

A Guide to the Scottish Qualifications Certificate for School Candidates





A Guide to the Scottish Qualifications Certificate for School Candidates

This Guide will help you to understand the Scottish Qualifications Certificate.

The Scottish Qualifications Certificate, or SQC* for short, is Scotland's new Certificate for recording success and achievements in qualifications awarded by the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

Your SQC records all the qualifications you have achieved — individual Units, Courses (such as an Intermediate 2 or a Higher), and larger qualifications (we call them 'Group Awards', and they include HNCs, HNDs, and SGAs).

Your SQC will be updated regularly, recording your most recent achievements.

Your SQC will also:

- come with commemorative certificates for Group Awards or summary pages for Courses successfully completed
- show your Core Skills profile, which tells you (and potential employers or university and college admissions officers) the highest level of the five Core Skills you have achieved so far
- stay with you for the rest of your career as long as you are achieving SQA qualifications, your SQC will be updated, recording your progress in lifelong learning

We obtain qualifications throughout our lives — at school, college and in the workplace. All qualifications awarded by SQA are recorded on the SQC — every time you obtain a new qualification you get an updated Certificate. This gives you an accurate and comprehensive record of all the learning success you achieve throughout your life.

This Guide to your SQC follows the career of a fictitious candidate, Robert D Bruce, a 17 year old school pupil.

* The SQC replaces the Scottish Certificate of Education and the Record of Education and Training. These have been discontinued.

1



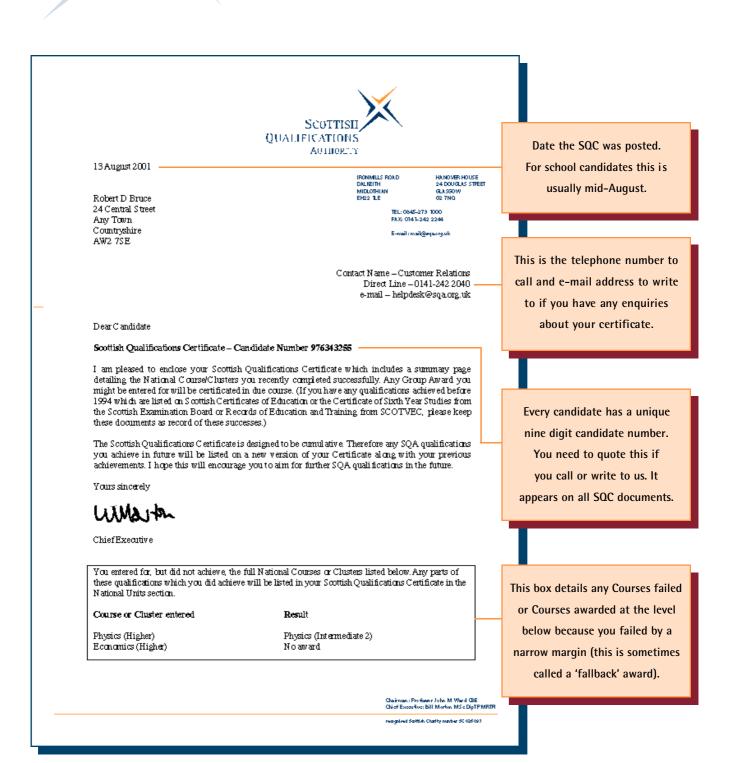
School pupil — Robert D Bruce

Robert is a 17 year old school candidate who has just completed his fifth year at school. He sat five Higher Courses in English, Latin, Mathematics, Physics and Economics.

Robert passed three Highers (English, Latin and Mathematics), narrowly failed Higher Physics but was awarded a pass at Intermediate 2, and failed Higher Economics.

This is what Robert would receive from SQA to confirm his results.

The first piece of information is a cover letter, which accompanies every SQC. You should read the letter carefully before looking at the other documents in the envelope.



If you fail absolutely every Course or Unit entered for (and this is very rare) we will send you a letter telling you this. You will not receive an SQC.

Behind the letter will be a summary page confirming the Standard Grades, National Courses and Clusters you achieved that year. This lets you see at a glance the grades you have obtained.

