

NQ Childcare and Development Verification Summary 2025–26

Verification information

Subject	Childcare and Development
Verification activity	Postal
Round	1
Date published	July 2026

National Units verified

Unit code	Unit level	Unit title
J205 76	SCQF level 6	Child Development
J206 76	SCQF level 6	Child Development: Theory
J207 76	SCQF level 6	Services for Children and Young People

Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Centres used a variety of methods to assess candidates. Overall, the assessment approaches were satisfactory with centres making good use of the unit specification to ensure that outcomes and assessment standards were met. Most centres verified used the unit assessment support pack (UAS) — package 1, unit-by unit approach to assessment. One centre used case studies and associated questions to record and

evidence candidate work. Assessments were well organised and internally verified to ensure that assessment standards were met and consistently applied.

Assessment judgements

Overall, the assessment judgements were satisfactory and feedback to candidates from assessors was consistently applied and supportive to ensure candidate progression. The evidence provided by centres demonstrated that assessment standards were being met, and internal verification was effective in ensuring that assessment judgments were in line with assessment standards.

It was also noted that good practice is emerging in terms of candidates providing suitable referencing to accompany their assessment submissions. You should not take referencing into account when assessing candidates. Instead, you should encourage candidates to reference in order to enable them to develop their skills. You should not ask candidates to remediate their grammar, punctuation or referencing as this is not a requirement of the assessment standards.

General comments

Overall, centres were assessing appropriately and in line with the standards required. In general, candidates have met the assessment standards and produced appropriate evidence relevant to SCQF level 6.

You should continue to advise candidates to use simplified case studies that are not overly complex or complicated.

If candidates need to remediate work, this should be clearly and consistently applied across all candidates in the cohort and appropriately recorded in feedback sheets and internal verification forms.

You should continue to use internal verification forms to record whether the work is a first or second attempt for each candidate, and you should clearly document any remediation process. This helps with the standardisation of evidence and ensures that assessment standards are being fairly and consistently applied.

There is evidence of good practice, with many candidates producing work to a high standard. There was clear evidence of personalisation and choice in many cases, with centres using a variety of learning and teaching methods to gather candidate evidence. In many cases, candidates were given clear and consistent feedback which identified their next steps to ensure a positive outcome.

Verification can occur at any point during the assessment process, not just at the end. It was noted that many centres have robust and rigorous verification procedures in place, used effectively by internal verifiers. You can find guidance about internal verification in our [NQ internal verification toolkit](#).