

Winchburgh Academy

Senior Phase SQA Information

Tuesday 23rd September 2025

Respect, Kindness & Ambition



Aims:

1. Parents and carers have raised awareness and understanding of the SQA National Qualifications (including additional assessment arrangements)
2. Parents and carers are more aware of the key aspects of National Qualification assessments and the key SQA dates
3. Parents and carers are further aware of school key dates and supports
4. Parents and carers are aware of how to access support about their child's next steps beyond school (Skills Development Scotland)

Key School Staff

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| ▶ C Campbell (ABSM) | SQA Coordinator |
| ▶ J Reilly | SQA Administrator |
| ▶ J Mitchell | SLT SQA Overview |
| ▶ C Ssentamu | SFL - Assessment Arrangements Coordinator |
| ▶ C Kerr | S4 Year Head |
| ▶ S Oliver | PT Pupil Support |

Principal Teachers:

K Borthwick (English, Social Subjects, Business, Spanish)


R Carter (Practical Woodwork, Graphics, Practical Cookery, Music & Music Tech)

C McNally (Maths, Apps of Maths, Computing)

R King (Sciences, Science in the Environment & Art)

F Forrest (PE)

What are 'National Qualifications'?

 scottish credit and qualifications framework

SCQF Level	Previous/Existing	Replaced by	Resulting
7	Advanced Higher	Advanced Higher	Graded A-D
6	Higher	Higher	Graded A-D
5	SG Credit/Int2	National 5	Graded A-D
4	SG General/Int1	National 4	Pass/Fail
3	Access 3/SG Foundation	National 3	Pass/Fail
2	Access 2	National 2	Pass/Fail
1	Access 1	National 1	Pass/Fail

What to expect

- ◆ Almost all SQA National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher Courses include coursework as well as an exam.

Types of Coursework

- Assignment Performance
- Case Study Portfolio
- Practical Activity Project

Course assessment for N5, Higher and AH are externally marked by SQA, or internally marked by the centre and then quality assured by SQA.

Know the Rules

If your child is studying National Qualifications, make sure they read the “***Your National Qualifications***” and “***Your Exams***” booklets. They include the rules for submitting their coursework and sitting their exams.



Study support

Visit www.sqa.org.uk/learners for more information


SQA has study tools that are free for your child to use:

- ◆ Past papers
- ◆ Study planner & timetable apps





Understanding Standards




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↓ Subjects

Select a subject 


Welcome to the Understanding Standards website

The purpose of the website is to provide teachers with an opportunity to understand the standards of assessment as they are applied by the SQA examination teams. It therefore assumes that users have subject knowledge and some familiarity with the examination papers and assessment arrangements.

Users have the opportunity to consider the principles which underpin the marking of their subjects and to apply an understanding of these by marking exemplar candidate responses and comparing the marks they give with those given by the marking team. A commentary from a senior marker is supplied with each example.

Contact the USW team

If you wish to contact the Understanding Standards website team about any aspect of the website, please use the [Contact](#) tab.



SCN (Scottish Candidate Number)

- The Scottish Candidate Number (SCN) provides a unique record of a candidate's SQA achievements, and each candidate should only ever have one SCN
- On Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC)



Appeals



Assessment Arrangements

- Assessment arrangements support disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs to access our qualifications and to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in assessments.
- This guide explains how assessment arrangements work and gives some examples of the arrangements that are available:

www.sqa.org.uk/learnerassessmentarrangements



Assessment Arrangements

C Ssentamu

SFL - Assessment Arrangements Coordinator

[Type here]



WINCHBURGH ACADEMY



Assessment Arrangements Policy

[Type here]

Quality Assurance Calendar 2025-26

Date	Process
June / August 2025	Create folders / update spreadsheet for evidence gathering, permission letters etc (CS).
September 2025 / October 2025	Discuss with identified pupils in new S4 additional arrangements (CS/subject teachers) Updated spreadsheet with recommended individual arrangement and issue to staff. Information also inputted onto Seemis (JR) In-School Assessment Arrangements - specific pupils Aug 25.xlsx Training to begin with pupils who prefer using digital papers / natural reader instead of human reader (CS) Training for staff on new AA procedures (CS)
17 October 2025	Requests for additional arrangement and submission of evidence deadline to faculty PT CS to gather evidence and collate for verification.
27 October 2025	Letter and additional arrangement information leaflet issued to parents and students (CS)
November 2025	AA prelim timetable (CK & CS) Pupil timetables (CK) School verification meetings. Dates to be agreed (CC/CS/JM) Pupil prelim timetables issued (CK)
December 25	Prelims
30 January 2026	Deadline - SQA AA system for adapted and digital papers (CS/JR)
February 2026	Following prelims review additional arrangements, any new arrangements put in place and new letters issued (CS) Verify any new arrangements Dates to be agreed (CC/CS/JR)
March 2026	AA SQA timetable (CK) Pupil timetables issued (CK) Estimated invigilator numbers to Chief Invigilator (CC) New/additional GDPR forms signed by students and / or parents/carers (CS)
27 March 2026	Deadline – SAQ AA system for additional requests (JR)
April 2026 – May 2026	SQA exam diet

Assessment Arrangements

C Ssentamu

SFL - Assessment Arrangements Coordinator

Delivering Additional Arrangements

After appropriate consultation, the school will determine how the candidate's ASN will be supported, and which additional arrangements are appropriate across the curriculum.

