

# SCQF PARTNERSHIP

OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES  
2019 – 2022



**scqf**

scottish credit and  
qualifications framework

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**THE SCQF HAS BEEN AT THE CENTRE OF SCOTTISH EDUCATION SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2001. IT HAS EVOLVED OVER THE YEARS AND NOW CONTAINS OVER 11,500 QUALIFICATIONS OWNED BY AROUND 300 DIFFERENT ORGANISATIONS.**

However, its uses go far beyond just helping individuals understand qualifications. It can support employers in effective recruitment and workforce development and also provides a means of identifying an individual's level of experiential and non-formal learning. The SCQF represents quality in the Scottish education system and clearly underpins key government strategies focused on developing an education and skills system that is fit for Scotland in the 21st Century.



# About The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) is Scotland's lifelong learning framework.

## THE FRAMEWORK IS DESIGNED TO:

- help people plan their learning journeys, so as to fulfil their personal, social and economic potential
- enable all individuals and organisations in Scotland to:
  - understand and compare the full range of Scottish qualifications;
  - understand how different qualifications and learning can help improve workforce development and skills utilisation;
  - relate Scottish qualifications to qualifications in other countries;
  - use the SCQF Level Descriptors to assist with qualifications development and benchmarking skills and experience.
- support the Scottish Government aims of fair work and social justice by providing tools and resources which can recognise prior learning, support progression and improve social inclusion

SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications			Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12				Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11				Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10				Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9			Professional Development Award	Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8		Higher National Diploma		Diploma Of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate		Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher				Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5				Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award		SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3				
2	National 2, Awards				
1	National 1, Awards				



## About the SCQF Partnership

The SCQF is managed by the SCQF Partnership.

### OUR AIMS ARE TO:

- ensure that, where appropriate, all assessed learning and qualifications in Scotland are recognised on the Framework
- extend the recognition of informal and non-formal learning
- promote the Framework as a tool for Lifelong Learning
- develop relationships with other frameworks internationally to improve learner mobility

## Our Vision

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To work with our partners and stakeholders to ensure the SCQF is seen both nationally and internationally as a symbol of quality and underpins the development of a robust education and skills system in Scotland that is fit for the 21st century.



## Our Mission

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To ensure that the quality and integrity of the SCQF is maintained at all times and that the benefits of using the Framework are fully promoted to all stakeholders across Scotland and beyond.

## Our Values

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### Quality

Doing what we say we're going to do on time and ensuring that fulfilment of our customer and partner needs is our highest priority

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### Integrity

Behaving ethically, honestly and openly in a business environment whilst displaying trust and respect

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### Partnership

Cultivating active networks with our partners and seeking their ideas

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### Neutrality

Giving independent, neutral and professional advice to all organisations

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### Inclusiveness

Valuing diversity and work collaboratively

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### Respect

Actively listening to partners and colleagues and considering their views and opinions

In delivering this plan we will seek at all times to work in ways which support these values.

## Links to Government policy

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### Developing the Young Workforce

The SCQF Partnership has been working with partners to support the development of senior phase pathways as well as promoting the SCQF as the tool that promotes equality for all qualifications and routes to learning.





### 15-24 Learner Journey Review

Planning a learning journey which is right for each learner is vital to the success of our people and ultimately our economy. The SCQF is the means to plan effective and appropriate learning journeys to ensure clear progression and recognition for all learning achieved. SCQF Partnership has been working closely with Scottish Government to ensure the SCQF is at the heart of the action plan going forward.





### Closing the Gap

Recognition of all learning is the key to building confidence and self-esteem. The SCQF provides a way for individuals from all backgrounds with differing abilities to have their achievements recognised in order to further progress in their learning or their career. The Partnership has been working directly with schools and with partners to raise awareness of these benefits.



### Widening Access to Education

Everyone is entitled to progress in their learning. The SCQF supports widening access through the promotion of different learning routes and also helps people understand the level of the learning they have achieved. The SCQFP has been working with institutions to have a number of bridging courses credit rated as well as developing resources and promoting the recognition of prior learning.





### **Supporting Fair Work and Workforce Development**

The SCQF allows everyone in Scotland to understand qualifications in order to access appropriate education and learning. The Framework gives clarity and equality to learning allowing everyone in Scotland to progress and achieve at their own pace. It also provides tools and resources to allow employers to develop and enhance the skills of their workforce. This is a challenging sector for the SCQF Partnership and working with partners is one of the key routes to success.

## Our Stakeholders

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The SCQF Partnership works closely with a wide range of stakeholders, to help us to achieve our goals. It is only through such partnerships and collaborative working that we can realise our vision.

In developing this plan we have continued to take full account of the views of our partners and stakeholders to ensure that we, along with others, are playing as full a part as possible in supporting Government agendas around education and the economy.



**Our partners are our key to success and we are mindful of this when developing both our strategic and operational priorities.**



## Key Drivers of Future Activity

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Maintaining quality and integrity is key to preserving confidence in Scottish qualifications and we will continue to work with credit rating bodies to ensure quality and integrity whilst supporting them in recognising more learning on the Framework to help create more comprehensive learner journeys.



The outcomes of the review of the learner journey will be a major development over the next few years and the SCQF will play a key role in this. Recognition of Prior Learning is also gaining momentum with more sectors engaging in this and a growing demand from learners.



Future skills is another key area and we will work with Skills Development Scotland and SQA around the development of their Future Skills Architecture as well as engaging employers to support them in their changing demands for skills and creating clear learning pathways within the workplace.

## Our Strategic Priorities

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### THE SCQF PARTNERSHIP HAS SIX STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR THE PERIOD 2019 - 2022:

- **Maintaining quality and integrity** - by ensuring a robust quality assurance model is in place that provides comfort and mutual trust in Credit Rating Bodies and ultimately the Scottish education system
- **Supporting SCQF credit rating bodies** - in building capacity and good practice in credit rating to enable them to plan and support a range of learner journeys
- **Promoting recognition of prior learning** - to ensure unnecessary repetition of learning and equality for all learners
- **Supporting workforce development** - by encouraging employers to develop inclusive workforce recruitment and development approaches using the SCQF and its resources
- **Supporting the learner journey** - helping all those engaged with education to use the SCQF as a tool to develop individual learning journeys and recognise equality of qualifications
- **Supporting learner mobility internationally** - by promoting the worldwide reputation of the SCQF and engaging with international recognition tools for qualifications globally

The SCQF operational plan for each year sets out the annual objectives which help deliver these priorities.

[scqf.org.uk](http://scqf.org.uk)

A REGISTERED SCOTTISH CHARITY SC037958



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