

September 2008

To SQA Co-ordinator
(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
	Note — 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 Course in Personal Development (Access 2) now available

The new Course in Personal Development (Access 2) that was highlighted in previous Access 1 and 2 update letters, is now available to centres. The Course specification is listed on the Access 1 & 2 website (www.access1and2.org.uk) alongside the other Courses at Access 2. As an appendix to this letter I have included a list of Unit titles and codes for the nine Units that form part of the Course and the three freestanding Units that were developed alongside the Course.

Unit Support Packs (including NAB materials) covering all nine Units that form part of the Course have now been published and are available for download from SQA's secure website.

We are hoping to develop Unit Support Packs to cover the three freestanding Units over the coming months and they will be published on the secure site as soon as they are ready.

Old Personal and Social Development Course and Units to be withdrawn

The new Personal Development Course (C250 08) has been developed to replace the Personal and Social Development Course at Access 2 (C067 08). Centres should note that the old Course (C067 08) will remain open for entries and results until 31 July 2010 to allow candidates who may have already started the old Units, time to complete them and have their results submitted. It should be noted however, that no results can be accepted for the old Units after 31 July 2010.

Personal Development Units at Access 1 Independent Level

A new Design Team has now been established to develop new Access 1 Independent level Units in Personal Development. So far the group has established ten possible topics for Unit development and draft content is now under discussion. The new Units will need to go through various checkpoints and validation procedures before they are made available but we aim to have final versions ready for publication by January 2009.

Review of Access 2 Courses in Computing and in English and Communication

We are currently setting up Design Teams to undertake the review of the Access 2 Courses in Computing and in English and Communication. It is hoped that we can develop replacement Courses in these subjects which can be made available to centres in time for the start of session 2009/10. I hope to be able to update you on the progress of these developments in future update letters.

Access 1 and 2 website

I would like to remind centres that, as highlighted in previous update letters, the Access 1 and 2 website has been refreshed and updated and we have received some very positive feedback from centres that have used the site. If you have not visited the new site yet you can find it by:

- ♦ going onto the main SQA website at **www.sqa.org.uk**, clicking on the A-Z index on the homepage and on the index (A-F) for the link for 'Access 1 and 2', or
- ♦ you can simply go directly to **www.access1and2.org.uk**

Yours sincerely,



Sandy Riddell
Project Manager

Access 2 Course in Personal Development (C250 08)

To achieve the Personal Development Course at Access 2 level, candidates must complete 3 Units, one from each of the following sections:

Self in Society (one Unit required from this section)

- F37S 08 Self in Society: Leisure Time Activities
- F37T 08 Self in Society: Investigating Service Providers in the Local Community
- F37V 08 Self in Society: Environmental Issues

Practical Abilities (one Unit required from this section)

- F37N 08 Practical Abilities: Making Journeys *
- F37P 08 Practical Abilities: Independent Living
- F37R 08 Practical Abilities: Personal Finance

Self and Work (one Unit required from this section)

- F37K 08 Self and Work: Investigating the Workplace
- F37L 08 Self and Work: Completing a Work Placement *
- F37M 08 Self and Work: Enterprise Activity

Freestanding Units in Personal Development

Three Units were developed at the same time as the Personal Development Course to offer centres a wider range of Units to deliver to their candidates. These three Units are freestanding, they do not contribute to the Access 2 Personal Development Course.

- F38N 08 Self Awareness: Positive Relationships
- F38M 08 Self Awareness: Personal Development Planning *
- F38P 08 Self Awareness: Physical Health

Note

* Those Units that are highlighted with an asterisk contain the Core Skills components for Problem Solving (Access 2).