



# **Group Award Specification for:**

**NPA in Construction SCQF level 5**

**Group Award Code: GL35 45**

**Validation date: 22 January 2016**

**Date of original publication: April 2016**

**Version: 04 (December 2023)**

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# 1 Introduction

This document was previously known as the Arrangements document. The purpose of this document is to:

- ◆ assist centres to implement, deliver and manage the qualification
- ◆ provide a guide for new staff involved in offering the qualification
- ◆ inform course managers teaching staff, assessors, learners, employers and HEIs of the aims and purpose of the qualification
- ◆ provide details of the range of learners the qualification is suitable for and progression opportunities.

## **Justification and rationale for the review of the qualification**

The current 'NPA in Construction' has been delivered successfully by centres since it was validated in 2007. This Group Award has established a reputation as the established route for learners seeking access to a career in construction.

- ◆ In Scotland's Colleges around 2,250 learners register for the NPA in Construction each year

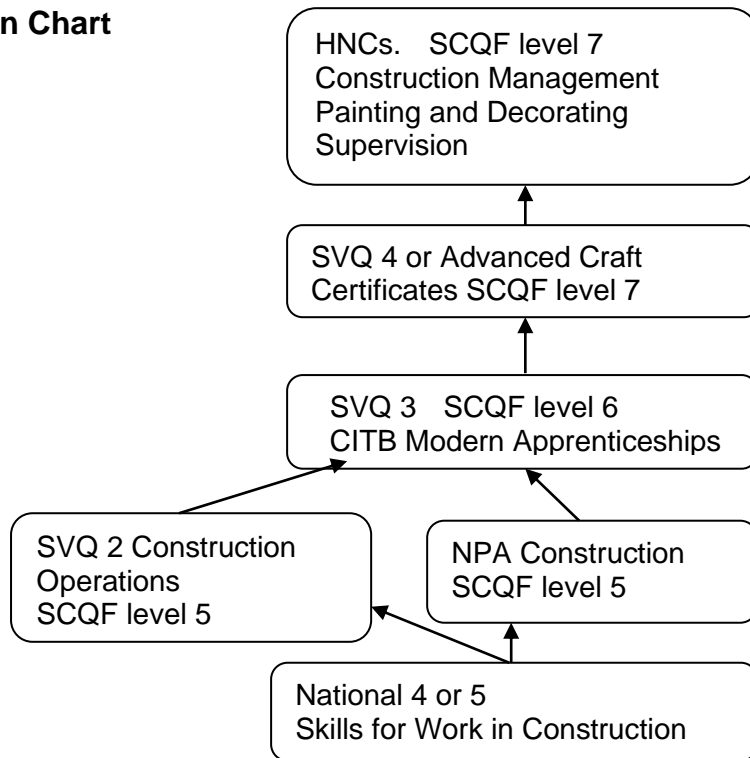
The Group Award has an excellent record of articulating learners into construction apprenticeships.

- ◆ Approximately, 25% of new apprentices each year have completed an NPA in Construction prior to being employed.

The title of the Group Award clearly identifies the purpose of this qualification which is the industry recognised articulation route to apprenticeships and SVQs in construction crafts and disciplines.

However, an SQA Scoping Report carried out in March 2014 identified industry recommendations for enhancing the structure of the qualification and the range of occupational pathways available to candidates to meet the current demands of the construction sector. The consultation report sought views from a range of industry bodies including Scottish Painting and Decorating Apprenticeship Training Council (SPADAC) Scottish Building Apprenticeship and Training Council (SBATC), Scottish Building Federation (SBF) and Construction Skills.

## Progression Chart



## Range of Learners

This qualification has been designed for a range of candidates including school leavers, adult returners, unemployed adults, the Scottish Prisons Service (SPS) and those who had previously not been able to benefit from traditional qualifications. Delivery can take place at schools, training centres or colleges. Candidates will experience a range of skills within defined construction occupational pathways and will gain skills and knowledge of

- ◆ efficient construction practices
- ◆ employability and behavioral skills
- ◆ health and safety in a construction environment
- ◆ waste awareness
- ◆ sustainability

## Possible employment opportunities for learners

Successful candidates will possess the skills and competencies to undertake employment in the following construction apprenticeships or disciplines.

- ◆ Carpentry and Joinery
- ◆ Painting and Decorating
- ◆ Roofing
- ◆ Bricklaying
- ◆ Plastering
- ◆ Stonemasonry
- ◆ Wall and Floor Tiling
- ◆ Floorcovering
- ◆ Construction Operations

## 2 Qualification Structure

This Group Award has a minimum requirement of 12 SQA Unit credits and 72 SCQF credit points.

A mapping of Core Skills development opportunities is available in Section 5.3.

