

Moderation Feedback – Postal - 2005

Assessment Panel:

Computing and Information Systems

Qualification area

**Subject(s) and Level(s)
included in this report**

Computing Studies — Standard Grade

General comments on moderation activity

Generally the overall ability shown continues to be very good.

Candidates performed very well in the project element. Where the level of work is specified by the SQA and marking instructions are provided, the attainment is very good. However, where this does not happen, ie in non-project and programming Coursework, the levels of attainment achieved (and indeed, those expected) vary a great deal.

Hopefully this problem will not show up in future years as many Coursework tasks (as well as new projects) have been issued to centres during the Course of the year. These tasks specify what constitutes a certain grade and so from next year we should see more uniformity in the expected attainment levels.

Specific issues identified

Some centres still managed to send an incorrect sample of candidates' work, despite the clear instructions issued by SQA.

Several centres did not follow instructions when candidates attempted two part projects. They were told to send Part 1 (or the candidates mark sheet for Part 1) along with Part 2 to ensure that the basics of the project had been satisfactorily completed before advancing to Part 2. This situation should not arise with the new projects.

Feedback to centres

When a candidate has attempted both parts of a two part project, Part 1 (or the completed mark sheet for Part 1) should be submitted along with Part 2.

Although there was a very low not-accepted rate, there are concerns about centres being unable to follow certain instructions: totalling pupils' marks, incorrect cut-off scores being applied, incorrect grades being written on pupil flysheets, incomplete evidence being incorrectly graded, inappropriate assessments being used for certain grades.