



SQA Qualifications 2021
How Provisional Grades Are Determined.
Higher & Advanced Higher



GIRVAN
ACADEMY

Administration and IT Higher

1. Course Structure

The course comprises two areas of study:

Theory- Candidates are introduced to the responsibilities of organisations, the skills/qualities and tasks (duties) of the administrative support function, and the impact of these in the workplace.

IT applications- Candidates develop skills in IT, problem-solving, organising, and managing information. They select IT applications to create and edit business documents, gather and share information, and develop skills to communicate information.

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

At Higher level, key pieces of attainment evidence will be gathered during April and May. Each component will be carried out over several periods of class time allowing time for preparation and revision.

Key evidence gathered is as follows:

- Component 1: Question Paper – 50 marks (45% of course assessment and has a high predictive value)
- Component 2: Assignment – 60 marks (55% of course assessment and has a high predictive value)

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

To ensure standards are maintained both locally and nationally, we will use a question paper and coursework provided by the SQA. Both assessments represent the normal components of course assessment. These assessments will not require moderation to ensure validity and reliability. Marking instructions will be standardised based on candidate responses. This will be carried out via the SAC Computing Science or Business Studies Network Team to facilitate consistency of marking. For the purpose of Quality Assurance we will carry out internal verification of candidates work to ensure consistency of marking and to ensure a fair unbiased provisional grade is awarded based on demonstrated attainment. We will also establish partnerships with schools from within SAC. As a network we will undertake external verification activities by sampling pupil evidence across South Ayrshire to ensure the consistency and robustness of the grades awarded. In some circumstances, other types of key evidence may be required, and will follow SQA guidance. An assessment should be valid and reliable. Therefore, it will be subject to a moderation process with a paired school within SAC or via the SAC Network Teams.

ART & DESIGN – Higher

1. Course Structure

Components:

Expressive: Folio = 100 marks (weighted 40%)

Design: Folio = 100 marks (weighted 40%)

Critical Studies: Written Assessment = 60 marks (weighted 23%)

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

Expressive and Design Folio - The evidence we have used for the provisional grade is based upon the folio produced by a student during the year. Each piece of evidence is also photographed.

Critical Assessment – Is a written assessment that pupils will complete in class time under SQA assessment conditions. Pupils also received revision booklets in order to prepare them for the Critical assessment.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

To ensure standards are maintained both locally and nationally, we will use a question paper and coursework provided by the SQA. These assessments will not require moderation to ensure validity and reliability. Marking instructions and Grade criteria will be standardised based on candidate responses. For the purpose of Quality Assurance we will carry out internal verification of candidates work to ensure consistency of marking and to ensure a fair unbiased provisional grade is awarded based on demonstrated attainment. Each piece of key evidence is cross marked by 2 experienced members of staff with in the school. As a network we will undertake external verification activities by sampling pupil evidence across South Ayrshire to ensure the consistency and robustness of the grades awarded.

ART & DESIGN – Advanced Higher

Advanced Higher Art is solely folio based and therefore all provisional grades will be based on the finished folio piece be it Design or Expressive produced over the course of this academic year. The same internal verification and moderation policy above applies.

Biology – Higher

1. Course Structure –

The Higher Biology course is made of three units; DNA and the Genome, Metabolism and Survival, and Sustainability and Interdependence. Units 1 and 2 were taught in class and unit 3 has been taught via online learning during lockdown. The course was structured to build on previous learning and develop skills to exceed the standards required within the course specification documentation from the Scottish Qualification Authority.

