



**August 2021**

## **Subject guidance for internally assessed qualifications in 2021–22**

Please read this document in conjunction with [guidance for the assessment of internally assessed qualifications](#) issued to centres in August 2021.

<b>Group award titles:</b>	PDA in Electronic Fire and Security Systems at SCQF level 6
<b>Group award codes:</b>	GJ7L 46

### **Higher National Units**

Centres can use the flexibilities that were introduced by SQA in August 2020, including integrating assessment and changing closed-book assessments to open-book assessments.

Please refer to the document, [Supporting the delivery, assessment and verification of SQA units, session 2020–21: Information and guidance for centres](#), published in August 2020.

Please note: all **closed-book** assessments can be changed to **open-book** assessments.

## **Adaptations to help manage assessment**

### **Rationale**

The following adaptations to assessment will alleviate issues in completing practical work and help maximise time available for learning and teaching. These modifications ensure that the validity and integrity of the award is maintained and will help to ensure the safety of lecturers and learners.

### **Knowledge outcomes in units**

The knowledge aspects of the award can be delivered and assessed online. All closed-book assessments can now be changed to open-book assessments.

Where it is possible, learners can complete end-of-unit assessments in centres. This will depend on COVID-19 restrictions.

### **Practical outcomes**

Learners should undertake practical work in centres if possible. This will depend on COVID-19 restrictions and access to equipment and resources.

Observation of practical performance could take place in the workplace by the workplace supervisor if possible. Again, this will depend on COVID-19 restrictions and whether the employer is operating.

Observation of the learner in the workplace by the lecturer or trainer could also take place using video conferencing (such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom). For example, the lecturer or trainer could observe an apprentice checking faults. This could be supplemented by testimony from the workplace supervisor.

When access to centres is allowed, practical work and practical assessment could be scheduled in to specific days, with the knowledge aspects of the award still being delivered online.

### **Additional guidance and information**

If your centre would like to move to a combined assessment approach or adapt the conditions of assessment, please contact [operationshmvq@sqa.org.uk](mailto:operationshmvq@sqa.org.uk). Our subject experts can provide virtual guidance and support at the planning stage.

If you have any questions, please contact [qualification.development@sqa.org.uk](mailto:qualification.development@sqa.org.uk).