



## **Group Award Specification for:**

**HNC Stringed Instrument Making and Repair (SCQF level 7) and HND Stringed Instrument Making and Repair (SCQF level 8)**

**Group Award Code: GP0W 16**

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## Contents

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| 1 | Introduction .....  | 1  |
| 2 | Qualifications structure .....  | 2  |
|   | 2.1 Structure.....  | 2  |
| 3 | Aims of the qualification .....   | 4  |
|   | 3.1 General aims of the qualification .....   | 4  |
|   | 3.2 Specific aims of the qualification.....   | 4  |
|   | 3.3 Graded unit .....   | 5  |
| 4 | Recommended entry to the qualification.....   | 5  |
|   | 4.1 Core Skills entry profile.....  | 6  |
| 5 | Additional benefits of the qualification in meeting employer needs .....            | 6  |
|   | 5.1 Mapping of qualification aims to units .....                                    | 7  |
|   | 5.2 Mapping of Core Skills development opportunities across the qualifications..... | 10 |
|   | 5.3 Assessment strategy for the qualifications.....                                 | 13 |
| 6 | Guidance on approaches to delivery and assessment.....                              | 19 |
|   | 6.1 Sequencing/integration of units .....   | 20 |
|   | 6.2 Recognition of prior learning.....  | 21 |
|   | 6.3 Opportunities for e-assessment.....   | 22 |
|   | 6.4 Support materials .....   | 22 |
|   | 6.5 Resource requirements .....   | 22 |
| 7 | General information for centres .....   | 22 |
| 8 | Glossary of terms .....   | 23 |
| 9 | General information for learners.....   | 25 |

# 1 Introduction

This document was previously known as the arrangements document. The purpose of this document is to:

- ◆ Assist centres to implement, deliver and manage the qualification
- ◆ Provide a guide for new staff involved in offering the qualification
- ◆ Inform course managers teaching staff, assessors, learners, employers and HEIs of the aims and purpose of the qualification
- ◆ Provide details of the range of learners the qualification is suitable for and progression opportunities

The development of this qualification, the current HNC at SCQF level 7 and the National Certificates at SCQF levels 5 and 6 of the same title, has been funded and supported by Glasgow Clyde College. The Qualifications Development Team based in the Anniesland Campus has been provided with the time, resources and space needed to develop this suite of specialist qualifications by the college and the result is a comprehensive suite of high quality units and awards which will enable students to pursue careers in this industry.

The HNC and HND Stringed Instrument Making and Repair are designed to provide learners with a range of practical skills underpinned by core skills and support units which together provide a broad based education. Existing skills and knowledge will be developed through a challenging and stimulating programme of study to enable learners to progress into employment, self-employment or articulate to university. Learners will find employment opportunities as self-employed instrument makers and repairers, band and orchestral instrument technicians and employment in repair workshops, music shops, instrument manufacturers and musical instrument importers. The specialist practical skills and knowledge gained provide opportunities to find employment or continue in education in related areas such as furniture making, antique restoration and teaching.

The HNC/HND is suitable for learners who have achieved a previous qualification in this subject or those already in employment who wish to enhance their knowledge and practical skills.

## Rationale

Prior to the HNC course which was validated in 2017, there was no provision in Scotland beyond SCQF level 6. Now that the HNC is in place the logical step is to provide an HND so that learners can articulate to university. Once the HND is validated it is proposed to combine elements of the current level 5 and level 6 courses into a first year National Certificate programme, which will facilitate articulation to the HND; together these courses will provide three years of training.

This three year period of training is required to enable the majority of learners to compete confidently in an industry where professionally, many instrument makers are self-employed and working alone. After completing the HNC, the majority of learners will at present seek to further their studies or to work for an employer who can offer further training, these places however are limited. The new HND programme will provide learners with a higher level of practical expertise and knowledge which will further strengthen their ability to compete in industry and also offer articulation to university, (Lincoln College degree programme). At present there is no provision in Scotland beyond HNC SCQF level 7.

There is considerable demand across Scotland and the rest of the UK for the higher level craft expertise required to support the music industry as well as individuals and bodies such as schools which provide musical tuition. This was reflected in the consultation questionnaire sent to a broad range of practitioners for the HNC.

## 2 Qualifications structure

Though it is assumed that most learners will undertake the full two-year programme of HND Stringed Instrument Making and Repair, successful learners who decide to leave after the first year will achieve the award of HNC Stringed Instrument Making and Repair.

### 2.1 Structure

#### HNC Framework

For the award of HNC, twelve unit credits, totalling 96 SCQF credit points must be achieved of which six credits (48 SCQF credit points at level 7) are mandatory with a further six credits (48 SCQF credit points at level 7) to be achieved from the optional section. A mapping of Core Skills development opportunities is available in Section 5.3.

| <b>Mandatory units: All four units (six unit credits, 48 SCQF credit points) must be achieved</b> |               |   |                   |                           |                   |
|---|---------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>4 code</b>   | <b>2 code</b> | <b>Unit title</b>   | <b>SQA credit</b> | <b>SCQF credit points</b> | <b>SCQF level</b> |
| HN7E  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Graded Unit 1                                     | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7H  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Necks                   | 2                 | 16                        | 7                 |
| HN7J  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Body Components         | 2                 | 16                        | 7                 |
| HN7K  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Instrument Inlay and Soundhole Cutting Techniques | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |

| <b>Optional units: Six unit credits (48 SCQF credit points) must be achieved from the following list</b> |               |   |                   |                           |                   |
|--|---------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>4 code</b>  | <b>2 code</b> | <b>Unit title</b>   | <b>SQA credit</b> | <b>SCQF credit points</b> | <b>SCQF level</b> |
| HN7L   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Team Building Project                     | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7M   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Assembly of Instrument Bodies and Necks   | 2                 | 16                        | 7                 |
| HN7N   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Finishing                                 | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7P   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs                             | 2                 | 16                        | 7                 |
| HN7T   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Jig Making                                | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7V   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Practical Acoustics and Materials Testing | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7R   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Wood Machining                            | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |

## HND Framework

For the award of HND, thirty unit credits, totalling 240 SCQF credit points must be achieved of which fifteen credits (120 SCQF credit points at level 7 and level 8) are mandatory with a further fifteen credits (120 SCQF credit points at level 7 and level 8) to be achieved from the optional section.

| <b>Mandatory units: All eight units (15 unit credits, 120 SCQF credit points) must be achieved</b> |               |   |                   |                           |                   |
|--|---------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>4 code</b>  | <b>2 code</b> | <b>Unit title</b>   | <b>SQA credit</b> | <b>SCQF credit points</b> | <b>SCQF level</b> |
| HN7E   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Graded Unit 1                                     | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7H   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Necks                   | 2                 | 16                        | 7                 |
| HN7J   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Body Components         | 2                 | 16                        | 7                 |
| HN7K   | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Instrument Inlay and Soundhole Cutting Techniques | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| J0HS   | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Design  | 1                 | 8                         | 8                 |
| J0HV   | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Components              | 3                 | 24                        | 8                 |
| J0HW   | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacturing Preparation                         | 3                 | 24                        | 8                 |
| J0HN   | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Graded Unit 2                                     | 2                 | 16                        | 8                 |

| <b>Optional units: Fifteen unit credits (120 SCQF credit points) must be achieved from the following list</b> |               |   |                   |                           |                   |
|---|---------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>4 code</b>   | <b>2 code</b> | <b>Unit title</b>   | <b>SQA credit</b> | <b>SCQF credit points</b> | <b>SCQF level</b> |
| HN7L  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Team Building Project                     | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7M  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Assembly of Instrument Bodies and Necks   | 2                 | 16                        | 7                 |
| HN7N  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Finishing                                 | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7P  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs                             | 2                 | 16                        | 7                 |
| HN7T  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Jig Making                                | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7V  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Practical Acoustics and Materials Testing | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| HN7R  | 34            | Stringed Instruments: Wood Machining                            | 1                 | 8                         | 7                 |
| J0HR  | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Setup Project                             | 1                 | 8                         | 8                 |
| J0HY  | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Assembly and Evaluation                   | 2                 | 16                        | 8                 |

| <b>Optional units: Fifteen unit credits (120 SCQF credit points) must be achieved from the following list</b> |               |  |                   |                           |                   |
|---|---------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>4 code</b>   | <b>2 code</b> | <b>Unit title</b>                            | <b>SQA credit</b> | <b>SCQF credit points</b> | <b>SCQF level</b> |
| J0HP  | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Finishing              | 1                 | 8                         | 8                 |
| J0HX  | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Personal Investigation | 1                 | 8                         | 8                 |
| J0HT  | 35            | Stringed Instruments: Electronics            | 1                 | 8                         | 8                 |

### **3 Aims of the qualification**

The principal aim of the HND is to develop high level vocational knowledge and skills in Stringed Instrument Making and Repair.

All HNC/HNDs have a range of broad aims that are generally applicable to all equivalent HE qualifications and a range of specific aims that focus on the discipline being taught.

#### **3.1 General aims of the qualification**

- 1 Developing critical and evaluative thinking.
- 2 Developing problem solving.
- 3 Developing communication skills and presentation techniques.
- 4 Developing the ability to be flexible and to work cooperatively with others.
- 5 Developing personal effectiveness.
- 6 Developing confidence.
- 7 Developing the ability to take responsibility for one's own learning.
- 8 Developing study and research skills.
- 9 Developing skills in ICT.
- 10 Developing current employment skills and expertise.
- 11 Enhancing employment prospects for learners undertaking the qualification.
- 12 Enabling progression within the SCQF including progression to HE.
- 13 To promote learning for life and skills which can be used beyond instrument making and repair.

#### **3.2 Specific aims of the qualification**

- 1 To develop a practical approach to musical instrument manufacture as utilised in small scale contemporary workshops.
- 2 To develop employment skills for a range of careers in the musical instrument industry.
- 3 To develop a range of contemporary vocational skills within the context of musical instrument making and repair.
- 4 To conduct project work involving the planning, integration and application of a variety of skills within a determined time scale.
- 5 Develop safe working practices.
- 6 Gain knowledge of different aesthetic and technical approaches to instrument construction and enable the learner to adopt as comprehensive and innovative approach as possible.
- 7 To develop learners' skills in data collection, analysis and evaluation of information relating to musical instrument making and repair.

### 3.3 Graded unit

All HNCs and HNDs include group award graded units. These are the means of ensuring that learners have achieved the principal aims of an HNC or HND as defined in the course rationale. They do this by assessing the integration of knowledge and skills developed across the mandatory section of the group award structure.

The graded units for both HNC and HND are project based. This practical approach underpins the necessity for learners to attain a high level of craft skills supported by an in-depth knowledge of processes and skills in problem solving, planning and self-evaluation.

Fundamental to many of the HN units is the importance of enhancing learners awareness of the role research, planning, scheduling and evaluation play in ensuring the success of a practical project. These graded units enable learners to demonstrate not only the quality of the craft skills developed during the course but also that these elements of project planning, research, etc, have been integrated with the practical work.

Learners will complete one single credit graded unit at SCQF level 7 in an HNC (8 SCQF credit points) and an additional 2 credits of graded unit(s) at SCQF level 8 at HND level (16 SCQF credit points).

The 2 credit unit at level 8 allows more time for learners to demonstrate the integration of knowledge and skills gained throughout the course.

The general purpose of graded units are to:

- ◆ Assess the learner's ability to retain and integrate the knowledge and skills gained in the mandatory units.
- ◆ Assess the learner's ability to meet the principal aim(s) of the group award.
- ◆ Grade learner achievement.

