

A guide to **accessing support materials**
for the new **National Qualifications**

Getting the most out of your subject web pages



SQA continues to publish a wide range of materials for your subject to help you deliver the new National Qualifications. It's easy to visit the web pages most relevant to you – especially the subject pages.

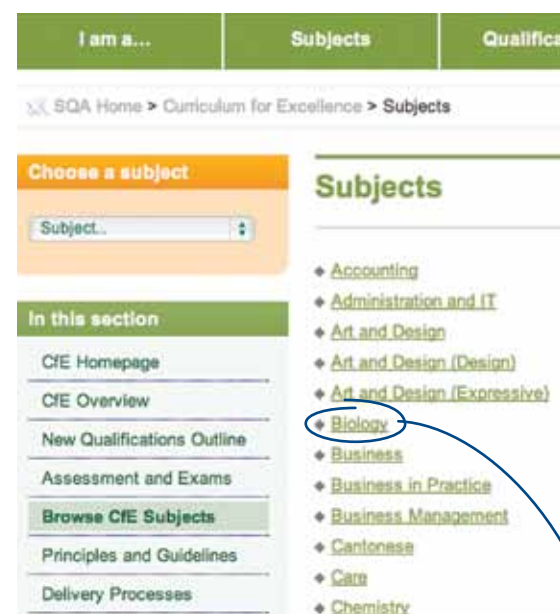
it can
be done  SQA

Navigating your subject pages

Example based on National 5 Biology – the same page structure applies to all Curriculum for Excellence subjects.

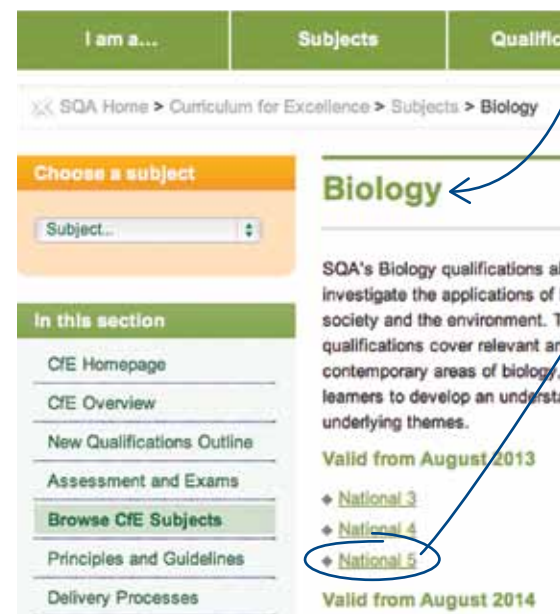
Choose your subject

www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjects



Select the level you want

- Each subject has a home page with a subject overview and links for each level – eg National 3, National 4 and National 5
- The 'view and download all' tool at the foot of the page gives you access to all documents



Accessing the materials

This is the typical layout of a subject level page, with level-specific information such as links to specimen question papers and/or coursework information. The National 4 pages have information on Added Value Unit assessment.

SQA – National 5 Biology

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47427.html>

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Choose a subject

Subject...

In this section

- [CfE Homepage](#)
- [CfE Overview](#)
- [New Qualifications Outline](#)
- [Assessment and Exams](#)
- [Browse CfE Subjects](#)
- [Principles and Guidelines](#)
- [Delivery Processes](#)

Subjects

- [Accounting](#)
- [Administration and IT](#)
- [Art and Design](#)
- [Art and Design \(Design\)](#)
- [Art and Design \(Expressive\)](#)
- [Biology](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Business in Practice](#)
- [Business Management](#)
- [Cantonese](#)
- [Care](#)
- [Chemistry](#)

National 5 Biology

This Course is valid from August 2013.

The National 5 Biology Course covers major areas of biology including cellular, whole organism and ecosystems. The key areas of biodiversity, interdependence, body systems and cells and inheritance are developed through the Course.

[Biology homepage](#)

Qualification content and delivery tools

The documents on this page are for teachers and lecturers.

Learners studying this qualification may also find the documents useful.

The 'Related information' panel on this page contains information that applies to all new National Qualifications in this subject.

Use the tabs below to open each section individually. Alternatively you can [view all](#) the sections.

