



# NQ Verification 2016–17

## Key Messages Round 2

01

### Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Gaelic Learners
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	June 2017

#### National Courses/Units verified:

C731 75      Gaelic (Learners) Performance – talking  
C731 76      Gaelic (Learners) Performance – talking

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### Section 2: Comments on assessment

#### Assessment approaches

Overall, assessment approaches were valid and allowed for candidates to access the full range of marks.

However, centres should always refer to the General Assessment Information document as a matter of course to ensure that the approach is appropriate.

All centres encouraged candidates to cover at least two contexts, including at National 5 level, and there was a mix of responses where contexts were dealt with discretely and holistically. However, centres should ensure that the topics chosen allow candidates to demonstrate the full range of language available to them.

Assessors were supportive, sympathetic and encouraging. Assessors should continue to focus as much as possible on using open-questioning to give candidates as much opportunity to display language as possible. However, closed-questioning, where appropriate, eg in prompting or to show understanding, can also be effective in allowing candidates to attain a high level of marks as well.

## **Assessment judgements**

There was a high consistency of assessment judgements across centres, in line with national standards, and centres provided clear and concise commentaries to justify these.

Centres showed that they were aware of the level of language required in the marking instructions. The inclusion of examples of language used by candidates in the assessor commentaries was highly effective in aiding verification and showing how assessment decisions were made.

However, centres should always ensure that they make reference to the whole of the Gaelic (Learners) Performance: talking General Assessment Information document, rather than using the General Marking Instructions in isolation.

03

## **Section 3: General comments**

The overall standard of candidate performance was high.

Overall, centres had prepared candidates well in terms of the language and skills required to sustain a conversation. Candidates who asked questions and took the initiative were those who attained the highest marks.

Centres should take care to ensure that the correct course codes and levels are entered on the Flyleafs and Verification Sample Forms. However, there was a good awareness of the requirements of the verification process and this allowed for all verification to proceed.