Qualifications are changing
EFPTA – April 2012 Copenhagen
Psychology
Qualifications Development

- 197 new Qualifications are being developed in Scotland within the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) programme

- Psychology is being developed at two levels: National 5 and Higher
Engagement since Autumn 2009

• We have 799 members of qualification development teams
• Who have met over 443 times
• SQA staff have attended 700 meetings
• Engaged with 5000 practitioners
• Held 15 update events with another 16 planned for May
CfE aims, values and principles:

- Challenge and enjoyment
- Breadth
- Progression
- Depth
- Personalisation and choice
- Coherence
- Relevance
High order skills

- High Order Skills Excellence Group publication (2011) reporting for the Cabinet Secretary:

  Deep learning is the central principle of Curriculum for Excellence. It involves knowledge, understanding and the skills needed to apply knowledge in useful ways.

  The promotion of skills is, therefore, a key function of the curriculum. People acquire advanced skills at every stage of life and, therefore, teachers (and all other learning providers) should cultivate these skills from the earliest years onwards.
What’s different?

• Qualifications are more skills based than before – including the application of knowledge and understanding

• Outcomes and broad-based leaving flexibility for combining or integrating assessment when appropriate

• Introduction of Non-question paper component to many Courses
Curriculum for Excellence aims to achieve a transformation in education in Scotland by providing a coherent, more flexible and enriched curriculum from 3 to 18.

'Teachers must be encouraged - I almost said 'freed', to pursue an education that strives for depth of understanding.' Howard Gardner
Higher Course Specification

Skills, assessment, understanding, research, human, SCQF, evidence, approaches, ability, level, behaviour, theories, apply, knowledge, information, learning, develop, psychology, psychological, units, higher, learners, credit, experience, appropriate, personalisation, curriculum, aims, provide, details, values, thought, mind, well-being, website, outline, provided, learning, concepts, understand, section, studies, principles, Rationale

Learners, qualifications, standards, investigation, life, may, using, part, purpose, focus, topic, area, August, social, research, specification, individual, component, opportunities, given, conditions, ethics, well, study, award, learner's, national, assessed, psychological, processes, communication, subject, structure, evaluate, scientific, methods, explain, behaviour, process, changes, expected, reproduced, progression, apply, theories, unit

Higher Course Specification
SKILLS

Research Unit
• 'I imagine a school system that recognizes learning is natural, that a love of learning is normal, and that real learning is passionate learning. A school curriculum that values questions above answers…creativity above fact regurgitation…individuality above conformity.. and excellence above standardized performance….. And we must reject all notions of 'reform' that serve up more of the same: more testing, more 'standards', more uniformity, more conformity, more bureaucracy. Tom Peters Author 'Re-imagine'

www.tompeters.com