Airdrie Academy Post Certification Review: Advice for Parents

This information reflects the guidance offered by the Scottish Qualifications Authority in Post-certification Service – Information for Centres

**Post Certification Review – Advice for Parents**

In response to the cancellation of the 2020 exam diet, SQA has developed an alternative

certification model for 2020 to ensure the hard work of Scotland’s learners is fully recognised

through our qualifications system. The alternative certification model allows us to award

grades to all learners entered for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses as fairly

and reliably as possible, across subjects and levels.

The alternative certification model is based on teachers’ and lecturers’ estimates, which

have been moderated by schools, colleges and SQA. The process may lead to a candidate

or group of candidates being certificated with a grade that’s different from their estimated

grade. To be as fair as possible to candidates, we are providing a post-certification review

(appeals) service to allow centres to request a review of the grade awarded for a candidate

or a group of candidates.

This document outlines SQA’s post-certification review policy in 2020. It provides guidance

on eligibility for review, the materials centres are required to submit in support of a review

request, key dates for the service and other relevant information.

**How does post-certification review work?**

Post-certification review is free of charge. It is carried out by SQA examiners **at the request**

**of a centre**. It involves a review of candidate evidence, including any completed coursework

components that were submitted in the March uplift, for an eligible candidate or group of

candidates identified by the centre.

**A candidate is eligible for review only when they have been awarded a lower grade**

**than the grade estimated by their centre.** A successful post-certification review request

will result in a change of grade only — a change in band is not a feature of the review. Post certification review is available for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Courses in 2020

only.

Centres will be able to request one of two post-certification review types:

* a priority review
* a review

Priority reviews are for candidates with a conditional university or college offer.

**Making a post-certification review request**

A request must be submitted by a head of centre (or their representative). Requests from

candidates or their parents and carers will **not** be accepted by SQA. It should be noted,

however, that **a head of centre must obtain a candidate’s approval before submitting a**

**request**.

Before submitting a request, the head of centre must confirm that subject-specialist staff

have used their professional judgement in endorsing the request. It is important to note that

SQA will not make the decision on whether to undertake a review — the decision to submit a

request is the responsibility of the head of centre.

Before submitting a request, the head of centre should ensure that:

* The candidate is eligible for the service. Eligible candidates will be displayed to centres

when the service opens.

* Assessment evidence is available that demonstrates performance at a higher grade than

that awarded by SQA.

* The centre has discussed with each candidate its intention to submit a request for a

review and informed them of the possible outcomes.

* The centre has the candidate’s consent to submitting the request for review.
* The candidate is aware that, if this is required for progression, SQA will share the

outcome of their post-certification review with UCAS and/or the institution to which they

have applied to allow their application to progress.

* Where there is a requirement to provide higher/further education contact details, these

are accurate and up to date.

These stipulations form the terms and conditions of post-certification review, and the head of

centre will be prompted to accept these when submitting any requests.

**Key dates**

**Priority reviews**

Friday, 14/08/20 Deadline for submission of Priority Review requests

Thursday, 20/08/20 Uplift of evidence by carrier

Friday, 04/09/20 Issue outcomes to centres/HEIs/UCAS

**Reviews**

Friday, 21/08/20 Deadline for submission of requests

Thursday, 27/08/20\* Uplift of evidence by carrier

TBC\*\* Issue outcomes to centres

\*A second uplift date may be arranged depending on the number of requests received. We

will advise you of the date if this is required.

\*\*There is no date for conclusion as this will depend on volumes received.

****Request for Post Certification Review

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SCN: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I am requesting that Airdrie Academy apply to the Scottish Qualifications Authority for a Post Certification Review in the subjects listed below.

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I am fully aware that this may result in an **increase or decrease** of my grade.

Pupil Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parental Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_