

SCQF School Ambassador Programme

In session 2021 – 2022 St Joseph's Academy embarked on the SCQF School Ambassador Programme. Some members of staff received training from SCQF staff and groups of young people have taken on the role of SCQF School Ambassadors. The ultimate goal for the ambassadors is to raise awareness of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) and promote this among pupils and parents/carers. In February 2022 we achieved our Bronze Ambassador School Award.



What is the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework?

The SCQF is the national qualifications framework for Scotland. The framework is designed to help individuals understand and compare various qualifications in Scotland.

Using the SCQF young people can plan their learner journey realising that there are different learning routes which can be taken to arrive at the same destination. Engaging with the framework enables staff, pupils and parents/carers to understand the parity of esteem between traditional national qualifications and other qualifications such as Skills for Work, National Certificates, Foundation Apprenticeships and National Progression Awards.

The SCQF has 12 levels and each level indicates the level of difficulty of a particular qualification. Every qualification has SCQF credit points and these are included on a young person's SQA Exam certificate.

[SCQF Video](#)

[What's the SCQF in my SQA Certificate?](#)



SCOTTISH NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- SCQF LEVELS AND TIMELINES

National qualifications in Scotland have changed four times since the 1960s. Ordinary Grades, Standard Grades, Access, Intermediate and Nationals can make the current qualification system confusing for some. The creation of the SCQF in 2001 helps clarify levels and compare old qualifications with new.

The Old v New diagram explains this further. This can be found by clicking the link.

[Old v New](#)



Qualification	SCQF level	First certificate issued	Last certificate issued	Certificate title	Assessed by
Advanced Higher	9	1999	2000	Scottish Qualifications Certificate (2000)	Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)
CSYS	7	1970	2000	Certificate of Sixth Year Studies (CSYS)	Scottish Examination Board (SEB) from 1970
Higher	6	1969	-	Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE) from 1969	Scottish Examination Board (SEB) from 1969
Ordinary Grade	5	1969	1999	SGS	SEB from 1969
Standard Grade	4	1989	1999	SGS from 2000	SEB from 1989
Intermediate 1 & 2	3	1989	1999	SGS	SEB
Access 1, 2 & 3	1-3	2000	2010	SGS	SGS
National 1, 2, 3 & 4	6-9	2000	2010	SGS	SGS

Advanced Higher
This qualification was introduced as part of the 'Higher 200' initiative. It is at SCQF level 9 and is awarded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) from 2000 onwards (SQA 2000a).

Certificate of Sixth Year Studies (CSYS)
This CSYS certificate was introduced to replace the Higher Grade at SCQF level 7. This qualification was awarded from 1970 to 1999 as a separate certificate called the Certificate of Sixth Year Studies by the Scottish Examination Board (SEB). From 2000 it was awarded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate (2000) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). It was replaced by the Higher Grade of Higher Certificate (2000) and (2001).

Higher
This Higher has been awarded for over 100 years. During that time it has undergone a number of reforms. It was always part of the provision of providing qualifications for progression to higher education or employment. SCQF level 6 is the highest grade of progression to HE. From 1969 to 1999 it was awarded on the Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE) by the Scottish Examination Board (SEB). From 2000 it was awarded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate (2000) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). It was replaced by the Higher Certificate (2000) and (2001).

Ordinary Grade (OGS)
The OG Grade was awarded from 1969 until 1999. It provided the SCQF level 5 equivalent to the Higher Grade at SCQF level 6 and 5. It was awarded on the Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE) by the Scottish Examination Board (SEB). From 2000 it was awarded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate (2000) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). It was replaced by the Standard Grade (2000) and (2001).

Standard Grade
Standard Grade was introduced as a number of years from 1989. It offered a number of intermediate and advanced grades. It is awarded at three levels: 'General' (SCQF level 4), 'General' (SCQF level 3) and 'General' (SCQF level 2). It was awarded on the Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE) by the Scottish Examination Board (SEB). From 2000 it was awarded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate (2000) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). It was replaced by the Standard Grade (2000) and (2001).

Intermediate 1 & 2
These qualifications were introduced as part of the 'Higher 200' initiative. Intermediate 1 and 2 are at SCQF levels 3 and 4 respectively. They were awarded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate (2000) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). They have been replaced by National Qualifications at levels 3 and 4.

Access 1, 2 & 3
These qualifications were introduced as part of the 'Higher 200' initiative. Access qualifications are at SCQF levels 1, 2 and 3. They were awarded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate (2000) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). They have been replaced by National Qualifications at levels 1, 2 and 3.

National 1, 2, 3 & 4
These qualifications were introduced as part of the 'Higher 200' initiative. National qualifications are at SCQF levels 6, 7, 8 and 9. They were awarded on the Scottish Qualifications Certificate (2000) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). They have been replaced by National Qualifications at levels 6, 7, 8 and 9.



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.scqf.org.uk to view the interactive version of the Framework or search the Database.



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				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, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate		Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ 3
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher				Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ 3
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5				Modern Apprenticeship SVQ 2
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award		SVQ 1
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3				
2	National 2, Awards				
1	National 1, Awards				

Senior Phase Curriculum

Over the past two years our Senior Phase curriculum offer has been extended with the introduction of a number of new courses.

Subject departments offer National Qualifications ranging from National 3 to Higher, with a few offering Advanced Higher.

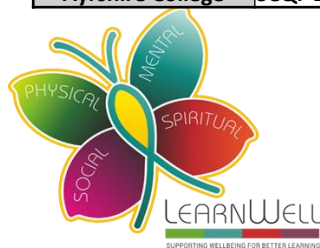
In addition, pupils have the opportunity to choose courses aligned to Developing the Young Workforce (DYW).

