



**Higher National and Vocational Qualifications  
Internal Assessment Report 2012  
Dance**

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

# Higher National Units

## General comments

In all cases, assessment evidence was clearly presented. All centres demonstrated a sound understanding of national standards and the quality of evidence provided in most centres went well beyond this standard.

Centres had pitched their assessments and judgements at the appropriate levels.

Some very high quality practical work was observed both live and via DVD.

## Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Teaching staff in all centres were using correct documentation and all assessors were very familiar with Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials.

Continuous and summative observational checklists and logs of on-going evaluation were being used effectively. These were well supported by DVD evidence.

In the centres selected for visiting verification, marking instructions and guidelines were being applied consistently and accurately.

## Evidence Requirements

All centres demonstrated a clear understanding of the evidence requirements of Units being delivered.

There was clear evidence of observational checklists, both on-going and summative, journals and logs of on-going evaluation being used effectively

All centres made very good use of DVD to record practical work.

## Administration of assessments

Centres were pitching their assessments and judgements at appropriate levels.

All centres used the published marking schemes and assessment advice.

Some centres had devised their own detailed observation checklists for practical activities.

All centres had clearly laid out internal verification procedures, which in small departments often involved cross-marking as well as sampling.

### **General feedback**

In all centres, evidence of excellent feedback, both verbal and written, was observed.

Where candidates had been interviewed by EVs, they were articulate, confident and very enthusiastic about the work they had completed in the Units.

In all cases, assessment evidence was clearly presented.

A lot of the assessment evidence presented was stored and presented electronically and was clear to follow.

Students showed a high level of understanding and a good level of work.

### **Areas of good practice**

In all centres, DVD evidence was very well presented with some good examples of candidates introducing their practical work and clearly identifying themselves.

It is recommended that this model be considered by all centres in the future in order to make the verification process as straightforward as possible.

Many examples of good quality support materials were observed.

In some centres there were excellent links with industry, which were proving very beneficial for students.

In all cases, candidates' work was very well presented and they were well prepared for assessment.

In some centres, video evidence for technique classes were provided with time-stamped information of when each candidate was present, which ensured correct identification of candidates for verification purposes.

### **Specific areas for improvement**

Centres could consider capturing evidence of reflective logs in a wider range of formats, eg video voice diary, blog as well as written logs.

Students could be encouraged to use a wider variety of research sources.

# Higher National Graded Units

Titles/levels of HN Graded Units verified:

F21Y 34 Professional Stage Dance Graded Unit 1

## General comments

Assessment evidence was clearly presented and a clear understanding of national standards was demonstrated.

Assessments and judgements were pitched at appropriate levels

## Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Teaching staff were using correct documentation and all assessors were very familiar with unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials.

## Evidence Requirements

A clear understanding of the Unit evidence requirements was demonstrated.

## Administration of assessments

Centres had pitched assessments and judgements at appropriate levels.

Very effective detailed checklists had been devised for on-going practical work.

Centres also made very good use of DVD to record practical work.

IV procedures were clearly laid out and effective.

## General feedback

Evidence of excellent feedback, both verbal and written, was observed.

Practical work was of a very high standard.

All assessment evidence was clearly presented.

## **Areas of good practice**

Overall the standard of work was very high. This covered both practical and written work.

DVD evidence presented identified each candidate on screen, which made candidate identification very straightforward.

Students were given the choice of their performance order during the assessment.

## **Specific areas for improvement**

The brief was focused on the musical theatre aspect of the stage dance industry and a wider variety of brief choices would enable fairer access for all students.

It is recommended that written feedback be given as well as oral feedback at the development stage.