

AN ROINN OIDEACHAIS,
BRAINSE AN IARBHUNOIDEACHAIS,
TEACH HÁICÍN (3ú Urlár),
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, 2.



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M16/89

To the Authorities of Post-Primary Schools

Junior Certificate Programme

1. The Minister for Education wishes to confirm and outline the various arrangements which are being put in place related to the introduction of the new Junior Certificate Programme as from September 1989.
2. The new programme will subsume the Intermediate Certificate and Day Group Certificate Programmes as the basis for examination for junior pupils from 1992 onwards. Pupils commencing the junior cycle in 1989 and after will, therefore, follow a common Junior Certificate programme.
3. The revised syllabuses being prepared by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) through its various subject committees are intended to ensure that the full range of pupil ability and aptitude is catered for within the Junior Certificate programme. This consideration is reflected in the revised syllabuses which have been completed and issued to schools. The sample examination papers and the revised syllabuses in other subjects to be issued in due course will have a similar objective.
4. Pilot projects or experimental courses will continue to be undertaken as part of the development of the programme; the revised syllabuses already issued owe much to the experience gained through experimental work. Two such projects - the Humanities programme under the City of Dublin VEC Curriculum Development Unit (CDVEC/CDU) and the Social and

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Environmental Studies Programme (SESP) operated by Shannon Curriculum Development Centre - will be continued during 1989/90. During that year the NCCA will, in liaison with the Department of Education and the CDVEC/CDU and the SESP project teams, evaluate the provision being made for English and History and Geography in the Junior Certificate Programme with a view to ensuring that needs identified through the pilot projects in those areas are addressed, with special reference to the needs of weaker students.

5. The Junior Certificate Examination in 1992, the first year of its operation, will be based on the subjects and syllabuses of which details are contained in the Appendix to this Circular. The Appendix also indicates the levels at which the subjects will be examined.
6. So as to permit the orderly implementation and monitoring of the development of the new Technology programme it is being introduced on a phased basis for a selected number of schools in 1989/90 and the examination in Technology in 1992 will only be available for candidates following the programme in those schools. It is intended to extend the option progressively in subsequent years to other schools.
7. In the interim, the Day Vocational (Group) Certificate examination will be set in 1990 and the Intermediate Certificate examination will be set in 1990 and 1991. The Day Vocational Certificate examination will be set in 1991 to cater for pupils who began that programme before 1989 and will be confined to such pupils.
8. You are requested to bring this Circular Letter to the attention of the teachers and pupils concerned.

N. Ó Loingseacháin,
Rúnaí.

Iúil, 1989.

SUBJECTS OF THE JUNIOR CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>LEVELS FOR EXAMINATION (a)</u>	<u>SYLLABUS</u>
1. Irish	3	As conveyed with C.L. M60/88
2. English	2	" " " " M63/88
3. Science (b)	2	" " " " M80/88
4. History & Geography	2	" " " " M62/88 and M61/88
5. Business Studies (c)	2	" " " " M64/88
6. Art, Craft & Design	2	" " " " M81/88
7. Spanish	2	" " " " M43/89
8. Italian	2	" " " " M43/89
9. Mathematics (d)	3	Intermediate Certificate Syllabuses A, B, C.
10. Home Economics (e)	} 2	Ordinary Level - Day Vocational Certificate Syllabuses
11. Woodwork		Higher Level - Intermediate Certificate Syllabuses
12. Metalwork		Intermediate Certificate Syllabus
13. Mechanical Drawing		" " " "
14. French	2	" " " "
15. German	2	" " " "
16. Latin (f)	2	" " " "
17. Greek (f)	2	" " " "
18. Classical Studies (f)	2	" " " "
19. Hebrew Studies (f)	2	" " " "
20. Music & Musicianship A&B (f)	2	" " " "
21. Civics	} Not for examination	As set out in Rules and Programme for Secondary Schools.
22. Computer Studies		
23. Shorthand	} 2	Ordinary Level - Day Vocational Certificate (General) syllabus
24. Typewriting		Higher Level - Day Vocational Certificate (Secretarial) syllabus
25. Physical Education	Not for examination	As set out in Rules & Programme for Secondary Schools
26. Technology	To be determined	As circulated to selected schools.

NOTES:

(a) Where indicated; 3 = Foundation, Ordinary and Higher, 2 = Ordinary and Higher.

(b) The subjects Science A, Science E and Rural Science are now subsumed under Science.

(c) & (d) The subjects Book-keeping and Commerce are now subsumed under Business Studies and Commercial Arithmetic under Mathematics and Business Studies.

(e) The syllabuses in Home Economics are being revised. In the interim, there will be an examination at Higher Level in 1992 based on the present Intermediate Certificate syllabus. In order to cater for those schools which traditionally entered pupils in the Domestic Science group of subjects for the Day Vocational Certificate, and for those schools only, an examination will be provided in Home Economics at Ordinary Level in 1992 based on the present Day Vocational Certificate syllabuses as follows:-

Food and Cookery (Practical)	200 marks
Needlework and Dressmaking (Finished Work)	100 marks
Domestic Science (Written)	<u>100</u> marks
TOTAL	400 marks

The syllabus for the written examination will as at present include Home Management and Laundrywork.

The aggregate marks obtained out of 400 will be recorded as a grade in Home Economics, Ordinary Level.