

## Art and Design and Photography

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This update contains information on any recent updates to documents for Art and Design and Photography along with further information and guidance.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Lesley Clark**  
Qualifications Manager



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## The Qualifications Team

**Lesley Clark**

Qualifications Manager

**To be confirmed**

Qualifications Officer

**Norah Jardine**

Subject Implementation Manager

## Changes to documents in August and September

As part of our agreed schedule of planned changes to documents for session 2016–17, the following documents have been revised.

### National 3 Art and Design

#### Unit assessment support

##### *Art and Design: Expressive Activity*

Assessment standards 2.2 and 2.3 have been transposed. This change has been made to make the outcome flow more appropriately and to ensure that National 3 is consistent with other levels.

Judging evidence tables have been clarified and the minimum amounts of evidence required have been highlighted. The evidence requirements for outcome 1 have been revised: candidates now only need to base their response on **one** example of their chosen artist's work. These changes have been made to help reduce the burden of assessment for candidates and teachers.

##### *Art and Design: Design Activity*

Judging evidence tables have been clarified and the minimum amounts of evidence required have been highlighted. The evidence requirements for outcome 1 have been revised: candidates now only need to base their response on **one** example of their chosen designer's work. These changes have been made to help reduce the burden of assessment for candidates and teachers.

### National 4 Art and Design

#### Unit assessment support

##### *Art and Design: Expressive Activity*

Assessment standards 2.2 and 2.3 have been transposed. This change has been made to make the outcome flow more appropriately and to ensure that National 4 is consistent with other levels.

Judging evidence tables have been clarified and the minimum amounts of evidence required have been highlighted. The evidence requirements for outcome 1 have been revised: candidates now only need to base their response on **one** example of their chosen artists' work.

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These changes have been made to help reduce the burden of assessment for candidates and teachers.

### ***Art and Design: Design Activity***

Changes have been made to three assessment standards for clarification:

- In assessment standard 2.2, the word 'studies' has been deleted.
- In assessment standard 2.3, 'when developing design ideas' has been added.
- In assessment Standard 2.4, 'when developing their creative design ideas' has been deleted.

Judging evidence tables have been clarified and the minimum amounts of evidence required have been highlighted. The evidence requirements for outcome 1 have been revised: candidates now only need to base their response on **one** example of their chosen designers' work. These changes have been made to help reduce the burden of assessment for candidates and teachers.

## **National 5 Art and Design**

### **Unit assessment support**

#### ***Art and Design: Expressive Activity***

In assessment Standard 1.3, 'and/or other factors' has been added. This change was made to be consistent with the requirements of the Higher Question Paper.

Judging evidence tables have been clarified and the minimum amounts of evidence required have been highlighted. The evidence requirements for outcome 1 have been revised: candidates now only need to base their response on **one** example of their chosen artists' work. These changes have been made to help reduce the burden of assessment for candidates and teachers.

#### ***Art and Design: Design Activity***

In assessment Standard 1.3, 'and/or other factors' has been added. This change was made to be consistent with the requirements of the Higher Question Paper.

Judging evidence tables have been clarified and the minimum amounts of evidence required have been highlighted. The evidence requirements for outcome 1 have been revised: candidates now only need to base their response on **one** example of their chosen designers' work. These changes have been made to help reduce the burden of assessment for candidates and teachers.

## **Higher Art and Design**

### **Unit assessment support**

#### ***Art and Design: Expressive Activity***

In assessment Standard 1.3, 'and/or other factors' has been added. This change was made to be consistent with the requirements of the Higher Question Paper.

Judging evidence tables have been clarified and the minimum amounts of evidence required have been highlighted. The evidence requirements for outcome 1 have been revised:

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candidates now only need to base their response on **one** example of their chosen artists' work. These changes have been made to help reduce the burden of assessment for candidates and teachers.

### ***Art and Design: Design Activity***

In assessment Standard 1.3, 'and/or other factors' has been added. This change was made to be consistent with the requirements of the Higher Question Paper.

Judging evidence tables have been clarified and the minimum amounts of evidence required have been highlighted. The evidence requirements for outcome 1 have been revised: candidates now only need to base their response on **one** example of their chosen designers' work. These changes have been made to help reduce the burden of assessment for candidates and teachers.

## **Higher Photography**

### **Photography: Contextual Imagery**

Judging evidence tables and the assessment task have been amended to highlight the minimum amounts of evidence required to achieve the unit.

Some genres and styles have been amended in the judging evidence tables and assessment task to make them more accessible to candidates. Generic information in column 4 of the judging evidence tables has been removed where it was repetitive.

### **Photography: Image Making**

Judging evidence tables and the assessment task have been amended to highlight the minimum amounts of evidence required to achieve the unit.

Generic information in column 4 of the judging evidence tables has been removed where it was repetitive.

## **Coursework**

### ***Higher Photography Coursework Assessment Task***

'Appendix 1: Instructions for candidates' has been revised to provide more information to candidates and to clarify the requirements of the assessment task. The task itself has not changed.

