



NQ Verification 2016–17

Key Messages Round 1

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	National 1 and National 2
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	March 2017

National Courses/Units verified:

National 1 units

- H47N 71 Food Preparation: Baking
- H47V 71 Independent Living Skills: Going Shopping
- H6BW 71 Number Skills: Number Processes
- H6BV 71 Number Skills: Recognising Numbers
- H708 71 Science in the Environment — Resources, Forces and Energy

Units from awards

- H1GK 41 Personal Achievement: Community Activity
- H1G6 41 Personal Achievement: Hobbies and Interests
- H1G2 41 Personal Achievement: Performing Arts — Individual Activity
- H1G3 41 Personal Achievement: Personal Health

National 2 units from the following courses

Units from Creative Arts

- H22K 72 Developing Skills in Creative Arts
- H22M 72 Working with Textiles
- H22P 72 Creating Materials for Display

Units from English and Communication

- H241 72 Understanding Language
- H244 72 Creating Texts

Units from Food, Health and Wellbeing

- H259 72 Food for Health

Units from Information and Communications Technology

- H20T 72 ICT Applications
- H20X 72 Internet Applications

Units from Lifeskills Maths

- H21V 72 Money
- H21R 72 Number and Number Processes
- H21W 72 Time
- H21T 72 Shape, Space and Data

Units from Performance Arts

- H24E 72 Using Performance Skills

Stand-alone units

- H8LN 72 Independent Living Skills: Taking Part in Outdoor Activities
- H8LY 72 Life in Another Country: Optional Language

Units from awards

- H3YH 42 Cycling Safely
- H1GT 42 Personal Development: Practical Abilities — Independent Living
- H1GN 42 Personal Development: Self in the Community — Leisure time Activities

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

During verification the following good practice was noted:

- ◆ The majority of centres included unit assessment support packs and/or judging evidence table with their evidence.
- ◆ Most centres used SQA's unit assessment support packs well and labelled accompanying evidence clearly with related assessment standards.
- ◆ Centres using National 1 units had devised very good individualised well labelled assessments which matched candidates' needs and candidates were allowed to use their own mode of communication.
- ◆ Candidate assessment records and checklists were included in evidence and showed detailed comments regarding how assessments had been carried out.
- ◆ Materials submitted were well organised and documented.

Action points

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

- ◆ Centres should use the most up to date unit assessment support packs — centres are reminded that Access 1 and 2 units finished in July 2016 and are no longer valid. Centres are also reminded that the Level 1 Personal Achievement Award was amended in 2015 to simplify outcome 3.
- ◆ All assessment evidence should always be clearly labelled with appropriate assessment standards.
- ◆ Detailed candidate assessment records should always be submitted with evidence.

- ◆ It should be indicated on the flyleaf how a candidate has been supported eg scribing.

Assessment judgements

During verification the following good practice was noted:

- ◆ The majority of centres were seen to be applying the standards to assessments and showed that they had a sound knowledge of standards and procedures.
- ◆ Centres have continued to include photographs in their evidence which clearly show the context of learning. They had also labelled the photographs indicating their purpose and describing the actions of the candidates.
- ◆ Some centres had also included excellent DVDs and PowerPoint presentations which enhanced evidence.
- ◆ Candidate assessment records showed clearly if assessment had been achieved but also indicated if the candidates had been re-assessed and supported.
- ◆ Some centres had used candidate logs and diaries to record activities and evidence.

Action points

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

- ◆ Centres should always label all evidence clearly and ensure it relates to the correct unit.
- ◆ Photographs should always demonstrate candidate involvement and should be labelled with candidates' actions.
- ◆ It is important when delivering a unit to a group that each candidate in the group has the opportunity to evidence their responses individually — this should also be recorded by the assessor individually.
- ◆ Some evidence suggested that candidates could have achieved a higher level of unit. Centres should ensure that candidates are presented at the correct level.

03

Section 3: General comments

Sampling for this round showed centres presenting a small number of candidates with some submitting evidence for more than 12. Centres are reminded that only evidence for the maximum of 12 candidates should be submitted.

Also, the evidence should match the units identified on the verification sampling sheet.

Again, there were some excellent examples of internal verification policies and practices submitted by centres, which showed that it was a supportive process

through pre-delivery, delivery and post-delivery of units. Sampling of assessment material was evident with centres showing comments, signature and date from the internal verifier. Cross-marking was also used which is another example of good practice.

However, some centres did not submit evidence of a system and others were not always robust, as often signatures were missing or evidence had been wrongly verified.

Internal verification should ensure that staff are fully supported throughout delivery and assessment procedures. This ensures that processes are matching national standards.

Centres still at the developmental stage of internal verification will find more support at www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit.