Route map through assessment

Course: Fashion and Textile Technology   Level: National 4

This document is intended to assist teachers in planning and delivering the overall vision for Curriculum for Excellence.

The vision for the new national qualifications is to create assessment opportunities that follow and support learning and teaching. This follows the principles laid out in *Building the Curriculum 5* and makes assessment a natural part of learning and teaching.

This route map aims to signpost all of the relevant material that is available to support your subject. Your professional judgement is vital and the documents listed below are intended to support you in deciding the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and assess candidates.

Education Scotland has produced a professional focus paper for fashion and textile technology, and this is a good starting point as it provides support to help develop learning and teaching approaches that take forward the purposes and principles of Curriculum for Excellence through Fashion and Textile Technology National 4. http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/resources/nq/f/nqresource_tcm4744364.asp?strReferringChannel=nationalqualifications&strReferringPageID=tcm:4-716508-64&class=l3+d150325

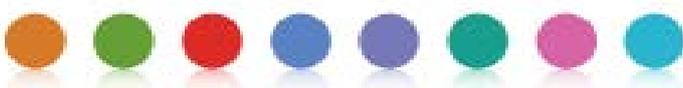### Fashion and Textile Technology National 4 course content

The main SQA fashion and textile technology page is found at http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/56930.html, with pages specifically related to National 4 at http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/56936.html. Staff should also regularly check the updates and announcements section of this page.

The course specification can be found at http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_CourseSpec_N4_HealthWellbeing_FashionTextileTechnology.pdf.

There are four units: Fashion and Textile Technology: Textile Technologies, Fashion and Textile Technology: Fashion/Textile Item Development, Fashion and Textile Technology: Fashion and Textile Choices and the Added Value Unit.

Added Value Unit: Learners will produce a straightforward fashion/textile item in response to a given brief. Details of differentiation of fashion/textile items suitable for different levels can be found at http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/Guidance_on_type_of_fashion_or_textile_item.pdf.

More detail on course coverage can be found in the course support notes. http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_CourseUnitSupportNotes_N4_HealthWellbeing_FashionTextileTechnology.pdf

A course comparison from National 3 to National 5 is also available.
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/FTT_Course_comparison.pdf

Unit assessment

Units are mandatory when taken as part of the Fashion and Textile Technology National 4 course but they can be taken independently. Unit support notes follow on from the course support notes.
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_CourseUnitSupportNotes_N4_HealthWellbeing_FashionTextileTechnology.pdf

Each individual unit also has a National 4 unit specification.

Each unit specification gives details of the outcomes and assessment standards. There are **two** outcomes per unit: one based on planning/preparing to make a fashion/textile item and one based on making a fashion/textile item.

Fashion and Textile Technology: Textile Technologies
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_Unit_N4_FashionandTextileTechnology_TextileTechnologies.pdf

Fashion and Textile Technology: Fashion/Textile Item Development
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_Unit_N4_FashionandTextileTechnology_FashionTextileItemDevelopment.pdf

Fashion and Textile Technology: Fashion and Textile Choices
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_Unit_N4_FashionandTextileTechnology_FashionChoices.pdf

Learners must meet all the outcomes and assessment standards, and staff should read the documentation carefully. Evidence should be generated through learning and teaching. Evidence may be presented for individual outcomes or it may be gathered for the unit as a whole through integrating assessment in a single assessment event. In this case, it must be clear how the evidence articulates to each outcome. Learners are required to make completed fashion/textile item/s.

Staff should use their professional judgment when looking at the assessment evidence and ensure that minimum competency is met. They should undertake quality assurance regularly.

Three different ways of gathering evidence have been suggested by SQA. The most traditional approach is unit by unit. A combined approach links knowledge and understanding from two units together. Many staff will move towards the portfolio approach as their confidence grows. Here evidence is gathered from everyday learning using key classroom tasks. Unit assessment support is kept on the SQA Secure website.

Added Value Unit
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_Unit_N4_FashionandTextileTechnology_AddedValueUnit.pdf

The Added Value Unit is a practical activity that focuses on breadth and application. There is one outcome broken down into four assessment standards. The practical activity will be set, marked and verified by schools. It will be conducted under some supervision and control. Learners will carry out an investigation based on the brief and develop a solution based on the investigation. The assessment should take place when the learners are ready, to avoid reassessment. Further information on conducting the Added Value Unit is available on the SQA Secure

website. Instructions for learners are also appended and these should be issued to learners. During the first **two** years of implementation (2013/2014 and 2014/2015) all schools **must** use the SQA-published Added Value Unit assessments.

Verification

The verification process is designed to be supportive and not onerous.

Internal verification is the process of ensuring standards are applied uniformly and consistently within a school in line with national standards. External verification is the process of ensuring that national standards are maintained consistently across all schools.

Quality assurance: http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58448.html.

Prior verification
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/Prior%20Verification%20Centre%20Guidance%20FINAL.pdf

Staff who devise their own assessments can send them to SQA for prior verification, free of charge. This is only necessary where significant changes have been made to the unit assessment provided. It gives departments confidence that their proposed assessment is fit for purpose and meets national standards.

Internal verification
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/InternalVerificationGuideforSQAcentres.pdf

As a matter of course staff should be quality assuring their assessments by carrying out activities that they have always done for NABs, for example double marking and blind marking. A sample of learners' work should be marked by more than one staff member in a department, and in single-person departments an arrangement should be made with another local authority school.

External verification
In Fashion and Textile Technology schools will submit a sample of learners' evidence for scrutiny by subject-specialist qualification verifiers .Subject-specific information about external verification can be found at http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/66870.html.

SQA intend that every school will be verified over the first few years. Verification will take place in November, February and May. Twelve samples will be asked for.
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/Evidence_required_for_verificationevents.pdf

Schools must retain the evidence until 31 July of each academic year.
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/SQA_Evidence_retention_requirements_A3_table.pdf

Key messages from verification will be put up on the SQA website.

Education Scotland support materials

Advice and support for new national qualifications (Glow password required):
http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nqcoursematerials/subjects/fashionandtextile/coursematerials.asp
http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nqcoursematerials/subjects/fashionandtextile/learningandteaching.asp

Other useful websites

A quick guide to finding vital information about Curriculum for Excellence:
http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/keycfesupport/index.asp

This appears under three headings:
- the latest guidance, updates and plans for embedding Curriculum for Excellence
- information on assessment
- information on the new qualifications.

The BBC has pulled together all its learning content in a new Knowledge and Learning Beta site that includes Class Clips:
www.bbc.co.uk/education

The Bitesize websites have also been updated for National 4:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrrk2hv