



GH/MS

04 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer and Grove Academy Senior Phase Pupils,

SQA Presentation Policy

With the assessment periods for SQA exams almost complete, pupils will now be receiving their results and will be aware of their progress in their subjects, as we head towards the actual planned diet in April-June. It is the Scottish Government's full intention that the SQA exams will go ahead. Further revision guidance to help candidates will be published in March and this should help ease the stress of the exams for many pupils, especially those who have suffered from Covid, or had to self-isolate or their teacher has likewise been absent from school.

Our policy at Grove Academy is that all pupils who begin a course in the Senior Phase continue that course to fruition at the end of the session and are presented for a qualification at the appropriate level. This means that pupils may start studying a subject at a specific level e.g. *Higher* but may end up working on the subject at a different level or for a different qualification e.g. *National 5, NPA, or units only*. Every pupil must attend all the classes they registered for at the beginning of the year.

We do not allow pupils to drop a subject and have a gap in their timetable, except in very special circumstances. These are usually long-term mental and physical health problems which have been known to the Guidance Teacher for a considerable time and for which the young person is already accessing specialist support. All parental requests for their young person to drop a subject must go through the Guidance Teacher, then the House Head and finally to the Senior Leadership Team. When all available information is considered, it may be that we have to decline the request to drop a subject, in which case the pupil will be expected to continue to attend the class, sit the exam and do their best, so that they get some sort of acknowledgment for their efforts and work in that subject during the session.

This policy also includes helping our young people to develop strategies to manage their workload and to cope when they are finding things hard. It may not be possible for them at college or university to withdraw from parts of the course they are finding difficult and by encouraging pupils in these circumstances to continue to work hard and achieve a qualification, we are giving them the best preparation for their future studies. If, however, a pupil decides they will not attend and will not sit the exam, then they will still be presented and that will be recorded on their certificate. We shall also inform UCAS of any changes.

The reason for this is to ensure pupils show the school values of determination and responsibility. As a school we are responsible for preparing each pupil to move on to further education, employment or another positive destination and we are determined that each pupil at Grove Academy achieves the best they can in their time here.

I thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

Stay safe and well!

Yours sincerely



Graham W Hutton

Rector



