Auchenharvie Parent Council

Saltcoats Road

Stevenston

KA20 3JW

2/2/22

Regarding: SQA Exams 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

I write on behalf of Auchenharvie Parent Council to highlight our ongoing concerns regarding pupils sitting exams this year, considering the lack of teaching they have received due to Coronavirus Pandemic. It is unfair to ask pupils to sit exams this year given that their studies for the past 2 years have been greatly disrupted; and significant pressure placed on both pupil and teacher. With the ongoing rise in absences in 2021-2022 of those teaching staff and pupils who have had to isolate due to Covid 19. We feel the Learning Day has been greatly reduced, therefore setting the pupils up to fail. We are aware that the SQA have made modifications around course work, i.e. Plan B and C, however it is unacceptable to wait till the end of March for a decision. The parent council feel it is hugely detrimental to many pupils and highly immoral to continue with this process in 2022. We would like for this term to revert to Alternative Certification Model (ACM), giving our young people a fighting chance.

Exams before Covid were stressful enough, some pupils even self-harming under the pressure. This is your and our children’s future that will be affected. The lack of education will impact on their future decisions in careers, impacting on health with unemployment, creating shorter life spans, and gender inequality. Please look at the bigger picture. There could be a high risk of employers who may not be willing to employ pupils who have been in education throughout the Coronavirus Pandemic.

On this note I also must also highlight the impact this pandemic has had on our young people; social isolation, young people put at risk, their mental wellbeing (especially anxiety, loneliness and depression), those living in poverty, and other disadvantaged groups such as children who are in care and minority groups. Due to remote learning and poor engagement is a factor that MUST be taken into account, given the

Please note the Scottish Government Publication 2020 Coronavirus Impact on children, young people and families. This evidence is still prevalent in 2022.

Regards

Auchenharvie Parent Council