

Association for Quality Education

Press Release

2nd September 2020

Changes to the Dates and Timings of the AQE Common Entrance Assessments

- To take account of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Board of the Association for Quality Education (AQE) would like to announce that it has been agreed that the AQE assessments will now take place on:
 - **Saturday 9th January 2021;**
 - **Saturday 16th January 2021;**
 - **Saturday 23rd January 2021.**
- The closing date for applications to enter the AQE assessments will be **Friday, 9th October 2020**
- The date of the issue of results to parents will be **Saturday, 6th March 2021**
- The Board of AQE welcomes that it has been possible to delay the assessments for nine weeks to help minimise any disadvantage caused by the lockdown. The Minister of Education has responded to the needs of the children and has now made it possible to provide this extra preparation time for pupils.
- The Board has also decided to allow children an **additional 10 minutes** for each of the three papers. This will be an extra 30 minutes in total.
- The extra 10 minutes available for each paper will reassure the children that they will have sufficient time to finish the paper. For those children who are finished early, this time can be used to look over their paper and check their answers.
- The AQE Board wishes to express its thanks to all involved in this process for all their hard work during this difficult time.
- In the context of the coronavirus epidemic, the Board of AQE understands that there is considerable speculation about the status of the AQE assessment. The Board is encouraged by the general return to school which has just taken place and wishes to assure parents of its resolve to hold this year's assessment in January 2021. This determination is shared by all grammar schools using the AQE assessment and by the Education Minister who has publicly expressed his support for the continued use of academic selection.

