

Our ref: GF/HE&HOSP

31 August 2006

To: SQA Co-ordinator
Schools

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

Contact Name: Graeme Findlay at Glasgow
Direct Line: 0845 213 5492
E-mail: graeme.findlay@sqa.org.uk

Dear Colleague,

The contents of this letter should be passed to members of staff responsible for Home Economics.


This letter provides important information and advice to centres in relation to:

- ◆ Intermediate 2/Higher Lifestyle and Consumer Technology
- ◆ Standard Grade

For further clarification on any matter covered, please do not hesitate to contact either:

- ◆ myself using the contact details provided above
- or
- ◆ Mike Hewett, on e-mail: michael.hewett@sqa.org.uk, or telephone: 0845 213 5490

Yours faithfully,



Graeme Findlay
Qualifications Manager
NQ Home Economics & Hospitality

Error Correction: 2007 Intermediate 2/Higher Lifestyle and Consumer Technology Technological Project ‘Brief number 2’

Please note that the 2007 Intermediate 2/Higher Lifestyle and Consumer Technology Technological Project ‘Brief number 2’ should read:

‘Develop a food or a textile item suitable for teenagers to be sold **by** an enterprise group.’

This amended brief is now published on SQA’s website (www.sqa.org.uk > NQ Home Economics > Practical Assignment and Technological Project briefs) and replaces the previous version which read: ‘Develop a food or a textile item suitable for teenagers to be sold **to** an enterprise group.’ Please ensure that previous versions of this brief are destroyed.

Standard Grade Home Economics

As part of our continuous improvement agenda, we intend to increase the maximum marks available for all three levels of examinations at Standard Grade from this year (2006/07) onwards. This change will allow better differentiation of candidate performance and thereby more equitably reward them for their knowledge and understanding.

We would like to stress that the Course Arrangements and Extended Grade Related Criteria (ERGC) have not been changed in anyway.

The maximum marks available to candidates across the three levels from this year onwards will be:

- ◆ Credit — 80 (previously 42)
- ◆ General — 70 (48)
- ◆ Foundation — 60 (46)

The setting of the Grade Boundaries will be adjusted in accordance with these new totals.

The new marking allocation will allow candidates to be:

- ◆ awarded marks wholly commensurate with the knowledge and understanding demonstrated in their response — where, for example, a candidate is asked to provide two points of information, two marks will be available
- ◆ rewarded for a response which may lack sufficient depth to gain the full mark allocation, but which demonstrates some knowledge and understanding relevant to the question
- ◆ awarded an additional mark where they demonstrate the ability to link information in the table to the case study **and** also evaluate why that link is important to the given situation. Candidates who identify the link, but who do not explain the importance of that link to the case study, will continue to be awarded a mark for the link, but will not achieve the additional mark

The content of the question paper will not differ from previous years: it will continue to sample across the outcomes of the component Units and assess the candidates' abilities in the areas specified within the Standard Grade Home Economics Arrangements document.

The format of some questions, however, **will** change:

- ◆ questions will be phrased in such a way as to allow candidates maximum opportunity for achieving marks through extended responses; 'explain' for example, may become 'identify and explain'
- ◆ the evaluation marks for Dietary Reference Values (DRV) will be increased to a maximum mark allocation of three per question to more fairly reflect the candidate response: one mark will be awarded for evaluating the suitability of the DRV, one mark for explaining the importance of the nutrient, and one mark for stating the consequence to the situation/case study

Material to exemplify these changes is now available on SQA's website (www.sqa.org.uk > NQ Home Economics > Understanding Standards). A new specimen question paper will be made available following the completion of this year's examination diet.

Finally, we once again have to reiterate that the change to marks will not affect the current Course content.