

# GLENIFFER HIGH SCHOOL

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Renfrewshire  
Council

Children's Services

**Head Teacher: Lisa Chalmers**

**Our Ref: SG**

**Date: 14/01/2026**

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Senior Phase Options 2025

In February, we begin our options process, during which S4 and S5 pupils choose the subjects they will study next session.

Options will be completed at a meeting with the Depute Head Teacher for your child's house. You are very welcome to attend this meeting, either in person or by telephone. You will receive a text message with a link allowing you to request attendance.

S5 pupils will study five subjects, one from each column, and one leisure subject in Column F. We strongly recommend that pupils choose their "best five" subjects — those where attainment is currently strongest — to maximise the likelihood of success.

S6 pupils will normally study four subjects and take part in our volunteering programme, which contributes towards a Saltire Award. The exception to this is where pupils choose two subjects at Advanced Higher level; in this case, pupils will study three subjects in total to reflect the additional time required for independent study and project work.

Statistically, re-sitting subjects to improve grades is rarely successful and is therefore not recommended. However, we recognise that resits may be required to meet specific entrance requirements, and exceptional circumstances can be discussed with the Depute Head Teacher at the options meeting.

Where subject choices cannot be fully accommodated within school, there may be an opportunity to study a subject at another school through the consortium. Places are subject to availability and will not be confirmed until August. This can be discussed during the options meeting.

There is also a Senior Phase offer at West College Scotland in Columns D and E. Pupils choosing one of these subjects will travel to the college using their National Entitlement Card over the lunch break, with classes running in the afternoon.

Please note that it is not possible to "drop" a subject part way through the year. It is therefore important that subject choices are made carefully and are based on the most recent tracking data. There will, however, be an opportunity to renegotiate options in August once final SQA results are published.



**Director of Children's Services: Janie O'Neill**

Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley PA1 1TZ

Website: [www.renfrewshire.gov.uk](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)



## Useful documents and key dates

- Options columns and advice and guidance resources:  
<https://padlet.com/gw11gouldsteven/SeniorOptions>
- Department pathways information: School website → Learning in Gleniffer → Curriculum
- Tracking reports (including Assessment Block 2): Published in the week beginning 19 January
- S4 options meetings commence: Monday 26 January
- S5/S6 options meetings commence: Wednesday 4 February

## Preparing for options meetings

Please take time to review your child's tracking information and discuss the available options in advance of the meeting. All departments have promotional videos, subject information, and progression pathways available on the school website under Learning in Gleniffer → Curriculum.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions about the options process.

Yours faithfully,

*Steven Gould*

Mr S Gould  
Depute Head Teacher



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