

NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care 601/8434/6

Assessment: HSC1

Submission window: 20/01/2023 – 08/02/2023

This report contains information in relation to the external assessment from the chief examiner, with an emphasis on the standard of learner work within this assessment window.

The aim is to highlight where learners generally perform well as well as any areas where further development may be required.

Key points:

- Grade boundary information
- Administering the external assessment
- Standard of learner work
- Assessment structure
- Use of word allocation
- Criteria requirements and command verbs
- Referencing of external assessment tasks
- Assessment criteria
- Regulations for the conduct of external assessment

It is important to note that learners should not sit the external assessment until they have taken part in the relevant teaching of the full qualification content.

Grade boundary information

Grade	NYA	D	C	B	A	A*	Learners	1990
% Of learners	23.47	17.64	35.43	15.78	7.24	0.45	Pass rate	76.53

Administering the external assessment

The external assessment is invigilated and must be conducted in line with our regulations for the conduct of external assessment. Learners may require additional pre-release material to complete the tasks within the paper. These must be provided to learners in line with our regulations.

Learners must be given the resources to carry out the tasks and these are highlighted within the [Qualification Specific Instructions for Delivery](#) document (QSID).

Standard of learner work

Assessment structure

- Candidates should be encouraged to ensure that the lower grades have been developed to the required standard before attempting the higher grades.

Use of word allocation

- Some learners only attempted the lower criteria, using an exceptionally low word count.
- Some learners attempted every criterion and did not use half their allotted maximum word count.

Criteria requirements and command verbs

- Learners must ensure they understand the demands of the command verbs, particularly in the higher criteria.

Referencing of external assessment tasks

- The correct use of referencing was an issue; many learners identified a source in their work; however, the accompanying quotation was not clearly identified in speech marks or emboldened so could not be identified as a quote.
- A source at the bottom of a paragraph is not sufficient to meet the reference requirements,
- At the same time some learners from these same centres had provided clear quotations and identified sources.
- Some learners gave lengthy justifications for the quotations they had used, using vital words from their allocation.
- References and sources are not part of the available word count.
- Large quotes instead of learners' own work does not demonstrate the learner's own knowledge and understanding.
- Learners must be aware that copying large sections of material will be marked around.

Assessment Criteria

D Criteria

- Learners had a good understanding of the theme of professional standards and explained two reasons they were relevant in health and social care.

C Criteria

- C1 Many learners appeared to not understand the question and were writing generically about policies and procedures, not specific policies or procedures that related to the theme of professional standards.
- Some learners wrote about Acts of Parliament, Standards and Codes of Conduct.

B Criteria

- Learners must be aware of the difference between standards and legislation.
- Some candidates unfortunately included several pieces of legislation and hence could not demonstrate the depth required to achieve this assessment criterion.
- Some writing has been generic regarding legislation, rather than a specific Act.
- Candidates sometimes did not link the legislation/theory or report and its impact on practice.
- B1 was sometimes so brief the command verb could not be achieved.
- It was refreshing to see that some more recent reports had been chosen as examples, for example the Ockenden review.
- B2 Many candidates who attempted this gave very insightful responses and in relation to the title.

A Criteria

- A2 Some candidates did not include any evidence of evaluative skills and merely gave an analysis from one perspective.

Regulations for the conduct of external assessment

Malpractice

There were 6 instances of malpractice in this assessment window. The chief examiner would like to take this opportunity to advise learners that instances of malpractice (for example, copying of work from another learner) will affect the outcome on the assessment.

Maladministration

No instances of maladministration were reported in this assessment window. The chief examiner would like to highlight the importance of adhering to the regulations for the conduct of external assessment document in this respect.

Chief Examiner: Clare Scott

Date: 02/04/2023