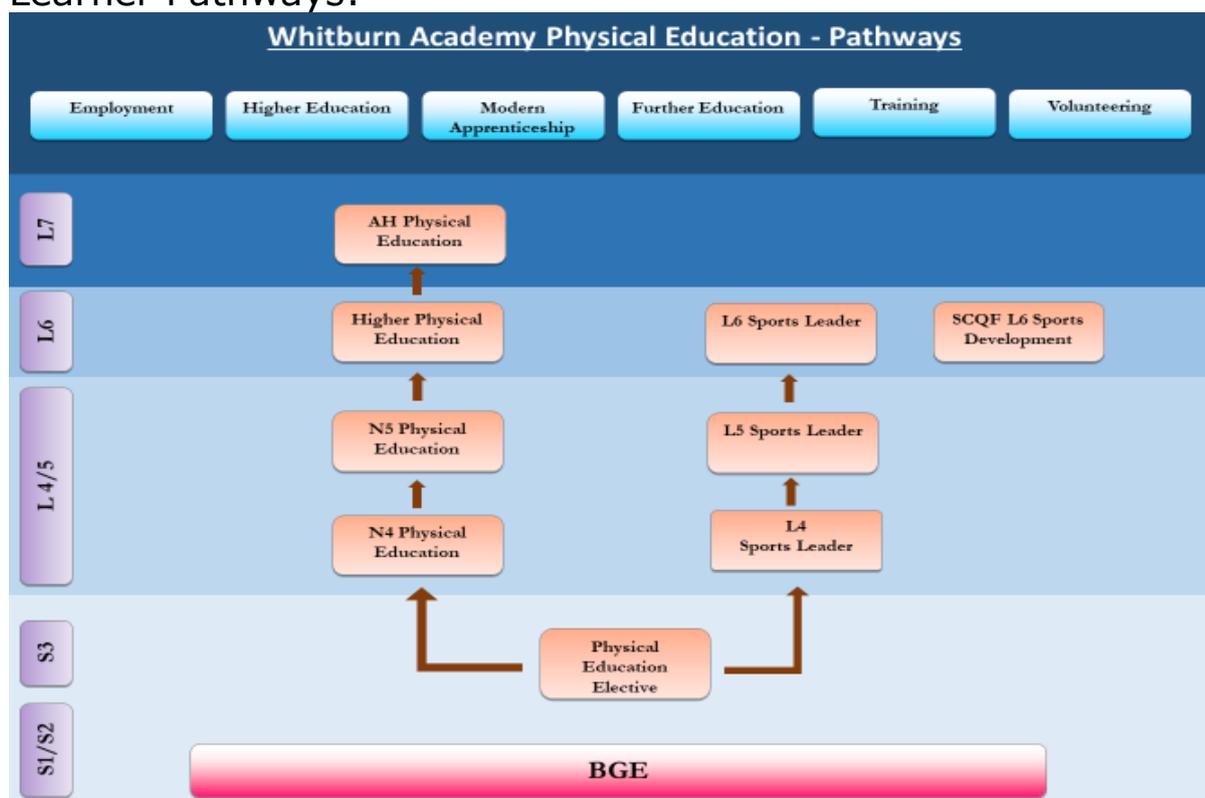
## Career Pathways:

Careers
<p>The development of skills is useful within all career areas. All careers require an acceptable level of basic employability skills which all employers deem necessary for an employee to possess.</p> <p>Employability skills are developed through participation in all course offered through the set of Personal Development courses and these are gained during S4/5/6.</p> <p>A selection of these courses are part of the core curriculum of the Senior Phase and are within the capabilities of all students to achieve with the necessary support.</p>

# Physical Education

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Physical Education
SCQF Level 6	Higher Physical Education
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Physical Education
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Physical Education
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Physical Education

