



**National Qualifications 2013
Internal Assessment Report
Skills for Work: Beauty**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in National Qualifications in this subject.

National Qualifications (NQ) Units

F5AY 12 - Beauty: Facial Techniques (Higher)

F5B1 12 - Beauty: Facial Treatment Packages (Higher)

F5B2 12 - Beauty: Nail Finishes (Higher)

F5B3 12 - Beauty: Creative Current Make-Up Trends (Higher)

General comments

These Units form the Course structure for the Skills for Work: Beauty (Higher). They also form 50% of the mandatory section of the National Qualification in Beauty at SCQF level 6.

In two-thirds of centres that were externally verified, all Units were being delivered as part of the mandatory section of the full-time NQ in Beauty at SCQF level 6.

In most centres externally verified, the Unit F5B3 12 Beauty: Creative Current Make-Up Trends (Higher) was being delivered either to school pupils as part of a college programme, or as part of their NQ Hairdressing programme. In one centre, Unit F5B2 12 was being delivered as a stand-alone Unit within their evening curriculum provision.

Staff in all centres visited displayed a clear and accurate understanding of the national standards relating to the Units being delivered, providing a supportive learning environment where most learners will develop a positive and responsible attitude to work.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Assessors in all centres externally verified were familiar with the content of the Unit specifications. All use the National Assessment Bank (NAB) material provided by SQA as well as the support material developed collaboratively by Colleges Scotland and SQA.

Almost all centres had developed alternative assessments for use when learners required remediation on written papers. This was applicable for Units F5AY 12 Beauty: Facial Techniques, F5B1 12 Beauty: Facial Treatment Packages, and F5B2 12 Beauty: Nail Finishes.

Centres that were visited which deliver these Units as part of the NQ Beauty programme adopted an integrated approach to the delivery of F5AY 12 Beauty: Facial Techniques and F5B1 12 Beauty: Facial Treatment Packages.

The appropriate understanding of national standards as detailed in the Unit specifications therefore impacts positively on almost all learners' experience.

Evidence Requirements

Assessment judgements made on all evidence sampled were fair, accurate and consistent. In a few instances, remediation tracking could have been better signposted. Evident recorded was constructive and supportive feedback was given to learners in centres visited.

In centres that were visited and where integration of Unit delivery takes place, learners were able to prepare for and undertake practical assessments in a manner which reflects industry practice; enhancing the learner experience and employability skills profile.

Administration of assessments

Standardisation procedures were evident in all centres visited. Accepted assessment responses were appropriate to meet the SCQF level of each Unit.

Practical assessments were being completed in a realistic working environment, involving working with clients and with others in a team, developing good working practice.

Feedback from learners confirmed that assessors gave encouragement, and were interested in their progress, which promotes a supportive learning environment.

In all centres visited, internal verification had taken place in accordance with centre policy; with relevant documentation completed and available at the time of the visit. Documentation that was available demonstrated that recorded feedback is given to assessors on the candidate sample; actions, where identified, are time-bound and followed up to ensure completion.

Areas of good practice

The structured approach to learning activities that was adopted in centres which were visited, enhances the learning experience for almost all learners.

Areas of good practice identified during external verification demonstrated that learners are encouraged to develop good working practice and are provided with opportunities to develop a range of vocational and transferable skills and build learner confidence.

Specific examples:

1. Integration of Unit F5B3 12 Beauty: Creative Current Make-Up Trends with F78W 12 Styling for a Total Look; enabling candidates to produce a total current look.
2. Candidate participation in competitions and displays of coursework to showcase the skills they have developed.

3. Use of ICT in the production of plans – Unit F5B3 12 Beauty: Creative Current Make-Up Trends; giving learners the opportunity to develop their ICT skills.
4. Integration of learning/teaching and assessment making treatments performed by learners more meaningful, reflecting industry practice.
5. Use of photographic evidence to exemplify learners' work.
6. Learner logbook used to record practice and development of skills.
7. Clear consistent and supportive feedback given on assessment which supports the learning process and builds learner confidence.

Specific areas for improvement

The successful outcome of external verification visits undertaken in this academic session, indicate that there are no specific areas for improvement at this time.