

# Mags Hutchinson

HND International Articulation Manager

*International Progression Pathways*

*The Scottish Model: Diploma To Degree*

# Scottish Qualifications Authority

- ◆ Who we are and what we do
- ◆ SQA HND qualification
- ◆ SQA HND and our international markets
- ◆ SQA Progression Partners
- ◆ The next steps

# Who We Are and What We Do



# Who we are

We're ambitious for people and governments. We provide opportunities for lifelong learning across all types and levels of qualifications.

- ◆ **Trusted**

- Our dedication and accountability makes us reliable; individually and collectively we deliver.

- ◆ **Enabling**

- We support our customers to reach their goals by understanding how we can help.

- ◆ **Progressive**

- We are aspirational for ourselves and all our customers.

International  
accreditation and  
awarding body

We work in Scotland,  
the UK and  
internationally

**SQA**

Established by an Act  
of Parliament and work  
closely with Scottish  
government

Over 100 years'  
experience

# What we do

- ◆ Accredit, assess and award qualifications
- ◆ Devise and develop qualifications and assessments
- ◆ Provide qualifications to support all learners
- ◆ Approve and quality assure centres to deliver SQA qualifications
- ◆ Certificate qualifications
- ◆ Provide consultancy services
- ◆ Deliver contract services

# Accreditation and Awarding

Two functions from one organisation means education system is simpler and benefits learners.

- ◆ **Accreditation:** making sure qualifications, and the organisations who deliver them, meet national standards
- ◆ **Awarding:** more than just printing certificates – designing qualifications, assessments and maintaining national standards

# SQA Awarding



Large  
comprehensive  
portfolio of  
qualifications



All levels –  
beginners to post  
degree level



Academic,  
vocational and  
work-based  
competency  
learning



Progression to  
work and further  
study



Aligned to  
national and  
international  
frameworks –  
ensuring  
international  
mobility



# Our Markets

- ◆ National Awarding Body in Scotland
- ◆ Work across the UK
- ◆ Work Internationally
- ◆ Schools, Colleges, Employers, Training Providers and Government Departments

# Qualification Frameworks

Our qualifications are aligned to national and international frameworks:

- ◆ Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)
- ◆ Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF)
- ◆ European Qualifications Framework (EQF)

This allows comparisons to be made between qualifications on different frameworks.

# THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

This Framework diagram has been produced to show the mainstream Scottish qualifications already credit rated by SQA and HEIs. However, there are a diverse number of learning programmes on the Framework, which, due to the limitations of this format, cannot be represented here. For more information, please visit the SCQF website at [www.sqf.org.uk](http://www.sqf.org.uk) to view the interactive version of the Framework or search the Database. **N.B. MA Frameworks have a notional level on the SCQF, but all component parts are credit rated**



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

# SQA HND Qualification



# Developing Higher National Diplomas (HND)

- ◆ We develop HND qualifications in partnership with colleges, universities, industry and professional bodies
- ◆ We embed industry standards where appropriate
- ◆ We create qualifications and assessments that are relevant to users



# Higher National Diploma (HND)

- ◆ Short cycle higher education qualification
- ◆ SCQF Level 8
- ◆ Knowledge and skills
- ◆ Graded Unit integration and application
- ◆ Internationally recognised
- ◆ Prepares students for employment and enables advanced entry to a University Degree programme
- ◆ Can be delivered flexibly
- ◆ Designed in partnership with colleges, universities and employers based on National Occupational Standards



# SQA Quality Assurance

- ◆ We pride ourselves on the rigour of quality assurance (QA) models we use in our organisation and with our customers
- ◆ SQA qualifications can be trusted wherever and however they are delivered

# SQA HND Quality Assurance

- ◆ Approval must be sought and granted before our customers can deliver SQA qualifications
- ◆ Systems – ensuring a centre has the management and quality assurance systems to support the assessment of SQA qualifications
- ◆ Qualifications – ensuring a centre has the right resources to deliver and assess SQA qualifications



# SQA HND Quality Assurance

- ◆ Internally assessed, internally verified and externally verified by SQA
- ◆ Certification is dependent on successful verification
- ◆ [www.sqa.org.uk/qualityassurance](http://www.sqa.org.uk/qualityassurance)

# SQA HND and our International Markets



# China 2003-present

- ◆ Invited to work with Chinese government
- ◆ 28 Chinese Universities offer the HND across 15 subjects
- ◆ Over 30,000 students recruited
- ◆ 3 year programme
- ◆ 60% of HND graduates have pursued a Degree overseas across 15 countries
- ◆ Over 80% of HND graduates obtained a University Degree



# China HND to Overseas Degree

## Student satisfaction

- ◆ International vision
- ◆ Increase in self confidence
- ◆ Communication skills
- ◆ English language
- ◆ Networking with other students
- ◆ Changed ways of thinking



# China HND to Overseas Degree

## Parent satisfaction

- ◆ Opportunities for articulation to overseas Universities
- ◆ Cost effective
- ◆ Eases concerns about studying abroad
- ◆ Helps adapt to an overseas destination
- ◆ Improved skills



# SQA's International Footprint

- ◆ Aligning with Scottish Government's strategy
- ◆ International market in higher education is continuing to grow
- ◆ Dedicated International Business Development Team covering the globe



Martin Chisholm  
EMEA



Margaret Curran  
South Asia



Mark Hill  
Americas



Eunice McAllister  
ASEAN & China

- ◆ Working with 'in country' consultants with specialist knowledge to maximise growth

# SQA's International Footprint

- ◆ Seeing growth in HNDs in the Middle East, Oman, Bahrain, Myanmar, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh
- ◆ HND delivering centres looking for articulation pathways to overseas Universities
- ◆ Takes time and patience
- ◆ Quality v Quantity

# SQA Progression Partners

**International Students**

*Progression*

**Diploma to Degree**

**Direct Entry**  
**Recognition**

**Opportunity**

*Enabling*

**Advanced Standing**

**Top-Up Degree** *Global*

**Articulation**

**Trusted**

**SQA HND**

**Credit Transfer**



# Diploma To Degree

- ◆ Market for HND in other international regions is growing
- ◆ Increasing demand for local and international articulation
- ◆ Dedicated International Articulation Team



**Mags Hutchinson & Karen MacGregor**  
**HND International Articulation Managers**

# Benefits of becoming an SQA Progression Partner

- ◆ The learner is at the centre of international articulation
- ◆ Direct relationship with SQA
- ◆ Promotion of your Institution in our international markets via a range of channels
- ◆ Visibility on our Diploma To Degree webpage
- ◆ Increasing the number of international applications to your Institution
- ◆ Joint marketing opportunities
- ◆ Sharing best practice
- ◆ Other opportunities

# SQA Progression Partners



[www.sqa.org.uk/diplomatodegree](http://www.sqa.org.uk/diplomatodegree)



# The Next Steps.....

Mags Hutchinson  
HND International Articulation Manager

Tel: +44 (0)141 500 5447

E-mail: [margaret.hutchinson@sqa.org.uk](mailto:margaret.hutchinson@sqa.org.uk)

SQA website — [www.sqa.org.uk/diplomatodegree](http://www.sqa.org.uk/diplomatodegree)

Twitter — @MagsSQA

