

Our ref: GF/HE&HOSP

January 2010

To: SQA Co-ordinator
Schools and FE Colleges

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

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Dear Colleague

National Qualifications Update – Home Economics & Hospitality

The contents of this letter should be passed to members of staff responsible for the subjects of Home Economics and Hospitality.

General issues

- **Appointees**

Our work is an extremely important and highly valued part of the education system in Scotland and we would like to express our gratitude, and extend our thanks to all appointees who have helped us by undertaking duties this year.

We always welcome applications from those that have not been involved before. Many people undertake a role to further their own understanding of the examination process, and as part of their Continuous Professional Development. If you are interested in becoming involved in any capacity with Home Economics or Hospitality National Qualifications, please contact us using the details below. Please note that an Appointee Management area is now available on the SQA website. It is for all potential and current SQA appointees, such as Markers, Verifiers and Examiners, and provides information for those who want to find out more about SQA appointee work.

- **Appeals**

Feedback received from Examination teams was that Centres are failing to correctly complete the flyleaf which is sent in with their Candidates evidence. There are a number of boxes on the back of the form and a high percentage of Centres were ticking them all. Care must be taken when completing Appeals stationery as this can have an affect on the decision made. Please ensure that for Diet 2010, if you have reason to Appeal, you read the information beside each box before applying your tick.

- **Awards in Diet 2009**

Congratulations go to the following in recognition of their success during diet 2009:

British Nutrition Foundation Awards

Standard Grade Home Economics - Elizabeth Sinclair and teacher Evelyn Dunnet from Wick High School.

Advanced Higher Health and Food Technology - Emma Watson and teacher Edna Hepburn from Arbroath High School.

The pupils received £50, with £100 going to their respective school, at the BNF's Annual Awards day held at the Royal College of Physicians in London on the 25th of November 2009.

Hospitality Industry Trust Scotland

David Cochrane, Chief Executive of HITScotland, has kindly offered a scholarship to this year's outstanding candidate, Ryan Taylor from Forth Valley College. Ryan will be given the opportunity to work at one of the many top class establishments that offer placements as part of HIT's emerging talent project.

Quality Meat Scotland

Hospitality Practical Cookery Intermediate 2

Quality Meat Scotland changed the focus of their award from Higher Health and Food Technology to the more practical based Hospitality Practical Cookery Intermediate 2 course this year, and the first winner was Ryan Kee of Clydebank High School. Ryan received a cheque for his endeavours and the School were given some much welcomed meat vouchers to use at their local butchers.

Scottish Chefs Conference

Hospitality Skills for Work Intermediate 1

Willie Pike, founder of the conference, kindly donated free places for school pupils again this year. Eastbank Academy, Kingussie High School and Springburn Academy pupils and teachers spent an excellent day with some of the top chefs in Scotland at the conference, which was held in the Thistle Hotel, Glasgow on the 2nd November 2009.

SQA Star Awards

Fiona Weir, Senior Lecturer at Langside College and a member of the Home Economics and Hospitality Assessment Panel, was highly commended at the recent SQA Star Awards for her partnership work with Sodexo catering company.

- **Diet 2009**

The following information is now available on the SQA Website:

Marking Instructions

All Marking instructions are now on the website and can be accessed at > NQ > Home Economics / Hospitality > Marking Instructions

External Assessment Reports

The External Assessment reports are now on the SQA website (www.sqa.org.uk). These can be found at: www.sqa.org.uk > NQ > Home Economics/Hospitality (from drop down menu) > External Assessment Reports. These reports contain information relevant to the 2009 diet – please remember, the grades/cut-off scores can be used when estimating for the 2010 examinations.

Internal Assessment Reports

Verification plays an important part in our yearly procedures and is in place to ensure that teachers/lecturers are maintaining standards. This year's reports can now be viewed on the SQA website at www.sqa.org.uk > NQ > Home Economics/Hospitality (from drop down menu) > Internal Assessment Reports.

- **Events**

We held four very successful events recently and we would like to thank the following people for their valuable contributions;

Home Economics Advanced Higher - Edna Hepburn and Valerie Drew
Home Economics Intermediate 2 - Linda Adams
Home Economics Intermediate 1 - Lorna Sullivan and June Smith
Hospitality Creative Cake Production - Margaret Craig and Tara McGibbon

All the events were well attended and the feedback received from delegates was that the content was relevant and the opportunity to ask questions welcomed. We have seen in the past that these days have helped teachers to raise attainment and hope that this trend continues.

