

**People Directorate**  
**Head Teacher: T S Stevens**



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Our Ref: TSS Your Ref: TS Stevens  
Date: 9 December 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

**CANCELLATION OF HIGHER AND ADVANCED HIGHER SQA EXAMINATIONS:**

Scottish Government announced yesterday that they are cancelling SQA exams for Higher and Advanced Higher courses. We have already timetabled preliminary examinations for January 2020 and these will proceed. The evidence produced will form part of the portfolio of assessment evidence that departments will use to inform the grade awarded to young people. Similar to the N5 model, staff will also carry out "extended assessments"; these assessments will closely reflect the challenge, demand, structure and duration of the final exam. Notional cut-off scores for grades will be as follows: 40% D, 50% C, 60% B and 70% A and will be used across the school. The exact dates of the extended assessments will be texted and/or emailed to parents and carers a week prior to the assessment.

Young people will be awarded a 'provisional grade' based on the professional judgement of class teachers using the evidence that your child has produced. Unless your child is sick or being asked to isolate, they should be in school so that we can support them in their learning and gather the evidence that we require to estimate their grades. Please encourage your child to fully prepare for all assessments so that they achieve their full potential and are awarded the grade that they deserve.

Your child's progress in their learning is being communicated to you through the 'Senior Phase Tracking Reports'. If you have any questions with regards your child's learning or wellbeing, please contact their Guidance Teacher in the first instance.

**COVID REMINDER:**

If your child has symptoms: a high temperature, a new and continuous cough or the loss/change to taste and smell then you should keep them at home and arrange to have a test done. Please inform the school that they are being tested and inform us of the results when they arrive. If the test is negative, your child can return to school.

If someone else in the household has symptoms and is being tested, please keep your child at home, if the result is negative, your child can return to school immediately. Please inform the school that testing is being carried out.

If your child has not been a close contact of a positive case identified in school, you will receive the generic letter from public health.

Please ensure that **all your contact details are update to date**, including home and mobile telephone numbers. Please ensure your child has a face covering/mask each day and wears it in school. Please remind your child to pack their pencil case as it minimises the use of resources in classes and prevents the spread of this virus.

Thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you have any matters of concern that you wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely

*TS Stevens*

TS Stevens  
Head Teacher