



Qualification Verification Summary Report

NQ Verification 2018–19

01 Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Music Technology
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	June 2019

National Units verified:

H245 73	National 3	Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music
H247 73	National 3	Music Technology in Context
H248 74	National 4	Music Technology Assignment — added value unit
H243 75	SQCF level 5	Music Technology Skills
H247 75	SQCF level 5	Music Technology in Context

02 Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

A wide variety of assessment approaches are being used by centres. These include using assessment briefs published in SQA unit assessment support packs and centre-adapted assessment briefs.

Several centres are successfully delivering the Music Technology Skills and Music Technology in Context units using a combined approach to assessment.

In the Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music unit there was a wide range of approaches to evidence gathering. These included essays, PowerPoints, audio reports and blogs.

Centres are reminded that details of the approach to assessment should be provided in their materials when selected for verification.

H248 74 Music Technology Assignment — added value unit

Centres are using a variety of approaches to the unit including use of the assessment tasks published in the unit assessment support pack and centre-devised assessment tasks.

Centres are reminded that any centre-devised or adapted tasks should ensure that candidates are able to meet all of the assessment standards for the added value unit. Assessment tasks should ensure that candidates are able to show clear evidence of planning, keeping a record of progress throughout the task, and evaluating the production.

Assessment judgements

Assessment judgements were generally in line with the national standard, with many candidates exceeding the standard in a number of areas.

Centres should ensure that they submit a copy of the appropriate assessment brief, or assessment task used by the candidate. The brief or task should also clearly detail the assessment standards being assessed along with a clear assessment judgement (pass/fail) made by the centre.

Many centres are effectively using the candidate assessment record sheets from the unit assessment support packs and these allow centres to make, and record, clear assessment judgements for each assessment standard.

There is evidence of good practice in many centres that give detailed feedback about assessment judgements to candidates via clear assessment records.

H243 75 Music Technology Skills (SCQF level 5)

For assessment standard 1.1, candidates are required to use two mics, one direct line input and one other source. A source is XLR, direct line input, USB keyboard controller or MIDI controller.

The submission of audio files to support centre assessment judgements for this unit greatly informed the verification process.

H248 74 Music Technology Assignment — added value unit

Most centres are using the candidate assessment records from the unit assessment support pack effectively. Many centres provided detailed comments about how assessment judgements had been reached for each of the assessment standards.

Centres are reminded that candidates should provide a clear record of planning to meet assessment standard 1.1, and provide a short evaluation of the product to meet assessment standard 1.6.

For assessment standard 1.1, evidence of planning must be mostly complete and appropriate, including all the aspects described in the task. It must also be the candidate's own work. With sound foley for film, the planning should include a sound design map.

For assessment standard 1.6, candidates must produce a report (which may be written, electronic or oral) which describes the strengths and weaknesses of the production, and identifies how it might be improved.

For assessment standards 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4, the progress report must include descriptions of the main recording and editing activities undertaken, descriptions of the main mixing activities undertaken, and descriptions of the sounds and/or music used. For studio recordings, the four audio sources should be clearly detailed in the candidate log.

03

Section 3: General comments

Centres are reminded that SQA provides a prior verification service for centres to have assessment briefs and tasks verified before delivery, ensuring that the briefs are valid.

There are also examples of candidate evidence and commentaries in the Understanding Standards section of the SQA secure website.

Many centres have developed internal verification procedures and, when in place, these have been used effectively and successfully to ensure that assessment judgements are valid and reliable. SQA has produced an [Internal Verification Toolkit](#) and, although not mandatory, centres can refer to this for guidance.