



National Qualifications

Qualification Verification Summary Report 2022–23

Skills for Work: Creative Industries

Verification group number: 510

Skills for Work Courses

Skills for Work: Creative Industries (National 5)

Group award code C276 75

J17V75	Creative Industries: An Introduction
J17W75	Creative Industries: Skills Development
J17X75	Creative Industries: Creative Process
J17Y75	Creative Industries: Creative Project

General comments

A variety of centres, including schools and colleges, were verified in session 2022–23. All verified centres presented candidate evidence that met national standards. All centres were accepted on conclusion of their verification visit.

Verifiers reported that candidate evidence was of high quality and that centres clearly had a robust understanding of the requirements of the qualification. Centres presented information to verifiers that was easy to navigate by being clearly laid out. Both candidate evidence and supporting documentation were found to be helpful in providing confidence to the verifiers that the qualification was being delivered, assessed and administered appropriately.

Course arrangements, unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

All centres were able to demonstrate their use of the course arrangements document and unit specifications to assist with their context for delivery and chosen approaches. All centres were able to provide verifiers with evidence to demonstrate results of internal verification activity and were able to demonstrate awareness of assessment support material.

The majority of centres were using SQA produced National Assessment Bank (NAB) material as a basis for the development of internally devised assessment material. The referencing of this NAB material was found to be helpful for centres in ensuring consistency and adherence to national standards.

Centres are continually encouraged during verification visits to develop their own instruments of assessment in order to suit their own context and setting. SQA provides a free prior verification service to centres that devise their own summative unit assessments or significantly change SQA's assessments to suit their particular local needs. The service gives centres additional confidence that their proposed assessments are fit for purpose and meet national standards.

The verification team continues to be pro-active in ensuring that centres have a thorough sense that the unit specification sets the national standard for assessment. All centres verified during session 2022–23 were able to demonstrate that assessment materials were consistent with the course and unit specifications.

Evidence requirements

In all centres visited it was clear that there was a sound understanding of the evidence requirements for the Skills for Work: Creative Industries qualification. Centres were able to provide evidence that assessment judgements were in line with expected national standards, and in several instances, above national standard.

Assessment evidence was varied and took the form of NAB workbooks, digital folios, video recordings of presentations, as well as a wide variety of artefacts demonstrating the development of creative skills. In several centres, assessment evidence was clearly informed and influenced by visiting creative practitioners.

Administration of assessments

Verifiers reported that in all centres, assessment was being conducted appropriately. In all verified centres, assessment evidence was found to be consistent with the national standard. It was found that the use of NAB material was helpful in assisting assessors with the application of assessment judgements in line with the standards set out in the unit specifications.

Verifiers observed effective use of internal quality assurance processes aiding the administration of assessment. This included pre-delivery activity in relation to instruments of assessment and assessment checklists through assessment standardisation meetings and discussions. This was evidenced, in the majority of centres, by meeting notes and/or minutes.

It was clear that in all centres, cross-marking or internal verification of assessment decisions had been carried out. This ensured the consistent application of national standards across each of the units verified and provided reassurance within centres that assessment was being conducted appropriately.

Verifiers commented that assessment decisions were recorded and that this was helpful when carrying out external verification.

Learning and teaching

There were several centres utilising a holistic approach to assessment across the course, particularly Creative Industries: Skills Development, Creative Industries: Creative Process and Creative Industries: Creative Project. In these instances, the context set out in the project informed the process tasks, which in turn helped candidates focus on required skills development areas. The candidate reviews in

Creative Industries: An Introduction were used to track development of employability skills alongside these other units.

Most centres were effectively engaging with external creative practitioners. In other centres, staff were utilising in-house creative staff to inform and provide input directly to learning.

Candidates were learning in a variety of contexts including, Art, Design, Graphics, Photography, Music, Media, Textiles and Fashion.

Overall assessment

Verifiers reported that the application of assessment decisions was consistent between assessors and internal verifiers in all centres. Work presented by all centres was consistent with national standards.

The use of NAB material, case studies and other supporting documentation was found to be helpful when setting, marking and administering candidate assessments.

It was found that where centres devised their own learning, teaching and assessment materials which were suited to the specific needs of the candidates in that centre, engagement was greater and standard of work higher.

Verification

All centres visited this session were very prepared and were helpful in identifying candidates for verification selection.

The presentation of assessment evidence and supporting documentation was found to be helpful for the verifiers in every centre visited this session.

Areas of good practice reported in 2022–23

- In several centres, the use of centre-devised candidate workbooks that clearly set out the context for learning was found to be beneficial to candidates.
- Some centres delivered the Creative Industries: An Introduction unit prior to the summer break, allowing the maximum time available in the following term to be used for creative practical activity.
- Candidates commented that they enjoyed the autonomy and self-directed approaches offered by the course and noted how this impacted positively on their learning in other subject areas.
- In most centres there was found to be an abundance of assessment evidence which was clearly inspired and influenced by visiting artists. In one centre this took the form of weaving, illustrations, pottery and printmaking.

- Candidates in one centre assumed the roles of design agency staff, responding to internal and external client briefs through the production of graphic design and photography. Candidates were gaining experience in project management and customer service as well as their own creative skills.
- In one centre, candidates planned, developed and delivered an exhibition of creative artwork including costume designs, paintings and illustrations.
- One centre reported that the course offered opportunities for community engagement, helping create links between the centre and the local area. This was realised through the production of graphic designs for local groups and businesses.

Specific areas for improvement reported in 2022–23

- For the unit Creative Industries: Creative Process (J17Y 75) it was suggested that the use of a detailed assessor observation checklist would be helpful in ensuring that evidence requirements are met by each candidate when carrying out tasks that have a performance-based evidence requirement.
- It is advised that centres check for updates to unit specifications, group award specifications (arrangements) documents and NAB material annually prior to delivery to ensure that the most up-to-date documentation is being used.