



Scottish Baccalaureate Interdisciplinary Project

Qualification Verification Summary Report 2023–24

Languages

Verification group number: 457

General comments

The number of candidates presented in Languages has fallen slightly over the last few years, though many presenting centres also present candidates in other Scottish Baccalaureate curricular areas. Many centres are experienced in successfully supporting candidates, having presented for a number of years.

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

There is a strong understanding of the above elements, demonstrated by the high level of accuracy in grading decisions. Evidence from internal verification documents indicates that arrangements, specification, instruments of assessment and exemplification are used by assessors and candidates prior to embarking on a project. This good practice ensures that everyone involved has a sound understanding of what is required.

Evidence requirements

Generally there is a good understanding of the evidence requirements; however, some candidates used out-of-date templates. These older templates do not require expansion of the broad contexts, which is necessary in the newest format. Candidates should fully explain which of the broad contexts relate to their project. This helps them focus on the relevance of their project.

Administration of assessments

The assessment of projects is generally completed well, with assessors giving sound advice in their feedback to candidates and good justification of grading decisions in the assessor report.

Verification

Generally internal verification is good, as many assessors supporting Language candidates are working with colleagues in other departments. This collegiate approach helps pass on experience of supporting the Interdisciplinary Project within centres, providing a long-lasting legacy within the centre.

Areas of good practice reported in 2023–24

- The collegiate model used within several centres provides a coherent approach to support, assessment and verification, resulting in accurate assessment decisions backed up by strong justification.
- Several candidates used a foreign holiday or school excursion to carry out research relevant to their project. The commitment shown by these candidates is commendable.

- There continues to be interesting comparisons made between various aspects of life in the UK and a foreign country, such as architecture, religious festivals, and mental health related to climate.

Specific areas for improvement reported in 2023–24

- Where candidates are making comparisons between aspects of life in the UK and abroad, they should bear in mind the relevance of their chosen topic to ensure that they maximise opportunities to meet all grading criteria.
- Centres should ensure that they use the most up-to-date templates from SQA's website.
- A few centres included progress logs and interim reviews along with the seven pieces of mandatory candidate evidence. These are not required, and centres have been advised of this in their outcome report.