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The provisional grades will be based on, SQA produced assessments scheduled for mid-May, which have been quality assured to ensure they cover the breadth and depth of knowledge and skills described in the SQA Higher Biology specification. The provisional grade is 100% based on written assessments. The assessments will be conducted in class under assessment conditions.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

To ensure standards are maintained both locally and nationally, we will use a question paper provided by the SQA. These assessments will not require moderation to ensure validity and reliability. Marking instructions will be standardised based on candidate responses. This will be carried out in partnership with our subject network to facilitate consistency of marking. For the purpose of Quality Assurance we will carry out internal verification of candidates work to ensure consistency of marking and to ensure a fair unbiased provisional grade is awarded based on demonstrated attainment. We will also establish partnerships with schools from within SAC. As a network we will undertake external verification activities by sampling pupil evidence across South Ayrshire to ensure the consistency and robustness of the grades awarded. In some circumstances, other types of key evidence may be required, and will follow SQA guidance. An assessment should be valid and reliable. Therefore, it will be subject to a moderation process with a paired school within SAC or via the SAC Network Teams.

Biology – Advanced Higher

The Advanced Higher Biology course is composed of three units:

- Cells and Proteins
- Organisms and Evolution
- Investigative Biology.

The provisional grade is based on written assessments. Pupils will demonstrate their acquired skills and understanding across several assessments. One assessment is a multiple choice paper. The other two assessments are extended answer papers. All the assessments will include content from across the three units and allow candidates to demonstrate the range of skills necessary for a qualification at this level. The same internal verification and moderation policy above applies.

Chemistry- Higher

1. Course Structure

The Higher Chemistry course covers 4 units of work:

- Unit 1 Chemical Changes and Structure
- Unit 2 Nature's Chemistry
- Unit 3 Chemistry in Society
- Unit 4 Researching Chemistry- taught within units 1, 2 and 3

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The provisional grade is based only on written assessments. Pupils will demonstrate their Knowledge and Understanding and Skills through assessments from mid-May. These assessments will be carried out in class over a number of sessions and will be marked by the class teacher.

3. Internal moderation and verification

To ensure standards are maintained both locally and nationally, we will use a question paper provided by the SQA. These assessments will not require moderation to ensure validity and reliability. Marking instructions will be standardised based on candidate responses. This will be carried out in partnership with our subject network to facilitate consistency of marking. For the purpose of Quality Assurance we will carry out internal verification of candidates work to ensure consistency of marking and to ensure a fair unbiased provisional grade is awarded based on demonstrated attainment. We will also establish partnerships with schools from within SAC. As a network we will undertake external verification activities by sampling pupil evidence across South Ayrshire to ensure the consistency and robustness of the grades awarded. In some circumstances, other types of key evidence may be required, and will follow SQA guidance. An assessment should be valid and reliable. Therefore, it will be subject to a moderation process with a paired school within SAC or via the SAC Network Teams.

Chemistry- Advanced Higher

The Advanced Higher Chemistry course covers 3 units of work:

- Unit 1 Inorganic and Physical Chemistry
- Unit 2 Organic Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis
- Unit 3 Researching Chemistry

The provisional grade is based only on written assessments. Pupils will demonstrate their Knowledge and Understanding and Skills through assessments from mid-May. These assessments will be carried out in class over a number of sessions and will be marked by the class teacher. The same internal verification and moderation policy above applies.

Computing Higher

1. Course Structure

Consists of 4 units

- Software design and development
- Computer systems
- Database design and development
- Web design and development

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

At Higher level, key pieces of attainment evidence will be gathered during April and May. Each component will be carried out over several periods of class time allowing time for preparation and revision

Key evidence gathered is as follows:

- Component 1: Question Paper – 80 marks (67% of course assessment and has a high predictive value)
- Component 2: Coursework – 40 marks (33% of course assessment and has a high predictive value)

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

To ensure standards are maintained both locally and nationally, we will use a question paper and coursework provided by the SQA. Both assessments represent the normal components of course assessment. These assessments will not require moderation to ensure validity and reliability. Marking instructions will be standardised based on candidate responses. This will be carried out via the SAC Computing Science or Business Studies Network Team to facilitate consistency of marking. For the purpose of Quality Assurance we will carry out internal verification of candidates work to ensure consistency of marking and to ensure a fair unbiased provisional grade is awarded based on demonstrated attainment. We will also establish partnerships with schools from within SAC. As a network we will undertake external verification activities by sampling pupil evidence across South Ayrshire to ensure the consistency and robustness of the grades awarded. In some circumstances, other types of key evidence may be required, and will follow SQA guidance. An assessment should be valid and reliable. Therefore, it will be subject to a moderation process with a paired school within SAC or via the SAC Network Teams.

