SQA Assembly 2020-2021

National 5 Qualifications

Expectations of Schools

- Provide an estimate grade based on a holistic review of candidates performance.

- Base the estimate on 4 robust pieces of evidence gathered under exam conditions.

- Evidence must cover all aspects of the N5 Course.

- Evidence must be moderated across local schools

Expectations of Schools

- Have the evidence available for SQA scrutiny.

- If the credibility of any evidence is in doubt, it cannot be used.

- Candidates should have access to the same assessment arrangements as they are entitled to in a formal SQA exam.

N5 Course Coverage

- SQA have now provided advice in all subject areas.

- Teachers will guide you as to the appropriate use of SQA Past Papers in your revision.

- In most subjects, the assignment has been removed – although NOT Computing & Admin.

- Estimate must have evidence of performance in all areas of the course.

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SQA Verification Visits

- Teachers mark assessment.

- Departments must moderate and cross mark their own assessments.

- There will be cross moderation – we will be moderated by 3 other schools.

- SQA will visit our school and will examine assessment materials. They will look at the standard of the assessment and the standard of the candidate responses.

Department Tracking & Algorithms

- We must provide SQA with departmental tracking data to evidence the consistency of candidates performance.

- Inconsistencies in performance will be subject to further scrutiny.

- Algorithms will NOT be used in determining candidates final grade.

- Algorithms may be used by the school to identify unusual trends in candidate tracking.

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Collusion

- Collusion – working with others when you should be working on your own.

- Everyone involved is breaking the rules.

- Teachers are familiar with your work so will recognise any change in style or language

- Teachers know their subject so will recognise different sources.

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

Plagiarism

- Plagiarism – pretending that other people's work is your own.

- This is cheating!

- It is not you work if it has been produced or worked on by someone else.

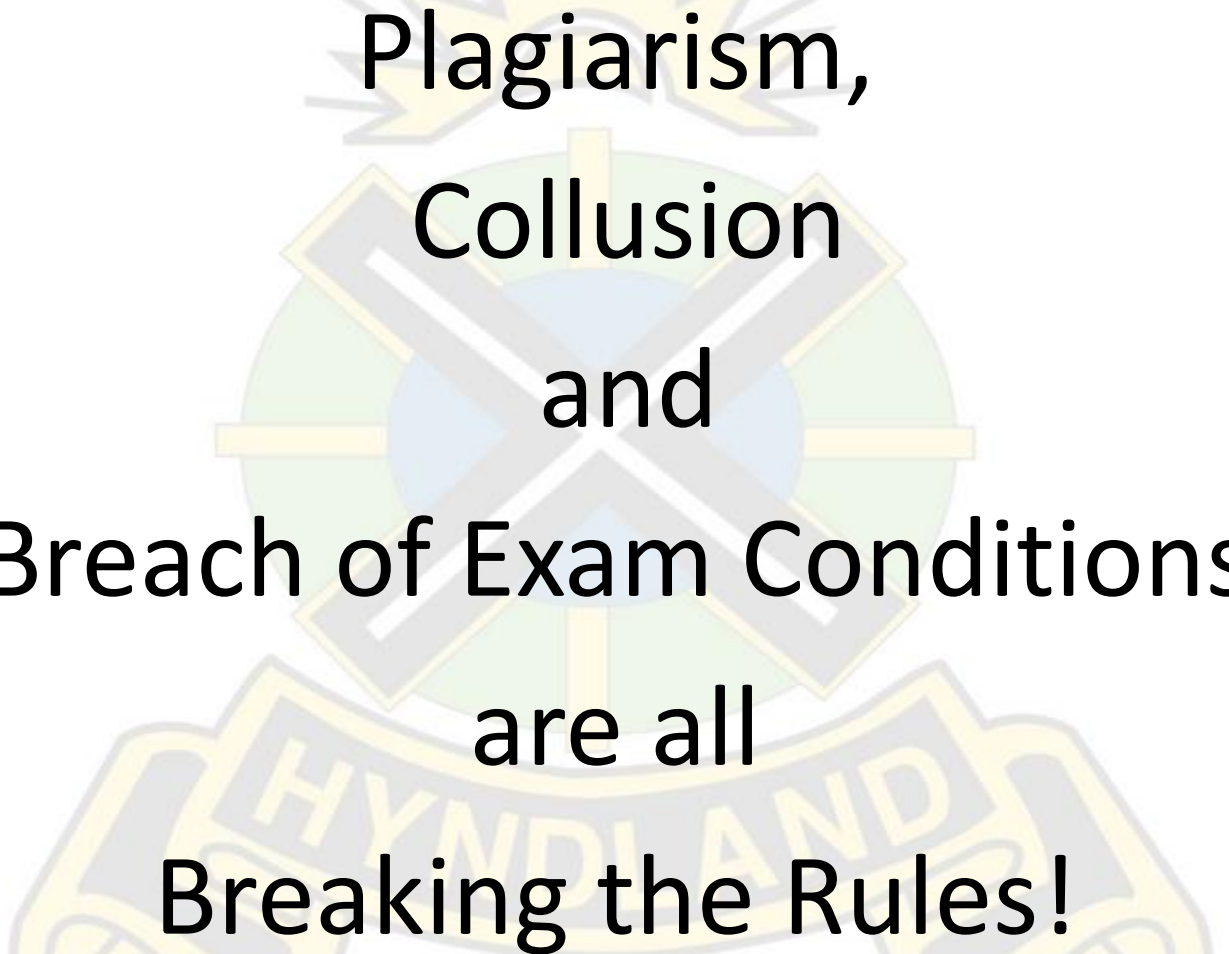- It is not your work if you copy from a book or website.

Exam conditions

- You should not talk or communicate with any person in the room except the teacher.

- If you need to speak to the teacher, raise your hand and wait for the teacher to respond.

- You should be responding to 'unseen' questions and not have any knowledge of the paper in advance.

- Do not ask friends about the content of the assessment – especially those who have completed the assessment before you – this is Collusion.

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Exam conditions

- You must not access your phone, IPad, smart watch or other device with storage or internet access.

- The only items on your desk should be stationary associated with the assessment e.g. pen, pencil, question/answer paper, ruler, calculator etc.

- You have access to Alternative Assessment Arrangements, AAA such as extra time, access to ICT etc, This must has been agreed with Mrs J McFarlane, PT Support for Learning in advance of any assessment.

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Plagiarism,

Collusion

and

Breach of Exam Conditions

are all

Breaking the Rules!

Integrity

The practice of being honest and showing a consistent and uncompromising adherence to strong moral and ethical principles and values.

Exam Integrity – conditions must be the same for everyone – unseen questions, appropriate standard, accurately marked so results are FAIR

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Exam Integrity

- Software is used to identify plagiarism, collusion and breach of exam conditions.

- Evidence is gathered under exam conditions.

- The integrity of each exam must be preserved so that candidates get due recognition.

- Before prelims, young people will be asked to sign a declaration to confirm that their SQA evidence is all their own work.

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

What if I break the rules!

- Any penalty imposed will depend on how serious the matter is.

- Your marks may be reduced.

- You may be awarded ZERO marks in a paper.

- Your qualification in that subject may be cancelled.

- ALL of your qualifications may be cancelled