

NQ Verification 2015–16 Key Messages Round 2

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Gaelic Learners
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	June 2016

National Courses/Units verified:

H279 74 National 4 Added value unit

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Good practice

All assessors used the National 4 added value unit effectively.

Centres had amended the assessment instrument which is to be commended. The texts used for assessment standard 1.1 facilitated good responses for assessment standards 1.2 and 1.3.

Interlocutors were encouraging and supportive of their candidates during the assessment of assessment standard 1.3.

Although not essential, some candidates asked questions of the interlocutor, which made for spontaneous and interactive conversations.

There was a good range of contexts, personalisation and choice which allowed candidates to display their language resources and to give more detailed responses.

Development points

Centres are reminded that candidates may refer to up to five headings of no more than eight words each as prompts during the presentation and no notes should be used for the conversation.

Assessment judgements**Good practice**

All centres used the judging evidence table effectively.

The vast majority of assessment judgements were in line with national standards and centres provided clear and concise commentaries to justify these.

There was robust internal verification in evidence from all centres, in particular commentaries and notes.

Development points

Centres are reminded that the assessment of the response for assessment standards 1.2 and 1.3 is that they are sufficient to be understood by a sympathetic speaker of the language.

03**Section 3: General comments**

Many candidates displayed an impressive range of vocabulary and high levels of confidence for National 4 level.

It was useful to the verification team that some centres noted whether they regarded a candidate's performance as 'borderline pass' etc.

Centres must ensure that recordings of candidates are of a quality which will facilitate verification of their assessment judgements.

The verification of a very small number of centres was unable to proceed due to administrative errors. Centres are reminded to read all documentation and material thoroughly, ensure they know exactly what element they are being verified on in that round, and to make themselves aware of SQA terminology, including acronyms, such as IACCA (internally assessed component of course assessment).