



Trinity High School
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Head Teacher: Paul Marshall MEd, BSc (Hons)

Director of Children's Services: Janie O'Neill

Our Ref: PM

Your Ref:

Date: 10th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

As a school we are committed to reviewing our processes to ensure young people are fully supported in their learning. As such we have reviewed our assessment schedule for pupils in S4 – S6. I am writing to provide an update regarding this for the current academic session.

S4 National 5 Assessments

S4 National 5 practice examinations will continue to follow the same format as previous years and will take place during an assessment diet in December. I will write to you soon to provide a detailed assessment calendar.

S5/6 National 5 Practice Examinations

We are currently reviewing the assessment diet for pupils in S5 and S6 who are sitting National 5 Qualifications. Departments will identify the best programme depending on their subject. Assessments may be included in the December assessment diet (above) or assessments in classes following the model like Higher and Advanced Higher (below). We will ensure pupils are fully informed of the process.

S5/6 Assessments

For S5 and S6 (all levels) pupils the following assessment schedule will be adopted after the October holiday.

Monday period 1 +2	Column D
Tuesday period 4 + 5	Column A
Wednesday period 5 + 6	Column E
Thursday period 4 + 5	Column C
Friday period 1 + 2	Column B

This will ensure that pupils will have a maximum of one assessment per day and that the pupils will know exactly when assessments for each subject would be scheduled. This schedule will be used for end of unit assessments, assignments and other formal assessments. This will be the same schedule for those pupils who receive Assessment Arrangements.



By moving to the model of assessment days, we have taken **the decision to remove the Higher and Advanced Higher practice exam diet in January for this session**. Some subjects may still administer assessments in January, but this will be undertaken on the allocated day (above). We believe there are many benefits to moving to this model for pupils in S5 and S6:

- As we will not pause learning in January there will be more time for learning and teaching. This will allow pupils to have increased time to consolidate knowledge, understanding and skills.
- Pupils often report having more than one practice exam or assessment per day. This model would mean a maximum of one assessment per day on an ongoing programme throughout the year.
- Our data shows a decline in S5 and S6 attendance in December and January. With coursework continuing during this time and the removal the practice exams will mean greater continuity of learning and teaching.

Staff will continue to use Satchel 1 to communicate the assessment dates with both pupils and parents to ensure that all parties are prepared for the upcoming assessments.

Where there is an absence during one of the scheduled days for assessment, I would encourage Parent / Carers to contact the school to make staff aware and they can support with new arrangements for assessments. Pupils who are absent with no communication or request for alternative arrangements may be asked to complete the assessment on an alternative day to the table above.

All assessments undertaken in the double period will continue to be conducted in line with Qualifications Scotland policy and guidance and may be used for evidence and estimate purpose.

I hope that you feel reassured that this decision has been carefully considered and will be reviewed regularly during this session. If you wish to discuss this with me, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

I would like to thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,



Paul Marshall

Head Teacher

