

Inclusion Integrity Respect

Ready Respectful Responsible



# **S4 – S6 Assembly Qualification Scotland (SQA) 2026**

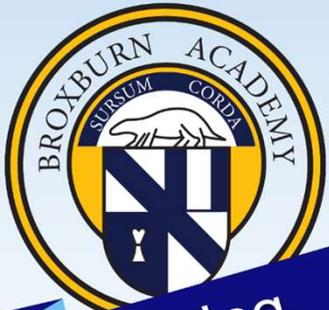
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## Helpful Information

- Where you can find information related to your QS exams
- Getting Ready for your exams
- On exams day
- Dos and Don'ts
- If something unexpected happens
- Your Results
- Easter School
- Immersion Days
- Study Leave
- E-Sgoil and Achieve
- Study Techniques and Supports



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[https://www.qualifications.gov.scot/?utm\\_source=search&utm\\_medium=google&utm\\_campaign=qualifications\\_scotland\\_launch&https://www.qualifications.gov.scot/](https://www.qualifications.gov.scot/?utm_source=search&utm_medium=google&utm_campaign=qualifications_scotland_launch&https://www.qualifications.gov.scot/)

## Get ready for your 2026 exams

Everything you need to know if you're sitting National Qualifications exams

Get the 'Your Exams' guide



### Top exam resources



**Past papers**  
Test your knowledge with our past papers



**Timetable 2026**  
Find key dates and times for your exams.



**My Qualifications**  
Sign up to get your results by text or email.



**NQ learner resources**  
Everything you need to prepare for exams this year.

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# Your

# Exams

What you need to know about National 5,  
Higher and Advanced Higher exams

School edition

## Getting ready for your exams



Exams show what you've learned in your courses.

It's OK to feel nervous about sitting your exams – almost everybody does. It helps if you're prepared. This 'Your Exams' guide aims to help you do your best. It explains how to prepare for your exams, and the rules that are in place to make sure exams are fair for everyone. It's important that you read and understand these rules before your exams start. You might find it useful to share this information with your parent or carer.

If you're not sure about the rules, speak to your teacher. They'll explain what could happen if you break the rules.

Visit our website at [qualifications.gov.scot](https://www.qualifications.gov.scot) for more information.

If you need this 'Your Exams' guide in large print, Braille or a different language, please email [customer@qualifications.gov.scot](mailto:customer@qualifications.gov.scot) or call 0345 279 1000.

## Timetable

We've made some changes to the exam timetable, which shows the dates and times of exams, since it was first published in September 2025. You can see the updated version on our website at [qualifications.gov.scot](https://www.qualifications.gov.scot).

- Always use the latest version of the timetable in case the dates or times of your exams have changed.
- Double-check exam times with your teachers because schools can adjust start times slightly.
- Make sure you know what exams you're taking, and when and where they are.
- Ask your school which teacher will be in charge of the Qualifications Scotland exams. You need to know who this is so you can report to them if you arrive late.

## SCN Card

School:

Your Name:

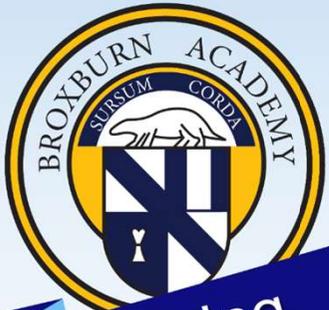
Date of Birth:

Scottish Candidate Number:



## Your Scottish Candidate Number

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On exam  
day

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## Prohibited items

Prohibited items are things you must not have at your seat or desk, unless you've had them approved as part of an assessment arrangement. Prohibited items include the following.



- Mobile phones (even if switched off).



- Electronic devices such as tablets, earbuds, smartwatches or any device that stores information or connects to the internet. This includes devices with AI software, such as smart glasses.



- Extra information such as:
  - books, sketches, paper
  - anything written on your clothes or body, and
  - notes or unauthorised information on your SCN card.



- Pencil cases, including clear pencil cases.



- Calculators, except when allowed for the exam. (If calculators are allowed, they must not have cases, covers or lids).
- Dictionaries, except when allowed for the exam.

## Arriving for your exam

Be at the exam room at least 10 minutes before your exam starts. If you're late, report to the teacher in charge of the exam. They'll tell you if you can sit the exam.

## Desks

In most schools, you'll have a desk or seat number for each exam. Make sure you know this before each exam.



## Invigilators

The people who supervise exams are called 'invigilators'. They supervise exams to make sure the rules are applied fairly. You must listen to them and follow their instructions.

If anything unexpected happens during an exam, such as you feeling unwell, tell the invigilator immediately.

