

## People Directorate

Depute Chief Executive and Director - People: Douglas Hutchison

County Buildings

Wellington Square

Ayr

KA7 1DR



Our Ref: DH/LD  
Date: 3 April 2020

Your Ref:

Dear Parent / Carer

The SQA have published further advice on how they plan to proceed with this year's qualifications for young people in the senior phase. The advice is consistent with what we expected in South Ayrshire and schools have been working together on a common approach. The basis for awards will be a holistic review of a learner's performance over the duration of the course. The SQA will be providing further advice to schools on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April and have extended the deadline for submitting estimates. I have included below the link to a helpful frequently asked questions document which the SQA have produced.

[https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files\\_ccc/020420-SQA-NQ2020-Parent-Carer-covid-19-FAQ.pdf](https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/020420-SQA-NQ2020-Parent-Carer-covid-19-FAQ.pdf)

At this stage, I simply wanted to try and reassure you that our schools will be working closely together to ensure a fair and consistent approach for all young people. As I expected, the SQA have also confirmed that they will carry out further checks to ensure this year's results are consistent with previous performance at school and national level. What this means is that the estimates a school submits may change. The SQA may adjust estimates where necessary. For that reason, we will not be releasing any information on estimates to young people or parents, because the estimate may not be the final grade.

Teachers and schools continue to work hard on behalf of your children to make sure they get the best possible outcomes. Thank you for your understanding and I wish you and your families well as we journey together through the current challenges.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Douglas Hutchison'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

**Douglas Hutchison**  
Depute Chief Executive and Director - People