



NQ Verification 2017–18

Key Messages Round 2

01

Section 1: Verification group information

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

National Courses/Units verified:

H242 74 National 4 Music Performance (Added Value Unit)

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

In most cases, centres' approaches to assessment were considered and informed, and this enabled candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in Music.

Assessment standard 1.1 must be evidenced. This could be demonstrated in a brief statement or mind map or audio recording of conversation from the candidate detailing their reasons for their choice of music.

For assessment standards 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4, centres are reminded that candidates must perform for a minimum of 8 minutes. Candidates should perform at least two pieces on each instrument or instrument and voice.

The performance should replicate as far as possible the external assessment conditions for National 5 Music. The two instruments should be performed within a reasonable timeframe. For a variety of reasons, it may not be possible to perform both instruments back to back: the advice is that both instruments should be completed within an assessment session. These sessions could be within a day, ie it might be possible to perform on instrument 1 in the morning and instrument 2 or voice in the afternoon. It is not acceptable for the two instruments to be presented separately over an extended period of time, eg weeks apart. Some assessors' comments suggested that the assessment had taken place over a period of several weeks and this is not appropriate.

Centres should also be aware that all pieces performed by a candidate must meet the minimum requirements for SCQF level 4 (minimum standard equivalent to Associated Board Grade 2). In some instances, repertoire selection far exceeded this SCQF level.

When cuts or changes are made to the performed music, it would be helpful for centres to amend/annotate scores accordingly.

Assessment judgements

Centres are reminded that a holistic judgement should be made for each instrument when the assessment is being conducted. Assessors should take account of the quality of all of the evidence available for each instrument/voice across the full programme.

In the context of this unit, assessment standards 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 judge candidate performance on each instrument or one instrument and voice. Some centres used the National 5 course assessment criteria to award marks. This is following the process for course assessment, which is not appropriate for unit assessment. Centres should avoid awarding marks for unit assessment and should use the information located in the judging evidence tables in the unit assessment support pack and make assessment judgements on a pass or fail basis.

To inform the verification process, centres are advised to provide assessor comments which establish how their assessment judgements have been made. Centres can use the candidate assessment records provided in the unit assessment support pack.

03

Section 3: General comments

Interim evidence is not appropriate for round 2 verification. Centres should submit complete National 4 added value units for this round.

A copy of the sheet music for all music performed must be included to support the verification process. This can be submitted electronically by USB or CD.

Most centres provided evidence of internal verification and gave clear comments on how an assessment judgement was made. However, some centres are still referring to internal verification having taken place without providing evidence on how this informed their assessment judgement.