



Head Teacher: Mr S Steele

Depute Head Teachers: Miss E Gow, Mr E Groat, Mrs I MacKenzie, Mr D MacLean

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date: 30 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As stated previously, the Scottish Government has removed final SQA examinations for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses for 2020-21. These have been replaced by an alternative certification approach based on assessment evidence, teacher judgement and robust quality assurance.

Now we have the relevant information from the Scottish Qualifications Authority, I am pleased to announce our plans for assessing student performance in all National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses.

On return from our April holidays on Monday 19 April there will be a three-week period when students will be engaged in consolidating their learning and preparing for their assessments in class. Thereafter, the following will take place:

- Monday 10 May to Friday 21 May - **Higher and Advanced Higher assessments**
- Monday 24 May to Friday 4 June - **National 5 assessments**
- Monday 7 June to Friday 11 June - **Re-assessment opportunity for any level of study.**

With the exception of those who are invited into school for the purposes of re-assessment, we can confirm our school will be closed to all pupils on Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 June in line with other Highland secondary schools. At this time, teachers will be working with colleagues from other schools across Highland and beyond, to ensure we have a mutual understanding of the standards required by each student. This is an important aspect of the quality assurance process.

Once this process is complete, we will finalise our quality assurance checks within each department and at school level. Thereafter we will record our final grades (provisional awards) for all students sitting all courses from National 3 to Advanced Higher. These grades will then be sent to the SQA. Once this is done we will issue a letter containing the provisional awards to all pupils and parents by the 24 June.

As a school we are organised and committed to making the best of this very unusual year. We wish to ensure all our students get the grades they deserve, and it is important to point out that it is not too late to achieve, so please, encourage your child to never give up.

If your child is planning to leave school this year they can only do so on Friday 18 June or alternatively when we are satisfied that your child has been as successful as possible in each course, and thereafter a Leavers Form can be completed as appropriate before formally leaving school.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to ask any questions or make further enquiries. In the meantime, I wish our senior pupils all the best in their preparations in every level of study.

Yours faithfully

Scott

Scott Steele

Head Teacher