



**National Qualifications 2012
Internal Assessment Report
Photography**

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

National Courses

Photography Higher Project Based National Course (PBNC)

General comments

Overall, centres have shown in their candidate presentation an excellent grasp of the requirements for this Course.

Course Arrangements, Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Feedback from visiting verifiers has been that centres fully understand the requirements of the Units and correctly apply the instruments of assessment; they have an excellent grasp in terms of how all of these elements fit in to the overall project based course.

Evidence Requirements

The evidence produced for the Units is generally accurate and adequate; for the Practical Assignment, there have been some isolated instances of missing elements, such as the omission of the Evaluation.

Administration of assessments

Internal assessment within centres, with multiple staff offering the Units and Course, is carried out effectively. In single staff centres the use of school networks has produced excellent internal verification systems; these also have benefited staff development in the area.

Areas of good practice

There continues to be a marked improvement in the development of workbooks to support the Practical Assignment. Centres that encourage a wide range of sources for research, and who ensure that the investigation material relates directly to the selected theme, produce outstanding results.

Specific areas for improvement

Print quality continues to be an area of concern with images produced on low quality material, and digital file sizes being stretched beyond useable size. The use of non-photographic quality printing devices also adds to the problem.

National Qualifications (NQ) Units

Mandatory Units:

F8KH12 Photography: Basic Camera Techniques

F8KJ12 Photography: Research Project

Optional Units:

F8KM12 Photography: Digital Imaging

F8KL12 Photography: Reportage

General comments

All centres visited clearly understand the requirements for the mandatory Units and how elements of them can be integrated into the Practical Assignment. Centres also have a level of expertise to meet the needs of the optional unit(s) chosen.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

All centres are using the correct Unit specifications and mostly use the National Assessment Banks (NABs) available; some centres are using SQA's prior approval facility for their instruments of assessments to allow the Units to meet the needs of specific courses.

Evidence Requirements

Evidence is well presented and fully addresses the requirements of the Units.

Administration of assessments

The increased use of prior approval ensures that assessments are at the correct level; many internal verifiers' systems have produced charts and spread sheets to allow both staff and candidates to understand their progress.

Areas of good practice

Integration of Units and the Practical Assignment allows candidates to take a more holistic approach to the subject. For example, Photography: Research Project integrated with the proposal and workbook; Photography: Digital Imaging/Photography: Reportage integrated into the Development; the evaluation elements of the Photography: Research Project and Photography: Reportage linked to the Evaluation of the Practical Assignment.

Specific areas for improvement

All centres verified this year have addressed the needs and requirements of the Units offered and no specific areas for improvement have been identified.