School Education Covid-19 timeline

March 2020

18th – In a statement to Parliament, the Scottish Government announces the closure of schools and nurseries by the end of the week.

19th – Deputy First Minister announces schools to close from 23 March and 2020 exams are cancelled.

19th – SQA announces they are working on an alternative certification model.

31st – Scottish Government issues guidance around key workers and vulnerable children attending school.

August 2020

4th – Students receive their results for 2019/20 based on teacher estimates and a moderation process.

4th – SQA publishes 2020 attainment statistics along with methodology report and equality impact assessment.

11th – Deputy First Minister announces decision to award grades based on estimates from schools and colleges rather than moderated awards.

31st – SQA publishes revised 2020 attainment statistics.

October 2020

7th – Scottish Government announces plans for Higher and Advanced Higher exams to go ahead in 2021. National 5 exams will be replaced by a system where grades are awarded based on coursework and teacher judgement.

7th – National Qualifications experience 2020: rapid review (Priestley review) published.

2020

May 2020

21st – Scottish Government announces that pupils will return to schools in August using a blended learning model which will see some home learning and some in class.

July 2020

16th – Scottish Government publishes guidance on the safe re-opening of schools and use of school transport.

December 2020

8th – Scottish Government announces Higher and Advanced Higher exams will not go ahead and will be replaced with awards based on teacher judgement of evidence of pupils' attainment.

June 2020

2nd – Deputy First Minister confirms that the Scottish Government will not collect data on Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence levels at P1, P4, P7 and S3 for 2019/20.

2nd – Education Scotland announces that school inspections will not take place when schools reopen but they will be focused on supporting schools and authorities to reopen.

3rd – SQA publishes National Qualifications 2020 Awarding – an update for schools and colleges.

5th – Scottish Government publishes guidance to support teachers and other professional practitioners in preparing their curriculum before and during the recovery phase. Also publishes guidance to support children and young people during lockdown, and guidance on blended model of classroom learning.

23th – Deputy First Minister announces that pupils will return to school in August on a full-time basis.

January 2021

4th – Scottish Government announces mainland Scotland is to go into lockdown from 5 January 2021. All schools to continue to use remote learning except in the case of vulnerable children and those of key workers.

2021