

Our ref: AMacG/MS

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To: SQA Co-ordinator
Secondary Schools and Special Schools

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

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Dear Colleague

Home Economics Update Circular

The contents of this circular should be passed to the member of staff responsible for Home Economics.

The following update is provided to give information and advice to centres in relation to National Qualifications in Home Economics at all levels. For further clarification on any matter given in this update please do not hesitate to contact me using the contact details provided above.

Yours faithfully



Alastair MacGregor
Qualifications Manager

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Principal Assessor and Senior Moderator Reports 2002

At the conclusion of each examination diet, Principal Assessors and Senior Moderators produce reports which contain a valuable amount of information which teachers and lecturers would find useful when preparing candidates for future examinations. These reports are available in the National Qualifications sections of the SQA website (www.sqa.org.uk). The Principal Assessor reports provide details of the grade boundaries used for each examination in 2002. This information will be of value to centres when determining estimate grades for candidate performance and when generating evidence for assessment appeals.

Prizes for the best candidates in diet 2002

The British Nutrition Foundation award prizes for the best candidate in Standard Grade Home Economics and the best candidate in Advanced Higher Home Economics: Health and Food Technology. The winning candidates for 2002 are as detailed below:

- ◆ the top candidate in Standard Grade Home Economics is Amanda M MacMillan of Notre Dame High School, Greenock
- ◆ the best candidate in Advanced Higher Home Economics: Health and Food Technology is Claire J McDines of Girvan Academy, Girvan.

Congratulation to both candidates and to the centres who prepared the candidates for these examinations.

Consultations – National Qualifications

The following consultations are currently underway and the associated documents can be located in the Home Economics page of the National Qualifications section of the SQA website:

- ◆ Home Economics: Health and Food Technology (Intermediate 1) – unit specifications

The following consultations have now been completed and the results are being analysed:

- ◆ Hospitality: Practical Cookery (Intermediate 1) – external assessment exemplar
- ◆ Home Economics Evaluation Skills

Many thanks to those who participated in the consultation exercises.

Intermediate 1 Home Economics

As a result of the NQ Review, changes have been made to reduce the assessment load in Courses for all contexts. The structure of the Courses in Fashion and Textile Technology and Lifestyle and Consumer Technology has altered and so new codes have been allocated at all levels. This information was issued to centres in August and is also available to download from our website.

Intermediate 1 Health and Food Technology is being split into two different courses; one for Home Economics and one for Hospitality. The existing external assessment will remain in the Home Economics Course and we are currently consulting with Centres on the proposed Units.

The Visiting Moderation period for 2003 for the following courses is detailed below:

- ◆ Intermediate 1 Health and Food Technology
- ◆ Intermediate 1 Home Economics Lifestyle and Consumer Technology
- ◆ Intermediate 1 Home Economics Fashion and Textile Technology

Visiting moderation: 17 March 2003 – 11 April 2003 inclusive.

Internal Assessment Mark Forms to be returned to SQA by 30 April 2003.

Practical Assignment proforma to be submitted to SQA by 30 April 2003.

Intermediate 2, Higher and Advanced Higher Home Economics – all contexts

As a result of the NQ Review, changes have been made to reduce the assessment load in Courses for all contexts. Centres should ensure that they are using up to date versions of assessment material for both internal and external assessment. Up to date Subject Arrangements documents can be downloaded from the SQA website, along with an up to date list of all NAB packages issued to centres.

Standard Grade Home Economics

The review of the Practical Assignment (Course Objective (CO)7) is now complete and the revised arrangements are now in place. Moderation of the Practical and Organisational Skills element will take place in the period:

3 February 2003 to 15 March 2003 inclusive. Centres are reminded that moderation will be for **either** Course Objective 5 and 6, **or** the Practical Assignment (CO7).

A review of Standard Grade Home Economics will start in August 2003. This review will last for a period of six months. At the end of this period the extent of possible revision will be known and time-scales for further development can be determined.

Please note that COs 5 and 6 and the Practical Assignment (CO7) are separate course objectives. It is not possible to assess COs 5 and 6 as part of the Practical Assignment (CO7)

New Courses

The following new courses will be validated in December 2003 and should be available from August 2003:

Intermediate 1 Hospitality Practical Cookery

The details of this proposed course have already been made known to centres and a consultation exercise has been in place.

Intermediate 1 Home Economics: Health and Food Technology

The details of this proposed course have already been made known to centres and a consultation exercise has been in place.

