

NQ Verification 2015–16 Key Messages Round 1

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Practical Metalworking and Practical Woodworking
Verification event/visiting information	Visiting
Date published:	March 2016

National Courses/Units verified:

H25V 74 National 4 Practical Woodworking: Flat-frame Construction
 H25V 75 National 5 Practical Woodworking: Flat-frame Construction
 H25W 74 National 4 Practical Woodworking: Carcase Construction
 H25W 75 National 5 Practical Woodworking: Carcase Construction
 H25X 74 National 4 Practical Woodworking: Machining and Finishing
 H25X 75 National 5 Practical Woodworking: Machining and Finishing
 H25P 74 National 4 Practical Metalworking: Bench Skills
 H25P 75 National 5 Practical Metalworking: Bench Skills
 H25R 74 National 4 Practical Metalworking: Machine Processes
 H25R 75 National 5 Practical Metalworking: Machine Processes
 H25S 74 National 4 Practical Metalworking: Fabrication and Thermal Joining
 H25S 75 National 5 Practical Metalworking: Fabrication and Thermal Joining

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

All Outcomes and Assessment Standards of a Unit must be met in order to pass the Unit. Various assessment approaches and evidence types are available for centres to do this, and these are detailed within each Unit assessment support pack, available from SQA Secure.

Appropriate joints for Outcomes

Details of the joints that can be used are given throughout the Course documentation. However, for housing joints we recommend using a width of 90 mm as this will adequately test the candidate's abilities in chiselling and using the tenon saw.

Materials

Details of the materials that can be used are given throughout the Course documentation. We recommend the use of natural wood rather than manufactured board for joints as this will allow the candidate to adequately demonstrate their abilities.

Machine tools

Details of the machine and power tools that can be used are given throughout the Course documentation. However, we would reiterate that machine/power tools outwith those prescribed — such as the band saw — are not permitted. Any assessment of work using these tools is invalid.

If the candidate is assembling a piece of work with mortise and tenon joints, they must complete at least half of the joints (minimum two) by using hand tools. Once these are completed (to tolerance) the mortise machine can be used for the remainder. Additionally, the candidate must record this in their log/record of work.

Woodwork lathe

The turnery aspect of the Machining and Finishing Unit requires the candidate to complete a piece of turnery work from a template. The assessment will be working towards the overall length along with the maximum and minimum diameter. Templates used must be available for internal and external verification.

Finishing

Part of the Machining and Finishing Unit involved the assessment of a surface finish. If this is applied to an artefact that has also been used to assess another Outcome from this — or another — Unit, then the finish cannot obscure the other assessable aspects. Similarly, within the Practical Metalworking Unit, if a finish is applied to an artefact that is also being used to assess another Outcome, then the finish cannot obscure this.

Details of the specific requirements of finishing can be found in the Course documentation.

Recording

Centres are reminded to make full use of assessor comments, as detailed explanation from the assessor allows the internal/external verifier to fully comprehend any assessment decisions that are made.

The use of a candidate log (examples are in the Unit assessment support packs) has been very successful, with clear detail given by candidates on what they are doing. We have found that the log, used as part of Unit assessment, is also

working well in preparing candidates for the equivalent diary that is a requirement of the Course assignment. Additionally, this provides the assessor/verifier with information to support the assessment/verification process.

Assessment judgements

Centres are making fair and accurate Units assessments decisions across all levels (National 3–5).

Should a centre be selected for verification, all candidate evidence must be made available for the Unit.

03

Section 3: General comments

Internal verification

Having and applying an internal verification policy is a requirement of a centre's approval to offer SQA qualifications and, in the majority of visits, we see evidence of such policies being applied. If centres require further information on internal verification, there is guidance available on [SQA's website](#).

Centres are strongly recommended to submit any centre-devised assessments for [prior verification](#). This is a free service that will ensure that an approach to assessment is correct.

Centres are reminded that a ['common questions' document](#) can be found on the subject web page.