

## **Group Award Specification for:**

**SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery  
at SCQF level 7**

**Group Award code — GR3L 47**

**SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery  
with Management at SCQF level 8**

**Group Award code — GR3M 48**

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# 1 Introduction

This document was previously known as the arrangements document. The purpose of this document is to:

- ◆ assist centres to implement, deliver, and manage the qualifications
- ◆ provide a guide for new staff involved in offering the qualifications
- ◆ inform course managers, teaching staff, assessors, learners, employers, and higher education institutions of the aims and purpose of the qualifications
- ◆ provide details of the range of learners that the qualifications are suitable for and the progression opportunities

The SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in the sector have been designed to enhance the provision of advanced craft skills and leadership training within the discipline of Professional Cookery.

The **SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery** develops knowledge and skills in areas such as specialist culinary skills, food hygiene and control systems. Learners can specialise in either production cookery or pastry, gaining valuable leadership skills and an understanding of the role of the supervisor.

The **SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management** builds on the knowledge and skills gained in the SQA Advanced Certificate in areas such as gastronomy, managing resources and kitchen planning and design. It also includes a period of practical work experience.

The SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma are suitable for a wide range of learners including:

- ◆ school leavers
- ◆ adult returners to education
- ◆ those in employment who wish to enhance their career prospects
- ◆ learners who wish to extend their skills and knowledge to start their own business

## 1.1 Rationale

Employers frequently identify the lack of technically skilled chefs as a barrier to filling vacancies and to effective business performance. The hospitality industry recruits a vast number of skilled and unskilled workers each year and the workforce continues to be heavily reliant upon young people aged 16–19 years. The well documented and acute skills shortages, along with the uncertainties and challenges presented by Brexit, including the potential loss of skilled European Union (EU) staff and the pressure on margins because of increasing costs, means it has never been more important to support the pipeline of talent coming into the sector. Staff retention of chefs is also a particular issue in the industry.

The updated suite of SQA Advanced Certificate/Diplomas is designed to attract and support learners who wish to pursue a career or upskill in the sector.

They form part of a comprehensive framework of SQA qualifications in Professional Cookery from SCQF level 3–8 supporting all stages of a chef's career.

## 2 Qualifications structure

### 2.1 Structure

#### SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery

Learners will be awarded an SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery on successful completion of all the units in the mandatory section, and an appropriate combination of units from the options section up to a total of 96 SCQF credit points (12 SQA credits).

The SQA Advanced design principles require an SQA Advanced Certificate group award to incorporate at least 48 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7. This requirement is met through the mandatory section.

The SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery mandatory section comprises 80 SCQF credit points (10 SQA credits) at SCQF level 7. Within the mandatory section, learners must complete either group 1 or group 2, which each comprise 40 SCQF credit points (5 SQA credits). Learners must complete a further 16 SCQF points (2 SQA credits) from the options section.

The following illustrates the composition of the framework detailing the SCQF level, rating and SQA credit value of each unit.

#### SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery framework

##### Mandatory section: 80 SCQF credit points (10 SQA credits) required

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J488	47	Hospitality: Financial Control Systems	1	8	7
HP4M	47	Food Hygiene Intermediate	1	8	7
J487	47	Hospitality Supervision	2	16	7
J479	47	Professional Cookery: Graded Unit 1	1	8	7
<b>Learners must complete either Group 1 or Group 2</b>					
<b>Group 1</b>					
J47Y	47	Professional Cookery: Practical	3	24	7
J47W	47	Professional Cookery: Knowledge	2	16	7
<b>Group 2</b>					
J480	47	Professional Cookery: Practical Pastry	3	24	7
J47X	47	Professional Cookery: Pastry Knowledge	2	16	7

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### Options section: 16 SCQF credit points (2 SQA credits) required

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J47V	47	Professional Cookery: Kitchen Operations	2	16	7
J47P	48	Professional Cookery: Specialised Cookery	2	16	8
J47S	47	Specialised Pastry	1	8	7
J47T	47	Plated Desserts	1	8	7
J47N	48	Specialised Pastry: Advanced	2	16	8
J47R	47	Fermented Pastry Products	1	8	7
HV7T	47	Sous Vide Cooking	1	8	7
HP4X	47	Work Placement	1	8	7
HR0A	47	Using Software Applications Packages	1	8	7
J1NB	47	Research Skills	1	8	7
J48A	47	Managing Human Resources in Hospitality	1	8	7

### SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management

Learners will be awarded an SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management on successful completion of all the units in the mandatory section, and an appropriate combination of units from the options section up to a total of 240 SCQF credit points (30 SQA credits).

The SQA Advanced design principles require an SQA Advanced Diploma group award to incorporate at least 64 SCQF credit points (8 SQA credits) at SCQF level 8. This requirement is met within the mandatory section.

The SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management mandatory section comprises 160 SCQF credit points (20 SQA credits). Within the mandatory section, learners must complete either group 1 or group 2, which each comprise 40 SCQF credit points (5 SQA credits). A further 80 SCQF points (10 SQA credits) must be selected from the options section.

The following illustrates the composition of the framework detailing the SCQF level rating and SQA credit value of each unit.

### SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management framework

#### Mandatory section: 160 SCQF credit points (20 SQA credits) required

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J488	47	Hospitality: Financial Control Systems	1	8	7
HP4M	47	Food Hygiene Intermediate	1	8	7

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J487	47	Hospitality Supervision	2	16	7
J48A	47	Managing Human Resources in Hospitality	1	8	7
J47M	48	Kitchen Planning and Design	1	8	8
J47L	48	Gastronomy	2	16	8
J47G	48	Management of Food and Beverage Operations	3	24	8
HP4X	47	Work Placement	1	8	7
J479	47	Professional Cookery: Graded Unit 1	1	8	7
J47A	48	Professional Cookery with Management: Graded Unit 2	2	16	8
<b>Learners must complete either Group 1 or Group 2</b>					
<b>Group 1</b>					
J47Y	47	Professional Cookery: Practical	3	24	7
J47W	47	Professional Cookery: Knowledge	2	16	7
<b>Group 2</b>					
J480	47	Professional Cookery: Practical Pastry	3	24	7
J47X	47	Professional Cookery: Pastry Knowledge	2	16	7

