

People Directorate
Head Teacher: T S Stevens



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Our Ref: TSS Your Ref: TS
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Date: 31 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

SENIOR PHASE CURRICULUM

We would normally hold a Parent Event in early September to provide information on National Qualifications; due to Covid-19, this event will not take place this session, so I have summarised the main points below.

In S4 to S6, all young people will be studying National Qualifications. The content for these is set out by the Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) and our staff deliver and assess these courses based on the subject course specifications. The learning builds on the skills and knowledge that they have gained during S1 to S3 while studying all curricular areas in the Broad General Education.

Each course has its own assessment requirements; this may be unit assessments, folio production, an assignment or project work. This work is completed in class and contributes towards your child's final grade awarded by SQA each year. For courses at National 3 or 4, there will be no final exam and your child will be awarded a pass or fail when they complete the course. For the majority of National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications, there is an external exam which is set by SQA, these take place from late April to early June. Your child needs to complete all the assessment work set in class as well as sit the final exam before an award can be achieved.

Your child's progress in their learning will be monitored closely by their class teacher. This information is shared with you during the course of the year in senior phase tracking reports. It is essential that your child completes all tasks set to a high standard and meets the deadlines set by staff. Your child will sit preliminary examinations in school in January; these will take place in the assembly hall and will be similar to the final exam. All of this work will provide evidence of your child's level of achievement in each subject studied and will inform the estimated grade set by the class teacher. You will be aware that the SQA examinations were not held this session and it was the teachers estimated grade that was used by SQA to decide the final award. We are ambitious for our young people and we will support them to achieve their full potential but they will need to strive to achieve success.

SQA will send out certificates in early August 2021 detailing your child's achievements in their learning.

You will find useful information on the SQA website www.sqa.org.uk/browsecfesubjects

These include:

- Specimen papers and marking schemes.
- General assessment information about course work.
- The examination timetable

You can also access parental information for SQA subjects on

<http://www.npfs.org.uk/nationals-in-a-nutshell/>

Our School Website address is www.carrick.sayr.sch.uk and our Twitter account is @Carrick_Academy

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the school should you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely

TS Stevens

T S Stevens
Head Teacher