

Assessment Tomorrow, Grosvenor Hilton Edinburgh, 11 November 2009

Meeting the needsof our centres: A developing approach

Martyn Ware
Head of e-Assessment and Learning

Aspirations and expectations

- ♦ **Aspiration**

Our qualifications will:

- Provide the knowledge and skills that 21st century learners will need, and
- Be assessed in ways that are consistent with their experience of life and learning

- ♦ **Expectation**

- Centres will continue to use ICT to improve the quality and efficiency of their learning provision
- Learners will routinely be assessed for our qualifications using e-assessment

Context

- ♦ Strong collaborative relationships between SQA and its centres
- ♦ Close work with other national agencies
- ♦ Informed by developments elsewhere in the UK and internationally

Context for e-assessment

- ♦ 'If I was going there.....'
- ♦ Curriculum for Excellence – new models of curriculum, pedagogy and assessment
- ♦ Limitless opportunities
- ♦ Learners' and centres' expectations
- ♦ Different degrees of enthusiasm/readiness
- ♦ Resource constraints

Solar e-assessments

- ♦ Banks of questions prepared by subject specialists
- ♦ Used instead of paper assessments
- ♦ Input to central system managed by SQA
- ♦ Available to all SQA centres
- ♦ Material for HN, NC/NPA under development
- ♦ Planning to develop in other areas
- ♦ www.sqasolar.org.uk

Deskspace e-portfolio

- ♦ Piloting for Skills for Work courses
- ♦ Allows storage of wide range of types e.g. video, audio
- ♦ Can be personalised
- ♦ Accessible from anywhere – including by EVs
- ♦ Transferable between stages
- ♦ Supports reflective learning
- ♦ www.sqadeskspace.org

Social software and games based assessment

- ♦ Under development
- ♦ More innovative and therefore challenging
- ♦ ...and also more engaging and relevant for learners
- ♦ [Social software evaluation report](#)
- ♦ [Further information about games based assessment](#)

Guidance and support

- ♦ Guidance and case studies
www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment
- ♦ Regulatory Principles
- ♦ 'Guide to Effective Practice in e-Assessment'

Examples – CPD

SQA Academy

- ♦ Training and support for staff, teachers and appointees
- ♦ Delivered through a Virtual Learning Environment
www.sqaacademy.org.uk

Understanding Standards Website

- ♦ Helping teachers to understand the standard applied by our exam teams
- ♦ Through website to allow interactivity
www.understandingstandards.org.uk

A new model – key features

- ♦ Understanding and building on what works
- ♦ Listening to learners
- ♦ A range of fit for purpose approaches
- ♦ Building capacity – internally and externally
- ♦ Establishing clear priorities
- ♦ Maximising opportunities for sharing
- ♦ Making best use of available resources

Martyn.Ware@sqa.org.uk

www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment

Supporting Curriculum for Excellence

'The benefits of online assessment, including immediate feedback to candidates, improved the flexibility of access to assessment. Savings in valuable teaching time had the potential to contribute to the flexibility of the curriculum advocated in the programme for *A Curriculum for Excellence*.'

Improving Scottish Education: ICT in Learning and Teaching,
HMIE, March 2007, <http://www.hmie.gov.uk/ise/ictlearning.asp>