



NQ Verification 2017–18

Key Messages Round 1

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Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Music Technology
Verification event/visiting information	Event/visiting
Date published:	March 2018

National Courses/Units verified:

H243 74	National 4	Music Technology Skills
H243 75	SCQF level 5	Music Technology Skills
H245 73	National 3	Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music
H245 74	National 4	Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music
H245 75	SCQF level 5	Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music
H247 74	National 4	Music Technology in Context
H247 75	SCQF level 5	Music Technology in Context

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Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

A wide variety of assessment approaches are being used successfully in centres. The assessment briefs published in the unit assessment support packs are being used and developed successfully by centres to suit their own resources.

Many centres have successfully devised assessment briefs to provide candidates with a range of creative contexts for the Music Technology in Context unit.

There is evidence of very good practice in producing candidate logs, screenshots and audio files. These support candidate progress, centre assessment judgements and internal verification.

In the Music Technology Skills unit, the submission of audio files to support centre assessment judgements greatly informed the verification process.

In the Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music unit, there was evidence of a wide range of creative approaches including mind maps, PowerPoints, and reports.

Centres are reminded that SQA provides a [prior verification service](#) for centres that have developed or significantly changed assessment materials for National Qualifications and would like them reviewed prior to use.

Assessment judgements

Assessment judgements were generally in line with the national standard.

In some centres, assessment judgements should more clearly detail which assessment standard is being assessed and state if interim or complete evidence has been submitted.

Centres should ensure that they submit a copy of the appropriate assessment brief or assessment task used by candidates for the assessment standard(s) being assessed by the centre.

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. Further information on internal verification can be found at www.sqa.org.uk/IV/toolkit.

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Section 3: General comments

There is evidence of increasing confidence in the delivery of Music Technology at all levels and in all units.

Centres are to be commended on the quality of candidate evidence submitted and the wide range of approaches being used to gather evidence.

Music Technology Skills unit

Many centres provided audio files of candidate work to support assessment judgements and this informed the verification process. Files should be clearly labelled to assist with verification and should be submitted in an audio format.

At SCQF level 5, centres are reminded that candidates are required to use two types of microphone and two polar patterns.

At all levels, a source is XLR, direct line input, USB keyboard controller or MIDI controller.

Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music unit

There was evidence of a wide range of approaches to this unit including mind maps, PowerPoint presentations and written reports.

At SCQF level 5, for assessment standard 1.3, centres are reminded that the candidate report must show understanding of intellectual property and relate this to one real case study. When approaching assessment standard 1.3 by using a question paper, the question(s) should ensure that the candidate is given the opportunity to fully demonstrate that they have an understanding of what intellectual property is, and relate this to one case study.

Music Technology in Context unit

Centres are reminded that assessment judgements should be supported by a candidate log clearly stating which tracks have been recorded with microphone(s) and which have been recorded by other sources.

Centres should refer to the judging evidence tables and assessment briefs in the Music Technology in Context unit assessment support packs. Guidance about evidence requirements and approaches which facilitate these is available from the unit assessment support packs.