![SQA Scottish Qualifications Authority logo]

Group Award Specification for:

SQA Advanced Certificate in Fashion Design and Manufacture

Group Award code — GV3P47

SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture

Group Award code — GV3R48

Publication date: February 2024

Version: 02 (November 2024)

Contents

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 qualification
♦   provide a guide for new staff involved in offering the qualification
♦   inform course managers, teaching staff, assessors, learners, employers, and higher education institutions of the aims and purpose of the qualification
♦   provide details of the range of learners that the qualification is suitable for and the progression opportunities

The SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture are designed to equip candidates with the knowledge, understanding and skills required for success in the fashion business.

1.1   Rationale for the development of the SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

The SQA Advanced Certificate was developed to ensure that candidates have the opportunity of attaining an award at SCQF level 7. This would allow them to articulate directly to university or to seek employment at trainee levels within the fashion industry, or, for those candidates already in employment, to gain a recognised qualification.

The development of the SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma took into account:

♦   the need for a qualification with specialist provision, accommodated within a flexible structure
♦   units which allowed for progression, meeting SQA design principles and SCQF requirements
♦   the ability to link with and articulate to other awards
♦   the existence of a group of specialist units which could be marketed at a later stage as short cluster courses — These could be used by experienced personnel in the fashion or clothing area to extend their skills and provide continuing professional development, or by those who wish to learn about a specific area of study, such as CAD Fashion Design
♦   the potential client group of school leavers, those who have completed NC courses in art and design, textiles, clothing or a related area, adult returners, and those in employment in a related area
♦   the results of market research undertaken

2.1   Market research

Market research included primary and secondary sources of data. Primary sources included:

♦   relevant universities
♦   employers
♦   past and present candidates

Research was carried out by means of questionnaires and by interview with individuals within companies. The results of market research with employers, higher education institutions and candidates were positive in support of the SQA Advanced awards.

Broad skill requirements of jobs in the British economy have risen in the last two decades, requiring longer cumulative periods of training and on-the-job training. Three distinct types of skills needed for employment can be identified within the aims: 'broad skills', 'technical skills' and 'generic skills'.

The following points from secondary sources were of particular interest during the review process:

♦ The Scottish textile industry employs 10,000 people in Scotland in over 600 companies and has an annual turnover of £876 million. Export values are high; the industry brings £390 million into the Scottish Economy; companies are investing more in research, as innovative products are increasingly the key to success. (Source: Scottish Enterprise).

♦ The Design Council for the UK has market research identifying design as a key tool in helping business growth: 'The research found that a group of companies recognised as effective users of design outperformed their peers by 200%' (https://www.designcouncil.org.uk/). This highlights the need for solid design and technical training. The SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture aim to give the in-depth technical skills needed to progress within the industry, the design skills to compete within the wider marketplace, and a broad understanding of both the manufacturing and creative sectors.

2 Qualifications structure

The structure of the awards, and the content and context of the units, reflect the flexibility and employability skills required by the fashion industry and higher education institutions.

2.1 Structure

SQA Advanced Certificate in Fashion Design and Manufacture (12 credits)

For a candidate to achieve the SQA Advanced Certificate in Fashion Design and Manufacture, they would be required to attain all the mandatory units (64 SCQF credit points; 8 SQA credits) and optional units worth 32 SCQF credit points (4 SQA credits).

Mandatory units (8 credits)

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J7SA	47	Fashion Design using Computer Technology	1	8	7
J7S9	47	Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction	1	8	7
J7SB	47	Fashion Illustration: An Introduction	1	8	7
J7SC	47	Fashion Technology: Pattern Drafting and Development	1	8	7
J7SF	47	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development	1	8	7
J7SE	48	Sewing and Finishing for Garment Development: Advanced Techniques	1	8	8
J7SD	47	Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry	1	8	7
J7TF	47	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1	1	8	7

Optional units (4 credits)

