

Our ref: GF/HEHosp 6/13

June 2013

To: SQA Co-ordinator
Schools and FE colleges

Action by recipient
Response required
✓ Note and pass on
None — update/information only

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Dear Colleague

National Qualifications Update — Home Economics and Hospitality

This update, which provides information and advice to centres in relation to National Qualifications Courses in Home Economics and Hospitality at all levels, should be forwarded to members of staff responsible for these subjects.

Best practice

Online galleries showcasing work produced by candidates are available for [Creative Cake Production](#) and for [Practical Cookery](#).

Exemplification is an excellent way in which centres can share best practice and we would be grateful if you could send in photographs of your candidates' work. Evidence exemplified in these galleries will not only give Centres an understanding of what's expected for the current course standards but also those moving forward at National levels 4 and 5. Please email photographs, which should be depersonalised, to hospitality.galleries@sqa.org.uk.

British Nutrition Foundation

The British Nutrition Foundation (BNF) is holding a Scottish conference in Edinburgh on 2nd November 2013. We will be attending and providing an update on our work and look forward to meeting with colleagues from across the country. Information on how to book a place at these events is available on the BNF's website: www.nutrition.co.uk

Curriculum for Excellence

At the end of September 2013 a Curriculum for Excellence Update letter will be issued providing an overview of all the SQA documents, including assessment support materials, available for each subject.

From June 2013, [new quality assurance arrangements](#) will be introduced to support internal assessment of the new National Qualifications. The new arrangements allow for a combination of sharing knowledge of standards, and external verification activities. Nominee training is taking place over the summer and we'd like to thank our Principal Verifiers for leading these sessions.

Please note that SQA will be running a programme of Subject Implementation Events (from November 2013 to March 2014) at various venues around the country, to support the introduction of the new National Courses at Higher. Places at individual event venues are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. [Early booking to reserve a place](#) at your preferred venue is therefore advisable.

To access the most up-to-date information, please visit the [Curriculum for Excellence website](#).

Examination teams

We would like to express our gratitude and extend our thanks to all those who have undertaken duties this year. We appreciate the excellent work that all of the teams carry out and look forward to working with them during session 2013/14, along with our new Appointees who will be undertaking duties for National 4 and 5.

Home Economics – Intermediate 1 Practical Assignment and Intermediate 2/Higher Technological Project briefs

The briefs for session 2013/14 will be published in September. We would like to remind Centres that they must use the briefs issued for the current academic year in order for their candidates to be able to access the full marks available.

Home Economics Standard Grade

This session was the last year of presentation for the Home Economics Standard Grade course, having been with us for almost 30 years. It proved to be an excellent grounding for thousands, some who will be reading this update, giving all the skills to become competent in Home Economics. Time's change and with that we have our new Curriculum for Excellence courses where, at appropriate levels, you will see content from the Standard Grade courses has been adopted.

We'd like to say thanks to all who have participated as an Appointee in the quality assurance of the course over the years; we're very grateful for the time you spent working with us and appreciate your help in making the course the success that it was.

Internal/External Assessment Reports

The Assessment Reports will be published on our website after this year's diet. These documents contain detailed information relating to this year's examinations and are excellent tools for preparing future candidates as well as for providing advice for estimates, absentees and appeals.

Marking

Marking is an extremely important, and highly valued, part of the education system in Scotland. Many people undertake the role to further their own understanding of the examination process, and as part of their Continuous Professional Development.

We held a very positive Home Economics Understanding Standards event in February, aimed at recruiting teachers for the marking process. Many thanks to both the Intermediate 2 and Higher examination teams, their contribution ensured that the day was a success. Suitably qualified delegates were able to apply and join our pools of teachers who carry out marking each year.

If you are interested in becoming a Marker, and have two years' experience of delivering Intermediate 1 or Intermediate 2 Courses, or have three years' experience of delivering Higher or Advanced Higher Courses, you will find the [Marker application form](#) on the Appointee Management section of our website. The Marker application form for National 5 will be available at the end of August.

Quality Meat Scotland (QMS)

QMS will be offering their meat voucher scheme again in session 2013/14. The voucher entitles your school up to £100 worth of red meat products from your local QMS affiliated butcher. If you would like to take advantage of this offer, please contact Jennifer Robertson, Health and Education Coordinator, by email jrobertson@qmScotland.co.uk.

For more information on QMS's services, please go to their [website](#).

Should you require any further information regarding the content of this letter, or any other matter relating to Home Economics or Hospitality subjects, please contact Romana or myself using the details listed below:

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We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable holiday and look forward to working with you in the 2013/14 session.

Yours faithfully,



Graeme Findlay
Qualifications Manager
Home Economics and Hospitality