

## Education and Learning Directorate

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### **Moffat Academy**

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Dear parent/carer and pupil

#### **Exam results 2020**

In response to the cancellation of the 2020 exams, SQA developed an alternative certification model to ensure the hard work of Scotland's learners is fully recognised. The alternative certification model allows SQA to award grades to all learners entered for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses as fairly and reliably as possible, across subjects and levels.

The alternative certification model is based on teachers' and lecturers' estimates, which have been moderated by schools, colleges and SQA. The process may lead to a candidate or group of candidates being certificated with a grade that is different from their estimated grade. To be as fair as possible to candidates, SQA are providing a post-certification review (appeals) service to allow centres to request a review of the grade awarded for a candidate or a group of candidates.

As things have been very different this year the appeals process is too. I have pulled together some important information to support you.

Candidates will receive their results on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

On this date, due to the deep clean taking place in preparation for the new session, we would ask that pupils/parents/carers with queries do not come to school but make contact via telephone. Our phone lines will be manned from 9am – 3.30pm. Please call 01683 222000 and you will be forwarded to myself or one of my DHTs or PTs for support and advice.

A post certificate review will only be approved if the school estimated the candidate to be working at a higher level. A successful post-certification review request will result in a change of grade only — a change in band is not a feature of the review. Post certification review is **available for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Courses in 2020 only.**

A request for a post certificate review can only be made by the Head Teacher with the candidate's approval (this requires a candidate's signature or this year an email of confirmation).

**Requests directly to the SQA by candidates or their parents/carers will not be accepted.**

Centres are able to request one of two post-certification review types:

- **a priority review** (Priority reviews are for candidates with a conditional university or college offer **only**)
- **a review**

### The post certification review process

A review will involve two key stages:

- Review of alternative assessment evidence provided by the school.
- Review of any additional non-question paper evidence held by SQA.

The examiner will make a holistic judgement on the totality of the evidence available to them and award the candidate a grade.

There are three possible outcomes:

- Agree with the original centre estimate and upgrade the candidate result.
- Disagree with the original centre estimate and confirm the grade awarded by SQA.
- Disagree with both the original centre estimate and the original grade awarded by SQA and apply an alternative, lower grade.

The outcome of a post-certification review is an academic judgement. It represents the considered findings of an examiner, taking into account all the evidence available to them, and it is not possible to appeal the outcome on this basis.

Key Dates:

### PRIORITY REVIEWS

Tuesday, 04/08/20	Request service opens
<b>Friday, 14/08/20</b>	<b>Deadline for submission of Priority Review requests</b>
Thursday, 20/08/20	Uplift of evidence by carrier
Friday, 04/09/20	Issue outcomes to centres/HEIs/UCAS

### REVIEWS

Tuesday, 04/08/20	Request service opens
<b>Friday, 21/08/20</b>	<b>Deadline for submission of Review requests</b>
Thursday, 27/08/20	Uplift of evidence by carrier
TBC**	Issue outcomes to centres/HEIs/UCAS

\*\*There is no date for conclusion as this will depend on volumes received.

If you are in any doubt, please contact the school on the 4<sup>th</sup> August and we will do all we can to answer any questions and support you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Andrea Macfarlane  
Acting Head Teacher