Computing Advanced Higher

At Advanced Higher level the course consists of the same four topic that were covered in Higher Computing in more depth. Key pieces of attainment evidence will be gathered during April and May.

Key evidence gathered is as follows:

- Component 1: Question Paper – 70 marks (48% of course assessment and has a high predictive value)
- Component 2: Project – 75 marks (52% of course assessment and has a high predictive value)

The same internal verification and moderation policy above applies.

English – Higher

1. Course Structure

There are 4 key aspects of the English course which must be assessed in order to provide a robust grade for candidates. These are:

- **Scottish Set Text (20%)** – For this section of the course, the candidates studied the novel ‘The Cone-Gatherers’ by Robin Jenkins. Candidates will be required to answer a series of questions focusing on an excerpt from the text and a final 10 mark comparison question which requires them to demonstrate their knowledge of the novel as a whole.
- **Critical Essay (20%)** – For this section of the course, the candidates studied either the play ‘The Crucible’ by Arthur Miller. Candidates will be required to write a critical essay in response to a previously unseen question, incorporating quotations which they have committed to memory previously.
- **RUAE (30%)** – For this section of the course, the candidates will be required to answer a series of questions on a previously unseen non-fiction text. There are three types of question assessed: understanding, analysis and evaluation.
- **Portfolio of writing (30%)** – For this section of the course, the candidates were tasked with writing either a broadly creative essay or a broadly discursive essay. The word limit for both essays is 1300 words. Candidates have had the opportunity to receive feedback on early drafts of their essays before submission of the final draft.

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

Prior to the period of online learning, the candidates had the opportunity to undertake an assessment in December. These were carried out under assessment conditions and as such the evidence generated will be factored into our awarding of provisional grades.

As a department we have made the decision to offer two rounds of assessment after the Easter holiday. As per the assessment calendar, candidates will complete an RUAE assessment, a Scottish Set Text assessment and a Critical Essay assessment at separate times. Their performance across these 3 assessments, along with the mark for their Portfolio of Writing will then be added together and, if they have achieved their predicted grade, they will not be expected to undertake the second round. We have elected to go with two rounds of assessment to allow candidates to maximise their chances of success.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

Each instrument of assessment has gone through a variety of quality assurance checks at both a departmental level and in collaboration with our network of schools within South Ayrshire. This is to ensure consistency, accuracy and equity and to give learners the best possible chance of finding success this year. After each assessment has been undertaken and prior to the marking of these, a selection of script will be marked and moderated to ensure consistency and accuracy in the marking and equity. A selection of scripts will also be marked and moderated at network level, again to ensure consistency, accuracy and equity across the authority.

English – Advanced Higher

4. Course Structure

There are 4 key aspects of the English course which must be assessed in order to provide a robust grade for candidates. These are:

- **Textual Analysis (20%)** – For this section of the course, the candidates studied the conventions of drama writing. Candidates will be required to write a critical essay in response to a previously unseen drama text.
- **Literary Study (20%)** – For this section of the course, the candidates studied two novel by James Baldwin, 'If Beal Street Could Talk' and 'Giovanni's Room'. Candidates will be required to write a critical essay in response to a previously unseen question, incorporating quotations which they have committed to memory previously.
- **Dissertation (30%)** – For this section of the course, the candidates were tasked with writing a 3000 word dissertation on texts of their own choosing and in an effort to address their own thesis. Candidates have had the opportunity to receive feedback on early drafts of their dissertation before submission of the final draft.
- **Portfolio of writing (30%)** – For this section of the course, the candidates were tasked with writing either a broadly creative essay or a broadly discursive essay. Candidates have had the opportunity to receive feedback on early drafts of their essays before submission of the final draft.

5. How has the provisional grade been derived?

Prior to the period of online learning, the candidates had the opportunity to undertake an assessment in December. These were carried out under assessment conditions and as such the evidence generated will be factored into our awarding of provisional grades. As a department we have made the decision to offer two rounds of assessment after the Easter holiday. As per the assessment calendar, candidates will complete a Textual Analysis assessment and a Literary Study assessment at separate times. Their performance across these 2 assessments, along with the mark for their Dissertation and Portfolio of Writing will then be added together and, if they have achieved their predicted grade, they will not be expected to undertake the second round. We have elected to go with two rounds of assessment to allow candidates to maximise their chances of success. The same internal verification and moderation policy above applies.

French – Higher

1. Course Structure

Higher French assesses 4 skills: Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing.

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The provisional grade is 100% based on assessments. Each element carries a weighting of 25% of the overall grade. Pupils will need to demonstrate their abilities in reading, listening and writing assessments, which are scheduled for late May. They will also need to complete a talking performance, which is usually completed before Easter.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

To ensure standards are maintained both locally and nationally, we will use a question paper and coursework provided by the SQA. All assessments represent the normal components of course assessment. These assessments will not require moderation to ensure validity and reliability. Marking instructions will be standardised based on candidate responses. This will be carried out via the SAC Modern Languages Network to facilitate consistency of marking. For the purpose of Quality Assurance we will carry out internal verification of candidates work to ensure consistency of marking and to ensure a fair unbiased provisional grade is awarded based on demonstrated attainment. We will also establish partnerships with schools from within SAC. As a network we will undertake external verification activities by sampling pupil evidence across South Ayrshire to ensure the consistency and robustness of the grades awarded. In some circumstances, other types of key evidence may be required, and will follow SQA guidance. An assessment should be valid and reliable. Therefore, it will be subject to a moderation process with a paired school within SAC or via the SAC Network Teams.

Graphic Communication – Higher

1. Course Structure

The course consists of two elements covering the following topics.

Area
Computer-aided design techniques
Interpretation of graphic items
Digital technology in graphic communication
Desktop-publishing features, design elements and principles
Preliminary graphics
Production graphics
Promotional graphics

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

Course assessment is normally based on the information obtained during two assessable elements both externally marked by the SQA. This year we will be assessing these two elements internally, with moderation and verification of this process being carried out with other South Ayrshire Schools to ensure standardization across the authority.

Young people will complete a written assessment and assignment. The written assessment paper is 75 marks and therefore worth 60% of the overall award.

The assignment this year was worth 50 marks and be worth 40% of the overall award. The assignment assesses the ability to apply graphic communication skills and knowledge developed and acquired during the course in the context of defined tasks, which require candidates to respond to a problem or situation. It has three areas covering preliminary, production and promotional graphics. These may, or may not, be thematically related and include various tasks that candidates complete.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification

Before submitting the provisional grades to SAC and ultimately to the SQA for awards to be published, all pupil attainment and evidence was discussed at a departmental level and final grade decisions were moderated and verified across all schools within SAC. Samples of pupils work were sent to a working group set up with Graphic Communication teachers to be reassessed to ensure standardization and equality of results.

Geography – Higher

1. Course Structure

Course assessment is normally based on the information obtained during two assessable elements, the question paper is externally marked by the SQA and the assignment is also externally marked by SQA. The assignment component was removed for session 2020-21. 100% of candidate grades will therefore be derived from performance in the question paper elements of the course.

- 1. Paper 1- Physical and Human Environments (100 marks)**
- 2. Paper 2- Global Issues and Application of Geographical Skills (40 marks)**

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The department has chosen to use a SQA produced paper to assess pupil knowledge. Pupils will sit this assessment in May. The paper will be split into 3 shorter assessments where candidates will complete section 1- physical environments on a separate day to human environments and finally global issues and application of geographical skills. The assessment will therefore take a period of 3 days to generate evidence.