**H669 46\*** – please note this unit does not provide a route to the CSCS card.

### 2.1 Structure

Code	Title	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
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#### Mandatory Units: All required, 6.5 credits

H669 46* Or GN2A 44	Health and Safety in the Construction Industry Health and Safety in a Construction Environment	6 6	6 4	1 1
J58R 46*	Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment	6	6	1
HA2P 45	Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction	6	5	1
HA2R 45	Efficient Construction Practices: An Introduction	6	5	1
HC35 44	Construction: Information and Communication Technology	3	4	0.5
HA4A 45	Employment and Behavioural Skills	12	5	2

#### Occupational Mandatory Units: 2.5 credits required a minimum of three Units

DD1R 10	Solid and Bench Plasterwork Skills: An Introduction	3	4	0.5
DD1T 10	Single Lap Roof Tiling: An Introduction	3	4	0.5
F1K7 10	Preparing and Painting Surfaces	3	4	0.5
F1JS 10	Half Brick Walling: An Introduction	3	4	0.5
F1KL 10	Carpentry and Joinery: An Introduction	3	4	0.5
F50P 10	Wall and Floor Tiling: An Introduction	3	4	0.5
H3PF 11	Textile Floorcovering: An Introduction	6	5	1
HA2T 45	Place and Finish Non-Specialist Concrete	6	5	1
HA31 44	Stonemasonry: An Introduction	3	4	0.5

\*see History of Change for revision information

**Optional Units: Select a minimum of 3 credits from one occupational career path**

Code	Title	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
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**Roofing career path**

DD1W 11	Roof Slating: An Introduction	6	5	1
DD1V 11	Plain Roof Tiling: An Introduction	6	5	1
DH24 11	Single Lap Roofing Skills	6	5	1
F1L5 11	Plain Tile Roofing Skills	6	5	1
DH26 11	Roofing: Regular Sized Natural Slates with Random Widths	6	5	1

**Brickwork career path**

F1JV 11	One Brick Walling: An Introduction	6	5	1
F1JX 11	Fundamentals of Cavity Walling	6	5	1
F1K5 11	Block Walling: An Introduction	6	5	1
F1K3 11	Simple Arch Construction	6	5	1
F1K1 11	Simple Decorative Brickwork	6	5	1

**Plastering career path**

DH27 11	Applying Lightweight Plaster: An Introduction	6	5	1
DH28 11	Fixing Plasterboard and Applying Plastering Materials: An Introduction	6	5	1
DH29 11	Applying External Cementwork : An Introduction	6	5	1
DH2A 11	Producing and Fixing Plaster Moulding: An Introduction	6	5	1

**Stonemasonry career path**

HA2V 45	Stonemasonry: Raking Out and Repointing	6	5	1
HA2W 45	Stonemasonry: Building with Stone	6	5	1
HA2X 45	Stonemasonry: Basic Banker Skills	6	5	1
HA2Y 45	Stonemasonry: Practical Drawing and Template Production	6	5	1

**Carpentry and Joinery career path**

F1KN 11	Develop Bench Joinery Skills	6	5	1
F1KX 11	Manufacture Joinery Components	6	5	1
F1L0 11	Develop Constructional Carpentry Skills	6	5	1
F1L3 11	Develop Site Joinery Skills	6	5	1
F1L4 11	Carpentry and Joinery Repair and Maintenance	6	5	1

**Painting and Decorating career path**

F1K9 11	Decorative Painting	6	5	1
F1KA 11	Decorative Treatments	6	5	1
HA2N 45	Prepare and Hang Lining Paper	6	5	1
F1KG 11	Colour Practice: Painting and Decorating	6	5	1
F1KK 11	Paperhanging: Patterned Paper	6	5	1

**Optional Units: (cont)**

Code	Title	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
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**Wall and Floor Tiling career path**

F50V 11	Fundamentals of Wall Tiling	6	5	1
F50X 11	Fundamentals of Floor Tiling	6	5	1
F511 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Cement Work	6	5	1
F514 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Cutting, Shaping and Fixing	6	5	1
F516 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Pattern Work	6	5	1

**Floor covering career path**

H3PB 11	Intricate Sheet and Tile Impervious Floorcoverings: An Introduction	6	5	1
H3PC 11	Impervious Floorcoverings : An Introduction	6	5	1
H3PD 11	Basic Setting Out for Floorcovering	6	5	1
H3PE 11	Basic Preparation of Surfaces	6	5	1

**Construction Operations career path**

H0SD 11	Excavate Holes and Trenches	6	5	1
H0SM 11	Install Street Ironwork	6	5	1
H0SY 11	Sign, Light and Guard the Work Area	6	5	1
H0TA 11	Lay Kerbs and Channels	6	5	1

## **3 Aims of the qualification.**

### **3.0 Principal Aims**

The NPA in Construction's aim is to provide structured opportunities for learners to experience a variety of construction crafts and occupations, while still enjoying the benefits of close contact with their training/education provider.

This Group Award is a vocational qualification which provides practical opportunities for developing real skills that are valid and relevant in today's construction sector.

One key feature of the NPA in Construction is its flexibility, as it is designed to offer learners experience of a wide range of construction skills and practices across the Occupational mandatory Units. This will help learners to make an informed choice about the most appropriate Occupational Career path for them.

### **3.1 General aims of the qualification**

This Group Award aims to offer learners the opportunity to improve their employability prospects within the construction sector by developing learners':

- 1 practical knowledge and skills.
- 2 ability to solve problems.
- 3 transferable skills.
- 4 ability to be flexible and work cooperatively with others.
- 5 ability to take responsibility for their own learning.
- 6 awareness of waste control, sustainability and resource management.
- 7 employment and behavioral skills.
- 8 understanding of Health and Safety in a Construction Environment.
- 9 planning and organisational skills.
- 10 oral, written and communication skills.
- 11 numerical and graphical skills.
- 12 ICT skills.
- 13 flexibility, knowledge, skills and motivation as a basis for progression.

### **3.2 Specific aims of the qualification**

The Group Award will:

- 14 provide learners with an opportunity to develop skills, knowledge and basic competencies a minimum of three occupational areas develop learners Core Skills [www.cscs.uk.com](http://www.cscs.uk.com)
- 15 improve employment prospects by providing a qualification in Health and Safety which is one of the requirements to undertake Construction Skills Certification (CSCS) [www.cscs.uk.com](http://www.cscs.uk.com) and the Scottish Construction Operatives Registration Executive (SCORE) [www.scorecard.org.uk](http://www.scorecard.org.uk) testing.
- 16 develop key industry required skills in waste and sustainability awareness
- 17 develop emergency first aid at work response knowledge and basic health and safety awareness.
- 18 allow learners to further develop their skills, knowledge and basic competencies in their chosen career path.



## 4 Recommended entry to the qualification(s)

Entry to this qualification is at the discretion of the centre. The following information on prior knowledge, skills, experience or qualifications that provide suitable preparation for this qualification has been provided by the Qualification Design Team as guidance only.

While there is no formal entry requirements, learners would benefit from having attained skills, knowledge and understanding required by one of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ National 4 **Skills for Work**: Construction Crafts
- ◆ National 5 **Skills for Work**: Construction Crafts

Learners would also benefit from having attained skills knowledge and understanding through experience of working in one of the occupational paths listed on the Group Award structure.

### 4.1 Core Skills entry profile

The Core Skill entry profile provides a summary of the associated assessment activities that exemplify why a particular level has been recommended for this qualification. The information should be used to identify if additional learning support needs to be put in place for learners whose Core Skills profile is below the recommended entry level or whether learners should be encouraged to do an alternative level or learning programme.

Core Skill	Recommended SCQF entry profile	Associated assessment activities
Communication	4	Almost all specialist occupational path Units recommend working in small groups or in pairs. Learners will be assessed on providing evidence of oral and graphical communication skills and using a range of verbal and non-verbal communication techniques which will meet the needs of employers.
Numeracy	4	The ability to interpret, calculate, apply and communicate numerical and graphical information accurately is integral to achievement of all specialist Units within each Occupational Path.
Information and Communication Technology (ICT)	4	The ability to interpret, apply and communicate information is integral to achievement across the specified Unit.

Core Skill	Recommended SCQF entry profile	Associated assessment activities
Problem Solving	4	<p>Across all Units, learners will identify occupational problems and will devise solutions to a range of occupational issues in practical situations.</p> <p>Learners will apply knowledge gained to resolve these issues, while maintaining a key focus on sustainability and health and safety requirements</p>
Working with Others	4	<p>Small group or pair working is integral to the delivery of this Core Skill. Practical work will involve assessment observation of the ability develop team working skills and improving working relationships.</p>

## 5 Additional benefits of the qualification in meeting employer needs

This qualification was designed to meet a specific purpose and what follows are details on how that purpose has been met through mapping of the Units to the aims of the qualification. Through meeting the aims, additional value has been achieved by linking the Unit standards with those defined in National Occupational Standards and/or trade/professional body requirements. In addition, significant opportunities exist for learners to develop the more generic skill, known as Core Skills through doing this qualification.

