



IRVINE ROYAL ACADEMY

Ambition • Respect • Responsibility

Head Teacher: Mrs. L. Sloan
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Tel: 01294 278 756
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LS/CPW

27 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to inform you that our young people have made a smooth transition back to school. Their attitude and application, in what are very challenging times, has been first class.

In relation to matters pertaining to SQA, I wish to update you on the following:

Evidence Gathering Schedule

Our evidence gathering schedule started last week and like the majority of other NAC secondary schools, will run until the start of June. In the main, subjects are using the SQA assessment tools. In many instances, said tools have been “chunked” and thus assessments spread out over a longer period of time. Inevitably, there have been some clashes but we will work with staff and young people on an individual basis to make alternative arrangements.

AAA

I would like to reiterate that all young people who are entitled to Alternative Assessment Arrangements (AAA) will continue to have their needs met as part of this ‘Alternative Certification Model’. If you have any specific issues in relation to AAA, please contact our PT Support, Miss Karen Wotherspoon (gw09wotherspoonkaren@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk). No young person should sit any assessment without the appropriate supports in place.

Supported Study – Virtual Night School

In order to ensure that we are supporting our young people to the very best of our ability, we are offering Supported Study after school. This is a follow on from the extensive Easter School programme that we offered during the holidays. All pupils have been notified of the Supported Study on offer. A copy of the timetable can also be found on our school website: irvineroyal.co.uk

Alternative Certification Model (ACM)

You will be aware that the ACM was introduced after the National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher exams were cancelled. You can find out more about this model by checking the following link: <https://youtu.be/lrTrhb500Qw>



@irvineroyalacad



www.irvineroyal.co.uk





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I wish to reassure you that our staff are now well versed in how this new model works. Staff have engaged in significant amounts of professional learning and thus are confident in all of their approaches pertaining to 'Provisional Results'.

Quality Assurance

Quality Assurance, at all levels, has been and will continue to be robust both at Local Authority and school level. We will absolutely make sure that all 'Provisional Results' are determined through approaches that are consistent, equitable and fair.

The SQA will also be notifying us of the subjects in which they will be sampling evidence from – again, to ensure that the standards in which we have set, are consistent with the National Standards across the country.

Provisional Results

Provisional Results will be submitted to the SQA once all evidence has been gathered and all quality assurance completed. In essence, this is a judgement, made by teachers, of a final band. Teachers will use their professional judgement of a learner's 'demonstrated attainment' to determine Provisional Results, supported by assessment resources and quality assurance. All Provisional Results will be sent to the SQA on Friday 18th June 2021.

Pupil Absence

If a pupil is absent from school for a prolonged period of time, it is vital that the full details are disclosed to the school so that on-going support can be given.

Unlike other years, time does not allow for study leave and thus young people will remain in school throughout the period of evidence gathering. We aim to change our whole school timetable on Monday 14 June 2021. The school will close on Friday 18 June 2021.

Our school website will continue to be populated with the most up-to-date information from the SQA.

As ever, please do not hesitate to get in touch should you require any further information.

Yours faithfully,

Lizzie Sloan

Head Teacher

