



Update on Modern Apprenticeship Frameworks for Hairdressing and Barbering at SCQF level 5 and 6

We have worked closely with training providers, employers and awarding organisations to provide evidence to support a change to the workplace core skills levels required in the new Modern Apprenticeship (MA) Framework in Hairdressing and Barbering at SCQF levels 5 and 6.

As per the MA framework proposal guidance, the Core Skills were identified at the level below the MA framework SCQF level. This was a change to the previous MA frameworks where the Core Skills levels were identified as SCQF level 3 for the MA at SCQF level 5 and SCQF level 4 for the MA at SCQF level 6. Significant concerns were raised across the sector that the level of the Core Skills for ICT and Numeracy was too high and would create barriers to achievement.

Thank you to all those providers and employers who provided evidence. The proposal was approved by the Apprenticeship Approval Group (AAG) on Thursday 11th January 2024. This approval confirms Core Skills in ICT and Numeracy will be required at SCQF level 3 for the MA at SCQF level 5, and SCQF level 4 for the MA at SCQF level 6.

The submission to the AAG only applies to two Core Skills — ICT and Numeracy. The remaining three Core Skills — *Communication, Working with Others, and Problem Solving* — were approved as 'embedded', meaning they do not have to be taught, assessed, or certificated separately.

15th January 2024