



**Higher National Qualifications  
Internal Assessment Report 2013  
Health Care**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in Higher National Qualifications in this subject.

# Higher National Units

## General comments

All centres visited by External Verifiers have a clear and accurate understanding of the assessment requirements of the HNC Health Care and HNC Care and Administration awards. The development points raised at SQA for the HNC Care and Administration (CAP) award last session have been implemented effectively this session.

## Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Assessors for both awards across all centres clearly understand the Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials. Clear and detailed feedback has consistently been given to students for all Units across the sector. Student feedback in completing the skills booklet within the HNC Care and Administration (CAP) award depended on the students having access for a short period to an acute practice placement, which is a necessary requirement for the course.

## Evidence Requirements

Assessors show a clear understanding of Evidence Requirements for the Units across both awards. This is evident in the written constructive feedback given to students across all Units, particularly where remediation was required. Centres delivering the CAP for the first time this session have identified areas for change for next session, that will improve delivery of the course.

## Administration of assessments

There is a varied approach to assessment but evidence clearly demonstrates that in each case the assessment was at the appropriate level for the award. Some centres have developed integrated assessments for Health Care Policy and Positive Health Care for Individuals.

Some centres are using case studies while others use essays or multiple choice questions.

Internal verification processes were clearly demonstrated across all centres visited this year.

In all centres, the students interviewed found the integrated assessments more challenging but understood the rationale behind this.

## General feedback

Retention across the sector for both awards was good.

Detailed feedback from assessors and Internal Verifiers was clearly demonstrated across centres.

There was excellent evidence of consistent assessment decisions by assessors across both awards.

Reflective accounts demonstrated good reflective practice and care values. Across most centres, there are detailed practice placement records and written evidence following lecturer visits.

### **Areas of good practice**

- ◆ Detailed marking schemes used by assessors clearly show students where they have gained marks.
  
- ◆ Constructive written feedback shows students where they need to improve for future assessments.
  
- ◆ Reflective accounts were written very well across the sector.
  
- ◆ Where there is multiple centre delivery, all materials are on the college VLE allowing all staff and students to access support/teaching materials.

### **Specific areas for improvement**

As all centres will move to delivery of the CAP award in 2014, it will be important for development sessions to be held across the year to support centres in this transition. Not all centres have access to acute placements, which will be required — for at least a short period — to achieve all Outcomes in the new award placement portfolio.

# Higher National Graded Units

Titles/levels of HN Graded Units verified:

HNC Health Care and HNC Care and Administration

## General comments

Overall, the Graded Units viewed across both awards were of an excellent standard.

There is currently only one centre delivering the Administration strand and the quality of the Graded Unit viewed at this centre was of a very high standard. Four students from the Administration cohort had secured employment within the sector in various admin roles.

## Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Assessors clearly understand the Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials.

Clear and detailed feedback has consistently been given to students across all three stages of the Graded Unit.

## Evidence Requirements

Assessors show a clear understanding of Evidence Requirements for the Units across both awards. This is evident in the written constructive feedback given to students across all Units, particularly where remediation was required.

Marking guidelines are used across all centres clearly showing students where marks were lost and gained.

## Administration of assessments

There is a varied approach to assessment but evidence clearly demonstrates that in each case the assessment was at the appropriate level for the award.

Some centres carry out the planning stage under controlled conditions and one centre carries out the evaluation stage under controlled conditions to ensure authenticity of work.

Internal verification processes were clearly demonstrated across all centres visited this year.

## **General feedback**

Detailed feedback from assessors and Internal Verifiers was clearly demonstrated across centres. There was evidence of consistent assessment decisions by assessors across both awards. Placements across the sector vary greatly from the acute placements to care homes, allowing for a range of activities within the Graded Unit.

## **Areas of good practice**

- ◆ Innovative activities undertaken by students across placements.
- ◆ Detailed feedback and marking schemes used consistently.
- ◆ Consistent assessment decisions and double-marking or blind second-marking evidenced in work sampled.
- ◆ Referenced research across materials sampled.
- ◆ Planning stage carried out under controlled conditions.
- ◆ Strong partnerships with NHS, UHIs and local employers supporting students.
- ◆ Materials uploaded to VLE to allow access across staff and students.