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J7T8	47	Garment Manufacture: An Introduction to Working Drawings	1	8	7
J7T1	47	Concept Garment Design: An Introduction	1	8	7
J7TC	47	Textile Fibres, Yarns and Fabrics	1	8	7
J7T3	47	Designing and Producing a Fashion Garment: An Introduction	1	8	7
J7ST	47	CAD: Pattern Development	1	8	7
J7T5	47	Fashion: Commercial Design	2	16	7
J7SH	47	Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development	1	8	7

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J7T7	46	Garment Construction Techniques: An Introduction	2	16	6
HT40	47	Observational Drawing	1	8	7
J7T4	47	Drape and Flat Pattern Making: Basic Techniques	1	8	7
J7T2	47	Couture Techniques: An Introduction	1	8	7
HR0X	47	Personal Enterprise Skills	1	8	7
HP76	47	International Marketing: An Introduction	1	8	7
J5M	47	Consumer Behaviour and the Marketing Process	1	8	7
HT6E	48	Art & Design Context	1	8	8
HT6J	48	Art & Design Project	1	8	8
HT41	47	Portfolio Production	1	8	7
HP6N	47	Marketing: An Introduction	1	8	7
HR81	47	Digital Culture: Online Communication	1	8	7
HR32	48	Marketing Communications: Using Digital Media	1	8	8
HR33	47	Digital Marketing Communications: An Introduction	1	8	7
HT42	47	Photography: An Introduction	1	8	7
HV7H	47	Organising an Event	2	16	7
J52T	47	Visual Communication: An Introduction	1	8	7
J52W	47	Working in the field of Visual Communications	1	8	7
J1GN	47	Social Media	1	8	7
J78D	47	Journalism: Feature Writing	1	8	7
J7TJ	48	Journalism: Feature Writing Advanced	1	8	8
HP75	47	Communication: Business Communication	1	8	7
HR1C	46	Workplace Communication in English	1	8	6
J81T	48	Design for Print: DTP for Magazine Production	1	8	8
J7TB	47*	Professional Design Practice	1	8	7

*Refer to History of Changes table

SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture (30 credits)

For a candidate to achieve the SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture, they would be required to attain all the mandatory units (144 SCQF credit points; 18 SQA credits) and optional units worth 96 SCQF credit points (12 SQA credits).

Mandatory units (18 credits)

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J7SA	47	Fashion Design using Computer Technology	1	8	7

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J7S9	47	Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction	1	8	7
J7SB	47	Fashion Illustration: An Introduction	1	8	7
J7SC	47	Fashion Technology: Pattern Drafting and Development	1	8	7
J7SF	47	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development	1	8	7
J7SE	48	Sewing and Finishing for Garment Development: Advanced Techniques	1	8	8
J7SD	47	Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry	1	8	7
J7TF	47	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1	1	8	7
J7SG	47	Fashion Technology: Design and Produce an Outfit	2	16	7
J7SH	47	Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development	1	8	7
J7SJ	48	Pattern Cutting: Complex Skills	1	8	8
J7SK	48	Designing a Garment Collection	1	8	8
J7TK	48	3D Design: Portfolio and Presentation	1	8	8
J7SL	48	Creative Garment Design and Manufacture: Advanced	2	16	8
J7TG	48	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 2	2	16	8

Optional units (12 credits)

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J7T2	47	Couture Techniques: An Introduction	1	8	7
J7T5	47	Fashion: Commercial Design	2	16	7
HP76	47	International Marketing: An Introduction	1	8	7
HT3Y	47	Life Drawing	1	8	7
J5MB	47	Consumer Behaviour and the Marketing Process	1	8	7
HR3E	47	Preparing to Start a Business	1	8	7
J7TA	48	Manufacturing a Garment Collection	2	16	8
J7T1	47	Concept Garment Design: An Introduction	1	8	7
HT40	47	Observational Drawing	1	8	7
J7T3	47	Designing and Producing a Fashion Garment: An Introduction	1	8	7
J7SY	48	Concept Garment Design: Advanced	2	16	8
J7T8	47	Garment Manufacture: An Introduction to Working Drawings	1	8	7
HR0X	47	Personal Enterprise Skills	1	8	7

SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
J7SP	47	Apparel Industry: UK and Global Manufacturing and Sourcing Decisions	1	8	7
J7ST	47	CAD: Pattern Development	1	8	7
J7TC	47	Textile Fibres, Yarns and Fabrics	1	8	7
J7T7	46	Garment Construction Techniques: An Introduction	2	16	8
HR1C	46	Workplace Communication in English	1	8	6
J7TB	47	Professional Design Practice	1	8	7
J7T4	47	Drape and Flat Pattern Making: Basic Techniques	1	8	7
HT6E	48	Art & Design Context	1	8	8
HT6J	48	Art & Design Project	1	8	8
HT41	47	Portfolio Production	1	8	7
HP6N	47	Marketing: An Introduction	1	8	7
HR81	47	Digital Culture: Online Communication	1	8	7
HR32	48	Marketing Communications: Using Digital Media	1	8	8
HR33	47	Digital Marketing Communications: An Introduction	1	8	7
HT42	47	Photography: An Introduction	1	8	7
HV7H	47	Organising an Event	2	16	7
J52T	47	Visual Communication: An Introduction	1	8	7
J52W	47	Working in the field of Visual Communications	1	8	7
J1GN	47	Social Media	1	8	7
J78D	47	Journalism: Feature Writing	1	8	7
J7TJ	48	Journalism: Feature Writing Advanced	1	8	8
J5MB	47	Consumer Behaviour and the Marketing Process	1	8	7
HP4X	47	Work Placement	1	8	7
HP75	47	Communication: Business Communication	1	8	7
J81T	48	Design for Print: DTP for Magazine Production	1	8	8

3 Aims of the qualifications

The main purpose of the SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture is to provide a vocational qualification. The main subsidiary aim of the group awards is to enable candidates to progress to further academic or professional qualifications.

3.1 Aims of the SQA Advanced Certificate

3.1.1 General aims

The general aims of the SQA Advanced Certificate in Fashion Design and Manufacture are to:

1   develop candidates' knowledge and skills, such as interpreting a brief, research, planning, analysis and presentation
2   enable progression within the SCQF
3   develop transferable skills, including Core Skills in Communications, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Problem Solving, Numeracy and Working with Others to the levels required by employers, HE, and for progression to SQA Advanced Diploma
4   foster an interest and enthusiasm in the subject area of fashion design and provide candidates with a positive and supportive learning environment
5   provide candidates with specialist skills and knowledge for progression to further studies or employment
6   develop originality and innovation
7   provide academic stimulus and challenge

3.1.2 Specific aims

The specific aims of the SQA Advanced Certificate in Fashion Design and Manufacture are to:

8   develop a range of vocational skills within the context of fashion design, including pattern cutting and garment manufacture
9   develop the skills to design and develop garments to a commercial standard
10   develop the ability to complete project work, involving the planning, integration and application of a variety of skills within a determined timescale
11   develop candidates' understanding of design concepts and processes relevant to a range of careers in the fashion industry

3.2 Aims of the SQA Advanced Diploma

3.2.1 General aims

The general aims of the SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture are to:

12   develop candidates' knowledge and skills, such as planning, analysis, presentation and evaluating work on an on-going basis
13   enable progression within the SCQF
14   develop study and research skills appropriate to SCQF level 8
15   develop transferable skills, including Core Skills in Communications, ICT, Numeracy, Problem Solving and Working with Others to the levels required by employers, and for progression to advanced entry at higher education
16   provide candidates with specialist skills for progression to further studies in fashion design and manufacture and related areas

3.2.2 Specific aims

The specific aims of the SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture are to:

17 develop advanced fashion design and manufacturing processes/skills to allow articulation within the field of fashion design and manufacture, higher education or employment
18 develop a range of advanced vocational skills within the context of fashion studies to lead towards employment
19 demonstrate the ability to integrate and apply complex advanced skills used within fashion design and related industries
20 carry out complex project work involving research, analysis, planning and production
21 demonstrate the ability to manage projects effectively and evaluate their effectiveness in terms of time, materials and feasibility
22 in a college setting, to provide the experience of working within an apparel or fashion design environment

