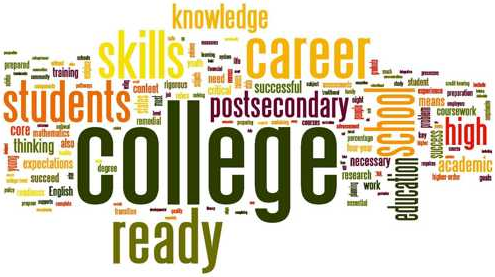
**Introduction**

**S3 PATHWAYS**

**Personalisation and Choice in the Broad General Education**

In the first two years at Bannerman High School your child has experienced   
**Curriculum for Excellence**, the Scottish Government’s flagship education policy, designed to raise standards and to better prepare young people for the post-school destination they aspire to.

The purpose of this booklet is to give information about the various subjects available to your child in the school and to help them make informed decisions about the pathway they will follow through S3 of the Broad General Education and onto the **Senior Phase** (S4 - S6). In S4 your child will progress to National 4 (N4) or National 5 (N5), completing these in summer of their fourth year.

The flexibility of Curriculum for Excellence will help us to personalise the journey of each learner. When making choices pupils need to consider many factors: their career aspirations; abilities in different subjects and their own personal preference.   
Their enjoyment of a subject is an important motivational factor.

**Pathways from S2**

In S3 pupils in Bannerman continue to follow the Broad General Curriculum but they are given the opportunity to personalise and choose their areas of study from the six broad curricular areas within Curriculum for Excellence. Curriculum for Excellence is structured differently to the previous curriculum, in which pupils chose their options for Standard Grade towards the end of S2. Under Curriculum for Excellence S1 – 3 is known as the B**road General Education** phase. The **broad general education phase** does not, however, mean that in S3 pupils will simply continue to study the same subjects as in S1 and S2. In this phase it is important to maintain breadth and not to narrow down the range of Curricular Areas studied too quickly. Specialisation will develop during the senior phase. It is also vital that students are challenged to study in depth to better prepare them for specialisation and Qualifications in S4 – S6. In the language of Curriculum for Excellence this means studying at the highest level possible and for most pupils this involves moving on to study at **Level 4**.

Pupils are asked to select 8 subjects which they will study during S3 and S4, narrowing to 5 subjects in S5. In order to ensure breadth of learning, all pupils will study English and Maths and pupils are required to pick one subject from each of the CfE curricular areas: Social Studies; Technologies; Expressive Arts and Sciences. They are also required to select **two** additional subjects. Further information on SQA courses and examinations are detailed in this booklet and are also available on the SQA website: [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk). All pupils will continue with Health and Wellbeing which includes: Core PE, PSE, Tutor Time, RE and Wider Achievement.

