

CDN and SCQFP Join Offer to the College Sector

College Development Network (CDN) and the SCQF Partnership (SCQFP) have come together to provide a joint offer, reflecting key development areas of the college sector. The offer will run from November 2017 to July 2018.

Context

Formed in 2001, the SCQF now includes all mainstream Scottish qualifications and more than 500 other programmes outwith formal learning. The recognition of non-formal learning has been achieved through the work of Credit Rating Bodies, which includes colleges, Higher Education Institutions, SQA and other organisations. Over the last three years the SCQF Partnership has been working with colleges to expand their credit rating activity. This has seen workshops and projects looking at the recognition of wider achievement, non-recognised programmes and support for the regionalisation agenda.

College Development Network (CDN) has a key role in translating Scottish Government policy drivers into practical actions for colleges. The organisation's mission is to maximise the impact of education for learners across the vocational and college system in Scotland. It has three aims:

1. Work to improve the quality of teaching and support for learners.
2. Invest in the strategic vision and performance of vocational education, by developing great emerging leaders and excellent governance structures
3. We are a catalyst for sector innovation.

The joint offer from CDN and the SCQF Partnership (SCQFP) to colleges is designed to meet the needs of the college sector and reflects key priority areas for development, such as Developing the Young Workforce¹. The two organisations seek to collaborate in ways reflected in the document, A Nation with Ambition (2017/18)², which highlights the need for a collaborative approach to leadership. Therefore, CDN and SCQFP are offering joint bespoke support, consultancy and advice to the college sector as well as a range of specific events.

¹ <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/developingtheyoungworkforce>

² <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524214.pdf>

The offer

CDN and SCQFP propose to provide the following support:

SCQFP will:

- Provide a range of workshops to support colleges in the use of the SCQF, these include both open workshops and those tailored for a specific college and a specific circumstance
- Support colleges which are successful in bidding in for the SCQFP funded project to use their powers to directly support current Government priorities and develop sustainability in credit rating
- Provide one-to-one support for college staff on any aspect of using the SCQF from inclusion in prospectus through use in curriculum planning to third party credit rating.

SCQFP and CDN together will:

- Work to identify three colleges to act as pilots for a College Ambassador programme, showcasing innovative and consistent use of SCQF principles and showcase these at the major two-day CDN college event in June 2018
- Provide support for the credit rating of any national provision across colleges
- Identify opportunities to support colleges in the use of the new Flexible Workforce Development Fund.

CDN will:

- Lead on the review of the '*Professional Standards for Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges*', ensuring alignment of the TQFE qualifications and the SCQF
- Ensure that CDN new programme development where appropriate is credit rated
- Promote the use of the SCQF across the college sector through digital marketing channels including the CDN blog.