



# SQA Assembly 2020-2021

National 5, Higher & Advanced  
Higher Qualifications

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# Expectations of Schools

- Schools must make estimate of attainment at National 5 as there are no exams. This estimate is evidence based.
- Schools must have a robust record of attainment for Higher & AH qualifications – this is a contingency measure.

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# 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 course.
- Evidence must be moderated across local schools – planned at N5, advised at H & AH

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# 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.

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# 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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# N5 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.

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# 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.

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# Plagiarism



- Plagiarism – pretending that other people’s work is your own.
- This is cheating!
- It is not your 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.

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# Integrity

- SQA software is used to identify plagiarism & collusion.
- 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.

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# What if I break the rules!

- Any penalty 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

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