**AUCHENHARVIE ACADEMY**

**Head Teacher: Calum Johnston BED (Hons)**

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**Date: 25th May 2021**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**S4/5/6 SQA Alternative Certification Model: Provisional Results 2021**

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well. As you know, our young people have been busy since their return from the Easter break, completing as much assessment evidence needed to assist their teachers in deriving their provisional grades. We are reaching the end of our assessment block and I believe it is important to write to you at this stage, to inform you of the steps which lie ahead.

Our teaching staff are in the process of marking a wide range of candidates’ assessment evidence, based on SQA marking schemes. During the in service days of the 27th and 28th May 2021, all our teachers will engage in moderating all of this evidence. This means that staff in each department will check and discuss each other’s marking. This stage will allow staff to identify quickly any changes or corrections that will need to be made to the marking process. This is an important part of the quality assurance process.

Furthermore, where appropriate, teachers from other schools will cross-mark and verify the standard of our staff marking, as our staff also engage in this process to support colleagues in other schools. The teachers involved in this process outwith Auchenharvie Academy will, of course, not know the names of the pupils whose work they will be moderating. Further professional discussion will take place to identify any changes, thus strengthening our quality assurance process.

Moreover, The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) have sampled candidates’ evidence in a range of subjects and their feedback will also be used to guide our marking and moderating processes.

Our colleagues are working extremely hard to ensure that the work of our candidates is appropriately recognised using this robust and inclusive process of quality assurance. All of these stages are designed to ensure that the integrity of the qualifications, as well as the professional integrity of our colleagues is maintained at every stage. At the end of this stringent process, provisional grades across each subject and level will be derived. Finally, further quality assurance checks will take place between Faculty Leaders and the Senior Leadership Team prior to this process concluding in mid June.

On Monday 14th June 2021, our senior pupils will have the opportunity to engage in their final learning conversations with each of their teachers. Teachers will communicate to pupils on a one-to one basis their provisional grades verbally and will be available to answer any questions that pupils may have at that stage. These grades are provisional, subject to clerical checks by SQA and will be confirmed on 10th August 2021, when your child will receive their SQA certificate.

A parent / carer letter will also be posted on 14th June 2021 with a summary of your child’s provisional grades for your attention. Details of the SQA appeal process will also be included in the letter should this be required. Please note that these have not yet been published by the SQA.

As a school that prides itself in placing the wellbeing of our pupils at the heart of everything that we do, we are acutely aware that this will be a stressful time for our senior pupils. This is why we have set up drop in areas across the school where on that day, our pupils can be further supported emotionally by our Pastoral Care teachers, Depute Head teachers and wider school support team.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to you for all your support during such a challenging academic year. Session 2020-2021 has been far from easy for our pupils, staff and families of our school community. However, I am confident that our pupils’ successes will be duly recognised and I look forward to sharing with you early in the next session, details on how we plan to celebrate their achievements.

Yours sincerely,



Calum Johnston

Head Teacher