



13 April 2010

**New National 4 & 5 Qualifications
- Design principles published -**

SQA has published the design principles for the new National 4 and 5 qualifications following their sign-off by the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) Management Board and SQA's Qualifications Committee.

The design principles provide the blueprint for developing the new qualifications, which will replace Standard Grade and Intermediate 1 and 2 qualifications which currently sit at SCQF levels 4 and 5 and will be delivered in 2013/14.

A summary document and a full technical description of the design principles are now available for download from the [SQA CfE website](#).

This is a major programme of work and from May 2010 we will publish progress reports and development updates on our website when they become available. The [SQA MyAlerts](#) service updates subscribers whenever content is added or updated on our CfE web pages. This means that all those interested will be able to follow progress as the qualifications are being developed and will have the opportunity to comment.

We are looking forward to continuing to work with you to successfully deliver CfE. Together we will provide an education system that will equip our learners with the skills and knowledge needed to face the challenges of the 21st century.

For further information and regular updates, visit the [SQA CfE website](#).

- Ends -

About SQA

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) is an executive non-departmental public body (NDPB) sponsored by the Scottish Government's Learning Directorate. It is the national accreditation and awarding body in Scotland.

SQA works in partnership with schools, colleges, universities and industry to provide high quality, flexible and relevant qualifications and assessments - embedding industry standards where appropriate. We strive to ensure that SQA qualifications are inclusive, accessible to all, that they provide clear progression pathways, facilitate lifelong learning and recognise candidate achievement.

There are approximately 1,470 centres approved to offer our range of qualifications.

Our qualifications include:

- National Qualifications (including Standard Grade and
- National Units and Courses at Access, Intermediate, Higher and
- Advanced Higher levels)
- Skills for Work Courses
- Professional Development Awards
- National Progression Awards

- National Certificates
- Higher National Certificates and Diplomas (HNC/HND)
- Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)
- Customised Awards

Find out more – www.sqa.org.uk

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