

Returning for S6 – Curriculum Information

Frequently Asked Questions



Can I pick a subject at Advanced Higher?

Discuss this with your Pastoral teacher at your curriculum review meeting. They will note that in the Advanced Higher request section.

Advanced Highers will only run where we have sufficient numbers.

If we are unable to run the Advanced Higher, we then liaise with other Falkirk Council secondary schools to see who offers this subject and in which column. *Please note that not all subjects are offered at AH level.*

We then request a place for you on the course.

This is either:

- Confirmed in May/June – you may be added to a Team at change of timetable in June where relevant work may be posted for the month of June.
- You are placed on a reserve list until re-coursing takes place in August.

Does this run in Bo'ness Academy?

Most AH subjects are not run in our school due to insufficient numbers, however through the consortia arrangement we are able to provide learners with progression and breadth in the Senior Phase Curriculum.

How is this timetabled?

We add the AH subject into the period allocation of the column that it is offered by the consortia school. You will attend the consortia school for the two double periods each week. We will timetable you into the library for the single period.

We try, if applicable, to give you back travel time. We do this by allocating you additional period (s) in the library for personal study.

When will these classes start?

For the last few years the authority have been organising Consortia transport to start in the new school session in **August**. This is in agreement with all Falkirk secondary schools. Transport is not provided before the summer holidays.

How do I get to the consortia school?

Consortia transport will not always be by taxi.

The first option for peak travel (travel first thing in the morning, and end of school day) will be by bus, and this may include more than one bus, and/or a walk. This may be by commercial bus*, an existing school bus, or a mix of the two. Taxis will only be provided when the Public Transport Officer has exhausted the options available on the local bus network.

**Pupils and parents will need to check out bus timetables to plan for this.*

Parents can drop off/pick up their child using their own vehicle and claim their mileage.

Travel within the school day will continue to be provided by taxi to minimise disruption. The Public Transport Officer for Falkirk Council organises transport, not the school.



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What will learning look like at AH?

Learning at AH is preparing you for first year of university. It develops key skills of:

- Managing your own time and task prioritising
- Self-motivation
- Independent learning
- Communication

What is Virtual Learning?

The delivery model for teaching is via Microsoft Teams. Pupils are based in their own school (timetable to a classroom) and join the lesson on Teams. These have been running for 3 years, and we are now offering a wider breadth and depth of courses this way.

Some examples of qualifications offered through Virtual Learning:

- Higher Politics
- Higher Philosophy
- AH Maths
- AH History
- AH English - new for session 23-24
- AH Chemistry - new for session 23-24

How am I taught in a virtual learning class?

The learning can be a mix of:

- Virtual live lessons
- Tasks set on Teams for pupils to work through and submit for marking/feedback
- Tutorial visits – usually once per term the pupils will visit the “host” school to facilitate in-person interaction.

How do I pick a VLE subject?

Some of the subjects are already in our Pathway From. They are in a column that the host school has identified. They are clearly noted as a **virtual class**.

Speak to your Pastoral teacher during your one-to-one meeting. After the curriculum review process is complete, your name is added to a VLE class list which is co-ordinated by the authority. If the list is full, you will be added to the reserve list. Your place will be confirmed in early June.

You will be timetabled in a classroom in Bo'ness Academy for the virtual class.

