



Knox Academy

Head Teacher: **Susan Cook BEd (Hons) MEd SQH**

Pencaitland Road
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East Lothian
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Wednesday 25 February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

SQA Examination Arrangements for S5/S6 - April to May 2026

As you will be aware our S4, S5 and S6 are soon to embark on the 2026 diet of the national SQA examinations. The following information should assist you in preparing for this.

S5/6 Exam Leave will commence on Wednesday 22 April – Friday 29 May 2026 (inclusive).

The new timetable will commence on Monday 1 June 2026 for those pupils returning to S6.

Please note that some pupils may still have internal assessments or course work to complete and will be expected to attend in order to gain the course award. Pupils must check with their class teacher to see what they still have to do.

It is expected that pupils granted study leave will choose to study at home but facilities for study in school will be available in the Library. Pupils coming into school to study/see teachers **should always be in uniform** so they are easily identified by all staff as members of our school. Staff can be consulted during normal timetabled periods. Teachers may also ask pupils to come into school during this period for revision/teaching purposes.

Please ensure that your young person wears school uniform for all exams. Staff need to let pupils in at irregular times of the day; we really need to be able to see at a glance that they belong to Knox Academy. Invigilators also need to be sure that the pupils in front of them are entitled to be there.

The official [SQA timetable](#) is now available. Please take time to view this with your young person and identify all of the dates/times of their exams - the [SQA's timetable builder](#) can support you and them with this and [devising a study plan](#). There are also resources to help our young people with [study skills](#) on our website. Those pupils who have alternative assessment arrangements for some (or all) of their exams will be issued with an individual timetable by our Support for Learning staff.

Pupils should check the information board in the foyer and outside the exam hall/room(s) for exam times and seating information. Scottish Candidate Numbers (SCN) are also displayed in the foyer and are required for all examinations and pupils need to know this to fill out their exam papers. **Pupils should arrive at least 10 minutes before their examination is due to start.**

Attention is drawn to the conditions laid down by the Scottish Qualifications Authority as to behaviour during examinations. The invigilators, who are employed by the Scottish Qualifications Authority, have instructions to remove any candidate from the examination who may be causing a problem. This will be stringently applied and will result in any such pupils not gaining the examination qualification. Please particularly note the guidance on mobile phones/smartphones and smartwatches.





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Absentee Candidates

If you are prevented by illness or any other good reason from sitting the whole or part of an examination this should be reported to Ms Machen (DHT and SQA Coordinator) immediately. A medical certificate **must** be provided to support your case and it is essential that it covers the day/s of the examination concerned. This should be passed directly to Ms Machen ASAP.

Return to School

S5 pupils returning to S6 should return on Monday 1 June 2026. It is vital that pupils return to school on this date for an Induction Programme and to be issued with their new timetable, which will start that day.

Pupils leaving school in June

Please ensure that Leavers' forms are completed and that **all books and their Chromebook** is returned. Leavers' forms will be issued before Easter and must be completed and returned to the school office before leaving school (**and by 29 May at very latest**). Please could parents/carers of **S5** pupils leaving school on Friday 29 May complete the tear off slip on the next page and return it to the office by **Friday 27 March 2026 at very latest**. This allows us to properly prepare your young person for leaving school as we hold assemblies and provide other information/resources to all leavers. **S6** pupils will be asked to complete another leavers' form which we will pass directly to them for completion by **23 March**.

Holidays in May/June:

Monday 4 May and Monday 18 May 2026. **The PE (Higher) exam is on afternoon of Monday 18 May, if your young person is sitting this exam they must attend school for this.**

Kind regards

Ms S Cook

Head Teacher





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S5 SCHOOL LEAVERS – Parental Confirmation:

I confirm that my young person intends to leave school, as of Friday 29 May 2026:

NAME: _____ in REGISTRATION CLASS: _____

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

Please return to the school office by **Friday 27 March 2026**