Full details of the Courses you have completed and passed, and the Unit/Elements which make them up, are given on the SQC. Here is Robert's summary page:



National Qualifications

This document summarises the achievements of

Robert D Bruce

Scottish Candidate Number 976343255

in National Courses first certificated in August 2001

English SCE Higher A
Latin Higher A
Mathematics Higher C
Physics Intermediate 2 A

SCE Higher refers to Scottish
Certificate of Education Courses.
These will be completely phased
out by 2003.

'Fallback' awards are given because you passed all the Course Units but narrowly missed passing the external exam. The award is always made at Grade A at the level below the one you entered for.

whaten

(Chief Executive, Scottish Qualifications Authority)

Note

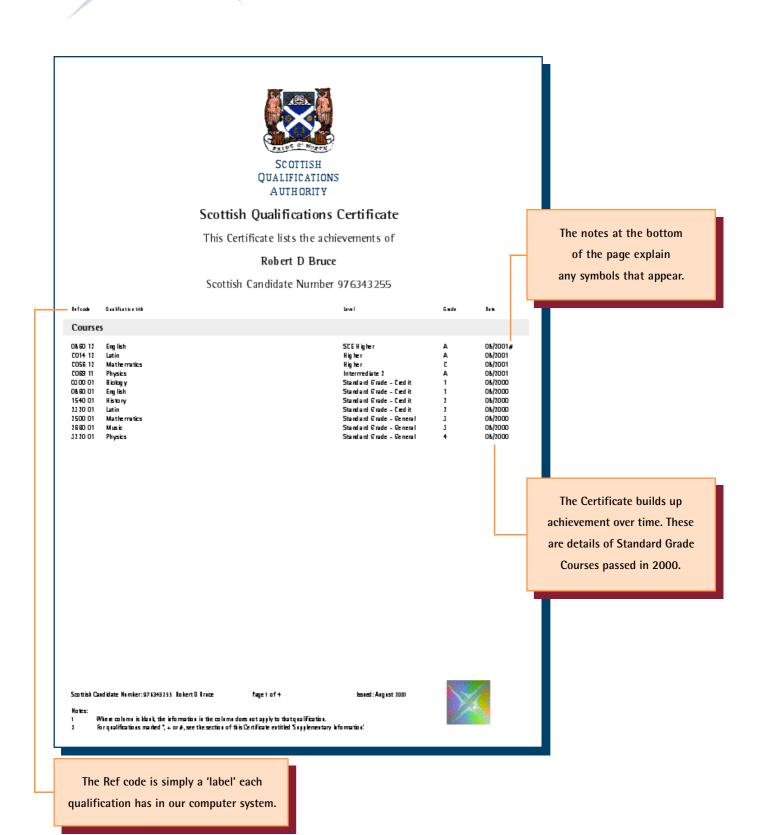
Full details of components or elements of qualifications listed above are provided on the candidate's Scottish Qualifications Certificate. Scottish Qualifications (Scottish Qualifications) Scottish Qualifications (Scottish Qualifications) Scottish Qualifications (Scottish Qualifications)



The hologram is for security purposes.