1. Internal Moderation and Verification.

To ensure standards are maintained both locally and nationally, we will use a question paper and coursework provided by the SQA. These assessments will not require moderation to ensure validity and reliability. Marking instructions will be standardised based on candidate responses. This will be carried out via the SAC Humanities network to facilitate consistency of marking. For the purpose of Quality Assurance we will carry out internal verification of candidates work to ensure consistency of marking and to ensure a fair unbiased provisional grade is awarded based on demonstrated attainment. We will also establish partnerships with schools from within SAC. As a network we will undertake external verification activities by sampling pupil evidence across South Ayrshire to ensure the consistency and robustness of the grades awarded. In some circumstances, other types of key evidence may be required, and will follow SQA guidance. An assessment should be valid and reliable. Therefore, it will be subject to a moderation process with a paired school within SAC or via the SAC Network Teams.

Health and Food Technology – Higher

1. Course Structure –

3 areas of course knowledge covered:-

- Food for Health
- Food Product development
- Contemporary Food Issues

Ongoing activities have been completed in preparation for assessment based on the above 3 topics

Course assessment is based on the total of the following two elements:-

Element	Marks	% of grade
Question paper	50	50%
Assignment	30	50%

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The overall assessment grade is based on the total marks from the combined, question paper and assignment

ASSIGNMENT - the assignment is an extensive piece of research set by SQA which pupils have to complete independently over an extended length of time.

QUESTION PAPER - the question paper is issued by SQA for use in session 2020 -2021. This paper will be chunked into 2 parts to allow pupils to prepare and revise appropriately. Consistency of papers being used across authority schools will enable quality assurance to be applied accurately. Within the authority there are a number of experienced teachers who have marked both the assignment and the question paper for SQA,

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

The assessment and marking instructions were created by SQA. Quality assurance and cross marking of a sample of pupils evidence will be completed at department level within the school. Further quality assurance will be completed between South Ayrshire schools. This will ensure appropriate application of SQA standards and consistency of marking. Within the authority there are a number of experienced teachers who mark both the assignment and the question paper for SQA.

History – Higher

1. Course Structure

Through a mixture of face-to-face and online learning we have covered the entire Higher History course. This means that pupils will be assessed across 3 topics:

British, European and world history and Scottish history.

Question paper 1: British, European and world history 44 marks. This is 40% of the overall marks for the course assessment. This question paper has two sections:

Section 1: British – We have covered a topic called ‘Britain, 1850 – 1951.

Section 2: European and world – We have completed a hybrid topic with elements of ‘The USA, 1918 – 1968’ and ‘Germany, 1815 – 1939’.

Question paper 2: 36 marks

This question paper has a total mark allocation of 36 marks. This is 33% of the overall marks for the course assessment.

This question paper has one section:

Section 1: Scottish - We have covered a topic called ‘Migration and Empire, 1830 – 1939’

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The provisional grade is based on pupil performance in written assessments conducted in May. The pupils will be given an assessment that was created by the SQA and marking undertaken using the SQA produced marking information and in line with the most recent guidance produced by the SQA. Once internal moderation and verification had taken place and a sample of papers had been reviewed by another school within South Ayrshire Council, the pupils total score out of the maximum 80 marks was used to create the provisional grade.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

Papers have been anonymously marked by the class teacher. These have been cross marked within the school by a second class teacher. Any inconsistencies have been discussed and have been resolved in line with SQA marking standards. A sample of these papers have then been marked by another history teacher from within South Ayrshire Council to ensure consistency across the local authority.

Mathematics – Higher

1. Course Structure

National 5 Maths is made up of 3 units, Expressions & Formulae, Relationships and Applications.

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The provisional grade is 100% based on written assessments. Pupils will need to demonstrate their abilities across calculator and non-calculator assessments which are scheduled for late May. The assessments will be conducted in class and marked by class teachers.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

The assessment and marking instructions were created by SQA and quality assured by staff both within the school and across the authority. A sample of papers have been cross marked to ensure marking instructions have been applied consistently and fairly.