Detailed Marking Instructions for the project have been substantially revised to make them clearer and more appropriate to the project requirements.

### ***Higher Photography General Assessment Information***

The general marking principles for the project have been substantially revised in order to make them more appropriate to the project requirements.

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## **Advanced Higher Art and Design (Expressive)**

### **Unit assessment support**

#### ***Art and Design (Expressive): Expressive Studies and Expressive Enquiry***

For clarity, the judging evidence tables have been slightly reworded.

The wording of the outcomes and assessment standards has been updated throughout to ensure they matched the wording in the Unit Specification.

#### ***Art and Design (Design): Design Studies and Design Enquiry***

For clarity, the judging evidence tables have been slightly reworded.

### **Coursework**

#### ***Art and Design (Expressive) General Assessment Information***

The maximum word count for critical analysis has increased from 1,700 to 2,000 words throughout the document. Feedback from marking suggested that candidates would benefit from the flexibility that an increased word count offers.

In the 'Assessment conditions' section, a statement explaining the introductory sheet and 15-sheet limit has been added. This means that sheet 1 (unmarked) is now in addition to the 15-sheet limit.

In the 'Detailed Marking Instructions for the Advanced Higher Art and Design (Expressive) portfolio' section, minor amendments have been made to the second mark range of the practical art work marking instructions. This change has been made so that marks can be awarded for 'creative experiment'.

#### ***Art and Design (Expressive) Coursework Assessment Task***

The maximum word count for critical analysis has increased from 1,700 to 2,000 words throughout the document. Feedback from marking suggested that candidates would benefit from the flexibility that an increased word count offers.

In the 'Detailed Marking Instructions for the Advanced Higher Art and Design (Expressive) portfolio' section, minor amendments have been made to the second mark range of the practical art work marking instructions. This change has been made so that marks can be awarded for 'creative experiment'.

A statement has been added to the 'preparing your portfolio for external assessment' section in Appendix 1 to explain the introductory sheet and 15-sheet limit. Some minor amendments to the description of marks awarded for practical art work have also been made.

#### ***Art and Design (Design) General Assessment Information***

The maximum word count for critical analysis has increased from 1,700 to 2,000 words throughout the document. Feedback from marking suggested that candidates would benefit from the flexibility that an increased word count offers.

In the 'Assessment conditions' section, a statement explaining the introductory sheet and 15-sheet limit has been added. This means that sheet 1 (unmarked) is now in addition to the 15-sheet limit.

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In the 'Detailed Marking Instructions for the Advanced Higher Art and Design (Design) portfolio' section, minor amendments have been made to the second mark range of the practical art work marking instructions. This change has been made so that marks can be awarded for 'creative experiment'.

### ***Art and Design (Design) Coursework Assessment Task***

The maximum word count for critical analysis has increased from 1,700 to 2,000 words throughout the document. Feedback from marking suggested that candidates would benefit from the flexibility that an increased word count offers.

In the 'Detailed Marking Instructions for the Advanced Higher Art and Design (Design) portfolio' section, minor amendments have been made to the second mark range of the practical art work marking instructions. This change has been made so that marks can be awarded for 'creative experiment'.

A statement has been added to the 'preparing your portfolio for external assessment' section in Appendix 1 to explain the introductory sheet and 15-sheet limit. Some minor amendments to the description of marks awarded for practical art work have also been made.

The Notification of Changes spreadsheets have been updated to reflect the latest changes to documents. You can view these spreadsheets at [www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjectchanges](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjectchanges)

## **Further information and guidance**

### **Changes to National Courses**

In September 2016, the Deputy First Minister announced that unit assessments will be removed from National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses. These changes will be implemented over a three-year period and we have started to review how each course is assessed.

[Find out more about the changes to National Courses.](#)

### **What's next for Subject Review Reports?**

Following the Scottish Government decision to make changes to unit assessment in National Courses, we are reviewing current activities with regard to the Subject Review Reports and associated guidance notes.

Completed review report actions for 2016–17 will remain. Actions for 2017–18 onwards may be cancelled or rescheduled in light of the work associated with the revisions to National Courses, especially those relating to unit assessments.

Further information and subject-specific updates will continue to be communicated via Centre News and the subject web pages.

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## Guidance notes

- [Art and Design: Understanding the next steps for session 2016–17](#)
- [Photography: Understanding the next steps for session 2016–17](#)

These documents outline the specific actions to take or points to be aware of when carrying out assessments with your candidates in session 2016–17.

## Removal of exemplar question papers

Exemplar question papers were created as a revision resource for learners during the implementation of the new Higher and Advanced Higher National Qualifications. As we now have two years' worth of past papers for new Higher as well as a specimen question paper for each subject with an exam, the exemplar question papers will be removed from our website in the week commencing 24 October 2016. Associated guidance documents and guidance on the use of past paper questions documents will also be removed at this time.

