



# NQ verification 2023–24 round 2

## Qualification verification summary report

### Section 1: verification group information

Verification group name:	Engineering Science
Verification activity:	Event
Date published:	July 2024

### National Course components and National Units verified

Unit code	Unit level	Unit title
H23E 74	National 4	Engineering Science Assignment: Added Value Unit
C823 77	Advanced Higher	Engineering Science Project

### Section 2: comments on assessment

#### Assessment approaches

##### National 4 Engineering Science units

The majority of centres chose to use SQA-developed assessment instruments.

While it is acceptable for centres to choose to use their own assessment instruments for units, we strongly recommend that all centre-devised assessments are submitted to SQA for prior verification before use. The use of the judging evidence table for each unit is strongly recommended to ensure any adaptations or centre-devised material meets the requirements for each assessment standard.

SQA-developed assessment instruments should not have additional scaffolding to guide the candidate through the assessment, as this may disadvantage the candidate by not allowing them to access the learning outcomes in full.

##### Advanced Higher Engineering Science Project

All centres used the mandatory SQA-developed assessment instruments.

## **Assessment judgements**

### **National 4 Engineering Science units**

A total of four centres were verified for the National 4 units, of which three were 'not accepted'.

The assessor should examine each candidate's responses and make a judgement whether the evidence was adequate with reference to the judging evidence tables.

### **Advanced Higher Engineering Science Project**

A total of ten centres were verified for the Advanced Higher Engineering Science Project, of which six were 'not accepted'.

Generally, centres were lenient in their application of the marking grids.

Candidates' projects must demonstrate work at Advance Higher level. In some cases, work presented was applying Higher content, not allowing candidates to access marks in the marking grids.

If candidates have used pre-built or purchased model kits, marks cannot be awarded for the construction of these models.

Centres are reminded that assessment for the project takes place throughout its delivery and not just at the end point. This could be supported by reference to regular candidate check-ins, and regular recording of assessment judgements.

Centres should refer to the Understanding Standards materials available for this assessment and the additional Understanding Standards materials that will be published on SQA's website later this year.

## **Section 3: general comments**

Evidence of internal verification was inconsistent. While some examples of good practice were observed (such as clear, transparent processes), some centres provided evidence of internal verification that did not appear to have an impact on the final assessment judgements. External verification relies on agreeing a centre's assessment judgements, and external verifiers must be able to identify what these are. As such, it would be helpful to see the original assessor's judgement, the internal verifier's judgement and the final agreed judgement. Reference should be made to the SQA guidance for National Qualification [Internal Verification Toolkit](#).