## 5.1 Mapping of qualification aims to Units

(M = Mandatory: OM = Occupational Mandatory: O = Optional)

Code	Unit title	Unit Type	General and Specific Aims																	
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
J58R 46	Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment	M	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√							
HA2P 45	Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction	M	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√					√			
HA2R 45	Efficient Construction Practices: An Introduction	M	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√					√			
HC35 44	Construction: Information and Communication Technology	M		√	√		√		√			√		√						
HA4A 45	Employment and Behavioral Skills	M	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√					√	√		
DD1R 10	Solid and Bench Plasterwork Skills: An Introduction	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DD1T 10	Single Lap Roof Tiling: An Introduction	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1K7 10	Preparing and Painting Surfaces	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1JS 10	Half Brick Walling: An Introduction	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1KL 10	Carpentry and Joinery: An Introduction	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F50P 10	Wall and Floor Tiling: An Introduction	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
H3PF 11	Textile Floorcovering: An Introduction	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
HA2T 45	Place and Finish Non-Specialist Concrete	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
HA31 44	Stonemasonry: An Introduction	OM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DD1W 11	Roof Slating: An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DD1V 11	Plain Roof Tiling: An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DH24 11	Single Lap Roofing Skills	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1L5 11	Plain Tile Roofing Skills	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DH26 11	Roofing: Regular Sized Natural Slates with Random Weights	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1JV 11	One Brick Walling: An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1JX 11	Fundamentals of Cavity Walling	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1K5 11	Block Walling: An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1K3 11	Simple Arch Construction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
F1K1 11	Simple Decorative Brickwork	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DH27 11	Applying Lightweight Plaster: An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DH28 11	Fixing Plasterboard and Apply Plastering Materials: An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DH29 11	Applying External Cementwork : An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
DH2A 11	Producing and Fixing Plaster Moulding An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	
HA2V 45	Stonemasonry: Raking Out and Repointing	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	

Code	Unit title	Unit Type	General and Specific Aims																	
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
HA2W 45	Stonemasonry: Building with Stone	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
HA2X 45	Stonemasonry: Basic Banker Skills	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
HA2Y 45	Stonemasonry: Practical Drawing and Template Production	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1KN 11	Develop Bench Joinery Skills	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1KX 11	Manufacture Joinery Components	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1L0 11	Develop Constructional Carpentry Skills	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1L3 11	Develop Site Joinery Skills	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1L4 11	Carpentry and Joinery Repair and Maintenance	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1K9 11	Decorative Painting	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1KA 11	Decorative Treatments	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
HA2N 45	Prepare and Hang Lining Paper	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1KG 11	Colour Practice: Painting and Decorating	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F1KK11	Paperhanging Patterned Papers	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F50V 11	Fundamentals of Wall Tiling	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F50X 11	Fundamentals of Floor Tiling	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F511 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Cement Work	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F514 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Cutting, Shaping and Fixing	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
F516 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Pattern Work	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
H3PB 11	Intricate Sheet and Tile Impervious Floorcoverings: An Intro.	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
H3PC 11	Impervious Floorcoverings: An Introduction	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
H3PD 11	Basic Setting Out for Floorcovering	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
H3PE 11	Basic Preparation of Surfaces	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
H0SD 11	Excavate Holes and Trenches	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
H0TA 11	Lay Kerbs and Channels	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
H0SM 11	Install Street Ironwork	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
H0SY 11	Sign, Light and Guard the Work Area	O	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	

## 5.2 Mapping of National Occupational Standards (NOS) and/or trade body standards

All but one of the Units within this Group Award is derived from Construction Skills National Occupational Standards.

Code	Unit title (Mandatory Units)	National Occupational Standard (VR)											
		Unit Type	641	642	72	274	332	37	10	142	302	45	190
J58R 46	Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment	M											
HA2P 45	Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction	M		√									
HA2R 45	Efficient Construction Practices: An Introduction	M		√									
HA4A 45	Employment and Behavioral Skills	M		√									
DD1R 10	Solid and Bench Plasterwork Skills: An Introduction	OM			√								
DD1T 10	Single Lap Roof Tiling: An Introduction	OM				√							
F1K7 10	Preparing and Painting Surfaces	OM					√						
F1JS 10	Half Brick Walling: An Introduction	OM						√					
F1KL 10	Carpentry and Joinery: An Introduction	OM							√				
F50P 10	Wall and Floor Tiling: An Introduction	OM								√			
H3PF 11	Textile Floorcovering: An Introduction	OM									√		
HA2T 45	Place and Finish Non-specialist Concrete	OM										√	
HA31 44	Stonemasonry: An Introduction	OM											√

Code	Unit title (Mandatory Units)	National Occupational Standard (VR)											
		Unit Type	276	275	274	37	40	66	68	67	72		
DD1W 11	Roof Slating: An Introduction	O	√										
DD1V 11	Plain Roof Tiling: An Introduction	O		√									
DH24 11	Single Lap Roofing Skills	O			√								
F1L5 11	Plain Tile Roofing Skills	O		√									
DH26 11	Roofing: Regular Sized Natural Slates with Random Weights	O	√										
F1JV 11	One Brick Walling: An Introduction	O				√							
F1JX 11	Fundamentals of Cavity Walling	O					√						
F1K5 11	Block Walling: An Introduction	O				√							
F1K3 11	Simple Arch Construction	O					√						
F1K1 11	Simple Decorative Brickwork	O					√						
DH27 11	Applying Lightweight Plaster: An Introduction	O						√					
DH28 11	Fixing Plasterboard and Apply Plastering Materials: An Introduction	O							√				
DH29 11	Applying External Cementwork: An Introduction	O								√			
DH2A 11	Producing and Fixing Plaster Moulding An Introduction	O									√		

