



**27 March 2023**

If you have already received a targeted invitation for Exam tuition, please disregard this letter.

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **SQA Exam Diet 2023 & Study Leave Arrangements**

I am writing to update you on the school's plans for exam and study leave during the 2023 SQA examination period. **This year's SQA exam diet will run from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023.**

Learners will be issued with a copy of '[Your Exams 2023](#)' Your Exams provides important rules and advice to learners on what to do before, during and after their exams. This booklet contains a Scottish Candidate Number (SCN) card, which can be detached from the back cover. The SCN card should be used by your child to record their details and can be taken into the exam room to help them complete the front of their exam answer booklets correctly.

#### **When is study leave?**

As part of our school's ongoing support to all senior phase pupils during the SQA exam period, pupils sitting any National 5, Higher or Advanced Higher SQA exam(s) are entitled to study leave. In line with all secondary schools in Dundee, **study leave will take place from Tuesday 2 May until Tuesday 30 May (inclusive)**. Any pupils sitting an SQA exam out with these dates are entitled to study leave the day before their exam, for example, if an SQA exam is on Monday, pupils are entitled to study leave on the previous Friday.

#### **Why do we have study leave?**

The aim of study leave is to encourage pupils to take as much responsibility as can reasonably be expected for their own learning, whilst allowing them to study in a manner and pattern that suits them. At Baldragon Academy, we will continue to run our normal timetable throughout the SQA exam period and until our change of timetable on Monday 30 May 2022. **This means that all senior phase pupils can continue to access their subjects and teachers as per their current timetable for learning, study or support.**

#### **What if my child has no exams?**

**Pupils with no exams are expected to attend classes as normal from Monday 24 April to Wednesday 31 May 2023.** They will be able to participate in a variety of learning activities which will help develop their skills and prepare for their new classes and the 2023/24 school year.

#### **What supports are available at Baldragon Academy?**

Throughout the SQA exam period, pupils will be able to access supports from their guidance teacher and our support staff. Working with Mrs Duley, pupils can also access the learning resource centre as a quiet space for individual study. Furthermore, our Health & Wellbeing Worker and School Counsellors will be offering weekly health and wellbeing sessions to help and support with any exam anxieties, mindfulness and meditation sessions and relaxation therapies. Pupils should see Mrs Ross to sign up to any of these sessions.

Please remember the National e-Learning offer available for all pupils to support learning and study across all subjects and at all levels throughout the SQA exam diet: <https://education.gov.scot/nelo/>.

**Baldragon Academy**

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twitter – BaldragonAcad & Baldragon\_HT

learning portal - <https://tinyurl.com/y5pwje3e>



**Additional information**

Pupils must always be in full school uniform when visiting the school during exam leave and for sitting every examination. Furthermore, pupils must not use any area of the school as a social space. Our school is running as normal for all other learners; therefore, it is imperative that their learning experience is not disrupted. Congregating in the dining hall or senior dining area is not allowed. Pupils who are not actively involved in learning or studying in the learning resource centre or actively involved in an exam will be removed from school.

I do hope you find this information useful and helps you, and your child, plan for a very productive SQA exam and study leave.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hayley Ross