



**Education, Communities &
Organisational Development**
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8 April 2020

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Dear Parent/Carer

SQA Awards

You will be aware that the exam diet for 2020 has been cancelled. This has, understandably, brought a great deal of uncertainty and anxiety for everyone involved and especially our young people who have been working towards the end point of completing units, coursework and sitting exams.

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) has issued a statement which you can view at <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/70972.html> outlining the next steps in how they will work with schools to deliver the qualifications that all of our young people deserve. You should check here for updates as further information is received. This includes an extension for estimates to be finalised and submitted to the SQA allowing time for teachers and schools to finalise decisions on determining grades.

This extended time period will allow teachers, departments and schools to arrive at an estimated grade which best reflects the work and the progress your child has made and therefore makes a best estimate of how they might have performed in the completed coursework or folio and final exam.

To further support teachers and departments across schools, we will make available any further additional resources or support required to help teachers, so that all are able to use all relevant information available to make the best and most accurate grade possible.

The estimated grades submitted to SQA will then allow them to use this information along with other data to develop a model that will deliver a final grade for certification in August.

While I accept that this whole process is very different to the normal exam diet, I am confident that by working in close partnership with SQA, the hard work of Moray's young people can be properly recognised and accredited. Please be assured that we are all determined to get this right for our young people. I hope you are assured that school staff will work hard in the best interests of your child and that they will continue to update you as and when new information is available.

I thank you all for your continued support and patience and hope you and your family keep safe and in good health in the weeks and months ahead.

Yours sincerely

Vivienne Cross
Head of Education (Chief Education Officer)