Intermediate 2 Project Based National Course in Creative Cake Production

This course will have three units:

- ◆ Organisation of Practical Skills
- ◆ Cake Decorating
- ◆ Cake Making

The draft units can be found in the Home Economics section of the SQA website. The Cake Decoration unit is likely to have an approval condition attached to it. More details will be provided in due course.

SQA will be offering seminars linked to the above courses in late March/early April 2003. Details will follow in due course.

Appeals

The provision of Assessment Appeals evidence continues to cause problems for some centres. The following points of information should be observed when gathering evidence for Assessment Appeals.

Intermediate 1 – all contexts

Evidence of planning and evaluation skills are required. This might include a Practical Assignment designed to meet the requirements of the SQA Practical Assignment enhanced with appropriate NAB evidence (showing planning and evaluation skills) and materials from the Evaluation Skills pack issued by SQA.

Intermediate 2/Higher and Advanced Higher – all contexts.

Where a prelim paper is being used, it must match the specification of the question paper issued by SQA. The question paper specifications for the above contexts are attached to this circular. It is important that prelim papers are designed to meet the target range of marks for the course skills and component unit coverage for the courses. Assessment Appeals evidence should be supplemented with materials such as NAB evidence or assessment materials from the Evaluation Skills pack issued by SQA. All prelim papers should be marked in accordance with the published marking conventions for each course.

Standard Grade Home Economics

Where a prelim paper is being used, it must match the specification of the question paper issued by SQA. General guidance on devising a prelim paper is attached to the end of this circular. All prelim papers should be marked in accordance with the published marking conventions for the course. Prelim papers could be supplemented with materials from the Evaluation Skills pack issued by SQA.

Centres should be aware that Leckie and Leckie have published 1999 to 2002 Past Papers in Standard Grade General and Credit Home Economics (with answers to all questions). These papers are now in the public domain and so would not be suitable for using to devise prelim papers.

Centres are reminded to read carefully the notes of guidance sent to centres with regards to gathering suitable evidence for assessment appeals.

Should you have any questions regarding the content of this circular please do not hesitate to contact me or one of my Qualification Officers:

- ◆ Jillian Hendry – 0141 242 2200 – jillian.hendry@sqa.org.uk
- ◆ Elaine McFadyen - 0141 242 2342 – elaine.mcfadyen@sqa.org.uk

Higher Level Home Economics – all Contexts

Instructions to Setters of the Written Paper: for Examinations in and after 2000

Generic Instructions

- 1 The question paper at Higher Level will consist of one Written Paper with a time allocation of 2 hours and will be worth 80 marks.

Questions will focus on the course content areas of the two component units, Resource Management and Consumer Studies and will assess the candidate's ability to:

- ◆ select and apply knowledge to a range of problems and situations
- ◆ make critical appraisals and reasoned decisions, which involve using skills of analysis and evaluation.

The balance of skills assessed within the question paper should be within the following target mark allocation:

50 - 55 marks	select and apply knowledge
25 - 30 mark	making critical appraisals and reasoned decisions.

To meet the 80 mark question paper allocation.

- 2 The course content to be covered in the question paper should be allocated to meet the target marks indicated below:

Health and Food Technology and Fashion and Textile Technology

<u>Unit course content</u>	<u>Target mark allocation</u>
Resource Management	55 marks (+/-) 5 marks
Consumer Studies	25 marks (+/-) 5 marks

To meet the 80 mark question paper allocation.

Lifestyle and Consumer Technology

<u>Unit course content</u>	<u>Target mark allocation</u>
Resource Management	25 marks (+/-) 5 marks
Consumer Studies	55 marks (+/-) 5 marks

To meet the 80 mark question paper allocation

The question paper will consist of two sections: Section A and Section B

3 **Section A**

Section A is a compulsory section consisting of short answer and restricted response type questions worth a total mark allocation of 20.

Short answers are described as being:

“An item which requires a response of generally a few words. (Any reasonable, relevant answer should be acceptable).”

Restricted response items are described as being:

“An item which requires a response which is more than a short answer but briefer than an extended response. Restricted responses typically would vary between a few sentences and a paragraph in length.”

(Glossary of Assessment Terminology. Scottish Qualifications Authority. January 1993.)