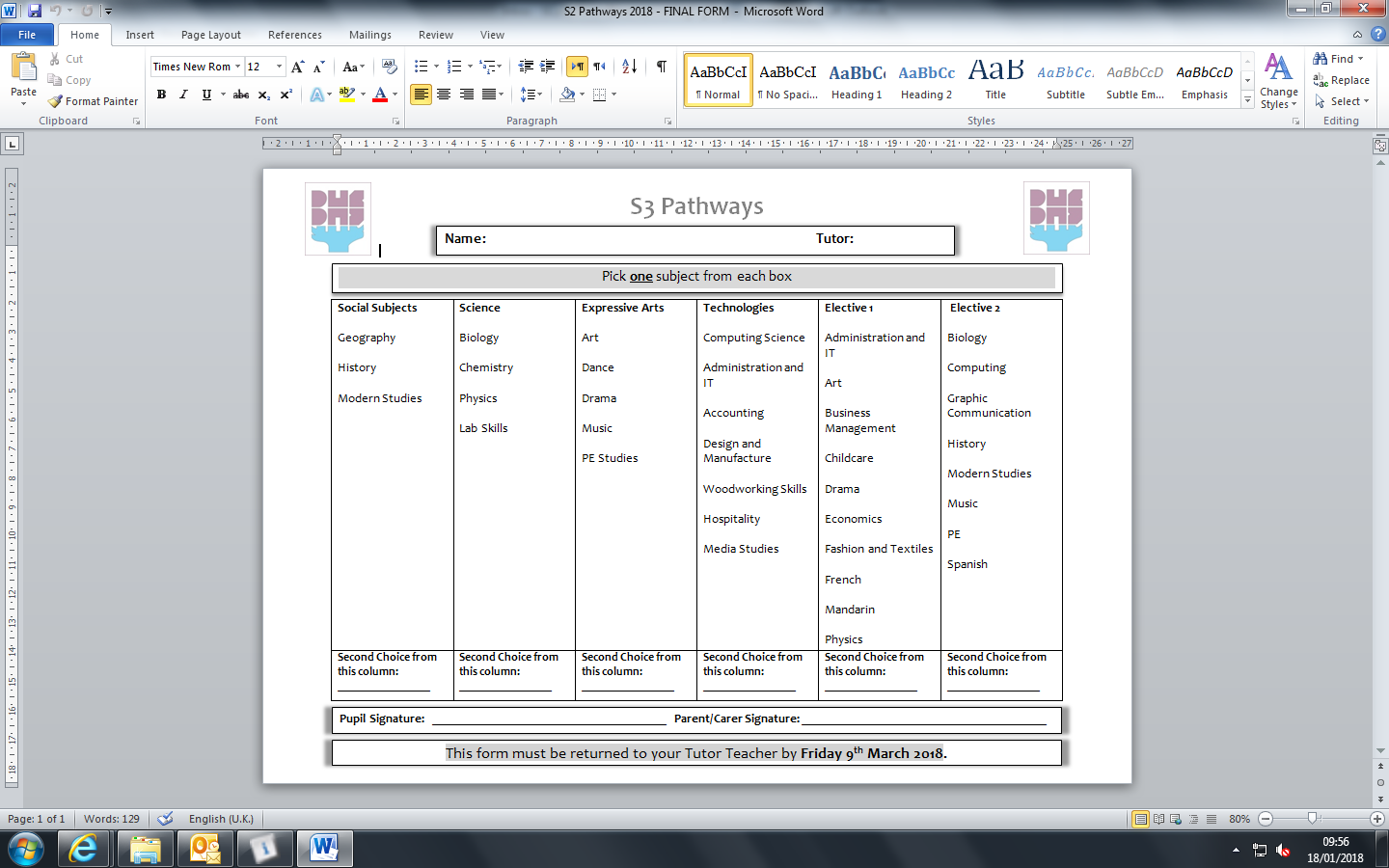
Pastoral Care teachers support pupils throughout their school career and all pupils will have individual interviews with their Pastoral Care teacher before their pathway from S2 is finalised. These interviews will begin on **26th February 2017.** Forms must be returned to school by **Friday 9th March 2017.**

If you have any questions which are not covered in this booklet, please contact your child’s Pastoral Care teacher or Mr Colquhoun (Head of Year).

**Important Dates - 2018**

****

**S3 Pathways**



**A Guide to SQA Qualifications - Senior Phase (*S4 to S6*)**

The Senior Phase is where young people can continue to develop the four capacities of CfE and achieve qualifications. The key aim is to maximise the richness of the learning experience within, and attainment by the end of the Senior Phase. This means, that a learner’s achievements (including attainment in National Qualifications) by the end of the Senior Phase should become the main focus, rather than on individual year on year attainment.

All pupils are assigned to the appropriate level of course indicated initially by their performance throughout the S1 - S3 Broad General Education. The pathway of each pupil is confirmed at the end of S3 and takes account of performance particularly from their S3 course. Definitive presentation levels whether at National 5 or National 4 will be made as pupil’s progress through the S4 subject course and will be agreed between student, parent/carer and the school.

**National 4 and National 5 Qualifications**

The National 4 award is assessed by the school. To gain a course award at this level pupils must pass Unit assessments in school and the Added Value Unit. This is assessed using one of these assessments methods: Assignment; Case study; Practical activity; Performance; Portfolio; Project; or Question paper/test. Pupils will not sit external exams to achieve this level of award.

Courses at National 5 are graded A to D and pupils are required to complete coursework and, in the majority of subjects, sit an external exam. As a result of the recent removal of units and unit assessments, for each National 5 course, the changes have resulted in one or more of the following:-

* extension of the existing question paper
* extension/modification of the existing item of coursework
* a new question paper
* a new item of coursework.

