SQA logo





National 5

Assessment Guide

2020-2021

Edition 2: Revised13 January 2021

Dear Pupil

On 7 October, the Deputy First Minister announced that for 2020-21, National 5 results will be based on teacher judgement supported by a strong set of checks which we call 'quality assurance.'

Following on from this the SQA set up a National Qualifications 2021 Group to develop advice on subject specific guidance for National 5 courses, the Alternative Certification Model for National 5. This process has now been completed. This booklet will provide you with the specific details of how assessment will be carried for all National 5 courses on offer in Turnbull High School. It also provides dates for when key evidence will be collected.

The National Qualifications 2021 Group has also overseen the development of the quality assurance process. Provisional results, provided by our teachers, will be finalised following various checks by our school, our local authority and SQA. This will include senior subject specialists from SQA checking samples of assessments from Turnbull High School. They will be checking that our assessments have been marked to the national standard.

Here's how the National 5 quality assurance model will work in session 2020-21:

- Your school uses guidance and assessment materials to help gather your evidence.
- Schools are supported in using the national standard for when they decide your provisional results.
- SQA will request, review and give feedback on samples of assessment evidence from your school.
- Your school and local authority will check your assessment evidence.
- Your school and local authority will look at SQA feedback and check your provisional results.
- Your school will send your provisional results to SQA by 28 May 2021.
- SQA will carry out a national check of the provisional results. They may follow up with your school about any issues we find.

After SQA checks the provisional results, your school might be asked to update this result and resend it to SQA. Any changes to your provisional results will only happen after your school talk to SQA, and once a senior subject specialist in SQA has reviewed the evidence sent in by your school.

Please take time to read the subjects that relate to you carefully with your parent/carer and plan your study timetable.

Further advice can be sought from your class teacher or from your Pastoral Care teacher.

I would like to wish you all every success in the coming months.

Eileen Kennedy Head Teacher

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT KEYS TO

SUCCESS IS HAVING THE

DISCIPLINE TO DO WHAT YOU KNOW YOU SHOULD DO. EVEN WHEN YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING IT.

DEPARTMENT: Art and Design

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Pupils will produce two folios of work for the National 5 course. One design folio and one expressive folio both total 200 marks. Each folio is split into 3 sections:

Section 1 titled 'process' has 40 marks.

Section 2 titled 'skills' has 50 marks.

Section 3 titled 'evaluation' has 10 marks.

Expressive Unit:

- Research- Drawings 3-4 studies of individual items
- Development- At least two development ideas using the images from their research using a selection of materials, techniques and/or technology, visual elements and expressive effects
- Final outcome- One image further developed from previous ideas.
- Evaluation Express justified personal opinions on their decisions and the effectiveness of the design qualities of their portfolio

Design Unit:

- Research- Responding to their design brief pupils compile drawings /photographs/ and market research related to their chosen theme
- Development- At least two development ideas using the images from their research, which display using a selection of materials, techniques and/or technology, and demonstrating their understanding of design elements
- Final outcome- Final design further developed from previous ideas.
- Evaluation express justified personal opinions on their decisions and the effectiveness of the design qualities of their portfolio

Pupil homework records and class assessments for critical activity (expressive) will also contribute to the gathering of evidence.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Expressive Folio	On-going until the end of April
Design folio	On-going until the end of April
Departmental assessment (Critical)	Dec 2020
Departmental assessment (Critical)	Feb 2021
Departmental assessment (Critical)	May 2021

DEPARTMENT: BECS

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Administration and IT

Early February:

Taking into account the specific advice form the SQA the assessment will be carried out in either "one; three hour or two; one and a half hour session".

April

Taking into account the specific advice form the SQA, the assessment will be carried out in either "one; three hour or two; one and a half hour session".

Business Management

Early February:

3 cycles of combined assessment, which will take place in class time. These will mirror the sections of assessment in the course outline.

Early May

3 cycles of combined assessment, which will take place in class time. These will mirror the sections of assessment in the course outline.

