

## James Gillespie's High School – S5 into S6 Subject Choice 2026



S6 is based on a points system: you must have **15 points or above** to return to S6.

**12 of these points must be curricular based with a minimum 3 subjects chosen.**

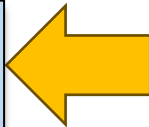
Other points can be gained by engaging in activities which promote and develop other vital skills. These include joining a committee, coaching, supporting junior classes, being a 'departmentor', work experience etc.

You can choose any combination of activities using the school points value.

\* Please note that any work experience must be confirmed in writing **by the provider by 22nd May 2026**, so they can be factored into timetabling. This should be shared with your PSL

### Additional information:

- You must ensure that you have met the **course entry requirements** before choosing your courses.
- Please let your PSL know if you are considering leaving school at the end of this academic session. (May 2026)
- Course choices will be made using the online system TOOLS – your PSL will submit these for you during an individual coursing meeting which will be conducted after prelims.
- Deadline for course choice is **Friday 27th February 2026**. If you do not submit choices by then with your PSL, you may be allocated subjects not of your own choosing.



Activity	School Point Value
National 5/level 5 course	4
Higher/level 6 course (including N.P.A. and F.A. courses)	4
Advanced Higher course/A-Level/Scottish Baccalaureate/level 7	5
Support of a junior class (weekly)	1
Out-of-school work experience (weekly) *	2
Other (as agreed with PSL/Community Head) such as Mental Health Companion, school sports coach, Departmentor etc.	1 or 2



### Some examples:

Advanced Higher +		Advanced Higher +		Advanced Higher		= 15 points
Advanced Higher +		Advanced Higher +		NPA level 6 +	Higher	= 18 points
NPA level 6	Higher +	Higher +	Work experience +		Supporting junior class	= 15 points
Higher +	Higher +	F.A. +	Departmentor	Junior class +	Junior class	= 15 points

**Please note that the school may need to amend or remove any of the courses listed below due to pupil uptake or staffing capacity. If this occurs, reserve subjects will be used.**

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Qualification Level	School Based Subjects			
<b>SCQF Level 4</b> National 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English</li> <li>Mathematics</li> </ul>			
<b>SCQF Level 5</b>  National 5  National Progression Award (NPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art and Design</li> <li>Application of Maths</li> <li>Biology</li> <li>Chemistry</li> <li>Communication and Literature (English)</li> <li>Computing Science</li> <li>Computer Games Development (at another school)</li> <li>Creative Thinking</li> <li>Cyber Security (at another school)</li> <li>Dance</li> <li>English</li> <li>French</li> <li>German</li> <li>Graphic Communication</li> <li>Laboratory Science</li> <li>Leadership in Languages</li> <li>Mandarin</li> <li>Mathematics</li> <li>Mental Health and Wellbeing</li> <li>Media Studies</li> <li>Music</li> <li>Music Technology</li> <li>Numeracy/Personal Finance</li> <li>Physical Education</li> <li>Physics</li> <li>Practical Cake Craft</li> <li>Scottish Studies</li> <li>Sociology</li> <li>Spanish</li> <li>Sports Coaching</li> <li>Travel and Tourism</li> </ul>			
<b>SCQF Level 6</b>  Higher  National Progression Award (N.P.A.)  Foundation Apprenticeship (F.A.) - 1 year course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art and Design</li> <li>Application of Maths</li> <li>Biology</li> <li>Business</li> <li>Chemistry</li> <li>Classical Studies</li> <li>Communication and Literature (English)</li> <li>Computing Science</li> <li>Creative Thinking</li> <li>Creative and Digital Media F.A. (at Screen Education Edinburgh)</li> <li>Dance</li> <li>Drama</li> <li>Engineering Science</li> <li>English</li> <li>Environmental Science</li> <li>ESOL</li> <li>French</li> <li>Gàidhlig</li> <li>Geography</li> <li>German</li> <li>Graphic Communication</li> <li>History</li> <li>Human Biology</li> <li>Journalism</li> <li>Powering Futures/Leadership &amp; Achievement award</li> <li>Mandarin</li> <li>Mathematics</li> <li>Media Studies</li> <li>Modern Studies</li> <li>Music</li> <li>Music Technology</li> <li>Philosophy</li> <li>Physical Education</li> <li>Physics</li> <li>Politics (S6 only)</li> <li>Product Design &amp; Manufacture</li> <li>Psychology</li> <li>R.M.P.S.</li> <li>Scientific Technologies</li> <li>Social Services, Children and Young People F.A.</li> <li>Spanish</li> <li>Sports Coaching</li> <li>Sustainability diploma (at another school)</li> </ul>			
<b>SCQF Level 7</b>  Advanced Higher/ A-Level/ Scottish Baccalaureate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art and Design: A-Level</li> <li>Biology</li> <li>Chemistry</li> <li>Computing Science</li> <li>English</li> <li>French</li> <li>Gàidhlig</li> <li>Geography</li> <li>German</li> <li>History</li> <li>Languages Baccalaureate</li> <li>LEAPS (apply separately)</li> <li>Mandarin</li> <li>Mathematics</li> <li>Mathematics of Mechanics</li> <li>Modern Studies</li> <li>Music</li> <li>Physics</li> <li>Science Baccalaureate</li> <li>Social Subjects Baccalaureate</li> <li>Spanish</li> <li>Statistics</li> </ul>			
<b>EDINBURGH COLLEGE COURSES:</b>  Schools College Partnership (SCP)	<p>You may also apply for a Schools College Partnership course as one of your options.</p> <p>Edinburgh College offer many other courses and pathways from level 5 upwards - please use the link below for the courses on offer for 2026. This is currently being updated but all 2026 courses will be finalised by the end of January and information shared with pupils and parents/carers.</p> <p><b>SCP and college FA courses will be timetabled for Tuesday &amp; Thursday afternoons - pupils will need to travel to the relevant campus.</b></p> <p>Applications MUST be made separately (online by you) at <a href="https://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/courses/for-school-pupils">https://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/courses/for-school-pupils</a></p> <p>Please let your Pupil Support Leader know if you are interested in applying for a college FA or SCP course when submitting your choices with them.</p> <p>Please refer to the course information on the college website and, if interested, select <b>'College'</b> on the course choice form.</p>			