Code	Unit title (Mandatory Units)	National Occupational Standard (VR)												
		Unit Type	196	190	188	187	15	16	11	10	12			
HA2V 45	Stonemasonry: Raking Out and Repointing	O	√											
HA2W 45	Stonemasonry: Building with Stone	O		√										
HA2X 45	Stonemasonry: Basic Banker Skills	O			√									
HA2Y 45	Stonemasonry: Practical Drawing and Template Production	O				√								
F1KN 11	Develop Bench Joinery Skills	O					√							
F1KX 11	Manufacture Joinery Components	O						√						
F1L0 11	Develop Constructional Carpentry Skills	O							√					
F1L3 11	Develop Site Joinery Skills	O								√				
F1L4 11	Carpentry and Joinery Repair and Maintenance	O									√			

Code	Unit title (Mandatory Units)	Unit Type	National Occupational Standard (VR)												
			333	336	342	336	142	141	304	302	303	373	368	366	356
F1K9 11	Decorative Painting	O	√												
F1KA 11	Decorative Treatments	O	√												
HA2N 45	Prepare and Hang Lining Paper	O		√											
F1KG 11	Colour Practice: Painting and Decorating	O			√										
F1KK11	Paperhanging Patterned Papers	O				√									
F50V 11	Fundamentals of Wall Tiling	O					√								
F50X 11	Fundamentals of Floor Tiling	O					√								
F511 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Cement Work	O						√							
F514 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Cutting, Shaping and Fixing	O					√								
F516 11	Wall Floor Tiling: Basic Pattern Work	O						√							
H3PB 11	Intricate Sheet and Tile Impervious Floorcoverings: An Intro.	O							√						
H3PC 11	Impervious Floorcoverings : An Introduction	O							√						
H3PD 11	Basic Setting Out for Floorcovering	O								√					
H3PE 11	Basic Preparation of Surfaces	O									√				
H3PE 11	Basic Preparation of Surfaces	O										√			
H0SD 11	Excavate Holes and Trenches	O										√			
H0TA 11	Lay Kerbs and Channels	O											√		
H0SM 11	Install Street Ironwork	O												√	
H0SY 11	Sign, Light and Guard the Work Area	O													√



### 5.3 Mapping of Core Skills development opportunities across the qualification

(E = Embedded: S = Signposted)

Unit code	Unit title	Communication		Numeracy		ICT		Problem Solving			Working with Others	
		Written	Oral	Using Number	Using Graphical Information	Accessing Information	Providing/Creating Information	Critical Thinking	Planning and Organising	Reviewing and Evaluating	Working Co-operatively with Others	Reviewing Co-operative Contribution
J58R 46	Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
HA2P 45	Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
HA2R 45	Efficient Construction Practices: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			E	E	S	S	S
HC35 44	Construction: Information and Communication Technology					S	S					
HA4A 45	Employment and Behavioral Skills	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
DD1R 10	Solid and Bench Plasterwork Skills: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
DD1T 10	Single Lap Roof Tiling: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1K7 10	Preparing and Painting Surfaces	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1JS 10	Half Brick Walling: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1KL 10	Carpentry and Joinery: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F50P 10	Wall and Floor Tiling: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			E	E	S	S	S
H3PF 11	Textile Floorcovering: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
HA2T 45	Place and Finish Non-Specialist Concrete	S	S	S	S			E	E	S	S	S
HA31 44	Stonemasonry: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			E	S	S	S	S
DD1W 11	Roof Slating: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
DD1V 11	Plain Roof Tiling: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
DH24 11	Single Lap Roofing Skills	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1L5 11	Plain Tile Roofing Skills	S	S	S	S			E	E	S	S	S
DH26 11	Roofing: Regular Sized Natural Slates with Random Weights	S	S	S	S			E	E	S	S	S
F1JV 11	One Brick Walling: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1JX 11	Fundamentals of Cavity Walling	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1K5 11	Block Walling: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1K3 11	Simple Arch Construction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1K1 11	Simple Decorative Brickwork	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S