3.3 Target groups

The target groups for these awards are:

♦ those who have completed a locally devised NQ fashion course
♦ those who have practical skills and fashion design experience, and who wish to gain a formal qualification
♦ those with a basic qualification in fashion who wish to take this to an advanced level
♦ full-time candidates, including adult returners
♦ those wishing to attain the SQA Advanced Certificate or Diploma by part-time study, particularly those already in employment or self-employment

3.4 Employment opportunities

It is expected that successful completion of the SQA Advanced Certificate could lead to an occupation in the following areas within the fashion industry:

♦ fashion design assistant
♦ fashion retailer
♦ fashion assistant for a magazine
♦ theatre, film or TV wardrobe assistant
♦ assistant pattern designer

It is expected that successful completion of the SQA Advanced Diploma could lead to an occupation in the following areas within the fashion industry:

♦ fashion designer
♦ fashion marketing adviser
♦ fashion forecaster or researcher
♦ sole trader, bespoke designer or manufacturer
♦ theatre, film or TV costume designer

4   Recommended entry to the qualifications

Entry to this qualification 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:

♦ a suitable portfolio of artwork and, where appropriate, a good reference from school or college, and successful completion of a Fashion Fast Track course, and three National Qualifications, preferably English and Art and another at Higher (SCQF level 6) and four National 5s (SCQF level 5)
♦ National Qualification at SCQF level 5 or 6 in a related area such as fashion design
♦ NVQ/SVQ level 3 in a related area
♦ relevant work experience in the textile or fashion design area

In addition, direct entry to the programme could be offered to those applying with equivalent qualifications, providing the competences can be identified and are appropriate.

It should be noted that if English is not the first language of the candidate, it is recommended that they possess English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) at SCQF level 5.

4.1 Core Skills entry profile

Details of the recommended Core Skills entry profile are given in the table below. 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 level
Communication	5
Numeracy	5
Information and Communication Technology (ICT)	5
Problem Solving	5
Working with Others	5

4.2 Access to 2nd year SQA Advanced Diploma

Articulation to the second year of the SQA Advanced Diploma is at the discretion of the centre. Candidates can progress to the second year of the SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture on completion of 96 SCQF credit points (12 SQA credits) to gain the SQA Advanced Certificate in Fashion Design and Manufacture, plus an additional 24 SCQF credit points (3 SQA credits) or 120 SCQF credit points (15 SQA credits) from the first year of the SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture. Candidates will also be expected to attend an interview.

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 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

All the mandatory units in the SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture have been mapped to the aims of the awards.

The following table shows the relationship of the individual aims to the mandatory units of the SQA Advanced Certificate:

Code	Unit title	General aims	Specific aims
J7SA 47	Fashion Design using Computer Technology	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	9, 10, 11
J7S9 47	Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	9, 10, 11
J7SB 47	Fashion Illustration: An Introduction	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	9, 10, 11
J7SC 47	Fashion Technology: Pattern Drafting and Development	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	8, 9, 10
J7SF 47	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development	2, 3, 4, 5, 6,7	8, 9, 10,
J7SE 48	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development: Advanced Techniques	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	8, 9, 10
J7SD 47	Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	8, 9, 10
J7TF 47	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	8, 9, 10, 11

The following table shows the relationship of the individual aims to the mandatory units of the SQA Advanced Diploma:

Code	Unit title	General aims	Specific aims
J7SA 47	Fashion Design using Computer Technology	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	9, 10, 11
J7S9 47	Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	9, 10, 11
J7TB 47	Professional Design Practice	12, 13, 14, 15, 16	18, 20, 21, 22
J7SB 47	Fashion Illustration: An Introduction	1, 2,3, 4, 5, 6, 7	9, 10, 11
J7SC 47	Fashion Technology: Pattern Drafting and Development	2, 3, 4, 5, 6,7	8, 9, 10
J7SF 47	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	8, 9, 10

