

Our ref: MB/Corr

29 January 2007

To: SQA Co-ordinator  
Directors of Education  
Customer Accounts Managers

Action by Recipient	
	Response required
✓	Note and pass on
	None — update/information only

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Dear Colleague

**National Qualifications — Art and Design update**

The contents of this letter should be passed to a member of staff responsible for the delivery of NQ Art and Design.

The newsletter updates staff on issues arising from the last update in January 2006 and highlights important information for the revised National Qualifications in Art and Design for Access 3, Intermediate 1 and 2, Higher and Advanced Higher levels.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need further clarification.

Yours sincerely

*Jennifer di Folco*

Jennifer di Folco  
Qualifications Manager  
National Qualifications – Art and Design

## National Qualifications — Art and Design

### 1 Art and Design homepage

The subject page is the main source of information on National Qualifications in Art and Design. It contains Principal Assessor and the Senior Verifier reports, Course specifications/Arrangements documents and marking instructions for all levels for the 2006 and recent diets.

You can access the Art and Design homepage as follows:

- ◆ [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)
- ◆ from the NQ/Standard Grade list of subjects, select Art and Design
- ◆ click 'Go'

### 2 Principal Assessor reports

Principal Assessors and their examining teams are thanked for their efforts in delivering a successful diet. The Principal Assessor reports on our website are an invaluable source of advice and good practice. Centre staff are urged most strongly to access this material.

The Principal Assessors reports for examination diet 2006 can be located on the Art and Design page of SQA's website (select Art and Design from the NQ subject drop-down menu).

In particular, the following areas of advice may be of use to centres:

Principal Assessor's report: Standard Grade

### 3 Appeals

SQA has recently updated the *Estimates, Absentees and Assessment Appeals: Guidance on evidence requirements* document and this is now available on our website. A hard copy has been issued to all centres.

In particular, the document clarifies subject-specific requirements as well as guidance on the general principles for generating Estimates and submitting Appeals.

When generating Estimates and compiling evidence for Absentee consideration and Appeals, you should also refer to:

- ◆ Course Arrangements documents, which include Course grade descriptions
- ◆ Course assessment specifications
- ◆ SQA question papers and specimen question papers
- ◆ assessment instruments
- ◆ marking instructions
- ◆ candidate evidence
- ◆ any other relevant information (eg Principal Assessor reports, subject update letters)

It is worth reminding centres that (unlike Standard Grade) an appeal at NQ is for the overall course award and not a single component (for example the Design folio).

Centres are therefore advised to pay particular attention to the subject-specific pages of the *Estimates, Absentees and Assessment Appeals* document. These pages outline the exact evidence requirements for Appeals for each level of the NQ Courses.

For example at Higher level, because the appeal is for the overall course award, the generation of alternative evidence for the practical component is not mandatory (although perfectly acceptable if available) but evidence for the question paper is mandatory.

Centres should also note that further evidence for an appeal for Standard Grade Expressive Activity is mandatory but further evidence for Critical Activity is not.

Reading these documents in conjunction with the subject-specific pages of the appeals guidance document will provide you with a working knowledge of the process and evidence requirements for estimates, absentee consideration and appeals for National Courses.

#### **4 Update on support materials**

A Higher level CD-Rom of Practical folio work with commentaries was distributed in September 2006. The CD-Rom was produced following on from the PDW event in December 2005 as an aid to understanding standards.

#### **5 Appendices 1 and 2**

Appendix 1 lists the new codes for Units and Courses and some of the key changes for the revised NQ Courses which are being implemented this session.

Attached as Appendix 2 is a list of the majority of materials available from SQA specifically for Art and Design National Qualifications. For example, the checklist details the support materials available and how you can access them. The list will also be available on the Art and Design page of SQA's website.

#### **6 Visits to central marking — 2006**

As part of SQA's Open and Transparent policy we were fortunate to be able to invite teachers to view central marking procedures for the second year during the 2006 diet. Nearly 200 teachers attended from various parts of the country to view marking of practical folio work from Standard Grade through to Advanced Higher level. This has proved to be a very successful event.

Unfortunately, the visits for 2007 will not run for Intermediate 1, 2 and Higher levels as there will be additional work involved for the marking teams while they familiarise themselves with the revised marking schemes for the revised qualifications.

The new format for 2007 marking will involve one team of markers for each level using the new mark range and assessing the practical folio — Expressive and Design hanging side by side.

