

Dear Young People,

I hope that you are safe and well and taking some time to relax during the holiday period. I am writing to you to explain some details about how and when you will receive your results and some additional details about what to do if you have any questions about your results or if your results are not as you expected they would be.

Estimates

As you will be aware, estimate grades for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses have been submitted by schools to the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). These estimates will be used by SQA, along with information such as your prior attainment, where this is available, and each school's history of estimates and actual attainment in each subject and level. SQA may moderate the estimates, up or down, if that is required. More information about this process is available on the SQA website at: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/93920.htm>

Results

Results are due to be issued to you on Tuesday, 4 August. If you have signed up for MySQA then you will receive a text message with your results as well as a certificate via post. If you haven't signed up to MySQA then you will still receive your results certificate via post on Tuesday, 4 August. We hope that your results are as you expect and in line with your achievements throughout the year up to the point when schools closed in March.

If your results are not as you had expected then please contact your school to discuss them. Your teachers will be able to support you with any questions you may have including whether a result can be appealed.

Appeals

This year, given the exceptional circumstances, SQA are offering free appeals for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses. However, before considering an appeal you should discuss this with your school and consider the following information:

- Only your school can submit an appeal on your behalf and requests for appeals must be made by you, rather than someone else on your behalf, to your school.
- Appeals will only be considered by SQA where the grade you have been awarded is lower than the estimate grade that was submitted to SQA by your school and where your school has evidence to show that you were performing at the level of your estimate grade. This evidence will be requested by SQA and will be sent by your school to SQA. Evidence already held by SQA, such as unmarked coursework that was submitted to SQA before the exam diet was cancelled, will also be considered as part of the appeal.

- SQA will only consider appeals for a change of grade and will not consider appeals for a change of band.

Once SQA have considered your appeal and the evidence provided to them then there are three possible outcomes:

- You are awarded a higher grade.
- Your grade stays the same.
- You are awarded a lower grade.

It is important that you understand that if evidence provided to SQA does not support the grade you have achieved then it is possible that you could be awarded a lower grade.

Prior to submitting an appeal, your school may ask you to complete a written request including confirmation that you understand that it is possible that you could be awarded a lower grade. SQA will consider appeals for young people who require a result to secure entry into college or university first to ensure results are issued in line with UCAS deadlines.

Further details about the SQA results are available on the following SQA webpage: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/93800.html>

I hope that this information is helpful in explaining the estimates, results and appeals processes. Support is available to you to discuss any questions you may have about your results. Please contact your school in the first instance should you have any questions about your results and your next steps.

Please accept all of my best wishes for your forthcoming results and your future learning in college, university or the workplace for those of you moving on to pastures new. Thank you so much for all your hard work and effort, and we look forward to welcoming those of you returning, back to school very soon.

Kind regards,



LINDA McAULAY-GRIFFITHS
Head of Education