



NQ verification 2023–24 round 2

Qualification verification summary report

Section 1: verification group information

Verification group name:	Fashion and Textile Technology
Verification activity:	Visiting
Date published:	June 2024

National Course components

Course code	Course level	Title
C828 75	National 5	Fashion and Textile Technology — Practical Activity
C828 76	Higher	Fashion and Textile Technology — Practical Activity

Section 2: comments on assessment

Assessment approaches:

All centres used appropriate items, and verifiers were overall very complimentary about the standard of items produced.

Many centres chose to use SQA-produced patterns, although centres can use their own patterns. Centres who had problems with the assessment approach hadn't marked the eight highest tariff techniques, which limits the candidate's ability to achieve the highest mark.

The practical activity marking guidelines state that centres should mark the highest tariff techniques first, and move down to the next tariff, until eight techniques have been marked. This might mean a total of more than 28 marks at National 5 or 30 marks at Higher could be achieved by the candidate, although they can only be awarded a maximum of 28 or 30 marks.

Assessment judgements

Most centres were marking to the National Standard and provided robust evidence of marking. Internal verification was evident, and verifiers also saw cross-centre verification which can be very useful if a centre consists of a single-person department, or teachers new to the subject.

Centres not assessing to the national standard tended to be marking too harshly, or were double penalising candidates, for example not awarding marks for uneven pleats on the handbag, and then not awarding marks for the uneven pleats on the overall quality of the finished item.

Section 3: general comments

Centres were well organised for verification activities, and most assessors felt it had been a very positive experience.

Verifiers saw some excellent items, which showed a high level of personalisation and choice in patterns, fabric and decoration.

Assessors are more confident in identifying construction techniques, and correctly marking them. Top stitching is a technique which can cause difficulty; if a line of stitching is the only stitching which makes the item functional, then this should not be identified as top stitching. If the stitching is decorative or provides an extra function, then it can be classed as top stitching.

For example — if a strap has been folded and stitched closed, then that stitching is counted as part of making the strap. If the opposite edge of the strap is also sewn, the second line of stitching would be top stitching. Similarly, if the top of the handbag has been stitched once the lining has been inserted to provide a neater finish to the handbag, this is top stitching.

Most centres made very good use of the marking grid, and provided photographs and detailed comments to support their marking decision, which allowed verifiers to accurately assess the centres' judgements.