There are more events taking place in the New Year, the information and dates can be found in the 'Hospitality' appendix.

- **National Assessment Bank materials**

We are still in the process of updating the Home Economics and Hospitality NABs in order to remove ½ marks. We hope to have the amendments completed soon and will issue information in due course. In the meantime, please continue to use the current NABs.

- **Verification dates for session 2009/10**

The verification process will start in February. **Please remember that you will only be notified if you are selected for verification.** The relevant dates are:

Visiting Verification

SG Home Economics	25th January to 5th March 2010
Int 1 Home Economics	8th March to 2nd April 2010
Int 2 Hospitality: General Operations	22nd March to 14th May 2010

Int 1 & 2 Hospitality: Practical Cookery	22nd March to 14th May 2010
Int 2 & H Hospitality: Professional Cookery	22nd March to 14th May 2010
Hospitality Skills for Work	On-going

Central Verification

NQ Home Economics	23rd April 2010
NQ Hospitality	26th to 28th April 2010

Further subject-specific information is contained in the following Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Home Economics

Appendix 2 – Hospitality

Should you require any further information regarding the content of this letter, or any other matter relating to Home Economics or Hospitality subjects, Romana, Roz or myself can be contacted using the details listed below:

Graeme Findlay – Qualifications Manager, Home Economics and Hospitality
0845 213 5492 or graeme.findlay@sqa.org.uk

Romana Howells – Qualifications Officer, Home Economics
0845 213 5490 or romana.howells@sqa.org.uk

Roz Walker – Qualifications Officer, Hospitality
0845 213 5489 or rosslynn.walker@sqa.org.uk

Yours faithfully,



Graeme Findlay
Qualifications Manager
NQ Home Economics & Hospitality subjects

Appendix 1 – Home Economics

- **Standard Grade**

The examination team, acting on feedback received by stakeholders, have removed one of the three nutrition tables that were used in Credit paper questions. This means that the questions now have two tables, making them less complex and more accessible for candidates. Exemplification for this is available on the NQ Home Economics webpage.

An amended Standard Grade Arrangements document is now available and is valid from session 2010/2011. Appendix III, 'Sources of Information for Teachers' has been updated to ensure that it is current and relevant. The links for 'current dietary advice' have been refreshed, the obsolete consumer advice bodies have been removed and energy regulations have been added.

- **Higher/ Advanced Higher**

A new bi-level guidance document is available for Higher and Advanced Higher Economics. The purpose of the document is to assist centres in facilitating learning and organising resources, as well as planning and making optimum use of teaching time. You can download the document from the NQ Home Economics webpage in the 'Guidance Documents' section under the right hand side 'Subject-specific links' menu.

- **The Schools (Health Promotion and Nutrition) (Scotland) Act 2007**

The Schools (Health Promotion and Nutrition (Scotland) Act 2007 is aimed at consolidating the approach to improving food and health promotion in schools following *Hungry for Success*. The standards set out in the Act are mandatory in primary and secondary schools and came into force in August 2009. Whilst it is important that pupils are aware of this Act, we will not be asking questions about it specifically in a Question Paper. However, if a pupil were to give it as a valid answer to a question or mentioned it in their project work, it will be accepted.

Appendix 2 – Hospitality

Practical Cookery Intermediate 1 and 2

The recipes for the 2009/10 Intermediate 1 and 2 practical assignments will be on the website by the 1st of February 2010. We will be publishing updated guidance on how to complete the planning booklet early in the New Year.

Professional Patisserie Higher

The Qualifications Committee have endorsed the removal of this course after Diet 2010. Please note, the Units will be retained.

Upcoming Events – Spring 2010

We will be holding the following events early in the New Year:

- Hospitality Skills for Work Support Network – Forth Valley College, Falkirk, 5th February 2010
- Practical skills training – there will be two events, one in Glasgow on the 4th of March 2010 and the other in Perth on the 22nd of April 2010. As in the past, the events will focus on developing cookery skills and are aimed at probationer/new teachers who have limited practical experience and those wishing to update their skills.

Full details of how to apply to attend these events will be sent to Centres in due course.