



## Higher National Unit Specification

### General information

**Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

**Unit code:** HW15 34

**Superclass:** HL

**Publication date:** November 2017

**Source:** Scottish Qualifications Authority

**Version:** 02

### Unit purpose

Learners will learn about the nail structure. They will develop practical skills in application, infill/rebalance and removal of light curing gel nail enhancements. They will also learn how to analyse the nails before selecting appropriate products to enhance the client's natural nails, as well as learning practical skills in extensions, infill/rebalance of and removal of nail enhancements. The focus is on practical activities to develop skills in this unit. It is essential that relevant aspects of current health and safety legislation are explained and adhered to as part of this unit.

### Outcomes

On successful completion of the unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Explain the nail structure, nail conditions and contraindications.
- 2 Prepare and perform light curing gel nail enhancements.
- 3 Maintain and remove light curing gel nail enhancements.
- 4 Evaluate the effectiveness of the nail enhancement treatment

### Credit points and level

1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7)

## Higher National Unit Specification: General information (cont)

**Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

### Recommended entry to the unit

It is essential that learners have attained one of the following, or equivalent:

F4C3 11     *Manicure*  
F5B2 12     *Beauty: Nail Finishes*  
DN7T 33     *Beauty Therapy: Hand and Foot*

### Core Skills

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following Core Skills component:

Complete Core Skill	None
Core Skill component	Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills which are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification

### Context for delivery

If this unit is delivered as part of a group award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the group award to which it contributes.

### Equality and inclusion

This unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should 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).

## **Higher National Unit Specification: Statement of standards**

### **Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Where evidence for outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the knowledge and/or skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Learners should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

### **Outcome 1**

Explain the nail structure, nail conditions and contraindications.

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Nail structure
- ◆ Common nail conditions
- ◆ Contra-indications

### **Outcome 2**

Prepare and provide light curing gel nail enhancements.

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Consultation techniques
- ◆ Analyse the condition/shape of the natural nail
- ◆ Prepare the clients natural nail
- ◆ Select resources and prepare treatment area
- ◆ Recording of client and treatment details
- ◆ Select nail tips and apply using a variety of blending techniques
- ◆ Apply light curing gel overlay
- ◆ Knowledge of current nail trends/design and finishing techniques
- ◆ Awareness of contra-actions
- ◆ Effective use of resources
- ◆ Homecare and product recommendations
- ◆ Health and safety requirements

### **Outcome 3**

Maintain and remove light curing gel nail enhancements.

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Infill and/or rebalance techniques
- ◆ Removal techniques
- ◆ Homecare advice and product recommendations
- ◆ Recording of client and treatment details
- ◆ Health and safety requirements

## Higher National Unit Specification: Statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

### Outcome 4

Evaluate the effectiveness of the nail enhancement treatment.

#### Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Observation of results
- ◆ Client feedback
- ◆ Assessor feedback
- ◆ Treatment success
- ◆ Treatment plan amendments
- ◆ Record results
- ◆ Timing and sequence

#### Evidence requirements for this unit

Aspects of the assessment of Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4 of this unit can be assessed holistically.

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills across all outcomes by showing that they can:

#### Outcomes 1 and 2 — Research Project

Research in open-book conditions, the nail structure, common nail conditions, contra indications to nail enhancements. The information, photographic/digital images provided by the learner must demonstrate knowledge of the nail, and should include:

- ◆ Nail structure — matrix, lunula, cuticle (perionychium, eponychium), nail bed, nail groove, nail wall, nail plate, hyponychium, free edge and sole horn.
- ◆ Common nail conditions leukonychia, pterygium, onychophagy, split/brittle nails onychorrhexis, onycholysis, bruised nail, splinter haemorrhages, hangnails, corrugations, furrows.
- ◆ Factors which would restrict or prevent treatment taking place — infectious diseases, bacterial infection, fungal infection, viral/ parasitic infection, exposed nail bed, severe psoriasis severe eczema, recent fractures, recent operations, damaged/thin nail plate.
- ◆ Bruised nail, tinea unguium, pseudomonas, warts.
- ◆ Effects of overexposure.
- ◆ Research current nail trends/designs
- ◆ A recognised referencing/bibliography style

## Higher National Unit Specification: Statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

### Outcome 2 — Practical Activity

Demonstrate by observed practical activity on a minimum of **two** (**two** full set application, **one** natural and **one** pink and white French), that they are able to:

- ◆ consult with the client to determine treatment requirements.
- ◆ analyse the condition/shape of the natural nails.
- ◆ prepare client for identified nail enhancement.
- ◆ select correct products according to the treatment requirements and salon brand.
- ◆ select the correct medium to create the desired look (one natural and one pink and white French).
- ◆ select correct resources and equipment to carry out nail enhancement.
- ◆ carry out nail enhancement including relevant tips, finishing techniques.
- ◆ demonstrate a knowledge of current nail trends/design.
- ◆ minimize risk of contra actions and prevention of over exposure.
- ◆ give relevant homecare advice and product recommendation to the client.
- ◆ record homecare and product recommendation on client record.
- ◆ record nail extension and product selection on client record.
- ◆ comply with current health and safety requirements while carrying out nail extension (correct ergonomics, disposal of waste, identify hazards and minimise risk and follow current legislation).