Advanced Higher Mathematics

1. Course Structure

Advanced Higher Maths is made up of 3 units, Methods in Algebra & Calculus, Applications in Algebra & Calculus and Geometry, Proof & Systems of Equations

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The provisional grade is 100% based on written assessments. Pupils will need to demonstrate their abilities across calculator and non-calculator assessments which are scheduled for early May. The assessments will be conducted in class and marked by class teachers.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

The assessment and marking instructions were created by SQA and quality assured by staff both within the school and across the authority. A sample of papers will be cross marked to ensure marking instructions have been applied consistently and fairly.

Modern Studies – Higher

1. Course Structure

Through a mixture of face-to-face and online learning we have covered the entire Higher Modern Studies course. The subject skills, knowledge and understanding developed in the course:

Paper 1- Developing and applying factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding, and giving detailed explanations and analysis of:

- the democratic processes, institutions and organisations which make up political life in Scotland and the United Kingdom
 - a major social issue in the United Kingdom, focusing on crime and the law
 - an international issue, focusing on a political and socio-economic study of a contemporary world issue
- The total maximum mark for Paper 1 is 52, this is calculated as follows:
 - Two 20 mark extended response answers - essays
 - One 12 mark extended response answer - short answer

Paper 2- Analysing, evaluating and synthesising a wide range of evidence which may be written, numerical and graphical to:

- detect and explain the degree of objectivity in contexts which may be familiar or unfamiliar
 - draw and support conclusions in contexts which may be familiar or unfamiliar
 - analysing and evaluating a wide range of evidence which may be written, numerical and graphical to explain the degree of reliability in contexts which may be familiar or unfamiliar
- The total maximum mark for Paper 2 is 28, this is calculated as follows:
 - One 10 mark “objectivity” question
 - One 10 mark “conclusions” question
 - One 8 mark “reliability” question

The overall total maximum mark is 80.

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The provisional grade is based on candidate performance in the assessments conducted in May. The candidates were given an assessment that was created, in its entirety, by the SQA and marking was undertaken using the SQA produced marking information and in line with the most recent guidance produced by the SQA. The assessments were carried out over 3 sittings, in line with SQA Guidance and South Ayrshire Council’s Verification/Moderation Plans.

Papers were then marked, internally moderated and verified, and a sample of papers were reviewed/moderated/verified by another school within South Ayrshire Council in line with South Ayrshire Council’s Verification/Moderation Plans. The candidate’s total score out of the maximum 80 marks was used to create the provisional grade.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

Assessment papers will be marked anonymously at every stage of the marking, moderation and verification process. Papers will be anonymously marked by the class teacher. These have been cross marked within the school by a second class teacher. Any inconsistencies have been discussed and have been resolved in line with SQA marking standards. A sample of these papers were then marked by another Modern Studies teacher/department from within South Ayrshire Council to ensure consistency across the local authority in line with South Ayrshire Council’s Verification/Moderation Plans, developed by the Modern Studies Network and supported by South Ayrshire Council’s Education team.

Music – Higher & Advanced Higher

1. Course Structure

Components:

Instrument 1 = 30 grades Weighting = 30%

Instrument 2 = 30 grades Weighting = 30%

Or

1 Instrument = 60 grades Weighting = 60%

Total programme length = 10 minutes (grade 4) 15 minutes (grade 5) for Advanced Higher

Understanding Music component Listening Assessment = 40%.

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

Performing - The evidence we have used for the provisional grade is based upon video evidence of a pupil's performance during the year. Each piece of music has been recorded separately.

Understanding Music – Is a written assessment which pupils will complete in class time under assessment conditions. Pupils have completed an understanding music course and a revision course. Pupils also received revision booklets to prepare them for the Understanding Music assessment.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

Performance element- Each piece performed is cross marked by 2 experienced members of staff one of which is an SQA performance examiner.

Understanding Music- All Understanding Music Assessments were cross marked by 2 staff and have been moderated by a South Ayrshire School Music Principal Teacher.

