



# NQ Verification 2021–22 Round 1

## Qualification Verification Summary Report

### 01 Section 1: Verification group information

**Verification group name:** Drama  
**Verification event/visiting information:** Event/postal  
**Date published:** June 2022

#### **National Courses/Units verified:**

H231 73	National 3	Drama Skills
H231 74	National 4	Drama Skills
H232 74	National 4	Production Skills

### 02 Section 2: Comments on assessment

#### **Assessment approaches**

There continues to be an understanding of the application of national standards for National 3 and National 4 Drama, with candidates being offered a range of creative opportunities to develop the required skills to meet the demands of unit assessment.

In centres that were delivering the National 3 Drama Skills unit, most approaches to assessment were designed and structured to provide the necessary support for candidates at this level. Approaches included step-by-step support relating to the required skill(s) for each assessment standard. Where this was not the case, centres had presented candidates with an approach to assessment that was not specifically designed for National 3 level. For example, presenting a National 3 candidate with an assessment approach for National 4 level. Clearly this would be challenging for the candidate and would include skills/knowledge and understanding not required for National 3 level.

For National 4 Drama Skills, approaches to assessment included evidence relating to all assessment standards and in some cases these approaches had been integrated to capture the required skills for more than one assessment standard in a single assessment. This range of evidence provided the opportunity to quality assure contrasting approaches to assessment including a diverse range

of stimuli offered to support candidates' creative responses. There were, however, centres that did not offer the range of stimuli required for assessment standard 1.1 and did not capture candidates' application of practical skills effectively for assessment standards 1.3 and 2.2. They were advised to make closer reference to the judging evidence table of the related unit assessment support pack to support candidates when reflecting on their strengths and areas for improvement for assessment standards 1.4 and 2.4.

For National 4 Production Skills, the submitted approaches to assessment did not provide evidence of a clear understanding of the skills, knowledge and understanding and standards necessary to meet the requirements of the unit. The approaches lacked support and structure in the tasks offered to candidates and did not signpost in enough detail the specifics of the chosen production roles. Therefore, candidate responses lacked appropriate terminology and insight into their production concept for this level.

### **Assessment judgements**

Unit verification requires the centre to make clear assessment judgements to accompany candidates' evidence, allowing the verifier to reach an informed decision that the centre is making reliable, consistent and valid assessment judgements which are in line with national standards.

For most centres, there is evidence of reliable, consistent and valid judgements being applied to candidate evidence. In cases where the approach to assessment was specifically designed to meet the requirements of an assessment standard, the centre assessor was able to confidently and correctly judge the candidate evidence by referring to the judging evidence table in the SQA unit assessment support pack. Where an assessment judgement was identified as being lenient or severe, this was, in most cases, due to the approach to assessment not supporting candidates in meeting the requirements of an assessment standard at the appropriate level or inconsistency of approach across all candidates in a cohort.

## **03 Section 3: General comments**

In general, centre assessors have an understanding of the standards for National 3 and National 4 Drama.

Overall, centres submitted evidence which captured candidates meeting the requirements of most assessment standards approached and judged.

In most cases, the evidence submitted was attributable to the assessment standard to which it related. Centres are reminded to label candidate evidence appropriately by indicating the related assessment standard on it.

There was some evidence of centres engaging with and applying internal quality assurance processes. Some centres are using local authority level documentation, filtering this for use within their own centre and further applying this within their subject-specific faculty or department. However, there are on-

going inconsistencies in the application of internal verification processes in some centres. This is evident where the approaches to assessment do not support candidates meeting the requirements of specific assessment standards at a specific level. The impact of this results in the application of assessment judgements that are not reliable or valid.

There was evidence of some centres using the SQA Internal Verification Toolkit to support their internal quality assurance processes. This can be found at [www.sqa.org.uk/IVToolkit](http://www.sqa.org.uk/IVToolkit).

Where a centre failed to provide evidence of internal verification, it was not possible to provide comment on its effectiveness. Centre staff are reminded that all centres offering SQA qualifications must have an effective internal quality-assurance system in place which ensures that all candidates are assessed accurately, fairly and consistently to national standards.