The Advanced Higher exemplar question papers and associated guidance will remain for session 2016–17 and will be removed from the website in July 2017.

## National 5 and Higher Art and Design Evaluations

For the course assessment at National 5 and Higher, candidates are required to submit a design portfolio and an expressive portfolio — both of which should include an evaluation. SQA has produced an evaluation template for candidates to complete and submit with their portfolios and candidates have the option of using this template in session 2016–17.

From session 2017–18 onwards, candidates will be required to use the evaluation template when completing and submitting their portfolios.

The evaluation templates and instructions for portfolio submissions document can be found in the 'Submitting coursework' section of the [National 5](#) and [Higher Art and Design](#) subject pages.

## Course Reports

We strongly recommend that you read the annual Course Reports for the subject(s) and levels you are teaching. These reports are produced following the annual diet of exams and are published by the end of October. The reports provide informed and valuable commentary on the assessment for each component in the course, and include a summary of:

- candidate performance in the course assessment
- areas in which candidates performed well
- areas which candidates found demanding

The reports also contain advice on preparing future candidates, and statistical data relating to grade boundaries. Course Reports will be available from the relevant subject pages of our website at [www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjects](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjects)

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## Verification Key Messages

Key messages from rounds 1 and 2 of verification in session 2015–16 are available on the relevant subject pages of our website at [www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjects](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjects). You can access them from the 'Verification and Course Reports' tab.

## Looking ahead to session 2016–17

### National Qualification Support Team

We would like to add to the existing membership of the Art and Design and Photography National Qualification Support Team (NQST).

NQSTs are subject-specific stakeholder consultation groups that feed back to SQA on the internal and external assessment of National Qualifications.

These groups communicate via secure online discussion forums as well as an annual face-to-face meeting.

For more information and to express an interest in joining the team, visit [www.sqa.org.uk/nqst](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqst)

### Marker recruitment opportunities for 2017

We are now accepting marker applications from teaching professionals to contribute to the 2017 exam diet. If you are interested in joining us as a marker, please visit the [appointee opportunities](#) section of our website where you will find a marker advert for all subjects and levels, with details of the role.

Becoming a marker helps to increase your awareness of the demands of course assessment and provides excellent professional and personal development.

Please check [www.sqa.org.uk/appointees](http://www.sqa.org.uk/appointees) regularly for other appointee opportunities which may be of interest to you.

### Understanding Standards programme

Our Understanding Standards programme will continue in the coming session and will include nominee training events, subject-specific course events and the publication of further Understanding Standards materials.

### Understanding Standards course events 2016–17

We are running a programme of subject-specific Understanding Standards events from October 2016 until January 2017. The majority of these events will focus on the standards required for course assessment at Advanced Higher.

For more information and to book your place, visit [www.sqa.org.uk/nqevents](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqevents). Please note that for each subject there is a maximum of one place per centre.

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## Understanding Standards materials

Understanding Standards materials contain real examples of candidate evidence from course and unit assessments, along with a commentary that explains why the evidence has or has not met the assessment standards. These materials are a really useful resource for helping you to strengthen your understanding of the standards required for assessment.

We will continue to publish new Understanding Standards materials throughout the coming session and you can access them from the following locations:

<b>SQA Understanding Standards website</b> ( <a href="http://www.understandingstandards.org.uk">www.understandingstandards.org.uk</a> )	<b>SQA Secure website</b> ( <a href="https://secure.sqa.org.uk">https://secure.sqa.org.uk</a> )
Candidate evidence and commentaries for <b>externally assessed</b> components of course assessment (including question papers).	Candidate evidence and commentaries for unit assessment and <b>internally assessed</b> components of course assessment.

You can arrange access to our secure website through your SQA co-ordinator. Any materials downloaded from our secure website must be stored securely and treated as confidential.

## Extra support to help you deliver your courses

### Continuing professional development (CPD)

We will continue to offer subject-specific CPD support at a local authority, independent school or college level, subject to request. This involves an experienced SQA appointee providing advice and guidance on any areas of concern that are not already addressed by the Understanding Standards programme.

Please note that CPD requests should be made by the appropriate representative from the local authority, independent school or college. For each request we will agree with the representative the content to be covered and the most appropriate way to deliver the support, eg in person, by webinar or by video conference/teleconference.

CPD requests can be made at [www.sqa.org.uk/cpdform](http://www.sqa.org.uk/cpdform)

## Stay informed

### Subscribe to Centre News

Our weekly Centre News newsletter contains the latest news and updates for centres delivering SQA qualifications. It also includes subject-specific news and a regular reminder of key dates during the session.

To subscribe, visit <http://mailer.sqa.org.uk>

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## Visit your subject pages

Make sure you regularly visit your subject pages, where you can access documents and assessment support materials for your courses, Verification Key Messages and information on coursework. You will also find the latest news updates for your courses in the 'Updates and announcements' section.

Visit [www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjects](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjects)

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YouTube: [SQAonline](https://www.youtube.com/SQAonline)

### Contact us

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