Unit code	Unit title	Communication		Numeracy		ICT		Problem Solving			Working with Others	
		Written	Oral	Using Number	Using Graphical Information	Accessing Information	Providing/Creating Information	Critical Thinking	Planning and Organising	Reviewing and Evaluating	Working Co-operatively with Others	Reviewing Co-operative Contribution
DH27 11	Applying Lightweight Plaster: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
DH29 11	Applying External Cementwork: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
DH2A 11	Producing and Fixing Plaster Moulding : An Intro	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
HA2V 45	Stonemasonry: Raking Out and Repointing	S	S	S	S			F	S	S	S	S
HA2W 45	Stonemasonry: Building with Stone	S	S	S	S			F	S	S	S	S
HA2X 45	Stonemasonry: Basic Banker Skills	S	S	S	S			F	S	S	S	S
HA2Y 45	Stonemasonry: Practical Drawing and Template Production	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1KN 11	Develop Bench Joinery Skills	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1KX 11	Manufacture Joinery Components	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1L0 11	Develop Constructional Carpentry Skills	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1L3 11	Develop Site Joinery Skills	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1L4 11	Carpentry and Joinery Repair and Maintenance	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1K9 11	Decorative Painting	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1KA 11	Decorative Treatments	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
HA2N 45	Prepare and Hang Lining Paper	S	S	S	S			F	F	S	S	S
F1KG 11	Colour Practice: Painting and Decorating	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F1KK11	Paperhanging Patterned Papers	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
F50V 11	Fundamentals of Wall Tiling	S	S	S	S			F	F	S	S	S
F50X 11	Fundamentals of Floor Tiling	S	S	S	S			F	F	S	S	S
F511 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Cement Work	S	S	S	S			F	F	S	S	S
F514 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Cutting, Shaping and Fixing	S	S	S	S			F	F	S	S	S
F516 11	Wall and Floor Tiling: Basic Pattern Work	S	S	S	S			F	F	S	S	S
H3PB 11	Intricate Sheet and Tile Impervious Floorcoverings: An Intro.	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
H3PC 11	Impervious Floorcoverings: An Introduction	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
H3PD 11	Basic Setting Out for Floorcovering	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
H3PE 11	Basic Preparation of Surfaces	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
H0SD 11	Excavate Holes and Trenches	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S

Unit code	Unit title	Communication		Numeracy		ICT		Problem Solving			Working with Others	
		Written	Oral	Using Number	Using Graphical Information	Accessing Information	Providing/Creating Information	Critical Thinking	Planning and Organising	Reviewing and Evaluating	Working Co-operatively with Others	Reviewing Co-operative Contribution
H0TA 11	Lay Kerbs and Channels	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
H0SM 11	Install Street Ironwork	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S
H0SY 11	Sign, Light and Guard the Work Area	S	S	S	S			F	F	S	S	S

## 5.4 Assessment Strategy for the qualification

All but one Unit (**Information and Communication Technology**) within this Group Award have Training and Assessment Programmes (TAPs) developed for assessment purposes by SQA. While these TAPs are not mandatory, centre devised assessments should be prior moderated,

Throughout the Group Award, all knowledge Outcomes will be assessed using SQA devised multiple-choice questions which are included in all TAPs. These knowledge assessments also include questions for integrated mandatory Unit knowledge elements and Core Skills, including.

- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ Health and Safety
- ◆ Sustainability

Practical Outcomes will be assessed using the TAPs practical assessments and the related observational /operational checklists. These checklists assess practical products and processes, but also include standards for assessing integrated mandatory Units. Including:

- ◆ Risk Assessment/Health and Safety
- ◆ Employability and Behavioural Skills

## **6 Guidance on approaches to delivery and assessment**

### **Approaches to Delivery**

This National Progression Award is designed to equip learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required for success in gaining employment within the construction industry. It is mainly aimed at candidates who are interested in pursuing a career in any of the construction occupations.

The Group Award should be delivered in the context of familiarisation with terminology, basic concepts and working practices and procedures, including Health and Safety and Sustainability. It is intended that the NPA course will develop a broad appreciation of topics based on accepted construction practices.

The structure of the qualification allows for a high degree of flexibility in its delivery. Owing to the very practical nature of the award, it is recommended that each teaching/training session should be of a reasonable duration to be meaningful for the learners.

The Group Award could be offered full-time, part-time, block-release, day release or evening. Combination of delivery patterns is also a possibility. Such combined study may enable candidates to complete the Group Award within a shorter time period. Centres wishing to provide a full time programme might include all mandatory and optional Units in the framework.

There are opportunities for integrative delivery of Units within the Group Award. Learning and Teaching for mandatory Units should where possible be integrated with occupational Units as much as possible, and assessment should be encouraged to be within the application of the occupational Units. Training and Assessment Programmes (TAPs) will identify specific opportunities for integration with other Units.