### Outcome 3 — Practical Activity

Demonstrate by practical activity on a minimum of **two** occasions (one infill/rebalance, one removal ) that they are able to:

- ◆ carry out infill/rebalance of the structure including relevant preparation, finishing techniques.
- ◆ carry out removal of nail extension including relevant preparation, finishing techniques.
- ◆ give relevant homecare advice and product recommendations to client.
- ◆ record homecare and product recommendation on client record.
- ◆ comply with relevant current health and safety requirements while carrying out Light curing gel maintenance.

The removal may be combined with the practical activity in Outcome 2. Performance must be completed in a viable commercial time.

An assessor observation checklist and accurately completed client record must be used to provide evidence of performance for Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 .

## **Higher National Unit Specification: Statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

### **Outcome 4 — Evaluation**

Evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment and self-reflect on their performance:

- ◆ clearly evaluate and review the effectiveness of the treatment
- ◆ record client feedback
- ◆ self-reflect on performance and assessor feedback



## Higher National Unit Support Notes

**Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

Unit support notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

### Guidance on the content and context for this unit

Learners will learn about the structure of the nail. They will also learn how to analyse the nails before selecting appropriate products to enhance the clients' nails, as well as learning practical skills in nail extension, infill/rebalance and removal of extension.

Learners will participate in a number of activities which will help them develop the skills contained within this unit.

It is essential that relevant aspects of current Health and Safety legislation are explained and adhered to as part of this unit.

Key areas of knowledge are:

- ◆ Structure nail unit — matrix, lunula, cuticle (perionychium, eponychium), nail bed, nail groove, nail wall, nail plate, hyponychium, free edge and sole horn(a thin layer of dead tissue riding on the nail plate free edge found between the nail plate and the hyponychium).
- ◆ Common nail conditions leukonychia, pterygium, onychophagy, split/brittle nails onychorrhexis, onycholysis, bruised nail, splinter haemorrhages, hangnails, corrugations, furrows.
- ◆ Factors which would restrict or prevent treatment taking place — infectious diseases, bacterial infection, fungal infection, viral/ parasitic infection, exposed nail bed, severe psoriasis severe eczema, recent fractures, recent operations, damaged/thin nail plate, bruised nail, tinea unguium, pseudomonas,( green nail syndrome caused by bacteria)and warts.
- ◆ Shapes — eggshell, fan, hook, square and oval.
- ◆ Contra actions: allergic reaction, premature loss, premature lifting, overexposure.
- ◆ Hygiene in the salon (correct ergonomics, disposal of waste, identify hazards and minimize risk and follow current legislation).
- ◆ Prevention of infection or damage to nail or surrounding soft skin.
- ◆ How and when to modify a treatment.
- ◆ Working safely in the salon.

## Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

- ◆ Knowledge of requirements of current health and safety legislation and where to find further information:
  - Students should be directed to the code of practice for nails produced by Habia)
  - Health and Safety at Work Act
  - Control of Substances Hazardous to Health [COSHH] Regulations
  - Electricity at Work Regulations
  - Personal Protective Equipment [PPE] at Work Regulations
  - Data Protection Act
  - Consumer Protection Act
  - Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations
- ◆ Organisational requirements relating to treatment areas, storage and disposal.
- ◆ Benefits of the correct client preparation, sizing of tip and natural nail prep.
- ◆ Product knowledge — per salons range of nail extension products, eg prep, prime, bond, builder and finishing light curing gel.
- ◆ Knowledge of the chemical composition of light curing gel and the chemical reaction taking place during the curing process.
- ◆ Salon procedure for — application, avoiding air bubbles and premature lifting, infill/rebalance, removal techniques.
- ◆ Preparation of tools and equipment.
- ◆ How to select a treatment which meets client's needs.
- ◆ Demonstrate a knowledge of current nail trends/design-ballerina, square, almond, stiletto and square/oval.
- ◆ Effective communication.

Practical activities should be carried out in a realistic working environment or real work place. The unit is not suitable for delivery in a conventional classroom setting.

