

Education Services

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**Clackmannanshire
Council**

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Comhairle Siorrachd
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Our Ref: CQ/CS

Date: 11 February 2022

Dear Learner

National Qualifications - Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) 2022

I write to update you on the latest information from SQA regarding your National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications this session.

You will be aware that the plan is for the SQA exam diet to go ahead from Tuesday 26th April until Wednesday 1st June. Earlier this week, SQA announced that they would provide exam revision support for learners preparing for exams. They also gave details of the 'Exam Exceptional Circumstances Service' and the 'Appeals Service' for qualifications this session.

The extracts and links below provide you with more details relating to these announcements.

"Message from SQA – 2022 exam support – information for learners"

National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher exams are expected to take place from April to June 2022. The Scottish Government will only cancel the exams if public health advice restricts physical gatherings at the time the exams are due to take place.

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) recognises the ongoing disruption to learning you have faced this year due to Covid-19 and is aware that many of you may be feeling anxious about sitting formal exams.

To help you prepare for your exams, SQA is publishing revision support for every course that has an exam. This will be published on the SQA website week beginning 7 March. For some courses, SQA will advise you which content or topics will or won't be assessed in the exam. For other courses SQA will provide study guides that give hints and tips on how to prepare for the exam. For a small number of courses, SQA will provide study notes that you can take into the exam. A table showing the type of revision support that will be provided for each course is available on the SQA website and can be accessed via the link below.

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/100512.html>

Education Scotland, in partnership with e-Sgoil, is also running a series of study support webinars for learners working towards National Qualifications in 2022. Details can be found on the e-Sgoil website below and you should speak to your teacher for further information.

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<https://www.e-sgoil.com/study-support/>

Information for learners on the Exam Exceptional Circumstances Service

This year, SQA is running a service called the 'Exam Exceptional Circumstances Service'. This service will support you in the following scenarios:

- If you are unable to attend an exam due to unforeseen circumstances – such as a medical condition (including Covid-19 related absence) or bereavement.
- If there has been disruption at your school on the day of the exam, which means the exam cannot take place.

Your teachers have already been gathering examples of assessments you have been completing throughout each of your courses. If you need to use the Exam Exceptional Circumstances Service – for one of the reasons listed above – your school will send these assessment examples to SQA. SQA appointees, who are also practising teachers and lecturers, will review your assessments and judge them against the national standard for that course, to determine your grade.

Information for learners on the 2022 Appeals Service

This year, SQA is running a free Appeals Service for learners who want to question their results. This service will be available after results day, and you will be able to inform SQA directly that you want to appeal one or more of your results.

There will also be a Priority Appeals Service for anyone waiting for a result for a university or college place or for an employment or training programme.

If you submit an appeal, your school will send SQA evidence of the assessments you have already completed throughout your course. SQA appointees, who are also practising teachers and lecturers, will review this evidence and judge it against the national standard for that course. SQA will also conduct a clerical check on your exam script.

Through the appeals process, you would be awarded the higher grade of the two types of evidence (either your exam grade or the grade awarded by SQA appointees for the assessment evidence your school submitted to SQA in support of the appeal. Any coursework grades will be included).

SQA will publish more guidance on these services in the coming weeks, including guidance for schools, colleges and training providers. This guidance will explain, in more detail, how these services will work and who is eligible. Once this guidance is available your school will be able to provide information about the criteria for the Exam Exceptional Circumstances and Appeals services.

Frequently asked questions

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The SQA continues to update the frequently asked questions section of the SQA website and have added new questions about revision support, the Exam Exceptional Circumstances Service and the 2022 Appeals Service.

The link below will allow you to access our

Frequently Asked Questions.

www.sqa.org.uk/faq

The link below will allow you to access a video produced by the SQA for learners.

https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/71526.html?utm_source=sqa-news&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nq2022&utm_content=learner-video

I hope that the details from SQA within this update reassure you about the plans in place for your exams and the resources that will become available. Please continue to do your best in preparing for your qualifications.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catherine Quinn".

Cathy Quinn
Chief Education Officer

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