



# Core Skills for the Future — Bulletin

## Issue 8 — Winter 2008

### Welcome!

Welcome to the eighth issue of the Core Skills for the Future Bulletin.

This Bulletin will provide you with up to date information on developments within the area of Core Skills.

We do hope you find the content both informative and interesting.

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## Core Skills NQ Quality Support events

Two NQ Quality Support events were held on 22 and 24 October 2008, to help



centres with the implementation of the new Core Skills standards. Our External Verifiers were present to help centres share good assessment and delivery practice and really get to grips with the changes to Core Skills. Both events were extremely well attended and we would like to thank stakeholders for taking part in the days. Presentations for the events are available on SQA Academy.

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

We plan to hold similar events in spring 2009, which we anticipate will see centres working even closer towards implementing the new standards. We shall advertise these events on our website, in SQA's e-zine and in Core Skills Bulletins, so keep your eyes open for news.

The spring events will provide even more examples of how centres are applying the new standards in practice and we look forward to seeing some real innovation in assessment.



## Quality Support event for Workplace Core Skills



We held a Quality Support event for Training Providers on Monday 20 October 2008. This offered centres the opportunity to see the Understanding Standards website, which traditionally was used by deliverers of National Qualifications. The event gave some real background into the benefits of using Understanding Standards and delegates were given the opportunity to try the

technology for themselves. As the Understanding Standards website holds

materials for both the new and lapsed Core Skills Units, training providers should direct themselves to the new Core Skills Units.

If you are interested in finding out more, log on to:

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

## **Understanding Standards updated**

The Understanding Standards website has been updated to reflect the new Core Skills standards and is available now on

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

Understanding Standards is there to highlight the key features and principles behind the Core Skill Units, show common mistakes in assessment and suggest how these can be avoided. It also serves to provide samples of candidate work for you to assess and encourages practitioners to compare their judgements with that of an EV, enabling self-calibration.

## **Other developments in Core Skills**

### **Four schools and a college in action**

This year, SQA and the Scottish Government commissioned some action research projects, which were designed to give centres the opportunity to think about ways in which current and future qualifications and assessment can support and enable Curriculum for Excellence aims, values and principles. As part of this, SQA showcased five teacher/lecturer led action research projects at this year's Scottish Learning Festival.

*St Margaret's Academy, Livingston,  
Annie'sland College, Glasgow,  
St Luke's School, Barrhead,  
Trinity Academy, Edinburgh and  
Dollar Academy*

All of the projects explored ways of developing the four capacities and included approaches to the delivery of Core Skills, National Courses at SCQF 5 and interdisciplinary programmes.

In the coming year we hope to support a further project designed to boost and contextualise all five Core Skills, developed by Bathgate Academy in partnership with Skills for Logistics, the Sector Skills Council which works alongside companies involved in moving, handling or storing goods. This would explore an exciting programme to build the four capacities not only here in Scotland but internationally through a programme called 'Made in China'.

### **Oh the staff, they are a changing...** (with apologies to Dylan)

We have made some changes at SQA and, as part of this, Core Skills are moving to a new team. As the development phase ends and Core Skills moves into implementation, they will now be managed by Sandy Riddell, Qualification Manager and Angela Lees, Qualification Officer.

Margaret Tierney, Amanda Gray and Gill Mann are sorry to be leaving Core Skills, but wish Sandy and Angela every success for the future.

### **A welcome from Sandy and Angela**

Sandy Riddell and Angela Lees both have considerable experience with SQA both in product development and customer service functions and they are delighted to be taking over responsibility for the development of Core Skills. They are looking forward to working with centres involved in the delivery of the new Core Skills Units and to the challenges that lie ahead. If you have any queries, please contact us:

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## National Qualification Core Skills Units Codes

Title	SCQF Level	Unit Code	Superclass
<b>Communication</b>			
Communication	SCQF2 (40hr)	F3GB 08	KB
Communication: Listening	SCQF2 (10hr)	F3GM 08	HB
Communication: Reading	SCQF2 (10hr)	F3GN 08	KB
Communication: Speaking	SCQF2 (10hr)	F3GP 08	KB
Communication: Writing	SCQF2 (10hr)	F3GR 08	KB
Communication	SCQF3 (40hr)	F3GB 09	KB
Communication: Listening	SCQF3 (10hr)	F3GM 09	HB
Communication: Reading	SCQF3 (10hr)	F3GN 09	KB
Communication: Speaking	SCQF3 (10hr)	F3GP 09	KB
Communication: Writing	SCQF3 (10hr)	F3GR 09	KB
Communication	SCQF4 (40hr)	F3GB 10	KB
Communication	SCQF5 (40hr)	F3GB 11	KB
Communication	SCQF6 (40hr)	F3GB 12	KB
<b>Numeracy</b>			
Numeracy	SCQF2 (40hr)	F3GF 08	RB
Numeracy: Measuring	SCQF2 (10hr)	F3GL 08	HD

<b>Numeracy: Money</b>	<b>SCQF2 (10hr)</b>	<b>F3GH 08</b>	<b>HD</b>
<b>Numeracy: Time</b>	<b>SCQF2 (10hr)</b>	<b>F3GJ 08</b>	<b>HD</b>
<b>Numeracy: UGI</b>	<b>SCQF2 (10hr)</b>	<b>F3GG 08</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Numeracy</b>	<b>SCQF3 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GF 09</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Numeracy: Measuring</b>	<b>SCQF3 (10hr)</b>	<b>F3GL 09</b>	<b>HD</b>
<b>Numeracy: Calculation</b>	<b>SCQF3 (20hr)</b>	<b>F3GK 09</b>	<b>HD</b>
<b>Numeracy: UGI</b>	<b>SCQF3 (10hr)</b>	<b>F3GG 09</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Numeracy</b>	<b>SCQF4 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GF 10</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Numeracy</b>	<b>SCQF5 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GF 11</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Numeracy</b>	<b>SCQF6 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GF 12</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Information Communication Technology</b>			
<b>Information Communication Technology</b>	<b>SCQF2 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GC 08</b>	<b>CD</b>
<b>Information Communication Technology</b>	<b>SCQF3 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GC 09</b>	<b>CD</b>
<b>Information Communication Technology</b>	<b>SCQF4 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GC 10</b>	<b>CD</b>
<b>Information Communication Technology</b>	<b>SCQF5 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GC 11</b>	<b>CD</b>
<b>Information Communication Technology</b>	<b>SCQF6 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GC 12</b>	<b>CD</b>
<b>Problem Solving</b>			
<b>Problem Solving</b>	<b>SCQF2 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GD 08</b>	<b>HB</b>
<b>Problem Solving</b>	<b>SCQF3 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GD 09</b>	<b>HB</b>
<b>Problem Solving</b>	<b>SCQF4 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GD 10</b>	<b>HB</b>

<b>Problem Solving</b>	<b>SCQF5 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GD 11</b>	<b>HB</b>
<b>Problem Solving</b>	<b>SCQF6 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GD 12</b>	<b>HB</b>
<b>Working with Others</b>			
<b>Working with Others</b>	<b>SCQF2 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GE 08</b>	<b>HB</b>
<b>Working with Others</b>	<b>SCQF3 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GE 09</b>	<b>HB</b>
<b>Working with Others</b>	<b>SCQF4 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GE 10</b>	<b>HB</b>
<b>Working with Others</b>	<b>SCQF5 (40hr)</b>	<b>F3GE 11</b>	<b>HB</b>
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