

Media



Welcome to the first edition of our new-look subject update. This complements our regular monthly and weekly communications, with more information relevant to your subject, and details of what we have been working on.

I would encourage you to make regular use of our subject pages, where you will find support documents and links to other areas of interest. Documents that must be treated confidentially can be found on our secure site and you can arrange access to these through your SQA Co-ordinator.

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

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Updates to documents

National 3 to National 5

No revisions have been made this year to the mandatory documents or Unit assessment support packs for National 3, 4 and 5 Media.

New Higher

All documents containing mandatory information on the new Higher were reviewed and revised in April and May 2014, along with the Higher Unit assessment support packs.

A high level summary of these updates can be found in the Notification of changes spreadsheet for Higher Expressive Arts at www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges.

The Assignment Marking Instructions for National 5 Media were updated during this year's main diet. This was to assist Markers by providing further clarity to ensure consistency across marking. These Marking Instructions will be updated in September 2014 and relevant associated documents will be updated accordingly. These revised marking instructions can be found in the General Assessment Information document on the National 5 Media subject page, as well as the Course Assessment Task document on the secure website.

Support and guidance

Finalised Marking Instructions for the 2014 Media question paper have been published on the relevant subject page of SQA's website.

Guidance on performance in external Course assessments and evidence generated for internal assessment is published annually. This includes Course Reports, External Assessment Reports and Verification Key Messages, all of which will be available in the autumn via the relevant subject pages of SQA's website. Internal Assessment Reports will not be published for the new National Courses.

The following Verification Key Messages are now available:

◆ **National 3 to National 5 Media**

Please take time to read the above report as it contains useful feedback.

SQA recognises that there is a requirement to further support centres on understanding standards for this subject, and an event for National 5 Media will take place in early 2015. Centres should take cognisance of last year's performance and ensure they are fully familiar with the requirements and advice in the published assessment documents as well as the information and guidance contained in the documentation listed above.

Looking ahead to 2014–15

We would like to express our gratitude and extend our thanks to all those who have undertaken duties in session 2013–14. We appreciate the work that all the teams carry out and look forward to continuing to work with them during session 2014–15.

Recruitment opportunities

We are currently in the process of recruiting for a number of vacancies that we are looking to fill between now and February 2015. Vacancies include new and replacement appointments for the following roles in relation to the new qualifications:

- ◆ Higher Senior Marker
- ◆ Higher Marker
- ◆ Higher QP Reviewer
- ◆ National 5 Marker

For more information, please visit <http://www.sqa.org.uk/cfeappointeevacancies>

Understanding Standards

Throughout session 2014–15, we will be publishing a range of Understanding Standards materials for both Unit and Course assessment. These materials will include candidate evidence with commentaries and can be used by centres for training and bench-marking purposes. We will also run Understanding Standards events for Unit assessment, for Nominees to share knowledge of Unit assessment with their colleagues. In addition, we will run Understanding Standards events for Course assessment for National 5, which will be open to all subject specialists.

Further information will follow in SQA's weekly and monthly centre updates.
