

STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE/CYCLE RESULTS 2017

Over 61,500 students to receive Provisional Junior Certificate/Cycle Results

13th September 2017

The State Examinations Commission (SEC) congratulates the candidates who sat the Junior Certificate/Cycle examination in 2017 and whose results issued today.

The SEC has issued the statements of provisional Junior Certificate/Cycle examination results in respect of 61,654 candidates which will be in schools today.

Overview

Over 616,000 individual grades in 25 different subjects are being delivered to the 30,349 female and 31,305 male candidates in this year's examination. Students can also access their results through the on-line examination results service on www.examinations.ie from 4pm today.

The overall numbers sitting the examination has increased by 2.3% on last year. The proportion of candidates who are re-entrants to education has decreased slightly to 1% of the cohort.

New Junior Cycle Programme

English is the first subject being examined under the new Framework for Junior Cycle. The results being presented for Junior Cycle English are based for the first time in 2017 on a new subject specification and assessment and grading system. These results represent student achievement in the SEC's Final Examination (including the Assessment Task, which was completed by students during Third Year).

Both the new grade format for English (Distinction, Higher Merit, etc) and the old grade format (A, B, C, etc) for all other subjects will appear on the Statements of Provisional Examination Results issued by the SEC. The two formats will also appear on the *Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement* (JCPA) which will be generated by schools for issue to their students towards the end of the year.

The JCPA will draw upon and report on student achievement across a range of areas of student learning in Junior Cycle, including Classroom-Based Assessments, Short Courses, Level 2 Learning Programmes (where appropriate), and other areas of learning, as well as the SEC examination results across all subjects. The JCPA will report the final grades awarded by the SEC for all subjects, including English, following the conclusion of the Junior Certificate/Cycle appeals and related processes.

More information on this new system is available below in the Notes for Editors.

Appeals

Applications for review of Junior Certificate/Cycle examination results, which must be made through the candidate's school, should be received by the State Examinations Commission no later than 5pm on Friday, 29th September 2017. The fee for this service is €32.00 per subject which will be refunded in the event that a result is upgraded. Applications are accepted only from a school authority which must confirm that the result obtained is at variance with the result expected. It is planned to post the results of the appeals in the week ending 10th November 2017.

Marking Schemes

The official marking schemes for all subjects will be published on the SEC website, www.examinations.ie in the coming days.

On-Line Results Service

Candidates can access their results online from 4pm today, Wednesday 13th September 2017. Access to the service via examinations.ie requires the use of an examination number and a unique candidate Personal Identification Number. This service is not intended to replace the valuable results service and advice provided to students by schools at results issue time. The PIN and examination numbers required to access the service have already been issued to schools. *All statistics provided in this press release are provisional for 2017 and as such are subject to enquiry and appeal.*

The SEC publishes on its website (www.examinations.ie) statistical information on the results of the 2017 Junior Certificate/Cycle examinations for all subject levels with 10 or more candidates. For reasons of candidate confidentiality, the SEC only publishes details of subject/levels with results for 10 or more candidates.

	School Candidates	Re-entrants to Education¹	Total
2014	59,449	878	60,327
2015	58,765	756	59,521
2016	59,525	722	60,247
2017	61,051	603	61,654

Table 1: Classification of candidates in Junior Certificate/Cycle

Notes for Editors

The following further information is provided below:

- A. New Junior Certificate/Cycle Grading System
- B. Junior Certificate/Cycle Sits by county and gender

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¹ Re-entrants to Education are candidates entered for the examination through education schemes such as the Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme and Back to Education Initiative.

A. NEW JUNIOR CERTIFICATE / CYCLE GRADING SYSTEM

The following table provides an explanation of the current and revised grading system for Junior Cycle English and all other Junior Certificate subjects. Both sets of grades are in use this year and this dual presentation will continue until 2021 when the last of the Junior Certificate examinations are terminated.

Level	Junior Cycle English		All Other Subjects	
	Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade
Higher, Ordinary, Foundation / Ard, Gnath, Bonn ²	≥ 90 to 100	Distinction	≥ 85 to 100	A
	≥ 75 and < 90	Higher Merit	≥ 70 and < 85	B
	≥ 55 and < 75	Merit	≥ 55 and < 70	C
	≥ 40 and < 55	Achieved	≥ 40 and < 55	D
	≥ 20 and < 40	Partially Achieved	≥ 25 and < 40	E
	≥ 0 and < 20	Not Graded (NG)	≥ 10 and < 25	F
			≥ 0 and < 10	NG

Both the old and the new grade formats will appear side-by-side on the Statements of Provisional Examination Results issued by the SEC and on the *Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement* (JCPA) which will be generated by schools for issue to their students towards the end of the year. The JCPA will include details of the final grades awarded by the SEC following the conclusion of the Junior Certificate/Cycle appeals and related processes. The JCPA will also draw upon and report on student achievement across a range of areas of student learning in Junior Cycle, including Classroom-Based Assessments, Short Courses, Level 2 Learning Programmes (where appropriate), and other areas of learning.

More information on Junior Cycle reform is available from the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment's website (NCCA) [here](#) and [here](#).

² The new Junior Cycle English Final Examination is sat at Higher and Ordinary Level only.

C. JUNIOR CERTIFICATE/CYCLE SITS BY COUNTY AND GENDER

COUNTY	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
CARLOW	451	470	921
CAVAN	430	434	864
CLARE	760	726	1,486
CORK	3,408	3,515	6,923
DONEGAL	1,163	1,183	2,346
DUBLIN	7,663	7,674	15,337
GALWAY	1,609	1,670	3,279
KERRY	923	935	1,858
KILDARE	1,515	1,725	3,240
KILKENNY	579	565	1,144
LAOIS	489	504	993
LEITRIM	242	238	480
LIMERICK	1,329	1,388	2,717
LONGFORD	335	374	709
LOUTH	977	1,085	2,062
MAYO	877	837	1,714
MEATH	1,280	1,365	2,645
MONAGHAN	402	426	828
OFFALY	528	547	1,075
ROSCOMMON	288	316	604
SLIGO	390	423	813
TIPPERARY	1,174	1,139	2,313
WATERFORD	843	889	1,732
WESTMEATH	753	741	1,494
WEXFORD	1,038	1,090	2,128
WICKLOW	903	1,046	1,949
Grand Total	30,349	31,305	61,654