Computing Science

Early February

- 1 written paper on Computer Science and Software Development
- 1 Practical assignment on Software development (Visual basic)
- 1 Written paper on Web design and development
- 1 Practical assignment on Web development

Early May

- 1 written paper on Computer Science and |Software development
- 1 Practical assignment on Software Development (Visual basic)
- 1 Written paper on Web design and Development
- 1 Practical assignment on Web Development

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Administration & IT	February & April
Business Management	February & May
Computing Science	February & May

DEPARTMENT: Biology

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Context

In Biology, the SQA have stated that the key pieces of evidence can include:

- ♦ an examination, covering as much of the course as possible
- ♦ a supplementary examination, covering areas not included in the first examination
- ♦ end-of-topic tests, including grade A marks can be used as supplementary evidence

We must gather key evidence in closed-book conditions and under a high degree of supervision and control. Examinations will replicate, as closely as possible, the SQA examination in style, level of demand, and conditions of assessment

All the key evidence we gather will be used to form a judgement about estimated grades. Our judgement will be holistic rather than focusing only on the piece of key evidence that gives the best grade for an individual. However we will give greater weight to the evidence that most closely mirrors the SQA question paper.

Evidence Gathering Plan

- A/B Test's Pupils have already been assessed in 2 Units with A/B style tests (Cell Biology and Life on Earth) these will form part of our evidence base.
- To be arranged on pupil return to classroom teaching (during February) SQA format paper assessing Cell Biology and Life on Earth units. Sit multiple choice paper during 1 period and written paper split over 3 periods.
- A/B Test Multicellular Organisms Unit end March.

Start May – SQA format paper assessing Multicellular Organisms unit plus some content from Cell Biology and Life on Earth units. Sit multiple choice paper during 1 period and written paper split over several periods.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Assessment covering Cell Biology and Life on Earth Units	To be arranged on pupil return to classroom teaching (during February).
Assessment covering Multicellular Organisms plus some content from Cell Biology and Life on Earth units	Early May
3. Unit A/B Tests	September/November/March

DEPARTMENT: Chemistry

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Context:

Key phrases from "National 5 Chemistry: Guidance on assessments and gathering evidence":

"The key pieces of evidence in chemistry are:

- an examination, covering as much of the course as possible
- an end-of-course test or top-up examination that includes the areas of the course not covered in the first examination
- end-of-topic tests that include grade A marks, which may be used as supplementary evidence to support the above examinations"

"The closer the evidence is to the standard, format, and duration of the National 5 Chemistry question paper the more realistic and reliable estimates should be. You should...give greater weight to the evidence that mirrors the SQA question paper most closely."

Our judgement will be holistic rather than focusing only on the piece of key evidence that gives the best grade for an individual. We will give greater weight to the evidence that most closely mirrors the SQA question paper.

Evidence Gathering Plan:

- An examination completed under a high degree of supervision and control covering at least Unit 1 and 2 replicating as closely as possible the standard, format and duration of National 5 Chemistry question paper. This will be split into smaller sections to be covered over a number of periods.
- A second, top-up examination that includes content from Unit 3.
- Continue to complete end of unit tests which contain 30% A grade marks as supplementary evidence to support the above.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Unit 1 Test including A level questions	October 2020
Unit 2 Test including A level questions	December 2020
Prelim-like examination of Unit 1 and Unit 2	After pupils return to school
Unit 3 Test including A level questions	March 2021
Exam-like whole course/top-up	April 2021

DEPARTMENT: English

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

As part of the evidence gathering process for National 5 English, pupils will undergo assessments in each of the four key elements of the course:

- Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation
- Textual Analysis of the Scottish Text
- Critical Essay
- Writing

Pupils will have an opportunity to practice the application of these skills throughout the course of the year, in order to reflect on their strengths and to build upon any areas for development. Pupil performance in these will be used formatively by staff to monitor progress and to ascertain current working levels. They will also help to establish a holistic overview of pupil attainment across the year.

Pupils will also undergo formal, summative assessment in the elements of RUAE, Scottish Text and Critical Essay in February and again in April/May. Pupil performance in both of these assessment diets, along with a final summative assessment in May of Writing skills, will form the foundation upon which course awards will be based.