The specific purpose of the graded units is to provide evidence that the learner has achieved the following principal aims of the HNC/HND Stringed Instrument Making and Repair award:

- ◆ Develop critical thinking, reflective, evaluative skills within stringed musical instrument making and repair.
- ◆ Develop practical and transferable skills in stringed musical instrument making and repair.
- ◆ Develop an open-minded, critical and evaluative approach to study investigation and research.
- ◆ Develop safe and considerate work practice.

## 4 Recommended entry to the qualification

Entry to this qualification is at the discretion of the centre. The following information on prior knowledge, skills, experience or qualifications that provide suitable preparation for this qualification has been provided by the Qualification Design Team as guidance only.

Learners would benefit from having attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ NC Stringed Musical Instrument Making and Repair (SCQF level 6)

Or

- ◆ Learners would need to demonstrate an equivalent level of skills in *Communication, Information and Communication Technology* and product manufacture

## 4.1 Core Skills entry profile

The Core Skill entry profile should be used to identify if additional learning support needs to be put in place for learners whose Core Skills profile is below the recommended entry level or whether learners should be encouraged to do an alternative level or learning programme.

| Core Skill                                     | Recommended SCQF entry level HNC | Recommended SCQF exit level HNC | Recommended SCQF entry level HND | Recommended SCQF exit level HND |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Communication                                  | SCQF level 5                     | SCQF level 6                    | SCQF level 6                     | SCQF level 6                    |
| Numeracy                                       | SCQF level 5                     | SCQF level 5                    | SCQF level 5                     | SCQF level 6                    |
| Information and Communication Technology (ICT) | SCQF level 5                     | SCQF level 5                    | SCQF level 5                     | SCQF level 6                    |
| Problem Solving                                | SCQF level 5                     | SCQF level 6                    | SCQF level 6                     | SCQF level 6                    |
| Working with Others                            | SCQF level 5                     | SCQF level 5                    | SCQF level 5                     | SCQF level 6                    |

## 5 Additional benefits of the qualification in meeting employer needs

This qualification was designed to meet a specific purpose and what follows are details on how that purpose has been met through mapping of the units to the aims of the qualification. Through meeting the aims, additional value has been achieved by emphasizing the vocational skills required to succeed in the sector. In addition, significant opportunities exist for learners to develop the more generic skills, known as Core Skills through doing this qualification.

This specialist course is highly practical in nature and is designed to develop industry-specific skills and knowledge in stringed instrument making and repair. This will make successful learners attractive to employers.



## 5.1 Mapping of qualification aims to units

### Mapping of general aims

| Code/HND 1 | Unit title  | Aims |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|------------|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|
|            |   | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| HN7E 34    | Stringed Instruments: Graded Unit 1                                     | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7H 34    | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Necks                   | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7J 34    | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Body Components         | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7K 34    | Stringed Instruments: Instrument Inlay and Soundhole Cutting Techniques | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7L 34    | Stringed Instruments: Team Building Project                             | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7M 34    | Stringed Instruments: Assembly of Instrument Bodies and Necks           | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7N 34    | Stringed Instruments: Finishing   | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7P 34    | Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs                                     | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7T 34    | Stringed Instruments: Jig Making  | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7V 34    | Stringed Instruments: Practical Acoustics and Materials Testing         | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| HN7R 34    | Stringed Instruments: Wood Machining                                    | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |

| Code/HND 2 | Unit title   | Aims |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|------------|--|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|
|            |  | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| J0HN 35    | Graded Unit 2  | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| J0HW 35    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Manufacturing Preparation               | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| J0WV 35    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Manufacture of Instrument<br>Components | X    | X |   | X | X | X | X |   | X | X  | X  | X  |    |
| J0HS 35    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Design                                  | X    | X | X |   | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| J0HR 35    | Stringed Instruments: Setup<br>Project                           | X    |   | X |   | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  |    |
| J0HY 35    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Assembly and Evaluation                 | X    |   |   | X | X | X | X |   | X | X  | X  | X  |    |
| J0HP 35    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Finishing                               | X    |   |   | X | X | X | X |   | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| J0HX 35    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Personal Investigation                  | X    | X | X |   | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| J0HT 35    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Electronics                             | X    | X |   |   | X | X | X | X | X | X  | X  | X  | X  |

### Mapping of specific aims

| Code/HND 1 | Unit title  | Aims |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|------------|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|            |   | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| HN7E 34    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Graded Unit 1                      | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| HN7H 34    | Stringed Instruments:<br>Manufacture of Instrument<br>Necks | X    | X | X | X | X | X |   |

| Code/HND 1 | Unit title  | Aims |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|------------|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|            |   | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| HN7J 34    | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Body Components         | X    | X | X | X | X | X |   |
| HN7K 34    | Stringed Instruments: Instrument Inlay and Soundhole Cutting Techniques | X    | X | X | X | X | X |   |
| HN7L 34    | Stringed Instruments: Team Building Project                             | X    | X | X | X |   | X | X |
| HN7M 34    | Stringed Instruments: Assembly of Instrument Bodies and Necks.          | X    | X | X | X | X | X |   |
| HN7N 34    | Stringed Instruments: Finishing   | X    | X | X | X | X | X |   |
| HN7P 34    | Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs                                     | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| HN7T 34    | Stringed Instruments: Jig Making  | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| HN7V 34    | Stringed Instruments: Practical Acoustics and Materials Testing         | X    |   | X |   |   | X | X |
| HN7R 34    | Stringed Instruments: Wood Machining                                    | X    | X | X |   | X | X |   |
| J0HN 35    | Graded Unit 2   | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| J0HW 35    | Stringed Instruments: Manufacturing Preparation                         | X    | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| J0WV 35    | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Components              | X    | X | X | X | X | X |   |

| Code/HND 1 | Unit title                                    | Aims |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|------------|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|            |   | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| J0HS 35    | Stringed Instruments: Design                  | X    | X | X |   |   | X | X |
| J0HR 35    | Stringed Instruments: Setup Project           | X    | X | X |   | X | X | X |
| J0HY 35    | Stringed Instruments: Assembly and Evaluation | X    | X | X | X | X | X |   |
| J0HP 35    | Stringed Instruments: Finishing               | X    | X | X | X | X | X |   |
| J0HX 35    | Stringed Instruments: Personal Investigation  |      | X |   |   |   | X | X |
| J0HT 35    | Stringed Instruments: Electronics             | X    | X | X |   | X | X | X |

## 5.2 Mapping of Core Skills development opportunities across the qualifications

- ◆ The Core Skills that will be developed in each unit
- ◆ Whether the Core Skill/Core Skill components are:
  - Embedded within the unit, which means learners who achieve the unit will automatically have their Core Skills profile updated on their certificate
  - Signposted, which means learners will be developing aspects of Core Skills through teaching and learning approaches but not enough to attract automatic certification

| Unit code<br>HND 1 | Unit title  | Communication     |                   |      | Numeracy     |                             | ICT                   |                                | Problem Solving   |                         |                          | Working with Others                |                                     |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                    |   | Written (Reading) | Written (Writing) | Oral | Using Number | Using Graphical Information | Accessing Information | Providing/Creating Information | Critical Thinking | Planning and Organising | Reviewing and Evaluating | Working Co-operatively with Others | Reviewing Co-operative Contribution |
| HN7E 34            | Stringed Instruments: Graded Unit 1                                     | S                 | S                 |      |              |                             | S                     | S                              | E<br>SCQF 6       | E<br>SCQF 6             | E<br>SCQF 6              |                                    |                                     |
| HN7H 34            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Necks                   |                   | S                 |      | S            | S                           |                       | S                              | E<br>SCQF 6       | S                       | S                        | S                                  |                                     |
| HN7J 34            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Body Components         |                   | S                 |      | S            | S                           |                       | S                              | E<br>SCQF 6       | S                       |                          | S                                  |                                     |
| HN7K 34            | Stringed Instruments: Instrument Inlay and Soundhole Cutting Techniques | S                 | S                 |      | S            | S                           | S                     | S                              | E<br>SCQF 6       | S                       | S                        |                                    |                                     |
| HN7L 34            | Stringed Instruments: Team Building Project                             | S                 | S                 | S    | S            | S                           | S                     | S                              | S                 | S                       | S                        | E<br>SCQF 6                        | S                                   |
| HN7M 34            | Stringed Instruments: Assembly of Instrument Bodies and Necks           |                   | S                 |      | S            | S                           |                       | S                              | S                 | S                       |                          | S                                  |                                     |
| HN7N 34            | Stringed Instruments: Finishing   |                   | S                 |      |              |                             |                       |                                | S                 | S                       |                          | S                                  |                                     |
| HN7P 34            | Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs                                     | S                 | S                 |      | S            | S                           |                       |                                | E<br>SCQF 6       | S                       |                          |                                    |                                     |
| HN7T 34            | Stringed Instruments: Jig Making  | S                 | S                 |      | S            | S                           | S                     | S                              | S                 | S                       | S                        | S                                  |                                     |

| Unit code<br>HND 1 | Unit title  | Communication     |                   |      | Numeracy     |                             | ICT                   |                                | Problem Solving   |                         |                          | Working with Others                |                                     |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                    |   | Written (Reading) | Written (Writing) | Oral | Using Number | Using Graphical Information | Accessing Information | Providing/Creating Information | Critical Thinking | Planning and Organising | Reviewing and Evaluating | Working Co-operatively with Others | Reviewing Co-operative Contribution |
| HN7V 34            | Stringed Instruments: Practical Acoustics and Materials Testing | S                 | S                 |      | S            | S                           | S                     | S                              | E<br>SCQF 6       | S                       | E<br>SCQF 6              | S                                  |                                     |
| HN7R 34            | Stringed Instruments: Wood Machining                            | S                 | S                 |      | S            | S                           |                       |                                | S                 | S                       |                          | S                                  |                                     |

Key: S= Signposted E= Embedded

| Unit code<br>HND 2 | Unit title   | Communication     |                   |      | Numeracy     |                             | ICT                   |                                | Problem Solving   |                         |                          | Working with Others                |                                     |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                    |  | Written (Reading) | Written (Writing) | Oral | Using Number | Using Graphical Information | Accessing Information | Providing/Creating Information | Critical Thinking | Planning and Organising | Reviewing and Evaluating | Working Co-operatively with Others | Reviewing Co-operative Contribution |
| JOHN 35            | Graded Unit 2  | S                 | S                 |      | S            | S                           | S                     | S                              | S                 | S                       | S                        | S                                  |                                     |
| JOHW 35            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacturing Preparation            | S                 | S                 |      |              |                             | S                     | S                              | S                 | S                       | S                        | S                                  |                                     |
| JOWV 35            | Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Components |                   | S                 |      | S            | S                           |                       | S                              | S                 | S                       |                          | S                                  |                                     |
| JOHS 35            | Stringed Instruments: Design                               | S                 | S                 |      | S            | S                           | S                     | S                              |                   | S                       | S                        |                                    |                                     |

| Unit code<br>HND 2 | Unit title                                    | Communication     |                   |      | Numeracy     |                             | ICT                   |                                | Problem Solving   |                         |                          | Working with Others                |                                     |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                    |   | Written (Reading) | Written (Writing) | Oral | Using Number | Using Graphical Information | Accessing Information | Providing/Creating Information | Critical Thinking | Planning and Organising | Reviewing and Evaluating | Working Co-operatively with Others | Reviewing Co-operative Contribution |
| J0HR 35            | Stringed Instruments: Setup Project           | S                 | S                 | S    | S            | S                           | S                     | S                              | S                 | S                       | S                        |                                    | S                                   |
| J0HY 35            | Stringed Instruments: Assembly and Evaluation |                   | S                 |      | S            | S                           |                       | S                              | S                 | S                       |                          | S                                  |                                     |
| J0HP 35            | Stringed Instruments: Finishing               |                   | S                 |      |              |                             |                       |                                | S                 | S                       |                          | S                                  |                                     |
| J0HX 35            | Stringed Instruments: Personal Investigation  | S                 | S                 |      |              |                             | S                     | S                              | S                 | S                       | S                        |                                    |                                     |
| J0HT 35            | Stringed Instruments: Electronics             | S                 | S                 |      |              | S                           | S                     | S                              | S                 | S                       | S                        | S                                  |                                     |

