



## Assessment Blocks

All SQA candidates from National 5 to Advanced Higher will undertake assessments in coming months. As in a 'usual' school year, these assessments serve several purposes:

- They help prepare pupils for final examinations
- They provide a progress check for pupils and their teachers to gauge pupil current working level
- They provide evidence, should this be required, to help determine final course awards

### **This year, pupils will sit assessments in 2 initial blocks:**

- National 5 pupils in S4/5 & 6 will sit assessments in every subject between 2 & 15 December 2021.
- Higher and Advanced pupils in S5 & 6 will sit assessments in every subject from mid-January to early February 2022.

**National 5 candidates will be issued with an assessment timetable shortly with Higher/Advanced Higher timetables issued before the December break.** Please ask your child to see this and go through this with them to ensure they are prepared for assessments.

All pupils will also undertake any required SQA assignments, folios, and coursework required throughout the year, inline with the modifications that SQA have made in each subject area.

Many assessments will be held in class times and in class locations. Where there are larger numbers of candidates, additional locations will be used for assessments in line with public health guidance for schools. A very small number of pupils may experience 2 assessments in the same day but this has been limited to only a small group across all 3 year groups.

Candidates may continue to undertake class assessments throughout the year to complete unit or topic work as normal practice.

## 2022 Examinations

Examinations will run according to the national SQA timetable. Examinations will be held in school following the public health guidance for schools relevant in April 2022. Pupils will be issued with their exam timetable in March 2022, but they can access the SQA timetable at this point and plan their own exam timings.

## Study Supports

We have provided every S4 – 6 learner with a Help Your Child to Pass Pack which includes a range of information that your child should utilise to support their learning and study this year. Study Cards and Study Planners are available free to every S4 – 6 learner in school.

We have published an extensive Supported Study Programme which runs from 25 October to March 2022 – please encourage your child to attend sessions regularly.

Please access the following sites which will also help your child to maximise their learning.

[www.scholar.hw.ac.uk](http://www.scholar.hw.ac.uk)

<https://e-sgoil.com/>

Please also access the new Port Glasgow High School website for further information for pupils and parents:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/in/portglasgowhs/>

## SQA Information for Pupils and Parents November 2021

SQA have recently published up-to-date guidance on the current situation regarding examinations in 2022. An extract from this can be found below:



### ***How your child will be assessed, based on current public health advice***

*The Scottish Government has confirmed that exams will go ahead in 2022 if it is safe to do so. SQA exams – which include modifications – will therefore take place from 26 April to 1 June 2022, with results day on 9 August 2022. You can view the exam timetable at <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/41619.html>*

### ***What are the modifications to assessment?***

*We have made changes – referred to as modifications – to course assessments to help make them more manageable and allow for lost learning and teaching caused by the pandemic. Depending on the subject, the modifications may include removing or reducing the exam or coursework, changing the exam to provide more choice or time, or removing a topic from the course.*

### ***How your child will be assessed, should public health advice lead to SQA exams being cancelled***

*If public health advice in Spring 2022 leads to SQA exams being cancelled, teachers and lecturers will decide your child's provisional results based on the assessments they have completed throughout the year. This could be a mix of prelims, practical activities, performances, and class tests. Teachers and lecturers will use their professional judgement to select the assessment evidence that best shows your child's skills, knowledge and understanding of their course. For further information, please go to*

**<https://blogs.sqa.org.uk/qualifications2022/sqa-national-qualifications-assessments-2021-22-a-message-for-parents-and-carers/>**

### **My SQA App**

Pupils are encouraged to download the MySQA app which will help them to plan their exam timings and create Study Plans. Manual Study Planners were provided to each pupil in S4 – 6 last week, as part of the Help Your Child to Pass pack. It is important that pupils begin regular study at this time to allow them to be prepared for upcoming assessments, coursework, and final exams. Find more details on the App here:



**<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/41324.html>**