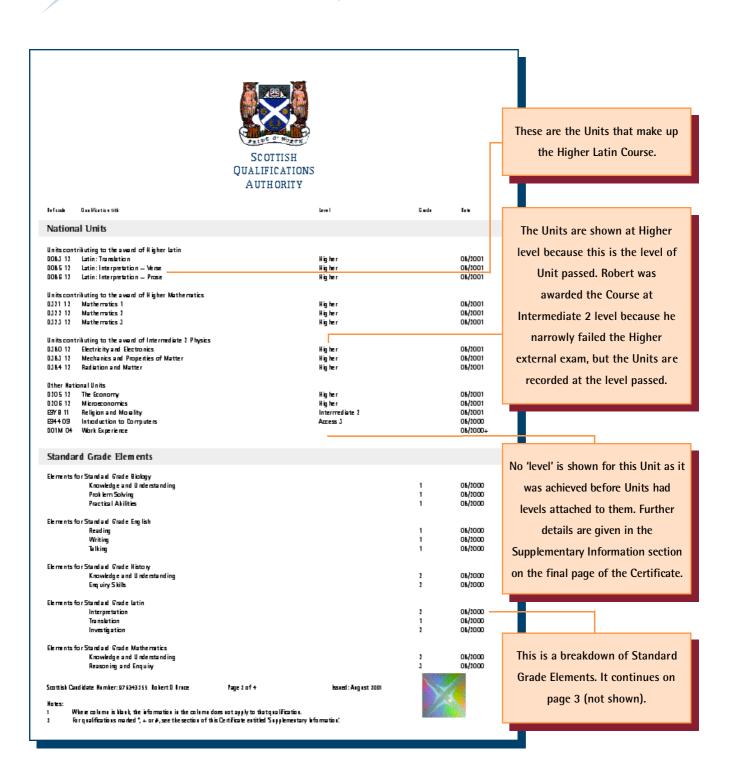
Robert's SQC is behind the summary page. He has a four-page SQC which provides a detailed record of all his educational and learning achievements.

This is page 1 of Robert's SQC. It records all the Courses he has achieved. If he had achieved any Group Awards or Clusters, they would have been listed here too.



Page 2 of Robert's SQC lists all the National Units and Standard Grade Elements that have contributed to his Courses and Standard Grades. To pass a Course at Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2, Higher or Advanced Higher level, you must successfully complete the Units which make up the Course and the external exam.

If you fail the examination part of the Course, or only partially complete it for any reason, the Units you have completed successfully will always be recorded on your SQC - so you have full credit for what you have achieved.







Supplementary Information

Core Skills

The Core Skills profile held wis calculated from the qualifications recorded on this Certificate and formany free-standing Core Skills Units which may have been achieved. The level of a Core Skill which appears in this profile is worled out by booking at howeach level of that Core Skill compares against the qualifications listed on this Certificate. The comparison is based on the SQA publication Automatic Certification of Core Skills in Notional Qualifications. Centres have a copy of this publication and it is also available on SQA's website.

Core Skill - Communication		
Oral Communication	Interrrediate 2	08/2000
Written Communication	Hig her	06/2001
Core Skill - Nurre acy		
Using Graphical Information	Higher	08/2001
		08/2001
Using Murmher	Hig her	08/2001
Core Skill - Information Technology		
Using Information Technology	Interrred is te 1	08/2000
Core Skill - Pro Ne mSolving		
Critical Thin king	Higher	08/2001
Planning and Organising	Hig her	06/2001
Reviewing and Evaluating	Hig her	08/2001
Core Skill - Working with Others		
Markins with Others	Arrest 1	nutrom

Core Skills are useful skills for life and work. All candidates now receive a Core Skills profile which details their highest achievement to date in these skills. Most candidates achieve their Core Skills while working towards other qualifications.

National Units

Units listed in the section of this Certificate as 'Other National Units' and marked +.
These Units were contained in the catalogues of SO.A's predecessor kodies, SCOTVEC and the Scottish Examination Board. They have been classified, for certification purposes, as National Units. Users of the Certificate should note that such Units were developed before the introduction of the systemof national levels and the efore the 'level column on the Certificate is blank.

Assessment Arrangements

The symbol #against an award indicates that aspects of the assessment for this award were arrended or restricted to meet the particular need of this candidate. Details of these changes are available from SOA on request.

.....End of Supplementary Information.....

WMD A

(Chief Executive, Scottish Qualifications Authority)

Scottish Cardidate Homber: 97 6343 255 | Tokert D Trace

based: August 2001



Every page of the SQC has a hologram. This is for security purposes.



You can get more information

about the SQC from the

SQA Helpdesk on 0141-242 2214,

or from your school.

© The Scottish Qualifications Authority, 2001





Helpdesk: 0141-242 2214

Hanover House 24 Douglas Street Glasgow G2 7NQ Ironmills Road Dalkeith Midlothian EH22 1LE

fax: 0141-242 2244

e-mail: helpdesk@sqa.org.uk website: www.sqa.org.uk

June 2001 A1310