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

**Literacy** – group discussions, communication during physical activities, giving receiving and listening to feedback

**Employability** - working with others – negotiating and effective communication

**Thinking Skills** – Analysing and evaluating – gathering of data, reflecting on performance

**Practical skills** – Application of skills within a range of sporting activities

**Health and Wellbeing** – emotional and physical fitness, developed, monitored and assessed

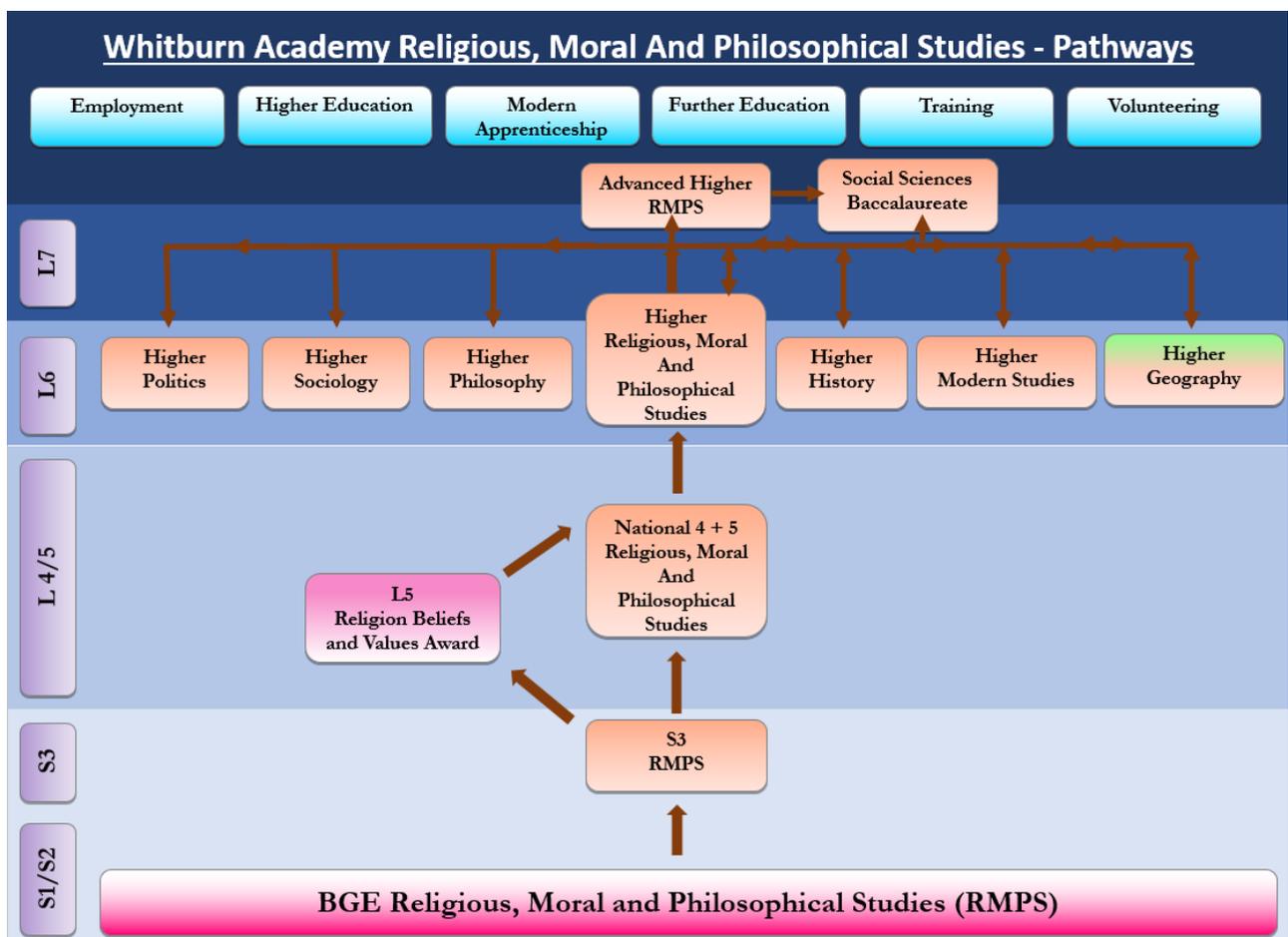
## Career Pathways:

Subject Specific Careers	Careers where skills or knowledge could be useful
PE Teacher	Primary Teacher
Personal Trainer	Journalism
Sports Coach	Armed Forces
Sports Industry	Events Management