4 Questions in Section A will have a maximum allocation of two marks.

Section A should sample across the course content of the two component units to meet the following target mark range:

Health and Food Technology and Fashion and Textile Technology

<u>Unit course content</u>	<u>Target mark range</u>
Resource Management	12 - 13 marks
Consumer studies	7 - 8 marks

to meet the 20 mark allocation for Section A

Lifestyle and Consumer Technology

<u>Unit course content</u>	<u>Target mark allocation</u>
Resource Management	7 - 8 marks
Consumer Studies	12 - 13 marks

to meet the 20 mark allocation for Section A

5 **Section B**

Section B will contain a total of four extended response type questions each worth 20 marks. Candidates should attempt three questions as described in paragraphs 6 and 7.

Extended response items are described as being:

“An item which requires a lengthy type of response, usually written”

(Glossary of Assessment Terminology. Scottish Qualifications Authority. January 1993.)

All questions should allow a candidate to progress to the relevant Grade Descriptions at Grade A.

- 6 Question 1 of Section B is a compulsory question worth 20 marks, which samples the course content from the unit Resource Management for Health and Food Technology and Fashion and Textile Technology, and from the unit Consumer Studies for Lifestyle and Consumer Technology

For specific advice on the setting of Question 1 (Section B) for each of the three Home Economics Contexts, see Appendix 1.

- 7 Questions 2, 3 and 4 of Section B will sample across and integrate the course content of the two component units.
Candidates will attempt any two out of the three questions 2 - 4
There will be no element of choice within any of questions 2 - 4

Questions 2, 3 and 4 should be similar in terms of the level of demand and similar in terms of the skills being assessed.

- 8 If resource material is required for particular questions, it should be provided within the Written paper. The resource material should be relevant, concise and appropriate to Higher Level. This material should be provided in a user-friendly format, and selected from up to date sources.

Setters should provide a note of all reference sources used for the setting of questions and production of marking instructions.

APPENDIX I

Higher Level Home Economics - all Contexts

Guidance to Setters of the Written Paper: Section B. Question 1.

Question 1 of Section B in the Written Paper will be a compulsory question with a total mark allocation of 20.

Question 1 of Section B will sample across the course content of the unit Resource Management for both Health and Food Technology and Fashion and Textile Technology and from the unit Consumer Studies for Lifestyle and Consumer Technology.

The related course content to be covered from the Resource Management unit, in Health and Food Technology and Fashion and Textile Technology is detailed below.

Health and Food Technology

The content of the question should be derived from the context (statements):

- ◆ The interrelationship of groups of nutrients related to function
- ◆ Effects of storage, preparation and cooking on nutrients
- ◆ The relationship between diet, lifestyle and health

Fashion and Textile Technology

The content of the question should be derived from the context (statements):

- ◆ Technology of textile properties

The related course content to be covered from the Consumer Studies unit for Lifestyle and Consumer Technology is detailed below.

Lifestyle and Consumer Technology

The content of the question should be derives from the context (statements):

- ◆ Socio-economic factors affecting lifestyle and consumer choice of goods and services
- ◆ The implications of changes in social trends on individuals and families
- ◆ Changing circumstances in lifestyle

Intermediate 2 Level Home Economics - all Contexts

Instructions to Setters of the Written Paper: for Examinations in and after 2000

Generic Instructions

- 1 The question paper at Intermediate 2 Level will consist of one Written Paper with a time allocation of 1 hour and thirty minutes and will be worth 60 marks.

Questions will focus on the course content areas of the three component units; Management of Practical Activities, Product Development and Consumer Studies, and will assess the candidate's ability to:

- ◆ recall and use knowledge for a range of straightforward problems and situations;
- ◆ draw conclusions by selecting relevant information from source material;
- ◆ evaluate using defined criteria.

The balance of skills assessed within the question paper should be within the following target mark allocation:

recall and use knowledge	30 - 37 marks
draw conclusions	15 - 20 marks
evaluate	8 - 10 marks
to meet the 60 mark question paper allocation	

- 2 The course content to be covered in the question paper should be allocated to meet the target marks indicated below:

<u>Unit course content</u>	<u>Target mark allocation</u>
Management of Practical Activities	20 marks +/- 5 marks
Product Development	20 marks +/- 5 marks
Consumer Studies	20 marks +/- 5 marks
to meet the 60 mark question paper allocation	

- 3 The question paper will consist of a total of five questions each worth 12 marks. Each of the five questions will consist of short answer and restricted response type questions which will sample across and integrate the course content of the three component units

Short answers are described as being :

“An item which requires a response of generally a few words. (Any reasonable, relevant answer should be acceptable).”

