

**National Certificate of Educational  
Achievement**

**2013 Assessment Report**

**Education for Sustainability Level 3**

- 90830 Compare and contrast initiatives in relation to a sustainable future**
- 90831 Describe policies and practices, their development and contribution to a sustainable future**

## **COMMENTARY**

Overall the standard of work was high for both portfolios. Candidates had a better understanding of the Achievement Standards, especially for 90830, than in previous years.

Candidates incorporated a range of supporting evidence and a variety of references to add depth to their research.

Some candidates struggled to fully understand what a sustainable future means and found it difficult to link the aspects of sustainability to their initiatives or practices.

## **STANDARD REPORTS**

### **90830 Compare and contrast initiatives in relation to a sustainable future**

#### **ACHIEVEMENT**

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They commonly:**

- described two initiatives that were developed in response to a need within the community
- displayed a clear understanding of the initiatives in relation to sustainability
- identified relevant features of the initiatives that were similar and compared them in relation to a sustainable future
- identified relevant features that were different and compared them in relation to a sustainable future
- integrated a range of evidence for both initiatives in order to be able to compare them.

#### **NOT ACHIEVED**

**Candidates who were awarded Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They commonly:**

- presented a portfolio with limited or no reference material
- listed features of each initiative without identifying relevant similarities or differences
- showed a limited understanding of the issue or the initiative
- provided insufficient detail of the initiative
- showed little or no understanding of linking the initiative to a sustainable future and the aspects of sustainability.

#### **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit commonly:**

- presented a portfolio of evidence with a range of clearly referenced resources that supported the analysis of the initiatives
- presented a detailed understanding of how and why the initiatives were similar, and their impact for sustainability

- discussed the differences between the initiatives, the reasons for the differences and how they each distinctively contributed to a sustainable future.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence commonly:**

- developed relevant and clear criteria in order to make a judgment on the differences and similarities of the initiatives
- used the criteria to determine how the similarities contributed to a sustainable future
- compared the differences within the criteria to judge the relationship to sustainability
- justified a judgment on the initiatives based on success of implementation and intent in relation to a sustainable future.

## **OTHER COMMENTS**

A range of evidence needs to be included in the research of both initiatives. Candidates should be careful to identify appropriate initiatives that will allow relevant strengths and weaknesses to be identified. They need to be able to establish criteria around the aspects of sustainability to fully make a judgement to link it to a sustainable future.

Candidates need to have a clear understanding of what a sustainable future is and the aspects of sustainability.

## **90831 Describe policies and practices, their development and contribution to a sustainable future**

### **ACHIEVEMENT**

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:**

- identified two relevant policies and described subsequent practices clearly
- presented a range of references that can be verified
- demonstrated understanding of the historical background, key stakeholders, and the purpose of the policy over a relevant timeframe
- showed an understanding of the issue the policies address and social, environmental, political and/or economic influences on the development process
- demonstrated an understanding of how the practice contributes towards a sustainable future.

### **NOT ACHIEVED**

**Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:**

- presented only one distinct policy
- misunderstood what the practice was that came out of the policies
- provided limited evidence of research
- demonstrated a limited historical development of the policies
- demonstrated a narrow understanding of the relationship between policies and

practices within a sustainability context

- misunderstood what the practices were and how they linked with a sustainable future.

### **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:**

- provided reasons why at least one policy was developed in response to an issue
- demonstrated understanding of how specific practices developed due to the policy
- demonstrated an understanding of how the practice has/will contribute towards a sustainable future
- provided suitable evidence and references.

### **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:**

- understood the relationship between the policy and the implementation of the practice and how it contributes to a sustainable future
- discussed the implementation of practices from the policy
- provided clear criteria that showed an understanding of sustainability
- related the policy and subsequent practices to relevant criteria that are based on environmental, social, cultural and economic outcomes
- used a range of evidence to analyse effectiveness of practices.

### **OTHER COMMENTS**

Candidates struggled to clearly identify the practices that had come out of the policies. The evidence to show the process of how the policies and practices developed needs to be clearly identified along with the key influences. The contribution to a sustainable future needs to be clearly identified in the portfolio as this is central to this Achievement Standard.

Time management and checkpoints could be used to ensure maximum success in the submission of the portfolio.