

## PROPOSAL 1

Q1. Do you welcome the intention to update all qualifications at Access, Higher and Advanced Higher in line with Curriculum for Excellence? Please comment on any implications to be considered.

YES  NO

Comment

Opportunity to look at content, methodology at Higher & AH. - remove parts not relevant to pupils life.

Access level - assessment needs looked - particularly the NABS.

History AH - needs to become more achievable

Need to look at time allowed in Higher /

AH final exams - not enough time and slower pupils are being penalised.

Pupils should <sup>have</sup> not to achieve all NABS to be able to sit final exam.

## PROPOSAL 2

Q2. Early consultation has identified the 'best' features of Standard Grade and Intermediate qualifications as:

- the 'inclusive' approach to certification contained in Standard Grade; and
- the 'unit based' structure of Intermediate qualifications.

Are there any other features in the present Standard Grade and Intermediate qualifications which should be included in the new qualification at SCQF levels 4 and 5?

Comment

History - extended essay.

Q3. One of the proposals is to grade units. Do you agree that units should be graded A-C rather than pass/fail?

YES  NO

Explanation

Gives more motivation to do well. Gives a more accurate indicator of pupil progress towards target.  
Increase Credibility of units.

Q4. Do you want graded units to count towards the final award?

YES  NO

Explanation

would want grades of NABs taken into account for final exam. - but not given the same weighting.

Q5. Which option for introducing compensatory arrangements would you most support? Please tick one option or suggest an alternative.

	Option A Extend the range of grading in course awards to grade E.
	Option B Recognise unit passes only.
	Option C Compensatory award at the level of the course studied with no grade awarded.
✓	Option D Compensatory grade C award at the level of course below that studied.
	Option E Compensatory grade A award at the level of course below that studied.

Explanation/other suggestion

level A is too high to give but worth crediting pupils at level of lower course.

Q6. The proposed name for the new award is General (SCQF 4) and Advanced General (SCQF 5). Please indicate if you are content with this suggestion. If not please offer an alternative and explain your choice.

YES  NO

Explanation/other suggestion

General still associated with S. Grade.  
Need completely new names.  
General - it's too "average"

### PROPOSAL 3

Q7. Do you agree with the proposal to offer literacy and numeracy awards at a range of SCQF levels (3 to 5)? If not please offer an alternative.

YES  NO

Explanation/other suggestion

Q8. National Qualifications at Access 3 (SCQF level 3) do not have an external examination. Do you agree that any new awards in literacy and numeracy at SCQF level 3 should have an external examination?

YES  NO

Explanation

Experience of these pupils shows they couldn't cope with external exam. Much better to build folio of evidence as NAB.

Q9. Should the weighting between the internal and external assessments for the literacy and numeracy awards be equal? If not should more weight be attached to the internal or external assessment? Please explain.

	Equal weight
literacy	More weight to internal assessment
Numeracy	More weight to external assessment

Explanation

Numeracy - need to see real level pupils can attain.  
literacy - folio of evidence will provide good indication.

Q10. When should young people be assessed for literacy and numeracy awards?  
Please tick one option.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Option A At the end of S3 as part of the summer diet of examinations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Option B In the December of S4 as part of a winter diet of examinations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Option C At the end of S4 as part of the summer diet of examinations.

Explanation

In some ways end of S3 gives them something to aim for but in other ways employers may look for it as an Exit certificate to see which level pupils are at.

## PROPOSAL 4

Q11. Do you agree with the proposal to allow the study of Highers and Advanced Highers over 12 months, 18 months and 2 years?

YES  NO

12 months or 2 yrs.

See below



Explanation

Q12. Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a winter diet of examinations?

YES  NO

Q13. If you agree with the proposal to introduce a winter diet of examinations, what subjects and levels of qualifications might first be offered?

Suggestions

Difficult to organise classes / yr. groups.  
Who on earth would mark SQA exams  
at Xmas.

Q14. Would you agree with changes to the system which allowed the most able students to bypass qualifications at lower levels and begin study for Highers from S4 onwards?

YES  NO

Could leave with school with nothing.  
This is all based round 1 yr. courses so  
would be better to sit exams at end of S4  
to leave all options open.

Explanation

Q15. Do you have any other ideas for increasing flexibility within the senior phase (S4 to S6)?

## TIMELINE

Q16. It is intended that planning for the new curriculum should commence in 2008/09, with approaches based on the new curriculum introduced from school year 2009/10. This suggests that the new and revised qualifications and any increased flexibilities would be required from 2012/13 onwards to ensure smooth progression between the curriculum and qualifications. Is this indicative timeline realistic? Please comment on any implications to be considered.

YES

NO

Comment

2009/10 start difficult as we still don't know what we are supposed to be doing next year!  
Plenty time to prepare for S4+ but not enough for S1-3.  
- assuming syllabus are out in time.

ANY OTHER COMMENTS?

~~Disappointed with the vagueness~~  
Very important to have good groups of subject specialists deciding on course content.  
Need to make syllabus details relevant to pupils life.