

Email from Mr John D Anderson, Depute Head Academic Leadership

Friday 3rd April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

SQA released a statement yesterday afternoon outlining initial plans for certification of National courses. This statement does not give all the details but I thought it would be helpful to share a summary of their initial plans:

- Teachers will be asked to submit estimated grades by the 29th May. SQA will provide guidance to teachers to help them with grade estimation.
- In estimating grades, teachers will use evidence gathered from assessments (likely to be prelims, module tests, and any coursework available such as dissertations, folios and project reports)
- Teachers will also use their professional judgement and knowledge of pupils.

In addition to the assessment evidence collated throughout the year, please be assured that St Aloysius' college has a wealth of historical data, prior pupil performance data, professional expertise and wisdom that will allow us to navigate through the process of grade estimation. We routinely carry out statistical analysis of year group performance and are used to predicting grades based on a wide body of evidence. Nevertheless, this will be a detailed and time consuming process for teachers but we are determined to ensure that our young people are rewarded appropriately for all the hard work they have committed to their studies this year. We will ensure that it is done precisely, honestly and accurately.

It is likely that the SQA will write to schools at the end of the Easter break with further details. I will write to you as soon as I receive this. I realise that there is still more information needed but this should hopefully give some re-assurance at this anxious time for everyone, not least our pupils.

I hope that this update is useful. Please do contact me if I can offer any further advice.

I hope you and your family are well and have a pleasant Easter break,

Kind regards,

Mr John D Anderson

Depute Head Academic Leadership