

## **Our selection procedure for S5 and S6**

Before offering a place in S5 and S6 at The Academy, we ask every potential pupil to sit a Verbal Reasoning test to get a measure of their ability.

It is also important that we receive as full a picture as possible of his or her progress through secondary school. It is therefore essential that you discuss the possibility of a move with their Head Teacher as we may wish to make contact.

If, having read our prospectus and visited the school, you wish your child to be considered for a place in S5 or S6 at The Academy, please write to us, indicating the subjects in which he or she might have an interest. If you have not received a copy of our booklet about subject choices, please ask us to send you one. We would expect a pupil entering S5 to select five subjects, including English. A whole range of possibilities is available in S6, including development of up to three subjects beyond Higher Grade to Advanced Higher, consolidation of subjects already studied in S5, taking up again subjects most recently studied at Standard Grade or beginning entirely new subjects.

Together with your letter, please send us the application form, the registration fee and a copy of your child's most recent school report. We would also like to see the results of any recent examinations, including SQA exams and any preliminary examinations which your child has taken. If we need any further information about your child's academic progress, we may contact his or her school.

When we have received this information, the Rector's Secretary will contact you to arrange a morning or afternoon of interviews. These will take about two hours altogether, during which you and your child will meet the Rector and your child will talk to the Deputy Rector, the Assistant Rector responsible for S5 and S6 and the Heads of the Departments in which your child has expressed an interest. These interviews will give your child the opportunity to talk about his or her progress in, and aptitude for, the chosen subjects, as well as to say something about his or her interests and career or university aspirations.

We will aim to let you know within a week of the interviews whether or not we will be able to offer your child a place at The Academy. Any place which we do offer will not be conditional upon examination results: we fully understand that you will need to make definite arrangements and that decisions about the new academic session cannot be postponed until the arrival of results in August.

If your child is successful in gaining a place at The Academy, we shall invite him or her to join the school as soon after completing Standard Grades or Highers as possible – in late May or early June. Experience shows us that if

this time can possibly be spent with us at the end of the Summer Term pupils new to the school enjoy a much more confident start to the Autumn Term.