



## **National Qualifications 2007**

### **Senior Verifier Report**

**Subject: Social and Vocational Skills (Practical Abilities)**

**Assessment Panel: Personal and Social Education/ Social and Vocational Skills**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on Verification which has taken place within National Qualifications in this subject.

## STANDARD GRADE

### ELEMENT / COURSEWORK VERIFIED

#### PRACTICAL ABILITIES (SOCIAL AND VOCATIONAL SKILLS)

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### General comments:

The quality, organisation and presentation of evidence submitted by centres selected for central verification continues to be generally good and at best excellent. The use of Grade Related Criteria (G.R.C.) by centres in allocating Practical Abilities internal assessment grades was excellent with few exceptions. Appropriate written feedback was provided for centres as necessary.

#### Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

The range of interesting and stimulating course experiences with scope for development continues to provide candidates with opportunities to show initiative and leadership qualities that develop the experience for themselves. Based on teacher comments, such circumstances appear to be an inspiration for peers in the group while also generating individual evidence of skills up to credit level.

The effectiveness of course tutors and course co-ordinators is also apparent in evidence submitted. This manifests itself in the creativity observed in opportunities offered to candidates, a systematic approach to managing course experiences and in the leadership of Social and Vocational Skills courses.

Where teacher's comments are G.R.C. based they can prove to be a valuable supplement to candidate evidence.

Good use was made of photographic evidence to illustrate part of a process or outcome.

In general, appropriate parts of the green internal assessment forms were used well by teachers and candidates. There was some evidence of the whole form being completed by the teacher including the pupil comments section. Candidate comments can be an important element of course evidence and teachers should allow candidates to complete this section of the assessment sheet themselves. Language used was not indicative of scribing.

The use of expressions such as "I did...." continues to be prolific and impressive when candidates are describing their individual role in course task and experiences. Where this occurs it follows a pattern of good practice amongst candidates within whole centres. Absence of that expression also follows a pattern and results in it being less than clear what particular parts of a task each candidate has been responsible for carrying out.

Most centres are selective in the pieces of evidence submitted to support internal assessment grades awarded to candidates. Where large volumes of unsorted evidence are submitted verifiers can have considerable difficulty identifying relevant evidence to support a centre's grading. Centres should be selective when submitting evidence. A notional five hours of carefully selected candidate evidence is normally sufficient to support accurate internal assessment that is based on good quality evidence.