1 Updates and announcements

2 Mandatory information

- [Course Specification](#)
- [Course Assessment Specification](#)
- [Unit Specifications](#)

3 Advice and guidance

- [Course and Unit Support Notes](#)

4 Assessment support

- [Specimen Question Paper and Marking Instructions](#)
- [Coursework information](#)
- [Unit Assessment Support](#)

Contact Information

- [Candidate and General Enquiries](#)
- [0345 279 1000](#)

5 Related Information

- [N3 - N5 Biology: Quality Assurance - external verification](#)
- [N3 - N5 Biology Course Comparisons](#)
- [New NQs - notification of changes to documents](#)
- [Suites of Courses for Sciences](#)

6 External Links

- [Education Scotland - advice and support for Biology National Qualifications](#)

1 Updates and announcements

SQA will post updates on your subject here, and regularly share further information with your centre's SQA Co-ordinator.

2 What you need to know

Course Specification: explains the structure of the Course, as well as the skills and knowledge it develops.

Course Assessment Specification: gives you detailed information on how your candidates will be assessed in Courses from National 5 upwards.

Unit Specification: shows what each Unit covers, and lists the Outcomes and Assessment Standards.

3 Advice and guidance

Course and Unit Support Notes are full of practical help, guidance and examples to help you teach and assess the Course and its Units.

4 Assessment support

- Specimen Question Paper and Marking Instructions** – National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher
- Coursework Information** – National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher
- Added Value Unit Assessment** – National 4 only
- Unit Assessment Support** – all levels. These documents contain details of Unit assessment tasks, approaches to gathering evidence and how evidence can be judged against Outcomes and Assessment Standards. You can arrange to access these confidential documents through your SQA Co-ordinator.

5 Related information

Subject related panel to right of home page and subject pages, which contains links to useful information:

- subject specific verification information
- National 3 to National 5 Course Comparison documents
- notification of changes to published documents

6 External links

Link to the Education Scotland website where you will find additional subject support.

Available support materials

We have published over 1000 documents across all subjects to help you deliver the new National Qualifications.

NATIONAL 1 UNITS

Mandatory documents:

Unit Specifications

Advice and guidance:

Unit Support Notes

NATIONAL 2

Valid from August 2013

Mandatory documents:

Course Specifications

Unit Specifications

Advice and guidance:

Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment support:

Unit assessment support*

NATIONAL 3

Valid from August 2013

Mandatory documents:

Course Specifications

Unit Specifications

Advice and guidance:

Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment support:

Unit assessment support*

NATIONAL 4

Valid from August 2013

Mandatory documents:

Course Specifications

Unit Specifications

Added Value Unit Specification

Advice and guidance:

Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment support:

Added Value Unit assessment*

Unit assessment support*

NATIONAL 5

Valid from August 2013

Mandatory documents:

Course Specifications

Course Assessment Specification

Unit Specifications

Advice and guidance:

Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment support:

Specimen Question Paper

and Marking Instructions

Coursework information*

Unit assessment support*

HIGHER

Valid from August 2014

Mandatory documents:

Course Specifications

Course Assessment Specification

Unit Specifications

Advice and guidance:

Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment support:

Assessment overview

Unit assessment support pack 1*

Unit assessment support pack 2* –

end of February 2014

Specimen Question Paper and

Marking Instructions – *end of*

February 2014

Coursework information* –

end of March 2014

Unit assessment support pack 3* –

end of April 2014

ADVANCED HIGHER

Valid from August 2015

Mandatory documents: Course Specifications,

Course Assessment Specification,

Unit Specifications

Advice and guidance: Course and Unit Support Notes**Assessment support:** Assessment overview,

Specimen Question Paper and Marking Instructions,

Coursework information*, Unit assessment support* –

all support materials will be available by the end of April 2015

* Added Value Unit assessments, Unit assessment support and Coursework information – coursework assessment tasks are published on our secure website.

SUBJECT-RELATED INFORMATION

N3-N5 quality assurance –
external verification

N3-N5 Course comparisons

New NQs – notification

of changes to documents

Other useful web pages

www.sqa.org.uk/national1

www.sqa.org.uk/national2

www.sqa.org.uk/cfeqa

www.sqa.org.uk/cfedelivery

www.sqa.org.uk/cfeassessment

SQA secure website: <https://secure.sqa.org.uk>

A video guide to accessing support materials is available at www.sqa.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence