



Alternative Certification Model 2020–21: National QA Exercise Key Messages

Subject	Practical Cake Craft
Level	National 5

This report provides information on themes emerging from the national quality assurance exercise, which is part of the Alternative Certification Model for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses.

A sample of candidates' assessed work from selected centres was reviewed to determine whether assessment was in line with the national standard. The evidence submitted may have been partial or incomplete and is unlikely to have represented all of the evidence that will be gathered to allow the centre to determine a provisional result.

The centres selected for review in this subject and at this level have been provided with specific feedback on the evidence that they submitted. The comments below highlight key points about the assessment approaches and instruments used and the sampled centres' assessment judgements, for all centres delivering the subject at this level to reflect upon and make any appropriate adjustments.

Section 1: Comments on approach to assessment

Centres were asked to submit evidence from the assignment, practical activity and question paper. Most centres submitted two pieces of evidence for each candidate and the remainder submitted one piece of evidence for each candidate.

The evidence submitted included:

- ◆ the SQA 2021 paper
- ◆ a centre-devised question paper
- ◆ National 5 Practical Cake Craft Assignment Candidate workbook 2020–21
- ◆ National 5 Practical Cake Craft: assignment recording grid 2020–21
- ◆ A3 design illustrations
- ◆ photographs or videos of completed cakes

Centres made effective use of the SQA 2021 NQ assessment resources.

Centres that submitted evidence for the assignment, used the National 5 Practical Cake Craft Assignment Candidate workbook 2020–21.

Most centres used the SQA 2021 question paper as the primary source of evidence and candidates had attempted the question paper in one sitting. Centres advised that candidates had completed the question paper in closed-book conditions and under a high degree of supervision.

Question papers devised by centres were at an appropriate level of demand and covered the course content methods of cake making, processing techniques and categories of ingredients. Centre-devised papers did not contain any content from past papers, but covered the course content and were at an appropriate level of demand. It appeared that centres had followed the webinar information 'Preparing Assessment Items' released in November, as marking instructions for the devised papers were accurate and reflected the national standard.

There was clear evidence of internal moderation in all centres.

Section 2: Comments on assessment judgements

The vast majority of assessment judgements were consistent with national standards.

The marking instructions for question papers had been applied reliably and consistently across all candidates.

In most cases, assessment judgements in the assignment were accurate. Centres made good use of the recording grid for every candidate, with clear and detailed assessment comments.

In a few centres, the marking instructions had been applied too leniently in the design illustration component. Candidates had produced illustrations that lacked detail or had implied finishing techniques, shape of cake/cake board and colour, and these had been marked leniently.

Centres should refer to SQA Understanding Standards material and the National 5 Practical Cake Craft Assignment and Practical Activity Assessment Task (version 3.0) before marking or moderating.

Centres are reminded that candidates should demonstrate up to five finishing decoration techniques and award marks for these. To access all 30 marks, candidates must select two of their five techniques from crimping, modelling and piping — techniques that can be awarded up to 9 marks each. Up to 4 marks each can be awarded for a further three techniques, and candidates should select these from embossing, stencilling, texturing and use of commercial aids/cutters. Please note that if a model or commercial cutter includes another technique to provide detail, this must be included in the marking of the model or commercial cutter. The additional technique cannot be awarded marks as a separate technique.

Centres are to be commended on the clear and detailed assessment comments provided by both the assessor and the internal moderator.