

Post SQA Certification Review Process

Information for parents and pupils following release of SQA results on 4th August.

Important

To maintain the Covid19 security of the school buildings, no parents or pupils will be permitted to enter the school on or after 4th August (results day) until the school returns on the 10th of August. Any queries around exam results must be made by telephone.

Castle Douglas High School and Dalry Secondary School pupils/parents can telephone: 01556 502821

In response to the cancellation of the 2020 exam diet, SQA has developed an alternative certification model for 2020 to ensure the hard work of Scotland's learners is fully recognised through the qualifications system. The alternative certification model allows SQA to award grades to all learners entered for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses as fairly and reliably as possible, across subjects and levels.

The alternative certification model is based on teachers' and lecturers' estimates, which have been moderated by schools, colleges and SQA. The process may lead to a candidate or group of candidates being certificated with a grade that's different from their estimated grade. To be as fair as possible to candidates, SQA are providing a post-certification review (appeals) service to allow centres to request a review of the grade awarded for a candidate or a group of candidates.

A candidate is eligible for review only when they have been awarded a lower grade than the grade estimated by their centre.

A successful post-certification review request will result in a change of grade only — a change in band is not a feature of the review. Post certification review is **available for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Courses in 2020 only.**

Centres are able to request one of two post-certification review types:

- **a priority review** (Priority reviews are for candidates with a conditional university or college offer only)
- **a review**

The post certification review process

A request must be submitted by a head teacher (or their representative). - It should be noted, however, that a review can only be requested if we have written approval from the candidate.

Written approval can be provided via e-mail. The reason for this approval requirement is because a review can have three potential outcomes

1. the original grade awarded is unchanged
2. the original grade awarded is upgraded
3. the original grade awarded is downgraded

Any requests for a post certification review from candidates or their parents and carers made directly to SQA will **not** be accepted.

A review will involve two key stages:

- Review of alternative assessment evidence provided by the school .
- Review of any additional non-question paper evidence held by SQA.

The examiner will make a holistic judgement on the totality of the evidence available to them, and award the candidate a grade.

The outcome of a post-certification review is an academic judgement. It represents the considered findings of an examiner, taking into account all the evidence available to them, and it is not possible to appeal the outcome on this basis.

Key Dates : PRIORITY REVIEWS

Tuesday, 04/08/20	Request service opens
Friday, 14/08/20	Deadline for submission of Priority Review requests
Friday, 04/09/20	Issue outcomes to centres/HEIs/UCAS

REVIEWS

Tuesday, 04/08/20	Request service opens
Friday, 21/08/20	Deadline for submission of Review requests
TBC**	Issue outcomes to centres/HEIs/UCAS

**There is no date for conclusion as this will depend on volumes received.