Additional arrangements may include:

- adapted assessment papers
- digital question papers
- ICT using appropriate software (with/without spellchecker)
- bilingual dictionary
- additional use of calculator
- extra time/rest breaks
- separate accommodation / smaller setting
- prompt to keep candidates on task
- reader/e-reader/scribe
- transcription/transcription with correction
- communication devices

Candidates who are eligible for AA should have regular opportunities to access additional arrangements as part of their everyday learning. Candidates will require training and practice to make the most effective use of their additional arrangements. Decisions on the use of additional arrangements should be taken in partnership with candidates, parents/ carers and relevant school staff.

Additional arrangements should reflect the methods most suited to an individual candidate's learning style. In assessments, the candidate should have access to the support they normally receive in the classroom. It is recognised that, by their nature, some standardised assessments preclude such flexibility.

Alternative Assessment Arrangements for Prelims and SQA Exams 2025/2026

Pupil name:

Year group:

Scottish Candidate Name:

I have been informed that the following SQA assessment arrangements are being requested for me:

I fully understand what this means and intend to use these arrangements in my examinations where there is sufficient evidence to show I require this assessment arrangement.

I give my consent for the school to share any data with the SQA and allow the school to make this request on my behalf.

Print pupil name:

Pupil signature:

Date:

Print parent/carer name:

Parent/carer signature:

Date:

Prelims

- ▶ Monday 1st December - Friday 12th December
- ▶ Internal (likely with employed invigilators)
- ▶ Auldcathie/Millgate Suite
- ▶ Opportunity for S4 students to experience the formalities of exams
- ▶ Parts of courses assessed
- ▶ Opportunity to collate assessment evidence for young people
- ▶ No study leave for prelim - (will be in place for SQA exams in May as coordinated centrally by WLC, communications about the terms/conditions in advance of SQA exams beginning)

Prelims - Draft TT

Winchburgh Academy Prelim Timetable

Week 1 (beg. 01.12.25)

Day	AM	PM
Monday	English	
Tuesday	Business	Modern Studies
Wednesday	Biology	Practical Cookery
Thursday	Maths/Apps	Spanish
Friday	History	

Week 2 (beg. 08.12.25)

Day	AM	PM
Monday	Chemistry	Art & Design
Tuesday	Music	Computing
Wednesday	Physics	Graphics
Thursday	Environmental Science	Music Tech

Presentations

- ▶ Ambitious and realistic for all young people
- ▶ Carefully considered
- ▶ Any level changes through SLT only (in partnership with parents/carers)
- ▶ Tracking and reporting will give good insight regarding progress throughout the session
- ▶ We'll be in touch throughout the year to discuss any progress concerns, interventions, required support
- ▶ Continuous learning conversations between teachers and students (big part of TMR)

Winchburgh Academy - Supported Study

Supported Study Term 1


Monday	Time	Teacher
Chemistry N5	12.40-1.10pm	Dr. Moncrieff
English	3.40-4.30pm	Miss McIntosh
Maths N5	12.40-1.10pm	Mrs McNally
Maths N5	3.40-5.00pm	Mrs McNally
Tuesday	Time	Teacher
Maths N4	3.40-4.30pm	Mr Weaver
Practical Cookery	3.40-4.10pm	Miss Donald
Graphic Communication	3.40-4.10pm	Mr Carter
Business Management	3.40-4.30pm	Mrs Nicholson
Biology	3.40-4.30pm	Mr King
Music/Music Tech	3.40-4.10pm	Mr McDowall
Wednesday	Time	Teacher
History	12.30-1.10pm	Mr Davies
Modern Studies	3.40-4.30pm	Miss Marshall
Thursday	Time	Teacher
Music	12.40-1.10pm	Mrs Birrell
Maths N5 Apps	3.40-4.30pm	Mrs McIntosh
Art N5	3.40-4.30pm	Miss Chisholm

Supported Study (e-sgoil)

<https://www.e-sgoil.com/senior-phase/study-support/>



Evening Study Support 2025-26



STUDY SUPPORT
2025-26


MONDAY		
	Maths	N5
5pm	Health & Food Technology	N5/Higher
	Biology	Adv Higher
	Maths	N4
6pm	Physics	Higher
	Physics	Adv Higher
	Human Biology	Higher
	Business Management	N5
	Applications of Maths	N5
	RMPS	N5/Higher
	Practical Cookery	N5
	Politics	H
7pm	Applications of Maths	Higher
	Biology	Higher
	Computing Science	Higher

