



*'Educating the whole person, in a spirit of enquiry, to
judge wisely, act fairly and live well.'*

Bathgate Academy
Edinburgh Road, Bathgate
West Lothian EH48 1LF
Phone: 01506 280900
@BathAcadNews
www.bathgateacademy.westlothian.org.uk
Head Teacher: Grant Abbot

10th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Arrangements for National Qualifications 2020-21

You may be aware that the Scottish Government has now announced that the 2020-21 exam diet will not go ahead for Highers and Advanced Highers. This is in addition to the decision taken in October by Scottish Government to cancel the National 5 exam diet.

This decision has been taken based on the continuing health concerns relating to Covid-19 and in the interests of ensuring fairness for all candidates across Scotland sitting qualifications this school year.

The Scottish Government has stated that the awarding of results for Higher and Advanced Higher will follow broadly the same model as that for National 5 courses, with candidates' results based on agreed evidence gathered by teachers in the classroom.

Bathgate Academy is well prepared for this announcement and has been developing contingency plans for some time to ensure that our young people are well supported to be successful in their qualifications this year. We welcome the clarity that this decision brings and hope it will provide reassurance for all of our young people currently working towards Highers and Advanced Highers.

There will be more detailed information to follow with the school and subject areas ensuring your child knows when they will be completing assessments for their subjects and can plan their workload accordingly. As you know our first holistic assessment diet concludes next week. A report of your child's subject performance in these assessments will be issued in January along with an online parents evening on the 21st January. We will also issue any further SQA updates as soon as they become available.

We understand that you are likely to have a range of questions around this and have sought to answer as many of these as possible in the 'Frequently Asked Questions' paper which has been developed by West Lothian Council. This can also be accessed on the school website. Should your question not be covered by this, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school.

Yours sincerely

Grant Abbot

Head Teacher

