

Assessment Specifications

Level 3 Design and Visual Communication 2024

Published in December 2023

General information

Domain:	Design and Visual Communication
Assessment event scheduling:	School managed assessment
Assessment timing:	Over-time submission
Assessment method:	Body of work
Assessment format:	Portfolio
Assessment medium:	Digital or physical submission
Permitted digital file types	Image files (JPG, JPEG), document files (PDF), video files (MP4)
Final date of submission:	30 October 2024
Standards:	91627, 91631

[Design and Visual Communication subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Information relating to all achievement standards

Assessment will be in the form of a portfolio of evidence for each standard.

Candidates should submit a curated portfolio of material that conveys the design requirements of the externally assessed achievement standard, and communicates the candidate's knowledge, understanding, and skills relevant to that standard. Evidence may be drawn from one or more units of work and used for assessment against more than one achievement standard.

Submission may be physical or digital for both standards.

For further information on submission please read the Submission Requirements below.

Conditions of assessment

Candidates' work should be developed between January and November of the year of submission.

The use of chatbots, generative AI, paraphrasing tools, or other tools that can automatically generate content is not permitted and material generated by these tools should not be submitted as part of the candidate's work. **CAD applications may be used.**

Authenticity

Teachers must closely supervise the process of evidence collection to ensure that candidates:

- do not copy from another person or source without appropriate acknowledgement
- do not receive guidance, scaffolding, instruction, assistance, or assessment conditions beyond what is specified as permissible in these Assessment Specifications.

Where a teacher cannot verify that the assessment submitted is the authentic work of the candidate, they must notify NZQA of a possible Candidate Breach of External Assessment.

Special notes

For 2024 it is possible to submit 91627 digitally through the NZQA portal. When submitting 91627 digitally, candidates should submit curated work for 91627 ONLY. Work intended for Scholarship should be submitted separately in a physical format. Digital submissions that include Scholarship material will not be forwarded for Scholarship marking.

Submission requirements

Evidence may be submitted as digital or physical portfolios for 2024.

Digital submissions can be presented as document (PDF), image (JPG, JPEG), and video (MP4) files. *Note that only these file types may be submitted, and that other file types may not be able to be marked.* PDF and MP4 are the recommended file types.

Animations should not exceed 3 minutes.

Digital submissions should be submitted using NZQA's digital portal. More than one file can be uploaded for each standard to a maximum of 200MB. Schools are required to securely store a back-up copy (or originals) of all digital submissions.

Physical submissions can be up to a maximum size of A3 (297 x 420mm). Larger pages must be folded to A3 size. Where mock-ups, prototypes, and models have been used, photographic evidence of these may assist the presentation. Original copies or high-quality photocopies should be presented for assessment if submitting physical portfolios.

Work that can be submitted on paper should not be put on a CD ROM. The only work that may be submitted on CD ROM / DVD is an animated presentation or video that is part of a physical submission.

The following are **not acceptable**:

- visual diaries
- submission materials contained in clear files
- laminated pages
- additional packaging, e.g. boxes or framed design work
- models – only photographs should be submitted
- submission material on USB drives. All digital submissions must be via the NZQA portal.

Candidates should refer to [Further Guidance for Submission Responses](#) for further information.

Refer also to other resources on the [subject page](#) of the NZQA website.

Further submission instructions and authenticity requirements will be provided for schools in Term 3, Week 1.

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:	91627
Title:	Initiate design ideas through exploration
Version:	3
Number of credits:	4

The candidate's portfolio should **not exceed 30 A3 pages** for this standard. Candidates may use any computer applications – for example, Adobe Photoshop, Vectorworks, Google SketchUp, and Flash animations – to produce evidence for this standard.

The evidence for this standard can be integrated with any of the internal achievement standards or presented as a separate unit.

Candidates will need to demonstrate that they can use a starting experience to generate ideas in the broadest sense and, through the use of visual communication strategies, transform these ideas in a way that enables the formation of design ideas.

The visual communication strategies can be expressed through any visual mode (including 2D, 3D, and 4D) such as sketching, drawing, modelling, or animation, and can be done by either manual or digital means. While a single mode of visual communication may suffice, it is recommended that more than one be used to increase the opportunities for extending idea exploration.

91627 can be submitted digitally in 2024.

Standard:	91631
Title:	Produce working drawings to communicate production details for a complex design
Version:	3
Number of credits:	6

The candidate's portfolio should **not exceed 15 A3 pages** for this standard.

For this standard, any computer applications used should primarily be those appropriate for the production of working drawings – for example, Vectorworks, SolidWorks, Archicad, or Revit – although animations can be used as supporting evidence.

The evidence for this achievement standard can be integrated with any of the internal achievement standards or presented as a separate unit based on a design idea that requires interpretation in terms of design details.

Candidates will need to demonstrate they can produce a set of related drawings that can utilise 2D and 3D modes, instrumentally constructed / modelled using either traditional drafting equipment or computer applications. Digital animations can also be used to support the related drawings to aid the communication of exterior and interior information related to the construction and assembly of a multi-component design.

In this context, the production of working drawings is for the purposes of communicating the design details of a spatial design, or product design to a level that will allow its manufacture or construction. Depending on the complexity and scale of the design, this is not necessarily expected to be done to a comprehensive extent, provided there is a suitable level of detailing shown for a key aspect of the design.

Evidence for this standard should involve the selection of views and modes, informed by accepted design and visual communication practice and convention as suitable to the design context, in generating a set of related drawings that communicates details for the assembly and / or construction of the design.

91631 can be submitted digitally in 2024.