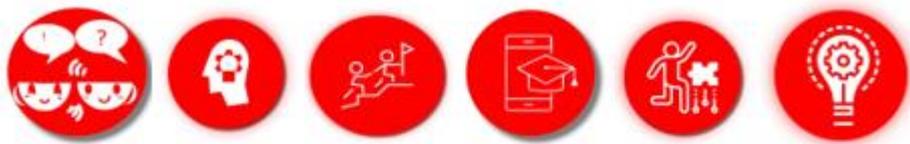
# Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies

Levels Available	Name of Qualification
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies
SCQF Level 6	Higher Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies
SCQF Level 3	N3 Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies

Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

- researching, analysing, evaluating and synthesising information to draw detailed, reasoned and well-structured conclusions and present findings about factual and theoretical elements of religious, moral and philosophical topics or issues
- identifying and responding to different ideas and viewpoints
- interpreting the meaning and context of sources related to world religions, and explaining relevant abstract ideas
- evaluating and expressing reasoned and well-structured views about contemporary moral and religious and philosophical questions and responses, and explaining relevant theoretical ideas
- critically analysing and explaining contemporary moral, religious and philosophical questions, and explaining relevant theoretical ideas
- demonstrating in-depth factual and abstract knowledge and understanding of the significance and impact of religion today by explaining some key beliefs, practices and sources found within one of the world's six major religions, and the contribution these make to the lives of followers

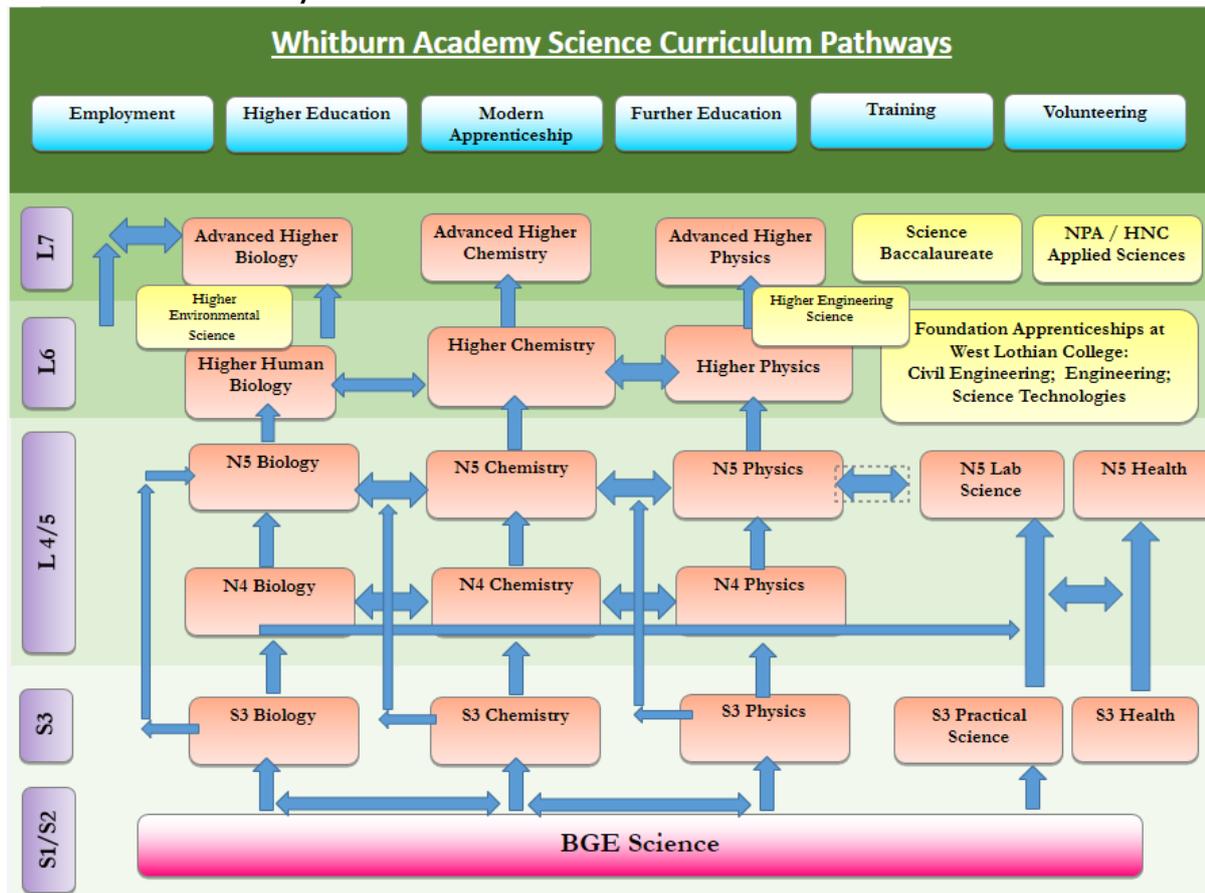
## Career Pathways:

