



National Qualifications 2008

Internal Assessment Report

Subject: Accounting and Finance

Assessment Panel: Business Education

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification which has taken place within National Qualifications in this subject.

STANDARD GRADE

ELEMENT / COURSEWORK VERIFIED

Insert details:

This section relates to the verification of the Practical Abilities project (F/G/C levels).

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the verification of centres.

Include:

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

General comments:

A total of 10 centres were verified this year, compared to 6 last year. The overall standard of marking was improved with only 2 centres not accepted – the problem again being arithmetical errors. In one centre, marks for each question were not recorded on the candidates' worksheets and consequently significant errors were made in transferring section totals to the candidate flyleaf.

Generally speaking, comments from previous years have been taken on board, but there are still a few areas of concern.

Spreadsheet tasks

Despite being brought to the attention of centres on a number of occasions in the past, there is still evidence of candidates being awarded a grade 1-6, yet failing to submit the designated spreadsheet task. Centres should be aware that without this task the candidate is deemed not to have completed the Course in that element and a Grade 8 should be awarded. This problem was evident in 30% of this year's submissions. One centre also failed to provide the required sample of 12 candidates, despite having a presentation list of 31.

Consequentiality

There is an improvement on how this is being dealt with in the marking of accounts, although there was evidence of this being applied to transactions in double entry tasks. Also, it can only be applied in the calculation of ratios if one of the constituent parts of the ratio is correct.

Penalties

There is still evidence of excessive penalties being applied for nomenclature, dates, details and balances in ledger accounts.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Materials were well presented and fully documented. There was some evidence of internal verification by centres, but more centres should adopt this as normal practice. The time involved is obviously an issue for teachers, given the length of the project, but this should be encouraged particularly where the materials have been marked by a less experienced teacher.

Centres should remember that any candidate who fails to submit the **designated** spreadsheet task (even though other tasks may have been done on a spreadsheet) should be awarded a Grade 8.

NATIONAL UNITS

TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS VERIFIED

Insert detail:

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

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Include:

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

General comments:

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

COMPONENT / COURSEWORK IN NATIONAL COURSES

COMPONENT/COURSEWORK VERIFIED

Insert details

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the verification of centres.

Include:

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

General comments:

Advice on good practice and areas for further development: