

Technologies (Graphic Communication, Engineering Science and Practical Woodworking/Metalworking)



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.

Dave Main
Qualifications Manager

The Qualifications Team

Dave Main
Qualifications Manager

Craig McDonald
Qualifications Officer

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.

The key changes to the Advanced Higher Course Assessment Specifications are:

- Engineering Science — further detail given regarding the mark allocation for the question paper.
- Graphic Communication — amendments made to the areas where marks will be awarded for the project Component. Some wording deleted from the question paper Component information.

Further details of changes to Advanced Higher documents are outlined in the January 2015 subject updates, which can be found within the 'Updates and announcements' section on the relevant **subject pages**. 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

We have updated some published documents.

There are some minor alterations across our Course documents to add clarity where required. In addition, we have made the following specific changes:

- Graphic Communication — replaced the term ‘Computer-aided Design and Draughting’ with ‘Computer-aided Design’.
- Engineering Science — updated the data booklet and removed the term ‘shear stress’ from the Higher Course.
- Practical Metalworking — minor amendment made to measurements in the Garden Lantern assessment task.
- Practical Woodworking — minor amendment made to labelling and measurements in the Toy Truck assessment task.

Updated documents 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 ‘clean’ versions of 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. Relevant Understanding Standards packs and prior verified assessments will be reviewed in due course.

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 Higher, and Understanding Standards packs.

Nominee training events for technologies subjects will take place:

- early autumn 2015

Understanding Standards events for Higher technologies subjects will take place:

- January 2016
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For more information on Understanding Standards, visit
www.sqa.org.uk/understandingstandards

Continuous 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

Advanced Higher Exemplar Question Papers

In December 2015, we will publish Exemplar Question Papers for all new Advanced Higher Courses that include a question paper as part of the Course assessment.

Further information on Exemplar Question Papers, and other available assessment support materials, can be found at www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments

Contact SQA

For centre enquiries, please contact our Customer Support Team:

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