



NQ Verification 2017–18

Key Messages Round 2

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Italian
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	May 2018

National Courses/Units verified:

H21D 74 National 4 Assignment (Added Value Unit)
X842 75 National 5 Performance–talking (IACCA*)
X742 76 Higher Performance–talking (IACCA)

* Internally-assessed component of course assessment

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Evidence submitted for the National 4 added value unit included assessment which gave plenty of scope for personalisation and choice, and used a range of questioning techniques. Candidates performed well in the reading element (outcome 1.1). The approach included the talking element as a dual-purpose assessment for outcomes 1.2 and 1.3 and for the Languages for Life and Work Award, thus minimising the number of assessment occasions required of candidates.

For Higher performance–talking, all centres had used the course assessment effectively.

Assessment judgements

Candidates performed well in all outcomes of the National 4 added value unit assessments, often exceeding the required standard.

In the National 5 and Higher performance–talking assessments, centres had generally awarded marks in line with national standards.

Section 3: General comments

In the performance–talking, candidates generally responded well to encouraging assessors. Presentations and conversations provided scope for candidates to demonstrate accurate handling of detailed language (National 5) and detailed and complex language (Higher), and of a range of tenses appropriate to the level. It is worth noting that candidates rarely benefit from unnecessarily prolonged conversations. It should also be noted that, at Higher, there is a requirement for a range of detailed and complex language to be used in order to achieve the higher pegged marks. On occasion, candidates tended to use a rather limited and repetitive range of tenses and structures.

Event verifiers noted clear evidence of effective internal verification from all centres. Documented professional dialogue between assessor and verifier was most helpful during the external verification process. Centres used a variety of approaches including:

- ◆ detailed candidate feedback
- ◆ cross-marking (where it was clear which was the assessor and which the verifier’s mark)
- ◆ copies of the *Modern Languages Performance–talking: General assessment information* document highlighted to show where the candidate’s performance lay
- ◆ the SQA performance–talking candidate assessment record