

Hyndland Secondary School Study Skills Evening – October 2016





New Qualifications Nat 3 and Nat 4

- Assessed through **Unit Assessment** undertaken within class
- Courses comprised of **Units**
 - Units are comprised of **Outcomes**
 - Outcomes are comprised of **Assessment Standards**
- All **Assessment Standards** in all **Outcomes** must be evidenced for a candidate to pass a **Unit**
 - For example, within National 4 English:
 - Analysis and Evaluation
 - Creation and Production
 - Literacy Unit
 - **Added Value**: Assignment
- **Added Value Unit** – Assessments where students draw together and apply knowledge from breadth of the course
- **Award** or **No Award** – NOT graded



New Qualifications Nat 5

- Assessed through **Unit Assessment** and **Course Assessment**
- **Unit Assessment** (in class) passes allow achievement of the full award
- **Course Assessment** scores determine final grade
 - For example, **Course Assessment** within National 5 English :
 - Externally Assessed Coursework (Portfolio of Writing sent to SQA in February-March)
 - Question Paper (2-paper exam in in SQA Exam diet in April-May)
- Grades may NOTIONALLY be assigned to the following percentages in **Course Assessment**:
 - A - 70% or more
 - B - 60-69%
 - C - 50-59%
 - D - 45-49%
 - No award – 44% or less



New Qualifications Which Presentation Level?

Recognising Positive Achievement (“fallback”)

- Those who do not achieve National 5 award can be awarded a National 4 qualification in the subject.
- A candidate needs to have passed all unit assessment in the National 4 course or the equivalent units at National 5.
- **However, candidates must also have passed additional National 4 Unit(s) throughout the session (such as an Added Value Unit) which are not part of the National 5 course.**



New Qualifications

Which Presentation Level?

Recognising Positive Achievement - An Example

- In English National 5, a candidate may have passed the two course units during the session:
 - Analysis and Evaluation;
 - Creation and Production.
- However, this candidate may not pass course assessment (i.e. their combined score in the final exam and the portfolio of writing is less than 45%).
- This candidate is likely to have, throughout the session, been encouraged to successfully complete and bank evidence for the National 4 Units:
 - Added Value: Assignment;
 - Literacy Unit.
- They could be therefore be awarded the National 4 English qualification, AND the National 5 unit passes they achieved (Analysis and Evaluation and Creation and Production).



Support for Pupils (1)

- Supported Study
 - After School
 - P.S.T. Support
- S4 Assessment Diet
 - January 2017
 - Nat 5 – Experience of **Course Assessment** arrangements
 - Nat 4 – Opportunity to bank **Unit Assessment** evidence, introducing **Course Assessment** arrangements



Support for Pupils (2)

- **S4 Exam Success Evening (27th of October)**
 - Educational Psychologist
 - Pastoral Care
 - School Captains
- **Study Skills Workshops in S4 Core Time and P.S.E. (From October)**
 - Facilitated by current S6 students
 - Promoting active and independent study/revision skills
- **Mentoring Support for Targeted Groups**
 - Identified through scrutiny of Tracking Reports
 - Aims to develop better study habits, improve motivation, encourage students to access curricular supports



Information for Parents

- **S4 Reporting**

- Interim/Tracking - September 2016
- Full Report - November 2016
- Interim/Tracking - February 2017
- Tracking/Estimates - March 2017

- **S4 Parents' Evenings**

- Thursday 1st of December - Targeted
- Thursday 16th of February - S4
- Thursday 11th of May - S4-S5 Curriculum Information Evening



Target Setting with S4 Pupils

- At each tracking point in the session, teaching staff discuss individual targets with their students. Two grades are discussed and reported to parents;
- A **working grade** is discussed – this is the grade that students are currently working at and is **evidence-based** (on classwork / assessments etc.)
- A target grade is set – this is an aspirational grade that the student should be **working towards**.



Estimates sent to the SQA

- Schools are required to submit estimated grades to the SQA in April before the final exams.
- These estimates must be based on evidence held by the each department based on assessment evidence gathered during the year.
- The **‘working’ grade** detailed on the **S4 March 2017** tracking report will be the grade submitted to the SQA as an estimate.



S4 Assessment Diet – Begins January 2016

- The S4 Assessment Diet will take place from Monday 16th - Friday 27th of January 2017.
- Some subjects may run practical examinations before or after that such as Music and Drama.
- Students will be issued with a timetable in due course.
- This will also be placed on the school website.



S4 Assessment Diet – Begins January 2017

- All students will sit an assessment in every subject which they study.
- Master classes will be available during the Assessment Period for pupils. Information will be provided along with the Assessment Period timetable.
- When students do not have an assessment there will be a study room allocated which can be used for private study.



SQA Examination Diet 2017

- Timetable is now available on the school website www.hyndland-sec.glasgow.sch.uk
- Alternatively available on the SQA website
- **Reminder – exams will take place during holiday weekends.**



SQA Examination Diet 2016

- Candidates can register to receive their results by text or email.
- www.mysqa.info
- SAM is available on Twitter and Facebook to answer any questions and to provide general advice on the SQA Examinations process.



SQA Post Results Service

- Former SQA Appeals system has been replaced with the Post Results Service since August 2014.
- Under this system a school can request a clerical check (administrative check) or a marking check for an examination paper.
- With both systems a candidate's overall mark/grade can be reduced or increased.
- However – there is very clear guidance from SQA regarding the criteria for this.
- Guidance on this system can be found on the school website.



Making a request for the Post Results Service

- If a student / parent wishes the school to consider a request for a post marking service, this request **must be made to Mrs Forrester** – SQA Coordinator – **in writing within 10 days of the results publication date.**
- Deadline dates for this session will be provided on the school website and to parents prior to the 2016 examination diet commencing.



SQA – Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service

- This service will assist candidates who could not sit an exam or who sat an exam but their performance suffered because of exceptional circumstances.
- Exceptional circumstances include bereavement and serious illness. Minor ailments will be **not** be considered exceptional circumstances.
- This service operates **before** exam results are sent out.



SQA – Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service

- If a school believes that a candidate is likely to have been affected by exceptional circumstances, it must inform SQA **within 10 working days of the exam being sat.**
- The decision to submit a request will be made by the Head Teacher. The candidate's final award will be decided by SQA.
- **Parents must inform Mrs Forrester SQA Coordinator and Pastoral Care staff of any grounds for exceptional circumstances – this must be done on the day of each exam.**



Illness on day of exam / during examination

- If a student is unwell, the SQA recommend where possible that the student still sits the exam as planned.
- However, if a student is unable to attend an examination this must be reported to the school by the parent as soon as possible on the morning of the exam.
- A medical certificate covering the day of the exam should be given to the school **on the day of absence** (exam day).