An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

# Assessment Arrangements

## For Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2025

September 2024

# 2025 Introduction

This updated document sets out the adjusted assessment arrangements for post-primary students taking certificate examinations in the 2024/25 school year. The adjustments, which are similar to those that were made for the students taking examinations in 2024, have been arrived at through discussions between the Department of Education (DE), the State Examinations Commission (SEC) and the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) and key stakeholders.

Changes to the national assessment arrangements have been made with due regard for the principles of equity, fairness and integrity as these principles apply to assessment and examinations and refer to student-to student, subject-to-subject, and year-to-year comparisons. Overall, the changes can be viewed as reflecting and recognising the disruption to learning students experienced in a fair manner with contingency for future disruption to the learning experience of students that may occur during the 2024/25 school year also built in. They provide clarity, certainty and reassurance to students, their parents/guardians, teachers and schools in advance of the start of the 2024/2025 school year.

The document details the adjusted assessment arrangements for every subject/module descriptor in the Leaving Certificate Established, Leaving Certificate Applied, Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme and Junior Cycle programmes. When you click on the relevant subject title, you will be brought to the page detailing the particular arrangements for that subject.

# Senior Cycle

## SENIOR CYCLE

For the Leaving Certificate Established (LCE), Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA) and Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) examinations, there will be no change to the duration of the written examinations. For LCE subjects, some additional choice will be incorporated into the written examinations as detailed on the relevant subject page.

For subjects where the State Examinations Commission (SEC) issues project briefs during the 2024/2025 school year, the intention is to generally issue these at least four weeks earlier than normal. Teachers are encouraged to plan and undertake these projects as early as possible in the programme of study within the context of any current and future public health measures which may apply. In the case of subjects where the coursework briefs issued in the 2023/2024 school year and have a completion date in the 2024/2025 school year, normal timelines for completion will apply.

The adjusted assessment arrangements to the LCA Programme and the LCVP are accessed by clicking the programme title on the right.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Accounting | Agricultural Science | Ancient Greek |
| Applied Maths | Arabic | Art |
| Biology | Business | Chemistry |
| Classical Studies | Computer Science | Construction Studies |
| Design and Communications Graphics | Economics | Engineering |
| English | French | Geography |
| German | Hebrew Studies | History |
| Home Economics Scientific and Social | Irish | Italian |
| Japanese | Latin | Lithuanian |
| Mandarin Chinese | Mathematics | Music |
| Physics & Chemistry | Physical Education | Physics |
| Politics and Society | Polish | Portuguese |
| Religious Education | Russian | Spanish |
| Non-Curricular Languages | Technology | |
| Leaving Certificate Applied Programme | Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme | |

# Junior Cycle

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Applied Technology | Visual Art | Business Studies |
| Classics | Engineering | English |
| French | German | Geography |
| Graphics | History | Home Economics |
| Irish | Italian | Jewish Studies |
| Mathematics | Music | Religious Education |
| Science | Spanish | Wood technology |

## JUNIOR CYCLE

With regard to Junior Cycle, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) has published the revised arrangements for Classroom-Based Assessments for students entering third year in 2024, and these are available here:

CBA revised arrangements for students in third year in 2024/25.

Each student must complete a minimum of one CBA in each subject and short course. Students taking the junior cycle final examinations in 2025 will not be required to complete Assessment Tasks for the relevant subjects. The grade descriptor awarded for these subjects will be based on the examination paper only. Specific arrangements have been put in place for Music, Visual Art, Home Economics, Wood Technology, Applied Technology, Engineering and Graphics and are detailed in the relevant section.

SENIOR CYCLE

# ACCOUNTING

| LEVEL | PRE-ADJUSTED ARRANGEMENTS | ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| Higher & Ordinary | **WRITTEN EXAMINATION** | **WRITTEN EXAMINATION** |
| | Section 1 – Financial Accounting<br>Q1 – 120 marks | An additional alternative Q1 will be provided (Sole/Company/Manufacturing) to provide choice. |
| | Q2, Q3, Q4 – answer any two | No adjustment. |
| | Section 2 – Financial Accounting | Q. 5 will be on Interpretation of Accounts |
| | Section 3 – Management Accounting | No adjustment. |

SENIOR CYCLE

# BUSINESS

| LEVEL | PRE-ADJUSTED ARRANGEMENTS | ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| Higher | **WRITTEN EXAMINATION**<br><br>Section 1 – Short Questions<br>Answer eight from 10 questions.<br><br>Section 2 – ABQ Units 2, 3, 4.<br><br>Section 3 – Long Questions<br>Four questions to be answered.<br>One question to be answered from Part 1, two from Part 2, and the 4th question from either Part 1 or 2. | **WRITTEN EXAMINATION**<br><br>Answer eight from 12 questions.<br><br>Section 2 – ABQ Units 2, 3, 4.<br>In light of the choice introduced within the examination the SEC will be cognisant of the word count of the ABQ.<br><br>Section 3 – Long Questions<br>Part 1 and Part 2 – increased choice with four questions in each (i.e. one additional question in part 1).<br><br>Candidates must answer one question from Part 1 and one question from Part 2 and any other two questions. |

SENIOR CYCLE

# BUSINESS

| LEVEL | PRE-ADJUSTED ARRANGEMENTS | ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| Ordinary | **WRITTEN EXAMINATION**<br><br>Section 1 – Short Questions<br>Answer 10 from 15.<br><br>Section 2 – Long Questions<br>One question to be answered from Part 1 and two from Part 2, and the 4th question from either Part 1 or 2. | **WRITTEN EXAMINATION**<br><br>No adjustment.<br><br>Part 1 and Part 2 – increased choice (i.e. one additional question in part 1).<br><br>Candidates must answer one question from Part 1 and one question from Part 2 and any other two questions. |

SENIOR CYCLE

# ECONOMICS

| LEVEL | PRE-ADJUSTED ARRANGEMENTS | ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| Higher | **STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT**<br><br>Brief to issue to schools in September.<br><br>Further information in relation to completion and submission of the coursework and the digital Student Research Project reporting booklet are available on the SEC website.<br><br>**WRITTEN EXAMINATION**<br><br>Short Response Questions<br>Answer eight questions (internal choice within two questions).<br><br>Extended Response Questions<br>Answer four out of five extended response questions. | **STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT**<br><br>Brief to issue to schools in September 2024.<br><br>Further information in relation to completion and submission of the coursework and the digital Student Research Project reporting booklet are available on the SEC website.<br><br>**WRITTEN EXAMINATION**<br><br>Answer eight questions out of 10.<br>Internal choice within three questions at HL – answer (a) and either (b) or (c).<br><br>Answer four out of six extended response questions. |

SENIOR CYCLE

# ECONOMICS

| LEVEL | PRE-ADJUSTED ARRANGEMENTS | ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| Ordinary | **STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT**<br><br>Brief to issue to schools in September.<br><br>Further information in relation to completion and submission of the coursework and the digital Student Research Project reporting booklet are available on the SEC website.<br><br>**WRITTEN EXAMINATION**<br><br>Short Answer Questions<br>Answer eight questions with choice in two questions.<br><br>Extended Response Questions<br>Answer four out of five extended response questions. | **STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT**<br><br>Brief to issue to schools in September 2024.<br><br>Further information in relation to completion and submission of the coursework and the digital Student Research Project reporting booklet are available on the SEC website.<br><br>**WRITTEN EXAMINATION**<br><br>Answer eight Short Questions from 10 with choice in three at OL – answer either (a) or (b).<br><br>Answer four out of six extended response questions. |

JUNIOR CYCLE

# BUSINESS STUDIES

| LEVEL | PRE-ADJUSTED ARRANGEMENTS | ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| Common | **COMPONENTS**<br>All have an externally marked Assessment Task and Written Examination. | **COMPONENTS**<br>The AT element will not be examined in 2025. The Written Examination will not be adjusted. |