



**Higher National Qualifications
Internal Assessment Report 2015
Dance**

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

Higher National Units

General comments

Four centres were selected for visiting verification for HN Dance Units.

In all four cases, assessment evidence was clearly presented. All centres demonstrated a sound understanding of national standards and the quality of evidence provided in all centres was well beyond this standard.

The quality of practical work in particular was of an extremely high standard and this was evidenced by the production of good quality DVDs.

Centres had pitched their assessments and judgements at the appropriate levels with many candidates performing well beyond the required level.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Teaching staff in all centres were using the correct documentation and all assessors were very familiar with Unit Specifications, instruments of assessment and evidence materials.

Continuous and summative observational checklists, and logs of ongoing evaluation, were being used effectively, and they were well supported by DVD evidence of practical work in all cases.

In all of the centres selected for visiting verification, marking instructions and guidelines were being applied accurately.

Evidence Requirements

All four centres demonstrated a clear understanding of the Evidence Requirements of the Units delivered.

There was clear evidence of well devised observational checklists (both ongoing and summative), journals, logs and ongoing evaluation being used effectively.

All centres made very good use of DVD to record practical skills and performances which in all cases were of a very high standard.

Administration of assessments

All centres used the published marking schemes and followed assessment advice in the Unit Specifications and the Assessment Support Packs.

Centres were pitching their assessment judgements at appropriate levels.

All centres had devised good-quality, detailed observation checklists for practical activities for Units where Assessment Support Packs were not available.

All centres had clearly laid out internal verification policies and procedures.

General feedback

In all four centres, good evidence of ongoing feedback to candidates, both verbal and written, was observed.

Much of the assessment evidence was kept electronically and was clear to follow.

Candidates showed a good level of understanding of both the written and practical work.

The work of many students, particularly the practical and choreographed work, was of a very high standard.

Areas of good practice

Many examples of good quality teaching materials were observed.

In all centres, DVD evidence was very well presented with individual candidates clearly identified.

Briefs for students were clear and encouraged very creative responses from the candidates.

Specific areas for improvement

No specific areas for improvement were identified.

Higher National Graded Units

Titles/levels of HN Graded Units verified:

F1Y2 34	Contemporary Dance Performance	Graded Unit 1
F1Y3 35	Contemporary Dance Performance	Graded Unit 2
H4T3 34	Professional Dance Performance	Graded Unit 1
H4T4 35	Professional Dance Performance	Graded Unit 2
FA5C 34	Dance Artists	Graded Unit 1
F22P 35	Dance Artists	Graded Unit 2

General comments

Ten centres were selected, and in all centres assessment evidence was clearly presented and a good understanding of national standards was demonstrated.

All centres had pitched their assessments and judgements at appropriate levels.

All centres were making good use of the available Assessment Support Packs.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

In all centres, teaching staff were using correct documentation and all assessors were very familiar with Unit Specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials contained in the Assessment Support Packs.

Evidence Requirements

All centres demonstrated a clear understanding of the Evidence Requirements of the Graded Units.

There was clear evidence of observational checklists (both ongoing and summative), journals, logs and ongoing evaluation being used effectively.

All centres made very good use of DVD to record practical work, choreographies and performances.

Administration of assessments

Centres were pitching their assessments and judgements at appropriate levels. All centres had clear internal verification policies and procedures in place.

In the larger centres generic policies and procedures were in place, while in the smaller dance schools individual approaches had been worked out involving cross-marking of practical work as well as sampling of written work/evaluations.

General feedback

Evidence of excellent feedback, both verbal and written, was observed in most centres.

Practical work in all centres was of a very high standard, with a good degree of creativity demonstrated by many students.

All assessment evidence was clearly presented.

Much of the assessment evidence was kept electronically and was clear to follow.

Areas of good practice

All centres provided candidates with very good quality written as well as verbal feedback.

Across all centres the standard of practical work was extremely high with some excellent and extremely creative solo choreographies observed.

Specific areas for improvement

No specific areas for improvement were identified.