### 5.3 Assessment strategy for the qualifications

The course component units cover theory and understanding combined with practical technical skills. The overall assessment strategy will, therefore, be a mix of testing knowledge and understanding and assessing practical skills ability. The grid below shows how this might be achieved and where opportunities for integration of assessment may be possible.

| HND 1   |  | Assessment   |   |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| Unit  | Tasks for each unit  | Integration with other units   | Assessment  | Comments on possible delivery and assessment   |
| Unit 1<br>HN7E 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Graded Unit 1</i>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Research and assimilate commercial set-up specifications</li> <li>◆ Produce a specification document and work schedule</li> <li>◆ Practical implementation of work schedule</li> <li>◆ Evaluation report</li> </ul> | Integrates and applies knowledge and skills from all mandatory units | Stage 1: Folio<br>Stage 2: Practical exercise<br>Stage 3: Evaluation report | This unit should be delivered and assessed towards the latter third of the course as it requires the mandatory units to be completed.                  |
| Unit 2<br>HN7H 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Manufacture of<br/>Instrument Necks</i>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Analyse and interpret drawings</li> <li>◆ Produce a work schedule</li> <li>◆ Manufacture two instrument necks</li> </ul>  | This unit integrates with units 3, 6, 9 and 11                       | Outcome 1 and 2: Folio<br>Outcome 3: Practical exercise and checklist       | This unit could be delivered early in course. Assessments for Outcome 1 and 2 can be integrated.   |
| Unit 3<br>HN7J 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Manufacture of<br/>Instrument Body<br/>Components</i>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Analyse and interpret drawings</li> <li>◆ Produce a work schedule</li> <li>◆ Manufacture two sets of instrument components</li> </ul>   | This unit integrates with units 2, 6, 9 and 11                       | Outcome 1 and 2: Folio<br>Outcome 3: Practical exercise and checklist       | This unit could be delivered during the first half of the course. Assessments for Outcome 1 and 2 can be integrated.                                   |
| Unit 4<br>HN7K 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Instrument Inlay and<br/>Soundhole Cutting<br/>Techniques</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Research, design and draw plans for instrument inlays</li> <li>◆ Manufacture inlays and inset</li> <li>◆ Layout and cut a soundhole</li> </ul>  | This unit integrates with units 2, 3, 9 and 11                       | Outcome 1: Folio<br>Outcomes 2, 3 and 4:<br>Checklist                       | This unit could be delivered during the first half of the course. Photographic evidence can be used together with a checklist for Outcomes 2, 3 and 4. |



| Unit  | Tasks for each unit  | Integration with other units                    | Assessment   | Comments on possible delivery and assessment  |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| Unit 5<br>HN7L 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Team Building Project</i>                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Plan the group manufacture of a musical instrument</li> <li>◆ Produce and assemble instrument components</li> <li>◆ Evaluate the project</li> </ul> |   | Outcome 1: Report<br>Outcome 2 and 3:<br>Checklist<br>Outcome 4: Report                        | This unit could be delivered halfway through the course or earlier. Photographic evidence can be used together with a checklist for Outcomes 2 and 3. |
| Unit 6<br>HN7M 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Assembly of<br/>Instrument Bodies and<br/>Necks</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Plan component assembly production methods</li> <li>◆ Assemble two instruments</li> </ul>   | This unit integrates with units 2, 3 and 4      | Outcome 1: Assembly work schedule<br>Outcomes 2, 3 and 4:<br>Checklist of practical assignment | This unit can be delivered towards the end of the course.   |
| Unit 7<br>HN7N 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Finishing</i>                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Produce a finishing schedule</li> <li>◆ Finish two instruments</li> </ul>   |   | Outcome 1: Folio<br>Outcome 2, 3 and 4 :<br>Checklist  | This unit could be delivered during the last third of the course.   |
| Unit 8<br>HN7P 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Major Repairs</i>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Identify and analyse complex repairs, estimate repair costs and repair and retouch complex repairs</li> </ul>                                       |   | Outcome 1 and 2: Folio<br>Outcome 3 and 4:<br>Checklist  | This unit could be delivered at any point during the first two thirds of the course.  |
| Unit 9<br>HN7T 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Jig Making</i>                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Research and analyse jigs</li> <li>◆ Design, manufacture and safety test jigs</li> </ul>  | This unit integrates with units 2, 3, 4, and 11 | Outcomes 1 and 2: Folio<br>Outcomes 2 and 3:<br>Checklist                                      | This unit could be delivered at the beginning of the course.  |
| Unit 10<br>HN7V 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Practical Acoustics<br/>and Materials Testing</i>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Investigate soundboard structures and materials</li> <li>◆ Make, test and evaluate soundboard structures</li> </ul>                                 |   | Outcomes 1, 2 and 3:<br>Report   | This unit could be delivered in the first half of the course.   |

| Unit  | Tasks for each unit  | Integration with other units                   | Assessment  | Comments on possible delivery and assessment                  |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| Unit 11<br>HN7R 34<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Wood Machining</i> | ♦ Set-up, maintain and operate a range of woodworking machines | This unit integrates with units 2, 3, 4, and 9 | Outcome 1: Short answer questions and practical exercise<br>Outcome 2 and 3: Practical exercise and checklist | This unit could be delivered in the first half of the course. |

