

Our ref: GF/MP/HE&HOSP

27 June 2005

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 & Hospitality

The contents of this update should be passed to members of staff responsible for Home Economics and Hospitality.

This update provides information and advice to centres in relation to National Qualifications in Home Economics and Hospitality at all levels. For further clarification on any matter covered in this update please do not hesitate to contact either Mike Hewett (e-mail: michael.hewett@sqa.org.uk or telephone: 0141-242 2433), Roz Walker (e-mail: roslynn.walker@sqa.org.uk or telephone: 0141-242 2302) or myself using the contact details provided above.

We hope you have an enjoyable break and look forward to working with you again in Diet 2006.

Yours faithfully,



Graeme Findlay
Qualifications Manager
NQ Home Economics & Hospitality

Home Economics Update

Intermediate 1

- ◆ Evaluative comments, which can be used by the candidates when completing the practical assignment pro forma, have been published on SQA's website. They can be accessed in the Home Economics page alongside the Exemplification material for Intermediate 1 (currently under the heading 'Understanding Standards').

Intermediate 2 and Higher Course Content Grids

- ◆ New grids have been developed for Intermediate 2 and Higher levels and are to be implemented from session 2005/06. The changes have been made to account for new developments. The NABs are currently being revised to account for the changes that have been made.

Advanced Higher

- ◆ Work is currently being carried out to update the Elaboration section of the Health and Food Technology context.

Understanding Standards Website

- ◆ The website is now up and running and can be located at:
www.understandingstandards.org.uk

The aim of the site is to allow teaching professionals the opportunity to more fully understand the standards of assessment as they are applied by the SQA examination teams. The site is still under development and will be both extended and amended in the months to come as we continue to seek out more effective ways to open up our assessment practices to public view.

Exemplification of Standards

Materials have now been published on the Home Economics website for the following Courses:

- ◆ Intermediate 1 – Practical Assignment, all contexts
- ◆ Intermediate 2 – Question Paper and Technological Project, all contexts
- ◆ Advanced Higher – Question Paper and Dissertation, Health and Food Technology only

British Nutrition Foundation Awards

In the presence of their patron HRH The Princess Royal, the BNF presented awards at their annual ceremony in London. The winners this year were:

Standard Grade — Rowan Jamieson from Linlithgow High School who was accompanied by her teacher Valerie Drew.

Advanced Higher — Nicola Welsh of Arbroath High School who was accompanied by her teacher Edna Hepburn.

Congratulations go to both the Candidates and their Teachers.

Quality Meat Scotland

The award for the highest mark in the Higher Health and Food Course was achieved by Greg Bishop from Inverkeithing High School, Fife. Greg, accompanied by his teacher Carol Donnigan, attended the ScotHot exhibition in Glasgow where he was presented with a computer for the school and a cheque for £200.

Hospitality Update

Hospitality: Practical Cookery — Intermediate 2 (C201 11)

The changes that were implemented for this year's examination have been well received and the feedback very positive. It has been noted that the timing did not suit all presenting centres and it is hoped that the results will continue to improve as a consequence of the developments in assessing the candidates.

Hospitality: Creative Cake Production — Intermediate 2 (C06E 11)

Work is presently being carried out to look at the amount of paperwork candidates are being asked to produce. Centres will be notified of the changes, which will come into effect for diet 2005/06. Exemplification will be published on the Hospitality page of SQA's website.

Please note that Candidates will only be assessed during the month that they are presented and Centres must ensure that the Candidates' cakes are available for the Visiting Assessor to view on the day of their visit.

Exemplification of Standards

Materials have now been produced and published on the NQ Hospitality section of SQA's website for the following Courses:

Practical Cookery Intermediate 1 – Planning booklet
Practical Cookery Intermediate 2 – Planning booklet

General Issues

Markers

SQA is grateful to those who marked in the 2005 diet. The consensus is that marking is one of the best forms of in-service training there is, from the point of view of becoming familiar with national standards and improving one's teaching.

Invitations to mark for the 2006 diet are now being dealt with. It is impossible to predict acceptance rates by markers, so if you or a colleague is interested, please complete an application form which is available online.

Website	www.sqa.org.uk
E-mail	appointments@sqa.org.uk
Phone	0131-561 6825
Post	Scottish Qualifications Authority, Appointments Team Ironmills Road, Dalkeith EH22 1LE

Calendar of Events

Key dates are still being added to the calendar. A comprehensive version will be available soon.

Progression Routes

A Test Menu has been designed for SQA's website based on work produced for Home Economics and Hospitality. The purpose of the website is to raise awareness amongst candidates of the qualifications available at different levels, leading to which qualifications can be undertaken next, and what types of jobs are available upon successful completion of assessment at each level.

Quality Networks

The Quality Assurance Team is holding Quality Networks aimed at improving the delivery of both Home Economics and Hospitality Courses. The training days will take place in November and information will be sent to centres giving details of each day.

Home Economics and Hospitality Assessment Panel

The next meeting of the panel will take place on 17 November, 2005. If you would like to raise any issues for the panel to address, please contact the Qualifications Manager.

Home Economics/Hospitality Contacts

Alastair McGregor has now moved to work with the China team and our best wishes and thanks go to him for his work with the National Qualifications team.

Gillian Anderson-Mann has also moved to the China team and again we wish her all the best and thank her for her work with us.

We have two new names and faces who have recently joined us.

Mike Hewett, who has worked with us as a temp for the past five months, is now full time and will concentrate on the Home Economics Courses. Mike's contact details are:

michael.hewett@sqa.org.uk Telephone: 0141-242 2433

Roz Walker joins us from the Product Development team at SQA and will concentrate on the Hospitality courses. Roz's contact details are:

roslynn.walker@sqa.org.uk Telephone: 0141-242 2302

Graeme Findlay is now carrying out the role of Qualifications Manager on a full-time basis and, along with Mike and Roz, will continue to support you and develop our Courses for their future delivery. Graeme's contact details can be found at the top of the letter.