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## Question papers and answer booklets

Read all the instructions on your question paper and check the subject and level are correct. If the subject and level aren't correct, tell the invigilator immediately.

You'll get either:

- a combined question paper and answer booklet, or
- a separate question paper and answer booklet.

Fill in your details clearly on the front page of the booklet.

If you need extra paper, raise your hand and ask the invigilator. In some subjects, there are extra pages or graph paper at the end of the answer booklet.

If you use extra sheets, write your name, SCN and school name on each sheet and put them inside your answer booklet.

Work through your question paper until you see 'END OF QUESTION PAPER'. There will be no questions after this.

Pages without any questions will say 'BLANK PAGE'. No page should be completely blank. If you find a completely blank page before 'END OF QUESTION PAPER', tell the invigilator.

## Writing your answers

**You must use a pen with black or blue ink.** Don't use gel pens or pencils as these can fade or smudge if your paper is scanned, making it difficult for markers to read your writing. Markers will do their best, but might not award marks if your writing is too difficult to read. If you have any concerns about your handwriting, speak to your teacher.

When writing on unlined pages, leave about one centimetre between lines.



In some subjects, poor spelling and punctuation could result in you losing marks. If you have any concerns about this, speak to your teacher.

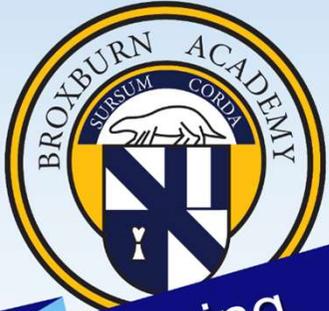
Cross out any rough work or unwanted answers. You must not use correction pens, tape or fluid.

## Remember

- Take your time.
- Read the questions carefully.
- Answer the exact questions asked.
- Double-check your answers if you finish early.
- Stay calm and do your best.



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## Leaving the exam room



You'll be expected to stay in the exam room for the full length of the exam. If you finish early (or have done as much as you can), and you want to leave the exam room, raise your hand and ask the invigilator for permission.

If the exam is longer than one hour, the invigilator may allow you to leave after 30 minutes from the start. If it is less than one hour, you must stay until the end of the exam.

If you need to leave the exam room for another reason (such as to go to the toilet), raise your hand and ask the invigilator for permission.

At the end of the exam, leave all exam materials on your desk and the invigilator will collect them.

You must not remove any question paper or answer booklet from the exam room. If you do this it can have serious consequences for you, including having your exam entry cancelled and not getting a result.

## Fairness

Everyone should have a fair chance to do their best. Cheating and causing a disturbance are unfair to other candidates.

Examples of cheating and unfair behaviour include the following.

- Having prohibited items at your seat or desk
- Pretending to be someone else or getting someone else to take an exam for you
- Disruptive behaviour
- Using rude, abusive, offensive or discriminatory language or images
- Copying from another person
- Collusion – working with others on work that is supposed to be just yours
- Plagiarism – failing to reference sources (including AI-generated information) properly or presenting someone else's work as your own

Cheating or unfair behaviour can have serious consequences for you, including losing marks, getting a lower grade, or having your exam entry cancelled and not getting any result. Your school can explain more.

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## Dos and don'ts

### ✓ Do

- ✓ Arrive at least 10 minutes before the exam starts
- ✓ Bring the right equipment, including black or blue ink pens
- ✓ Make sure you don't have prohibited items with you when you go to your seat or desk
- ✓ Check you have the correct exam paper
- ✓ Put your name, SCN and school name on every piece of work
- ✓ Write clearly
- ✓ Read all instructions and listen for announcements
- ✓ Cross out rough work
- ✓ Stay until the exam finishes (unless you get permission to leave early)
- ✓ Wait for the invigilator to collect your exam papers before leaving the exam room

### ✗ Don't

- ✗ Take prohibited items to your seat or desk
- ✗ Take your exam paper or any exam materials with you when you leave the exam room
- ✗ Use rude, abusive, offensive or discriminatory language or images
- ✗ Get someone else to sit your exam, or pretend to be someone else
- ✗ Be disruptive or cause a disturbance
- ✗ Copy from anyone else
- ✗ Share your work with anyone else
- ✗ Share equipment
- ✗ Use gel pens, correction pens, tape or fluid



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If something  
unexpected  
happens

## What if I cannot sit the exam or there is a serious disruption?

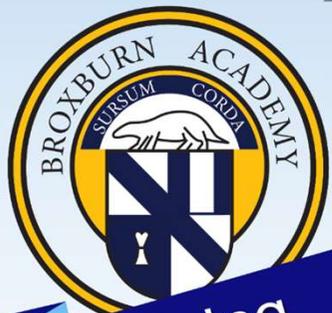
You or a parent or carer should contact your school immediately, explaining what happened. They'll discuss your options and whether you're entitled to use the Examination Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service (EECCS). If you're eligible for the service, your school would need to contact us **within 10 days after the exam**, so speak to them as soon as possible.

