



**National Qualifications 2014
Internal Assessment Report
Dance Practice (Higher)**

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:

D646 12 Choreography

D72R 12 Contemporary

D72T 12 Jazz

General comments

In all centres selected for verification, assessments were valid and reliable and the outcome of the verification process was successful in every centre.

Assessment evidence was clearly presented and all demonstrated a sound understanding of national standards, with centres pitching their assessments and judgements at the appropriate levels.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Teaching staff were using the correct documentation and centres appeared familiar with Unit specifications and NABs.

In all cases, instruments of assessment followed SQA guidelines provided in the Unit specifications and the NAB documents, and assessors were very familiar with the requirements.

There was a good level of consistency in the application of assessment instructions across the centres visited and these were being applied accurately.

DVD recordings of class work and performances were available and those were supported by assessors' marking sheets.

In two centres, candidates presented a live performance of the Jazz and Contemporary exercises and aspects of choreography and dance.

Evidence Requirements

Evidence was available for all Outcomes of the Units.

In all centres, staff demonstrated a clear understanding of the Evidence Requirements for the Units as detailed in the Unit specifications, and there was clear evidence of observational checklists and ongoing evaluations being used effectively.

In two centres, candidates were available to present aspects of their practical work and in the other centres good quality DVD evidence was available.

The standard of practical work in most cases was very high and verifiers' reports highlighted this.

Administration of assessments

All centres were pitching their assessments and judgements at appropriate levels.

All centres used the marking schemes and assessment advice contained in the NABs.

The majority of centres had clearly laid out internal verification procedures which were working effectively and usually involved cross-marking as well as sampling.

Areas of good practice

In all centres visited, good practice was identified and included:

- ◆ Well structured class teaching for the technique Units
- ◆ Good quality feedback to candidates
- ◆ Staff making good use of their specialist areas of expertise when delivering the different aspects of the course
- ◆ Time and care taken to clearly compile candidates' evidence
- ◆ Excellent student handouts on dance practitioners
- ◆ Candidates demonstrating effective peer assessment

Specific areas for improvement

Centres should consider gathering evidence for Choreography naturally through class work.

When using video to provide evidence of practical work, centres should ensure that candidates are clearly identified.