

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I hope that you and your family are keeping well. I am writing to update you with important information regarding your daughter's SQA courses.

Last week, the First Minister announced that no young person should attend school to complete coursework. Further to this the SQA announced that this year, no coursework for learners in Higher and Advanced Higher would be submitted and that certification for Higher and Advanced Higher this year will be based on estimate grades. The SQA has referred to a suite of evidence that teachers can use to inform estimate grades and we await further clarification on what this is in due course.

We are aware that young people in our school have worked extremely hard on assignments and folios and the SQA has recognised this.

I want to reassure everyone that a combination of factors are, and will be, considered by staff when compiling estimate grades; assignments and folios often play a significant part in our pupils' successes and most young people improve their performance in the months between prelims and the final exams. The teachers' professional judgements will be evidence based and focused on the individual pupil.

Whilst some assignments at Higher and Advanced Higher have already been completed, some subjects are still working on these. **To support teachers in making estimates, I would ask that your daughter continue to work on her coursework task/assignment and submit these to teachers on Teams or by e-mail – this will help the decision making process.**

Please be assured that as a school, we are committed to ensuring that our young people are not disadvantaged as a result of the unprecedented circumstances we find ourselves.

Finally, most National 5 assignments and folios had a deadline of 18 March 2020 and were submitted to SQA. These will be marked in the normal way and will be used alongside estimate grades.

Most importantly, please keep safe.

Yours sincerely

R Martin
Headteacher