



Knox Academy

Alternative Certification Model 2021

Provisional Results and Subject Assessment Weightings

Introduction

Following the announcements from the Scottish Government on the cancellation of the 2021 exam diet for National 5, and then for Higher and Advanced Higher National Qualifications, the SQA put in place the Alternative Certification Model (ACM). Updates on the ACM have been shared with you and your parents/carers over recent weeks and now we are pleased to provide details of what this alternative certification means for each subject at each level, together with your Assessment Calendar from 27th April until 28th May 2021. It is very important that you go over this document in extreme detail, making sure that you note every assessment in all your subjects, including a record of the date, time, paper/ topic. In this way, you will be creating your own personal assessment calendar, issued 26th March (many will have done this with support from teachers on 29th March). Your subject teachers will also remind you of planned formal assessments and give you any extra guidance required. Using your personal assessment calendar, you will be able to plan your revision timetable for the coming weeks. Your revision timetable should include some study sessions during the Easter holiday, but do be sure to balance your studies with time for relaxation, exercise and other activities. With the SQA exams being cancelled this year, teachers will determine pupils' 'provisional results' based on the marked and quality assured evidence of pupils' performance in these April and May assessments - alongside any practical coursework components in applicable subjects. Because provisional results are moderated and quality assured, your grade is, therefore, a provisional one until all quality assurance checks have been carried out. We will inform you of your provisional results in all your subjects during the week beginning 21st June. Schools will submit provisional results to SQA by 25 June, and you will receive your results on Tuesday 10 August.

What counts as evidence in the ACM?

In line with SQA guidance, we have specified in this document what evidence will be used when deciding a provisional result in every subject at N5, H and AH level. SQA guidance stipulates that assessment evidence used for your provisional results should come from assessments which have strong 'predictive value' - put simply: assessments which produce strong and reliable evidence of your attainment. In order to produce this reliable evidence, the assessments you will be doing in May will take account of: breadth of course coverage, level of demand, and balance of knowledge and skills; all in line with SQA subject specific guidance. On top of the information in this document, your teachers will ensure that you have a clear understanding of the assessment evidence being used for your provisional result. Your teachers will also be providing you with ongoing feedback relating to your progress and your attainment during this period of assessment.

Volume of assessments

Although we are giving you a structured calendar of assessments, this is not an SQA exam diet as it would be in a 'normal' academic year. Rather, this is a calendar of assessments of differing length and weighting, spread across the 5 weeks. You will have quite a number of assessments in each of your subjects and you may well have two assessments on the same day. Do not be daunted by that - you can manage! The number of assessments you will undertake will vary across your subjects. As you know, this is due to the nature of individual subjects and how they are taught. Most of the assessments you will be sitting are fairly short and take place in the classroom, as part of normal learning and teaching. A few assessments may be slightly longer and be spread over parts of the school day. Most of these assessments are in the final week in May to avoid disruption to other

classes. The assessments have been planned to avoid overburdening you, and you may have days when you do not have any assessments. You should be attending all your timetabled lessons as normal throughout this 5-week period. There is no study leave during the assessment period so you will be in lessons throughout, consolidating your learning and receiving feedback on your progress from your teachers - in other words, helping you to prepare for forthcoming assessments.

Assessment Conditions

As these are formal assessments, conditions in the classroom will be the same as they would be in a final SQA exam - you should only bring in materials required for the assessment, and mobile phones must be left elsewhere or switched off and in your school bag. You should not discuss the content or share any information about your assessments with anyone else. Cheating in an assessment is a very serious matter. Any pupil found to be cheating in an assessment will be dealt with as SQA would deal with an instance of cheating: the candidate risks forfeiting the complete National Qualification in the particular subject. Teachers will ensure that all additional assessment arrangements are in place for eligible pupils.

Exceptional Circumstances and Appeals

We are very aware that you have faced disruption to your learning this academic session and for some months previous to that, too. The SQA has taken account of this in their planning of the ACM and they have built in flexibility of timing and of the nature of National Qualifications course assessments. Please note that this means there is no SQA Exceptional Circumstance service this year. Exceptional Circumstance is a pre-certification exam-based service: as there are no exams, exceptional circumstances are not required. By the beginning of May, we will have full details of the appeals process SQA will be putting in place.