### Options section: 80 SCQF credit points (10 SQA credits) required

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J47V	47	Professional Cookery: Kitchen Operations	2	16	7
J47P	48	Professional Cookery: Specialised Cookery	2	16	7
J47S	47	Specialised Pastry	1	8	7
J47T	47	Plated Desserts	1	8	7
J47N	48	Specialised Pastry: Advanced	2	16	8
J47R	47	Fermented Pastry Products	1	8	7
HV7T	47	Sous Vide Cooking	1	8	7
J484	47	Understanding Hospitality Financial Accounting Statements	1	8	7
J489	47	Managing Hospitality Organisations	1	8	7
J47J	48	Managing Hospitality Organisations	1	8	8
J47H	48	Managing Financial Resources in Hospitality	1	8	7
J47K	48	Managing Human Resources in Hospitality	1	8	8

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J482	47	Alcoholic Beverages	1	8	7
J48D	47	Legislative Requirements for Hospitality	1	8	7
J481	47	Accommodation Operations	1	8	7
J486	47	Hospitality Industry	1	8	7
J462	47*	Economic Issues: An Introduction	1	8	7
HP6M	47	Personal Development Planning	1	8	7
HR1P	47	Health and Safety Legislation: An Introduction	1	8	7
HT36	47	Scottish Licensing Law	1	8	7
HR18	48	Managing Information Systems to Develop a Small Business	2	16	8
HR19	47	Preparing a Formal Business Plan	2	16	7
J1NB	47	Research Skills	1	8	7
J4DB	48	Essential Academic Skills	1	8	8
HP73	47	Creating a Culture of Customer Care	1	8	7
HP58	47	Applying Marketing Principles in Travel and Tourism	1	8	7
<b>Food Service units — maximum 2 credits allowed</b>					
J48C	47	Kitchen Operations for Hospitality Managers	2	16	7
J483	47	Food and Beverage Operations	2	16	7

### **3 Aims of the qualifications**

The main aim of the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma is to provide a flexible, progressive suite of qualifications that supports a broad range of learners wishing to progress into sous/head chef level employment in a professional kitchen or to progress to further and higher education.

#### **SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery/SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management**

##### **3.1 General aims of the qualifications**

- 1 developing planning and analysis skills
- 2 developing problem-solving skills
- 3 developing the ability to be flexible and to work co-operatively with others
- 4 developing study and research skills
- 5 developing critical and evaluative thinking
- 6 enabling progression within the SCQF
- 7 developing employment skills and enhancing learners' employment prospects
- 8 providing opportunities for career planning and enhancing learners' employment prospects

##### **3.2 Specific aims of the qualifications**

The SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery and SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management are closely linked. This makes it inevitable that they should have similar objectives.

The qualifications should enable learners to:

- 1 gain the skills and knowledge required to source quality commodities and resources
- 2 apply and integrate knowledge and skills across culinary operational areas
- 3 develop associated knowledge and skills, such as specialist culinary skills, food hygiene and control systems
- 4 undertake options to permit an element of vocational specialism, in particular in the areas of production cookery or pastry
- 5 gain leadership skills and a customer focused attitude through an understanding of the role of a team leader/supervisor
- 6 be prepared for progression to further studies in hospitality or related disciplines

The SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery can be distinguished from the SQA Advanced Certificate in terms of:

- 7 the wider range of competences and expanded knowledge which can be achieved, eg further development of specialist culinary skills, managing resources, human resource management, management concepts, menu compilation and design, and the opportunity to plan and manage a food and beverage operation
- 8 application and integration of knowledge and skills across specialist culinary areas
- 9 the speed of progression within an organisation



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- 10 the level of entry to further academic qualifications
- 11 significant optional units to allow development in other areas relevant to future (or current) employment or progression within higher education

### **3.3 Graded units**

The purpose of the graded units in the qualifications is to assess the learner's ability to integrate and apply the knowledge and/or skills gained in the individual units in order to demonstrate that they have achieved the principal aims of the qualifications. A graded unit is assessed and a grade of A, B or C awarded to learners who successfully achieve the unit.

For the SQA Advanced Certificate, one single-credit graded unit at SCQF level 7 must be achieved. For the SQA Advanced Diploma one double-credit graded unit at SCQF level 8 is required, in addition to the SCQF level 7 graded unit.

Project-based graded units assess the application of knowledge and skills in the planning and evaluation of a given task, while an examination assesses theoretical knowledge and understanding under invigilated conditions.

Projects rather than examinations were chosen for the graded units for the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma in Professional Cookery/Professional Cookery with Management. It was felt that this model would better prepare the learner for the types of employment likely to be entered after completion of their SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma which is inherently more practical.

For the single-credit SQA Advanced Certificate *Professional Cookery* graded unit, a practical assignment was chosen as the format for this project-based graded unit assessment. It was felt that the skills developed via the practical assignment, ie gathering and interpreting information, analysing, decision making and planning for action and producing a menu, would effectively test the material covered in the SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery principal aims. On successful completion of the SQA Advanced Certificate graded unit learners will be automatically certificated with the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 5.

For the double-credit SQA Advanced Diploma *Professional Cookery with Management* graded unit a double-credit case study was selected as the format for this project-based graded unit assessment. It was felt that the skills developed via the case study, ie gathering and interpreting information, analysing, decision making and planning for action, would effectively test the material covered in the SQA Advanced Diploma principal aims. On successful completion of the SQA Advanced Diploma graded unit learners will be automatically certificated with the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6.

## **4 Recommended entry to the qualifications**

Entry to these qualifications is at the discretion of the centre. The following information on prior knowledge, skills, experience, or qualifications that provide suitable preparation for this qualification has been provided by the Qualification Design Team as guidance only.

Learners would benefit from having attained the skills, knowledge, and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

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- ◆ National Certificates in Professional Cookery at SCQF levels 5 or 6
- ◆ appropriate groupings of National Units
- ◆ any other relevant National Certificates at SCQF levels 5 or 6
- ◆ any two National Qualifications at Higher together with three National 5 passes at 3 or above
- ◆ an SVQ at SCQF level 5 or above
- ◆ different combinations of relevant National Qualifications, Vocational Qualifications and equivalent qualifications from other awarding bodies may also be acceptable
- ◆ relevant work experience
- ◆ for learners where English is not their first language it is recommended that they possess English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) SCQF level 5 or a score of 5.5 in the International Language Testing System (IELTS).

