



Virtual Meeting Protocol

Our meeting will start shortly

Due the potential large number of participants please

- mute your mic
- switch off your video
- do not record this meeting
- note the 'hands up' facility will not be used
- avoid sharing personal pupil /parent information
- do not share this meeting link with anyone other than Alford Academy parents/carers

“ Working together to nurture, inspire and achieve “

THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

This Framework diagram has been produced to show the mainstream Scottish qualifications already credit rated by SQA and HEIs. However, there are a diverse number of learning programmes on the Framework, which, due to the limitations of this format, cannot be represented here. For more information, please visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk to view the interactive version of the Framework or search the Database.



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

Alford Academy – National Qualifications

National Qualifications:

National 3 and 4 – No exam – continuous assessment

National 5 – SQA exam

Highers – SQA Exam

Advanced Highers – SQA Exam

- National Progression Award (NPA) – Level 5 or 6 - No exam
- Foundation Apprenticeships (FA's) – Level 4, 5 or 6 – No exam
- College – NEScol – continuous assessment - Blackboard
- SRUC – Online learning / online assessments - Moodle

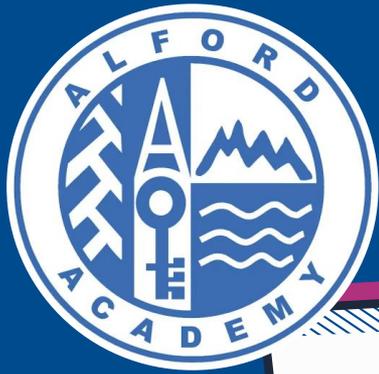
SCQF Ambassador



scottish credit and
qualifications framework

Aims

- **What is the SCQF?**
- **Why it's important?**
- **Why do we need to know?**



What is the SCQF?

- **How many options for courses do you think you have for subjects next year?**
- **Most people might guess 20-40**
- **Alford Academy offers ~100 options to pupils!**

- **We are working towards the Silver award for curriculum opportunities.**



scottish credit and
qualifications framework

What is the SCQF?

- **The Scottish and Credit Qualifications Framework is our national learning framework**
- **Qualifications are measured by 12 levels, with 1 the simplest, and 12 the most complex**
- **All qualifications have credit points, which show the amount of learning it will take to complete. 1 credit point = 10 hours of learning. Nat 4, 5 and Higher all have 24 credit points**

What is the SCQF?

Those sitting a subject that is at N4, N5, Higher, NPA's, or FA's all have 240 learning hours to complete for you to perform 'as expected'.

Only 160 of that is "in class" learning.

What is the SCQF?

80 hours of self-directed learning time includes:

- **Homework**
- **Supported Study Sessions**
- **Revision for Assessments**
- **Revision for Prelims and Exams**

SCQF in schools

SQA qualifications up to SCQF level 7 are offered in schools:

- **Nat 4 = SCQF level 4**
- **Nat 5 = SCQF level 5**
- **Higher = SCQF level 6**
- **Advanced Higher = SCQF level 7**

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	Professional Development Award	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	National Certificate	National Progression Award		Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5				SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4				
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3				
2	National 2, Awards				
1	National 1, Awards				

SCQF in schools

Many other qualifications are available, including Skills for Work (SfW), National Progression Awards (NPAs), Apprenticeships, and Awards

SCQF in schools

Examples of courses include

- **Computer Games Development**
- **Criminology**
- **Engineering**
- **Scientific Technologies**
- **Creative and Digital Media**

SCQF in schools

Why take an NPA, FA, or College Course?

- **More specific to you**
- **Potentially less stress**
- **Interests you**
- **Targeted skills and knowledge**
- **Might find exams challenging**

SCQF in schools

When moving onward, what are they worth?

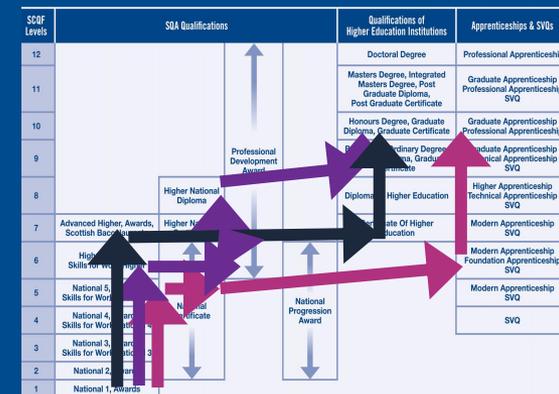
Some places look for exact grades

Some places look for a value of tariff points

Level	Award	UCAS Points
Level 7 (32)	A	56
	B	48
	C	40
	D	32
Level 6 (24)	A	33
	B	27
	C/Pass*	21
	D	15

Why do we need to know?

