

22 September 2011

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To: All FE Colleges
Cc: SQA Business Development Managers

HNC/HND Music
HNC/HND Music Business
HNC/HND Sound Production

Please pass this to the member(s) of staff responsible for Music, Music Business, Sound Production. 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 Music, Music Business and Sound Production. These letters will also be published on SQA's website.

Contents:

- 1. New SQA Contacts for Music, Music Business, Sound Production**
- 2. Review to HNC/HND Frameworks in Music, Music Business, Sound Production**
- 3. NC and NPA Qualifications**
- 4. New Unit: Intellectual Property (SCQF level 6)**
- 5. 2011 Senior External Verifier Report**
- 6. SQA Appointee Opportunities – External Verifiers**
- 7. Qualifications Map (Appendix 1)**
- 8. New Creative Industries Skills for Work Course (Appendix 2)**

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 Music, Music Business and Sound Production and Emma Bratchell is now the Qualifications Officer for these areas. Mary and Emma'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

Emma Bratchell Tel: 0845 213 5521 Email: emma.bratchell@sqa.org.uk

2. Review of HNC/HND Frameworks in Music, Music Business, Sound Production

Please see the SQA HN Music Information letter of 12 September 2011 which gives information about changes to the Music, Music Business and Sound Production qualifications as a result of review work which took place in 2010/2011. Arrangements documents are being amended to reflect these changes. Please note that the following four Units listed in Table A as an appendix to that letter will be updated in the course of the current academic session and the reviewed Units will be available from 1 August 2012:

- ◆ F605 34 Practical Musicianship
- ◆ F606 34 Music Theory 1
- ◆ DJ34 34 Recording Techniques for Musicians 1
- ◆ DR1C 35 Recording Techniques for Musicians 2

Review work continues and concludes this session and a short development period is scheduled for October 2011 - April 2012.

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

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

Please return this to qualificationsadmin@sqa.org.uk by Monday 17 October 2011.

3. NC and NPA Qualifications

New National Certificate (NC) provision was launched by SQA in 2009 and the NC in Music (SCQF level 6) and the NC in Sound Production (SCQF level 6) have been available since August 2009. Many colleges are delivering the new NC programmes and numbers of student entries for these qualifications are very encouraging and increasing year on year.

This provision was supplemented further in 2010 with the introduction of four new National Progression Awards (NPAs) at SCQF level 6 in the following areas: NPA in Music Business, NPA in Music Performing, NPA in Sound Production: Live and NPA in Sound Production: Recording.

We know that centres are delivering these new qualifications in creative and innovative ways and increasingly looking to the potential of integration to increase breadth, scope and diversity for students, eg in nesting NPA/NPAs within NC programmes. For easy reference, see the Appendix to this letter – the Qualifications Map.

4. New Unit: Intellectual Property (SCQF level 6)

In response to requests from centres a new Unit has been developed at SCQF level 6 – Unit FT2D 12 *Intellectual Property*. This Unit has been available since August 2011 and has been designed to provide an overview of intellectual property and copyright law through research, investigation and project/folio work. The Unit is particularly suitable for any student on a creative industries Course or anyone undertaking a programme of study where they are creating or altering original material and need an awareness of the rights of anyone who creates an original work.

This Unit has been added to the frameworks of the NC in Music, NC in Sound Production and the NPA in Music Business and we'll be consulting in the next few months about the viability of adding the Unit to the HN frameworks. You'll find the Unit Specification via the SQA NQ Unit Search and there is a very informative and comprehensive Assessment Support Pack (ASP) available on SQA's secure website.

5. 2011 Senior Verifier Report – Internal Assessment Report

This is an annual report (published October) which updates centres on the 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 Music and the report can be found under Subject Specific Information.

6. SQA Appointee Opportunities – External Verifiers

We always welcome applications from qualified and experienced colleagues for SQA appointee work and in particular for HN External Verifiers in the areas of Music, Music Business and Sound Production.