Careers through RMPS		
Teacher	Community development	Police officer
Journalist	Youth worker	Mediator
Charity officer	Counsellor	Local or National Gov
Lawyer	Nurse	NHS Worker
Human Resources	Doctor	Publishing

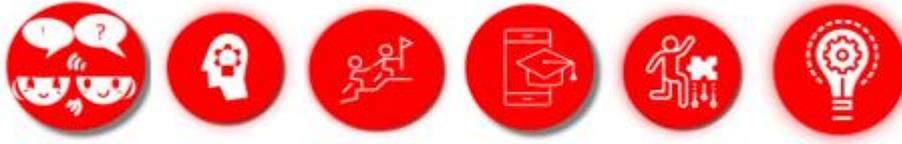
# Science

Levels Available	Name of Qualifications
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Biology Advanced Higher Chemistry Advanced Higher Physics Science Baccalaureate
SCQF Level 6	Higher Human Biology Higher Chemistry Higher Physics Higher Environmental Science
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Biology National 5 Chemistry National 5 Physics National 5 Lab Science National 5 Health
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Biology National 4 Chemistry National 4 Physics National 4 Science
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Biology National 3 Chemistry National 3 Physics

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject Specific Skills:

- develop and apply knowledge and understanding of science
- develop Numeracy skills
- develop an understanding of the impact of science on everyday life
- develop an understanding of the role of science in scientific issues and relevant applications of science, including the impact these could make on society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills
- develop the skills to use technology, equipment and materials, safely, in practical scientific activities
- develop problem-solving skills in a science context
- use and understand scientific literacy, in everyday contexts, to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices
- develop the knowledge and skills for more advanced learning in science
- develop skills of independent working

## Career Pathways:

Careers through Biology		
Agricultural Consultant	Biochemist	Dentist
Air Quality Consultant	Botanist	Doctor/Nurse/Midwife
Ambulance Technician	Chiropractor	Geneticist
Beauty Therapist	Crime Scent Examiner	Pharmacologist
Medical Researcher	Climate Scientist	Physiotherapy
Sports Scientist	Ecologist	Park Ranger