Your school will provide evidence based on assessments you've done throughout the year, such as prelims, class tests, class work or performance records. Our examiners will review this evidence, and any exam and coursework materials, to decide your grade. **Your EECCS grade may be different from your estimated grade.**

If you use the EECCS, you cannot appeal against your grade through the appeals service.

Go to [qualifications.gov.scot](https://www.qualifications.gov.scot) for more information.

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# Your

# Results

## Getting your results

You'll receive your results by post on **Tuesday 4 August**. You can also receive them by text or email (or both) if you sign up for **My Qualifications Scotland**.

Your school will also receive your results. If you've applied for university through UCAS, they'll receive them too.

If you think there's a mistake on your certificate, or something looks wrong, contact your school.



## Appeals service

There's an appeals service that you can access directly or through your school. More information will be available on **our website** by **June 2026**.

## Support

You can find out more about your certificate, and get answers to common questions, at **qualifications.gov.scot**. You can also contact us by filling in a **candidate enquiry form**.

For any other questions,  
email **customer@qualifications.gov.scot**  
or call **0345 279 1000**.

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## Easter School

Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April

*Applications now closed, you can only attend if you are signed up for sessions.*

- Session 1: 9am – 11am
- Session 2: 11.15am - 1.15pm

## Immersion Days

Details will follow shortly about Immersion Day sessions.

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## Study Leave

Begins from **end of day Friday 17th April** with latest return to school being **Monday 1st June**. This will involve all S4-S6 pupils.

You are welcome to come into school to study at assigned class times. You must sign in and out of the school, for health and safety reasons.

### S4

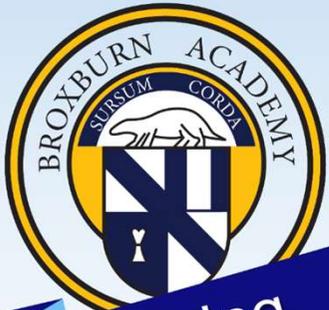
Between 4 and 8 National 5s – all study leave.

Between 1 and 3 National 5s – a minimum of 3 days in school, when not sitting exams.

No National 5s – in school

Attend learning space – in school

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## e-Sgoil Easter Study Support Programme

In addition to our school Easter provision, our pupils can also sign up for the e-Sgoil Easter Study Support programme, which is now open, and is completely free.



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

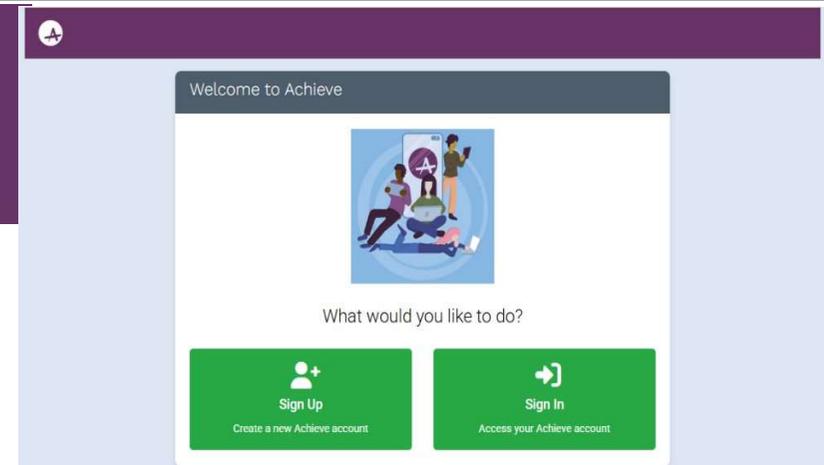
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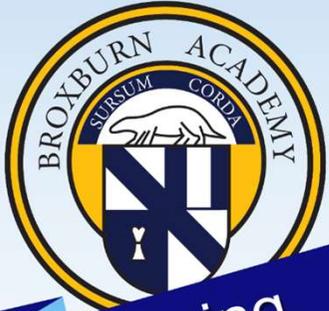
## Supporting Success

To support you to success in your SQA examinations you have access to 'Achieve'. You can access Achieve in 3 simple steps:

1. Visit <https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/>
2. Sign up with your email address and password (use your school email)
3. Enter the Broxburn Academy code **A4r3t18U**

You can then select all the National 5 and Higher courses, and access the Learn, Assess and Self-evaluate modules for each. This is a really great way to support their learning and study from home too.

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