### **4.1 Core Skills entry profile**

The Core Skill entry profile provides a summary of the associated assessment activities that exemplify why a particular level has been recommended for this qualification. The information would be used to identify whether additional learning support needs should be put in place for learners whose Core Skills profile is below the recommended entry level, or whether learners should be encouraged to do an alternative level or learning programme.

Core Skill	Recommended SCQF entry profile	Associated assessment activities
Communication	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ communicating orally with others during practical activities</li> <li>◆ giving instructions and providing support to team members when assuming a team leader role</li> <li>◆ reading, understanding and following instructions and recipes</li> </ul>
Numeracy	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ weighing and measuring ingredients</li> <li>◆ calculating portions</li> <li>◆ using temperature charts</li> <li>◆ calculating costs of ingredients and applying mark-up to generate selling prices</li> <li>◆ interpreting stock control information</li> </ul>
Information and communication technology (ICT)	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ using the internet to research current trends</li> <li>◆ using ICT packages to build a portfolio of evidence</li> </ul>

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Problem solving	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ preparing for practical activities</li><li>◆ identifying faults and taking appropriate corrective action when producing product evidence</li><li>◆ understanding and complying with legislative requirements</li><li>◆ evaluating finished product</li></ul>
Working with others	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ interacting co-operatively with others during practical activities</li><li>◆ providing leadership when supervising team members</li></ul>

## **5 Additional benefits of the qualification in meeting employer needs**

This qualification was designed to meet a specific purpose and what follows are details on how that purpose has been met through mapping of the units to the aims of the qualification. Through meeting the aims, additional value has been achieved by linking the unit standards with those defined in National Occupational Standards and/or trade/professional body requirements. In addition, significant opportunities exist for learners to develop more generic skills, known as Core Skills, through this qualification.

## 5.1 Mapping of qualification aims to units

SCQF level	Unit title	General aims								Specific aims										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7	Hospitality: Financial Control Systems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓					
7	Food Hygiene Intermediate	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓					
7	Hospitality Supervision	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓					
7	Professional Cookery: Practical	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
7	Professional Cookery: Knowledge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
7	Professional Cookery: Practical Pastry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
7	Professional Cookery: Pastry Knowledge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
7	Professional Cookery: Kitchen Operations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓					
8	Professional Cookery: Specialised Cookery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
7	Specialised Pastry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
7	Plated Desserts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
8	Specialised Pastry: Advanced	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
7	Fermented Pastry Products	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
7	Sous Vide Cooking	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
7	Work Placement	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓					
7	Using Software Application Packages	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓					
7	Research Skills	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓					✓
8	Kitchen Planning and Design	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
8	Gastronomy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
8	Management of Food and Beverage Operations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Managing Human Resources in Hospitality	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
8	Managing Human Resources in Hospitality	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	

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### SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery/SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management (cont)

SCQF level	Unit title	General aims								Specific aims										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7	Understanding Financial Accounting Statements	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓		
7	Managing Hospitality Organisations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
8	Managing Hospitality Organisations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
7	Alcoholic Beverages	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓								
7	Legislative Requirements in Hospitality	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓						
7	Accommodation Operations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓					
7	Hospitality Industry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓					
7	Economic Issues: An Introduction	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓				✓	✓
7	Personal Development Planning	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓			✓		
7	Health and Safety Legislation: An Introduction	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓											
7	Scottish Licensing Law	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓					
8	Managing Information Systems to Develop a Small Business	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓		✓
8	Preparing a Formal Business Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓		✓
7	Kitchen Operations for Hospitality Managers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓	✓	
7	Food and Beverage Operations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
7	Research Skills	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓	✓	
8	Essential Academic Skills	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓					✓
7	Professional Cookery: Graded Unit 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓			✓
8	Professional Cookery with Management: Graded Unit 2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓			✓

## 5.2 Mapping of National Occupational Standards (NOS) and/or trade standards

National Occupational Standards (NOS) describe the performance required of an individual for an occupation in the workplace, such as sous chef or executive chef. They are developed for employers by employers through the relevant standards setting body. NOS have different uses, and for example, employers can use them to develop job specifications or in-house training programmes. One of the main applications of NOS is to inform the development and content of qualifications.

The content of the SQA Advanced qualifications broadly align to a range of the NOS for supervision, food preparation, cookery and food production. The structure of the NOS is such that the multiple commodity specific units, such as *Cook and Finish Complex Game Dishes*, or *Prepare Poultry for Complex Dishes*, relate to a single unit within the process-based model of the SQA units, for example *Professional Cookery: Practical, Professional Cookery: Knowledge*, which are designed to provide learners with broad-based advanced skills and techniques across all commodity types and preparation techniques/cookery processes.

SSC code	NOS title	SCQF level
PPLHSL1	Provide Leadership for Your Team	6
PPLHSL2	Develop Productive Working Relationships with Colleagues	7
PPLHSL3	Contribute to the Control of Resources	8
PPLHSL4	Maintain the Health, Hygiene, Safety and Security of the Working Environment	7
PPLHSL5	Lead a Team to Improve Customer Service	7
PPLHSL6	Contribute to Promoting Hospitality Services and Products	6
PPLHSL7	Supervise Food Production Operations	7
PPLHSL9	Contribute to the Development of Recipes and Menus	6
PPLHSL14	Manage the Receipt, Storage or Dispatch of Goods	6
PPLHSL19	Monitor and Solve Customer Service Problems	6
PPLHSL24	Provide Learning Opportunities for Colleagues	8
PPLHSL28	Manage the Environmental Impact of Your Work	7
PPLHSL29	Contribute to the Selection of Staff for Activities	7
PPLHSL30	Ensure Food Safety Practices are Followed in the Preparation and Serving of Food and Drink	7

