



Qualification Verification Summary Report

NQ Verification 2018–19

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Mandarin and Cantonese
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	June 2019

National Courses verified:

C845 75	National 5	Mandarin (Simplified): performance — talking
C845 76	Higher	Mandarin (Simplified): performance — talking
C811 76	Higher	Cantonese: performance — talking

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

The verification team for Chinese can report that the approaches used by all the centres selected for verification have been 'Accepted', 'Accepted with Recommendations' or 'Not Accepted'.

The approaches to assessment which are used by most centres selected for verification are valid and accepted. Centres used a range of SQA course assessment tasks for the performance — talking to assess candidates at National 5 and Higher appropriately. The assessors were very supportive and encouraging interlocutors. This is to be commended.

However, centres are advised to pay more attention to the following aspects:

- ◆ Centres must use SQA published course assessed tasks and make reference in their judgements to the pegged marks applicable to National 5 or Higher performance — talking as set out in the latest National 5 or Higher Modern Language course specification.

- ◆ Assessors should ask more open-ended questions which enable candidates to demonstrate their full ability to use Chinese at National 5 or Higher.
- ◆ In the choices of topics within the performance — talking, centres may consider a wider scope of different contexts to generate a variety of performances.

Assessment judgements

The verification team for Chinese can report that the assessment judgements made by assessors in all centres selected for verification have been ‘Accepted’, ‘Accepted with Recommendation’ or ‘Not Accepted’.

Marks awarded by most centres were in line with national standards, reliable and accepted. Assessors made effective use of the SQA marking instruction to support the marks awarded to each candidate.

In most cases, at National 5, at least two contexts are covered as per the course assessment tasks. The Candidate Assessment Record is used effectively to record a breakdown of the marks awarded on different subsections.

However, centres are advised to pay more attention to the following aspects:

- ◆ To award marks and justify judgements, centres must use the updated National 5 or Higher pegged mark descriptors as per the performance — talking course tasks provided in National 5 or Higher Modern Language course specification.
- ◆ Centres must provide clear evidence as to which candidate each mark refers to, and justify how they have awarded marks against the standards.
- ◆ For the purpose of SQA verification, it would be useful if the centre could provide some commentary in the Candidate Assessment Record against the marks awarded for each section of the talking performance. In particular, it would be useful to have a brief explanation as to why the centre has opted for one pegged mark over another for each section of the performance.
- ◆ At National 5, centres must not be lenient or severe in awarding marks on any subsection.

03

Section 3: General comments

Most centres selected for verification have submitted adequate evidence at relevant levels. This is to be commended.

For the purpose of verification, centres are advised to pay more attention to the following aspects:

- ◆ Centres should provide good evidence of effective internal verification. For the effectiveness of internal verification, centres are recommended to refer to the internal verification toolkit available here: www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit.

- ◆ Centres should appropriately complete each candidate evidence flyleaf including the signature and date.
- ◆ To help the SQA verification team and the centre, the centre should include the completed checklist when submitting all the other materials.