

# NQ Verification 2016–17

## Key Messages Round 2

01

### Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Physical Education
Verification event/visiting information	Visiting
Date published:	June 2017

#### National Courses/Units verified:

H255 74 National 4 Physical Education: Performance (Added Value Unit)  
C756 75, 76 and 77 Physical Education: Course Assessment Performance

02

### Section 2: Comments on assessment

#### Assessment approaches

Centres had set up and prepared appropriate contexts for verification. Candidate evidence was available and most was clearly organised. Live performances, in a variety of activities, allowed candidates to show their abilities.

#### H255 74 Physical Education: Performance (Added Value Unit)

A range of individual and team activities was seen in centres. All centres set up an approach to allow the candidates to access all the assessment standards. Good knowledge of their candidates was clear in that centres set the performances in a very appropriate context with the correct level of challenge.

#### C756 75, 76 and 77 Physical Education: Course Assessment Performance

In the live performance part of verification, centres provided an appropriately challenging context to allow candidates to perform. For planning and evaluation at levels 75 and 76, centres provided written evidence using the set questions. Some centres used the original questions for level 76 and were reminded that the amended questions and marking instructions should be used. To use the 'old' format of questions could disadvantage the candidates.

## Assessment judgements

### **H255 74 Physical Education: Performance (Added Value Unit)**

On the verification day some candidates did not achieve the standard required for the added value unit on the day, whilst some were well above the standard. In all cases judgements made during verification were at the correct standard.

### **C756 75, 76 and 77 Physical Education: Course Assessment Performance**

The national standards were used reliably. Centres made valid and consistent judgements for the performance element of the course, awarding candidates the correct marks. In the planning and evaluation element most centres were accurate in their awarding of marks. Where there were discrepancies, most were in the evaluation part of the assessment. In a number of centres, marks were awarded incorrectly for description or narrative writing where analysis or evaluation was required. Centres should ensure that the 'command word' is noted in order to allow candidates access to marks. The marking instructions for planning and evaluation show where the marks should be awarded and how many marks are available for each section of a response.

## **03 Section 3: General comments**

It was apparent that a wide range of activities had been used to allow candidates to gain marks in their single performance event. Care must be taken to ensure sufficient assessor expertise exists within the centre to manage the assessment process and assess each candidate's evidence. Clarification on acceptable activities for assessment can be found on the Physical Education subject page.

As last year, some candidates' responses were very lengthy in the planning and evaluation element. Some had detailed description which gained no marks — others had comprehensive responses which would have gained well above the maximum marks possible. When thinking about preparing for the question paper, where there is a time limit, candidates should be encouraged to be succinct.

There was evidence of internal verification procedures in most centres; single-person departments had worked with neighbouring centres to ensure that internal verification was carried out. Some centres had comments from both the internal assessor and internal verifier for each section. Where the marks differ it must be clear which mark has been awarded to the candidate. The agreed mark should be arrived at through discussion and with reference to the marking instructions.

Centres should make use of the exemplars for National 5 and Higher. These can be found on SQA's secure website, which can be accessed through the centre's SQA co-ordinator, where there are examples of all elements of internally assessed course components along with commentaries. The new course specification document for National 5 is available on the Physical Education web page.