To: Management Authorities of Second Level Schools

Leaving Certificate Physical Education
Prescribed Topics for Written Examination in
Leaving Certificate examination 2021

1. A new specification for Leaving Certificate Physical Education was introduced on a phased basis in September 2018 and will be examined for the first time in 2020. This specification is only available for examination to candidates enrolled in the Phase 1 schools in 2020 and 2021.

2. The specification indicates that the assessment of Physical Education will have three elements – (1) a written examination, (2) a physical activity project and (3) performance assessment.

3. The subject will be assessed externally at Ordinary Level and at Higher Level. At both levels, the written examination will account for 50% of the marks. The written examination will be based on the subject specification which comprises questions based on the four topics from Strand 1 and four of the topics from Strand 2 (see below).

4. Each year, at both Ordinary Level and Higher Level, the terminal written examination will include questions across each of the Topics 1 to 4 from Strand 1 – Towards Optimum Performance, and Topics 5 and 6 from Strand 2 – Contemporary issues in physical activity. In addition, each year the State Examinations Commission will prescribe two of the remaining four topics from Strand 2 for study by each new cohort of Leaving Certificate candidates. These topics are: Topic 7 - Physical activity and inclusion; Topic 8 - Technology, media and sport; Topic 9 - Gender and physical activity and Topic 10 - Business and enterprise in physical activity and sport.

5. The State Examinations Commission prescribes the following topics for those candidates presenting for the Leaving Certificate examinations in the year 2021:
   Topic 8 – Technology, media and sport and
   Topic 9 – Gender and physical activity.

6. Please bring this circular to the attention of all teachers of Leaving Certificate Physical Education in your school.

7. Please provide a copy of this circular to the appropriate representatives of parents and teachers, for transmission to individual parents and teachers.

8. If you have any queries regarding this circular please telephone 090 6442741.

Clodagh Carroll
Higher Executive Officer
September, 2019