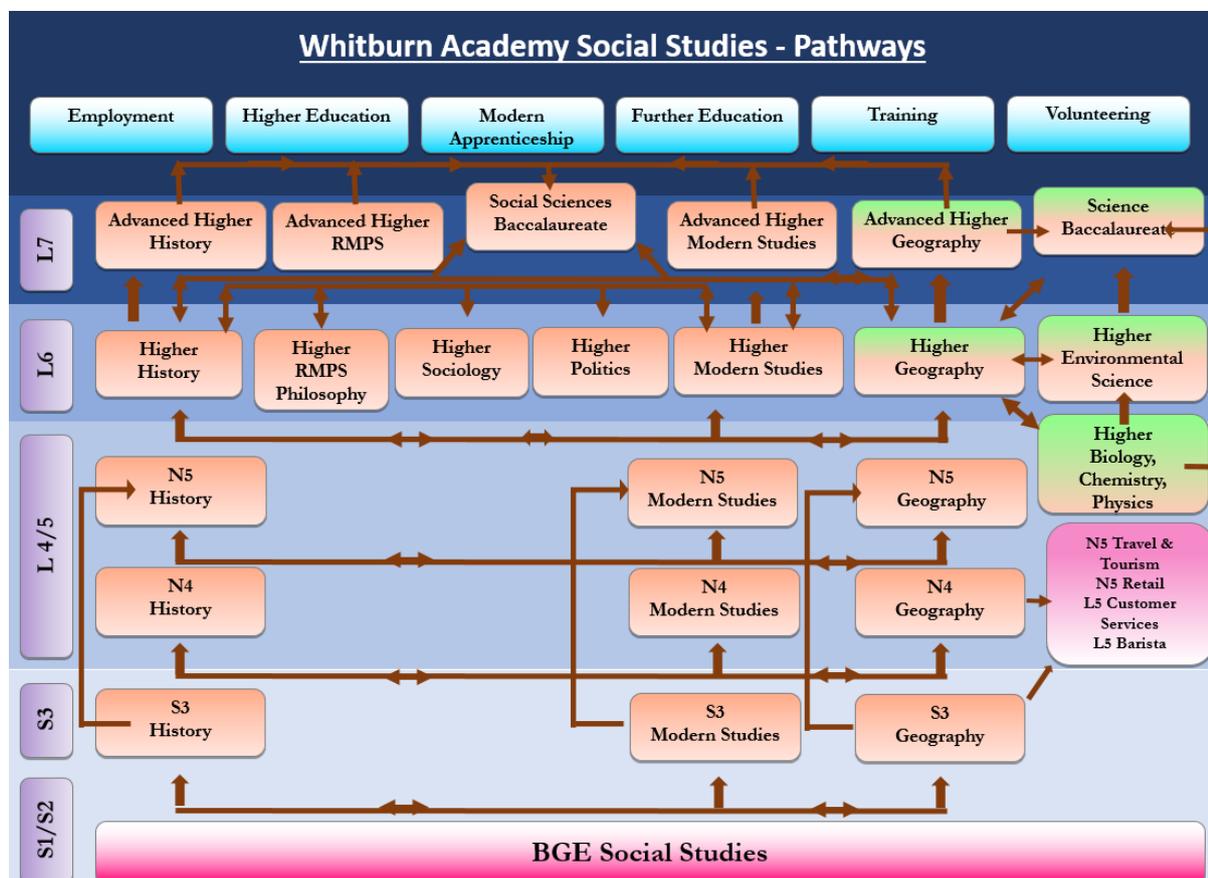
Careers through Chemistry		
Agriculture	Dental Technician	Optometrist
Biochemist	Doctor/Nurse/Midwife	Paramedic
Chemical Engineer	Food Scientist	Veterinary Surgeon
Chemist	Offshore Service Technician	Zoologist
Nuclear Chemistry Engineer	Air Quality Consultant	Marine Biogeochemist
Solar Technology Engineer	Radioactive waste Consultant	Civil Engineer
Micro-plastics research	Cosmetics Technical Chemist	Analytical Chemist

Careers through Physics		
Aerospace Engineer	Dentist	Radiographer
Architect	Games Programmer	POV Pilot Technician
Astronomer	Naval Architect	Structural Engineer
Meteorologist	Nanotechnologist	Heat Pump Engineer
Crime Scene Examiner	Optometrist	Surgeon
Electrical Engineer	Civil Engineer	Acoustics Consultant

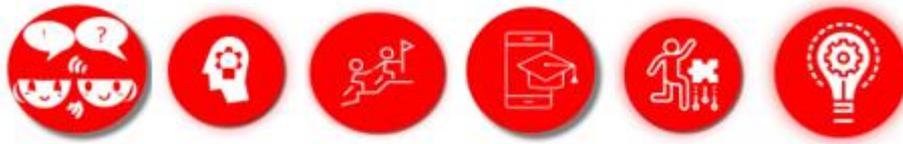
# Social Studies

Levels Available	Name of Qualification
SCQF Level 7	Advanced Higher Geography (can add Science Baccalaureate) Advanced Higher History Advanced Higher Modern Studies
SCQF Level 6	Higher Environmental Science Higher Geography Higher History Higher Modern Studies Higher Politics Higher Sociology
SCQF Level 5	National 5 Geography National 5 History National 5 Modern Studies National 5 Sociology National 5 Travel & Tourism, Customer Service And Retail
SCQF Level 4	National 4 Geography National 4 History National 4 Modern Studies National 4 Travel & Tourism, Customer Service And Retail
SCQF Level 3	National 3 Geography National 3 History National 3 Modern Studies

## Learner Pathways:



## Essential Skills:



- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Digital Literacy
- Problem Solving
- Innovation