| HND 2   |   |  |   |   |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| Unit  | Tasks for each unit   | Integration with other units   | Assessment  | Comments on possible delivery and assessment  |
| Unit 1<br>JOHN 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments:<br/>Graded Unit 2</i> | ♦ Produce a brief, production plan, work schedule and materials list and costing for either a complex repair or component manufacture. Manufacture product/complete repair, producing design solutions where appropriate. Evaluate finished product/repair, production plan and schedule. | Integrates and applies knowledge and skills from all mandatory units | Stage 1: Folio<br>Stage 2: Practical exercise/folio<br>Stage 3: Evaluation report | This unit should be delivered and assessed towards the latter third of the course as it requires the mandatory units to be completed. |

| Unit   | Tasks for each unit  | Integration with other units               | Assessment  | Comments on possible delivery and assessment   |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Unit 2<br>JOHW 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments: Manufacturing Preparation</i>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Produce elements required in the construction of one complex or two standard instruments. These will include jigs moulds, templates and inlays</li> </ul>           | This unit integrates with units 3, 4 and 7 | Outcome 1: Folio<br>Outcome 2 and 3: practical recorded on checklist  | This unit should be delivered at the beginning of the course as it covers the basic preparation required for later units in the course   |
| Unit 3<br>JOHS 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments: Design</i>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Investigate instrument designs, materials and techniques. Develop design ideas and produce working drawings for one complex or two standard instruments.</li> </ul> | This unit integrates with units 2, 4 and 7 | Outcome 1 and 2 Folio<br>Outcome 3 working drawings   | This unit should be delivered at the beginning of the course at the same time as unit 2, together they provide the preparation required for manufacturing an instrument/s.           |
| Unit 4<br>JOHV 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Components</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Interpret drawings, plan the production and produce one complex instrument or two standard instruments.</li> </ul>  | This unit integrates with units 2, 3 and 7 | Outcome 1 Specification document<br>Outcome 2 Timetable<br>Outcome 3 Practical work recorded on checklist.<br>Outcome 4 Recorded data Sheet | This unit should begin towards the end of units 2 and 3 being completed.   |
| Unit 5<br>JOHX 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments: Personal Investigation</i>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Investigate of an aspect of musical instrument making and/or music history.</li> <li>◆ Evaluate the collected data.</li> </ul>                                      | This could be integrated with unit 3       | A written document or presentation with accompanying text   | This unit could be delivered at the beginning of the first term if it is being integrated with unit 3 <i>Stringed Instruments: Design</i> . It is best delivered in term one or two. |

| Unit  | Tasks for each unit   | Integration with other units   | Assessment  | Comments on possible delivery and assessment                                  |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| Unit 6<br>JOHY 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments: Assembly and Evaluation</i> | ◆ Interpret drawings, plan the assembly and assemble one complex instrument or two standard instruments. Evaluate work.   | This unit integrates with units 2, 4 and 7   | Outcome 1 Specification document<br>Outcome 2 Timetable<br>Outcome 3 Practical work recorded on checklist.<br>Outcome 4 Recorded data Sheet | This unit should run towards the end of term two and the start of term three. |
| Unit 7<br>JOHT 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments: Electronics</i>             | ◆ Identify and describe pickup and amplification systems. Detect and describe faults in pickup and amplification systems. Install and test a pickup system.                 | This unit integrates with Unit 9 <i>Stringed Instruments: Setup</i> . It could also integrate with units 4 and 6 | Outcome 1 Folio<br>Outcome 2 worksheets   | This unit should run in term three  |
| Unit 8<br>JOHP 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments: Finishing</i>               | ◆ Investigate complex, custom and alternative finishes. Prepare costed work schedules. Prepare and finish an instrument.  |  | Outcomes 1 and 2 folio<br>Outcome 3 checklist and product   | This unit will run in term three.   |
| Unit 9<br>JOHR 35<br><i>Stringed Instruments: Setup Project</i>           | ◆ Investigate a range of professional setup data and instrument amplification. Produce setup specification worksheet. Setup instrument and install an amplification system. | This unit integrates with unit 7   | Outcome 1 and 2 Folio<br>Outcome 3 and 4 checklist and product  | This unit will run in term three.   |

## 6 Guidance on approaches to delivery and assessment

The course has been designed to develop instrument manufacturing skills in the context of a professional environment where time management and increased production skills are essential elements. The course formalises planning and scheduling of work throughout, giving learners time management skills thus enhancing employment prospects. Manufacturing skills will also be developed through the increased use of jigs and machinery and the repetition, practice and perfecting of craft skills.

- ◆ Although centres can choose the sequence in which to deliver the units, the primary elements of the mandatory units in each year of the HND need to be delivered prior to delivering the graded units

The assessment strategy of the SQA Design Principles — to encourage a more holistic approach to assessment — has been adopted in this award. The new HN unit specification places the emphasis on reducing the assessment load for both learners and centres by devising assessments that assess the entire unit or join the assessments of outcomes together.

There is also the opportunity to integrate assessments across units. The logistics of this will depend on the programme in individual centres.

The grid shown in Section 5.3 above provides an illustration of this.

### Suggestions for unit assessment integration HND 1

The following two units would usually be run together at the beginning of the course. The practical assessment for these units could be integrated by the production of jigs during the wood machining unit.

- ◆ *Stringed Instruments: Jig Making* HN7T 34
- ◆ *Stringed Instruments: Wood Machining* HN7R 34

Two instruments will be manufactured and assembled in unit 2 *Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Necks*, unit 3 *Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Body Components*, unit 4 *Stringed Instruments: Instrument Inlay and Soundhole Cutting Techniques* and unit 6 *Stringed Instruments: Assembly of Instrument Bodies and Necks*. The assessments can be integrated especially Outcomes 1 and 2 in each unit.

Unit 5 *Stringed Instruments: Team Building Project*, unit 8 *Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs* and unit 10 *Stringed Instruments: Practical Acoustics and Materials Testing* could be run at any point on the course though learners would benefit from the knowledge and learning achieved in unit 8 *Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs* and unit 10 *Stringed Instruments: Practical Acoustics and Materials Testing* by completing these during the first two thirds of the course.

