



NQ verification 2023–24 round 1

Qualification verification summary report

Section 1: verification group information

Verification group name:	National 1 and 2
Verification activity:	Event
Date published:	June 2024

National Units verified

Unit code	Unit level	Unit title
H478 71	National 1	Physical Education: Improving Performance
H47E 71	National 1	Personal Development: Making a Journey
H47V 71	National 1	Independent Living Skills: Going Shopping
H47W 71	National 1	Independent Living Skills: Common Dangers in the Home
H47X 71	National 1	Independent Living Skills: Using General Household Electrical Appliances
H47Y 71	National 1	Independent Living Skills: Basic First Aid
H6B7 71	National 1	Communication: Recognising Character in Fiction
H6BN 71	National 1	Music: Exploring Sound and Rhythm
H6BV 71	National 1	Number Skills: Recognising Numbers
H6BW 71	National 1	Number Skills: Number Processes
H6BX 71	National 1	Number Skills: Using a Calculator
H6C4 71	National 1	Number Skills: Measurement of Length
H6C5 71	National 1	Number Skills: Measurement of Volume
H6C6 71	National 1	Number Skills; Measurement of Weight
H70C 71	National 1	Creative Arts: Creating Materials for Display
H70K 71	National 1	Information and Communication Technology: Searching for Information
H70L 71	National 1	Information and Communication Technology: Working with Digital Images
H70N 71	National 1	Information and Communication Technology: Working with Communications Technologies
H70R 71	National 1	Information and Communication Technology: Capturing Digital Images

Unit code	Unit level	Unit title
H20X 72	National 2	Internet Applications
H21R 72	National 2	Lifeskills Mathematics: Number and Number Processes
H21T 72	National 2	Lifeskills Mathematics: Shape, Space and Data
H21V 72	National 2	Lifeskills Mathematics: Money
H21W 72	National 2	Lifeskills Mathematics: Time
H21Y 72	National 2	Lifeskills Mathematics: Measurement
H22K 72	National 2	Developing Skills in Creative Arts
H22L 72	National 2	Working with Images, Graphics and Sound
H241 72	National 2	English and Communication: Understanding Language
H244 72	National 2	English and Communication: Creating Texts
H246 72	National 2	English and Communication: Listening and Talking
H24D 72	National 2	Developing Performance Skills
H24E 72	National 2	Using Performance Skills
H24F 72	National 2	Contributing to a Performance
H24Y 72	National 2	Physical Education: Factors Affecting Performance
H250 72	National 2	Physical Education: Improving Performance
H26F 72	National 2	Social Subjects: Making a Decision
H26G 72	National 2	Social Subjects: Making a Contrast
H26H 72	National 2	Social Subjects: Organising and Communicating Information
H27L 72	National 2	German: Life in Another Country
H8L9 72	National 2	Employment Skills: Catering and Food Services
H8LF 72	National 2	Employment Skills: Agriculture and Horticulture
H8LV 72	National 2	English: Responding to Fictional Texts
H8LW 72	National 2	English: Using Information Texts
H8M0 72	National 2	Media: Investigating Media Products
H8M4 72	National 2	Religious and Moral Education: World Religions
J5HF 72	National 2	Science in the Environment: Exploring Everyday Materials
J5HJ 72	National 2	Science in the Environment: Living Things

Section 2: comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Nineteen centres were verified this year at the National 1 and 2 central verification event. Three centres submitted their evidence digitally.

The assessment materials viewed were a mixture of complete and interim evidence. These assessments were generally well organised, well evidenced and of a high standard. Most centres used the unit assessment support packs as their assessment tool for their National 2 candidates. These were generally used appropriately and generated the required amount and type of evidence for the unit outcomes and associated assessment standards. Some centres developed their own assessment materials, and these were creative, appropriate and allowed for candidate's interests and skills to be developed.

The assessment evidence for National 1 units came from centre-devised assessments and most were supported by photographic and video evidence. These assessments were individualised, well labelled and allowed candidates to use their own method of

communication. Candidate assessment records and checklists were included with candidate evidence and these included detailed comments regarding how assessments had been carried out.

Assessment judgements

Most centres demonstrated a sound knowledge of the national standards and procedures for National 1 and 2 qualifications. The assessment materials viewed were of a high quality, clearly labelled and easy to follow. Some centre assessments were enhanced by video and photographic evidence. Most centre's assessment judgements were consistent, fair, reliable and in line with national standards.

There was some evidence that some candidates were being over-assessed. It is important that centres refer to the judging evidence tables, unit assessment support packs and unit specifications for further information on the evidence requirements and the standard for this level. It is also important to ensure that candidates are entered at the right unit level and being challenged appropriately.

The use of unit assessment support packs ensured that all outcomes had been adequately covered to the required standard. It is important to always link evidence to the correct assessment standards and most centres did this well. However, a few centres submitted photographs without appropriate labelling, making it difficult to establish exactly which skills and activities were being demonstrated.

Most centres are now using and including individualised candidate assessment records. These record assessor comments on candidate performance, details of how assessments have been carried out, and relevant information about the amount and type of support given. Candidate assessment records can also be used to show how the assessment judgements have been reached. Some centres included candidate checklists and logs with detailed and relevant comments, and this gave external verifiers a good insight into how assessment judgements had been made.

However, some centres did not clearly record their assessment judgements within the evidence submitted. It should be noted that it is not the external verifier's role to assess candidates work and make judgements, the external verifiers role is to review the evidence submitted by centres and consider whether a centre's assessment approach is valid and the assessment judgements have been made reliably in the centre.

Section 3: general comments

To help SQA carry out external verification effectively, centres need to submit candidate evidence, tell us what they have used to assess their candidates and how their decisions of pass or fail have been reached. This needs to be clearly recorded on the verification sample form and on candidate assessment records, marked on candidate evidence, checklists and in assessor comments.

For National 1 and 2 we request an overall sample of no more than 12 candidates with evidence of one unit assessment each or 12 pieces of evidence from a mixture of candidates. If a centre is presenting at only one level, the full sample of 12 candidates should

come from that level. If presenting at both National 1 and 2 levels then a sample of 12 is required across the two levels, with six from each level if possible.

Centres can provide interim evidence for candidates if they have not yet completed a full unit, but they still need to make a judgement on what they think the outcome will be for the candidate once the unit work is complete. This should be indicated on the verification sample form as interim as opposed to complete evidence.

Much of the candidate assessment evidence verified this year showed signs of internal verification having taken place. Work was often cross marked using different coloured pens and some centres included forms which were signed and dated, indicating internal verification had taken place. It is good practice to include any internal verifier comments, suggestions, action points and details of discussions recorded on the centre's internal verification paperwork.

Where centres had an effective internal verification system it was evident that these centres had a high level of consistency across the assessment judgements. A few centres were still developing their internal verification practices. It is also good practice to use the [Internal Verification Toolkit](#) on SQA's website. It is vital that centres have an effective internal quality assurance system in place and that evidence of this is included when centres are selected for external verification.