



National Qualifications 2007

Senior Verifier Report

Subject: **Physics Standard Grade**

Assessment Panel: **Physics**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification which has taken place within National Qualifications in this subject.

STANDARD GRADE

ELEMENT / COURSEWORK VERIFIED

This section refers to the verification of the Physics Practical Abilities at Standard Grade.

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

The overall standard of work submitted for verification was on par with that of last year. Two centres failed verification due to arithmetic errors. One centre did not provide sufficient evidence that pupils were given the opportunity to attempt **all** practical techniques.

The verification team was pleased to see that there was more evidence of good internal quality assurance taking place in centres. This should continue to be recommended.

Teachers made very useful comments throughout and at the end of investigations, which indicated marks deducted/awarded. Care should be taken to indicate the agreed mark awarded in each criteria.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Section RR3 continues to be poorly attempted by pupils. It is recommended that centres explain the marking criteria to pupils. Graph work was noted to be particularly poor this year. Pupils are required to develop better skills at:

- Selecting an origin, usually (0,0) suits the result of most investigations
- Choosing appropriate scales
- Correct units – weight/mass. This continues to be a problem area where teachers are marking incorrect units.
- Drawing appropriate best fit lines

Teachers are required to be careful marking details in graphs. A4 graph paper is recommended for issue to pupils.