Code	Unit title	General aims	Specific aims
J7SE 48	Sewing and finishing Techniques for Garment Development: Advanced Techniques	12, 13, 15, 16	17, 18, 19, 21, 22
J7SD 47	Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	8, 9, 10
J7TF 47	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	7, 8, 9, 10, 11
J7SG 47	Fashion Technology: Design and Produce an Outfit	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	8, 9, 10, 11
J7SH 47	Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development	12, 13, 14, 15, 16	17, 18, 19, 29, 21, 22
J7SJ 48	Pattern Cutting: Complex Skills	12, 13, 15, 16	17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22
J7SK 48	Designing a Garment Collection	12, 13, 14, 15, 16	17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22
J7TA 48	Manufacturing a Garment Collection	12, 13, 14, 15, 16	18, 19, 20, 21, 21
J7SL 48	Creative Garment Design and Manufacture: Advanced	12,13,14,15,16	17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22
J7TG 48	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 2	12,13,14,15,16	17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

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

Although there is no direct comparison for National Occupational Standards in this area of study, some aspects of units align to the standards of Manufacturing Textiles level 3.

5.3 Mapping of Core Skills development opportunities across the qualifications

The anticipated Core Skills exit levels for each award are given below:

Core Skills	Recommended entry level	Anticipated exit level
Communication	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6
Numeracy	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6
ICT	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6
Problem Solving	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6
Working with Others	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6

The Core Skills are signposted and embedded in the mandatory and optional units of both group awards. These have been summarised below.

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture

S = Signposted

E = Embedded

Unit code	Unit title	Communication		Numeracy		ICT	Problem solving			Working with others
		Oral	Written	Using number	Using graphical information		Critical thinking	Planning and organising	Reviewing and evaluating	
J7SA 47	Fashion Design using Computer Technology					S6	S6	S6	S6	
J7S9 47	Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction					S5	S5	S5	S5	
J7SB 47	Fashion Illustration: An Introduction					S5	S5	S5		
J7SC 47	Fashion Technology Pattern Drafting and Development				S5				S5	
J7SF 47	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development								S5	S5
J7T4 47	Drape and Flat Pattern Making: Basic Techniques						S5	S5	S5	
J7T2 47	Couture Techniques: An Introduction	S5					S5	S5	S5	S5
J7SD 47	Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry				S5		S5	S5		
J7T8 47	Garment Manufacture: An Introduction to Working Drawings	S5	S5				S5	S5	S5	
J7TB 47	Professional Design Practice	S5	S5		S5		S5		S5	
J7SG 47	Fashion Technology: Design and Produce an Outfit	S5	S5		S5			S5	S5	S5
J7SH 47	Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development	S6	S6		S5					
HP4X 47	Work Placement	S6	S6				E6	E6	E6	S6

SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

| Unit code | Unit title | Communication | | Numeracy | | ICT | Problem solving | | | Working with others |
		Oral	Written	Using number	Using graphical information		Critical thinking	Planning and organising	Reviewing and evaluating	
J7SP 47	Apparel Industry UK and Global Manufacturing and Sourcing Decisions	S5	S5		S5	S5	S5	S5	S5	S5
J7SJ 48	Pattern Cutting: Complex Skills				S6			S6	S6	S6
J7SK 48	Designing a Garment Collection						S6	S6	S6	
J7TA 48	Manufacturing a Garment Collection				S5			S6	S6	S6
J7T5 47	Fashion: Commercial Design	S6	S6				S6	S6	S6	S6
J7SL 48	Creative Garment Design and Manufacture: Advanced				S5			S5	S5	S5
J7TF 47	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1									
J7TG 48	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 2									
J7SY 48	Concept Garment Design: Advanced	S5	S5				S6	S6	S6	
HP6N 47	Marketing: An Introduction	S5	S5							
HP76 47	International Marketing: An Introduction	S5	S5							
J7SE 48	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development: Advanced Techniques							S6		S6
J7T1 47	Concept Garment Design: An Introduction	S5	S5				S5	S5	S5	
J7TC 47	Textile Fibres, Yarns and Fabrics	S5	S5	S5		S5				
J7ST 47	CAD: Pattern Development				S5	S5	S5	S5	S5	
HT3Y 47	Life Drawing									S6
J5MB 47	Consumer and the Marketing Process	S5	S5			S5	S5	S5	S5	S5
HR3E 47	Preparing to Start a Business	S5	S5		S5	S5		S5		

