



## NORTHFIELD ACADEMY

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### **SQA Update 20 April 2020** **SQA National Courses – Delivering Results in 2020**

Dear Parent / Carer

I write to share with you the latest information from the SQA <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/93920.html>. In this statement, the Chief Examiner outlines a four- step process for delivering SQA results in 2020, starting with the submission of estimate grades by schools.

#### **Step 1 – Estimate Grades**

Schools have been asked to provide an estimate of the grade and band for all learners entered for **N5, Higher and Advanced Higher** courses by 29 May 2020.

#### **Step 2 - SQA Awards**

The SQA will check and validate the estimate grades provided by schools in order to ensure consistency across centres and fairness to candidates. The estimate grades may be subject to change by the SQA.

#### **Step 3 – Results and Certification**

The SQA will process the final grades awarded. Individual results will be issued to learners by 4 August 2020.

The SQA strongly encourages all learners to sign up to **Sign-Up to My SQA** (The SQA's online and text service) for their results.

#### **Step 4 – Appeals**

After 4 August, a free appeals service will be available to schools to allow them to request a review of the grade awarded to a learner. Assessment evidence must be submitted to support an appeal. This evidence will be reviewed by senior examiners.

#### **Actions for Schools**

It is the role of each secondary school to assist the SQA in the awarding and certification process for National Qualifications 2020 by submitting an estimated grade for each learner.

In reaching a professional judgement on an estimate grade, teachers will take account of a wide range of assessment evidence which will encompass pupils' class and homework throughout the year, completed coursework and timed assessments, including the January Estimate Examinations. In addition, schools will consider their attainment data for each course which shows improvement patterns in pupils' performance between estimate examinations and the end of the course.

*Aspire to be outstanding*

It is important to note that the SQA is the awarding body with responsibility for the final grade given and for certification. As highlighted in Step 2 above, the estimate grade submitted by the school may be subject to change by the SQA following their standardisation and moderation processes. As such, we will not be sharing estimate grades with pupils or parents/carers.

The submission of the estimate grades to the SQA is a key priority for us over the coming weeks. However, we are also keen to move learning on for our young people. Our teachers will continue to set work for senior phase classes with a view to preparation for starting new courses. Your support in encouraging your child to engage with work set is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas Watt