

SQA Provision for Gaelic



Keeping Gaelic at the Heart of Scotland's Future



Gaelic is an integral part of Scotland's heritage, still visible in many ways today. From place names to education, media and arts, Gaelic plays an important role in our national identity and cultural life.

To help secure a sustainable future for Gaelic in a multilingual Scotland, SQA is committed to the objectives set out in the National Plan for Gaelic and the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 which recognises Gaelic as an official language of Scotland.

We provide a range of Gaelic qualifications suitable for everyone from learners to fluent speakers. They focus not only on language skills, but also incorporate musical, cultural, historical and vocational elements.

Gaelic (Learners) qualifications

Part of SQA's Modern Languages portfolio, these qualifications are designed for those new to the language, or who have little knowledge of Gaelic. They develop reading, listening, talking and writing skills to promote an understanding and use of Gaelic, and how Gaelic relates to English in terms of society, learning, employability and culture.

Gàidhlig qualifications

Language skills developed in Gaelic medium primary education, and at home, can be further developed and strengthened by these fluent speaker qualifications. These qualifications enable fluent Gaelic speakers to read, write, listen and talk in Gaelic for different purposes, audiences and contexts. They also develop understanding of the complexities of language through the study of texts and promote analytical thinking and awareness of the impact of the Gaelic language.

Gaelic medium qualifications

Gaelic medium qualifications enable fluent speakers to maintain their exposure to the language throughout secondary education. Subjects that can be studied include Cruinn-eòlas (Geography), Eachdraidh (History), Matamataig (Mathematics), Gníomachas Matamataigs (Applications of Mathematics) and Nuadh-eòlas (Modern Studies).

SQA works closely with partners to ensure that Gaelic medium candidates are supported at every stage in their educational development and achievement.

The following grid shows current provision for Gaelic, from learners to fluent speakers – incorporating a range of skills: language, vocational, musical and cultural.

All qualifications are levelled on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). The SCQF is a useful means of comparing different types of qualifications and helps to highlight progression opportunities.

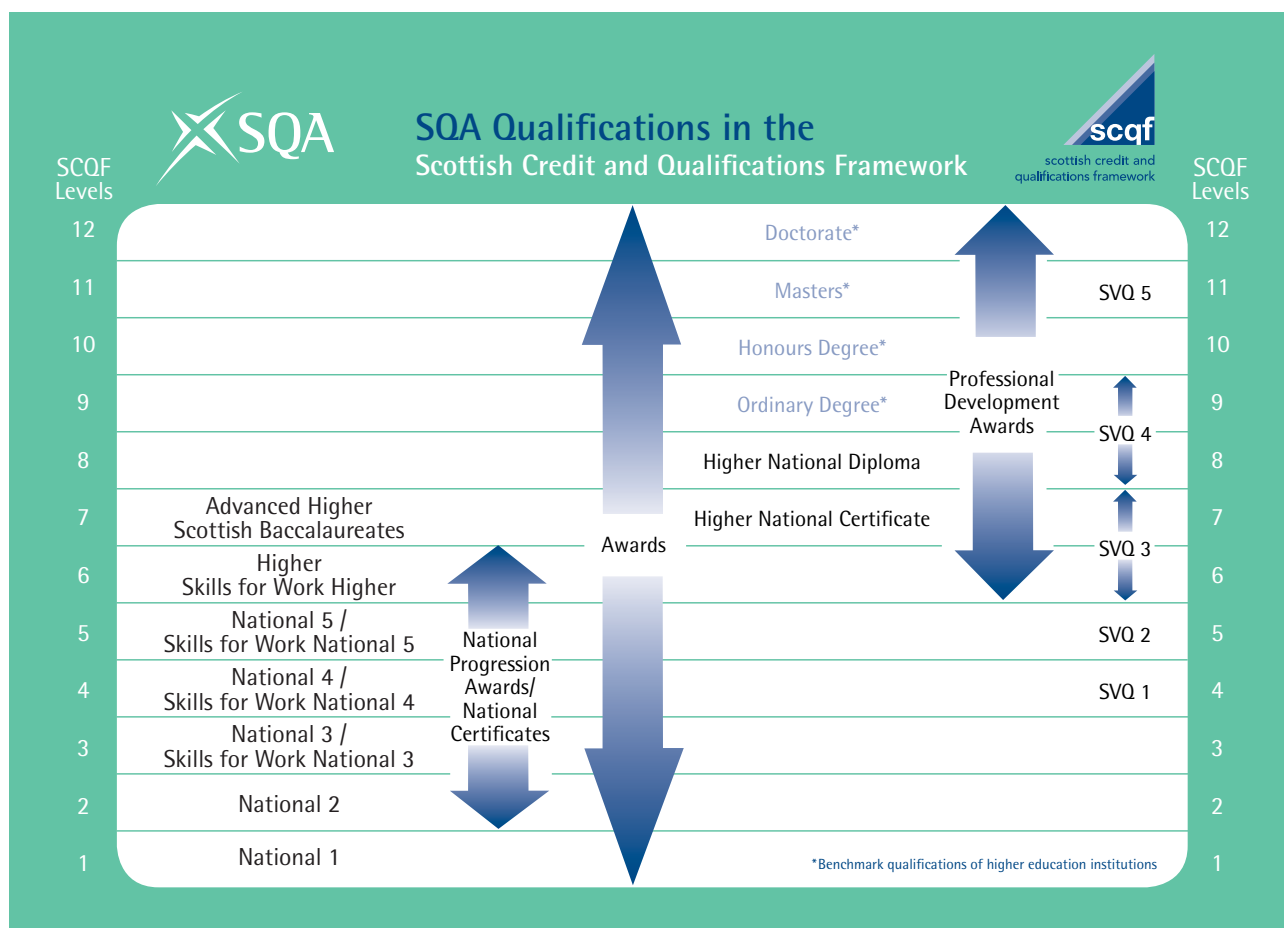
Qualification	SCQF LEVEL									
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
National 2 Gaelic (Learners)										
National 2 Gàidhlig										
National 3 Gaelic (Learners)										
National 3 Gàidhlig										
National 4 Gaelic (Learners)										
National 4 Gàidhlig										
National 5 Gaelic (Learners)										
National 5 Gàidhlig										
Higher Gaelic (Learners)										
Higher Gàidhlig										
Advanced Higher Gaelic (Learners)										
Advanced Higher Gàidhlig										
National Unit: Gaelic (Learners) for Work Purposes										
National Unit: Gaelic (Learners) for Life										
National Unit: Gaelic: Listening										
National Unit: Gaelic: Reading										
National Unit: Gaelic: Speaking										
National Unit: Gaelic: Writing										
NC Celtic Studies										
NPA Contemporary Gaelic Songwriting and Production										
PDA in Gaelic Media										
PDA in Gaelic Translation										

Gaelic medium qualifications

National 3, 4 and 5, Higher, and Advanced Higher courses are available through the medium of Gaelic in the following subjects:

- Cruinn-eòlas (Geography)
- Eachdraidh (History)
- Gnìomhachas Matamataigs (Applications of Mathematics) – *Only available at National 3, 4, and 5.*
- Matamataig (Mathematics)
- Nuadh-eòlas (Modern Studies)

The SCQF helps to make the relationships between qualifications clearer. Qualifications in the SCQF are compared using two measures: level and credit. The level of a qualification shows how difficult the learning is, and the amount of credit shows the size of the qualification (how much learning is involved, or how long it will take).



Find out more.

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