- It will help you make better informed decisions on what qualifications are right for you
- You can use the SCQF to map out where you want to go and which route will take you there
- Boost your confidence by having a better understanding of the level of learning you have achieved
- Pass on this knowledge to fellow pupils, parents and employers



SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications			Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12				Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
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10				Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9			Professional Development Award	Bachelor's 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	National Certificate			Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4		National Progression Award		SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3				
2	National 2, Award				
1	National 1, Awards				



Summary

- **Every SCQF credit within a course is equal to 10 hours of study, which can be learning in or out of class.**
- **There is a wide variety of courses, including NPAs, FAs and even college courses.**
- **The UCAS pointing system is beneficial to know when deciding what courses to take.**

S3 into S4 Course Choice 2026-2027

<p>NESCOL College Courses (Wednesday)</p>	<p>NPA L4 Hair and Beauty Sector (Hair) (City & Guilds) NPA L4 Hair and Beauty Sector (Beauty) (City & Guilds)</p>	<p>L5 Skills for Work Engineering, Sustainability & Renewables L5 Early Education & Childcare</p>	<p>L4 Construction Crafts Foundation Apprenticeship L4 Intro to Vehicle Technology (City & Guilds)</p>	
<p>SRUC Courses (Online)</p>	<p>L5 Investigation of Modern Agriculture (Blended Learning – online/ on campus)</p>		<p>L5 Equine Studies (Online)</p>	
<p>National 3/4/5 courses, National Progression Awards, (NPA's) and Foundation Apprenticeships</p>	<p>Admin & IT Art & Design Biology Business Management Chemistry Computing Science Drama Practical Cookery</p>	<p>Engineering Science French (N4/5) Geography German (N5) Graphic Communication History Modern Studies N4 Science</p>	<p>Music Music Technology Physical Education Physics Practical Woodworking RMPS Spanish (N4/5)</p>	<p>L5 Travel and Tourism Skills for Work L4/5 Computer Games Development NPA Kings Trust Award Foundation Apprenticeships: L4 Automotive skills L5 Hospitality</p>

S4 into S5 Course Choice 2026 -2027

Higher courses	Admin & IT Art & Design Biology Business Management Chemistry	Computing Science Drama English French Geography Engineering Science	Graphic Communication History Mathematics Modern Studies Music Applications of Maths	Music Technology Physical Education Physics RMPS Spanish German
Foundation Apprenticeships	Accountancy Business Children and Young People	Civil Engineering (2 years) Creative and Digital Media Cyber Network Management and IT	Food and Drink Operations Health and Social Care Scientific Technologies	L5 Hospitality L4 Automotive Skills
North East Scotland College Courses (Wednesday)	Hair and Beauty Sector- Beauty L4 (City & Guilds) Hair and Beauty Sector- Hair L4 (City & Guilds)	L5 Skills for Work Engineering, Sustainability & Renewables L5 Early Education & Childcare L6 NPA Technical Theatre	L4 Construction Crafts (FA) L6 NPA Sports Coaching & Fitness L4 Intro to Vehicle Technology (City & Guilds)	
SRUC Courses	L5 Investigation of Modern Agriculture (Blended Online/ on Campus Learning)		L5 Equine Studies (Online)	
National 3/4/5, National Progression Awards, (NPA's) and online courses	Admin & IT Art & Design Biology Business Management Chemistry Computing Science Drama Practical Cookery	English Engineering Science French (N4/5) German (N5) Geography Graphic Communication History Mathematics Modern Studies	Music Music Technology Physical Education Physics Practical Woodworking RMPS Spanish (N4/5) Applications of Maths L5/6 Creative Thinking	L5 Travel and Tourism Skills for Work N4 Science PE L6 NPA Sports Development L4-6 Computer Game Development NPA L5 Criminology NPA L5 NPA Applied Science Kings Trust Award L6 NPA Journalism
Horizons Programme	6 th Course Choice (please specify) _____	Personalised Horizons experience to be planned in discussion with PTG and DHT(Curriculum).		

