

SCQF For Parents & Carers



The type of qualifications

National 4 – Level 4

National 5 – Level 5

Higher – Level 6

Advanced Higher – Level 7

These are rough equivalents

THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

The Framework diagram shows mainstream Scottish qualifications credit rated by SQA and HEIs. However, there are a diverse number of learning programmes on the Framework. To view the full interactive version of the Framework or search the database, please visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk



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			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	National Certificate		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			SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3			
2	National 2, Awards			
1	National 1, Awards			

Professional Development Award (Levels 8-12)

National Progression Award (Levels 4-6)

What did they used to be called?

National 4 – Intermediate 1 or Standard Grade General

National 5 – Intermediate 2 or Standard Grade Credit

Higher – Higher

Advanced Higher – Advanced Higher or CSYS



SCQF vs NQ

SCQF qualifications (like NPAs) feature continuous assessment

NQ qualifications (like Nat 5s) usually feature a final exam

SCQF qualifications (like NPAs) are Pass / Fail

NQ qualifications (like Nat 5s) are usually graded (A, B, C)

SCQF qualifications (like NPAs) are often in less traditional subjects

NQ qualifications (like Nat 5s) are found in most traditional subjects