For further information on submitting work for external assessment centres are advised to become familiar with the newly updated *Notes of Information for Teachers/ Lecturers for Internal and External Assessment* which was issued to all presenting centres in December 2006.

## **7 Inspirational Art and Design tour**

The travelling exhibition finally got underway in October to visit schools within all Local Authorities on mainland Scotland. The tour started with a launch at the Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery and following this, the bus started its tour visiting every Local Authority over a period of two months displaying excellent candidate work from Standard Grade through to Advanced Higher level. An excellent catalogue was produced featuring most of the candidate work in the exhibition and copies of this can be requested from SQA. Feedback suggests that this travelling exhibition has been a great success and we hope to repeat something similar in 2007.

**Some of the candidate artwork can be viewed on SQA's website.**

A separate tour of artwork is also being undertaken concurrently in the Western Isles and Shetland and Orkney Isles with great success.

We would like to thank all candidates and teachers for their support in agreeing to lend their work for this tour which was a showcase for 'Celebrating Success'.

## Appendix 1

### Key changes for NQ Courses 2006/07

- ◆ 2007 diet is the last year for Advanced Higher Research and Appreciation. However, the Units of the Course will remain in the catalogue and may be used as free standing Units.
- ◆ Contemporary – within the last 25 years (mandatory requirement)
- ◆ 3D requirement – no longer mandatory for the Units/Course (unless undertaking a 3D brief)
- ◆ Access 3 level is known as a Cluster
- ◆ No Practical Assignment examination for Intermediate 1,2 and Higher levels
- ◆ Higher question paper has been reduced by half an hour as there are fewer questions to answer
- ◆ No external assessment for Intermediate 1 summary – centres will pass or fail the Art and Design Studies Unit – Intermediate 1 summary is not submitted to SQA
- ◆ Supervised conditions – teacher must be present to authenticate candidate's work. No time limit for producing Outcome/Solution
- ◆ Intermediate 2 question paper has been reformatted (as Higher) – question c becomes question b
- ◆ Units are passed/failed at the end of the development stage
- ◆ NB – the final Expressive Outcome/Design Solution along with the editing, selecting & evaluation and the written exam provide added value for the Course
- ◆ NB – the Art and Design Studies responses produced for Unit assessment may be subject to external moderation
- ◆ Folios will be submitted on 4 May 2007 – note Expressive activity and Design will be packed together

The following is a list of the new codes for the Units and Courses

DV37 09, 10, 11, 12, 13 Art and Design: Expressive Activity

DV38 09, 10, 11, 12, 13 Art and Design: Design Activity

DV39 09, 10, 11, 12 Art and Design Studies

DV3H 13 Art and Design: Design Enquiry

DV3J 13 Art and Design Studies: Design Study

DV3F 13 Art and Design: Expressive Enquiry

DV3G 13 Art and Design: Visual Arts Study

C223 09, 10, 11 and 12 Art and Design

C224 13 Art and Design: Expressive

C225 13 Art and Design: Design

## Appendix 2

### Scottish Qualifications Authority Art and Design Course Document Checklist

Qualifications Manager – Jennifer di Folco – 0845 213 5484

Qualifications Officer – May Byrne – 0845 213 5482

Document	Content	Where can I find it?	Publication Date
<b>Arrangements Documents</b>	Provides essential information on all aspects of Course content and assessment for SG, Access 2 to AH levels.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Arrangements Documents	The revised NQ Arrangements for Art and Design from Access 3 to AH level, dated 1 April 2005 and valid from session 2006/07.
<b>Course Assessment Specification (CAS)</b>	Provides a summary of the Course assessment.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Arrangements Documents	The CAS is located under the Course Arrangements for each level and is valid from session 2006/07.
<b>Estimates, Absentees and Appeals: guidance on evidence appeals.</b>	Part 1 : contains generic information  Part 2: contains subject specific guidance	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Estimates, Absentees and Appeals.	Revised Aug 2006 (Generic Information) Revised Aug 2006 (Subject-specific guidance).
<b>Standards</b>	Provides information on the national standard for Int. 1, 2 & H levels. Also, useful information on strategies for developing prelim papers.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Art and Design: understanding standards and Course submission requirements.	Revised August 2006.
<b>NABs</b>	Support material containing marking guidelines and other useful information relating to internal assessment of the Units.	The SQA secure site – see your SQA Co-ordinator to access the NABs.	The revised versions are dated 2005 and available starting session 2006/07.
<b>Marking Instructions</b>	Marking Instructions for SG	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a>	Updated annually and available usually by Aug/Sept.

