1.1   Introduction

This document outlines the **Core Statutory Quality Assurance (QA) Guidelines** established by QQI for providers of higher, further and English language education and training. These guidelines are "statutory" guidelines: QQI must publish QA guidelines under the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act, 2012 (referred to as the 2012 Act in the rest of the document). The 2012 Act further requires providers to "have regard to" QQI's quality assurance (QA) guidelines when establishing their own quality assurance procedures. The principles underpinning these guidelines are set out in the QQI Policy on Quality Assurance Guidelines. These Core Guidelines should be considered in conjunction with QQI's sector and topic-specific QA guidelines as appropriate.