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Head Teacher
Jonathan Graham

22 April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

SQA EXAMS 2022

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well. I am delighted to be in a position to provide you with information about the start of this year's SQA exam diet, which starts on Tuesday 26th April and runs until Wednesday 1st June. As you know, we have not been in the position to have a national exam diet since 2019 so it is pleasing to see a return to something resembling normality.

Study Leave

For those pupils who are sitting more than one exam at National 5, Higher or Advanced Higher level, study leave will begin on Tuesday 26th April. This means that the last day of classes will be Monday 25th April. For those pupils who are not sitting exams, we have arranged a programme of activities that will run during the course of May. This programme includes a mixture of inputs from school staff and external providers, as well as outdoor learning activities and organised excursions.

Pupils on study leave should be engaged in independent study at home and should only come into school for their scheduled exams. Each pupil has been given a copy of their individualised timetable and the full SQA exam timetable can be found at the following link: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/1439.html>

Study Days

There will be opportunities during the exam diet for pupils to receive additional support in school. These will be focussed, subject specific sessions that will be valuable for final exam preparation. Details of these study days will be sent separately in early course and we encourage pupils to attend. These days are held as close to the day of the exam as possible to ensure that they have the maximum benefit. Pupils may also visit their subject teachers during study leave as long as that visit has been agreed in advance. If any pupil does not have a suitable place to study at home, we are more than willing to accommodate pupils in school.

Estimates

In normal pre-COVID years, teachers have always submitted estimates to SQA to indicate the likely result of the pupil in that subject based on performance throughout the year.

SQA has requested that we share estimates with pupils and parents this session. Consequently, your child will be informed of the estimates for each of their subjects at National 5, Higher, and Advanced Higher level. This will happen in early course. In the vast majority of cases, the pupil will achieve higher than the estimate.

Completing Courses

For those pupils sitting courses at National 3 and National 4 level, it may be that some have not completed the outcomes to achieve a course award. If this applies to your child, Year Heads or Principal Teachers of Pastoral Care may be in touch to arrange times when courses can be completed. We would very much welcome your support to ensure that your child attends if this applies to them.



Parental Support

We understand that this is an anxious time for our learners and that you will be keen to support them as parents and carers. The following link provides a wealth of support materials:

https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/supportingstudy?dm_i=LQE,7TRON,1YMLQP,VXVXD,1

Return to School

Pupils returning to school for S5 or S6 will take part in induction days in the week beginning Monday 30th May. Returning pupils must attend these sessions or they may endanger the subject choices they have made. The same applies to lessons when the new timetable starts on Monday 6th June. More information will follow in early course about the induction days.

For those pupils who are not returning, on the day of their last exam, a leaver's form should be completed and their iPad should be returned to the school office.

SQA Results

Results day this year is Tuesday 9th August. All pupils will receive a certificate through the post. However, to avoid the dreaded wait for the post, we would recommend that pupils sign up to receive their results by text message or e-mail. This can be done at: www.mysqa.org.uk

School uniform

Pupils should wear school uniform when they come into school for any reason.

Finally, it has been a very challenging year for our learners at Eastbank. They have risen to the challenge and we are very proud of them. We encourage them to make an extra concerted push on the remaining days and weeks before their exams to ensure that they achieve the results of which they are capable. We wish them all the very best of luck!

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

