



**National Qualifications 2016  
Internal Assessment Report  
Brickwork**

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

# National Qualifications (NQ) units

Titles/levels of NQ units verified:

F1JS 10 Half Brick Walling  
F1JV 11 One Brick Walling  
F1JX 11 Fundamentals of Cavity Walling  
F1K1 11 Simple Decorative Brickwork  
F1K5 11 Block Walling

## General comments

The evidence generated by external verification activity for academic year 2015–16 confirmed that all centres had an effective understanding of the national standards outlined within the NPA in Construction: Bricklaying units.

The centres visited were organised and displayed methodical approaches to collating and presenting evidence. Staff at all centres set high standards for practical brickwork and supported candidates well.

## Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Evidence from external verifier reports confirmed that staff at all centres were familiar with the unit specifications for the NPA Bricklaying units. All centres had a clear understanding of the demands of assessment support packs (ASPs) provided by SQA.

All staff demonstrated a high degree of professionalism and an in-depth knowledge of the curriculum, units and ASPs associated with this qualification.

## Evidence requirements

Most centres delivering the NPA Bricklaying units continue to meet the evidence requirements of these units effectively. Evidence of candidate knowledge through written responses and practical brickwork continues to meet evidence requirements for all units.

However, external verification reports noted recommendations relating to:

- ◆ ensuring candidates are assessed in a realistic construction environment
- ◆ strongly advising one centre that candidates are required to comply with the minimum industry standard for the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) including the use of hard hats and hi-visibility vests
- ◆ photographic secondary evidence showing the candidate actively engaged in work processes
- ◆ increasing internal verification sampling of written knowledge assessments

## **Administration of assessments**

The assessment process was being administered effectively in all centres visited.

Assessment planning was being administered effectively in all centres. Internal verification records for the National Progression Award (NPA) were well planned and documented in all centres visited.

Assessment decisions sampled confirmed that the assessment process was being administered reliably, consistently and fairly.

Staff at all centres were familiar with the assessment support packs (ASPs) being used.

Effective standardisation activity was evident in almost all centres with assessment documentation, internal verification records and the assessment decisions forming an integral part of meetings. However, at one centre staff were asked to ensure that the standardisation meetings are scheduled and that minutes and action points from these meetings are recorded.

## **Areas of good practice**

The following area of good practice was reported:

- ◆ Candidate input to standardisation meetings

## **Specific areas for improvement**

The following areas for development were reported by external verifiers with a view to improving the quality of candidate practical evidence:

- ◆ Realistic construction environment
- ◆ Compliance with PPE requirements
- ◆ Photographic evidence
- ◆ Internal verification sampling