

Introducing **SQA**

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find out more...



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# Who **we are**



Across the UK, colleges and universities, local authorities and public services, businesses and other organisations are putting their trust in SQA.

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SQA accredits, assesses and awards qualifications throughout the UK, and word is spreading about our success as one of the country's national bodies for qualifications. We're an Ofqual approved awarding body, and we handle qualifications of all stages up to degree level. Our growing range of qualifications sits on the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF).

Working closely with colleges, employers and government bodies, we devise and develop qualifications and assessments that are relevant to today's increasingly competitive global marketplace. Our skills and innovation in qualification design are recognised and sought after by businesses, and we supply our products and services to all sectors of the UK economy.

SQA serves thousands of learning centres, which support hundreds of thousands of students and workplace learners every year. We have dedicated teams of business development and quality assurance people covering the whole of the UK, delivering professional support with a personal touch.

A first-rate quality assurance scheme supports all that we do and helps us continue to grow our name worldwide. SQA is active throughout the UK and beyond, giving educational institutions, businesses and other organisations across the globe access to our expertise and experience. Every business or organisation who engages with us gets its own dedicated account manager — someone you can get to know by name, and who'll know you.

SQA has demonstrated a commitment to ensure the skills and training products it offers will give learners the best opportunity to succeed in a highly competitive and demanding industry.

**JAMES BROWN**  
Head of Renewables  
Energy and Utility Skills



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# Our work **across the UK**



As colleges across the UK catch on to the advantages of offering a broader approach to qualifications by partnering with SQA, more and more businesses are following suit. Employers and staff alike benefit from bringing our qualifications into the workplace, where SQA provides support at every level.

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Partnering with SQA isn't just about using our qualifications. We can support your organisation by registering and enrolling your candidates, handling quality assurance, and so on, leaving you to focus on your core business — after all, running qualifications systems is what we do.

You can enhance the credibility of your qualifications by having

them credit rated by SQA. Or you can lend weight to other in-house initiatives by asking us to endorse what you offer — be that training programmes, portfolios, learning materials or other aspects of training and certification.

SQA offers targeted, sector specific qualifications, and we can also design bespoke awards to meet more

specialised organisations' specific needs. Our Customised Awards can help you to formalise in-house training, increase skills levels and meet regulatory requirements. What's more, our independent stamp of approval will increase customer confidence in staff competence.



People are our business. We know that by investing in our employees, we'll continue to be successful long into the future. We choose to work with SQA because people are their business too — the people who do the qualifications, and the people who run the business — and they provide a professional service with a personal touch.

**PATRICIA RAINEY**  
Cluster Director of HR  
Scotland/North UK  
Marriott International

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# Doing business **with SQA**



We aim to make working with SQA an easy and straightforward experience.

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Your first point of contact will be SQA's Business Development Team. The team is committed to providing you with excellent support that is focused on your current needs and future aspirations, and team members will devote themselves to getting to know your organisation and what you need.

To deliver SQA qualifications you will be invited to become an approved SQA centre and obtain approval for the specific SQA qualifications you offer. (If you're approved by another government regulated awarding body, the process should be very simple and quick.) Your named contacts will be on hand to help you through the process, just as we've helped every one of our approved centres throughout the UK and across the world.



Bolton College specialises in Water and Wastewater Engineering, and, to meet industry demands, are expanding into the national and international marketplace.

To facilitate this expansion we need to work with new awarding bodies who share the same aspirations. SQA has met our needs to a high degree. We have found their staff friendly, supportive, innovative and flexible in answering our needs.

**STEVE STRYKER**  
Head of External Contracts  
Bolton College



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# The people **who work with us**



Individuals, institutions and industry across the UK trust in SQA to deliver high quality qualifications that aid progress and improve productivity.