TUESDAY		
5pm	Music	N5
	Maths	Higher
	Modern Studies	Higher
6pm	Spanish	Higher
	Maths	Adv Higher
	Business Management	Higher
	Music	Higher
7pm	English	Higher
	Chemistry	Adv Higher
	English (1)	N5


THURSDAY		
5pm	Admin & IT (Theory only) *	Higher
	German	N5
	Art & Design	N5
	English	N4
6pm	Physics	N5
	Chemistry	Higher
	Design & Manufacture	N5/Higher
	Biology	N5
	Art & Design *	Higher
	German	Higher
7pm	Graphic Communication	N5
	PE	Higher
	Computing Science	N5

WEDNESDAY		
5pm	ESOL	N5
	French	N5
	Engineering Science	N5
6pm	Geography	Higher
	History	Adv Higher
	Graphic Communication	Higher
	Geography	N5
7pm	Engineering Science	Higher
	French	Higher
	English (2)	N5
	History	N5

www.e-sgoil.com



National e-Learning Offer



* starting 4th December

* starting 20th November

SQA Timetable 2026

The 2026 exams will start on Wednesday 22 April and now finish on Tuesday 2 June. Results day will be Tuesday 4 August.

Exam timetable will be published by SQA on Thursday 25 September.

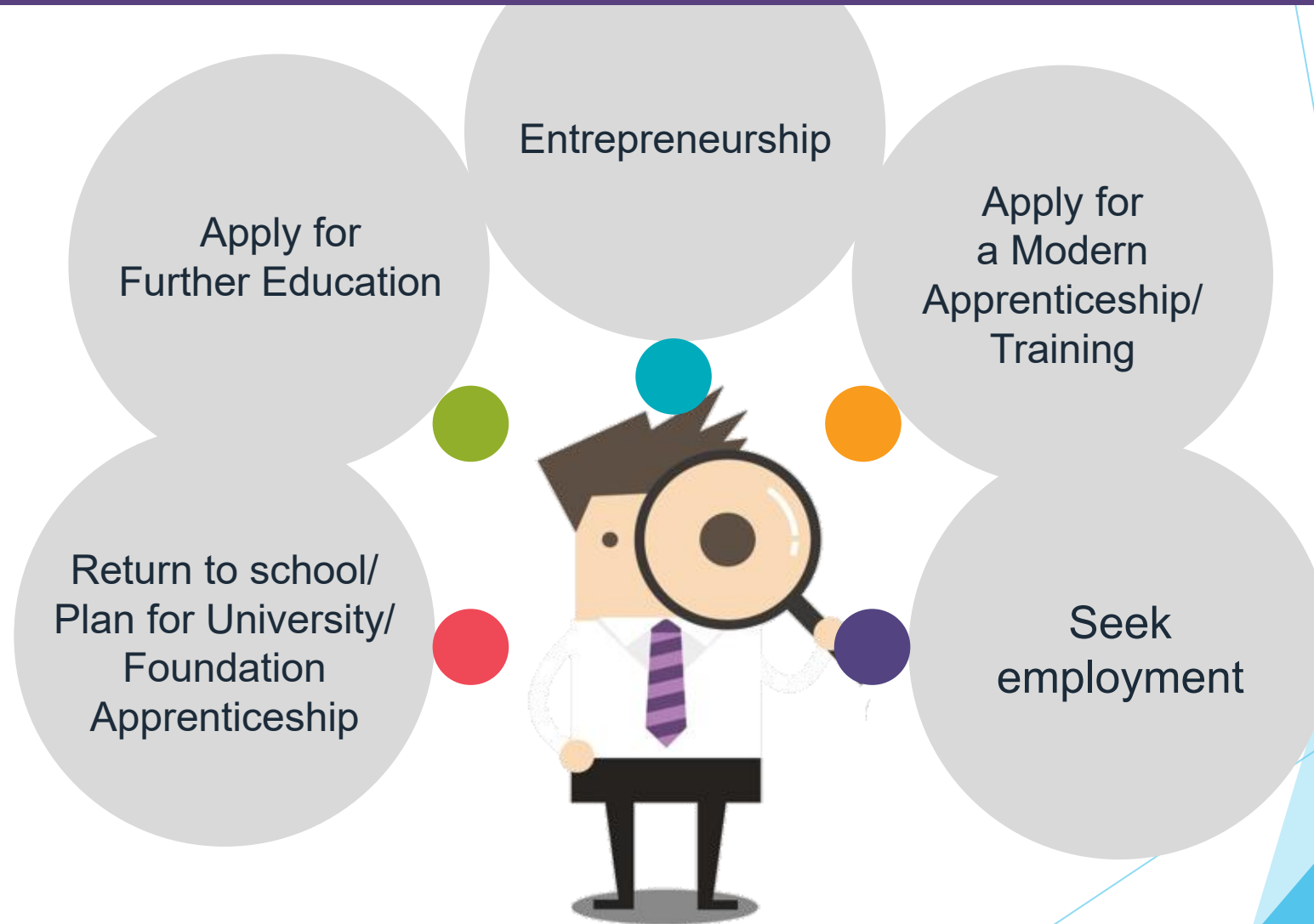
[Exam timetable and learner apps - SQA](#)

