



To all our young people in S4/5 and S6

SQA – Alternative Certification Model 2021

This year there will be no SQA exam diet for National 5 to Advanced Higher and instead there is to be an [Alternative Certification Model](#). This week we have held lengthy discussions with staff and have agreed a plan for the implementation of this model within Kelso High School.

Unlike in session 2019/20, results will not be based on inferred attainment; we are required to use only **demonstrated attainment**. We appreciate how hard this year has been for all. However, the SQA decision regarding demonstrated attainment means that every young person in Scotland has to produce evidence of their ability through assessment. Unlike last year we cannot infer or predict attainment.

Throughout next term, April - June, we will be supporting our young people to prepare for assessments, carry out assessments and record decisions which will be quality assured both at local (within school and across SBC) and at a national level by SQA.

To allow you to the opportunity to demonstrate the strongest possible evidence there will be **two main assessment windows**. These assessments will take place within classrooms at the usual timetabled class times.

- Assessment window 1: Thursday 22nd April – Friday 7th May
- Assessment window 2: Monday 24th May – Friday 4th June

Having these windows will provide you with two opportunities to evidence your learning. The time between these windows will be used for your class teacher to give you feedback, highlighting key strengths and areas for improvement, based on your performance.

It is important to stress that assessments will not look the same in all subjects. In some subjects there will be a practical component that may not fit within our identified Assessment windows eg speaking tests, practical drama.

We will issue a detailed timetable next week for Assessment Window 1. This will provide the dates/periods for each assessment for every subject.

Easter Study Support:

While your subject teachers will provide lots of advice on resources to support learning I would like to highlight one website in particular: **e-sgoil**. Throughout the Easter holiday they will be running a wide range of live webinars covering over 60 SQA courses at all levels. The timetable of events can be found at: <http://www.e-sgoil.com/easterstudysupportsessions2021>

You simply need to follow the link and to sign up to any courses that will be of benefit to you. In addition we will set out next week the information on Easter Study opportunities that we will be running within Kelso High School.

Kind Regards
Mrs Lothian