Further information on each National 5 course and examinations are detailed in this booklet and are also available on the SQA website: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58062.html>.

**Information about Subjects**

The following pages contain an outline of what the course involves and the skills developed. Any further specific questions concerning a subject should be directed to the appropriate Principal Teacher in the first instance, either at Parents’ Evening (**26TH February)** or by calling the school.

Information is arranged as follows:

**Subject****PT or Faculty Head**

**Art** Mrs G McBrier

**BITE:** Mr W Reynolds

* Accounting
* Administration & IT
* Business Management
* Computing Studies
* Economics

**Science:** Mrs D McGrellis

* Biology
* Chemistry
* Lab Skills
* Physics

**Performing Arts**: Mrs K Borland

* Drama
* Music

**English** Mr R Miller

**FTT:** Mrs E Gardiner

* + - Early Education & Childcare
    - Fashion & Textile Technology
    - Hospitality

**Global Studies** Ms E McDonald

* Geography
* History
* Modern Studies
* Religious Moral & Philosophical Studies

**Mathematics**  Ms C MacKay

**Media** Mr R Miller

**Modern Languages** Mr M Morrison

**Physical Education** Mr J Duguid

* Dance
* PE Studies

**Technical Subjects** Mr J Marshall

* Design & Manufacture
* Graphic Communication
* Practical Woodworking

**Skills Development Scotland (SDS)**

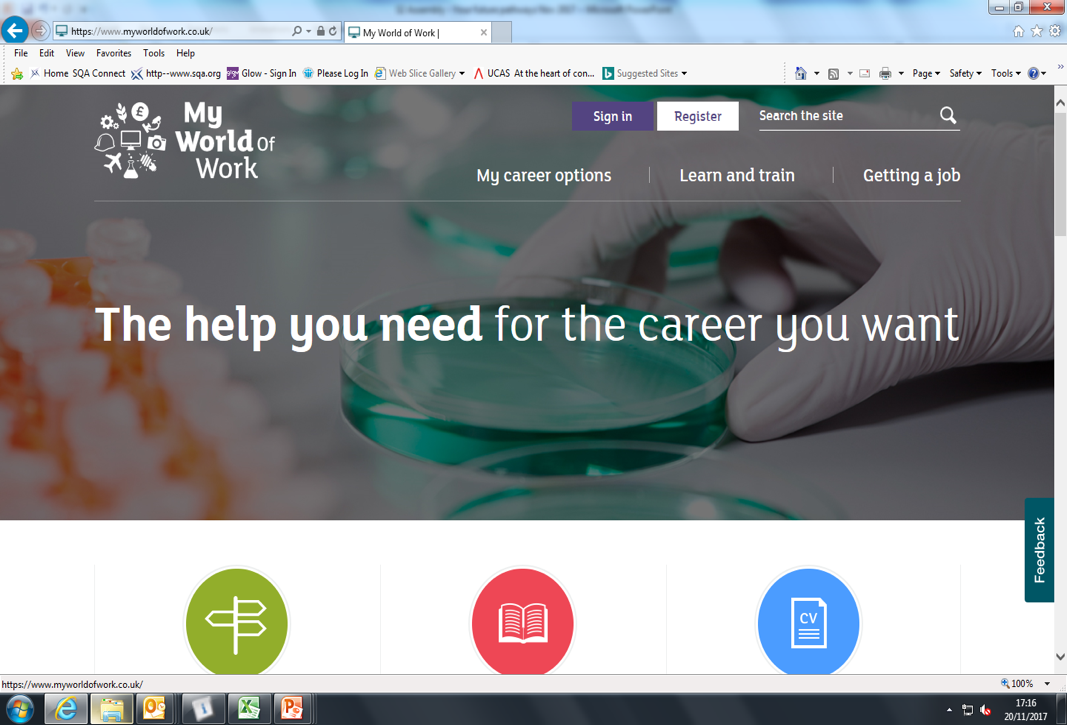
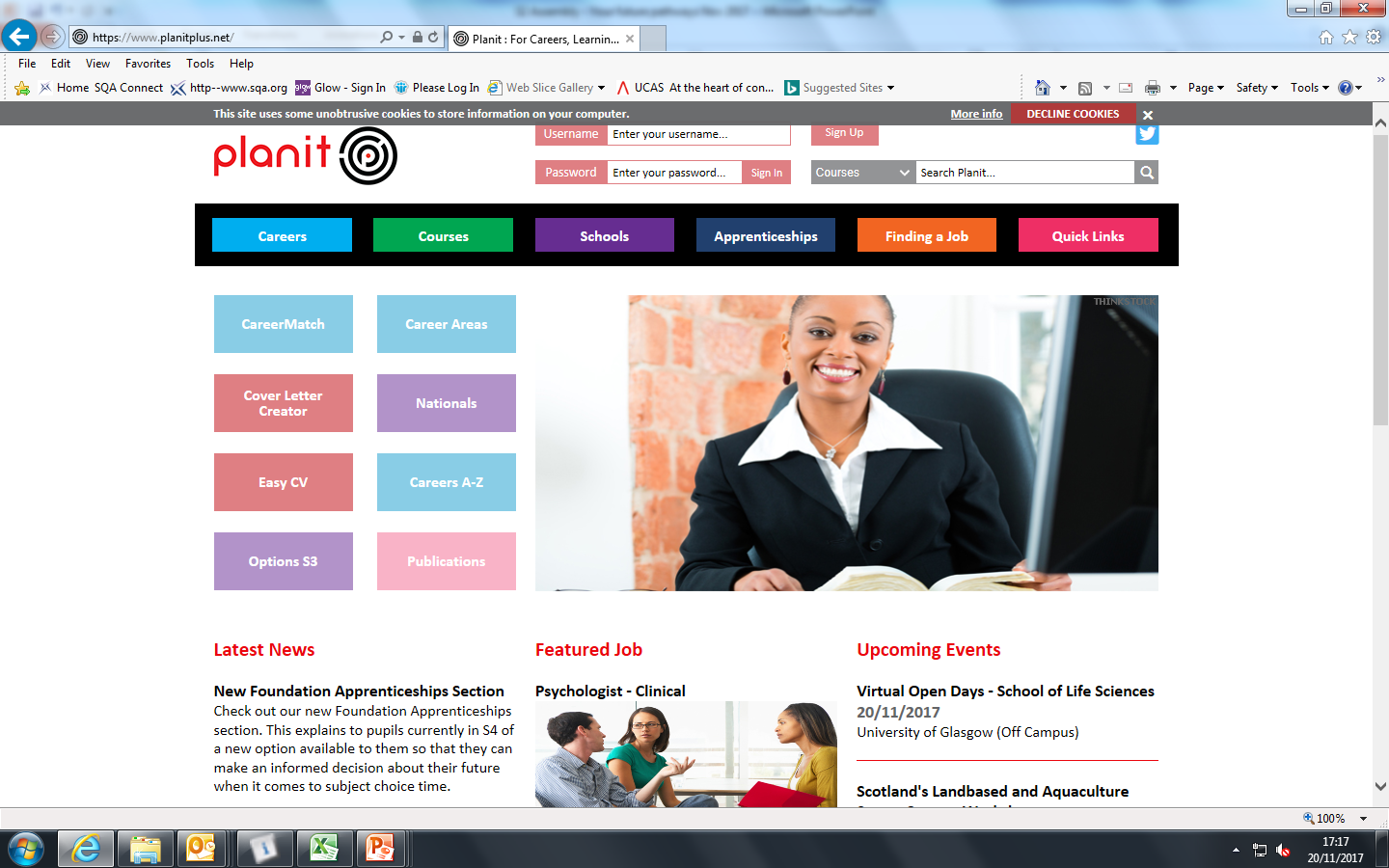
Graeme Barrett Claire Scott

Skills Development Scotland Skills Development Scotland

[Graeme.barrett@sds.co.uk](mailto:Graeme.barrett@sds.co.uk) [Claire.scott@sds.co.uk](mailto:Claire.scott@sds.co.uk)

Tel No:- 0141 582 0020 / 0141 554 6662 Tel No:- 0141 582 0020 / 0141 554 6662

**Useful Career Planning Websites**



[www.planitplus.net](http://www.planitplus.net)

[www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)