

09 September 2011

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joanna.morris@sqa.org.uk

To: All FE Colleges
Cc: SQA Business Development Managers

HNC/HND Acting and Performance
HNC/HND Musical Theatre
HNC/HND Technical Theatre and Production Arts

Please pass this to the member(s) of staff responsible for Acting and Performance, Musical Theatre, Technical Theatre.

This is the first letter in a new series of update letters for colleges and these updates will contain important information about developments and opportunities in Drama, Musical Theatre and Technical Theatre. These letters will also be published on SQA's website.

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With best wishes for the new session,



Mary McDonald
Qualifications Manager, Humanities, Arts and Business

1. New SQA contacts

Mary McDonald is the SQA Qualifications Manager now assigned to HN Acting and Performance, Musical Theatre and Technical Theatre and Joanna Morris is now the Qualifications Officer for these areas. Mary and Joanna's team continue to manage and support National Qualifications in these subject areas and now look forward to working with colleagues in the college sector also. Contact details:

Mary McDonald Tel: 0131 561 6811 Email: mary.mcdonald@sqa.org.uk

Joanna Morris Tel: 0845 213 5554 Email: joanna.morris@sqa.org.uk

2. New Units added to HNC/HND Acting and Performance frameworks

Four current HN Units have been added to the optional section of the frameworks for both HNC/HND Acting and Performance and this will broaden the scope and options available. The Arrangements documents are being updated to reflect this change. The Units which are being added are:

DE3R 34	Personal Development Planning
DJ3A 34	Working in the Creative Industries 1
DM2L 35	Working in the Creative Industries 2
DM0V 34	Creative Industries: An Introduction

3. Review of HNC/HND frameworks in Acting and Performance and Musical Theatre

The Arrangements document for HNC/HND Acting and Performance was first published in July 2005 and the Arrangements document for HNC/HND Musical Theatre was published in August 2006. Now, 5-6 years later, it is planned to enter into a short period of qualifications review and this is scheduled for October 2011 - April 2012.

We invite colleagues to come together and contribute to this development period which may include revisions to existing Units and the addition of new Units to the existing HNC/HND frameworks. We are looking for Qualifications Support Team (QST) members, Unit writers and Unit vetters.

If you are interested in this work please complete the SQA Qualifications Design Team/Qualifications Support Team Registration of Interest Form which is an attachment to this letter.

Please return this to qualificationsadmin@sqa.org.uk by **Friday 7 October 2011**.

4. 2011 Senior Verifier Report – Internal Assessment Report

This is an annual report which updates centres on HN Verification activity each year in specific subject areas. The report contains a lot of valuable information, advice and guidance for the delivery and assessment of HN Units and highlights areas of good practice and specific areas for development and improvement.

You'll find a copy of this annual report on the HN Performing Arts pages of www.sqa.org.uk – select Qualifications/ HN/ HN Sectors/ Browse HN Sectors/ Performing Arts and then select eg HNC/D Acting and Performance and the report can be found under Subject Specific Information.

5. SQA Appointee Opportunities – Vacancies for External Verifiers

We always welcome applications from qualified and experienced colleagues for SQA appointee work and there are currently a number of vacancies for HN External Verifiers in the areas of Acting and Performance, Musical Theatre and Technical Theatre and Production Arts.

If you are interested in getting involved in this professional work or would like to know more about this, please visit the Appointee Management pages of SQA's website and select Applying to be an Appointee from the left-hand menu. The link is www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/41253.2293.html

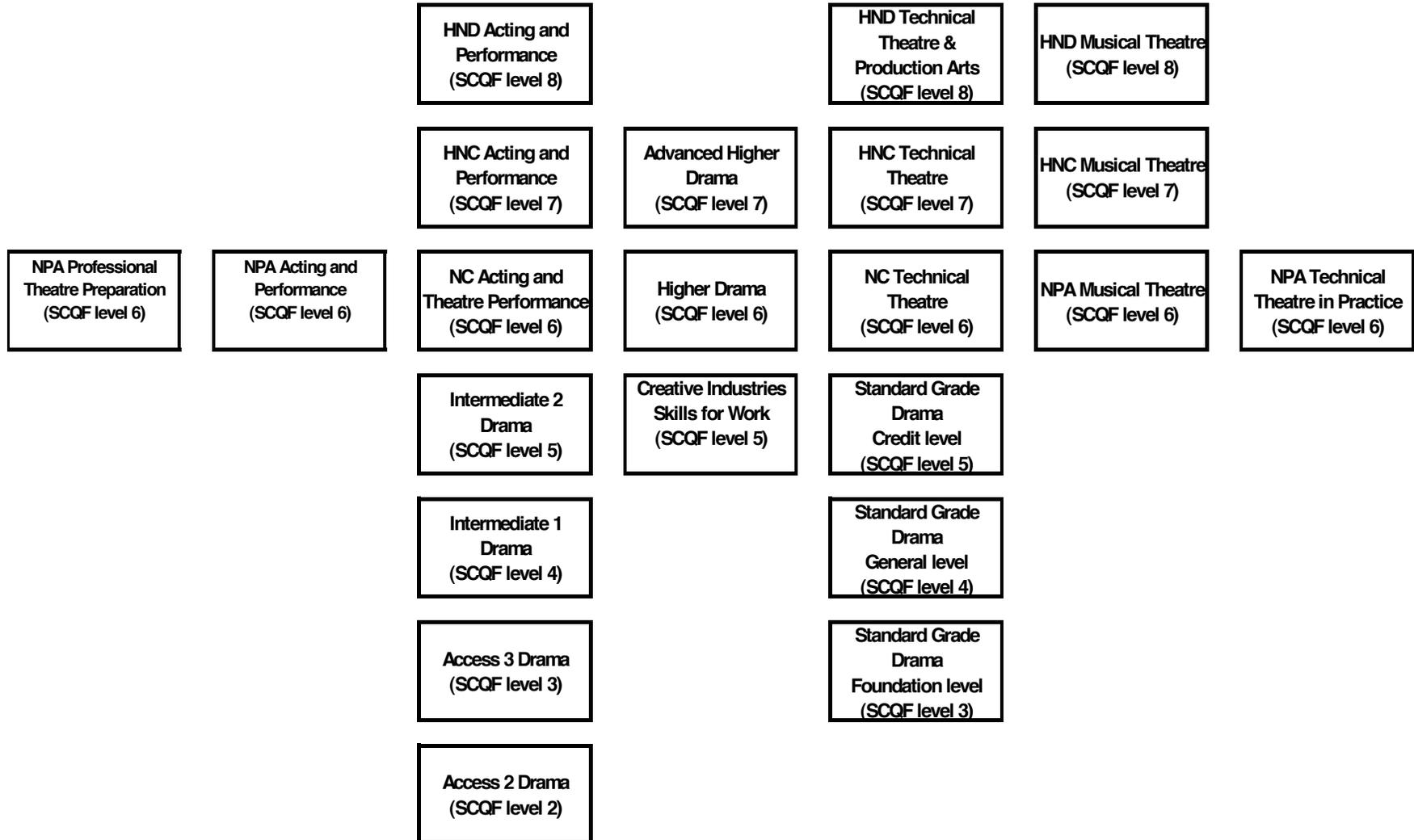
6. Qualifications Map

Appendix 1 of this letter is a Qualifications Map which we have recently created. This shows, in a useful table/map form, the wide range of SQA qualifications available in this sector of the performing arts – from SCQF level 3 to SCQF level 8. At a glance you will be able to see the variety of articulated, progression pathways for students and the opportunities for personalisation, choice and specialism in this group of related subject areas.

7. New Creative Industries Skills for Work Course

Appendix 2 of this letter gives details of an exciting new addition to SQA's portfolio of qualifications. The Creative Industries Course (SCQF level 5) was launched in April and has been available for entries since August 2011. Early indications show a lot of interest in this Course as centres come forward for SQA Approval. The Course can be delivered in a wide variety of creative contexts and we are supporting centres who are delivering the Course and/or Units during this first year. During the session we plan to compile and publish case studies so we can share good and creative practice and inspire centres to consider delivering this new SQA provision.

Appendix 1



HND - Higher National Diploma
HNC - Higher National Certificate
NPA - National Progression Award

Appendix 2

Creative Industries Course (SCQF level 5)

Available from August 2011 onwards

Skills for Work Courses encourage young people to become familiar with the world of work by offering practical based programmes of study which are linked to particular careers; these Courses also develop broader employability and other transferable skills. Skills for Work Courses are already available in a number of diverse sectors and the **Creative Industries Skills for Work Course** is an exciting new addition to this group of qualifications offered by SQA.

This new Course is designed to provide an introduction to the Creative Industries which includes the following sectors: Art and Design, Dance, Drama, Media Studies, Music, Sound Production, Technical Theatre.

The primary target group for this Course would be school pupils in S3 and above and college students. The Creative Industries Course has the potential to endorse the broad aims and capacities of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) offering opportunities for inter-disciplinary learning, cross-cutting initiatives and school/college partnership working.

The Creative Industries Course comprises 4 x 40 hour Units with an emphasis on integrated practical activity and skills building, knowledge and understanding and employability and transferable skills. The 4 Units of the Course are:

- ◆ **Creative Industries: An Introduction (SCQF level 5)**
- ◆ **Creative Industries: Skills Development (SCQF level 5)**
- ◆ **Creative Industries: The Creative Process (SCQF level 5)**
- ◆ **Creative Industries: Creative Project (SCQF level 5)**

These Units are ideally suited to a wide range of creative contexts including, eg a musical production, an art exhibition/display, production of school yearbook, production of a music CD, a drama or dance production, an animated short film, a website or blog, a fashion show, a community project.

For details of Unit Specifications, Course Arrangements and Assessment materials please visit www.sqa.org.uk, select Qualifications/NQ/Skills for Work (from the left-hand menu) and select Creative Industries.



HN Review

HNC/HND Acting and Performance

HNC/HND Musical Theatre

Registration of interest in participating in the work of the Qualification Support Team (QST)

Personal information

Surname:		National Insurance no:
Title:	Initials:	First name:
Home address:		Date of birth:
		Home tel no:
		Mobile tel no:
		Fax no:
Postcode:		E-mail address:
Business address:		Business tel no:
		Business fax no:
Postcode:		
What is your preferred method of contact?		

Academic qualifications and training

Academic qualifications (please give full details, eg MA (Hons) 2/1 English)

Teaching qualifications and year gained

Other qualifications

Any other relevant experience (eg in-service training, development work)

Work experience

Please complete showing the most recent employer first

Employer's name	Post held (with dates) (eg Senior Lecturer)	Experience of delivering/assessing/moderating SQA qualifications (eg HN, NQ and SVQ Courses/Units)	
		Subject area and experience	Dates

Statement in support of interest
Experience of leadership skills within an educational/training environment (eg Course Leader)
Please state why you are interested in participating in the work of the QST
Some of the QST meetings will take place during college time. Please give contact details of a senior member of college staff from whom SQA can seek confirmation of release and a <i>supporting</i> statement. Name: Position: E-mail address:
Signature: _____ Date: _____