



Knox Academy

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

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Dear Parent/Carer

The [SQA exam timetable](#) for 2024 is now available.

National 5/Higher/Advanced Higher

A planned diet of prelims for National 5/Higher/Advanced Higher will take place from Friday 24 November 2023 until Monday 11 December 2023 (inclusive). The prelim timetable will be shared with pupils at the end of October. All of our senior pupils should have already embarked on a study programme in preparation for these, as discussed in our recent senior phase assembly. If your young person needs any support with planning a study timetable they should speak to their Pupil Support Leader, their subject teachers and also use the [SQA study builder](#) to support them.

Prelims will mirror the SQA April/May/June experience as closely as possible and length of examination papers will be similar to that of the final exams. Prelims support both staff and young people in knowing how they are progressing in their work so far and feedback to support progress between these prelims and the exams in April - June 2024. In a small number of cases the results of prelims may result in discussions around a change in presentation levels and/or course. This will be discussed with pupils and parents/carers following prelims and at our Parents' Evenings on 10 January 2024 (S4) and 22 February 2024 (S5/6).

During our prelim diet it is intended that the larger exams, such as English, Maths, Modern Studies, and some of the Science subjects, will take place mainly in the assembly hall. However, many subjects' exams will take place in classroom settings and at a time in the week where many pupils would normally have that subject.

Most young people will have one exam in a day but there will be a small number of cases where some young people will have two exams in one day. Pupils are asked to discuss this with their teachers directly, and should this be a concern for them we will arrange for these to be re-scheduled to another time.

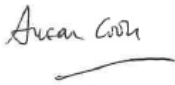
As with all SQA exams, pupils must complete exams in black pen, and not pencil, so pupils should come prepared with a number of these in case they run out. Ideally no mobile phones should be brought into any prelim but if they must be, they are required to be switched off and placed out of sight. No smart watches must be worn either and should be left at home on prelim days. Any phone that goes off/seen being used in an exam may result in the pupil's paper being null and void.



Some pupils may wish the opportunity to study in a place and time of their own choosing due to their own needs/preferences, e.g. the day before a prelim. This would be a flexible approach to study and is not an East Lothian one. This 'flexible study' would be an individual arrangement between the Pupil Support Leader, parent and pupil and would not be the expectation for all young people.

During the prelim exams teachers will be available during the normal timetabled class periods to support young people with their learning and prelim preparation. It is expected that all senior pupils will be present in their classes except for the days of their prelims. What is essential is that all young people have access to their teacher to support their learning during the two and a half weeks of the prelim diet. Once a prelim has been sat in a subject, learning and teaching of course content will continue during timetabled time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Cook". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line that serves as a separator between the signature and the typed name below.

Susan Cook

Head Teacher