

Newbattle High School Headteacher Update



Week Ending 24th September

Congratulations

A huge well done to Braydon Clarkson, S4, who has won the Scottish 57kg boxing title. He now hopefully goes on to challenge for the British title and we all wish him good luck.



Anti-litter campaign

We appreciate our community's patience with regards to litter as school restarts and over 1100 pupils restart. We are hearing litter is an issue nationally. As a school we regularly run anti-litter campaigns to promote this to our school students. This ranges from PSE, Homeroom lessons, assemblies, voluntary group and eco schools litter pick. A few S1 have also volunteered to help during their own lunchtime. Please encourage your young person to make use of all the extra bins we have provided and to be very mindful and respectful when in our community.



Miss Shepherd
@missshepherd_PE

...

Fantastic job from these three, doing a litter pick around @newbattlehigh to make sure this place is looking great 🙌👏👏 #aimhigher



Y2K @Y2K_Project · 8h

...

We are delighted to be working with some amazing pupils from @newbattlehigh on a new community volunteering project! Yesterday we were out and about clearing up litter from around the school to help keep our community clean and safe! Well done everyone! ★★



Formal Assessments and Prelims

As a school we have discussed and planned the best way of gathering evidence whilst also preparing students for exams. A formal assessment calendar will be sent to you soon. The SQA have announced their 3 scenarios which can be read in full at sqa.org.uk/sqa/99158.html. These are fully related to the number of cases in Scotland, the restrictions in place and with Public Health guidance at that time.

Scenarios

1. SQA exam diet with modifications happens

The [Scottish Government announced](#) on 18 August that SQA exams will take place – if safe to do so – in Spring 2022. Recognising the continued disruption to learning and teaching this year, SQA has kept most of the modifications made to course assessments (exams and coursework) in session 2020-21. This means that, in most courses, learners will do less assessment than in a ‘normal’ year with exams, and more time will be available to focus on learning and teaching. You can view a summary of all the modifications at sqa.org.uk/nqmodifications.

2. SQA exam diet with modifications (as above) + additional measures due to more disruption

SQA will continue to constantly monitor public health advice and levels of disruption across the country, while taking account of discussions that take place in the Covid-19 Education Recovery Group (CERG)**. If there is further significant disruption to learning and teaching this session, appropriate additional support measures for learners will be put in place to help reduce pre-exam stress. For example, where possible in some subjects SQA may provide additional information to help learners focus their study on the run up to the exams. This will not be possible in all subjects due to the types of modifications which are already in place. The actual assessments will not change under this approach.

If additional measures are required, they will be introduced at the end of March 2022.

3. SQA exams being cancelled: teachers determine provisional results

If the Covid-19 pandemic gets worse to the point where physical gatherings are restricted at the time of the exams, the SQA exam diet will be cancelled. If this happens, teachers and lecturers will be asked to determine provisional results by using their professional judgement of evidence that shows each learner’s skills, knowledge and understanding.

The main focus for schools, colleges and training providers will continue to be learning and teaching, with assessment to support that process. With this in mind, and in preparation for the possibility that exams cannot go ahead, teachers and lecturers should use the type, quality and volume of evidence that would be needed to support quality assured estimates in a ‘normal’ year. This will also serve as the basis of the evidence needed to support the submission of provisional results if it is not possible to run exams. We will publish further guidance in October 2021 to support teachers and lecturers with this activity. The guidance being prepared is based on last year’s guidance on estimates and will include information on determining provisional results should the exam diet be cancelled.

Under this approach there is **no requirement** for schools, colleges and training providers to run additional assessments. Doing so would place excess workload on teachers, lecturers and learners. Provisional results would be based on in-year assessments that normally take place during the school year such as prelims, practical activities, performances and class tests.

Consideration also needs to be given for those learners with additional support needs and who would normally use specific assessment arrangements during their exams. Schools, colleges and training providers should ensure that appropriate assessment arrangements are put in place for normal in-year assessments to ensure equity.

2022 Exam Timetable

SQA will publish the 2022 exam timetable on Monday 27 September at the latest.

The exam diet will start on Tuesday 26 April and finish on Wednesday 1 June 2022. Results day will be Tuesday 9 August 2022.

The 2022 exam diet will only take place if it is safe to do so and SQA is therefore continuing to monitor public health advice. Please note that this will be the only version of the exam timetable for 2022 as it already takes account of the modifications to course assessment.

SQA Study Support

As a school we have a number of ways to support our Senior Phase students in preparing for their exams. These range from masterclasses, study support, revision school and tutoring. Please find below the National offer of help too.

