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ASSESSMENT and QUALIFICATIONS ALLIANCE

General Certificate of Education

Applied Art and Design (8511, 8513, 8516, 8519)

AA6-AF6 Option unit

Report on the Examination

2007 examination - June series

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ADA6-AF6 – Option Unit

Unit 6 consists of a series of six options of which candidates select one. In many cases candidates produced their most successful work for this unit; probably because it allowed them to pursue a specialism of particular interest. During moderation visits it was evident that centres had not always checked the requirements of the particular options and therefore some candidates did not complete all of the necessary work. For example, in ADA6: *Drawing, painting or sculpture, and printmaking*, a finished drawing, a painting or sculpture, and two limited edition prints were required and these were not always seen.

It is also important that candidates work in a vocational way and respond to the needs of the client or audience, meeting their requirements and responding to the constraints set. This could be done either through a 'live' or through a simulated brief as long as this was set in a vocational context.

Excellent examples were seen this series in ADB6: *Photography and lens-based imagery*, mainly using digital photography. In ADD6: *Art in the community*, candidates should record and present notes and comments on both the process and on the final design proposal but this was not always in evidence. A very successful approach was seen where candidates used a 'visual diary' following the project from start to finish.

The *Textile art and fashion* option, ADE6, was also popular and many candidates produced a finished textile or fashion article. 'Making' was not always of a high standard but initial ideas and development showed some creative responses. The summary, used to justify the design solution for the client, was often short and lacked focus. Consideration of *how* and *why* improvements could be made was generally weak.

Teachers should note that there are minor changes to the specification for 2008 and these include changes to the requirements for some options. The revised version of the specification is available to read/download from AQA's Website.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the Results statistics page of the AQA website.