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Wallace Hall Academy, Primary and ELC

"Together we grow, learn and achieve"

Head Teacher: Barry Graham

20 November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Plagiarism, collusion or other forms of malpractice during completion of SQA accredited qualifications

Your child is currently in the Senior Phase at Wallace Hall Academy, during which time they will complete a variety of SQA accredited qualifications. These qualifications will involve a range of assessments which could include (but are not limited to): folios, assignments, prelims, practical performances, class tests, final exams. The SQA expect high standards of conduct from all candidates when completing assessments as part of their SQA accredited qualifications.

Your child has been issued with a 'Your National Qualifications' booklet explaining in more detail what is meant by plagiarism, collusion or other forms of malpractice. The 'Your National Qualifications' booklet also gives helpful hints on how to avoid malpractice. If at any point your child is worried and unsure about any aspect of a task they are completing, or the expectations around it, they should approach a member of staff in school as the requirements can vary from subject to subject.

Any instance of suspected malpractice will be fully investigated by senior managers from the school and should your child be found to be engaging in malpractice we have a number of sanctions available to us including (but not limited to): removal from individual SQA exams, removal from all SQA exams, exclusion from school.

You may also be aware of the rise of 'Artificial Intelligence' or 'AI' and the use of AI by pupils completing SQA coursework is strictly prohibited. Pupils should not even be using AI as a reference source. The SQA have software they can use to detect where AI has been used and will impose robust sanctions where this is the case.

We would welcome your support in discussing the 'Your National Qualifications' booklet with your child to ensure they understand the need for honesty and integrity around SQA accredited qualifications.

Yours sincerely

Dr Ray Fulton
SQA Co-ordinator

Winner of

Silver Rights Respecting Schools Awareness Award 2023
D&G Rural Award Smarter Scotland
The SQA Star Award
Lantra School Project Award – 2013/2018/2020/2022

Scottish Education Award – Enterprise and Employability
World Teamwork Award Winners – World Robotics Festival
First Lego League Robotics Scottish/UK & Ireland Champions

