



Higher National Qualifications Internal Assessment Report 2014 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 have a clear and accurate understanding of the requirements of the HNC Health Care and HNC Care and Administration awards. Some development points were raised within the HNC Care and Administration award. This will be discussed next session at the Qualification Support Team.

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 Units throughout the sector.

All centres across the sector are moving to the Care and Administration award from August and staff have been working together to develop assessments.

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.

Administration of assessments

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

Students interviewed in one centre found the integrated assessments more difficult but understood the rationale behind this.

General feedback

Retention in general was good across all centres. There was evidence of consistent assessment decisions by assessors across both awards. Reflective accounts demonstrated reflective practice and care values. There is detailed practice placement records and written evidence following lecturer visits across some centres. Centres moving to the CAP are anxious that there is no allocated visit time within the design of this award.

Detailed feedback from assessors and internal verifiers was clearly demonstrated across centres.

Areas of good practice

- ◆ There was evidence of consistent assessment decisions by assessors across both awards
- ◆ Reflective accounts demonstrated reflective practice and care values
- ◆ Detailed practice placement records are compiled and written evidence is retained following lecturer visits across some centres
- ◆ Strong working partnerships with placement providers and support booklets provided by centres help to support the partners

Specific areas for improvement

A couple of centres need to ensure that the word count is adhered to across all assessments.

Higher National Graded Units

Titles/levels of HN Graded Units verified:

HNC Health Care
HNC Care and Administration

General comments

Overall, the quality of the Graded Units across both awards were of a high standard.

The word count within each section must be adhered to; this was an issue in a couple of centres.

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 Units.

Evidence Requirements

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

Marking guidelines are used across all centres and clearly show 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 have decided to carry out the planning 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 allowing for a range of activities within the Graded Units.

Areas of good practice

- ◆ Innovative activities undertaken by students
- ◆ Detailed feedback and marking schemes used consistently
- ◆ Consistent assessment decisions with double-marking and/or blind second marking evidenced in work sampled
- ◆ Referenced research across materials sampled
- ◆ Planning stage carried out under controlled conditions
- ◆ Strong partnerships with health boards, universities and local employers supporting students
- ◆ One centre has developed a booklet with a list of activities that students could choose from and they had a glossary of terms/words to use within the evaluation stage of the Graded Unit

Specific areas for improvement

The word count must be adhered to within each section of the Graded Unit.