Throughout the process, pupils will be supported by staff and given every opportunity to demonstrate their ability within the subject and to achieve their full potential. Where appropriate, additional assessment arrangements will also be implemented for pupils to ensure a fair and equal process for all.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
P&N N5 Prelim Paper	February
·	
Pupil Writing Pieces	March/April
· •p · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	April/May
	7 Prii/ May
SQA Produced Assessment Materials	

DEPARTMENT: Geography

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

In Geography, the SQA require pupil evidence on the three units covered in the course: Physical Geography, Human Geography and Global Issues.

The Physical Geography unit consists of the Weather and Glaciation topic. The Human Geography unit consists of the Urban, Rural and Population topics. Global issues unit consists of **either** Climate Change or Health.

To form pupil grades, we will gather evidence of pupil skills and knowledge across all three of these units through class assessments. These assessments will be completed in class.

Our aim is for pupils to have completed the assessments on all three units by the end of February. Following pupil self-evaluation, teacher feedback and support strategies we will deliver a second round of assessments on all three units in May whereby pupils can try to improve upon their initial grade for each unit. A holistic assessment using these pieces of evidence for Physical, Human and Global Issues will be considered to form the basis of pupil estimates.

Time permitting, we aim to gather additional evidence through the assignment. Although this won't be externally marked by the SQA we would mark this internally to provide further evidence of pupil attainment.

We understand assessments can be stressful and cause anxiety for some pupils therefore we have a range of support strategies in place to support pupils in Geography. Every pupil has already been issued with a course notes revision booklet and past paper question booklet. We will provide A3 summary sheets for each topic so pupils can apply their knowledge while revising. We are happy to run supported study sessions for pupils or offer additional revision materials should any pupil require it.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Physical and Human Geography	End of February/ Beginning March
Assessment 1	2021
Global Issues 2	End of March 2021 TBC
Physical and Human Geography 2	May 2021

DEPARTMENT: Health and Food Technology

Subject: N5 Practical Cookery

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Question paper Assignment Practical activity

Class assessments and classwork that is modelled on course assessment will contribute to the gathering of evidence.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Prelim	February 2021
Question Paper Assignment Practical Activity	March 2021 – May 2021
Departmental Assessments	A rolling programme from February – May 2021

DEPARTMENT: Health and Food Technology

Subject: N5 Practical Cake Craft

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Question paper Assignment Practical activity

Class assessments and classwork that is modelled on course assessment will contribute to the gathering of evidence.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Prelim	February 2021
Question Paper Assignment Practical Activity	March 2021 – May 2021
Departmental Assessments	A rolling programme from February – May 2021

DEPARTMENT: Health and Food Technology

Subject: N5 Fashion and Textiles

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Question paper Assignment Practical activity

Class assessments and classwork that is modelled on course assessment will contribute to the gathering of evidence.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Prelim	February 2021
Question Paper Assignment Practical Activity	March 2021 – May 2021
Departmental Assessments	A rolling programme from February – May 2021

DEPARTMENT: History

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

To provide robust evidence, the History Department intend to run the equivalent of two prelims. This is in line with SQA advice that this type of assessment is considered the most reliable indicator to support estimated grades.

In February, 2021, N5 History students will sit the equivalent of a 2 unit prelim- on the Scottish and British topics – which mirrors the requirements of the SQA exam rubric.

In late April or early May pupils will undertake a second prelim- which includes the European and World topic – and thus covers all three units. This will again be broken into separate units to allow it to be run during class time.

These exams are in addition to other key pieces of assessment evidence that may be gathered throughout the year and are intended to ensure the most valid, reliable evidence is generated.