5.4 Assessment strategy for the qualifications

Overall, the approach to assessment is holistic within units throughout these awards, although there are opportunities to integrate assessments between units. If assessments are integrated between units, it is incumbent on the centre to map where each outcome is overtaken and to ensure that all evidence requirements indicated in each unit are met.

There is a wide variety of assessment instruments used throughout this award. These are fully detailed in each of the units included in the programmes.

When candidates select one design solution, they could be asked to explain why they have rejected the other alternatives and detail the process involved for the selected design solution to develop their Oral Communications skills as well as their Problem Solving skills.

6 Guidance on approaches to delivery and assessment

The approach to delivery and assessment in these courses is aimed at integrating and developing skills required by the fashion industry.

Computer and internet research skills are now a mandatory component and this will allow work to be assessed by the successful production of design and project work which relate to specific briefs issued.

It is recommended that technical studies in pattern making and production should be workshop based and once the basic skills have been taught, the candidate completes units which integrate design and production skills.

The programmes suggested in section 6.2 indicate how skills are built up during one-year and two-year programmes. These suggested delivery patterns should not be seen as prescriptive but should be used as guides for delivering centres devising their own programmes.

6.1 The graded units

Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1 contained within the SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma, and Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 2 contained within the SQA Advanced Diploma are project-based practical assignments. This type of assessment instrument was chosen because the application of practical skills is most appropriate for these group awards. Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1 requires candidates to plan, develop and evaluate garment parts. Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 2 requires candidates to plan, develop and evaluate a complete garment.

The placement of the graded units in the overall delivery plan is an important aspect of course delivery. Candidates should be given the opportunity to develop their design and manufacturing skills as well as their knowledge of textiles before embarking on these project-based graded units. The time spent delivering graded units is indicated in the delivery plans suggested in section 6.2. Centres are advised to plan completion of the graded units before the end of the programme. This will leave the maximum time for candidates to build up their skills levels while also allowing sufficient time for reassessment.

6.2 Suggested delivery patterns

The suggested delivery patterns indicate how skills are built up during the one-year SQA Advanced Certificate award and the two-year SQA Advanced Diploma award. These delivery patterns should not be seen as prescriptive but should be used as guides by other centres that may wish to deliver these awards.

The placing of the graded unit and project units is of particular importance as their placement in the academic year enables candidates to develop their design and practical skills, as well as their knowledge and skills in using different types of materials and techniques, before integrating their knowledge in these project-based units.

SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

SQA Advanced Certificate in Fashion Design and Manufacture
Mode of study: full-time to complete 12 credits, consisting of eight mandatory (M) units and 4 optional (O) units

Code	Unit title	Level	M/O	Credit value	Block I hours	Block II hours
J7SA 47	Fashion Design using Computer Technology	7	M	1	36	
J7S9 47	Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction	7	M	1	36	
J7SB 47	Fashion Illustration: An Introduction	7	M	1	36	
J7SC 47	Fashion Technology: Pattern Drafting and Development	7	M	1	36	
J7SF 47	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development	7	M	1	36	
J7T4 47	Drape and Flat Pattern Making: Basic Techniques	7	O	1	36	
J7SE 48	Sewing and finishing Techniques for Garment Development: Advanced Techniques	8	M	1		36
J7SD 47	Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry	7	M	1		36
J7TF 47	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1	7	M	1		36
J7T8 47	Garment Manufacture: An Introduction to Working Drawings	7	O	1		36
J7T1 47	Concept Garment Design: An Introduction	7	O	1		36
J7TC 47	Textiles Fibres, Yarns and Fabrics	7	O	1		36

SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture — Year 1
Mode of study: full-time to complete 16 credits, consisting of 10 mandatory (M) units and five optional (O) units

Code	Unit title	Level	M/O	Credit value	Block I hours	Block II hours
J7SA 47	Fashion Design using Computer Technology	7	M	1	36	
J7S9 47	Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction	7	M	1	36	
J7SB 47	Fashion Illustration: An Introduction	7	M	1	36	
J7SC 47	Fashion Technology: Pattern Drafting and Development	7	M	1	36	

SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

Code	Unit title	Level	M/O	Credit value	Block I hours	Block II hours
J7SF 47	Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development	7	M	1	36	
J7T2 47	Couture Techniques: An Introduction	7	O	1	36	
J7SE 48	Sewing and finishing Techniques for Garment Development: Advanced Techniques	8	M	1		36
J7SD 47	Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry	7	M	1		36
J7TF 47	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 1	7	M	1		36
J7TK 48	3D Design: Portfolio and Presentation	8	M	1	36	
J7TB 47	Professional Design Practice	7	O	1		36
J7SG 47	Fashion Technology: Design and Produce an Outfit	7	M	2		72
J7ST 47	CAD: Pattern Development	7	O	1	36	
HP75 47	Communication: Business Communication	7	O	1		36
J5MB 47	Consumer Behaviour and the Marketing Process	7	O	1		36

SQA Advanced Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture — Year 2

Mode of study: full-time to complete 14 credits, consisting of five mandatory (M) units and 5 optional (O) units

Code	Unit title	Level	M/O	Credit value	Block I hours	Block II hours
J7SH 47	Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development	7	M	1	36	
J7SJ 48	Pattern Cutting: Complex skills	8	M	1	36	
J7SK 48	Designing a Garment Collection	8	M	1	36	
J7SL 48	Creative Garment Design and Manufacture: Advanced	8	M	2	72	
J7TG 48	Fashion Design and Manufacture: Graded Unit 2	8	M	2		72
J7TA 48	Manufacturing a Garment Collection	8	O	2	36	72
HP76 47	International Marketing: An Introduction	7	O	1		36
J7T1 47	Concept Garment Design: An Introduction	7	O	1		36
J7SY 48	Concept Garment Design: Advanced	8	O	2	72	
J7TC 47	Textile Fibres, Yarns and Fabrics	7	O	1		36

6.3   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 assessing in the following types of units and assessments:

- ◆ SQA Advanced graded units
- ◆ course 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 license 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.

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.

6.3.1   Articulation and/or progression

There are no formal articulation agreements in place for these group awards. Candidates wishing to apply to a university level course should be guided and supported by staff. These arrangements should be dealt with individually by centres and candidates. Entry qualifications and articulation requirements for degree courses vary significantly; centres should advise candidates to investigate articulation possibilities prior to choosing optional units.

While articulation to the second year of the SQA Advanced Diploma is at the discretion of the centre, it is envisaged that candidates would have achieved 15 credits before entering the second year of the award. This would usually include all the mandatory units for the SQA Advanced Certificate award.

If a full SQA Advanced Certificate award has been achieved but the candidate does not possess 15 credits for entry to the second year of SQA Advanced Diploma, it is recommended that an individual learning plan is formulated so that it is clear on entry where the candidate would gain the units required to make up the full SQA Advanced Diploma award.

6.3.2   Credit transfer arrangements

Credit transfer is a decision for centres and can be given where there is broad equivalence between the subject-related content of the units, that is, the knowledge and/or skills are

covered in the unit for which credit is being awarded. Centres should give some consideration to currency of achievement when awarding credit transfer.

6.4 Opportunities for e-assessment

Some aspects of the knowledge and understanding of the units could be delivered using e-learning, in particular those aspects which require candidates to undertake research. The use of a virtual learning environment for storing candidate notes and visuals and website addresses should be encouraged by centres when building up their learning and teaching packs to accompany units. Additionally both candidates and staff should be encouraged to use digital photography as a means of recording the development of design and manufacture of garments and samples of work completed. Digital photography could also be used by staff to set up archive materials.

