



Dear Parent / Carer

### **Fraserburgh Academy S4, S5 & S6 Assessment Windows**

Currently it is the intention of the Scottish Government to have a full exam diet in April and May 2022 but due to the current pandemic there are contingency plans in place should the public health situation deteriorate as we move forward into 2022.

Full details of the SQA statement regarding assessments in 2022 can be found here

[Assessment of National Qualifications in 2021-22 - SQA](#)

Should the pandemic get worse to the point where physical gatherings are restricted at the time of these exams, then the SQA exam diet will be cancelled and if this happens teachers will again be asked to determine provisional results by using their professional judgement of demonstrated evidence that shows each learner's skills, knowledge and understanding.

At Fraserburgh Academy we traditionally have two assessment periods that allow us to monitor S4, S5 and S6 learners progress and then report to parents and carers, and this session will be no different and assessments will be held during the following dates.

**Assessment Window 1 Mon 04 Oct 2021 to Fri 15 Oct 2021**

**Assessment Window 2 Wed 12 Jan 2022 to Fri 28 Jan 2022**

These assessments will be held during class time, and it is possible that due to the completion of some units of work that some assessments may be outside of these dates, and should this be necessary then learners will be notified in advance of their assessments by their class teachers.

We appreciate that these assessment windows can be an intense period for our learners as they may have more than one assessment on any given day, but as well as being an indicator of learning progress, these assessments are invaluable preparation for the proposed final SQA exams should they take place.

### **Contingency for Potential Cancellation of SQA Exams**

Although it is the Government intention to have a full exam diet, we need to ensure that if these exams do not take place that we have the necessary demonstrated learner evidence in place to enable us to make accurate judgements of learner performance.

It is fair to say that not all assessments within school, such as check tests, class tests etc. have the rigour and depth to qualify as a potential piece of evidence for SQA purposes, but certainly those

assessments sat during Assessment Windows 1 & 2 will have the depth necessary and should be considered by all as potential sources of evidence for any teacher judgement award.

Small class tests and check tests are still a valuable source of information as to how a learner is progressing within a course, therefore even though they may not have the depth necessary for using as SQA evidence, they should still be given due care and attention by all learners.

Outside of these formal assessment windows, it is possible that learners will be asked to sit assessments which could be used as SQA standard evidence, and if this is to happen then learners will be advised of this prior to sitting the assessment and with enough notice for meaningful study and preparation.

**Therefore, it is in the best interests of all if learners give these assessments and indeed any school assessment their full focus and attention.**

### **Study Leave**

**Assessment Window 1** – There will be no study leave for this period and learners are to attend classes as normal.

**Assessment Window 2** – To support our learners there will be study leave for this period. We will suspend our normal Learning and Teaching programme for S4, S5 & S6, and learners are welcome to study at home or come to school to study or ask for help and support from their teachers.

### **Additional Assessment Arrangements**

Some learners will have Additional Assessment Arrangements put in place by our Additional Support for Learners faculty and exact details of this support can be confirmed with their class teachers.

### **NESCOL Courses**

If a learner has an assessment scheduled when they should be at NESCOL, then they are to attend their school assessment, this takes priority. However, learners with NESCOL courses are still to attend them at all other times during the Assessment 2 window.

### **Study and Help clubs and other Study Resources**

Faculties advertise their study and support sessions through social media and in school display screens and I would advise learners to check these outlets as well as asking class teachers for information as to when support sessions are scheduled.

Should you wish to discuss any issues contained within this letter then please do not hesitate to contact me direct here at the Academy.

Yours sincerely

**Kevin Buchan**

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