Our School College Partnership remains on offer and young people have the opportunity to engage in vocational qualifications delivered at SCQF Levels 4 - 7.



SCQF at St Joseph's Academy

SCQF Level 5					
All qualifications below are offered at SCQF Levels 3 and 4					
Faculty	Qualification	Course Title	Faculty	Qualification	Course Title
English	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	English	Social Subjects	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Geography
	SCQF Level 5	Mental Health and Wellbeing		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	History
Expressive Arts	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Art & Design		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Modern Studies
	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Drama		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Travel & Tourism
	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Music	Modern Languages	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	French
	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Music Technology		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	German
	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Skills for Work Creative Industries		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Spanish
Mathematics	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Applications of Mathematics	Physical Education	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Physical Education
	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Mathematics		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Skills for Work Sports & Recreation
	SCQF Level 5	Personal Finance		NPA SCQF Level 5	Team Sports & Fitness
Science	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Biology	Technologies	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Business Management
	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Chemistry		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Computing Science
	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Physics		NPA SCQF Level 5	Computer Games Development
	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Skills for Work Health Sector		NPA SCQF Level 5	Cyber Security
Religious Education	National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Religious and Moral Philosophical Studies		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Graphic Communication
Ayrshire College	SCQF Level 4 and 5	Various Courses		National 5 (SCQF Level 5)	Practical Woodworking



SCQF at St Joseph's Academy

SCQF Level 6

Faculty	Qualification	Course Title	Faculty	Qualification	Course Title
English	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	English	Social Subjects	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Geography
Expressive Arts	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Art & Design		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	History
	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Drama		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Modern Studies
	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Music		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Politics
	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Mathematics		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Environmental Science
Mathematics	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Mathematics	Modern Languages	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	French
Science	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Biology		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	German
	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Chemistry		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Spanish
	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Physics	Technologies		
Religious Education	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Religious and Moral Philosophical Studies		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Business Management
Physical Education	Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Physical Education		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Computing Science
	SCQF Level 6	Leadership Award		NPA SCQF Level 6	Cyber Security
Ayrshire College	SCQF Level 6	Various Courses		Higher (SCQF Level 6)	Graphic Communication

SCQF at St Joseph's Academy

SCQF Level 7		
Faculty	Qualification	Course Title
English	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	English
Expressive Arts	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	Art & Design (Expressive)
	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	Music
Mathematics	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	Mathematics
Science	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	Biology
	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	Chemistry
	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	Physics
Social Subjects	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	History
Modern Languages	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	French
	Advanced Higher (SCQF Level 7)	German
	Scottish Baccalaureate	Languages
Young Applicants in Scotland Scheme Open University Short Courses Level 7		

SCQF at St Joseph's Academy in S3

Ayrshire College In-School Delivery	SCQF Level
Hair & Beauty	Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT modules)
Cycle Maintenance	4
Childcare	4
Hospitality	4
Construction	4

What might a learner journey look like?

At St Joseph's we realise all of our learners are unique some preferring traditional courses while others opting for the learning experience offered by vocational type courses.

To enable us to offer a curriculum which aims to cater for all our young people we engage in the support offered from Ayrshire College and a number of local partners.

The next few slides provide an overview of some learner journeys.



Example Learner Journey 1

BSc Microbiology (Hons)

Entry Requirements

4 Highers (Level 6): AABB/AAAC

Two of the Highers must be sciences

– Biology B and Chemistry B

Applicants must also have Maths
and English National 5 B

**Route – Achieve at least 4 Highers
at school and apply**

BSc Microbiology (Hons)

Entry Requirements

HNC (Level 7) Graded Unit B

Route

National 5 (Level 5) qualifications

NQ Applied Sciences Level 5

NQ Applied Sciences Level 6

HNC Applied Science (must achieve a B
in graded unit_

[Amanda's Learner Journey](#)



Example Learner Journey 2

Project Search Course (Crosshouse Hospital) for young people with Additional Support Needs

Route

S3 Various options including access to Lifeskills courses via Support for Learning

S4 – S6 National 3 and 4 qualifications (Level 3 and 4) and access to college taster options at the Supported Learning Centre within Ayrshire College

Leave at end of S4, S5 or S6 having secured a place on the Routes to Careers – Employment (Level 4) at Ayrshire College Supported Learning Centre. Completion of this course enabling progression to Project Search, NC Level 4/5 course in the wider curriculum or employment.



Example Learner Journey 3

HNC Coaching and Developing Sport

Entry Requirements

2 Highers (Level 6) including Physical Education

Route – Achieve at least 2 Highers at school and apply

HNC Coaching and Developing Sport

Entry Requirements

NC Course Level 6

Route

National 4 (Level 4) qualifications at school
NC Sports and Fitness Level 5
Advanced Sport and Fitness Level 6



Example Learner Journey 3

HNC Coaching and Developing Sport

Entry Requirements

2 Highers (Level 6) including Physical Education

Route – Achieve at least 2 Highers at school and apply

HNC Coaching and Developing Sport

Entry Requirements

NC Course Level 6

Route

National 4 (Level 4) qualifications at school
NC Sports and Fitness Level 5
Advanced Sport and Fitness Level 6



Need more information?

Should you require more information in relation to any areas of the presentation please use the contact page on the school website.

Additional information can be found on the SCQF website: <https://scqf.org.uk/>