6.5 Supporting materials

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

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.

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).

8 Glossary of terms

Consortium-devised SQA Advanced Certificates and Diplomas: Those with developments or revisions undertaken by a group of centres in partnership with SQA.

Dedicated unit to cover Core Skills: This is a non-subject unit that is written to cover one or more particular Core Skills.

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.

Qualification Design Team: The QDT works in conjunction with a qualification manager or development manager to steer the development of the SQA Advanced Certificate or Diploma from its inception or revision through to validation. The group is made up of key stakeholders representing the interests of centres, employers, universities and other relevant organisations.

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.

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.

SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

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.

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

Specialist single centre and specialist collaborative devised SQA Advanced Certificates and Diplomas: Those with developments or revisions led by a single centre or small group of centres who provide knowledge and skills in a specialist area. Like consortium-devised SQA Advanced Certificates and Diplomas, these developments or revisions will also be supported by SQA.

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 one given to an SQA unit represents approximately 40 hours of programmed learning, teaching, and assessment.

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

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
02	**Addition of Unit:** Unit J7TB 47 Professional Design Practice has been added to the options section of the SQA Advanced Certificate framework	20/11/24

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; and opportunities for further learning and employment.

The SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma in Fashion Design and Manufacture are intended for those wishing to follow a career in fashion or associated fields. The programme is flexible enough to allow you to follow directions that will meet the requirements of higher education, industry and individual needs.

The mandatory section of each SQA Advanced award covers the units which are essential to a career in fashion design and manufacture. Some of the units covered in the mandatory section include:

♦   Fashion Illustration: An Introduction
♦   Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction
♦   Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry
♦   Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development
♦   Fashion Design using Computer Technology

The selection of the optional units would determine the specialist area in which you might pursue a possible career in fashion.

It is expected that successful completion of the SQA Advanced Certificate could lead to an occupation in the following areas within the fashion industry:

♦   fashion design assistant
♦   fashion retailer
♦   fashion assistant for a magazine
♦   theatre, film or TV wardrobe assistant
♦   assistant pattern designer

It is expected that successful completion of the SQA Advanced Diploma could lead to an occupation in the following areas within the fashion industry:

♦   fashion designer
♦   fashion marketing adviser
♦   fashion forecaster or researcher
♦   sole trader, bespoke designer or manufacturer
♦   theatre, film or TV costume designer

If you do not have an existing qualification, your centre may provide you with opportunities to undertake some form of pre-entry preparation to help develop your technical skills in pattern making and production before the start of the SQA Advanced Certificate or Diploma.

It should be noted that if English is not your first language, it is recommended that you possess English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) at SCQF level 5.

What kind of study is involved?

The content of each unit can be delivered through a series of lectures, practical workshops and activities which will be carried out as part of your commitment to self-directed study. Tutorial sessions may be set up to support you through this programme and will build your confidence as you progress through your programme of study. The work you produce during the course will create a quality portfolio of work.

Each unit in the course is assessed, although some units may be assessed in an integrated way. You will be expected to hand in work to meet specified deadlines. Meeting the deadlines is an essential element of the course. During the learning process, your skills in the following areas will be developed to present to higher education or industry for an employment interview.

♦ organising
♦ communicating
♦ researching
♦ critical thinking
♦ decision making
♦ evaluating results of practical activities
♦ working and co-operating with others

The main topics of study include:

♦ garment design research and development
♦ drawing or fashion illustration
♦ garment pattern making
♦ garment production
♦ CAD
♦ project work

The course content reflects the diverse aspects of fashion and will equip you with the underpinning knowledge necessary for progressing to higher education or working in fashion. For both awards, the options you choose are likely to reflect your interests as well as the specialisms of the college. For example, those interested in working in design within the fashion industry would choose units involving designing and making garments, such as Concept Garment Design and Designing and Producing Fashion Garment: An Introduction; those interested in fashion marketing would choose International Marketing: An Introduction and Consumer Behaviour and the Marketing Process. Regardless of what area is studied, there is a strong emphasis on design in all units.