



31 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Update on National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses 2020-21

I am pleased to share with you a national communication from the National Qualifications 2021 Group to all parents and carers.

'With remote learning continuing until at least mid-February, the National Qualifications 2021 Group (Association of Directors of Education in Scotland (ADES), Colleges Scotland, Education Scotland, the Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS), School Leaders Scotland (SLS), the Scottish Council of Independent Schools (SCIS), Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), the Scottish Government, National Parent Forum of Scotland, Scottish Youth Parliament) appreciates that you may be anxious to know how this will impact on your child and school.

We have written to schools and colleges to remind them that maximising learning and teaching time remains the current priority. Overall assessment of your child's educational achievements (also described as attainment) should therefore take place once they are back in school or college.

Evidence of your child's attainment remains a key part of awarding their grades in 2021. During January and February 2021, SQA is publishing subject-specific guidance and assessment resources for Higher and Advanced Higher courses. This will support teachers and lecturers with assessment planning for later in the 2020-21 session.

### Understanding Standards

Ensuring that your child's assessment is marked to the national standard is critical for reassuring everyone that qualification results in 2021 are credible. Teachers and lecturers are being supported by Understanding Standards resources produced by SQA. These resources form an important part of quality assurance and support teachers and lecturers by helping them strengthen their understanding of the national standard required for assessment.

### Keeping you updated

All partners are working as quickly as possible in an evolving situation and will continue to issue regular updates on the next steps. Ministers will update Parliament about lockdown measures and the reopening of schools and colleges on 2 February 2021.

Stay up to date on [2021 National Qualifications](#)'.

I will continue to keep you updated on all aspects of SQA and qualifications for the 2020/21 school session as the appropriate information/updates become available to me.

Please note:

We are holding an additional Parent Council meeting on Wednesday 10 February at 6.30pm to discuss and review this current period of school closure and 2020/21 SQA presentations.

Our meeting will be held remotely with details for attendance will be shared via Xpressions shortly.

You are also invited to pass your questions/comments to our Parent Council chair – Mrs Mary O'Connor – via email [pcbaldragonacademy@npfs.org.uk](mailto:pcbaldragonacademy@npfs.org.uk).

My very best wishes and please stay safe.

Mr McAninch

If you have trouble understanding English please contact the address below

اگر آپ کو انگریزی سمجھنے میں مشکل پیش آتی ہے تو برائے مہربانی نیچے درج پتے پر رابطہ کریں:

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇੰਗਲिश سمجھنے ਵਿੱਚ ਕठिनाਈ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਡਿੱਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿਤੇ ਪਤੇ ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।  
Jeżeli masz trudności w zrozumieniu języka angielskiego, skontaktuj się na poniżej podany adres:

如果你對英語理解有困難，請聯絡以下地址:

Dundee Translation & Interpretation Service, Mitchell Street Centre, Mitchell Street, Dundee DD2 2LJ.  
Tel: 01382 435825 Fax: 01382 435805

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