Restricted response items are described as being:

“An item which requires a response which is more than a short answer but briefer than an extended response. Restricted response typically would vary between a few sentences and a paragraph in length.”

(Glossary of Assessment Terminology. Scottish Qualifications Authority. January 1993)

4 Question 1 is a 12 mark question sampling a defined area of course content as detailed in section 5 below. There will be no element of choice within this question.

5 Defined area of content for Question 1.

Health and Food Technology

The content of question 1 will focus on **‘the relationship between diet, and health’** and will be sourced across course content.

Lifestyle and Consumer Technology

The content of question 1 will focus on **‘the relationship between diet, lifestyle and health’** and will be sourced across course content.

Fashion and Textile Technology

The content question 1 will focus on **‘the physical and sensory properties of textiles’** and will be sourced across course content.

6 Questions 2, 3, 4 and 5 are worth 12 marks each and will be constructed to allow an element of candidate choice within any of the questions. The element of choice within the questions will be consistent across all contexts in any one year. Questions with built in choice can be sourced from any of the component units, as long as the total mark allocation for choice based questions is consistent across the three contexts.

Of the 48 marks allocated to questions 2, 3, 4 and 5, between 10 - 12 marks should be allocated to parts of questions allowing an element of choice.

7 All questions (with the exception of short answer questions) should allow a candidate to progress to the relevant Grade Descriptions at Grade A

8 If resources are required for particular questions, it should be provided within the Written Paper. The resource material should be relevant, concise and appropriate to Intermediate 2 Level. This material should be provided in a user-friendly format, and selected from up to date sources.

9 Setters should provide a note of all reference sources used for the setting of questions and production of marking instructions.

**Advanced Higher Home Economics: Health and Food Technology
 Lifestyle and Consumer Technology
 Fashion and Textile Technology**

Question Paper Specification

The Advanced Higher Home Economics Question Paper will be a three hour examination with a 75 mark allocation, which will be rounded up to 100 marks by SQA.

Candidates will be presented with three booklets:

Booklet 1 – Examination Paper

Booklet 2 – Report – for use with Section A of the Question Paper

Booklet 3 – 16 page lined answer booklet (Additional pages can be added)

The Question Paper will consist of two sections: Section A and Section B based on the course content of the appropriate context.

Section A

Section A will have one question with a total mark allocation of 25 marks.

Question 1 will be subdivided into a series of structured questions based on a Report. There will be a minimum mark allocation of 5 marks per structured question in this section.

The Report will be based on an area of study from the course content of the appropriate context.

The Report will be between one – two A4 pages in length and presented as a separate booklet.

This Section of the Question Paper will be assessing the candidates ability to:

- make critical appraisals and reasoned decisions, which involve using skills of analysis and evaluation.

Candidates will be advised to spend 1 hour on this Section. This will include 20 minutes reading time.

Section B

Section B will have a mark allocation of 50 marks and will consist of 5 questions, all of which will require extended responses.

Question 1 will be compulsory.

Candidates will attempt one question from the remaining four.

Question 1

This will be based on one area from the course content of the appropriate context. It will assess the candidates ability to:

- select and apply knowledge to a range of complex problems or situations
- make critical appraisals and reasoned decisions, which involve using skills of analysis and evaluation.

Question 1 will have a mark allocation of 25 marks. The 25 marks may be either allocated in total to a one part question or divided into 15 marks and 10 marks for a two part question.

Questions 2 – 5

These questions will assess the candidates ability to:

- select and apply knowledge to a range of complex problems or situations

Questions 2 – 5 will each have a 25 mark allocation.

Candidates will be advised to spend 40 minutes on each question in Section B

Standard Grade Home Economics

Guidance on writing a prelim paper

The mark allocation for each paper will be:

<i>Element</i>	<i>KU</i>	<i>HI</i>
Foundation Level	23	23
General Level	24	24
Credit Level	21	21

The maximum number of questions in each paper will be:

Foundation Level – 5 questions

General Level – 5 questions

Credit Level – 4 questions

An analysis grid should be provided to show the relationship between the marks allocated to each question and the Essential Knowledge statements (a) – (h) and to Course Objectives 1 – 4

The maximum number of marks awarded to Course Objective 3 in any one paper will be four.

Questions should be designed to ensure full coverage of the Essential Knowledge statements across the Foundation and General papers and full coverage of the Essential Knowledge statements across the General and Credit papers.