



Scottish Qualifications Authority

Ùghdarras Theisteanas Na H-Alba

17 December 2024

Douglas Ross MSP
Education, Children and Young People Committee
By email to: ecyp.committee@parliament.scot

Contact: Donna Stewart
donna.stewart@sqa.org.uk

Dear Mr Ross

Further to SQA's evidence at the ECYP Committee, and more recent correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary, I am writing to let you, and your fellow Committee members, know that today (Tuesday 17 December) SQA has outlined further support and resources for teachers and lecturers delivering SQA's Higher History course in the current academic session.

Following feedback from History teachers and discussions with the Scottish Association of the Teachers of History (SATH), SQA has agreed to provide an additional package of support for schools and colleges after prelims are completed in January.

In the new year, an additional Understanding Standards webinar covering the question paper 2: Scottish History will be scheduled, giving teachers and lecturers the opportunity to hear from and talk to the Higher History team. We will advise a date for this webinar in the new year.

We will provide more examples of responses to question paper 2 for teachers and lecturers to use in support of learners.

SQA will also open up a dedicated Higher History enquiry point, giving teachers, lecturers, and school leaders the opportunity to directly raise any queries or questions they may have.

These measures follow the discussions we have had with the Scottish Government and SATH regarding feedback from practising History teachers about what support would help them and their learners.

My colleagues and I recognise there is work to do to support teachers and lecturers delivering SQA's Higher History course.

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We want to assure them that we have heard their comments and feedback from the SATH survey, and from our own Understanding Standards session that took place last week.

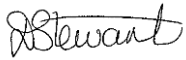
We are working to provide schools and colleges with support and resources they need to help them prepare their learners for their assessments in 2025.

My colleagues and I are committed to resetting and building stronger relationships with teachers, lecturers, pupils and students, a promise that is at the heart of our new [Prospectus for Change](#).

I hope this update useful, and I would be happy to answer any questions that you or the other members of the Committee may have.

I wish you a peaceful festive break, and I look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues again in 2025.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Donna Stewart
Interim Director of Qualifications Development
Scottish Qualifications Authority