

Updates to Unit assessment support packs for National 5 and Higher Physics Courses



We have updated some Unit assessment support for National 3 to Higher Courses. This follows the revisions made to Unit Specifications in April 2015, and feedback gathered from centres during session 2014–15.

Updated Unit assessment support materials are now available for National 5 and Higher Physics. The updated materials are dated 'August 2015'.

Please refer to the following 'Notification of Changes' tables for your curricular area, as these provide a summary of the changes to each document and include details of the revised version numbers.

- [Sciences National 3 to National 5 Notification of Changes Log](#)
- [Sciences Higher Notification of Changes Log](#)

Notification of Changes tables for all subjects are available from www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges

The use of SQA-produced Unit assessments is not mandatory; however, if you are using them, we strongly encourage you to use the most up-to-date versions. Please note that you may continue to use existing versions of the Unit assessments until the end of session 2015–16 and both will be accepted for verification purposes.

The updated Unit assessment support materials are available from SQA's secure website and you can arrange access to them through your SQA Co-ordinator.

Further information on the reasons for the changes to Unit assessment support, and guidance on the next steps to take, is provided below.

Subject	Reason for change	Next steps for centres
National 5 Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physics: Dynamics and Space package 1: Unit-by-Unit approach • Physics: Waves and Radiation package 1: Unit-by-Unit approach • Physics: Electricity and Energy package 1: Unit-by-Unit approach • Physics package 2: combined approach • Physics package 3: portfolio approach <p>In all packs, Assessment Standards 2.2 and 2.3 have been removed. Assessment Standard 2.4 has been renumbered</p>	Centres are advised to download new copies of the revised documents.

	<p>2.2. Formatting has been amended to be consistent with other Unit assessment support packs.</p> <p>The removal of Assessment Standards 2.2 and 2.3 followed considerable stakeholder feedback and results in a reduction in the volume of assessment at National 5 level.</p>	
Higher Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physics: Our Dynamic Universe package 1: Unit-by-Unit approach Updated to amend errors and ambiguities in both questions and marking guidance. In particular, questions 1, 3, 5 and 6. Formatting amended for consistency and style. • Physics: Particles and Waves package 1: Unit-by-Unit approach Updated to amend errors and ambiguities in both questions and marking guidance. In particular, questions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Formatting amended for consistency and style. • Physics: Electricity package 1: Unit-by-Unit approach Updated to amend errors and ambiguities in both questions and marking guidance. In particular, questions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Formatting amended for consistency and style. • Researching Physics: package 1: Unit-by-Unit approach Updated to amend errors and ambiguities. Formatting amended for consistency and style. • Physics package 2: combined approach Updated to amend errors and ambiguities in both questions and marking guidance. In particular <i>Our Dynamic Universe</i> questions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6; <i>Particles and Waves</i> questions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; <i>Electricity</i> questions 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Formatting amended for consistency and style. • Physics package 3: portfolio approach Updated to amend errors and ambiguities. Formatting amended for consistency and style 	Centres are advised to download new copies of the revised documents.

	<p>Additionally, in all Unit assessment support packs, guidance has been added to the judging evidence tables, including clarifying the requirement for uncertainties to be included for Assessment Standard 1.3.</p> <p>These changes are based on both stakeholder feedback and issues identified through verification, where question wording was ambiguous or was prompting a degree of inconsistency in centre assessment decisions.</p>	
--	---	--