Both the exams and their marking will be moderated across the whole department and at wider authority level to ensure the uniformity and consistency required for estimate discussions and decisions.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
'PRELIM'- 2 units	February 2021
PRELIM – 3 units	April / May 2021

DEPARTMENT: Maths

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Assessment within the National 5 Maths course consist of the following:

Formative assessment

- Accuracy of completion of starter questions
- Verbal feedback through questioning
- Class work and Home work (marked formally as per SQA marking criteria)

Summative assessment

- Early part of the course
 - Single paper topic assessments consisting largely of UASP questions with some past paper questions for challenge
 - Paper 1 and 2 assessments consisting of past paper questions
- Late Jan/early Feb
 - Mini Prelim Paper 1 and Paper 2
 - Papers consisting of questions relating to a range of topics across the course, generally from SQA past papers.
 - As per SQA guidelines:
 - 65% of marks assess grade C skills
 - 65% of marks assess operational skills only
 - 35% of marks assess operational and reasoning skills
- March/April
 - Class exams based on SQA papers from 2020, cut into 45 minute assessments (or as appropriate)
 - As per SQA guidelines (see above)
 - These will take place as late as possible, allowing for time for pupils to undertake a follow up exam(s) if necessary

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Paper 1 and 2	Nov/Dec 2020
Paper 1 and 2	Feb 2021
Paper 1 and 2	March/April 2021
"extra" papers	April/May 2021 as required

DEPARTMENT: Modern Languages – French, Spanish and Italian

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

In Modern Languages we will be assessing all four skills this year; reading, writing, talking and listening (25% weighting per skill).

We will be collating evidence for the reading, writing and listening elements in class throughout the year. Pupils will always be given information about upcoming class tests. As part of our evidence, we will be conducting more formal assessments of reading, listening and job application (writing) at the end of February and again at the end of April /May. The conditions of these assessments, in line with national guidance, will become our most reliable evidence for estimates.

We aim to gather between 2-4 pieces of evidence per pupil to inform our judgements. The talking performance, as per the SQA guidelines, will be a one-off performance as usual in Feb/March. Pupils will be well prepared for this test in advance and supported to ensure they are able to produce work reflective of their ability.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Reading	On-going
Writing	On-going
Listening	On-going
Talking	February/March

DEPARTMENT: Modern Studies

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Modern Studies will gather evidence via end of unit assessments in February and March with a full prelim across all topics in April/May.

End of unit assessments will be completed in class time and will mirror SQA exam standards with describe and explain questions, plus a relevant skills topic. The 3 topics covered are Democracy in the UK, Crime and Law and the USA.

A full prelim will be carried out during class time in April based on the SQA produced paper and will assess a variety of areas within the 3 topic areas above and the 3 source handling skills questions.

Where necessary, additional evidence gathering may take place on an on-going basis.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Democracy in the UK and 1 skill assessment	February 2021
Crime and Law and 1 skill assessment	February 2021
USA and 1 skills assessment	February 2021
Prelim – All 3 topics and skills	April 2021

DEPARTMENT: MUSIC

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5COURSE

National 5

Performing (60%)

Exams planned to take place end Feb/start of March as is our norm. Both instruments must be completed within the same week for each pupil.

Understanding Music (40%)

3-4 papers to be made up satisfying SQA criteria and pupils will sit these in exam conditions in class.

Final exam paper provided by SQA to be sat in May.

Vocalists, Woodwind and Brass

Pupils are to be provided with backing tracks / accompaniments and are to record their exam at home in a single event – video will be best, but audio is accepted by SQA.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Performing (2 Instruments) Recording of	February/March
entire exam in one sitting / recording -	
final recording/assessment event	
emulating the SQA visiting examining	
conditions.	
Understanding Music – Valid exam	Last week Jan, Last week Feb, Last
papers to be sat in the last week of each	week March, Last Week April.
Month under exam conditions.	
Understanding Music – Final exam	May
paper (produced by SQA for 20-21) to	
be sat in May. Pupil will receive the	
best score from any of their valid papers	
during the year, or this one.	

DEPARTMENT: PHYSICAL EDUCATION

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

National 5 PE has not changed save the removal of one activity.

The one off performance exam is still in place.

The 60 mark theory portfolio is still in place.

We have carried out departmental moderation and Quality Assurance almost weekly to ensure we will be accurate in marking and assessment.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
One-off performance	March
Theory Portfolio	On-going – will be completed by February break

DEPARTMENT: Physics

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

SQA Context

In Physics, the SQA have stated that the key pieces of evidence can include:

- ♦ an examination, covering as much of the course as possible
- ♦ a second, top up examination, covering areas not included in the first examination
- ♦ end-of-topic tests to be used as supplementary evidence only

We must gather key evidence in closed-book conditions and under a high degree of supervision and control. Examinations will replicate, as closely as possible, the SQA examination in style, level of demand, and conditions of assessment.

