



## Collaboration profile

### DIVA Overview

The Digital media and ICT Vendor Alliance (DIVA) Project is an initiative by SQA to update and expand its range of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and digital media qualifications working with industry partners.

The objectives of the project are to source and incorporate high-quality support materials from industry into SQA's qualifications and to link those qualifications effectively to the world of work. The project will also create new professional development opportunities for teachers and lecturers to be able to offer the resulting industry-enriched curriculum and awards to their students.

SQA is following a rigorous process in assessing and selecting industry partners for the DIVA Project. A framework for engaging with suppliers has been developed to ensure a consistent approach and forward momentum. In each case, SQA is seeking to involve a consortium of education and training providers to develop, pilot and champion new curriculum and awards.

### Apple in DIVA

In October 2005, SQA and Apple launched an agreement to collaborate on providing products and supporting activities to enhance education opportunities in schools, colleges and communities throughout Scotland.

This collaboration builds on the strength of usage of Apple tools and resources in Scottish education and training.

The agreement includes:

- Investigation of the potential to incorporate Apple resources and course materials into SQA's digital media related awards.
- Early information on new Apple products, resources and course materials relevant to education.
- Facilitation of 'train-the-trainer' events.
- Collaboration on identifying Scottish candidates for the Apple Distinguished Educator (ADE) programme.

Through a public procurement process, SQA and Apple have appointed Scotsys as a Lead Centre to champion and support the roll out of the products and services from the DIVA programme to schools and colleges across Scotland.

### Key Points

- SQA and Apple are working together to integrate Apple coursework, resources and certifications into SQA's awards framework.
- Scotsys has been appointed as the DIVA Lead Centre for the SQA Apple collaboration.

Initial activities will focus on:

- Investigation of resources within the iLife suite of products, including the relevance of GarageBand to Core Skills.
- Assessment of Logic products in the context of the Higher (Music) framework.
- Further support for staff development.

### Benefits

- Globally-recognised industry strength qualifications for students in Scotland.
- High quality curriculum and awards relevant to employers.
- Innovative curriculum and professional development opportunities for teachers and lecturers.

*'Apple is delighted to join in working with SQA to provide products and supporting activities to enhance education opportunities in schools, colleges and communities throughout Scotland.'*

Mark Rogers  
Managing Director  
Northern Europe

Find out latest news at

[www.sqa.org.uk/diva](http://www.sqa.org.uk/diva)

## **DIVA**

In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century knowledge economy, Digital Media and ICT skills will provide an essential contribution to the development of individual chances for life, work and continuing education. SQA considers it a priority to work with world leaders in Digital Media and ICT to provide the best opportunities for the Scottish workforce and wider population.

To this end, SQA has formed a series of collaboration agreements with global industry vendors including Apple to work together on a publicly shared action plan to the benefit of Scottish learners, education professionals, employers and citizens.

## **SQA**

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) is the statutory body in Scotland with responsibility for the development, awarding, and accreditation of Scotland's national qualifications, excluding university degrees. Over 50% of Scotland's population of 5 million hold a certificate from SQA or its predecessor bodies.

[www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)

## **Apple**

Apple gained its reputation in the 1970s as a world leading innovator in the personal computing market. Today, Apple continues to lead industry innovation in desktop computing and digital tools for audio visual industries, including the iLife suite for education. Apple has a long standing tradition of working closely with education, supporting teachers in developing ICT-based learning through initiatives such as the Apple Distinguished Educators (ADE) programme, Learning Interchange and DV in Education online resources, as well as supporting use of Apple Pro professional media products in higher education.

[www.apple.com/uk/education/](http://www.apple.com/uk/education/)

## **SQA and Apple**

Schools, colleges, universities and community learning organisations across Scotland currently use Apple tools and resources as part of their teaching and learning facilities. The DIVA collaboration will develop linkages with SQA's activities and awards. An early focus of activity through the Lead Centre, Scotsys, will be to explore linkages in the area of audio and music focusing on GarageBand and Logic applications, looking at how to add value to existing usage and staff development.