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

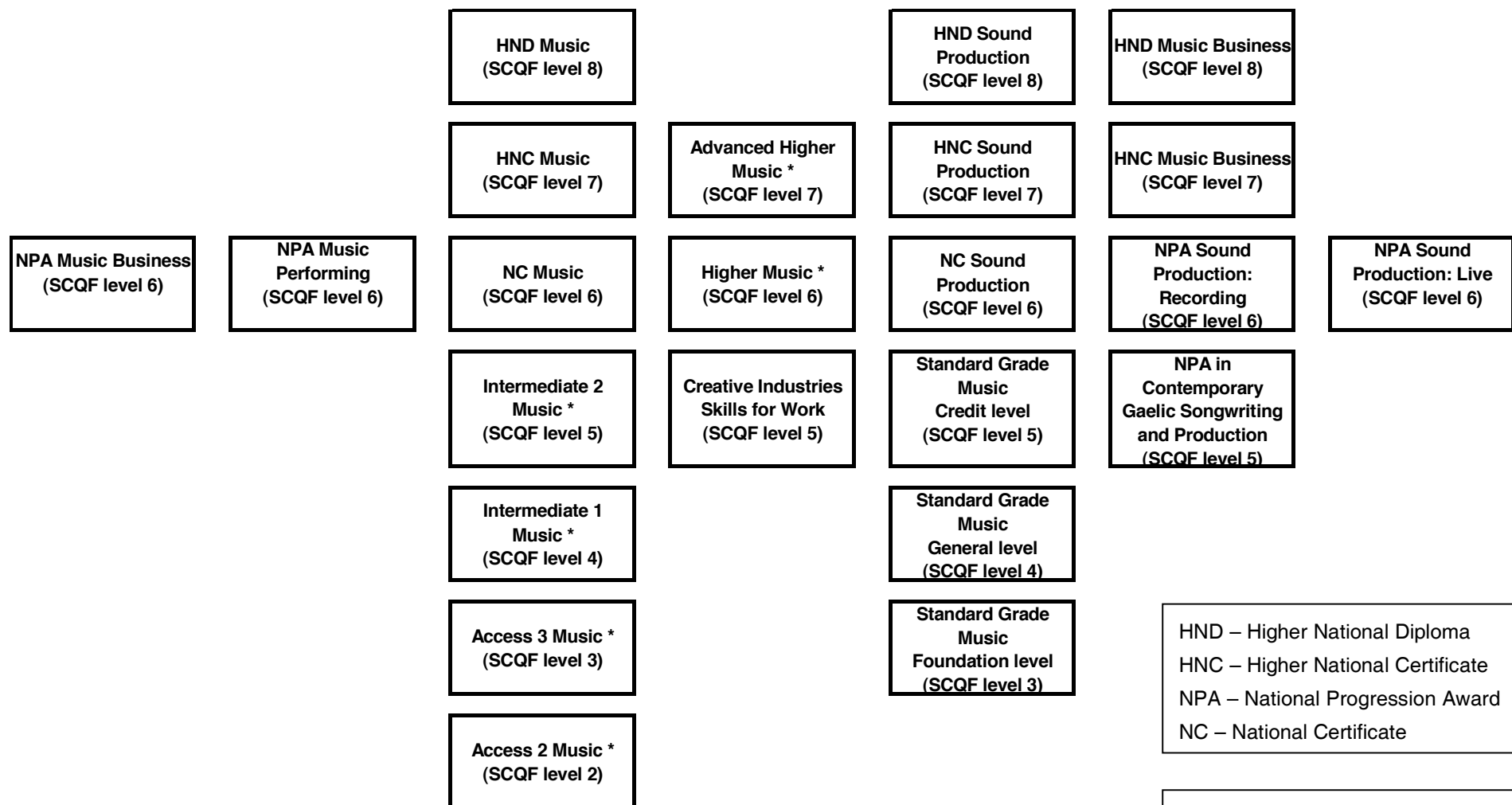
7. Qualifications Map

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 these sectors – 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.

8. 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: Music and Sound Production Qualifications Map



HND – Higher National Diploma
HNC – Higher National Certificate
NPA – National Progression Award
NC – National Certificate

There are two optional routes to the qualifications marked * – Music with Performing and Music with Technology (Sound Engineering and Production **or** MIDI Sequencing).

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 being 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 Music

HNC/HND Sound Production

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 *supporting* statement.

Name:

Position:

E-mail address:

Signature: _____ Date: _____