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PPL2PC13	Prepare Offal for Basic Dishes	6
PPL2PC21	Prepare, Cook and Finish Basic Vegetable Protein Dishes	6
PPL3PC1	Cook and Finish Complex Vegetarian Dishes	6
PPL3PC2	Prepare Fish for Complex Dishes	6

<b>SSC code</b>	<b>NOS title</b>	<b>SCQF level</b>
PPL3PC3	Cook and Finish Complex Fish Dishes	6
PPL3PC4	Prepare Shellfish for Complex Dishes	6
PPL3PC5	Cook and Finish Complex Shellfish Dishes	7
PPL3PC6	Prepare Meat for Complex Dishes	6
PPL3PC7	Cook and Finish Complex Meat Dishes	6
PPL3PC8	Prepare Poultry for Complex Dishes	6
PPL3PC9	Cook and Finish Complex Poultry Dishes	6
PPL3PC10	Prepare Game for Complex Dishes	6
PPL3PC11	Cook and Finish Complex Game Dishes	7
PPL3PC12	Prepare, Cook and Finish Complex Hot Sauces	6
PPL3PC13	Prepare, Cook and Finish Complex Soups	6
PPL3PC14	Prepare, Cook and Finish Fresh Pasta Dishes	6
PPL3PC15	Prepare, Cook and Finish Complex Bread and Dough Products	6
PPL3PC16	Prepare, Cook and Finish Complex Cakes, Sponges, Biscuits and Scones	7
PPL3PC17	Prepare, Cook and Finish Complex Pastry Products	6
PPL3PC18	Prepare, Process and Finish Complex Chocolate Products	7
PPL3PC19	Prepare, Process and Finish Marzipan, Pastillage and Sugar Products	7
PPL3PC20	Prepare, Cook and Present Complex Cold Products	6



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PPL3PC21	Prepare, Finish and Present Canapés and Cocktail Products	6
PPL3PC22	Prepare, Cook and Finish Complex Dressings and Cold Sauces	6
PPL3PC23	Prepare, Cook and Finish Complex Hot Desserts	6
PPL3PC24	Prepare, Cook and Finish Complex Cold Desserts	6
PPL3PC25	Produce Sauces, Fillings and Coatings for Complex Desserts	6
PPL3PC26	Maintain Sustainable Practice in Commercial Kitchens	6
PPL2PRD18	Prepare, Operate and Clean Specialist Equipment	6

### 5.3 Mapping of Core Skills development opportunities across the qualifications

SCQF level	Unit title	Communication			Numeracy		ICT		Problem Solving			Working with Others	
		Written (Reading)	Written (Writing)	Oral	Using Number	Using Graphical Information	Accessing Information	Providing/Creating Information	Critical Thinking	Planning and Organising	Reviewing and Evaluating	Working Co-operatively with Others	Reviewing Co-operative Contribution
7	Hospitality: Financial Control Systems				E@5			S@4	S@6				
7	Hospitality Supervision	S@5	S@5	S@6	S@5	S@5			E@5	E@5	E@5	E@5	
8	Kitchen Planning and Design						S@6	S@6	E@6	E@6	E@6		
8	Gastronomy						S@6	S@6	E@6	E@6	E@6		
8	Management of Food and Beverage Operations	S@6	S@6				S@5	S@5	E@6	E@6	E@6	S@6	
7	Managing Human Resources in Hospitality	S@5	S@5				S@5	S@5	E@5	E@5			
7	Work Placement								E@6	E@6	E@6	E@6	E@6
7	Professional Cookery: Graded Unit 1	S@5	S@5				S@5	S@5	E@5	E@5	E@5		
8	Professional Cookery with Management: Graded Unit 2	S@6	S@6				S@6	S@6	E@6	E@6	E@6		
7	Professional Cookery: Practical				S@5				E@5	S@6	S@6	S@5	
7	Professional Cookery: Knowledge						S@5	S@5	S@5				
7	Professional Cookery: Practical Pastry				S@5		S@5	S@5	E@5	E@5			
7	Professional Cookery: Pastry Knowledge												
7	Professional Cookery: Kitchen Operations			S@5	E@5			S@4	E@6	E@6	E@6	S@5	S@5
8	Professional Cookery: Specialised Cookery								E@6	E@6	E@6		

## SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

SCQF level	Unit title	Communication			Numeracy		ICT		Problem Solving			Working with Others	
		Written (Reading)	Written (Writing)	Oral	Using Number	Using Graphical Information	Accessing Information	Providing/Creating Information	Critical Thinking	Planning and Organising	Reviewing and Evaluating	Working Co-operatively with Others	Reviewing Co-operative Contribution
7	Specialised Pastry				S@5	S@5	S@5		S@6	S@6			
7	Plated Desserts				S@5	S@5	S@5		S@6	E@6			
7	Fermented Pastry Products	S@6	S@5		S@6		S@5	S@5	S@6	S@6	S@6		
8	Specialised Pastry: Advanced								E@6	E@6	E@6		
7	Using Software Application Packages						E@5	E@5					
7	Sous Vide Cooking				S@5				E@5	E@5			
7	Understanding Financial Accounting Statements				E@5				E@5		S@6		
7	Managing Hospitality Organisations	S@6							E@6		S@6		
8	Managing Hospitality Organisations	S@6							E@6		S@6		
8	Managing Financial Resources in Hospitality				S@6				E@6		S@6		
8	Managing Human Resources in Hospitality	S@5	S@5				S@5	S@5	E@5	E@5			
7	Alcoholic Beverages						S@5	S@5	E@5				
7	Legislative Requirements for Hospitality								S@6				
7	Accommodation Operations						S@5		S@5				
7	Hospitality Industry	S@6	S@6				S@5	S@4	S@6				
7	Economic Issues: An Introduction	S@6	S@6						S@5				

## SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

SCQF level	Unit title	Communication			Numeracy		ICT		Problem Solving			Working with Others	
		Written (Reading)	Written (Writing)	Oral	Using Number	Using Graphical Information	Accessing Information	Providing/Creating Information	Critical Thinking	Planning and Organising	Reviewing and Evaluating	Working Co-operatively with Others	Reviewing Co-operative Contribution
7	Scottish Licensing Law	S@5	S@5						S@5				
8	Managing Information Systems to Develop a Small Business	S@6	S@6	S@6					S@6	S@6	S@6		
7	Preparing a Formal Business Plan		S@5		S@5	S@5	S@5	S@5	S@5	S@5	S@5		
7	Kitchen Operations for Hospitality Managers				E@5			S@5	E@6	E@6		S@5	
8	Food and Beverage Operations	S@6	S@6	S@6			S@5	S@5	E@5	S@5	S@5	E@5	E@5
7	Creating a Culture of Customer Care	S@6	S@6	S@6					S@6		S@6		
7	Applying Marketing Principles in Travel and Tourism	S@6	S@6				S@5	S@5	S@5				
7	Research Skills	S@6	S@6	S@6	S@5	S@5	S@6	S@6	E@6	E@6	E@6		
8	Essential Academic Skills		S@6				S@6	S@6	E@6				

## 5.4 Assessment strategy for the qualifications

The table below summarises the suggested assessment methods for the mandatory units across the SQA Advanced in Professional Cookery:

SCQF level	Unit title	Evidence requirements	Suggested instrument of assessment
7	Professional Cookery: Practical	Performance evidence	Practical activities and observational check lists/portfolio building
8	Professional Cookery: Specialised Cookery	Performance evidence	Practical activities and observational check lists/portfolio building
7	Professional Cookery: Knowledge	Knowledge evidence	Questioning Portfolio building
7	Professional Cookery: Kitchen Operations	Knowledge and performance evidence	Mixture of practical activities, knowledge testing and portfolio building
7	Professional Cookery: Practical Pastry	Performance evidence	Practical activities and observational check lists/portfolio building
7	Professional Cookery: Pastry Knowledge	Knowledge evidence	Questioning Portfolio building
7	Specialist Pastry	Knowledge and performance evidence	Mixture of practical activities, knowledge testing and portfolio building
8	Specialist Pastry: Advanced	Knowledge and performance evidence	Mixture of practical activities, knowledge testing and portfolio building
8	Gastronomy	Knowledge and performance evidence	Mixture of practical activities, knowledge testing and portfolio building
8	Kitchen Planning and Design	Knowledge, performance and evaluation evidence	Knowledge testing and portfolio building
8	Kitchen Operations for Hospitality Managers	Knowledge and performance evidence	Mixture of practical activities, knowledge testing and portfolio building
7	Hospitality: Financial and Control Systems	Knowledge evidence	costing exercises, questioning, portfolio building
7	Hospitality Supervision	Knowledge and performance evidence	Mixture of practical activities, knowledge testing and portfolio building

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<b>SCQF level</b>	<b>Unit title</b>	<b>Evidence requirements</b>	<b>Suggested instrument of assessment</b>
7	Food Hygiene Intermediate	Knowledge evidence	Questioning
8	Management of Food and Beverage Operations	Knowledge and performance evidence and planning and organisational skills	Mixture of practical activities, knowledge testing and portfolio building
7	Work Placement	Knowledge and performance evidence and planning and organisational skills	Mixture of practical activities, knowledge testing and portfolio building
7	Professional Cookery: Graded Unit 1		Practical activity
8	Professional Cookery with Management: Graded Unit 2		Case study

## **6 Guidance on approaches to delivery and assessment**

All the qualifications have a heavy focus on developing learners' practical skills and their ability to apply their knowledge to relevant business environments. The qualifications also aim to prepare learners for progression to a range of further programmes of study either in higher education or occupational qualifications in the workplace.

These qualifications have been developed to facilitate flexible delivery and assessment, which is intended to be of a practical nature wherever possible, reflecting the realities of the professional kitchen. There will need to be a theory-related session to cover the requirements of each unit. This could be incorporated into practical delivery or delivered in a dedicated theory class.

A learner-centred, practical and interactive approach to delivery and learning should be adopted throughout. The range of methods used in delivering the awards should ensure that experiential learning opportunities are available to learners.

All practical work will be carried out using appropriate commercial and/or industrial tools and equipment which is fit for purpose.

Practical work also provides opportunities for learners to work in groups. This will generate opportunities to gather evidence for the Core Skills of *Working with Others* and *Problem Solving* along with *Communication* and *Numeracy*.

- ◆ a variety of approaches to delivery should be used, such as:
- ◆ practical activities and demonstrations
- ◆ discussions/questioning and theory
- ◆ reflection and evaluation
- ◆ peer review
- ◆ guest speakers
- ◆ use of external visits, eg to organic farms or commodity markets, product development facilities, trade shows, etc
- ◆ participation in competitions/scholarships, such as futurechef and Hospitality Industry Trust Scotland (HIT)
- ◆ use of industry-related digital media
- ◆ use of internet resources

An induction to the qualification should be provided which covers the expectation of people working in a professional kitchen at a senior level; this should include, for example:

- ◆ appropriate personal hygiene and appearance
- ◆ food hygiene and health and safety requirements
- ◆ current trends and developments in the sector
- ◆ appropriate workplace behaviour
- ◆ working within a team
- ◆ emphasis on an employee's role in contributing to the success of the organisation

## **SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma**

- ◆ exploration of the range of opportunities and challenges in the sector
- ◆ precisely following instructions and paying attention to detail
- ◆ use of culinary terminology

The units *Professional Cookery: Practical, Knowledge* and (if taken as an option) *Kitchen Operations* have been developed to allow them to be delivered in either an integrated manner or in isolation, allowing individual learners who are part-time learners working full-time in industry and attending college on day-release programmes to infill into college provision. (See suggested delivery schedules grid.) Where learners are part-time, negotiation of content and delivery around employment needs and situation is recommended.

Each of these units links directly with the knowledge, skills and experiences developed in the other two, and a holistic approach to delivery of these units is the preferred model and would benefit the learners' understanding of the interaction, knowledge and skills development throughout. Delivery models will however be dependent on the centre and the learner group.

It is envisaged that the delivery of these units would take place in a commercially equipped professional training kitchen with the facilities to offer a restaurant production and service to allow all aspects of the *Kitchen Operations* units to be achieved. Centres may wish to do skills development lessons along with related theory before the production of menus/recipes in a service situation.

