

# Hyndland Science Faculty



## How do we produced a Provisional Grade in the Science Department

*An information guide for our Learners and their Carers*

All estimates in Science were based on evidence which we have been gathering since August 2021.

The evidence we are using to inform our Provisional grades includes:

- Class tests: Average scores between August and December
- Pre Prelim
- Recovery Assessment (post Easter)
- Final Assessment

Each of these assessments differ in the content covered and the assessment conditions. Responses to unseen questions answered under assessment conditions will have a greater predictive value and will be more reliable indicators of attainment:

Assessment Evidence	Description	Course coverage	When Assessed?	Cut-offs used
Class tests	There are typically three class tests in each unit of work. The are used as an indicator of progress.	A class test may cover part of a unit or may assess a complete unit including A & B type questions.	Between August and December	Class tests which cover a smaller part of the course will have different cut offs to an assessment which covers more than one unit of work.
Pre-Prelim	Assessing all content covered to Nov 2020	Depended on content which had been covered in class.	November 2020	This was not a full course assessment and so SQA grade boundaries were not used.

Recovery Assessment	Assessing all content covered prior to Christmas. In Science this equated to two full units in all Sciences at all Levels.	2 out of 3 course units assessed in their entirety along with required skills.	End of April 2021	SQA grade boundaries were used in Sciences. In some cases, cut-offs were reviewed to be in line with actual SQA grade boundaries.
Final Assessment	This final Assessment covered the whole course in each Science subject including content delivered in school AND remotely.	3 full Units were assessed using previously unseen questions.	Between May and June 2021	SQA grade boundaries were used in line with previous SQA assessments.

#### Grade Boundary/Cut-offs used:

##### Class Tests

For assessments which covered one unit or less in terms of content, the grade boundaries were raised for A and B levels.

Grade	%
A	85-100
B	65-84
C	50-64
D	40-49
No Award	0-39

##### SQA grade Boundaries:

These are standard grade boundaries used by SQA.

Grade	%
A1	85-100

A2	70-84
B3	65-69
B4	60-64
C5	55-59
C6	50-54
D7	40-49
F8	30-39
F9	0-29

### **The Provisional Results Process**

- All Assessment information was considered in determining the Provisional Grade. In line with SQA guidance, assessments which covered the entire course had greater predictive value.
- For young people who underperformed in an assessment, other evidence such as Class Tests were considered.
- All subject Teachers were involved in the verification process and determination of the final Provisional Grade.
- Results were reviewed following the moderation process – particularly those at grade boundaries.

### **Quality Assurance Checks**

QA checks were in place to make sure that we were being fair and consistent with our marking.

The marking guidance for each assessment was agreed in advance of the assessment and marker meetings were led by staff with experience in marking for the SQA. We also worked with other schools to moderate assessment standards and agree how the marking scheme should be applied consistently.

20% of all Papers were Cross marked by experienced teachers in the department following the marking process. In addition, any paper which was close to the grade boundary was cross marked and recounted in line with SQA practice.

This process of making sure the standard is being applied fairly and consistently is called Moderation. Our moderation activities involved scrutiny by other schools in Glasgow to ensure we adhered to the National Standard.