



**National Qualifications 2012
Internal Assessment Report
Beauty Care**

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

National Qualifications (NQ) Units

Level 5

Day Make-up and Basic Corrective Make-up
Personal Presentation
Personal Preparation in Daily Life
Hair, Beauty and Make-up: Personal Care and Appearance
Nail Care
Beauty Therapy: Depilation

Level 6

Beauty: Creative Current Make-up Trends
Eye Enhancement
Scalp, Neck and Shoulder Massage
Waxing Treatments
Manicure and Pedicure
Acrylic Nails
Gel Nails

General comments

Generally centres have a clear and accurate understanding of the requirements for national Units. Centres were either delivering them to full-time National Certificate (NC) candidates or offering them to part-time day and evening candidates. Three centres were offering NQ Units for the first time and therefore they were not quite as familiar with this type of qualification.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Centres were familiar with the Unit specification and instruments of assessment. Centres were using the SQA National Assessment Bank (NAB) materials where available, and if the Unit was positioned within the Skills for Work: Beauty Higher framework they often used the teaching and learning packs from SQA/Scotland's Colleges.

Where there were no NAB materials there were centre-devised instruments of assessment which were externally verified. Ideally, prior verification with SQA was recommended to centres for their own devised instruments of assessment. A few centres were using relatively old Unit specifications for part-time candidates; however they indicated they felt the Unit content was good and relevant for their cohort of candidates.

Evidence Requirements

Evidence Requirements were met by centres for all Units verified. On a few occasions there was over assessment noted through external verification and centres were advised to reduce the amount of practical observations. Additional written assignments could be used for teaching and learning rather than

additional assessments. Centres delivering the Units for the first time had not taken potential opportunities to integrate assessments across appropriate Units. This could have been useful, especially where they were delivering a full NC Award.

Administration of assessments

Where there were opportunities to integrate assessments, this was carried out. For example the Acrylic Nails and Gel Nails Evidence Requirements are very similar and integration of assessments is appropriate.

Remediation and feedback to candidates was recorded on a standardised centre assessor feedback form and remediation clearly indicated and signed by candidates for authenticity.

Centres had often devised additional reporting mechanisms for the individual candidate and the class group to clearly indicate the assessment achievements to date.

Additional support was provided to candidates, eg through use of scribes, large print, and coloured paper, to aid them with their assessments.

Many centres use an internal verification stamp on instruments of assessment to ensure assessors are using the correct assessment and to show its currency. Centres carry out 100% sampling if they are delivering a Unit for the first time, and generally centres will internally verify any new assessors to a Unit. Regular standardisation meetings are held with assessors/departments delivering the same Unit.

Areas of good practice

Individual candidates studying Personal Preparation in Daily Life were provided with support, eg through the use of scribes, large print, and coloured paper.

The Personal Preparation in Daily Life Unit practical assessments were often integrated with an event some candidates were involved in called 'Taking Part in a Residential Experience'. This event involved candidates ticking off their daily preparations over their three days. Other candidates were involved in a fashion show which they also used to provide their practical evidence.

A centre delivering the Acrylic Nails and Gel Nails Units integrated the written and practical assessments to reduce over assessment.

Candidates had photographs taken of their own posture in order to discuss the different postural faults and to keep as a record of their findings for the Hair, Beauty, and Make-up: Personal Care and Appearance Unit.

One centre used 'You Tube' videos of different eye treatments being performed to enhance the teaching and learning for the candidates.

Some centres used additional overview checklists to ensure the ranges were covered for the practical Evidence Requirements of a Unit.

Some centres used an internal verification stamp of approval with the date to show the instrument of assessment is current and approved.

When delivering the full NC Level 6 Beauty, Unit assessments are integrated where appropriate, eg the Beauty: Nail Finishes (Skills for Work) Unit with the Manicure and Pedicure Unit.

Regular standardisation meetings between assessors and Internal Verifiers are carried out throughout the year.

A large sample of internal verification is carried out when there is a new assessor and for any new Units.

Specific areas for improvement

Ensure centre-devised instruments of assessment are aligned with the Unit specification Evidence Requirements to reduce over assessment for the candidates.

Prior verification is recommended for centre-devised instruments of assessment.

Ensure that the Eye Enhancement and Manicure and Pedicure Units Learning Outcome 4 self-evaluation reports are on the Unit practical skills and not just the employability skills.

Ensure consistency of presentation from candidates for written research assignments by providing candidates with guidance on the detail required.

Ensure all remediation carried out by candidates is signed by the assessor and candidate to provide authenticity.