

Braes High School

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Falkirk Council

Children's Services

Dear Parent/Carer

Further SQA Assessment Window Update

We wanted to take this opportunity to further update you with our ongoing SQA assessment progress leading towards pupil provisional grades for session 2020/21. As always we are grateful for the ongoing support and understanding of our senior pupils and all parents/carers as we navigate these challenging circumstances.

Our assessment window is now well under way and with both teachers and pupils working hard to ensure robust evidence can be gathered in order to produce provisional grades for pupils which are fair and representative. In general terms these assessments are progressing well. We have now also completed the first session of authority wide moderation and SQA training to ensure standards across the authority. As before I include our table of processes below including key dates and actions the school will take over the remainder of the term. Please keep these to hand for future reference.

These are in line with the **Alternative Certification Model** set out by SQA which can be found by clicking this link: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/96760.html>

Date	Action
Monday 19 April	All pupils return full time
April – Friday 11 June	School <i>Assessment Window open</i> . Teaching & learning will continue, however there are designated periods where, pupils will also complete essential assessment pieces to help generate their provisional grade. These will be assessed and moderated by teachers. SQA moderation will also take place.
Thursday 6 & Friday 7 May	In-service days – local authority collaboration on moderation and SQA training
Monday 7 & Tuesday 8 June	Assessment Days: agreed by Scottish Government and Local authorities for local authority moderation of assessment evidence.
Friday 11 June	Assessment Window closes across Falkirk Council schools. All pupil assessment evidence must be completed by this date.
Monday 14 June – Thursday 24 June	Final school quality assurance checks.
Friday 11 th June	Provisional Grades for N5, Higher & Advanced Higher full courses shared with pupils
Friday 25 June	Provisional Grades for N5, Higher & Advanced Higher full courses submitted to SQA
Other Notable Dates	
Friday 11 th June	S6 Last Day at School
Monday 14 th June	Timetable changes for all pupils

As pupils complete assessments and evidence is gathered for the production of provisional grades we remain committed to ensure a 'no surprises' approach to communication with regards to these provisional grades. Class teachers and Faculty Heads of departments will continue to inform pupils of the progress they are making and areas for further development. Therefore, when the Provisional Grades are released to pupils, all pupils should be fully aware of these grades. Pupils will receive these final provisional grades on a pro-forma from their class teacher before Friday 11th June.

I would like to remind all pupils and parents that whilst we will always endeavour to contact families as soon as possible with relevant information, if you feel there is anything your young person needs support with or further clarification on please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Faculty or Pastoral Head via email or phone call. I have highlighted the contact details of these staff at the end of this communication

After Provisional Grades are submitted to SQA, **SQA will then conduct final checks on the grades** before certification takes place on 10 August 2021.

At the time of writing, we are still awaiting further guidance from SQA with regards to Post-Results Services (Appeals). We will share this with pupils and parents/carers when this is made available.

Relevant staff contact details:

Pastoral heads – Can support with any subject, course, HWB or personal matters:

Lomond house – michael.burns@falkirk.gov.uk
Pentland House – laura.eckles@falkirk.gov.uk
Ochil House – george.burnett@falkirk.gov.uk
Campsie House – linda.jones@falkirk.gov.uk

For Subject Specific advice/information please contact relevant faculty Head:

English and Media – mark.rooney@falkirk.gov.uk
Mathematics - leanne.simpson@falkirk.gov.uk and claire.haggon@falkirk.gov.uk
Science – john.mclean@falkirk.gov.uk
Creativity (Art, Drama and Music) – brian.morris@falkirk.gov.uk
Humanities (Geography, History, Modern Studies and RMPS) - fiona.malcolm@falkirk.gov.uk
Technologies (DET, Graphic Com, Bus Man, Admin, Computing) – ian.vosser@falkirk.gov.uk
Modern Languages - susan.dunn@falkirk.gov.uk
Health and well Being (PE, Practical cookery, HFT and Dance) – darren.yeates@falkirk.gov.uk
For Pupil Support – please contact Janine.white@falkirk.gov.uk and/or relevant key teachers

Finally, can we take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support for both your child and the school during these exceptional times.

Kind regards

D. Ironside
SQA Co-ordinator