

13 August 2015

To whomever it may concern

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) is the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas. We promote high professional standards and strong ethics in archaeological practice, to maximise the benefit that archaeologists bring to society. We are the authoritative and effective voice for archaeologists, bringing recognition and respect to our professions.

CIfA has over 3,250 members and more than 70 registered practices across the United Kingdom. Its members work in all branches of the discipline: heritage management, planning advice, excavation, finds and environmental study, buildings recording, underwater and aerial archaeology, museums, conservation, survey, research and development, teaching and liaison with the community, industry and the commercial and financial sectors.

See more at www.archaeologists.net

The NVQ Level 3 Certificate in Archaeological Practice is the only vocational qualification currently available to archaeologists. Although many aspiring archaeologists study archaeology in one form or another to under- or post-graduate degree level, these academic courses are not designed to deliver or accredit vocational skills. Rather they teach and assess academic knowledge of the subject and many graduates seeking a career in the historic environment sector find that they are lacking the skills employers require. For would-be archaeologists who are unable, or do not wish to go to University, the NVQ Certificate is the only way they can gain and demonstrate the skills they need to pursue a career.

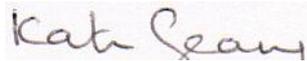
Based on a suite of NOS that was developed in close consultation with employers across the historic environment sector, the NVQ Certificate has been recognised by employers as delivering appropriate vocational skills. Its learning outcomes have also been benchmarked against the requirements for membership of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists with the result that applicants with the NVQ can achieve

Practitioner level members through a 'fast-track' route, supporting their early career development.

Qualification Title	Job role(s) supported
601/4925/5 SQA Level 3 NVQ Certificate in Archaeological Practice	Numerous, eg Archaeologist, Historic Environment Record Archaeologist, Planning/Development Control Archaeologist, Community Archaeologist, Finds or Museum Archaeologist

We consent to this letter being made publicly available on SQA's website.

Yours sincerely



Kate Geary
Standards Development Manager