Individual unit specifications provide detail on any particular approaches or requirements. For example the *Food Hygiene Intermediate* unit outlines the requirement that tutors responsible for the delivery of this unit should be suitably qualified, preferably with a Diploma in Advanced Food Hygiene and with knowledge of Hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP). Guest speakers may be considered, eg an environmental health officer, for input on relevant aspects of legislation.

Assessment requirements are also set out within each unit specification. Practical units frequently recommend the use of worksheets/logbooks/portfolios completed by learners to record the methods and skills used when producing the prescribed dishes/menus along with evaluations/descriptions of the finished products, photographs and a recipe reference list.

More theoretical aspects of units should be applied in meaningful contexts, for example in a range of scenarios representative of the range of the businesses in the sector.

### **6.1 Sequencing/integration of units**

The delivery of the group award is at the discretion of the individual centre. Many centres offer full-time programmes of between 12–15 credits to learners at SQA Advanced Certificate level over an academic session. The SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery at SCQF level 7 and the SQA Advanced Diploma at SCQF level 8 are compatible with these arrangements. It would be expected, therefore, that centres would continue to offer a programme of units, but that this will include:

- 1 For SCQF level 7 *12 SQA credits (96 SCQF points) are required: 10 from the mandatory section and 2 from the options section (plus another 3 credits for articulation to SQA Advanced Diploma if being offered).*



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- 2 For SCQF level 8                    *30 SQA credits (240 SCQF points) are required: 18 from the mandatory section and 12 credits from the options sections.*

This will allow centres to develop the group awards to suit their own unique circumstances, while still meeting the requirements of the awards. The group awards are also flexible for part-time delivery.

There are opportunities for integrated learning and assessment across the units, and where possible a holistic approach should be taken to the delivery and assessment of the group award at level 7 as well as the group award at level 8.

Assessment will be by observation during practical activities (some of which may relate to more than one unit), and oral or written work along with projects. There is scope for the use of e-learning and e-assessment for theoretical components of each of the units. (It may also be possible to have a holistic assessment which covers all of the practical units, performance evidence gathered over time along with the graded unit for *Professional Cookery* (portfolio) with the focus on production of a menu under specified conditions.)

The graded units should be introduced towards the middle or end of block 2 in each year (if the delivery model is over three blocks) to allow learners time to prepare. (See example delivery for SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma below.)

Project-based graded units are designed to test the application and integration of knowledge and skills in the planning, execution, and evaluation of a given task. In carrying out a given task, learners are required to display the ability to work independently to meet the evidence requirements and standards set out in the graded unit specification. At the same time, learners need appropriate support to enable them to complete the project-based graded unit.

Centres are encouraged to set parameters at the start of the project giving details of the submission dates for first draft and final material. This is essential so all learners are aware of the deadlines. How and when this is implemented will vary with each centre.

- ◆ Projects are started as early as possible, but centres must ensure that learners have all the required knowledge and skills (ie from key SQA Advanced units) as laid out in the graded unit specification.
- ◆ Learners are given sufficient time to carry out their work independently, with appropriate tutor support.
- ◆ Effective tools such as progress logs or diaries are used to motivate and monitor learners' work.
- ◆ An appointment system for progress interviews with learners is identified in the early stages of the project.

A project-based graded unit introduction for learners should contain at least the following:

- ◆ an introduction to the purpose or aims of the graded unit
- ◆ a list of the key units which learners should have achieved, or be in the process of achieving, before starting their project
- ◆ the task instructions or brief, including an outline of each of the stages of the project, their purpose and how they might be achieved

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- ◆ an explanation of the grading process and the main factors that will influence grade, such as technical content, or autonomous working
- ◆ an outline of the percentage weighting of total marks for each stage and an explanation of how these marks relate to the quantity and quality of evidence
- ◆ an explanation of the need (and reasons) to pass each stage before progressing to the next stage
- ◆ identification of deadlines and completion dates
- ◆ information on the system for monitoring progress and providing support on the project — including tutor input, venues for meetings, and any necessary resources required
- ◆ information on group work for projects (provided that the graded unit specification allows for this) which must make clear that each learner must provide evidence that they have individually met the evidence requirements
- ◆ a clear indication that: learners will not normally be working under close supervision; the degree of autonomy expected of the learner; and the level of support that will be given to them
- ◆ arrangements for remediation and re-assessment should also be considered as early as possible, along with any upgrading opportunities, and learners should be made aware of these arrangements, as necessary

It would be useful to give this information to learners as an oral presentation and in document form, and to build in time for a thorough discussion of the points so that they can ask questions and seek clarification on any point.

There is no prescribed order in which the units must be delivered and centres may develop their delivery plans to meet the needs of learners. Examples of the order in which units could be delivered is provided in two sample delivery schedules below.

## SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

### Suggested delivery schedule for the SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery at SCQF level 7 / Year 1 of the SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management at SCQF level 8

*Example only:* Centres may differ in the number of blocks and weeks into which they divide an academic year. The following tables show how units could be divided over a year of three blocks of 12 weeks each. However the academic year is arranged, the total number of credits required remains the same.

For the SQA Advanced Certificate 12 credits are required — 5 mandatory credits, 5 credits from *either* the Pastry route *or* the Traditional Cookery route, plus 2 credits from the options. If the study forms year 1 of the SQA Advanced Diploma 15 credits are required — 5 mandatory credits, 5 credits from *either* the Pastry route *or* the Traditional Cookery route, plus 5 credits from the options.

Options will be selected from those offered by the centre, and which fit with the interests and intended career path of the learners. The table below shows possible combinations of options which meet the required total of credits.

For the Traditional Cookery route, in addition to the 10 credits from mandatory units, the unit Professional Cookery: Kitchen Operations (2 credits) could be selected. If the learner is going on to the SQA Advanced Diploma, an additional 3 credits could be achieved from, for example, Sous Vide Cooking (1 credit), Specialised Pastry (1 credit) and Plated Desserts (1 credit).

For the Pastry route, in addition to the 10 credits from mandatory units, the units Specialised Pastry (1 credit) and Plated Desserts (1 credit) could be selected from the options. If the learner is going on to the SQA Advanced Diploma, an additional 3 credits could be achieved from, for example, Fermented Pastry Products (1 credit) and Specialised Pastry: Advanced (2 credits).

