NQ verification 2022–23 round 1

Qualification verification summary report

Section 1: verification group information

Verification group name:	Music Technology
Verification activity:	Event
Date published:	June 2023

National Units verified

Unit code	Unit level	Unit title
H243 73	National 3	Music Technology Skills
H245 73	National 3	Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music
H247 73	National 3	Music Technology in Context
H243 74	National 4	Music Technology Skills
H245 74	National 4	Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music
H247 74	National 4	Music Technology in Context

Section 2: comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Centres used the SQA unit assessment support (UAS) packs for the Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music unit. To assess outcome 1, listening logs from UAS package 2 — unit by unit approach were used. To assess outcome 2, the listening assessment from UAS package 3 — combined approach was used. This approach was very successful and effective.

For the Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music unit, a copy of the marking instructions used by the centre should be submitted for each listening assessment.

Centres should also take care to ensure that genres and music concepts in listening assessments use the appropriate genres and terms for National 3 and National 4. Lists of genres and concepts for both National 3 and 4 are available in the Music Technology Course Support Notes on the National 4 Music Technology subject page on SQA's website.

For the Music Technology Skills and Music Technology in Context units, centres used the assessment from UAS package 2 — unit by unit approach.

For the Music Technology Skills unit, the submission of audio files greatly informed the verification process and supported centre assessment judgements.

Centres are reminded that details of the approach to assessment should be submitted with their materials when selected for verification and a copy of the appropriate assessment brief, task or listening test completed by the candidate should also be submitted.

Any centre-devised or adapted tasks should ensure that candidates are able to meet all of the assessment standards. They can be prior verified by SQA.

Assessment judgements

Assessment judgements were generally in line with the national standard and were reliable. Many centres made good use of judging evidence tables and candidate assessment record sheets.

Candidate assessment records for each assessment standard should be submitted and these should clearly indicate the assessment judgement (pass or fail) made by the centre for each assessment standard. Assessor comments should detail how the candidate has or has not achieved the assessment standards.

There is evidence of good practice in many centres that give detailed feedback about assessment judgements to candidates via clear and detailed candidate assessment records. Some centres also used the candidate assessment record to record internal verification and this approach was very effective.

Section 3: general comments

For verification purposes it is possible to submit interim evidence for a unit which candidates have not fully completed. Centres should however ensure that sufficient evidence is submitted to allow verifiers to make informed decisions about centre assessment judgements. For more information, centres should refer to SQA guidance on interim evidence. This is contained within the Verification Submission Guidance (Units) document.

Centres are reminded that SQA provides a prior verification service for centres that devise their own assessments or significantly change SQA's assessments to suit their particular needs. The service gives centres additional confidence that their proposed assessment is fit for purpose and is valid. For more information, centres should refer to the NQ prior verification centre guidance.

There are also examples of candidate evidence and commentaries in the Understanding Standards section of SQA's secure website.

NQ verification 2022–23 round 2

Qualification verification summary report

Section 1: verification group information

Verification group name:	**Music Technology**
Verification activity:	**Event**
Date published:	**June 2023**

National Units verified

Unit code	Unit level	Unit title
H245 74	National 4	Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music
J259 75	SCQF level 5	Music Technology in Context
J256 76	SCQF level 6	Music Technology Skills
J258 76	SCQF level 6	Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music

Section 2: comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Centres should ensure that they submit a copy of the appropriate assessment brief, task or listening test completed by the candidate.

Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music

Some centres used the SQA unit assessment support (UAS) packs for this unit. To assess outcome 1, listening logs from unit assessment support pack package 2 — unit by unit approach were used. To assess outcome 2, the listening assessment from UAS package 3 — combined approach was used. This approach was very successful and effective.

Centres should be aware that genres for assessment standards 1.1 and 1.2 should come from the SCQF level 6 Music Technology genre list (see the Higher Music Technology Course Specification). Acceptable genres for the exemplification of these outcomes are 20th and 21st century classical music, electroacoustic music, indie, jazz funk, new wave, reggae, soul and world music.

A copy of the listening test and marking instructions used by the centre should be submitted for each listening assessment.

Music Technology Skills

Centres are reminded that they should submit observational evidence supported by candidate logs, screen shots, track sheets and/or session data files. If candidates are working in groups, observational evidence is essential to ensure that candidates can justify decisions regarding the selection of hardware and techniques.

Music Technology in Context

Centres used UAS package 2 — unit by unit approach very effectively. Centres are reminded that details of the approach to assessment should be provided in their materials when selected for verification. Any centre-devised or adapted tasks should ensure that candidates are able to meet all of the assessment standards.

The submission of audio files along with candidate logs, screen shots, track sheets and/or session data files greatly informed the verification process and supported centre assessment judgements.

Assessment judgements

Assessment judgements were generally in line with the national standard and were reliable. Many centres made good use of the judging evidence tables, and candidate assessment record sheets.

Candidate assessment records for each assessment standard should be submitted and these should clearly indicate the assessment judgement (pass or fail) made by the centre for each assessment standard. Assessor comments should detail how the candidate has or has not achieved each assessment standard.

There is evidence of good practice in many centres that give detailed feedback about assessment judgements to candidates via clear and detailed candidate assessment records. Some centres also used the candidate assessment record to record internal verification and this approach was very effective.

Section 3: general comments

For verification purposes it is possible to submit interim evidence for a unit which candidates have not fully completed. Centres should however ensure that sufficient evidence is submitted to allow verifiers to make informed decisions about centre assessment judgements. For more information centres should refer to SQA guidance on interim evidence. This is contained within the Verification Submission Guidance (Units) document.

Centres are reminded that SQA provides a prior verification service for centres that devise their own assessments or significantly change SQA's assessments to suit their particular needs. The service gives centres additional confidence that their proposed assessment is fit for purpose and is valid. For more information, centres should refer to the NQ prior verification centre guidance.

There are also examples of candidate evidence and commentaries in the Understanding Standards section of SQA's secure website.