S5 into S6 Course Choice 2026 - 2027

Advanced Higher courses	Art & Design Biology Business Management Chemistry	English French Geography	History Mathematics Modern Studies	Music Physics Spanish RMPS
Higher courses	Admin & IT Art & Design Biology Business Management Chemistry	Computing Science Drama English French Geography German	Graphic Communication History Mathematics Modern Studies Music Engineering Science	Music Technology Physical Education Physics RMPS Spanish Applications of Maths
Foundation Apprenticeships	Accountancy Business Skills Children and Young People	Creative and Digital Media Cyber Network Management and IT Food and Drink Technologies	Health and Social Care Scientific Technologies	L5 Hospitality L4 Automotive Skills
<u>North-East</u> Scotland College Courses	Hair and Beauty Sector- Beauty L4 (City & Guilds) Hair and Beauty Sector- Hair L4 (City & Guilds)	L5 Skills for Work Engineering, Sustainability & Renewables L5 Early Education & Childcare L6 NPA Technical Theatre	L4 Construction Crafts L6 NPA Sports Coaching & Fitness L4 Intro to Vehicle Technology (City & Guilds)	
SRUC Courses (Wednesdays)	L5 Investigation of Modern Agriculture (Blended Learning Online/ on Campus)		L5 Equine Studies (Online)	
National 3/4/5 courses, National Progression Awards (NPA's) and online courses	Admin & IT Art & Design Biology Business Management Chemistry Computing Science Drama Practical Cookery	English Engineering Science French (N4/5) German (N5) Geography Graphic Communication History Mathematics Applications of Maths	Modern Studies Music Music Technology Physical Education Physics Practical Woodworking RMPS Spanish (N4/5) N4 Science L5/6 Creative Thinking	L5 Travel and Tourism Skills for Work PE L6 NPA Sports Development L4-6 Computer Game Development NPA L6 NPA Journalism Kings Trust Award L5 Criminology NPA L6 Criminology NPA L5 NPA Applied Science YASS (Open University S6 only)

Learning Pathways - College

- **NEScol** – Gallowgate and Altens
Wednesday's all day.

Applications open via guidance teacher – deadline 15th April 2025

- **SRUC** – Online courses – Occasional
practical days

- College Catch up days are arranged to allow pupils to catch up on any work missed – self-study periods.



How to Apply:

Discuss

- Discuss with your parents and Guidance Teacher

Prepare

- Prepare a short personal statement explaining why you want to do the course you have chosen and how it will help your career pathway

Have

- Complete an online application form with your guidance teacher – Deadline 15th April 2026

Top

- Tip – Prepare your personal statement on a Word Document or an email – to make it easy to copy and paste into your application!



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COLLEGE



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MORE OPPORTUNITIES

www.nescol.ac.uk



Alternative pathways

- **College Pathway**

- N5's → NC → HNC / HND → BSc / BSc (Hons)

- 2 Highers → HNC / HND → BSc / BSc (Hons)

- “2 + 2” model – 2 years at college + 2 years at University – Bachelor degree



Foundation Apprenticeships L6

- Health & Social Care (HSC) – ARI/Health Centres/mental health
- Children & Young People (CYP) – Nursery/primary schools
- Business Skills – Oil Companies / ARI / Construction / Office
- Accountancy – Azets / Johnson & Carmichael
- Scientific Technologies – RGU Laboratories
- Food & Drink Industries – Donald Russell / Mackie's of Scotland
- Creative Media & Design – SHMU film and radio
- Civil Engineering (2 year course) – KNC, KR Group, Bancon construction, JKR Contractors, Robertsons
- Cyber Network Management and IT - Aberdeen

FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP TO DEGREE OPPORTUNITY

How to read this table:

- ✔ The university offers a degree in this subject area
- ★ The university offers enhanced recognition if applying for a degree in the same subject area (e.g. FA Accountancy into Degree Accountancy)
- The university doesn't offer a degree in this subject area, FA recognised as a Higher towards other subjects (e.g. FA Accountancy into Degree Engineering)
- ✘ The university does not recognise FA frameworks in this subject area (FA in this subject area is not recognised as a Higher towards same/other subjects)

Please check with universities for specific details

Accountancy Business Skills Civil Engineering Creative & Digital Media Engineering Financial Services Food & Drink Technologies ICT Hardware ICT Software Scientific Technologies Children & Young People Healthcare

University	Recognition	Accountancy	Business Skills	Civil Engineering	Creative & Digital Media	Engineering	Financial Services	Food & Drink Technologies	ICT Hardware	ICT Software	Scientific Technologies	Children & Young People	Healthcare
Abertay University	1 Higher A, ★ 2 Highers B	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★
Edinburgh Napier University	1 Higher A	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Glasgow Caledonian University	1 Higher A	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Glasgow School of Art	1 Higher A	●	●	✔	✔	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Heriot Watt University	1 Higher A	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	●	✔	✔	●	✔	✔
Open University	Open Recognition	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Queen Margaret University Edinburgh	1 Higher A	✔	✔	●	✔	●	●	●	●	✔	✔	✔	✔
Robert Gordon University	1 Higher B, ★ 2 Highers B	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	●	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	1 Higher A	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Scotland's Rural College	1 Higher A	✔	✔	●	●	●	●	●	●	✔	●	●	●
University of Aberdeen ³	1 Higher B	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	●	✔	✔	●	●	●	●
University of Dundee ¹	1 Higher A	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	●	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
University of Edinburgh	1 Higher B	✘	✘	✔	✘	✔	✘	✘	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
University of Glasgow ²	1 Higher A	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	●	✔	✔	●	●	●	●
University of St Andrews ³	1 Higher A	✔	✔	●	✔	●	●	✔	✔	✔	●	●	●
University of Stirling	1 Higher B	✔	✔	●	✔	●	●	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
University of Strathclyde ⁴	1 Higher B	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	●	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
University of Highlands and Islands ⁵	1 Higher A, ★ 2 Highers	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★	✔★
University of the West of Scotland	1 Higher A	✔	✔	✔	●	✔	●	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

¹ Excludes Medicine and Dentistry ² Excludes Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Medicine ³ Excludes Medicine ⁴ Excludes Law. If applying for Engineering, only FA in Civil or Engineering will be recognised ⁵ Enhanced recognition varies per framework, equivalent to 2 Highers for most frameworks

FA – Skill Development

- National Progression Award
- SVQ – Vocational Qualification



Foundation Apprenticeships

Children and Young People – Unconditional at Aberdeen University for Primary Teaching

Children and Young People – Modern Apprenticeship Nursery Nursing at Monymusk nursery

Automotive Skills – Nescol College – Mechanics

Health & Social Care – accepted into Modern Apprenticeship – Dentistry

Business Skills – Graduate Apprenticeship SSE / International Business / Law

Scientific Technologies – Aberdeen University Medicine

Accountancy- Johnson & Carmichael

Encourage students to “stand out from the crowd”

Horizons 2026/27

- Encourage all students to think about their future pathways when they leave Alford Academy and to prepare them fully for what lies ahead.
- Provide opportunities for gaining extra qualifications / wider achievements to “stand out from the crowd”.
- Deliver focussed learning sessions using external partnerships, including opportunities for mock interviews.
- Encourage all students to take part in work experience / volunteering in a field of interest. Work placements can be scheduled on a Tuesday to minimise any disruption to SQA courses and loss of learning and teaching.
- Provide opportunities for personal study. As courses progress, students can continue studying and revising for future assessments and/or projects/folios/practical assignments. Students will have the option to study in school or at home using the skills they have developed in the past year using blended learning.

Horizons 2026/27

- Mock Interviews – employer engagement
- First Aid training / CPR / Defib training / British Heart Foundation / Blood donors
- Moving out of home – student accommodation / My first flat
- Team building / problem solving / confidence building
- Car Finance / Maintenance
- Leadership opportunities / Volunteering
- University applications - Applying to SAAS
- Personal statements / CV building / Personal Branding
- Police Scotland – staying safe online and on a night out
- Proposed college visits
- FA Work Experience
- Online Courses / Training
- Personal study time in school or at home

Pupil Feedback





EXCELERATE >>

Progression after school

- Graduate Apprenticeships
- Modern Apprenticeships

- **Apprenticeships**
- <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/>
- <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/become-an-apprentice/modern-apprenticeships/>
- <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/become-an-apprentice/graduate-apprenticeships/>

- **Looking for vacancies**
- <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/find-a-vacancy/>
- <https://www.dyw.org.uk/jobs-portal> (Developing the Young Workforce live vacancies)
- <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/getting-a-job/apprenticeships>



More Information

CYP <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1809231774488723942>

HSC <https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1814596972934332902>

Accountancy <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1809240983347397094>

Business <https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1816146480575021924>

FDT <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1808606606179435173>

Sci Tech <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1812609454017872549>

CDM <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1816145555332531044>

IT CMN <https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1814664927462293990>

Civil Engineering <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1812566555259568805>



ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL
Developing the Young Workforce

MARKETING FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIPS

Aberdeenshire COUNCIL



FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIPS

What are Foundation Apprenticeships?
[Link](#)



APPRENTICESHIPS .SCOT
From Skills Development Scotland

Overview of all Level 4,5,6 frameworks
[Link](#)