Mandatory section — 5 credits	SQA credit value	Block 1 12 weeks	Block 2 12 weeks	Block 3 12 weeks
Hospitality: Financial and Control Systems	1			
Food Hygiene Intermediate	1			
Hospitality Supervision	2			
Professional Cookery: Graded Unit 1	1			
<b>Traditional Cookery route — 5 credits required</b>				
Professional Cookery: Practical	3			
Professional Cookery: Knowledge	2			
<b>Options — 2 credits required (plus 3 for SQA Advanced Diploma progression)</b>				
Professional Cookery: Kitchen Operations	2			
Sous Vide Cooking	1			
Specialised Pastry	1			
Plated Desserts	1			

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<b>Pastry route — 5 credits required</b>				
Professional Cookery: Practical Pastry	3			
Professional Cookery: Pastry Knowledge	2			
<b>Options — 2 credits required (plus 3 for SQA Advanced Diploma progression)</b>				
Specialised Pastry	1			
Plated Desserts	1			
Fermented Pastry Products	1			
Specialised Pastry: Advanced	2			

For each route, the total of 12 credits (or 15 if continuing to Diploma) would be achieved on the following timetable:

	2 credits @ 40 hours = 80 hours/12 weeks in block 1 = 6.6 hours per week 2 credits @ 40 hours = 80 hours/12 weeks in block 2 = 6.6 hours per week
	7 credits @ 40 hours = 280 hours/36 weeks in blocks, 1, 2 and 3 = 7.7 hours week
	1 credit @ 40 hours = 40 hours/12 weeks over blocks 2 and 3 = 3.3 hours per week
<b>Additional units for progression to SQA Advanced Diploma</b>	
	3 credits @ 40 hours = 120 hours/24 weeks over blocks 2 and 3 = 5 hours per week

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### Suggested delivery schedule, SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management at SCQF level 8 (Year 2)

Example only: 30 SQA credits (240 SCQF points) are required: 20 from the mandatory sections and 10 credits from the options sections in Year 1 and 2.

Mandatory section — 10 credits (plus 10 from Year 1)	SQA credit value	Block 1 12 weeks	Block 2 12 weeks	Block 3 12 weeks
Kitchen Planning and Design	1			
Gastronomy	2			
Management of Food and Beverage Operations	3			
Work Placement	1			
Managing Human Resources in Hospitality	1			
Professional Cookery: Graded Unit 2	2			
<b>Options — 10 credits required (including 5 from Year 1)</b>				
Professional Cookery: Kitchen Operations	2	<i>Completed in year 1 (depending on route)</i>		
Sous Vide Cooking	1	<i>Completed in year 1 (depending on route)</i>		
Specialised Pastry	1	<i>Completed in year 1 (depending on route)</i>		
Specialised Pastry: Advanced	2	<i>Completed in year 1 (depending on route)</i>		
Plated Desserts	1	<i>Completed in year 1 (depending on route)</i>		
Fermented Pastry Products	1	<i>Completed in year 1 (depending on route)</i>		
Managing Hospitality Organisations	1			
Managing Financial Resources in Hospitality	1			
Hospitality Industry	1			
Professional Cookery: Specialised Cookery	2			

## **SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma**

The total of 15 credits required for the Diploma (in addition to the 15 achieved in Year 1) could be achieved on the following timetable:

	2 credits @ 40 hours = 80 hours/12 weeks in block 1 = 6.6 hours per week 1 credit @ 40 hours = 40 hours/12 weeks in block 2 = 3.3 hours per week 4 credits @ 40 hours = 160 hours/12 weeks in block 3 = 13.3 hours per week
	1 credit @ 40 hours = 40 hours/36 weeks over blocks 1, 2 and 3 = 1.1 hours per week
	3 credits @ 40 hours = 120 hours/24 weeks over blocks 1 and 2 = 5 hours per week
	4 credits @ 40 hours = 160 hours/24 weeks over blocks 2 and 3 = 6.6 hours per week

## **6.2 Recognition of prior learning**

SQA recognises that learners gain knowledge and skills acquired through formal, non-formal, and informal learning contexts.

In some instances, a full group award may be achieved through the recognition of prior learning. However, it is unlikely that a learner would have the appropriate prior learning and experience to meet all the requirements of a full group award.

The recognition of prior learning may not be used as a method of assessment in the following types of units and assessments:

- ◆ SQA Advanced graded units
- ◆ course and/or external assessments
- ◆ other integrative assessment units (which may or not be graded)
- ◆ certain types of assessment instruments where the standard may be compromised by not using the same assessment method outlined in the unit
- ◆ where there is an existing requirement for a licence to practice
- ◆ where there are specific health and safety requirements
- ◆ where there are regulatory, professional, or other statutory requirements
- ◆ where otherwise specified in an assessment strategy

More information and guidance on the recognition of prior learning may be found on our website: [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

The following sub-sections outline how existing SQA units may contribute to this group award. Additionally, they also outline how this group award may be recognised for professional and articulation purposes.

### **6.2.1 Articulation and/or progression**

#### **Degrees**

The SQA Advanced group awards provide learners with the relevant mix of competencies to enable immediate entry to employment while at the same time allowing them an articulation route to degree-level study. A number of related degree programmes are offered at a range of institutions throughout Scotland. The SQA Advanced Certificate/Diplomas provide entry variously into 2nd and 3rd year of degree programmes.

### **6.2.2 Professional recognition**

The SQA Advanced qualifications in Professional Cookery have been developed to allow learners to gain the maximum benefit from their programme of study. Value has been added to the qualifications by working in partnership with the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS), the professional body for food hygiene. Achievement of the SQA Advanced *Food Hygiene Intermediate* unit allows candidates to apply to REHIS for certification of their Intermediate Food Hygiene qualification.

### **6.3 Opportunities for e-assessment**

Given the highly practical nature of most of the units, it is anticipated that the majority of evidence for assessment will come from direct observation of practical activity in a professional kitchen environment. However, there may be scope for learners to use online portfolio building tools to gather evidence for some assessments. Some areas of underpinning knowledge, for example in food hygiene and product/commodity knowledge, would lend themselves to online testing. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at [www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment).

