

Subject guidance for internally assessed qualifications in 2020–21

Please read this document in conjunction with [guidance for the assessment of internally assessed qualifications issued to centres in August 2020](#).

February 2021 Update

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Group award title: | HNC Built Environment @ SCQF L7 |
| Group award code: | GJ5P 15 |

The subject-specific guidance issued for these qualifications in Aug/Sept 2020, and followed up with additional guidance on 21 January 2021, still stands and is fully supported by the Professional Bodies (CIOB and ICE).

Units and/or outcomes where conditions of assessment can or cannot be altered

Where this is more practicable, centres will be able to gather candidate evidence under open book conditions rather than supervised closed book conditions. Examples of alternatives could be:

- ◆ questions answered and submitted within a given time period
- ◆ electronic presentations with questions and answers
- ◆ case studies
- ◆ professional discussions
- ◆ viva voce examinations
- ◆ written assignments

Where unit specifications include practical activities, these can be altered to allow candidates to observe a demonstration of the practical elements. Candidates would then produce evidence using information gathered by observation. An example of this could be watching a video recording of a member of staff carrying out a concrete slump test, then writing a report on their observations using information and data collected during observation.

Adaptations to evidence requirements to help manage assessment

Integrated and holistic assessment is encouraged by either:

- ◆ combining assessments within a unit or across more than one unit
- ◆ mapping of outcomes and assessment activities across units

Both approaches are detailed in [guidance for the assessment of internally assessed qualifications issued to centres in August 2020](#).

Graded units or project work may provide the opportunity to combine or map assessments, or, where appropriate, to include additional learning outcomes from other units.

Rationale

Centres should ensure that the alternative assessment is of the same SCQF level as the original assessment requirements.

A centre-led approach is encouraged towards maintaining quality standards. Direct support from SQA remains available where required.

SQA and the team of external verifiers will host Quality Network events via Microsoft Teams in late 2020 and early 2021 to support centres and share good practice.

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact qualification.development@sqa.org.uk.