### Guidance on approaches to delivery of this unit

There should be an induction to the unit which allows learners to understand fully what is required and the approaches which will be adopted.

The main approaches to learning and teaching should be experiential, practical, learner and client centred. Learners should have the opportunity to learn and develop practical skills in a salon environment, where they will experience workplace conditions.

Due to the practical nature of this unit each part of learning/teaching should incorporate both theory and practical, to facilitate learning. Learners will therefore understand the relevance of the knowledge and demonstrate understanding as they experience the practical application. The learning and teaching should arise naturally throughout the practical activities.

Practical demonstration initially with peers, will enable learners to practice and gain confidence before progressing to work with clients. Formative work throughout will enhance performance.

The importance of working safely in the salon should be stressed.



## Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

### Unit title: Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

Learners should be shown how to extend the natural nail using tips and a Light curing Gel structure, maintain the enhancement by infilling/rebalancing and apply finishing techniques using the correct selection of files. Remove the light curing gel using current techniques.

The learner should be given a significant amount of time within this unit to develop and practise their skills.

Cost effective use of products should also be discussed.

Learners should be able to give relevant homecare advice to clients.

It is important that learners are made aware that the handling, disposing and storing of equipment and materials must comply with both the organisations and manufacturer's instructions and legal requirements.

Achievement of this unit will be dependent on the learner being able to carry out practical activities either in a realistic working environment or real workplace, which involves working with clients, to develop good working practice.

### Guidance on approaches to assessment of this unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferrable to work or further and higher education.

The evidence requirements are fully expressed in the mandatory section of this unit specification.

There are good opportunities for formative assessment in this unit. Examples of a recognised salon environment include beauty salon, nail bar.

### Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the evidence requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at [www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment).

## Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

### Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

This Unit has the Critical Thinking component of Problem Solving embedded in it. This means that when learners achieve the Unit, their Core Skills profile will also be updated to show they have achieved Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5.

In this unit learners will interact with clients. This is a good opportunity for developing aspects of the Core Skill *Communication* and interpersonal skills.

Learners will be required to analyse, organise, plan and carryout treatments. These are opportunities to develop Core Skills in *Communication* and *Problem Solving*.

## History of changes to unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Core Skills Component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5 embedded.	24/11/2017

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2017

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

Additional copies of this unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Business Development and Customer Support team, telephone 0303 333 0330.

## General information for learners

### Unit title: Light Curing Gel Nail Enhancements (SCQF level 7)

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

You will learn about the nail structure. You will develop practical skills in application, infill/rebalance and removal of light curing gel nail enhancements. You will also learn how to analyse the nails before selecting appropriate products to enhance the client's natural nails, as well as learning practical skills in extensions, infill/rebalance of and removal of nail enhancements. The focus is on practical activities to develop skills in this unit.

This unit is designed to give you skills and knowledge to produce hand and foot therapy treatments, in the beauty or nail treatments industry. This unit is part of the HN Beauty Therapy group award and must be completed in conjunction with *Beauty therapy: Applied Anatomy and Physiology*. Delivery will be in the form of practical demonstrations with you practicing the skills required to achieve the competence on each other, or models. In addition for the practical performance aspects you will receive course notes and lectures relating to the theoretical aspect of:

- |                                   |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ◆ benefits and procedures         | ◆ personal presentation |
| ◆ treatment strategy              | ◆ client care           |
| ◆ contra-indications              | ◆ practical treatments  |
| ◆ disorders                       | ◆ safe practice         |
| ◆ range of treatments             | ◆ aftercare/homecare    |
| ◆ professionalism and sensitivity | ◆ evaluation            |
| ◆ preparation                     | ◆ record cards          |
| ◆ sterilisation                   |                         |

In order to complete this unit successfully, you will be required to achieve a satisfactory level of performance through a research project. The project may contain photographic/digital images, diagrams, magazine and other social media articles covers the knowledge and skills for Outcomes 1 and 2. The practical aspect of Outcomes 2 to 4 are covered in the practical assessment undertaken close to the end of the unit. The practical element is assessed against a checklist of the knowledge and skills required as indicated by the assessor. One of the points on this checklist is the completion of detailed client record cards that will show that by the end of this unit you can plan, perform, evaluate and record a detailed treatment strategy to address your clients' needs utilising all your underpinning theoretical and practical knowledge.

This Unit has the Critical Thinking component of Problem Solving embedded in it. This means that when you achieve the Unit, your Core Skills profile will also be updated to show you have achieved Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5.

In this unit you will interact with clients. This is a good opportunity for developing aspects of the Core Skill *Communication* and interpersonal skills.

You will be required to analyse, organise, plan and carryout treatments. These are opportunities to develop Core Skills in *Communication* and *Problem Solving*.