



# **Access 2 Creative Arts — draft Course rationale and summary**

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# Course rationale

## Background

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

## **Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles**

The Access 2 Creative Arts Course sits within the expressive arts curriculum area<sup>1</sup>. The expressive arts are rich and stimulating, with the capacity to engage and fascinate learners of all ages and skill levels. The expressive arts also play an important role in supporting learners to recognise and value the variety and vitality of culture locally, nationally and globally.

The Course encourages learners to be creative and to express themselves in different ways through active involvement in creative art activities (which can include drawing, painting, video, film, sound, music, creative writing, poetry, stage sets, scenery, and props). Learning through creative art helps learners to develop an appreciation of artistic and cultural values, identities and ideas by working imaginatively and communicating thoughts and ideas through art.

The Course provides opportunities for learners to apply their creative skills to produce pieces of work and to recognise creativity and skill in the work of others. Learners will also be encouraged to demonstrate skills and confidence in their work and to show enjoyment of the arts, through their own work and that of others.

This Course also allows learners to develop other skills, attributes and capabilities including perseverance, resilience and confidence.

Learners are encouraged to exercise imagination and creativity, and to develop an awareness of creative arts as a means of communication. They will find that the skills they acquire by successfully completing this Course will be invaluable for learning, for life and for work.

This Course provides skills that are complementary for learners in other areas of study in the expressive arts and in the technologies, and also provides progression from experiences and outcomes in the expressive arts and technologies.

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<sup>1</sup> Expressive arts:

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/learningteachingandassessment/curriculumareas/expressivearts/principlesandpractice/index.asp>

## **Purpose and aims of the Course**

The Course provides an opportunity for learners to experience a range of creative art forms (which can include drawing, painting, video, film, sound, music, creative writing, poetry, stage sets, scenery, and props) and to explore and express personal thoughts and ideas through creative art work.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- ◆ demonstrate a basic awareness and understanding of the creative arts
- ◆ work imaginatively and develop individual creativity
- ◆ communicate thoughts, meaning and ideas through creative art
- ◆ demonstrate skills in using techniques, processes, materials and media to produce creative art
- ◆ use media and technology as part of the creative process

Course activities also provide opportunities for learners to develop generic and transferable skills in: independent working; collaborating and working with others; planning; problem solving; communication; literacy; and recognising creativity and skills in the work of others.

The integrative design of the Course will foster learners' understanding of the creative arts, helping them experience the links between ideas, creativity, use of techniques, processes, materials, media and technology and the final creative art work produced.

The Course will also help learners to develop important skills, attitudes and attributes related to the creative arts that are transferable to other contexts.

## **Information about typical learners who might do the Course**

This Course is suitable for all learners with an interest in the creative arts. It is suitable for learners with a general interest in the subject and for those wanting to progress to higher levels of study.

This Course may also be suitable for those wishing to study creative arts for the first time.

This qualification will allow learners to consolidate and further extend their creative arts skills by building on the experiences and outcomes for expressive arts.

The Course takes account of the needs of all learners by providing sufficient flexibility to enable learners to achieve in different ways and at a different pace.

On completing the Course, learners will have developed an awareness of different creative art forms, of how to work imaginatively and of how to communicate thoughts and ideas through creative art, and will have developed their practical skills in producing creative art.

On successful completion of this Course, the learner could progress to:

- ◆ Access 2 Performance Arts Course
- ◆ other Units, Awards and Courses at Access 2
- ◆ Access 3 Art and Design Course
- ◆ Access 3 Drama Course
- ◆ Access 3 Fashion and Textile Technology Course
- ◆ Access 3 Music Course
- ◆ other Units and Courses at Access 3

# Course summary

**Course title: Access 2 Creative Arts**

**SCQF level 2 (18 SCQF credit points)**

## Course outline

### Mandatory Units

Developing Skills in Creative Arts (Access 2) (6 SCQF credit points)

### Optional Units (two from the following)

Working with Images, Graphics and Sound (Access 2) (6 SCQF credit points)

Working with Textiles (Access 2) (6 SCQF credit points)

Creating Materials for Performance (Access 2) (6 SCQF credit points)

Creating Materials for Display (Access 2) (6 SCQF credit points)

To provide flexibility of choice and opportunities for lateral progression, the Course comprises **one** mandatory Unit and **two** optional Units from the list above.

## Course structure and conditions of award

This Course consists of a combination of mandatory and optional Units. Learners who complete the mandatory Unit and any combination of optional Units will be able to demonstrate their ability in the same skills. The mandatory Unit provides breadth by introducing learners to the range of skills and contexts available within creative arts. The optional Units provide depth, with scope for personalisation and choice, and provide learners with opportunities to further explore, develop and practice these skills in different contexts.

Some learners may choose to complete additional optional Units from the Course. Learners will benefit from this opportunity to extend their learning.

This Course enables learners to use the creative arts to develop skills in the following areas: demonstrating a basic awareness and understanding of the creative arts; individual creativity; communicating thoughts, meaning and ideas; and using techniques, processes, materials, media and technology.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a variety of ways.

Units can be taught sequentially or in parallel to each other. However, learning and teaching approaches should provide opportunities to integrate skills where possible.

### **Developing Skills in Creative Arts (Access 2)**

The aim of this Unit is to provide learners with an introduction to a range of creative arts and to help them develop their thoughts and ideas creatively. They will develop an awareness of how familiar media, materials, processes and techniques are used in producing creative art. Learners will also develop a basic understanding of the subject, including responding to straightforward stimuli.

### **Working with Images, Graphics and Sound (Access 2)**

In this Unit, learners will develop skills in using images, graphics and sound (which can include photographs, film, lettering, cartoons, music, sound, CAD) creatively and expressively. Where appropriate, learners will be encouraged to use media and technologies creatively when developing their ideas and producing their work.

### **Working with Textiles (Access 2)**

This Unit is both creative and practical to allow learners to develop the practical skills, techniques and knowledge which support fashion and textile-related creativity (which can include items for drama and dance). Learners will work to a given brief to produce a finished item.

### **Creating Materials for Performance (Access 2)**

In this Unit, learners will develop their skills in creating art work which could subsequently be used in performance. This could include creative writing, poetry, drama, music, song, comedy, set design, stage props, and scenery. Where appropriate, learners will be encouraged to use media and technologies creatively when developing their ideas and producing their work.

### **Creating Materials for Display (Access 2)**

In this Unit, learners will develop their skills in creating art work for display (which can include painting, drawing, ceramics, jewellery, sculpture, modelling, and make-up) by using a variety of materials, techniques and processes. Where appropriate, learners will be encouraged to use media and technologies creatively when developing their ideas and producing their work.

To achieve the Access 2 Creative Arts Course, learners must pass all of the required Units. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section.

Access 2 Courses are not graded.

## **Assessment**

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in Unit specifications.

They will be assessed pass/fail within centres.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

Exemplification of possible approaches for Units will be provided in the *National Assessment Resource*.

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