Samples of candidates work for the performance and understanding music elements will be reviewed by other teachers within the authority.

Physical Education – Higher

1. Course Structure

Practical Performance = 50% of Overall Award. Pupils get graded on ONE activity of their choice (the activity may have to fit into the restrictions that are in place with regards Tier systems). This activity will be graded out of 60 marks.

Theory Grade = 50% of Overall Award. Pupils will sit a Key Piece of Assessment (KPA). The KPA will be completed across 2 double periods. This be used as the main piece of evidence to contribute towards the provisional grade. This assessment will be graded out of 50 marks

Section 1 = 1 Double Period and is worth 32 marks

Section 2&3 = 1 Double Period and is worth 18 marks

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

Provisional grade will be derived by the combination of Practical Performance Score and Key Pieces of Assessment to give an overall percentage. This percentage will fall into categories of notional grade bandings (e.g. A, B, C, D, and No Award). From here the grade will be determined.

Whilst we will be using the above application of grades to come up with an “overall percentage” we will also take into account a holistic view of each candidates other pieces of assessment e.g. end of sections tests etc. This will further inform how the overall provisional grade will be derived.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

Practical Performance

All practical performances will moderated/verified by 2 members of the PE dept. A PE teacher from a partner school will also visit to moderate/verify a sample of performances if time allows. Where possible videos will be taken of performances for further verification with partner school.

Theory Grade

25% of Portfolio assessments will be cross marked within department.

15% portfolio scripts will be sent to Authority Marking Team for moderation/verification.

Photography – Higher

1. Course Structure

Components:

Folio = 100 grades

Written Assessment= 60 grades

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

Photography Folio - The evidence we have used for the provisional grade is based upon the folio produced by a student during the year. Each piece of evidence is also digitally stored.

Critical Assessment – Is a written assessment. The evidence we have used is the Critical Assessment which pupils will complete in class time under assessment conditions. Pupils have completed a Critical written course and a revision course. Pupils also received revision booklets to prepare them for the Critical assessment.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

To ensure standards are maintained both locally and nationally, we will use a question paper and coursework provided by the SQA. These assessments will not require moderation to ensure validity and reliability. Marking instructions and Grade criteria will be standardised based on candidate responses. For the purpose of Quality Assurance we will carry out internal verification of candidates work to ensure consistency of marking and to ensure a fair unbiased provisional grade is awarded based on demonstrated attainment. Each piece of key evidence is cross marked by 2 experienced members of staff with in the school. As a network we will undertake external verification activities by sampling pupil evidence across South Ayrshire to ensure the consistency and robustness of the grades awarded.

Physics – Higher

1. Course Structure

Topics covered: - Electricity and Energy, Our Dynamic Universe, Particles and Waves

Due to Covid-19 lockdown, the Assignment component of the course was removed by SQA.

Written Assessment

Total of 155 marks

Paper 1 Multiple choice 45min

Paper 2 Extended Questions 2hrs 15mins

2. How has the provisional grade been derived?

The written assessment will take place in May. This will cover the entire course as specified by SQA guidance. The marks from these assessments will be the evidence for the derivation of a provisional grade for each pupil.

The assignment component has been removed by the SQA and will form no part of the provisional grade evidence.

3. Internal Moderation and Verification.

To ensure the assessments are within SQA guidance and standard, moderation and verification will take place via South Ayrshire's Physics Teachers Network. This will allow the quality of the assessment, marking and judgement of provisional grades to be independently quality checked and ensure consistency throughout schools in South Ayrshire.

Physics – Advanced Higher

Topics Covered: -

Rotational Motion and Astrophysics, Quanta and Waves,
Electromagnetism

Written assessment

155 marks

Attempted in 3hrs

The written assessment will take place in May. This will cover the entire course as specified by SQA guidance. The marks from these assessments will be the evidence for the derivation of a provisional grade for each pupil.

The project component has been removed by the SQA and will form no part of the provisional grade evidence.

The same internal verification and moderation policy above applies.

