

Eyemouth High School

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Eyemouth High School
Gungreenhill
EYEMOUTH
Berwickshire
TD14 5LZ

A partner in the Berwickshire Learning Community
Committed to achieving success for all

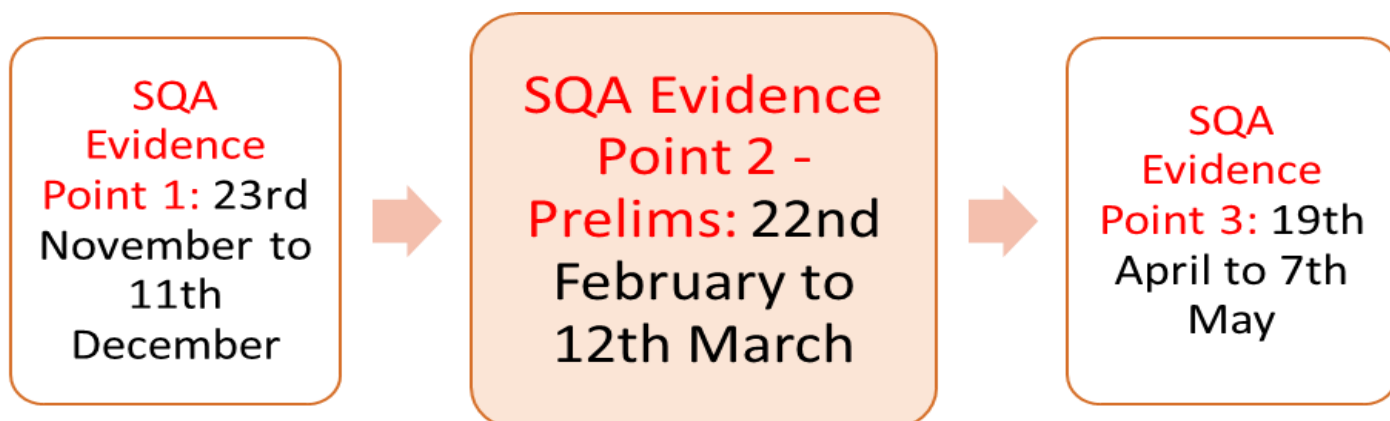
2nd November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, the SQA have announced major changes to how students will be assessed this year. In essence the changes are as follows:

- All courses have amendments in place in light of the Covid-19 challenge we currently face. For example, for some, coursework is removed, or there is more choice over the content to cover. Teachers have taken this into account when planning courses this year.
- We know that National 5 examinations will not take place. Students will be assessed using teacher estimation across a range of evidence through the year.
- At the moment Higher and Advanced Higher examinations will take place, with the exam diet starting later on than usual, on the 13th May. There is, of course, no guarantee that these exams will be able to be held at that time.

Our response is to ensure that we are regularly collecting valid and reliable evidence throughout the year, so that teacher estimates can be as robust as possible. We will put into place SQA Evidence Points (including prelims) for all senior students:



We are making arrangements for the first of these SQA Evidence points, coming up in a few weeks. This is how we will break up the assessment activities:

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Higher English	Higher Computing	National Art (column E class)
National Chemistry (column A class)	Higher Admin and IT	National Biology (column E Class)
National English	Higher Biology	National Business Management
National German	Higher Business	National French
National Maths	Higher Chemistry	National Graphics
Higher English	Higher Design and Manufacture	National Lab Skills
Higher Maths	Higher Drama	National Modern Studies
AH German, Business, Computing, Maths	Higher Engineering Science	National PE (column E class)
	Higher Fashion	
	Higher Geography	
	Higher History	

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Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
	National Admin and IT	Higher Art
	National Art (column B class)	Higher French
	National Biology	Higher German
	National Chemistry (column C class)	Higher Graphics
	National Computing	Higher Modern Studies
	National Design and Manufacture	Higher Physics
	National Drama	Higher RMPS
	National Engineering Science	AH History, AH Art
	National Fashion	
	National Geography	
	National History	
	National PE (column B class)	
	National Physics	
	National Practical cookery	
	National RMPS	
	AH Drama, Chemistry, Computing	

Teachers will confirm the exact lessons and nature of the assessment they wish to put in place. Students requiring additional assessment arrangements (for example, digital papers, extra time, or separate accommodation) will receive what they need at the same time. Please get in touch with Mr Finn, our PT Additional Needs, if you have any queries about this.

These SQA Evidence points are important, and will sit alongside other opportunities through the year to collect evidence about what our students can do. Any one mark or assessment in itself will not indicate a particular grading, and we are asked to judge very carefully the progress a young person is showing through the year. In practical subjects this is particularly the case, and we will have to arrange additional opportunities for performances, practical assessments, or supervised coursework at time during the year.

Please encourage your child to work consistently hard. We need to make the most of any time we have in school, keep up to date, and be resilient in completing tasks and homeworks. In between these SQA Evidence points staff will focus on low-stakes assessment, practice and on learning and remembering key knowledge.

At the same time, we do not wish our young people to become stressed or overly anxious. In giving plenty of notice and preparation we feel students will be in a good position to show what they can do. Revision will be helpful, alongside plenty of sleep, exercise and opportunities to talk with family and friends. The best way is to combine effective studying techniques with excellent effort. Our guidelines on effective study are useful. You can click [here](#) to access them.

Senior reports will be coming out to you this week. They are an excellent starting point in understanding what your child will need to do, or carry on doing, to be successful. As with all reports we have put on an aspirational target grade, and given you information about the progress your child is making towards this target.

Kind regards

Mr R Chapman
Headteacher