All the key evidence we gather will be used to form a judgement about estimated grades. Our judgement will be holistic rather than focusing only on the piece of key evidence that gives the best grade for an individual. However we will give greater weight to the evidence that most closely mirrors the SQA question paper.

Evidence Gathering Plan

- After pupil return to classroom An examination covering at least 4.5 of the 6 units of work (Waves, Radiation, Electricity, Properties of Matter, part of Dynamics), replicating style and level of demand of the SQA exam. Examination will be split over several periods.
- April/May A second, top up examination that includes content from the remaining 1.5
 unit of work (part of Dynamics, Space). This may include questions from across other parts
 of the course as well.
- **End of topic assessments** will continue to be completed as part of our normal coursework.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED				
An examination covering Waves,	After pupil return to classroom				
Radiation, Electricity, Properties of					
Matter, part of Dynamics.					
A second, top up examination that	April / May				
includes part of Dynamics and Space.					
This may include questions from across					
other parts of the course as well.					
End of unit assessments.	As part of normal class work				

DEPARTMENT: Technical

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Graphic Communication

Assignment worth 30% of overall mark. The assessment of this work is on-going.

Prelim at the end of January, will give all pupils a Prelim revision checklist so that study can take place over Christmas holidays.

Final paper worth 70% of overall mark. Will take place May 2021.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
	December 2020
ASSIGNMENT	
	FEB 2021
PRELIM	
	MAY 2021
FINAL PAPER	

DEPARTMENT: TECHNICAL – PRACTICAL WOODWORK

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Pupils are currently working through their practical units, which will be used to judge if they are National 4 or National 5 level before beginning the final assignment / AVU.

Pupils will sit a prelim in January, which will be out of 60 marks.

Pupils will begin work on their final practical assignment in late January. This is worth 70% of their overall grade.

Pupils will then complete the paper that has been provided to us by the SQA in May. This will make up the remaining 30% of the grade.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
S3 Exam	6 th October 2020
Prelim	February
SQA Paper (30% weighting of final grade)	May
Practical Units	Ongoing throughout year
Final Assignment (70% weighting of final grade)	Begin in January

DEPARTMENT: TECHNICAL – PRACTICAL METALWORK

NATIONAL 5 EVIDENCE GATHERING 2020/21

DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT WITHIN NATIONAL 5 COURSE

Pupils are currently working through their practical units, which will be used to judge if they are National 4 or National 5 level before beginning the final assignment / AVU.

Pupils will sit a prelim in January, which will be out of 60 marks.

Pupils will begin work on their final practical assignment in late January. This is worth 70% of their overall grade.

Pupils will then complete the paper that has been provided to us by the SQA in May. This will make up the remaining 30% of the grade.

KEY EVIDENCE PIECE	DATE ADMINISTERED
Class Assessment	
(only 'materials and properties' was	25 th August 2020
assessed)	
Class Assessment	10 th November 2020
(covered several of the course topics)	10 November 2020
Prelim	February
SQA Paper (30% weighting of final	May
grade)	Iviay
Practical Units	Ongoing throughout year
Final Assignment (70% weighting of	Begin in January
final grade)	Degin in January

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT DATES

SUBJECT	Jan	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
Administration		√		√	
Art & Design		V		√	V
Biology		V	V	√	
Business Management		V			V
Chemistry		V	V	√	
Computing		V			V
English		V	V	√	V
French		V	V	√	V
Geography		V	V		V
Graphic Communication		V			V
Health & Food Technology (Cookery, Cake Craft, Fashion & Textiles)		√	V	√	√
History		V		√	√
Italian		V	V	√	√
Maths		V	V	√	√
Modern Studies		V		√	√
Music	√	V	V	V	V
Physical Education		V	V		
Physics		V		√	V
Practical Woodwork		√		V	√
Practical Metalwork		√		√	√
Spanish		V	V	V	√