### **6.4 Supporting materials**

A list of existing ASPs is available to view on SQA's website.

### **6.5 Resource requirements**

A fully equipped training or production kitchen will be required to deliver many of the units in the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma. Learners will need good access to a wide range of commodities that reflect current commercially available menus and items.

Tutors responsible for the Food Hygiene unit should be suitably qualified, preferably with a Diploma in Advanced Food Hygiene and with knowledge of HACCP.



## **7 General information for centres**

### **Equality and inclusion**

The unit specifications making up this group award have been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners will be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements).

### **Internal and external verification**

All instruments of assessment used within these group awards should be internally verified using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA.

External verification will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

Further information on internal and external verification can be found in *SQA's Guide to Assessment* ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).

## **8 Glossary of terms**

**Embedded Core Skills:** The assessment evidence for the unit also includes full evidence for complete Core Skill or Core Skill components. A learner successfully completing the unit will be automatically certificated for the Core Skill. (This depends on the unit having been successfully audited and validated for Core Skills certification.)

**Finish date:** The end of a group award's lapsing period is known as the finish date. After the finish date, the group award will no longer be live and the following applies:

- ◆ Candidates may not be entered for the group award.
- ◆ The group award will continue to exist only as an archive record on the Awards Processing System (APS).

**Graded unit:** Graded units assess learners' ability to integrate what they have learned while working towards the units of the group award. Their purpose is to add value to the group award, making it more than the sum of its parts, and to encourage learners to retain and adapt their skills and knowledge.

**Lapsing date:** When a group award is entered into its lapsing period, the following will apply:

- ◆ The group award will be deleted from the relevant catalogue.
- ◆ The group award specification will remain until the qualification reaches its finish date, at which point it will be removed from SQA's website and archived.
- ◆ No new centres may be approved to offer the group award.
- ◆ Centres should only enter candidates whom they expect to complete the group award during the defined lapsing period.

**SQA credit value:** The credit value allocated to a unit gives an indication of the contribution the unit makes to an SQA group award. An SQA credit value of 1 given to an SQA unit represents approximately 40 hours of programmed learning, teaching, and assessment.

**SCQF:** The Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) provides the national common framework for describing all relevant programmes of learning and qualifications in Scotland. SCQF terminology is used throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF, visit the SCQF website at [www.scqf.org.uk](http://www.scqf.org.uk).

**SCQF credit points:** SCQF credit points provide a means of describing and comparing the amount of learning that is required to complete a qualification at a given level of the framework. One National Unit credit is equivalent to 6 SCQF credit points. One National Unit credit at Advanced Higher and one SQA Advanced unit credit (irrespective of level) is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points.

**SCQF levels:** The level a qualification assigned within the framework is an indication of how hard it is to achieve. The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. SQA Advanced Certificates and SQA Advanced Diplomas are available at SCQF levels 7 and 8, respectively. SQA Advanced units will normally be at levels 6–9 and graded units will be at level 7 and 8. National Qualification Group Awards are available at SCQF levels 2–6 and will normally be made up of National Units which are available from SCQF levels 2–7.

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**Subject unit:** These contain vocational/subject content and are designed to test a specific set of knowledge and skills.

**Signposted Core Skills:** These refer to opportunities to develop Core Skills in learning and teaching, but are not automatically certificated.

## 9 History of changes

It is anticipated that changes will take place during the life of the qualification, and this section will record these changes. This document is the latest version and incorporates the changes summarised below. Centres are advised to check SQA Connect to confirm that they are using the most up-to-date qualification structure.

**NOTE:** Where a unit is revised by another unit:

- ◆ No new centres may be approved to offer the unit which has been revised.
- ◆ Centres should only enter candidates for the unit which has been revised where they are expected to complete the unit before its finish date.

Version number	Description	Date

### Acknowledgements

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of SQA Advanced Qualifications.

### Further information

Call SQA's Customer Contact Centre on 44 (0) 141 500 5030 or 0345 279 1000. Alternatively, complete our [Centre Feedback Form](#).

## **10 General information for learners**

This section will help you to decide whether this is the qualification for you by explaining:

- ◆ what the qualification is about
- ◆ what you should know or what you should be able to do before you start
- ◆ what you will need to do during the qualification
- ◆ opportunities for further learning and employment

### **SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery and SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management**

These awards are designed to enable you to obtain the key competences required for entry into operational, supervisory and management positions in a professional kitchen in a wide range of hospitality establishments. With appropriate experience you can aspire to head/executive chef level roles.

The hospitality industry is truly international. It is an important and growing sector and career opportunities are wide and varied. The SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma have a heavy emphasis on practical skills and developing the personal and interpersonal skills crucial in a today's professional kitchen. The assessments in the awards are varied with much project work, investigative activity and practical activity involved.

The SQA Advanced Certificate in Professional Cookery course will allow you to:

- ◆ gain the skills and knowledge required to source quality commodities and resources
- ◆ develop knowledge and skills in specialist culinary areas, food hygiene and control systems
- ◆ progress to further studies or prepare for employment in the hospitality industry

and if you do the SQA Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery with Management you will:

- ◆ further develop specialist culinary skills
- ◆ develop a wider range and depth of knowledge and skills in areas such as human resource management, menu compilation and design and kitchen planning and design
- ◆ gain the opportunity to plan and manage a food and beverage operation
- ◆ progress to further studies within higher education or prepare for employment in supervisory/management level posts

The following knowledge, skills, experience and qualifications provide suitable preparation for this qualification and therefore it would be beneficial if you have one or more of these before starting the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma:

- ◆ National Certificates in Professional Cookery at SCQF levels 5 or 6
- ◆ appropriate groupings of National Units
- ◆ any other relevant National Certificates at SCQF levels 5 or 6
- ◆ any two National Qualifications at Higher together with three National 5 passes at 3 or above
- ◆ an SVQ at SCQF level 5 or above

## ***SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma***

- ◆ different combinations of relevant National Qualifications, Vocational Qualifications and equivalent qualifications from other awarding bodies may also be acceptable
- ◆ relevant work experience