



NQ Verification 2015–16 Key Messages Round 1

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Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	People and Society
Verification event/visiting information	Event and Visiting
Date published:	March 2016

National Courses/Units verified:

H249 73	National 3	Investigating Skills
H24B 73	National 3	Making Decisions
H249 74	National 4	Investigating Skills

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Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

During verification the following examples of good practice were observed:

- ◆ Most centres created their own assessments, which were of a good standard.
- ◆ Some excellent examples were seen of centres providing a layout for the write-up of the Investigating Skills Unit. This guided candidates to give all that was needed to achieve each Assessment Standard.
- ◆ Centres that provided their internal verification policy and completed checklists for the Unit assessments allowed verifiers to check assessment approaches more easily.

Action points

- ◆ When centres are using a Unit support assessment packages, they should adapt the judging the evidence table to their topic/issue by giving suggested answers which they deem suitable.

- ◆ If you are unsure about internal verification procedures, the Internal Verification Toolkit on SQA's website (www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit) gives meaningful guidance and references on how to complete it.

Assessment judgements

During verification the following examples of good practice were observed:

- ◆ Most centres judged the evidence in relation to the appropriate Assessment Standard.
- ◆ When a layout was given to candidates for the Investigating Skills Unit, assessors were able to make and show clear judgements, allowing verifiers to judge the centre's assessment judgements more easily.
- ◆ When a centre has a verbal discussion with a candidate to check their understanding of an Assessment Standard, the centre wrote on the candidate's work the questions used by the assessor and answers given by the candidate. This then allowed the verification team to see why the centre had made the judgement it had about the candidate.
- ◆ Assessors indicating where the candidate has achieved the Assessment Standard on the candidate's work allowed verifiers to see assessment judgements more easily.
- ◆ Cross-marking of candidates' work helped to ensure assessment judgement decisions were more reliable.

Action points

- ◆ For verifiers to be able to verify the centre's assessment judgements, assessors should indicate on candidate evidence where the Assessment Standards are being met.
- ◆ For all Units, Assessment Standard 2.3 asks for candidates to show knowledge and understanding of the two (National 3) or three (National 4) key ideas they have chosen. This knowledge and understanding must be included in each candidate's evidence.

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Section 3: General comments

The following comments are intended as a guide to centres on future practice:

- ◆ Round 1 of verification is for Unit assessments at National 3 and National 4 and Round 2 of verification is for the Added Value Unit.
- ◆ Advise candidates that if they are using their jotter notes as a source of information, they should not just copy or lift this information straight from their jotter but instead put it into their own words.