The NPA in Construction focuses on the development of learner hand skills and use of tools. Nevertheless there may be opportunities for the introduction of e-learning during the teaching and delivery of the award. The learning and assessments of the knowledge based Outcomes can be conducted by either using e- learning methods, or by traditional teaching approaches. For example formal assessments may make the use of IT systems and facilities when available, or alternatively can also use the standard mode of supervising candidates during classroom paper based assessments.

### **Approaches to Assessment**

The assessment strategy is designed to ensure an appropriate level of rigour whilst not imposing excessive demands on centres or learners. The design principles for the Group Award encourage a holistic approach to assessment and this has been adopted in each Training and Assessment Programmes (TAPs).

Each Unit Training and Assessment Programmes (TAPs) includes guidance on delivery and assessment and, where appropriate, any relationship with delivery and assessment of other Units.

Assessment guidance includes a variety of conditions including open/closed-book, practical exercises, etc.

Training and Assessment Programmes (TAPs) are available for all but one of the Units within the group award. These TAPs provide guidance on content, context, evidence required, marking guidelines, drawings and checklists with clearly stated standards and tolerances.

Centres are at liberty to decide the order in which Units are delivered, based on candidate recruitment patterns, mode of delivery, resource issues and logical progression dictated by topics and Unit content and level.

Throughout all Units emphasis should be placed where appropriate on the application of Health and Safety and Sustainability

Safe working practices should be looked at in accordance with current safety codes of practice and regulations. Sustainability should include reference to criteria affecting sustainability and the impact of not implementing sustainability on the environment.

## 6.1 Sequencing/integration of Units

The TAPs assessments of all occupational Units will include the assessment of competences for the following mandatory Units

- ◆ *Construction Occupations: An Introduction*
- ◆ *Efficient Construction Practices: An Introduction*
- ◆ *Employment and Behavioural Skills*

Therefore an integrated approach to delivery and assessment of these Units is essential. Assessment should be carried out in a holistic way as evidence will be generated for the occupational and mandatory Units collectively.

There is no preferred sequence of delivery for the occupational Units and the integrated Units listed above. However, early delivery and assessment of the following Units will develop the learners' knowledge and safety awareness of.

- ◆ *Health and Safety in a Construction Environment*
- ◆ *Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment*

## 6.2 Recognition of Prior Learning

SQA recognises that learners gain knowledge and skills acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning contexts.

In some instances, a full Group Award may be achieved through the recognition of prior learning. However, it is unlikely that a learner would have the appropriate prior learning and experience to meet all the requirements of a full Group Award.

More information and guidance on the *Recognition of Prior Learning* (RPL) may be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

## 6.3 Opportunities for e-assessment

The NPA in Construction focuses on the development of learner hand skills and use of tools. However, there may be opportunities for the introduction of e-learning during the delivery of the Group Award.

The learning and assessments of the knowledge based Outcomes can be conducted by either using e- learning methods, or by traditional teaching approaches.

For example formal assessments may make the use of IT systems and facilities when available, or alternatively can also use the standard mode of supervising candidates during classroom paper based assessments.

## 6.4 Support materials

A list of existing **Training and Assessment Programmes (TAPs)** for this Group Award is available to view on SQA's website.

## 6.5 Resource requirements

Staff delivering this qualification should be familiar with assessment approaches used within the **Training and Assessment Programmes (TAPs)** for assessing practical based occupational Units. These approaches focus on observation and operational checklists with supportive photographic evidence of work processes with detailed learner feedback for practical assessments. Knowledge assessments will be through the use of multiple-choice questioning.

Centres will need to facilitate practical and knowledge assessments when required this would include specialist practical workshop, materials, equipment and access equipment.

# 7 General information for centres

## Equality and inclusion

The Unit specifications making up this Group Award have been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners will be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. Further advice can be found on our website **[www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements)**.

## Internal and external verification

All instruments of assessment used within this/these qualification(s) should be internally verified, using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA.

External verification will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

Further information on internal and external verification can be found in *SQA's Guide to Assessment* (**[www.sqa.org.uk/GuideToAssessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/GuideToAssessment)**).

## 8 Glossary of terms

**Embedded Core Skills:** is where the assessment evidence for the Unit also includes full evidence for complete Core Skill or Core Skill components. A learner successfully completing the Unit will be automatically certificated for the Core Skill. (This depends on the Unit having been successfully audited and validated for Core Skills certification.)

**Finish date:** The end of a Group Award's lapsing period is known as the finish date. After the finish date, the Group Award will no longer be live and the following applies:

- ◆ candidates may not be entered for the Group Award
- ◆ the Group Award will continue to exist only as an archive record on the Awards Processing System (APS)

**Graded Unit:** Graded Units assess learners' ability to integrate what they have learned, while working towards the Units of the Group Award. Their purpose is to add value to the Group Award, making it more than the sum of its parts, and to encourage learners to retain and adapt their skills and knowledge.

**Lapsing date:** When a Group Award is entered into its lapsing period, the following will apply:

- ◆ the Group Award will be deleted from the relevant catalogue
- ◆ the Group Award specification will remain until the qualification reaches its finish date at which point it will be removed from SQA's website and archived
- ◆ no new centres may be approved to offer the Group Award
- ◆ centres should only enter candidates whom they expect to complete the Group Award during the defined lapsing period

**SQA credit value:** The credit value allocated to a Unit gives an indication of the contribution the Unit makes to an SQA Group Award. An SQA credit value of 1 given to an SQA Unit represents approximately 40 hours of programmed learning, teaching and assessment.

**SCQF:** The Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) provides the national common framework for describing all relevant programmes of learning and qualifications in Scotland. SCQF terminology is used throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF visit the SCQF website at [www.scqf.org.uk](http://www.scqf.org.uk).

**SCQF credit points:** SCQF credit points provide a means of describing and comparing the amount of learning that is required to complete a qualification at a given level of the Framework. One National Unit credit is equivalent to 6 SCQF credit points. One National Unit credit at Advanced Higher and one Higher National Unit credit (irrespective of level) is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points.

**SCQF levels:** The level a qualification is assigned within the framework is an indication of how hard it is to achieve. The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. HNCs and HNDs are available at SCQF levels 7 and 8 respectively. Higher National Units will normally be at levels 6–9 and Graded Units will be at level 7 and 8. National Qualification Group Awards are available at SCQF levels 2–6 and will normally be made up of National Units which are available from SCQF levels 2–7.

**Subject Unit:** Subject Units contain vocational/subject content and are designed to test a specific set of knowledge and skills.



**Signposted Core Skills:** refers to opportunities to develop Core Skills arise in learning and teaching but are not automatically certificated.

**Training and Assessment Programmes (TAPs)**

Refers to SQA devised assessment instrument designed to support the training and assessment of a Group Award.

## History of changes

It is anticipated that changes will take place during the life of the qualification and this section will record these changes. This document is the latest version and incorporates the changes summarised below. Centres are advised to check SQA Navigator to confirm they are using the up to date qualification structure.

**NOTE:** Where a Unit is revised by another Unit:

- ◆ No new centres may be approved to offer the Unit which has been revised.
- ◆ Centres should only enter candidates for the Unit which has been revised where they are expected to complete the Unit before its finish date.

Version Number	Description	Date
02	H669 46 Health and Safety in the Construction Industry added as an alternative to GN2A 44 Health and Safety in a Construction Environment.	01/12/2020
03	<b>Revision of Unit:</b> F6MF 12 Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment has been revised by J58R 46 Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment	21/06/2023
04	Correction of typo in unit code on Structure table – <b>H669 46</b>	14/12/23

## Acknowledgement

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that have made to the development of this qualification by:

- ◆ Scottish Painting and Decorating Apprenticeship Training Council (SPADAC)
- ◆ Scottish Building Apprenticeship and Training Council (SBATC)
- ◆ Scottish Building Federation (SBF)
- ◆ Construction Skills
- ◆ Scotland's Colleges

## 9 General information for learners

This section will help you decide whether this is the qualification for you by explaining what the qualification is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the qualification and opportunities for further learning and employment.

You are about to begin an interesting and very exciting programme of training offering you the opportunity to experience a wide range of occupational skills in demand today and in the future in the Construction Industry.

There is a vested interest from Industry to have a well-qualified workforce. This programme is designed to give learners the opportunity to gain a qualification, knowledge, skills and experience across a range of occupations.

Currently there is a high demand for a reliable and conscientious workforce able to operate within industry and provide a significant contribution. Successful completion of this qualification will help ensure that you meet the necessary requirements.

The National Progression Award (NPA) in Construction is designed to offer learners the opportunity to experience real occupational skills and working practices which could be the first step to gaining employment and further qualifications in any of the occupations listed.

- ◆ Carpentry and Joinery
- ◆ Bricklaying
- ◆ Painting and Decorating
- ◆ Plastering
- ◆ Stonemasonry
- ◆ Roofing
- ◆ Wall and Floor Tiling
- ◆ Floorcovering
- ◆ Construction Operations

The qualification focuses on developing key employability skills and behaviours sought by employers through the mandatory Units within this qualification. These skills and behaviours include:

- ◆ Health and Safety awareness
- ◆ Access Platform appreciation
- ◆ Waste awareness and sustainability
- ◆ Employability skills
- ◆ Emergency First aid Awareness

While all of the occupational Units undertaken by candidates will offer the opportunity to gain basic hand and tool skills, there will also be a focus on developing the integrated core and essential skills of:

- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Working with Others
- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Employability
- ◆ Sustainability
- ◆ Citizenship
- ◆ ITC