Subject Assessment Weightings

Communications Faculty

English

National 5	
RUAE	30%
Critical Reading	40%
Writing Portfolio	30%

Higher	
RUAE	30%
Critical Reading	40%
Writing Portfolio	30%

Advanced Higher	
Literary Study	20%
Textual Analysis	20%
Writing Portfolio	30%
Dissertation Project	30%

Modern Languages

National 5	
Reading	25%
Writing	25%
Listening	25%
Talking	25%

Higher	
Reading	25%
Writing	25%
Listening	25%
Talking	25%

Advanced Higher	
Reading	25%
Translation	17%
Listening	25%
Discursive Writing	33%

Maths and Computing Faculty

Mathematics

N5	
Question Papers	100%

Higher	
Question Papers	100%

Advanced Higher	
Question Papers	100%

Computing Science

National 5	
Question Paper	67%
Assignment	33%

Higher	
Question Paper	67%
Assignment	33%

Advanced Higher	
Question Paper	50%
Assignment	50%

National 5	
Question Paper	67%
Assignment	33%

Higher	
Question Paper	67%
Assignment	33%

Advanced Higher	
Question Paper	50%
Assignment	50%

Science Faculty

Biology

National 5	
Multiple Choice	25%
Written paper	75%

Higher	
Multiple Choice	21%
Written Paper	79%

Advanced Higher	
Multiple Choice	20%
Written Paper	80%

Human Biology

Higher	
Multiple Choice	21%
Written Paper	79%

Chemistry

National 5	
Multiple Choice	25%
Written Paper	75%

Higher	
Multiple Choice	21%
Written Paper	79%

Advanced Higher	
Multiple Choice	22.5%
Written Paper	77.5%

Physics

National 5	
Multiple Choice	25%
Written Paper	75%

Higher	
Multiple Choice	21%
Written Paper	79%

Advanced Higher	
Written Paper	100%

Social Subjects Faculty

Geography

National 5	
Human	40%
Physical	40%
Global Issues	20%

Higher	
Prelim Paper	33%
Paper 1	33%
Paper 2	33%

Advanced Higher	
Written Paper	33%
Geographical Study	40%
Geographical Issue	27%

Business Management

National 5	
Question Papers	100%

Higher	
Question Papers	100%

Advanced Higher	
Question Paper	67%
Assignment	33%

Administration

National 5	
Assignment (70 marks)	58%
Question Paper (50 marks)	42%

Higher	
Assignment (60 marks)	55%
Question Paper (50 marks)	45%

Economics

Higher	
Question Papers	100%

History

National 5	
Question Papers	100%

Higher	
Question Papers	100%

Advanced Higher	
Question Paper	64%
Dissertation	36%

Modern Studies

National 5	
Question Paper	100%

Higher	
Question Paper 1	65%
Question Paper 2	35%

Advanced Higher	
Question Paper	64%
Dissertation	36%

Expressive Arts

Art & Design

National 5	
Question Paper	20%
Design Portfolio	40%
Expressive Portfolio	40%

Higher	
Question Paper	23%
Design Portfolio	38.5%
Expressive Portfolio	38.5%

Advanced Higher	
Folio of Practical work	64%
Contextual Analysis	30%
Evaluation	6%

Photography

Higher	
Project	77%
Written Assessment	23%

Drama

National 5	
Question Paper	40%
Performance	60%

Higher	
Question Paper	40%
Performance	60%

Advanced Higher	
Dissertation	30%
Assignment	20%
Performance	50%

Music

National 5	
Performing	60%
Question Paper (Understanding)	40%

Higher	
Performing	60%
Question Paper (Understanding)	40%

Design and Manufacture

National 5	
Design Assignment	30%
Practical Assignment	30%
Question Paper	40%

Higher	
Course Assessment Task	50%
Assessment Paper	50%

Graphic Communication

National 5	
Question Paper	62%
Assignment	38%

Higher	
Question Paper	60%
Assignment	40%

Advanced Higher	
Question Paper	67%
Project	43%

Practical Woodwork

National 5	
Practical Activity	70%
Knowledge & Understanding Question Paper	30%

Health and Wellbeing Faculty

Physical Education

National 5	
Portfolio	50%
Practical Performance	50%

Higher	
Written Question Paper	50%
Practical Performance	50%

Advanced Higher	
Project	70%
Practical Performance	30%

Dance

National 5	
Choreography	45%
Practical Performance (Solo Dance)	35%
Theory Assessment	20%

Practical Cookery

National 5	
Planning Assignment	(Both elements combined – 70%)
Practical Task	
Written Paper	30%

Psychology

National 5	
Assignment	33%
Question Paper	66%

Higher	
Question Paper 1 Sleep and Dreams	30%
Question Paper 2 Conformity and Obedience	30%
Assignment	40%

RMPS

National 5	
Question Papers	100%

Advanced Higher	
Question Paper	65%
Dissertation	35%