



# NQ Verification 2016–17 Key Messages Round 2

01

## Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Health and Food Technology
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	May 2017

### National Courses/Units/Awards verified:

Health and Food Technology Added Value Unit (AVU)

02

## Section 2: Comments on assessment

### Assessment approaches

All centres had used a valid approach to assessment for all candidates, ie they had used the assessment materials from the relevant unit assessment support packs from the SQA secure website.

Many centres had used a brief based on the National 5/Higher assignment briefs, which is acceptable. If a centre wishes to use these briefs in future, it would be good practice if the centre amended the brief so that it only included two issues, eg remove the issue 'baked item' from the Fairtrade brief or remove the issue 'café' from the Farm brief. This will still enable bi-level teaching but will ensure candidates at National 4 level are not being made to go beyond the assessment standard.

### Assessment judgements

It is pleasing to see that the vast majority of centres are assessing their candidates correctly in line with the national standards. However, there are a small number of areas that require attention which are outlined below.

#### Assessment standard 1.2

To allow for personalisation and choice, centres should encourage candidates to use a range of investigative techniques, where possible and practicable. The investigations undertaken must be appropriate, ie they must enable the

candidates to gather information that will help them to progress towards a product solution that meets the needs in the brief, eg a questionnaire to find out the likes and dislikes of pupils. Candidates should include valid sources for their investigations, eg appropriate web addresses (Wikipedia is not valid). Candidates must record the results of their investigations which should not be straight copies of information from the internet or any other material. As of September 2015, candidates do not need to summarise/select information from their research findings to meet the National 4 standard. Centres should ensure they are using the most up-to-date materials at all times.

If centres are gathering information from a leaflet, menu or other literary source, they cannot simply include the leaflet as evidence of this research, they need to record the information they are using from this source, eg *'On Brown's Farm Shop Café Menu I can see it includes a range of snacks (panini, sandwich, toasties) and a range of meals (chilli con carne, fajitas and fish pie). It also sells sweet foods (scones, pastries and cakes).'*

Candidates must include a full recipe (with ingredients and method) and an explanation as to how the recipe meets the needs of the brief. The explanation must be based on the evidence gathered in their investigations and must link to the needs in the brief, eg *'I used Fairtrade bananas in my muffins and I found out that bananas were liked by pupils so they will eat my muffin if it's on sale at a school event.'*

If the candidate has used one of the National 5/Higher briefs with three issues, they must explain how their chosen recipe meets at least two of the needs in the brief.

### **Assessment standard 1.3**

It is necessary that an assessor comment is included to confirm that the product has been made safely and hygienically using the identified ingredients and cooking method. This was not provided by a number of centres.

### **Assessment standard 1.4**

If a sensory test is being used for reflective comments then a key must be included to enable the results to be correctly interpreted. A star profile is not a sensory test. Results should not be averaged.

All reflective comments must be based on evidence and should not be based on the candidate's opinion, eg *'My muffins scored 5=like a lot for taste so the pupils will enjoy this.'* as opposed to *'I thought my muffins were tasty and I think the pupils will like it.'* The reflective comment should use the language of the key, ie *'5/5 pupils liked the flavour of my muffin a lot.'* rather than *'Pupils really enjoyed the flavour of my muffins.'*

The reflective comments must be linked to the needs in the chosen brief.

### **Section 3: General comments**

A small number of centres had incorrectly submitted Hospitality evidence for this round of verification instead of Health and Food Technology. If you have been selected for verification, take care to check exactly what subject is to be verified.

Most centres had adopted an appropriate approach to internal verification which went beyond cross-marking. A number of 'not accepted' decisions were made for centres that had provided little/no evidence of internal verification, which may explain why there was a lack of consistency in judging evidence. Centres are required to adopt a rigorous process of internal verification. Further guidance on internal verification can be found in the SQA Internal Verification Toolkit which is available on the SQA website [www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit](http://www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit).