Scottish Baccalaureate Interdisciplinary Project

Qualification Verification Summary Report 2023–24

Expressive Arts

Verification group number: 535

General comments

Although this curricular area has the fewest presentations, most of the presenting centres also present candidates in one or more of the other Interdisciplinary Project curricular areas. It is apparent that there is much cooperation between assessors from these different areas in terms of supporting candidates through their projects and supporting assessors in grading decisions and internal verification.

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

SQA's website contains information on all of the above.

There is a sound understanding of the course arrangements, unit specifications and grading criteria in most centres, demonstrated in the accuracy of grading decisions.

Many centres are clearly making use of the exemplar material available on SQA's website. Discussions regarding exemplification are often referred to in internal verification documents.

Evidence requirements

As many centres have a collegiate approach to supporting the Interdisciplinary Project, there is a good understanding of the evidence requirements. Candidate evidence is completed well, as is the accompanying assessor report.

Administration of assessments

Centres presenting in Expressive Arts have a sound understanding of how to administer the assessments. Candidates are well supported, especially when a cross-curricular team has been formed. Assessor feedback to candidates is positive and encouraging, and comments on the assessor report are generally of a high quality.

Verification

Centres have a good understanding of what is required to internally verify grading decisions. The quality of the documents provided as evidence of this have been improving consistently over the past few years.

Despite the inclusion of a checklist which comes with the paperwork for submitting projects for external verification, some centres still omitted mandatory documentation, particularly that related to internal verification. When this happens, a hold is placed on the centre until the relevant documents are submitted. Careful use of the checklist should ensure that there are no omissions.

Areas of good practice reported in 2023–24

- The project topic chosen by candidates in many cases allows them to explore a wide and diverse range of areas with interesting links made between their subject area and, for example, fashion, mental health and learning.

- Assessor comments on the assessor report are informative and give insight into their grading decisions.

- Broad contexts are generally well considered and expanded. This helps candidates in their awareness of the relevance of their project.

Specific areas for improvement reported in 2023–24

- Candidates should be encouraged to use the italicised information within the template to assist them in completing each section. This ensures that their input is relevant and helps to keep them on track for meeting the grading criteria for each section.

- Centres should ensure that they have included all relevant documents in the submission for external verification.