

## Harris Academy

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## Changes to SQA Qualification Arrangements

Dear Parent / Carer of S4-S6 young people,

As you will no doubt already be aware, arrangements for this year's SQA assessments have been amended due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The main changes are:

### National 5 Courses

There will be no final examination or externally assessed coursework submitted to SQA in any N5 course this session. All courses will now be assessed internally throughout the academic session (the exact number of pieces of evidence are still to be confirmed by SQA) and will be based on the professional judgement of teachers.

### Higher / Advanced Higher Courses

In most subjects there have been amendments made to the course content and to how the totality of assessment will occur this session. Externally assessed coursework will be completed and submitted in a number of subjects. All final examinations will go ahead as planned at the moment although we are aware that SQA are preparing a contingency plan given these uncertain and ever-changing times. As a result of the removal of N5 examinations, the SQA examination diet will start later than originally planned and will take place between Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020. SQA will publish the finalised timetable on their website by the end of October 2020 and the school will, at that point, send this information on to families.

I write to assure you that the Extended Leadership Team are carefully planning our approaches to assessment and gathering pupil evidence to ensure our young people are in the best place possible to achieve their full potential this session. We are still awaiting some essential details from SQA before we can finalise our plans and I will communicate with you as soon as we are in possession of the full facts.

Yours sincerely,

Barry Millar  
Head Teacher