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1. *What is the title of the qualification?*

This title of this qualification is **Cyber Security**.

2. *What type of qualification is it?*

This qualification is a [National Progression Award](#) (NPA).

3. *What Levels are available?*

This qualification is available at [SCQF](#) Levels **4, 5 and 6** (National 4 to Higher level).

4. *Is it a new or revised qualification?*

This qualification is **new**.

5. *Does it replace an existing qualification?*

No.

6. *Who is the qualification aimed at?*

This qualification is aimed at **all learners** but particularly young people who want to know more about online security, with a view to progressing to a career in cyber security or computer science. It is particularly suitable for school pupils who are considering careers in these fields.

7. *What is included in the qualification?*

The qualification consists of **three Units** at each Level.

Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
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<a href="#">Data Security</a>	<a href="#">Data Security</a>	<a href="#">Data Security</a>
<a href="#">Digital Forensics</a>	<a href="#">Digital Forensics</a>	<a href="#">Digital Forensics</a>
<a href="#">Ethical Hacking</a>	<a href="#">Ethical Hacking</a>	<a href="#">Ethical Hacking</a>

There are no options. All Units are single credit (40 hours). The total duration of the award is **120 hours** (at each Level). You can find out more about the qualification by visiting its [webpage](#), where you will find the [Group Award Specification](#) [PDF].

8. *What core skills does it cover?*

The qualification does not embed any [core skills](#). The core skills of Communication, Numeracy, ICT, Problem Solving, and Working with Others are **sign-posted** in the component units.

9. *How is it assessed?*

The assessments are at the discretion of the centre. The Units suggest approaches to assessment, which include multiple choice tests and practical exercises.

10. *What support materials are available?*

This qualification will be supported by Assessment Support Packs (ASPs) and other materials, which are currently under development. These will be available on [SQA Secure](#).

11. *Are the assessments available on SOLAR?*

This award will be supported by [SOLAR](#), where you will find online assessments. The SOLAR assessments will be available in Autumn 2015.

12. *What other support is available?*

This award will be supported on [uShare](#) where you will find links to teaching and learning resources that can be used to deliver the Units. There is also a [mailing list](#) that you can subscribe to.

13. *Is it linked to vendors?*

No. There are no vendor links.

14. *Can my centre offer it?*

The qualification will be **automatically approved** for Scottish schools and colleges. Other centres will have to [come forward for approval](#).

15. *Can I teach it?*

Yes. No special qualifications are required to deliver this award beyond those required to teach other national qualifications in the field of Computing.

16. *Does it need any special resources?*

Yes. You will need some specific hardware and software to deliver certain parts of some Units. This is more fully described in the [Group Award Specification](#) [PDF].

17. *Are there similar qualifications available?*

No. This qualification is unique.

18. *Is it included in other qualifications?*

Yes. The component Units have been added to the [NC Computing with Digital Media](#) at the corresponding levels.

*19. Are there any special features of this qualification?*

Yes. The qualification is the first of its kind in Europe. It is the only qualification, designed for school pupils, that focuses on cyber security, and seeks to encourage young people to pursue a career in cyber security or computer science. The award will be offered at three levels: SCQF Level 4, 5 and 6. Learners will be permitted to mix-and-match units at each level and still achieve a group award. There is a shortage of qualified people in this area and it is hoped that learners go on from this qualification to pursue a career in data security to fill this skills gap.

*20. How do I find out more?*

[Contact Helen Zhang](#) for the latest information about this development.