

Equality Review Summary



Qualification

Gàidhlig

Level

Advanced Higher

REVIEW OF NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS EQUALITY REVIEW

Date of review

20/11/2019

Coursework and/ or Question Paper revisions

The only element in the Units which is not assessed in the Course Assessment is the Interpreting and Translating Unit. The other elements, the existing two Question Papers and the existing Coursework: Performance – talking, will remain unchanged, as will the MIs and associated SQPs. New Component 3 Eadar-theanhachadh (Translating) Question Paper, 15 Marks, 30 minutes duration

Equality & inclusion issues

No changes have been made to the aims, rationale or content of the course. Only the Course assessment has changed as outlined above. This means that the original equality review carried out and attached remains valid and fit for purpose. It should be noted however, that the Units, which were a feature of the original ERF, have now been removed.

Extension of existing question paper

Disability

Some disabled candidates who require extra time may find increased focus on externally assessed exams more challenging and they may experience fatigue over the longer examination time. For example, candidates with physical disabilities may have difficulties in maintaining stamina or those unable to concentrate for extended periods may have difficulties in maintaining focus and have difficulties in demonstrating their attainment. Other disabled candidates such as those with mental health difficulties or emotional behavioural difficulties may find the longer examination experience overly stressful leading to increased anxiety that could negatively impact their ability to demonstrate their attainment.

Religion and belief

Some candidates because of religion and belief may experience a higher level of fatigue and be adversely affected in an extended question paper because they are fasting.

Actions that will mitigate any adverse impact outlined above

While it is not possible to exempt disabled learners from the external QP at Advanced Higher where this is an integral assessment component understanding of the Course, the provision of appropriate assessment arrangements and other supportive practices will mitigate the adverse impact for many disabled candidates. For example, by the careful consideration of the amount of extra time being requested and by further consideration being given as to whether there are any other more appropriate assessment arrangements such as using ICT and/or assistive technologies or the inclusion of rest breaks.

It is not possible for SQA to take all possible religious festivals and periods of observance into account when constructing the exam timetable. SQA will take into account, through its exceptional circumstances process, any negative impact such as a candidate taking unwell

caused by fasting during an examination.

ORIGINAL NATIONAL QUALIFICATION DEVELOPMENT EQUALITY REVIEW

Date of review 22/05/2014

Summary of Conclusion and recommendation

After full consideration of the issues above, and the potential barriers to candidates as noted, it may not possible for all disabled candidates to achieve an Advanced Higher Qualification in Gàidhlig.

At Advanced Higher level, the qualification must have integrity as a benchmark to and for progression to work and further study, but also to support fully the Gaelic Language Act (2005) in its 'facilitating the promotion of ...the use and understanding of the Gaelic language', and the SQA Gaelic Language Plan, in 'securing effective opportunities for learning Gaelic'.