Study Support

Live Webinar Lessons — Week Commencing Monday 20th Sept







	TIME	COURSE	LEVEL	FOCUS
MONDAY	5pm	English	AH	Your Portfolio of Writing
	5pm	Physics	Nat 5	Dynamics, Acceleration & Graphs
	5pm	RMPS	H	Understanding Your RMPS Skills: KU
	6pm	Maths	Nat 5	Revision: Pythagoras
	6pm	RMPS	Nat 5	Understanding your RMPS Skills: KU
	6pm	Physics	H	Multiple choice questions, Open ended questions
	6pm	Engineering Science	H	Energy
	6pm	Physics	AH	Rotational Dynamics
	6pm	Human Biology	H	KA 1.2 a/b Structure and Replication of DNA
	7pm	PE	H	Data Gathering Methods
TUESDAY	7pm	Biology	H	Gene Expression (part 1)
	7pm	Computing Science	H	Software: Standard Algorithms
	7pm	Biology	AH	Movement of molecules across membranes
	7pm	Computing Science	Nat 5	Website Implementation - CSS
	7pm	Biology	Nat 5	Numeracy Skills
	5pm	Geography	Nat 5	Population Indicator
	5pm	Music	Nat 5	Musical instrument recognition
	5pm	Mathematics	Nat 4	EF1.2 Area of Rectangles & Triangles
	6pm	Spanish	H	Future Tense, Listening, Writing, Reading, Speaking .
	6pm	Maths	AH	Higher Revision: Logs & Exponentials
WEDNESDAY	6pm	Business Management	H	Objectives & the Command Words explained
	6pm	Art and Design	Nat 5	Prompt words -Media Handling/Techniques & Materials
	6pm	Music	H	Musical instrument recognition
	7pm	English	Nat 5	The N5 Scottish Text: Paper
	7pm	Design & Manufacture	H	Aesthetics
	7pm	History	H	Paper 1: Essay Factors
	7pm	French	H	Becoming an adult
	5pm	Graphic Communication	H	Understanding the CAD modelling techniques
	5pm	Geography	H	Lithosphere: Glaciation
	5pm	Applications of Maths	Nat 5	Revision: Pythagoras
THURSDAY	5pm	Gaidhlig	H	TBC
	6pm	Modern Studies	H	20 Mark Extended Responses
	6pm	Maths	H	N5 Revision: Trigonometric Graphs
	6pm	English	Nat 4	Creation & Production: Making Notes On A Topic
	7pm	Gaelic	N5	TBC
	7pm	Design & Manufacture	N5/H	Ergonomics
	5pm	PE	Nat 5	Course Intro & Factors Impacting on Performance
	5pm	English	H	Portfolio: Sophisticated Punctuation To Create Effects
	6pm	Chemistry	H	Structure & Bonding
	6pm	Chemistry	AH	Ionisation energy and shapes of molecules
7pm	History	Nat 5	9 Mark Questions	
7pm	Chemistry	Nat 5	Elements, mixtures & compounds, particle diagrams	
7pm	Health & Food Technology	H	Minerals, Fibre & Water	

EMA

Pupils who have been granted EMA will receive their first payment (along with any backdated payments) on 4th October. The team is dealing with a large volume of applications so they are running slightly behind schedule.

School Football

S2 Trials will be Tuesday at 3.30pm on the astro

S1 Trials will be Wednesday at 3.30pm on the astro

Friday 1st October

A game will be arranged between the S2's and S3's on Friday after school.

Details of those chosen for this match will be made by Wednesday next week at latest. Individuals will be notified.

All are weather permitting.

Upcoming Events

29 September	BGE (S1-3) Tracking Reports will be sent home with pupils
5 October	S1 Settling in Parents Evening
5 October	Senior Phase Tracking Reports will be sent home with pupils
12 October	Whole School Flu Vaccinations
15 October	Term Ends

Sports Tour

Mr Millar sent an email to all parents advising of the exciting opportunity for **48 pupils** to attend the following football match:

Newcastle United FC vs Tottenham Hotspur FC

St. James Park

Sunday 17th October 2021

4.30pm Kick Off

Package Includes - Coach Travel throughout Duration of Tour - Match Ticket (Newcastle United vs Tottenham) - Visit to Club Shop - Electronic Tour Pack

Please see Mr Riley and Miss Russell in the Sport and Wellbeing Staff Base for more information and prices.

Letter from Jason Leitch, National Clinical Director

Please see attached letter from Jason Leitch which we have been asked to share with you regarding the management of covid cases in schools.