Unit 6 *Stringed Instruments: Assembly of Instrument Bodies and Necks* and unit 7 *Stringed Instruments: Finishing* would normally be delivered in the second half of the course.

## Suggestions for unit assessment integration HND 2

Unit 3 *Stringed Instruments: Design* should be taught at the beginning of the course together with unit 2 *Stringed Instruments: Manufacturing Preparation*, Outcome 1 of these units could be integrated. Outcome 1 in unit 4 *Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Components* and unit 6 *Stringed Instruments: Assembly and Evaluation* can be integrated.

The electronic element of unit 9 *Stringed Instruments: Setup Project* can be integrated with the *Stringed Instruments: Electronics* unit 7. Unit 5 *Stringed Instruments: Personal Investigation* is best taught in block 2 but could be integrated with unit 3 *Stringed Instruments: Design* in block 1.

## 6.1 Sequencing/integration of units

### HND 1

Suggested sequence for the delivery of units.

| Block 1  | Block 2   | Block 3  |
|--|---|--|
| Unit 8 <i>Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs</i> HN7P 34 (2 credit)                                     | Unit 2 <i>Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Necks</i> HN7H 34 (2 credit)                                    | Unit 6 <i>Stringed Instruments: Assembly of Instrument Bodies and Necks</i> HN7M 34 (2 credit) |
| Unit 9 <i>Stringed Instruments: Jig Making</i> HN7T 34 (1 credit)  | Unit 10 <i>Stringed Instruments: Practical Acoustics and Materials Testing</i> HN7V 34 (1 credit)                         | Unit 7 <i>Stringed Instruments: Finishing</i> HN7N 34 (1 credit)                               |
| Unit 11 <i>Stringed Instruments: Wood Machining</i> HN7R 34 (1 credit)                                   | Unit 5 <i>Stringed Instruments: Team Building Project</i> HN7L 34 (1 credit)  | Unit 1 <i>Stringed Instruments: Graded Unit 1</i> HN7E 34 (1 credit)                           |
| Unit 4 <i>Stringed Instruments: Instrument Inlay and Soundhole Cutting Techniques</i> HN7K 34 (1 credit) |   |  |
| Unit 3 <i>Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Body Components</i> HN7J 34 (2 credit)         | Unit 3 <i>Stringed Instruments: Manufacturing of Instrument Body Components</i> will run into Block 2 HN7J 34 (2 credits) |  |

## HND 2

Suggested sequence for the delivery of units.

| Block 1   | Block 2   | Block 3   |
|---|---|---|
| Unit 3 <i>Stringed Instruments: Design</i><br>(1 credit)                            | Unit 5 <i>Stringed Instruments: Personal Investigation*</i><br>(1 credit) | Unit 1 <i>Stringed Instruments: Graded Unit 2</i><br>(2 credit) |
| Unit 2 <i>Stringed Instruments: Manufacturing Preparation</i><br>(3 credit)         | Unit 7 <i>Stringed Instruments: Electronics</i><br>(1 credit)             | Unit 8 <i>Stringed Instruments: Finishing</i><br>(1 credit)     |
| Unit 4 <i>Stringed Instruments: Manufacture of Instrument Components</i> (3 credit) | Unit 6 <i>Stringed Instruments: Assembly and Evaluation</i><br>(2 credit) | <i>Stringed Instruments: Setup Project</i><br>(1 credit)        |

\*Personal investigation could be taught in block 1, manufacture of components will normally continue into block 2.

## 6.2 Recognition of prior learning

SQA recognises that learners gain knowledge and skills acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning contexts.

In some instances, a full group award may be achieved through the recognition of prior learning. However, it is unlikely that a learner would have the appropriate prior learning and experience to meet all the requirements of a full group award.

The recognition of prior learning may **not** be used as a method of assessing in the following types of units and assessments:

- ◆ HN graded units
- ◆ Course and/or external assessments
- ◆ Other integrative assessment units (which may or not be graded)
- ◆ Certain types of assessment instruments where the standard may be compromised by not using the same assessment method outlined in the unit
- ◆ Where there is an existing requirement for a licence to practice
- ◆ Where there are specific health and safety requirements
- ◆ Where there are regulatory, professional or other statutory requirements
- ◆ Where otherwise specified in an assessment strategy

More information and guidance on the *Recognition of Prior Learning* (RPL) may be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

The following sub-sections outline how existing SQA unit(s) may contribute to this group award. Additionally, they also outline how this group award may be recognised for professional and articulation purposes.

### 6.2.1 Articulation and/or progression

The HND Stringed Instrument Making and Repair programme can facilitate articulation into the following programme:

- ◆ BA (Hons) Musical Instrument Craft (Violin Making and Repair, Guitar Making and Repair), Lincoln College

## 6.2.2 Credit transfer

All learners are eligible for unit-by-unit credit transfer.

Unit by unit conversion permits learners to convert old units, which they may have acquired previously, to new units to allow them to gain credit towards the new qualifications. These arrangements are known as *credit transfer*.

Credit transfer is used in lieu of the normal evidence requirements for a unit. Once the equivalence between units is established, a learner is not required to produce evidence towards a unit, if they already possess an 'equivalent' unit. It is sufficient for the learner to produce evidence of completing the equivalent unit, which is normally done via the production of their Scottish Qualifications Certificate. Centres must retain proof of this (normally a photocopy of the learner's SQC) for the purposes of internal and external moderation.

All decisions relating to credit transfer remain with centres. However, SQA carries out an initial mapping between old and new units, to provide guidance.

## 6.3 Opportunities for e-assessment

Some activities in the units offer opportunities for online learning and/or online capture of, and access to, learner evidence. Centres are advised to refer to individual unit specifications for further guidance.

## 6.4 Support materials

A list of existing ASPs is available to view on SQA's website.

## 6.5 Resource requirements

Workshops with specialist tools specifically tailored to musical instrument making will be required, also access to IT and equipment relating to acoustic science and material science.

