



Higher
Course Assessment
Specification



Higher Care Course Assessment Specification (C712 76)

Valid from August 2014

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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Assessment Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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Course outline

Course title:	Higher Care
SCQF level:	6 (24 SCQF credit points)
Course code:	C712 76
Course assessment code:	X712 76

The purpose of the Course Assessment Specification is to ensure consistent and transparent assessment year on year. It describes the structure of the Course assessment and the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed.

Course assessment structure

Component 1 — project	100 marks
Total marks	100 marks

This Course includes six SCQF credit points to allow additional time for preparation for Course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the Course.

Equality and inclusion

This Course Assessment Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to assessment. Assessments have been designed to promote equal opportunities while maintaining the integrity of the qualification.

For guidance on assessment arrangements for disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs, please follow the link to the Assessment Arrangements web page: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/14977.html.

Guidance on inclusive approaches to delivery and assessment of this Course is provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all the Units as well as the Course assessment. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

Course assessment

SQA will produce and give instructions for the production and conduct of Course assessments based on the information provided in this document.

Added value

The purpose of the Course assessment is to assess added value of the Course as well as confirming attainment in the Course and providing a grade. The added value for the Course will address the key purposes and aims of the Course, as defined in the Course Rationale. It will do this by addressing one or more of breadth, challenge, or application.

In this Course assessment, added value will focus on the following:

- ◆ breadth — drawing on knowledge and skills from across the Course
- ◆ application — requiring application of knowledge and/or skills

This added value consists of a project which samples and integrates skills, knowledge and understanding from across the component Units in the Course. The project will enable learners to apply knowledge and understanding in a new context, using investigation skills. The briefs for the project will be set by SQA and will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

Grading

Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

The Course assessment is graded A–D. The grade is determined on the basis of the total mark for all Course assessments together.

A learner's overall grade will be determined by their performance across the Course assessment.

Grade description for C

For the award of Grade C, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated successful performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

Grade description for A

For the award of Grade A, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated a consistently high level of performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

Credit

To take account of the extended range of learning and teaching approaches, remediation, consolidation of learning and integration needed for preparation for external assessment, six SCQF credit points are available in Courses at National 5 and Higher, and eight SCQF credit points in Courses at Advanced Higher. These points will be awarded when a grade D or better is achieved.

Structure and coverage of the Course assessment

The Course assessment will consist of one Component, a project titled 'Care Project'. The project will have one Section.

Component 1 — project

The purpose of this project is to investigate the needs of individuals requiring care and the services that meet these needs. Learners will be able to choose from project briefs provided by SQA. They will respond to their chosen brief and produce a report on their findings.

This project will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ applying detailed knowledge and understanding of needs and care services
- ◆ applying detailed knowledge and understanding of human development and behaviour and psychological theories
- ◆ using sociological theories to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the ways in which social influences can impact on individuals
- ◆ investigating detailed features of positive care practice
- ◆ investigating, analysing, evaluating and presenting information

Further details on skills, knowledge and understanding to be demonstrated in the Course can be found in the 'Further mandatory information on Course coverage' section at the end of this Course Assessment Specification.

The project will have 100% of the total mark.

This project has one Section.

Setting, conducting and marking of assessment

Controlled assessment — project

This project is:

- ◆ set by SQA
- ◆ conducted under some supervision and control

Evidence will be submitted to SQA for external marking.

All marking will be quality assured by SQA.

Setting the assessment

SQA will provide briefs for the project.

Learners will have a choice of briefs on which to base their investigation.

Conducting the assessment

Gathering evidence for the assessment will be conducted:

- ◆ independently by the learner

Evidence will be:

- ◆ produced under some supervision and control
- ◆ presented in an appropriate format within the given word count
- ◆ completed in time to meet a submission date set by SQA

Further mandatory information on Course coverage

The following gives details of mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Higher Care Course. Course assessment will involve sampling the skills, knowledge and understanding. This list of skills, knowledge and understanding also provides the basis for the assessment of Units of the Course.

Needs

Learners will investigate needs of people requiring care. Needs will include social, physical, emotional, cognitive, cultural or other relevant needs. Learners will explain the role of the care planning process in identifying needs.

Care services

Learners will investigate current care services from social, health or other care contexts. This will include services from the statutory, private or third sectors. Learners will analyse features of positive care environments and explain the role of legislation within care services.

Psychological theories

Learners will explain and evaluate psychological theories used to inform current care practice. Learners will use psychological theories, and models of loss and transition, to explain the behaviour and development of individuals using care services.

Sociological theories

Learners will gain an understanding of sociological theories and use them to analyse social influences and their impact on individuals currently using care services. Learners will explain and analyse actions taken in society to improve the life chances of individuals.

Positive care practice

Learners will explain how positive care practice can be promoted in current care services. Learners will gain a detailed understanding of the role and responsibilities of professional carers working in an accountable way within an organisation. Learners will investigate the value base, principles and legislation that professionals work within.

Administrative information

Published: April 2014 (version 2.0)

History of changes to Course Assessment Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
	2.0	<p>Page 3 — Added value section: description of project amended to remove practical and theoretical contexts and the opportunity for learners to reflect on their work.</p> <p>Page 5 and 6 — Structure of project changed from three Sections to one report.</p> <p>Page 5 — List of skills, knowledge and understanding: bullet point 4 'detailed' added; 'planning and developing task management skills' deleted.</p> <p>Page 6 — Setting, conducting and marking of assessment section clarified.</p> <p>Page 7 — Further mandatory information on Course coverage section clarified and all references to amount of content deleted.</p>	Qualifications Development Manager	April 2014

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Note: You are advised to check SQA's website (www.sqa.org.uk) to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of the Course Assessment Specification.

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