



S1 Electives 2019-20

Perth Grammar



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Introduction

Dear Primary 7 Pupils,

We are very much looking forward to you starting S1 at Perth Grammar in August. As you know, plans are already in place for your S1 classes and your teachers have been sharing information about your progress through reports and visits. You will be completing your P7 profile and coming up to Perth Grammar for your 2-day visit. This will help us to get to know you better and give us even more information about how you are progressing with your learning and what your talents and interests are.

There is one more piece of the jigsaw to fit in though. As well as all the different subjects you will do in S1, YOU get to decide one of your classes through our new S1 Electives programme. This allows you to pick something that is of interest to you for 2 periods per week.

We would like you to look carefully through this booklet and then make FOUR choices of electives that you think you would like to take. You will be given TWO of these. You will go to the first one for the first half of S1 (August to December) and then swap over for the second half (January to May).

Before making your choice think about these questions:

- Which elective will be most challenging and fun?
- Which elective fits in with my skills and abilities?
- Which elective will help to build skills that I still need to develop?

Please discuss this at home and with your teacher. Once you have decided, please complete the online form or fill in the sheet at the back of this booklet and return to your teacher. If you use the online form your choices are recorded automatically. If you fill in the sheet, your teacher will then pass this on to Perth Grammar.

In S1 you will also have a period of STEM and an extra taster of Spanish. There is more information about this on the next page.

We look forward to meeting you soon!

Mr Farrell

Depute Headteacher

STEM

All pupils will have their STEM class for 1 period per week (Friday period 1)

What is STEM?

In this period you will learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

Technology is part of almost every aspect of daily life, and as the workplace changes, STEM knowledge and skills grow in importance for many different jobs.

What will I do in this class?

In this STEM period you will learn about different careers and will take part in lessons to introduce STEM projects and subjects. You will also get visits and talks from companies in the local area. This will involve a fantastic project in designing a house with our partner company, Robertsons.

What kind of skills will I learn?

You will learn a wide range of skills including how to solve problems, how to co-operate in a team and how to develop your creativity and thinking skills.

1+2 Spanish

All pupils will have an 8 week taster of learning Spanish or Mandarin

What is 1+2?

This is a Scottish Government initiative to give every school pupil the chance to develop their own home language (1) as well as the experience of learning 2 other languages (+2). All pupils have 3 periods of French in S1. This will be a taster of a second Modern Language.

Why 1+2?

In a world with more and more global connections we want to encourage young people to be outward looking global citizens who so that they can communicate on an international level and benefit from increased earning potential and new career opportunities. Research also shows that language learning leads to improved memory and new skills to help learn any subject more easily. When it comes to choosing subjects they will have a better idea of whether to take French or Spanish or both!

Elective Choices

Health & Well Being

1. Aesthetic PE

This includes gymnastics and trampolining with a strong focus on fitness. These aesthetic activities will help to develop your understanding of the mental, emotional, social and physical factors that impact on performance by taking part in aesthetic activities.

You will develop the following skills: working with others, analysing performance, planning and implementing a training programme, evaluating factors that impact on performance, confidence building, planning and organising.

2. Rugby

This course will develop you as a person and a player within a sporting context. It will involve individual skill and physical development through games. Your group will choose

and carry out a Rugby based project where you will learn plan, deliver and fundraise to achieve your goals. The project will be about our core values as a school: Pride, Respect and Ambition. This could be, for example, an outing to watch Scotland, a Rugby Tour and/or purchasing equipment for the school. You will be encouraged to form the backbone of a Perth Grammar Rugby Team at both S1 and S2 level. You will play midweek rugby matches against other schools and training at the Extra-Curricular rugby session. You might even want to have more rugby experiences at Perthshire RFC.

There will also be opportunities to work with the **Cricket** development officer (who plays cricket for Scotland) and to experience **Hockey** over on the astro as part of a rotation with the above activities.

3. Dance

In this course you will learn the basics of mixed dance. This will include developing skills in various forms of dance. You will learn to work as a team, take individual responsibility within that team and build trust in the team. It will help to develop your skills in working hard, persevering and being resilient.

4. Climbing

Through this course you will be able to achieve a range of indoor and outdoor climbing skills. You will be able to climb safely and look after another climber. This will assist you in becoming a proficient climber and give you skills and knowledge that would help enable you to climb in another climbing centre (e.g. EICA in Edinburgh). You will also learn how to abseil and how to check and maintain equipment. You will develop in confidence and learn how to meet and overcome challenges that may arise. These are transferable skills that can be used in different situations in and beyond school. Many of the things you learn from the course will be a great start if you want to go onto a more advanced NICAS course (National Indoor Climbing Award Scheme) run by the British Mountaineering Council (BMC)

5. Learn to Swim

During the course you will be given a valuable opportunity to either develop your current swimming ability (whatever that may be) or if you can't swim at all then we certainly would love to change that for you! Sign up and learn to swim! Completing this course will open up further opportunities in the future like life-saving awards and swimming certification.

Art & Expressive Arts

6. Performing Skills – Music

You will choose one instrument from: voice, guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, percussion or keyboard. You will then develop your skills to a level where you can perform a programme of different styles on this instrument. As well as developing your musical skills and abilities this course will help you to develop problem solving, leadership and working with others.

7. Art and Design Portfolio Course

This course will provide you with the opportunity to further develop and improve your observational drawing and painting skills. It will give you the opportunity to work on and practise drawing and painting techniques from selected resource materials. It will let you

experiment with different mixed media to create a variety of final outcomes based around the visual elements of line, tone, colour and texture. It will introduce you to aspects of digital photography that can be used as a starting point to visual creativity but most of all it will offer you personalisation and choice in the outcomes that you want to achieve. There will be scope for developing ideas through 3D construction, based on solid drawing skills. You will be encouraged to use a sketchbook and work on home study tasks on a weekly basis to improve your drawing ability.

Computing & Technology

8. Animation

You will design and create simple animation's using Serif Software. In addition we will look at creating characters and using Marker Pens to render Manga type art. There will be links to Graphic Communication, Art and Computing. You will be encouraged to be creative and will be encouraged to complete your own project.

9. Be an Engineer

In this Elective you will gain an understanding of Engineering – From building Bridges to creating electrical circuits. Small kits will be available to build at a small cost. You will get to look at computer control and also be made aware of Renewable energy. There will be links to Engineering Science and you will get a change to use your numeracy skills.

10. Digital Making

Be inventive: Be an Innovator!

With an ever increasing pace in the Computing field there is always something new to look at. This class gives the opportunity to explore some of these ideas in a more detail e.g. Micro:bit, Raspberry Pi, Robotic Control as well as using creativity to think beyond the classroom in developing projects that have an impact on society.

S1 Wider Achievement courses – Choice Sheet

Complete your choices online or return this form to your Teacher

After you have read the information in this booklet, please complete the online form or put a cross (X) beside your 4 best options.

We will aim to give every pupil TWO of his or her choices. One from August to December and one from January to May.

1	Aesthetic PE	
2	Rugby	
3	Dance	
4	Climbing	
5	Learn To Swim	
6	Performing Skills – Music	
7	Art & Design Portfolio Course	
8	Animation	
9	Be An Engineer	
10	Digital Making	

Complete the Online form or return this form to your Teacher

Name: _____ Class _____

Signature of parent or carer _____

Signature of P7 Teacher _____