



HOLY ROOD RC HIGH SCHOOL

Duddingston Road West
EDINBURGH
EH15 3ST

Tel No: 0131 661 5871

www.holyrood.edin.sch.uk

Follow us @HolyRoodRCHigh

 Head Teacher: Joan M Daly

18 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) Examinations

I write about important information relating to the 2023 SQA exams. All parents/carers are requested to discuss this letter with their children and ensure that they are familiar with the exam arrangements outlined.

Exam leave for Holy Rood pupils follows City of Edinburgh Council guidelines which state that the number of study days allocated to each pupil depends upon how many National 5 qualifications he/she is presented for. There is no entitlement to study leave for National 4 qualifications as there are no external exams at this level.

The first day of exam leave for all S4 pupils is **Monday 22 April 2024**.

Pupils sitting **4 or more National 5 exams** will have full exam leave.

Pupils sitting **3 or less National 5 exams** are entitled to 3 days leave before each exam.

Pupils **presented for National 4 Qualifications in all subjects** are not entitled to any exam leave and are expected to attend school as normal.

Pupils not on exam leave will follow an alternative “Meaningful May” timetable with time built in to complete any outstanding National 3 and/or National 4 work. More information for parents will follow in this regard. Attendance by pupils not on exam leave is very important as this time will be used for the completion of coursework which will count towards a National 4 qualification and will help to prepare pupils for the year ahead.

General Information

Individual/personal SQA Exam Timetables will be issued to S4 pupils at a special SQA focus assembly w/b 25 March 2024. It is also important that pupils and parents take careful note of exam dates. There are unlikely to be any changes to these dates, but pupils should also check their own Personal Timetables on the SQA website. This is important in case of changes to levels of qualifications for individual pupils.

Pupils who are entitled to **Alternative Assessment Arrangements** (e.g. reader, scribe, extra time etc.) will have their timetables issued by Mrs Duffy (Support for Learning Leader).

In addition to the study advice given by subject teachers, and during PSE and Tutor Time, information can also be found on the SQA website under National Qualifications – www.sqa.org.uk

The Study Support Programme is well underway, and we would ask that you encourage your child to attend these sessions for extra support in preparation for their exams. The full programme can be found on the school's website or using this link: <https://bit.ly/202324-SuppStudy>

An enclosed leaflet provides helpful information which pupils should take account of during the exam period.

Pupils should also make use of the SQA Information Booklet, 'Your Exams 2024' which will be issued this week. This provides further advice on preparation, procedures and conduct during the exams.

Staff will be available during the exam period to provide support with revision and/or to provide any last minute advice. If any pupil requires support with access to a study area during the period of exam leave, they should speak with Mr Graves, S4 Year Head, to arrange this.

The school continues to function for younger pupils and so it is very important that normal school uniform is worn when sitting examinations or visiting teachers.

New S5 pupils return to school on **Friday 31 May for the S5 Induction Day**; further information can be found in the enclosed leaflet. The new Timetable starts Monday 3 June 2024. The Senior Awards Ceremony will take place on **Wednesday 5 June 2024 at 2.00pm**. Further information will be issued in due course.

Pupils who are leaving Holy Rood will be required to briefly attend school on Friday 31 May to return their school issued iPad including charger and protective case. More information will be provided in due course about this.

I am confident our pupils will do their best to study and revise carefully for each exam and I wish everyone the very best of luck.

Yours sincerely

J M Daly
Head Teacher