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People of all ages, at all stages, and in all regions of the UK invest in SQA qualifications — part- and full-time further education students; people already in work and those looking for a way into employment; trainees and apprentices; managers and professionals. When it comes to carving out a career, an SQA qualification can open the door to initial opportunities and help to maintain momentum.

To make sure that our name continues to be respected in the UK and abroad, SQA insists on quality assuring and approving every organisation wanting to offer our qualifications, and we offer them help to meet our standards. Centres all around the world use our qualifications — and every one of them, with our help if they needed it, has passed our stringent quality assurance tests. This means everyone who uses our qualifications — learners, students, employers — can trust them as valid and worthwhile. The benefits to our centres of offering trustworthy, respected qualifications are enormous.

If you deliver our qualifications, you can use SQA's prestige as a marketing tool. You'll benefit not only from our personal, professional support systems, with a real person providing you with help and advice, you'll also be secure in the knowledge that the qualifications themselves are world-class, and underpinned by the very best of quality assurance.

Businesses who use SQA qualifications get the advantage of well-trained staff with world-class qualifications — they're good at what they do, and you can say so. Because SQA qualifications are recognised across the world, wherever you do business, your customers will know that your staff won't let them down.

Because our qualifications are so flexible and inclusive, and cover such a vast range of skills and knowledge, businesses and organisations from every sphere take advantage of our expertise. From accounting to agriculture and manufacturing to mathematics, our qualifications cover all of the bases.

The oil and gas industry has always been built on strong partnerships and honest relationships. We are proud of our partnership with SQA and the work we do together to help improve the skills of the oil and gas industry workforce across the globe.

**DAVID DOIG**  
Group Chief Executive  
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# Our qualifications



The choice of qualifications that SQA offers is broad — and expanding all the time.

Our work-based qualifications recognise competence in the workplace and cover a wide variety of roles ranging from construction operations and court administration to manufacturing and management. There are qualifications for almost every industry.

We also offer sector specific awards, eg for the energy, construction, IT and retail sectors. These are popular throughout the UK.

Our qualifications sit in the Qualifications and Credit Framework, meaning that users can understand the value of each one — and how it compares to others — at a glance.

All our qualifications are made up of Units. It's a straightforward, flexible and highly accessible system that lets candidates develop at their own pace towards further learning, employment or career progression.

As the chartered professional body for management and leadership in the UK, CMI is delighted to work with SQA in the promotion of a range of professional management qualifications to achieve a better qualified management population which will significantly improve both the effectiveness of the individual manager and their employer.

**IAN ANDREW**  
Head of Business Development  
Chartered Management Institute

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# Our support



SQA's behind-the-scenes work helps to ensure that every qualification is delivered with care, attention and a guarantee of quality.

The value that qualifications have depends on this guarantee. That's why SQA devotes so much time and effort to maintaining the high standards our qualifications are based on. As well as monitoring assessment decisions and testing standards, we analyse achievement levels to make sure that, from year to year, the awards we make have the same value.

We continually review our products and services to make sure that our qualifications remain relevant to today's

market. Online assessment is a growing area for our school and college qualifications. We also provide online training, including a massive resource for centre staff called SQA Academy. We support candidates and providers alike with apps, online support and e-portfolios, and many of our qualifications can be assessed electronically.

Our website has support materials for centres offering our qualifications, results are delivered online, and we provide access to social software for project work.



# Contact **us now**

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Our products and services can help your candidates to progress and your organisation to prosper. What's more, we're entirely flexible — you decide what qualifications support you need and SQA will do the rest.

When you get in touch with us you'll have a dedicated, named account manager, who's backed up by a support team. If you're interested in a specific sector or subject area, you'll also have access to people with detailed knowledge of the area. Give us a call today and find out what we can do for you — we can

talk then and there, or come to meet you. We're happy to help in whatever way suits you best.

What you've read here is just a taster. Contact SQA today to find out more about how we get things done — our team is on hand to answer your queries and provide more in-depth advice.



Business Development Team

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