# 7 General information for centres

### Equality and inclusion

The unit specifications making up this group award have been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners will 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).

### Internal and external verification

All instruments of assessment used within this/these qualification(s) should be internally verified, using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA.

External verification will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

Further information on internal and external verification can be found in *SQA's Guide to Assessment* ([www.sqa.org.uk/GuideToAssessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/GuideToAssessment)).



## 8 Glossary of terms

**Embedded Core Skills:** is where the assessment evidence for the unit also includes full evidence for complete Core Skill or Core Skill components. A learner successfully completing the unit will be automatically certificated for the Core Skill. (This depends on the unit having been successfully audited and validated for Core Skills certification.)

**Finish date:** The end of a group award's lapsing period is known as the finish date. After the finish date, the group award will no longer be live and the following applies:

- ◆ learners may not be entered for the group award
- ◆ the group award will continue to exist only as an archive record on the Awards Processing System (APS)

**Graded unit:** Graded units assess learners' ability to integrate what they have learned while working towards the units of the group award. Their purpose is to add value to the group award, making it more than the sum of its parts, and to encourage learners to retain and adapt their skills and knowledge.

**Lapsing date:** When a group award is entered into its lapsing period, the following will apply:

- ◆ the group award will be deleted from the relevant catalogue
- ◆ the group award specification will remain until the qualification reaches its finish date at which point it will be removed from SQA's website and archived
- ◆ no new centres may be approved to offer the group award
- ◆ centres should only enter learners whom they expect to complete the group award during the defined lapsing period

**SQA credit value:** The credit value allocated to a unit gives an indication of the contribution the unit makes to an SQA group award. An SQA credit value of 1 given to an SQA unit represents approximately 40 hours of programmed learning, teaching and assessment.

**SCQF:** The Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) provides the national common framework for describing all relevant programmes of learning and qualifications in Scotland. SCQF terminology is used throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF visit the SCQF website at [www.scqf.org.uk](http://www.scqf.org.uk).

**SCQF credit points:** SCQF credit points provide a means of describing and comparing the amount of learning that is required to complete a qualification at a given level of the framework. One National Unit credit is equivalent to 6 SCQF credit points. One National Unit credit at Advanced Higher and one Higher National Unit credit (irrespective of level) is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points.

**SCQF levels:** The level a qualification is assigned within the framework is an indication of how hard it is to achieve. The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. HNCs and HNDs are available at SCQF levels 7 and 8 respectively. Higher National units will normally be at levels 6–9 and graded units will be at level 7 and 8. National Qualification Group Awards are available at SCQF levels 2–6 and will normally be made up of National Units which are available from SCQF levels 2–7.

**Subject unit:** Subject units contain vocational/subject content and are designed to test a specific set of knowledge and skills.

**Signposted Core Skills:** refers to opportunities to develop Core Skills arise in learning and teaching but are not automatically certificated.

**Luthier:** One who makes or repairs stringed instruments, such as lutes, violins or guitars.



## 9 General information for learners

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

The general aim of the HND Stringed Instrument Making and Repair course is to prepare you for working in the industry by examining and utilizing some of the production methods used in a small workshop environment. You will be asked to produce a minimum of two instruments during HND 1 and either one complex or two standard instruments during HND 2. This will enable you to develop practical skills and gain knowledge and understanding regarding the rationalisation of working methods in a similar way to the production methods found in small workshops. Where a complex instrument has been chosen for manufacturing, it should be of a sufficient challenging nature beyond that of two standard instruments. The type of project suitable might be a jazz guitar, double neck guitar, hollow bodied electric guitar, lute, lute backed guitar, carved mandolin/mandola/bouzouki, cello, viol, viola or a similar project. You will also develop time and resource management skills whilst planning production methods to a timescale.

You will research and develop methods to enhance the manufacturing process through the use of jigs and machinery, this will further develop your craft skills, improve quality and increase production.

You will also examine a variety of instrument making structures to study how these may affect the sound.

You will study a range of subjects such as wood machining, jig making, advanced major repairs, electronics, practical acoustics and materials testing, finishing and instrument design and construction. You will also explore an aspect of musical instrument making and/or music history in which you have a personal interest and evaluate your research.

Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to further develop your Core Skills in *Communication, Numeracy, Information Communication Technology, Problem Solving and Working with Others*.

You will be assessed throughout the course with the assessments taking the form of assignments and practical assessments. Towards the end of each year of your course you will undertake a graded unit, which is designed to assess your ability to integrate the knowledge and skills gained through the mandatory units. This will take the form of two practical assignments one at SCQF level 7, worth 1 HN credit and one at SCQF level 8 worth 2 credits. The graded units are a means of grading your achievement on the HND overall.

Should you choose to leave after the first year the award of HNC Stringed Instrument Making and Repair will be made on your successful completion of the six mandatory and six optional unit credits (96 SCQF credit points).

The award of HND Stringed Instrument Making and Repair will be made on your successful completion of thirty unit credits, 240 SCQF credit points must be achieved of which fifteen credits (120 SCQF credit points at level 7 and level 8) are mandatory with a further fifteen credits (120 SCQF credit points at level 7 and level 8) to be achieved from the optional section.

Prior to starting the course, you should have gained basic hand woodworking skills and have constructed at least one musical instrument.

This course will allow you to:

- ◆ To develop a practical approach to musical instrument manufacture as utilised in small scale contemporary workshops
- ◆ To develop employment skills for a range of careers in the musical instrument industry
- ◆ To develop a range of contemporary vocational skills within the context of musical instrument making and repair
- ◆ To conduct project work involving the planning, integration and application of a variety of skills within a determined time scale
- ◆ Develop safe working practices
- ◆ Gain knowledge of different aesthetic and technical approaches to instrument construction and design
- ◆ To develop problem solving skills
- ◆ Develop study and research skills
- ◆ Develop current employment skills and expertise
- ◆ Develop skills which can be used beyond instrument making and repair