

# National Qualifications 2021

CERG

03 June 2021





# Alternative certification model 2021

## Stage 1

Ongoing until April 2021

Teachers and lecturers access subject specific guidance, assessment resources and Understanding Standards materials and webinars from SQA.

## Stage 2

From April to May 2021

School, college and local authority quality assurance continues. During May, SQA requests, reviews and provides feedback on samples of assessment evidence from each school and college.

## Stage 3

End of May to 25 June 2021

Schools, colleges, local authorities and SQA work through final stages of local and national quality assurance and feedback to reach provisional results that are consistent, impartial and fair.

## Stage 4

By 25 June 2021

Schools and colleges submit quality assured provisional results to SQA.

## Stage 5

Appeals process

Appeals process for 2020-21 - to be advised following consultation.



# Quality Assurance

- All provisional results are based on quality assured evidence of demonstrated attainment
- Assessment evidence is quality assured locally both by centres and local authorities and nationally by SQA
- Education Scotland report on local quality assurance
- SQA quality assurance of all centres. Selections are random or for new centres
- On track to issue:
  - specific feedback to all centres for subjects selected
  - Key themes/messages for most subjects/levels – available for all centres next week.



# SQA Appeals Service – key elements

- Free, direct right of appeal for learners
- Aligned to principles and responsibilities of agreed Alternative Certification Model to ensure a consistent approach to awarding decisions – demonstrated attainment and symmetry.
- Intention to appeal can be made from 25 June
- Centres to provide advice and support for learners to make an informed decision
- Grounds are broad:
  - Academic judgement
  - Unresolved administrative error
  - Discrimination, in specific circumstances
- Prioritisation based on need - e.g. FE/HE/workplace progression
- Clear leading role for SQA following consultation, but a system-wide approach remains critical:
  - Support for learners' confidence in their results and informed decision
  - Collation of evidence or information needed for appeal
  - Availability of teacher and lecturer appointees



# Contingency arrangements for incomplete assessment evidence

- For learners who have completed their learning but whose opportunity to engage with the assessment process has been disproportionately disrupted and so have not completed all the required assessments by 25 June
- Centres will carefully consider and decide in the best interests of the learner who is eligible for the service
- No expectation of any further learning input by centres – enhanced e-Sgoil offer
- Assessment should take place when centres return after the summer break
- Centre will submit provisional results by 3 September
- Learners using the service will be eligible to appeal
- More detailed guidance will be provided very shortly



# Next Steps

- Letter to all learners on further support and communication on appeals
- At the request of centres, further information on sharing provisional results
- More details on using incomplete evidence contingency arrangement and updated Provisional Results Service to be sent w/c 7 June to allow centres to identify learners needing the service post 10 August
- All subject specific and key messages reports for national Quality Assurance exercise issued during w/c 7 June
- Ongoing communication of ACM stages and milestones
- Clarity on assessment approach in 2022

