Common Issues with Unit 2

See also the FAQ on

http://community.ocr.org.uk/community/ocr nationals in ict/home

Assessment Objective 1:

- **ALL** candidates must produce some evidence of considering house style, which is more than the inclusion of a logo. This should be explicit.
- ALL candidates must at least identify audience and purpose for the proposed website.

Assessment Objective 2

- Candidates might create their own template and/or css style sheet by amending an existing one.
- For Merit, candidates need to use styles for text, rather than formatting each block of text individually. For Distinction, these styles should be part of a css sheet so that they can all be changed by changing the css definitions.
- Use of css will be different according to the software used. In Serif they are
 included in master templates whilst in Front Page they are in themes or can
 be created by selecting More Page Templates and clicking on the Style
 Sheets option. Whichever option is used, candidates must set up the styles
 etc according to their plans and must use them for the text in their pages.
- Optimisation MUST be explicitly shown as stated in the grading grid for Merit and Distinction.
- Accurate filenames should include the home page which should be called index.htm or index.html

Assessment Objective 3

- At Pass level it is sufficient to be able to access all five pages at least once, without use of the 'back' button on the browser. A 'clear structure' for Merit requires a system that allows access to all pages as many times as you want, without use of the 'back' button on the browser.
- This is one place where plurals are clearly important, as they provide differentiation between Merit and Distinction. So at Merit **one** email link and hotspot/image map is needed, but at least two of each for Distinction.

Assessment Objective 4

- Hyperlinks are assessed in AO3, they do not count as 'further interactive elements'. Here we might find controls for sound/video, other effects on click etc.
- Scripting might be used by adding code for, eg, hit counters, voting buttons and/or clocks. This might be found from a website, eg www.htmlfreecodes.com, www.hypergurl.com/easyhtml.html

Assessment Objective 5

- Most candidates create a form that is intended to be filled out online, ie they
 are attempting the Merit/Distinction level. However, if the form is not well laid
 out, or if they use boxes that a user can't actually fill in, then they can still be
 awarded a Pass.
- The form created should normally be to seek feedback about the website (such as ease of navigation, suitability for users, etc) but it is also acceptable for the form to be a response form such as indicating an interest in the product/service being offered or an application form.
- For the form to work, at Distinction level, there must be some code behind the Submit button, or on the form, to direct the responses to an email address. It is not expected that the website will be hosted, but the form should be set up so that, if the site were hosted, it would work.

Assessment Objective 6

- No screenshot evidence is required to evidence testing at Pass level, but the electronic file of the completed website should back up any claims made on test plans.
- Candidates do not have to find errors to correct at Merit/Distinction. If
 everything works as it should and the testing covers most/all areas and is
 documented with screenshots (or annotated code) then these grades can be
 awarded.
- Areas for testing should be taken from the Knowledge, understanding and skills section of the Unit specification – testing four links constitutes one test – hyperlinks, and does not meet the requirement to perform four tests. It is likely that more than six tests might be needed to cover all areas as required at Distinction level.

Assessment Objective 7

- Candidates must evaluate their website and their own working practices (strengths and weaknesses). If they do not consider their own strengths and weaknesses (which should relate to the work completed for this unit) they should not be awarded a grade.
- Readability, usability and accessibility are technical terms that need specific
 consideration. www.webcredible.com is a useful resource for teachers and
 students on these topics. It has a search facility which brings up articles on
 each of these issues.