Course Snapshots available for all Frameworks offered

FA's and Further Education Pathway to University [Link](#)
Pathway to College [Link](#)

degree in this subject area, FA recognised subjects (e.g. FA Accountancy into Degree Engineering) use FA frameworks in this subject area recognised as a higher towards some/other subjects)

Recognition

University	Recognition	Accounting	Business	Child Care	Creative	Engineering	Finance	Food & L	ICT
University	1 Higher A, * 2 Highers B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
er University	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ian University	1 Higher A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Live links to our social media feeds
Please follow



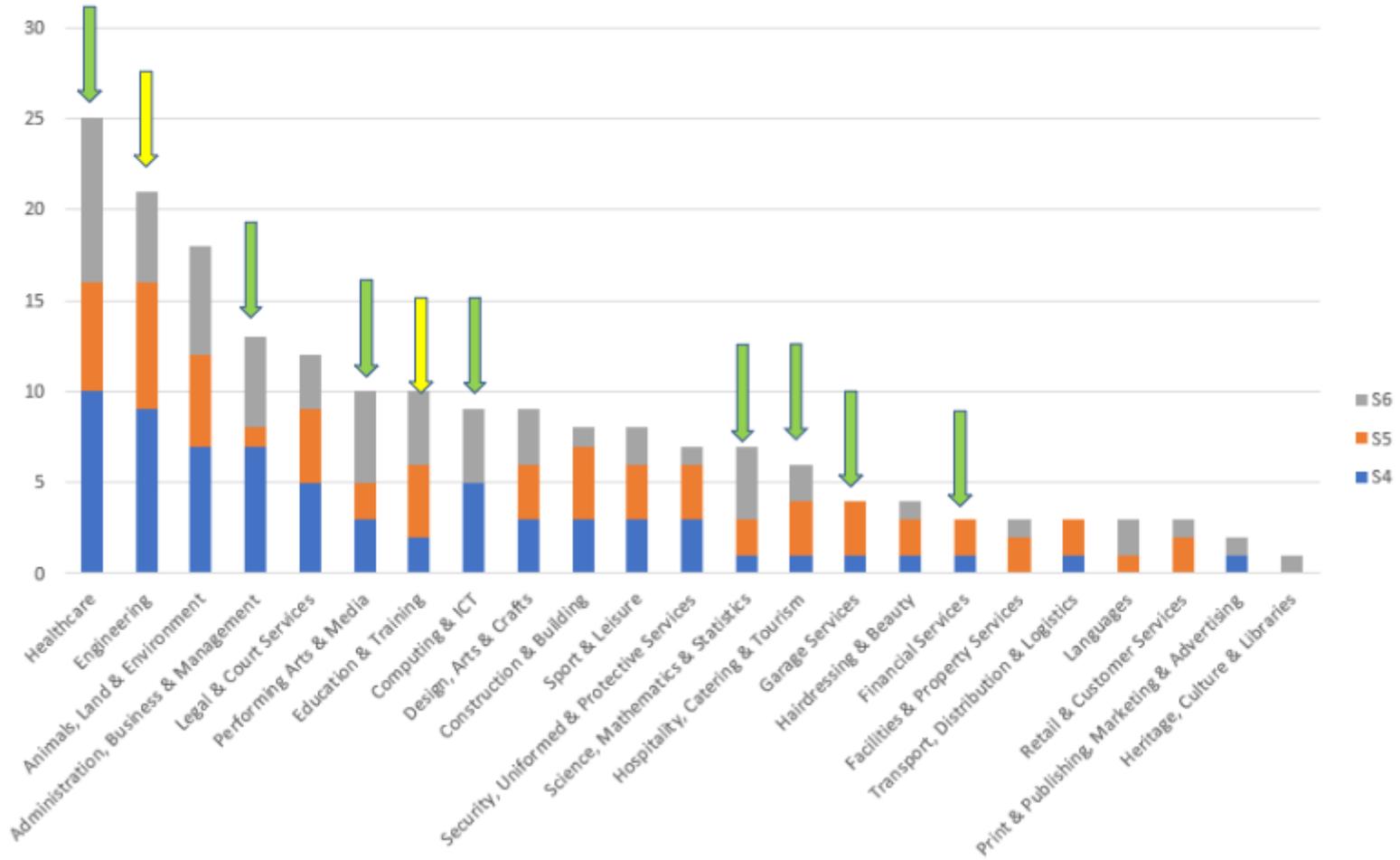
[Pupils mark their success on SQA results day](#)