	Critical Activity and Int1, 2, H and AH levels.	> NQ Art and Design > Marking Instructions	
<b>Project-Based National Courses – Arrangements Documents</b>	Arrangements and Practical Assignment specifications for the PBNs in Design (Int 2/H), Visual Arts(H) and Photography for the Media (H).	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Project-based National Courses	Publication dates as follows: Design – December 2003 Visual Arts – Nov 2003 Photography for the Media – July 2002.
<b>Principal Assessor Reports</b>	Contains useful information on candidate performance, cut-off scores and the distribution of awards.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Principal Assessor Reports	Updated annually and available by Autumn.
<b>Senior Moderator Reports</b>	Information on Visiting Moderation for SG and NQs.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Senior Moderator Reports	Updated annually and available by Autumn.
<b>Subject Update Letters</b>	Provides an update on recent developments for NQs in Art and Design.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Subject Update Letters	Distributed normally in Spring and Autumn every year.

## Scottish Qualifications Authority

### Annual Distributions

Contact: Eck Fraser 0131 561 6946

<b>Document</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Where Can I find it?</b>	<b>Distribution/Publication Date</b>
<b>Notes of Information for Teachers/Lecturers for Internal and External Assessment</b>	Provides essential information on the packaging of folio work, the use of media, materials and equipment and the labelling and packaging of folio work.	Paper distribution.	Updated and distributed annually in December.
<b>Design Brief/Evaluation Forms</b>	For completion and attachment to the Design Folio.	Paper distribution.	Distributed annually in December.
<b>Notes on the completion of the Design Brief</b>	Teacher reference notes for the Design Brief.	Paper distribution	Distributed annually in December
<b>Standard Grade Themes</b>	Themes for SG Expressive Activity external examination.	Paper distribution	Distributed annually in December
<b>AH Statement of Intent</b>	For completion and inclusion in the AH Enquiry folios.	Paper distribution	Distributed annually in December.
<b>Key Distribution/Submission Dates for Art and Design.</b>	For information and to be used in conjunction with the Operational Guide.	Paper distribution.	Updated and distributed annually in December.

**Scottish Qualifications Authority  
Exemplar/Support Materials**

Qualifications Manager – Jennifer di Folco – 0845 213 5484

Qualifications Officer – May Byrne – 0845 213 5482

<b>Exemplar</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Where can I find it?</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>
<b>Standard Grade Critical Activity</b>	Exemplar materials for SG Critical Activity from Foundation to Credit level.	SQA secure site – see your SQA Co-ordinator to access the materials.	Published 2005
<b>Intermediate 1 Art and Design Studies</b>	Exemplar materials for Art and Design Studies at Intermediate 1.	SQA secure site – see your SQA Co-ordinator to access the materials.	Published 2005
<b>Intermediate 2 Art and Design Studies</b>	Exemplar materials for Art and Design Studies at Intermediate 2.	SQA secure site – see your SQA Co-ordinator to access the materials.	Published 2005
<b>Advanced Higher Research and Appreciation</b>	Exemplar materials for the AH Research and Appreciation Course.	SQA secure site – see your SQA Co-ordinator to access the materials.	Published 2004
<b>Standard Grade CD ROM</b>	Visual exemplar materials with commentaries.		Distributed 2005
<b>Int. 1 &amp; 2 CD ROM.</b>	Visual exemplar materials with commentaries.		Distributed 2005
<b>Higher Level CD ROMs.</b>	Visual exemplar material with commentaries.		Distributed 2006, 2005, 2004, 2001
<b>Advanced Higher Enquiry CD ROM</b>	Visual exemplar material with commentaries.		Distributed 2000
<b>On-Line Marking (Understanding Standards)</b>	Interactive web-site aimed at teachers to try on-line marking of practical folio work at Higher level.	SQA secure site – see your SQA Co-ordinator to access the materials.	2005
<b>NQ Design Briefs</b>	A bank of design briefs for use with the Design Activity Units. The briefs are not prescriptive and may be adapted or customised as required.	SQA secure site – see your SQA Co-ordinator to access the materials.	November 2005
<b>NQ Art and Design Launch Packs</b>	Pack containing information relating to the revised Courses for Art and Design	Customer Contact Centre – 0845 279 1000	November 2005

<b>Candidate Gallery</b>	Gallery to showcase candidates' artwork produced in Scotland.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ Art and Design > Candidate Gallery	Updated regularly.
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