Key Dates

- ▶ Prelims 1st – 12th December

Jolene Keddie Careers Adviser Winchburgh Academy S4 Options Choices

Routes & Pathways



Where did last years school leaver go?

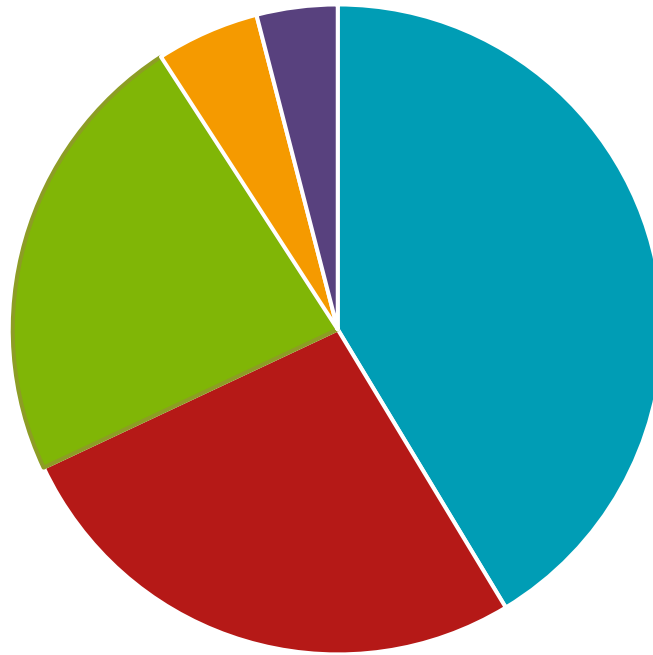


SOURCE: Scottish Government Summary Statistics for Attainment & Initial Leaver Destinations, No. 7: 2025 Edition, February 2025

Where did last years school leavers go?

Initial School Leavers Destinations in Scotland
3 Months after leaving school in 2024

95.7%
In positive
destinations



40.8%
Higher Education



26.4%
Further Education



23.1%
Employment



5.4%
Training



4.0%
Unemployment

SOURCE: Scottish Government Summary Statistics for Attainment & Initial Leaver Destinations, No. 7: 2025 Edition, February 2025

*Training, voluntary work & Personal Skills Development data has been combined

My World of Work

What's out there?

How to find the right information



Apprenticeships.scot

APPRENTICESHIPS.SCOT

From Skills Development Scotland

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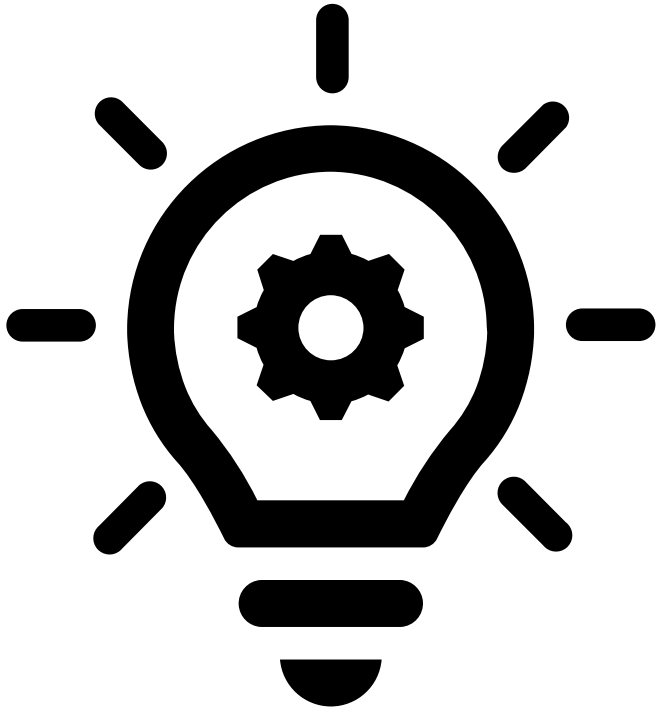
Jolene Keddie
Careers Adviser

How to make an
appointment – speak to
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direct.

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Final Thoughts

Thanks