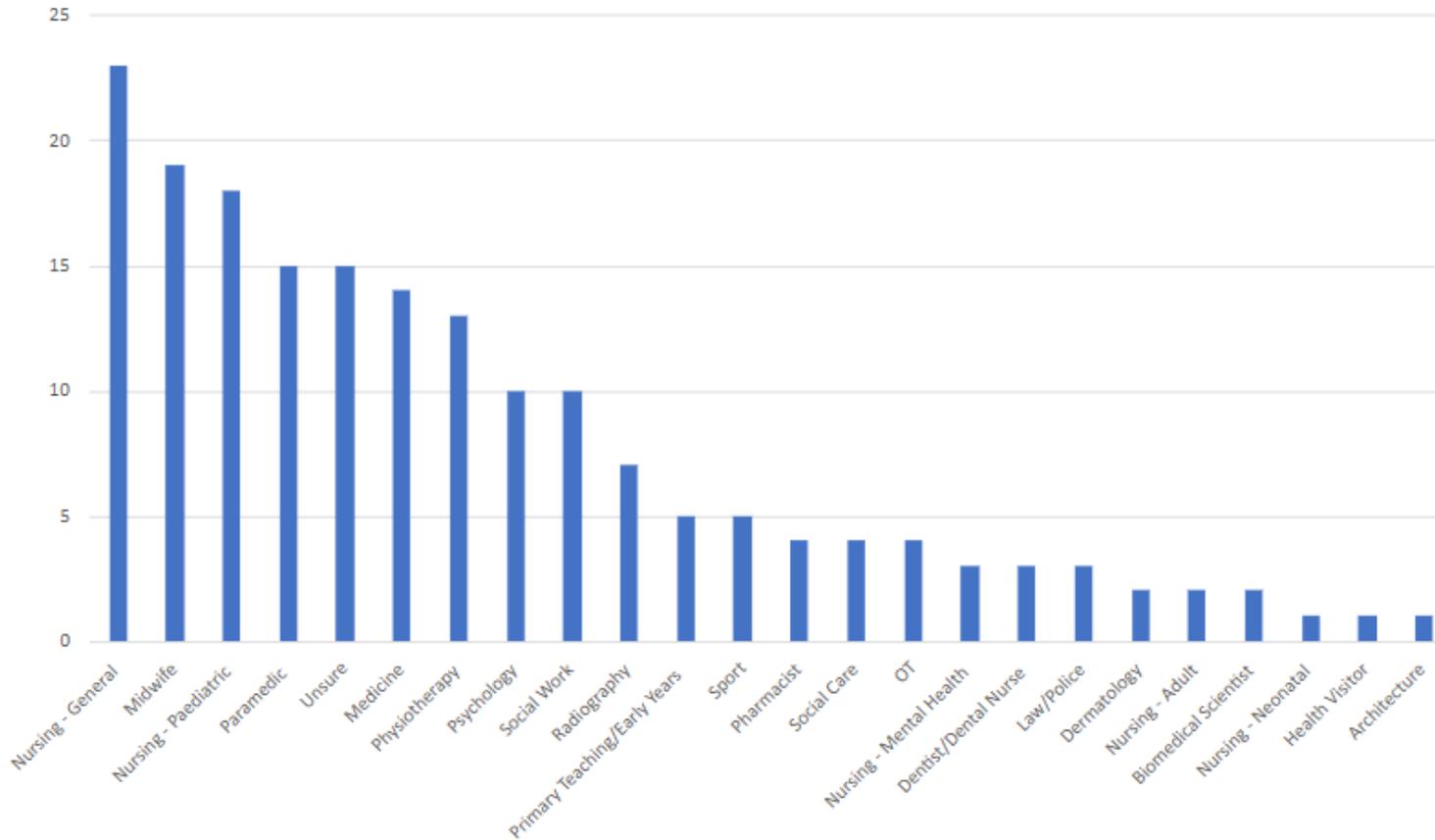
SDS youtube films
[Link](#)



[Aberdeenshire Council Foundation Apprenticeship Video Case Studies](#)

