



Hyndland Secondary School
Lauderdale Gardens
Glasgow G12 9RQ
Phone 0141 582 0130
Fax 0141 582 0131
www.hyndland-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

Head Teacher
Louise Edgerton Bed Mus (Hons)

16th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

There have been significant changes to the SQA Examination Arrangements for this session at all levels. These have been summarised below.

National 4

National 4 qualifications will continue to be internally assessed and the SQA have quality assurance procedures in place to ensure these are delivered consistently across the country. There has been no change to course content.

National 5

National 5 courses will be assessed using an *alternative certification approach*, based on teacher judgement supported by assessment resources and quality assurance. There will be no final examination for this session. Over the course of this session, young people will be required to produce at least 3 pieces of evidence for SQA estimates.

Coursework, more familiarly known as assignments, has been removed from the assessment plan. Assignments were removed to free up additional teaching time. However, teachers may choose to include coursework elements in their teaching to enable young people to develop particular skills.

It is anticipated that National 5 estimates will be provided to the SQA at the end of May 2021. These will be entirely evidenced based. There will be no *inferred attainment* built in to the estimate grade this session.

The SQA have indicated that 'internal exams are a better predictor of candidate performance than small class tests'. As a result of this statement, we have planned assessment diets to enable young people to generate key pieces of evidence with a high predictive value aligned to individual subject requirements. In addition to gathering supporting evidence we are proposing to build in 3 formal assessment diets as below:

November – Practice Prelims – Assessment Diet 1
February – Prelim- Assessment Diet 2
April – Further evidence building - Assessment Diet 3
May – SQA Estimate grades will be submitted

Evidence generated under exam conditions in this way will be supplemented by end of topic assessments undertaken in class so that the final estimate grade is based on the whole course. Recent timetable changes have introduced double periods, which removes the requirement for study leave during prelims and the need to undertake prelim exams in the games hall.

Estimate Grades will be subject to scrutiny by SQA who will make verification visits to schools before determining final results.

Higher & Advanced Higher courses will be assessed in the SQA Exam diet which will run from 10th May 2021 – 4th June 2021. The examination timetable has been published and is available on the SQA website [SQA Examination Timetable 2021](#)

We have been advised that contingency plans should be in place for Higher and Advanced Higher courses and will gather evidence of attainment throughout the session via class assessments and prelim exams in January so that we have evidence of attainment for each young person which covers the whole course.

Changes to Higher and Advanced Higher courses will be communicated to young people directly and parents will receive a copy. Young people should continue to follow the advice of their teachers as to how to use past papers appropriately for this session.

Glasgow-UK Council of the Year 2015

Glasgow-Supporting the Gaelic language Glaschu – a' toirt taic do'n Ghàidhlig

Glasgow-UNESCO City of Music

Glasgow City Council is an equal opportunities employer



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE





Hyndland Secondary School
Lauderdale Gardens
Glasgow G12 9RQ
Phone 0141 582 0130
Fax 0141 582 0131
www.hyndland-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

Head Teacher
Louise Edgerton Bed Mus (Hons)

I hope you have found this information useful.

If you have any further questions, please contact your young person's Pastoral Care teacher in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L Edgerton".

Mrs Edgerton
Head Teacher