



Mrs I Sharp - Rector
Fraserburgh Academy
Dennyduff Road
Fraserburgh AB43 9NA
Telephone 01346 417400
fraserburgh.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
www.fraserburgh.aberdeenshire.sch.uk

Dear Parent, Carer and Learner

SQA Examinations 2024 – Appeals

Now that the SQA Exam diet of 2024 has finished, the process of marking and then the SQA coming to final grade decisions has begun, with learners certificates being issued on **Tuesday 6th Aug 2024**.

The SQA have recently issued us with further guidance regarding their appeals process for 2024 and this year there will again be a free appeal service available for learners or their representatives, which can be access directly through the SQA website, **this service will open on 06.08.2024 at 9:00am**.

Irrespective of the estimate grade provided by school, any learner unhappy with their final grade can appeal any subject at National 5, Higher or Advanced Higher level which involved an exam, and like last year the SQA will only consider materials which have been sent to them and will not consider school-based evidence – the exception to this being any Exam Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service appeals which will already have been submitted through the school to the SQA.

How is an appeal reviewed?

The SQA will check exam papers and any submitted coursework to ensure.

- All parts of the assessment have been marked.
- The marking is in line with National SQA standards.
- The marks given have been totalled correctly.
- The correct result has been entered to the SQA exam system.

The learner has the final say regarding any appeal, but the SQA advise that learners should engage with school first to discuss their appeal and I would direct any learner considering making an appeal to discuss this first with the subject teacher - **the exception to this being learners who require a priority appeal**.

Priority appeals

Priority appeals are for those learners requiring an outcome of an appeal for their immediate progress to university, college, training, or employment. These appeals will be looked at first by the SQA and all such appeals need to be validated by the school before they will be considered.

Therefore, for any learner who finds themselves in the position of needing a priority appeal, I would ask that they email the school fraserburgh.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk as soon as they receive their results as there are deadlines for these appeals as below.

Appeals Learner Direct service closes to learners. 13 August 2024 (11.59pm)

Priority appeals service for centres closes 21 August 2024 (05.00pm)

For a priority appeal, a learner must provide us with contact details for the university, college or place of training that requires the grade information, as well as details of the offer for the course or employment.

We will be unable to process any priority appeal without this information.

The SQA notify UCAS of the outcomes of these appeals on 03.09.24 and issue any new certificates in Nov 2024.

Non-Priority Appeals

All other appeals are classed as Non-Priority Appeals, and they also have deadlines as follows

Appeals Learner Direct service closes to learners for non-priority appeals. 27 August 2024 (11.59.am)

Non-priority appeals service for centres closes 30 August 2024 (05.00pm)

The SQA notify schools of the results of these appeals in Oct 2024 and again issue new certificates in Nov 2024.

Learners need to carefully consider if an appeal is the best plan of action as the result of an appeal can mean grades can go up, stay the same or go down, therefore I would suggest that learners give careful consideration to making any appeal.

Appeals Information

At time of writing, the SQA have not provided with a specific website link for their appeals web page, but I would direct all to the following weblink.

[Your Exams - SQA](#) where more information can be found in results section of this site.

The SQA advise that they will update their website with full details of their appeals system in mid-June 2024 and that details will be enclosed with all certificates on Results day, but I am conscious that some learners are in the process of leaving school, therefore wanted to advise all of the current position and advise that learners are mindful of social media posts by both the school and the SQA.

Unit Results 2024

The SQA advise that only the results of units completed, passed, and submitted to the SQA prior to 17.05.24 will be guaranteed to be certificated on results day of Tues 06.08.24

Whilst every effort has been made to meet this deadline, it is likely that some unit assessments will not be completed until after that date and therefore we cannot guarantee that all results will be on the August certificate.

If a learner thinks they are missing unit results or that their certificate is incorrect then in the first instance, I would ask that they contact the school to check.

Should you have any questions or queries relating to this matter, or indeed any other issues contained within this letter then please do not hesitate to contact me direct here at school.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Buchan

Mr K Buchan
SQA Coordinator
Fraserburgh Academy
k.buchan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
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