

To SQA Co-ordinator

September 2010

Further Education Colleges,
Secondary Schools, Special Schools,
Independent Special Schools,
Directors of Education
SCIS, SFEU, LTS

**For the attention of centre staff responsible for:
Access 1 and 2 provision**

Action by Recipient
Response required
√ Note and pass on
None – update/information only

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Dear Colleague,

National Qualifications Update – Access 1 and 2

This letter provides an update for those staff in centres who are involved in the delivery of qualifications at Access 1 and 2 levels.

New Unit Support Packs for Access 2 Courses in Computing Studies and English

The new Unit Support Packs for the Access 2 Units in the English and Computing Studies Courses have now been completed. These Unit Support Packs contain learning and teaching exercises as well as NAB materials and they are available for download from the SQA secure website in both Word and PDF format.

The SQA Co-ordinator in each centre should be able to gain access to the secure website and download the relevant materials for staff.

The Units covered by these new Unit Support Packs are listed below.

Three Units from the English Course (C115 08):

- F796 08 English: Language Study**
F797 08 English: Literary Study
F791 08 English: Oral Communication

Three Units from the Computing Studies (C207 08):

- F7H8 08 Computing Studies: Using Computer Applications**
F7H9 08 Computing Studies: Using Internet Applications
F7HA 08 Computing Studies: Using Multimedia Applications

One freestanding Unit:

- F7GB 08 Capturing Digital Images**

Please note - for ease of reference, the 'Capturing Digital Images' pack has been posted alongside the three Access 2 Computing Studies packs on the secure site.

New Access 1 Independent level Units in English and Computing Studies

As explained in the last Access 1 and 2 update letter, in Sept 2009, the Access 2 Units that formed part of the old Courses in Computing (C017 08) and in English and Communication (C039 08) are currently in their lapsing period and will not be available after 31 August 2011. This means that the Access 1 Derived Units in these subjects will also be allowed to lapse and will not be available after 31 July 2011. We have therefore developed a group of Access 1 Independent Units in the Computing and English subject areas in place of the Derived Units in these subjects.

The Unit titles and codes for the new Access 1 Independent level Units and the Access 1 Derived Units they will replace are listed in the following table:

'Old' Access 1 level Derived Units (still valid until 31 July 2011)	New Access 1 level Independent Units (valid from 1 August 2010)
<p><i>Old English and Communication Units:</i> D3JS 07 English and Communication: Language Study – Understanding Text D3JT 07 English and Communication: Language Study – Conveying Information in Writing D3JV 07 English and Communication: Literary Study – Responding to an Imaginative Text D3JW 07 English and Communication: Literary Study – Expressing a Point of View D3JX 07 English and Communication: Oral Communication – Responding D3JY 07 English and Communication: Oral Communication - Delivering</p>	<p><i>New English Unit:</i> F9YV 07 English: Use of non-fiction F9YW 07 English: Recognising Text F9YX 07 English: Enjoyment of Fiction (Plot) F9YY 07 English: Enjoyment of Fiction (Character)</p>

<p><i>Old Computing Units:</i> D93P 07 Using Computer Aided Learning: Identifying Personal Learning Targets D93R 07 Using Computer Aided Learning: Explaining Educational and Leisure use of Software D93W 07 Using Computer Aided Learning: Using Educational Programs D93V 07 Using Computer Aided Learning: Using Leisure Programs D93T 07 Using Computer Aided Learning: Meeting Personal Learning Targets D2S5 07 Using Technological Equipment: Identifying Equipment D2S6 07 Using Technological Equipment: Basic Household Operations D2S7 07 Using Technological Equipment: Basic Office and Personal Operations D2S8 07 Using a Computer: Basic Operations</p>	<p><i>New Computing Units:</i> F9YM 07 Computing: Working with Digital Images F9YN 07 Computing: Using a Multimedia Application F9YP 07 Computing: Using the Internet</p>
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Copies of the new Access 1 level Independent Units are available for download from the Access1 and 2 section of the SQA website.

Access 1 and 2 developments and Curriculum for Excellence

The Curriculum for Excellence Team in SQA has begun an engagement exercise to seek views from centres and staff who are currently involved in the delivery of Access 1 and 2 qualifications. This engagement exercise will provide a basis for decisions on the design and content of qualifications that will be developed to support the new Curriculum for Excellence.

Curriculum for Excellence Job Opportunities

I'd like to draw your attention to two new vacancies that are advertised on SQA's website. The two Qualifications Development Consultants posts will be part of SQA's Curriculum for Excellence Team and will work on the new Access 1 and 2 qualifications. These posts will be home based and will be offered initially on a fixed term basis, until March 2012. The closing date for applications is 15 October 2010. For more information on these job opportunities, please refer to the Curriculum for Excellence section of the main SQA website (the vacancies can be found under the 'CfE News' heading).

Yours sincerely,



Sandy Riddell
Project Manager
Access 1 & 2, Core and Essential Skills