## Subject specific skills:

- developing and applying skills and detailed knowledge and understanding
- researching and using information collected from a range of sources
- source analysis
- mapping skills including the use of OS maps
- using, interpreting and analysing a range of numerical and graphical information sources
- demonstrating knowledge and understanding of factual and theoretical content, and giving detailed explanations
- evaluating and synthesising information
- using a range of evidence to justify decisions
- analysing and drawing valid conclusions

## Career Pathways:

Careers through Geography, Environmental Science		
Meteorologist	Environmental management	Flood/land management
Environmental law	Sustainability officer	Environmental journalist
Town planner	Land surveyor	Renewable energy

Careers through History		
Law	Documentary Filmmaker	Politician
Forensic Historian	Researcher	Teacher
Writer/editor	Archivist	Archaeologist

Careers through Modern Studies, Politics, Sociology		
Law	Journalism	Business
Social Policy	Researcher	Teacher
Politician	Aid officer	Community development

# West Lothian Academy

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The West Lothian Academy is not the same as studying a subject within your own school and applies a different operating model. It is an extended/additional online programme offered to young people who can't access a course within their own school, therefore widening access to the courses available throughout West Lothian Council.

## Students

What to expect and your role if studying on the West Lothian Academy
Full column allocation
Two periods each week of "live learning" via Microsoft Teams
Must attend all "live learning" classes with camera turned on
Responsible for own learning and using all allocated periods efficiently and effectively
Conduct yourself safely, responsibly and appropriately at all times
Other allocated periods provided for self-learning/study as communicated and supported by class teacher (Microsoft Teams and Class Notebook)
Regular tracking updates received via own school (completed by class teacher)
In-person taught tutorials (approximately twice per term) at a central venue, transport provided
Exams/prelims will be taken in own school
All/any agreed ASN support requirements in place
Commit to the course for the full year/session – withdrawing from the course is not within the expectations, think very carefully at course choice time. Is this the right course and way of learning for you at this stage?
Due to the live learning element on either a Tuesday or Thursday afternoon, students cannot choose to study 2 West Lothian Academy courses.

## Parents/Carers

Summary of what to expect
Regular tracking/progress updates completed by class teacher and disseminated by own school throughout the year
One parents/carers evening following prelims in February to meet with the class teacher about progress/strengths and next steps
Discuss fully with your child at course choice time – is this the right course and way of learning for your child?
All agreed ASN support will be provided in discussion with yourself, your child, your child's school and the class teacher

## Information Leaflet

### West Lothian Virtual Academy

What you need to know about the West Lothian Virtual Offer

Almost all SQA exams and prelims will be sat within the base school to avoid unfamiliar settings and travel on exam days

- All students have
- 2 periods per week of "live learning" via Microsoft Teams
  - All other periods are self-directed study/learning set out by the teacher
  - there are 3 face to face opportunities per session for all courses

All arrangements for Additional Support Needs will be shared and discussed with students prior to assessments

West Lothian Virtual Academy

For Science courses that include an assignment there is home school support for the completion of the project

Each base school has their own West Lothian Virtual Academy contact.

- Tracking and Reporting
- 3 Tracking updates throughout the session
  - An online Parents/Carers Evening in February
  - Surveys will be sent looking for feedback during the session and at the end of the course



## AH Courses Offered on WL Virtual Academy 2026 - 2027:

AH Courses for 2026-2027
Biology
Business Education
Chemistry
Computing
Geography
History
Maths
Physical Education
Physics
RMPS

## West Lothian College 2026 – 2027

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There are a wide range of opportunities offered at West Lothian College, from Level 4 to Level 7

Following your initial online application for a place on one of these college courses, the college will invite you to attend an interview prior to offering any places.

Securing a place at college which is delivered in the evening or on a Friday afternoon does not count as part of your 'In school' curriculum.

The following Foundation Apprenticeships are delivered by West Lothian College either in their Livingston Campus or on the School campuses identified below.

- FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP IN CREATIVE AND DIGITAL MEDIA
- FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP IN ENGINEERING
- FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP IN SOCIAL SERVICES AND HEALTHCARE
- FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP IN SOCIAL SERVICES: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
- FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP IN CONSTRUCTION (Level 4 and Level 5)

[For more information on any of these courses please access WLC website by clicking here.](#)