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| **Reminder of contingency plans for 2022 exams** |
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| **Monday 13 December 2021** |
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| Following the emergence of the Omicron variant, SQA has received questions from centres, parents and learners about its plans for exams in 2022. This follows the statement given by the First Minister last week.We want to reassure you that SQA has robust contingency plans in place that support learners, parents, carers, teachers and lecturers over the coming months, and that we are continuing to work closely with the Scottish Government’s COVID-19 Education Recovery Group, and the National Qualifications 2022 (NQ22) Group, which includes learner, parent and carer representatives, professional associations and education leaders.When the Scottish Government confirmed its intention for national exams to take place in 2022, we outlined plans detailing three scenarios. We are currently in **Scenario 1**; preparing for the national exam diet with significant modifications to the 2021-22 course assessments – coursework and/or exams – which were announced at the start of the session. These assessment modifications are in place to help learners by taking account of disruption to learning caused by the pandemic.Should there be significantly more disruption to learning and teaching across the country, we will enter **Scenario 2** where we will provide additional support for learners to help them prepare and revise for the 2022 exams, where that is possible. Not all courses will have revision support as some do not have an exam in 2022, or the exam has been reduced in size through the modifications we have already made. However, in this situation, the vast majority of learners will receive help from revision support in one or more of their courses. There will not be any further modifications made to the actual course assessments.Should the Scottish Government cancel the exams due to public health restrictions at the time of exams, we will enter **Scenario 3**. That means the evidence you are gathering through normal in-year assessment to determine your learners’ estimates can be used to form the basis of their provisional results.We fully appreciate your efforts, expertise and commitment at this extremely challenging time. |
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| [Read more about each of the scenarios](https://pages2.sqa.org.uk/dc/NbVS44I-w0O9BMo0SOPrk9WUUuGo9YjMbQqXhFhaFaEe3aV_KoUwq9H9h9ew3K4QHeEMDrBiJGLNqrp-FMvHPu-PqnQdzKMjJkbGg1uEKq4nsYTvcYD5sfkxlWfRzqq28sOg-TlJaYNAGYjak5z72E08zzyCY89uyzjWC81TLtmjsSRexgNkPEuJo5atcFr-R572yOnGgI6Lk2vP-UoFHg%3D%3D/NTA1LVlCSC0zMDAAAAGBU0CoIhnNCDn9YDEqvpMlP132yvQgMZTWXQyodG7P3kUWifCh2SVQFOHBQV8HiwcSudKzF2k%3D) |

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| **Exceptional circumstances and appeals**Prior to the pandemic, when exams last took place, there were services available to support learners who, for example, were unable to sit exams due to circumstances out with their control in the run up to or on the day of their exam, or who received results that were not what they were expecting.We recognise the ongoing difficulties once again facing this year’s learners, most of whom will be sitting SQA exams for the first time, so we are planning to put similar support services in place for 2022.We are discussing our plans for these support services with key stakeholders such as parents, carers, learners, teachers and lecturers as well as members of the NQ22 Group and will confirm our plans for these services as soon as possible in the new year. **Keeping you informed**We want to thank you again for your professionalism, and your commitment to your learners, and we are extremely grateful for your hard work and support in delivering this year’s National Qualifications despite the continuing challenges and uncertainty you are experiencing.We will do our best to keep you informed as we progress through the session and wish you a safe and prosperous festive season. |
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| [Read the latest information on NQ Awarding 2021-22](https://pages2.sqa.org.uk/dc/NbVS44I-w0O9BMo0SOPrk9WUUuGo9YjMbQqXhFhaFaEe3aV_KoUwq9H9h9ew3K4QHeEMDrBiJGLNqrp-FMvHPu-PqnQdzKMjJkbGg1uEKq4nsYTvcYD5sfkxlWfRzqq28sOg-TlJaYNAGYjak5z72E08zzyCY89uyzjWC81TLtmjsSRexgNkPEuJo5atcFr-R572yOnGgI6Lk2vP-UoFHg%3D%3D/NTA1LVlCSC0zMDAAAAGBU0CoIhnNCDn9YDEqvpMlP132yvQgMZTWXQyodG7P3kUWifCh2SVQFOHBQV8HiwcSudKzF2k%3D) |

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