

Art and Design



This update contains information relevant to your subject and details of the support available to you.

We also publish updates on the new National Courses in the 'Updates and Announcements' section of the relevant **subject pages**. I would encourage you to make regular use of our subject pages, where you will find support documents, answers to common questions, and links to other areas of interest. You can also sign up for 'My Alerts', SQA's e-mail update service, that notifies you whenever content you are interested in is added or updated on SQA's website. Visit **www.sqa.org.uk/myalerts** to register.

I hope you find the following update helpful, and please contact me if you have any questions.

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Qualifications Manager

The Qualifications Team

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Qualifications Manager

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Documents and assessment support materials

Assessment support materials are now available for the new National 1 to Advanced Higher Qualifications, marking a significant milestone. It is important that you read the full suite of documents for your Course, as well as those relating to assessment.

Further information on documents and assessment support materials can be found at www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments

Updates to documents

Advanced Higher documents

We are making planned updates to Advanced Higher documents. This follows the publication of Advanced Higher Specimen Question Papers, Coursework information and Unit assessment support packs. The updated Advanced Higher **Unit Specifications**, **Course Specifications** and **Course Assessment Specifications** are available now.

We will also update the Advanced Higher **Course and Unit Support Notes**, and finalise all packages of Advanced **Higher Unit assessment support** by the end of May 2015.

Further details of changes to Advanced Higher documents are outlined in the [January 2015 subject update](#). The Notification of Changes spreadsheets have been updated to reflect the latest changes to documents. You can view these spreadsheets at www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges

National 3 to Higher documents

A minor change has been made to the 'Structure and coverage of the Course assessment' section of the National 5 and Higher Course Assessment Specifications in order to clarify where marks can be awarded in the Expressive and Design folios.

The updated Course Assessment Specifications are available now and are accompanied by comparison documents. The comparison documents clearly illustrate what changes have been made and will help you to quickly and easily identify the updates.

Comparison documents are available from the [subject pages](#) and sit alongside the updated documents. Where required, Course and Unit Support Notes will be updated to correspond with these changes. Updated Course and Unit Support Notes will be published by the end of May 2015.

The Notification of Changes spreadsheets have been updated to reflect the latest changes to documents. You can view these spreadsheets at www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges

Looking ahead to 2015/16

Understanding Standards

In June 2015, we will publish further Understanding Standards packs for National 1 to Higher, which will contain candidate evidence and commentaries for Unit assessment and internally assessed Components of Course assessment.

The Understanding Standards programme will continue throughout session 2015/16, and will include Nominee training events, Understanding Standards events for National 5 and Higher, and Understanding Standards packs.

Nominee training events for Art and Design will take place on the following date:

- 1 October 2015

Understanding Standards events for Higher Art and Design will take place in early 2016.

For more information on Understanding Standards, visit www.sqa.org.uk/understandingstandards

Continuing Professional Development support

We will continue to offer subject-specific CPD support for new National Courses, where particular areas of concern are identified that are not already addressed by the Understanding Standards programme.

From August 2015, we will also offer subject-specific CPD support to assist teachers and lecturers with the implementation of the new Advanced Higher Courses.

Use of National 4 Added Value Units

From August 2015 onwards, you will have the option of developing your own National 4 Added Value Unit assessments for use with candidates. Please note that this is not a requirement and you can continue to use SQA-produced Added Value Unit assessments until further notice. Most SQA-produced Added Value Unit assessments already allow considerable flexibility in the choice of a context for the assessment, while some provide a context that you can change.

Further information can be found at www.sqa.org.uk/unitassessment

Contact SQA

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