

SCQF Partnership Strategy

2025 TO 2030

Defining our purpose. Shaping our future.

Who we are: The SCQF Partnership is the independent body that upholds the quality and integrity of Scotland's National Qualifications Framework. We promote coherence across education, skills and training, and support learners, employers and education providers to navigate learning pathways with confidence.

Our purpose is clear:

We empower people to recognise and value their qualifications, skills and abilities in a rapidly changing world.

Our guiding principles:

We will strengthen the SCQF by enabling:

- Equity
- Access
- Mobility

25 in 2026:

In 2026, the SCQF celebrates 25 years as a cornerstone of Scotland's lifelong learning system, supporting coherence and progression. While providing stability, it continues to evolve, so it remains relevant and trusted to 2030 and beyond.



Our vision for 2030:

By 2030, the SCQF will be routinely understood, confidently used and consistently applied across Scotland's education, skills and employment systems - supporting people of all ages to access learning pathways so they can realise their full potential.

Our values:

We are a values-driven organisation, committed to:

- Integrity
- Enabling
- Respecting
- Collaborating

Our three strategic pillars

Strategic pillar 1:



Assure and innovate

Uphold the integrity of the Framework while modernising quality assurance. We will:

- Support providers to evolve credit-rated provision
- Develop innovative approaches to quality assurance
- Strengthen the relevance and usability of the SCQF Register
- Increase international impact through quality, recognition and mobility

Strategic pillar 2:



Recognise and empower

Focus on Recognition of Prior Learning and skills to tackle the skills shortage. We will:

- Promote and encourage SCQF credit rating and the development of micro credentials
- Lead the delivery of a national system for RPL
- Promote inclusive and flexible learning pathways for learners
- Align the SCQF with reformed curriculum and skills frameworks

Strategic pillar 3:



Engage and resource

Build confidence, capacity and consistency in use of the SCQF. We will:

- Champion parity of esteem across all learning pathways
- Strengthen adoption of SCQF tools across careers and skills services
- Simplify the language of qualifications
- Embrace digital transformation
- Invest in and support our people

Strategic intent

The SCQF Partnership:

- Provides Scotland's national architecture for comparing and recognising learning
- Offers a common language that supports mobility across systems
- Enables people to progress their learning at any stage of life
- Supports providers and employers to develop high-quality, credit-rated learning
- Our ambition: by 2030, the SCQF will not only be understood—but confidently used at scale across Scotland

Delivery approach

We will adopt a one-to-many operating model, maximising impact through scalable, system-wide approaches.

Delivery will be underpinned by:

- Digital transformation
- Evidence-based decision making
- Strong stakeholder engagement
- Transparent governance
- A skilled, empowered workforce
- National and international collaboration

scottish credit and qualifications framework