

The S4 and S5 curriculum consists of compulsory subjects and a number of elective subjects. S4 and S5 form a unit and during these two years all pupils will study the following compulsory subjects:

Compulsory subjects:

	<u>Periods</u>
Language 1 (L1, mother tongue)	4
Language 2 (L2, first foreign language)	3
Language 3 (L3, 2nd foreign language)	3
History	2
Geography	2
Biology	2
Chemistry	2
Physics	2
Physical Education	2
Religious Education	1
Health Education	1
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 24
Mathematics	4 or 6
Total:	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 28 or 30

To the above subjects, the pupil adds from **2 to 8** periods from the following elective subjects in such a way that the total number of their weekly periods lies between a minimum of 32 and maximum of 36 periods.

Elective subjects:

	<u>Periods</u>
Language 4 (L4, third foreign language) OR Latin OR Ancient Greek OR ONL	4
Economics (studied in L2)	4
Art	2
Music	2
ICT	2

When choosing elective subjects, parents and pupils are asked to bear in mind the following points:

1. The curriculum allows a maximum of 36 periods. However, 36 periods is a heavy work load. All students have already 10 examination subjects in the common core of S4 and S5.
2. Teaching groups for some subjects may not be created because of timetable constraints or small number of pupils. Within the limitations of the timetable the school will try its best to satisfy the greatest possible number of requests made. A minimum of 5 students is required to create a teaching group.
3. An elective subject started in S4 can be continued in S6 and S7 only if there is a sufficient number of pupils.
4. The choice of an elective subject **commits the pupil for 2 years: s/he cannot change, add or drop an elective subject as from the start of S4.** However, it might be possible in some circumstances to change from 6 periods Mathematics to 4 periods Mathematics between S4 and S5.
5. Due to small number of pupils Art, Music, ICT and Economics may be taught in mixed groups (EN, FR, and FI) and given in the language(s) of the teacher(s) available. For some pupils this may therefore be in their mother tongue, for others in one of the section languages.
6. If Language 4 (L4) or Latin / Ancient Greek is not taken in S4-S5 they cannot be taken in years S6-S7 and therefore cannot be a Baccalaureate subject.
7. If Economics, Art or Music is not taken in years S4-S5 they can only be taken as 2p complementary subjects in years S6-S7 (the 4p option cannot normally be chosen) and therefore cannot be a Baccalaureate subject.
8. Any of the official languages of the European Union may be chosen as Language 4 (L4) subject to having a sufficient number of pupils to create the course.
9. Only in exceptional cases agreed by the Director can possible changes be made on the chosen subjects in the beginning of S4, provided it doesn't affect the teaching groups. These changes are only possible before the autumn break of the first semester.

Please note that the choice will be binding for S4 and S5.

Before making their choices, parents and pupils should inform themselves about the possibilities open to them in S6 and S7 and leading to the Baccalaureate. Following curriculum is currently in force.

The Curriculum in S6 and S7

1. Compulsory subjects:

	Periods
Language 1 (L1)	4
Language 2 (L2)	3
Mathematics	3 or 5
Biology	2
History	2
Philosophy	2
Geography	2
Physical Education	2
Religious Education	1

- A pupil who has followed the 4 periods mathematics in S4 and S5 can choose 5 periods mathematics only on the recommendation of the teacher of mathematics and on condition that the pupil has been successful in a required test in June.
- Biology 2p is compulsory only for those pupils who do not choose a science from the elective courses (Chemistry 4p, Physics 4p or Biology 4p). It is not available for those pupils choosing Biology 4p as an elective subject, but is a possibility for those pupils who choose Chemistry 4p and/or Physics 4p.
- Philosophy 2p, History 2p and Geography 2p can be replaced by the corresponding elective 4 period subject.

2. Elective subjects

Pupils must choose at least two and a maximum of four **elective subjects**:

	periods
Language 4 (L4)* OR Latin* OR Ancient Greek * OR ONL *	4
Geography	4
Philosophy	4
Language 3 (L3)*	4
History	4
Economics in EN*	4
Physics	4
Chemistry	4
Biology	4
Art *	4
Music *	4
Advanced L1	3
Advanced L2	3
Advanced Mathematics	3

* Only available to pupils who have followed these subjects in S4 and S5.

- If you have not followed Art and Music in S4 and S5 you must provide satisfactory evidence that you are able to follow it at this level.
- L3 and L4 must normally be the same as the corresponding subjects studied in S5.
- Advanced Mathematics is only for pupils who have chosen 5 periods Mathematics.

3. Complementary subjects

	Periods
Practical Physics	2
Practical Chemistry	2
Practical Biology	2
ICT	2
Art	2
Music	2
Sociology	2
Psychology	2
Physical Education	2
Elementary Economics	2

- The practical courses are only for pupils who have chosen the corresponding elective subject (Physics 4p/Chemistry 4p/Biology 4p).
- Art 2p, Music 2p and Elementary Economics 2p are for pupils who have not chosen the corresponding subject as an elective subject.
- Elementary Economics cannot be chosen by pupils who have followed Economics in S4 and S5.

General remarks for S6 and S7:

A pupil's timetable must comprise at least **31** and not more than **36** periods, of which **at least 29 periods must be chosen from compulsory and elective subjects.**

You cannot choose an elective subject or a complementary subject in S6 if your results show that you have not been following this subject satisfactorily in S4 and S5.

The "advanced subjects" are in-depth studies of the subject. They are not support courses and should be chosen only by those pupils with a particular interest and ability in the subject.

For timetabling reasons the school cannot offer all combinations of elective and complementary subjects because certain subjects are taught simultaneously. Every effort will be made to organise the courses chosen by the pupils. However, it is impossible, for reasons of finance or timetabling, to fulfil all wishes. In that case, pupils will be asked to make a second choice.

For more information or questions concerning choices for S4 and S5, please contact the study coordinator: Lasse Österman (lasse.osterman@esh.fi)