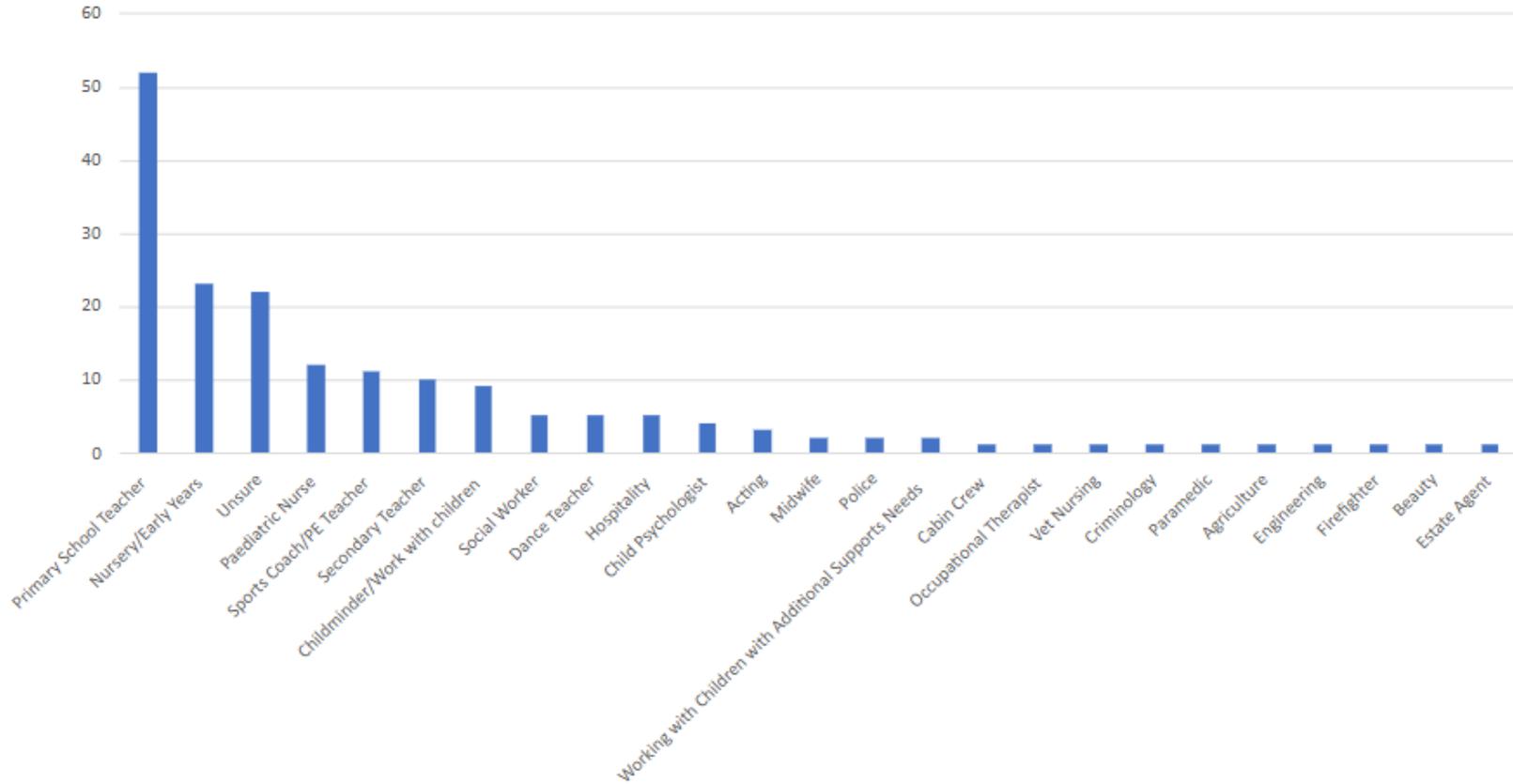


HSC Career Aspirations 25 -26

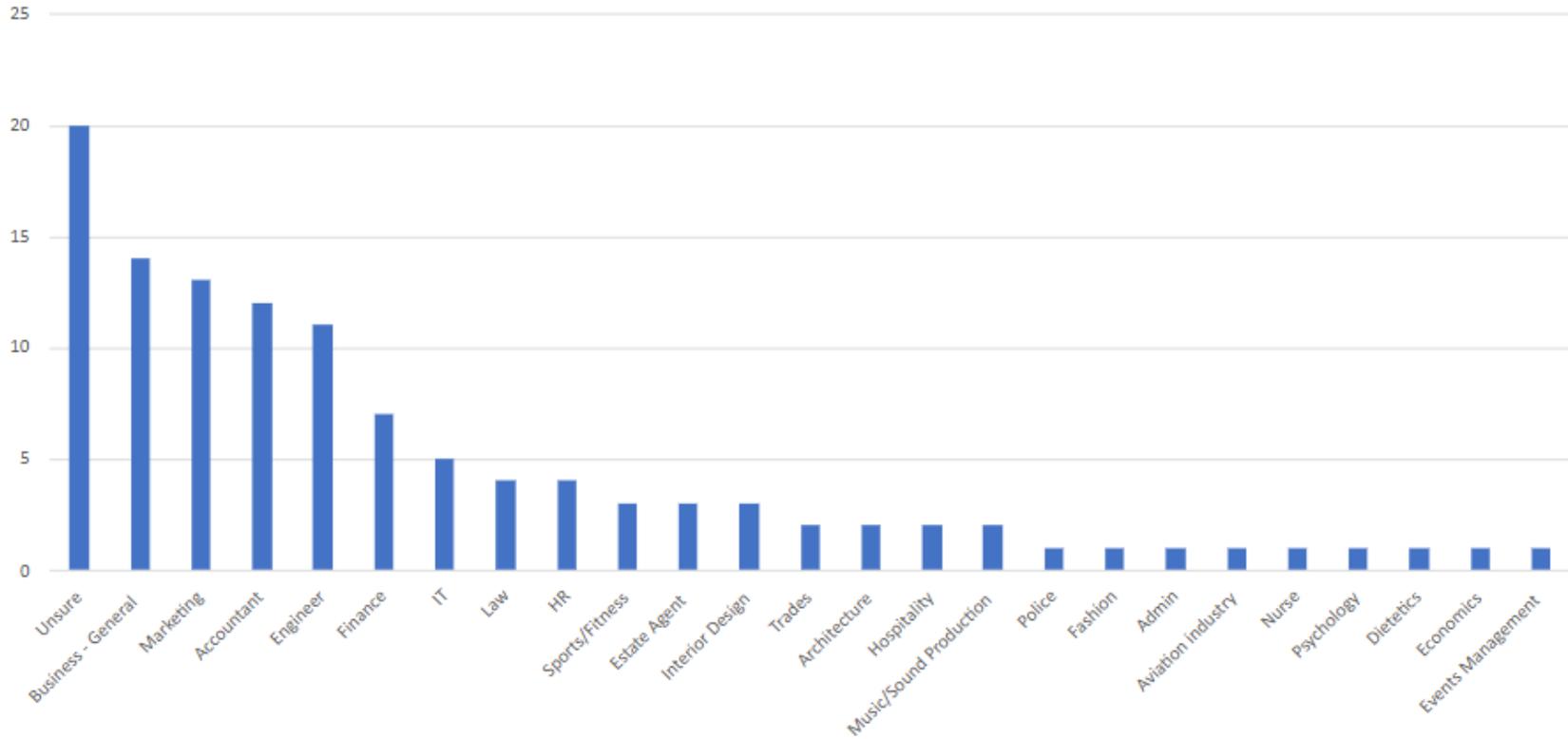




CYP 25-26



Business Skills Career Aspirations 25 -26



Senior Phase Course Choice

- New S4 – Choose 4 subjects/courses – Maths and English are core
- New S5 – minimum of 5 Choices
- New S6 – minimum of 4 Choices
- Completion of courses/change of level/units of work – Tariff Points
- Please note that some courses may not run depending on pupil uptake

Course	Level (N4, N5, College, FA, H, AH)	PT Signature	PT Recommended Level

Highest to lowest preference



Reserves:

Further Education / Higher Education

University

- www.UCAS.com
- www.prospects.ac.uk – careers advice tab – “what can I do with my degree in” civil engineering.
- www.uk-universities.net

Colleges

- www.nescol.ac.uk
- <https://www.moray.uhi.ac.uk/>
- <http://www.banff-buchan.ac.uk/>
- <https://www.sruc.ac.uk/>

Apprenticeships

- <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/fa-journey/#/apprenticeopportunities>
- <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/fa-journey/#/collegesubjects>
- <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/fa-journey/#/uniinstitutions>
- <https://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/>

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2026

*Pupils, Parents / Carers,
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welcome*



6.00pm - 8.00pm



Tuesday 3rd February 2026



**Alford Academy
Alford Community Campus
Greystone Road
Alford
AB33 8TY**



My
World of
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Information available to help with Course Choice

- Online Prospectus
 - Guidance teachers – subject teachers – SQA
 - Course Choice Booklet
 - MWOW
-
- **S3 into S4 Deadline 19th Feb 2026**
 - **S4 into S5 Deadline 2nd March 2026**
 - **S5 into S6 Deadline 2nd March 2026**

A tour of Scotland's online careers service



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- what jobs and courses are out there
- how to write the perfect CV and practice for interviews
- all about Modern Apprenticeships

