



Mearns Academy

Aberdeen Road
Laurencekirk AB30 1ZJ
Telephone 01561 400700
mearns.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
www.mearns.aberdeenshire.sch.uk

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Dear Parents/Carers

As you will be aware from media coverage an announcement was made yesterday by the Deputy First Minister that there will be no Higher or Advanced Higher exams in 2021. The DFM went on to say that a new model has been developed and will base awards on teacher judgement of evidence of learner attainment.

Our assessment window in December has allowed staff and young people to gain an early marker on progress and the feedback given will be used to ensure improvement. It is important to recognise that our assessment window is only one element of evidence which may be used. As a school each Faculty will use the best pieces/quality of work throughout the year for each young person. Examples of different types of evidence that may be used are prelims or mock exams, SQA specimen question papers or past paper, commercially produced question papers/assessments, class assessments/tests. With the cancellation of the exam diet this will allow us to extend learning time into May, which will be to the benefit of all young people.

We understand that this change may cause anxiety amongst parents/carers and our young people. As a school with an outstanding record of high attainment over several years, we will continue to do all we can in supporting all our young people.

Thank you for your understanding and support during this challenging time.

G Campbell

Gareth Campbell

Head Teacher