



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

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S83/13

To the Management Authorities of Post-Primary Schools

Junior Certificate Mathematics Examination 2014 **Arrangements for Phase 2 of *Project Maths***

A chara,

As you are aware, students who commenced the Junior Certificate course in September 2011, for examination in June 2014, have been studying four of the five strands of a new syllabus in Mathematics. The arrangements for the examination of these candidates are given below, and the relevant sample papers are enclosed.

1. Administration of Candidate Entries for the 2014 Examination

Please note that all candidates, other than those in the Project Maths initial schools, should continue to be recorded under subject code 003 (Mathematics) for the purpose of entries for the certificate examinations. The alternative subject code 200, which makes reference to Project Maths, is reserved for candidates from the initial schools.

2. Structure of the Examination; Sample Papers

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The examinations at Higher level and Ordinary level will consist of two written papers, each carrying 300 marks.

In Paper 1, one 50-mark question will test material from the unchanged portion of the syllabus, as detailed in Section C of the syllabus document issued by the Department of Education and Skills in

2011. This question will be similar in content and style to the questions that previously appeared on this content area, as illustrated on the enclosed sample papers.

In general, the rest of Paper 1 will test material in Strand 3 and Strand 4 of the new syllabus, while Paper 2 will test material in Strand 1 and Strand 2 of the new syllabus, along with material from Section 3.4 of Strand 3: *Applied Measure*.

Both Paper 1 and Paper 2 will be presented as a combined question-and-answer booklet. Sample papers have been prepared, and ten copies are enclosed.

Foundation level

The examination at Foundation level will consist of one written paper carrying 300 marks.

The paper will test the material in Strands 1 to 4 of the new syllabus, along with the unchanged part of the previous syllabus. One question will test material from the unchanged portion of the syllabus, as detailed in Section C of the syllabus document issued by the Department of Education and Skills in 2011. This question will be similar in content and style to the questions that previously appeared on this content area, as illustrated on the enclosed sample papers.

The paper will be presented as a combined question-and-answer booklet. Sample papers have been prepared, and ten copies are enclosed.

3. Booklet Format; Examination Stationery

As noted above, all papers will be presented as a combined question-and-answer booklet. Candidates must write their answers on this booklet. However, candidates may use additional stationery if required. In common with the examinations in other subjects, supplementary four-page answer-sheets (horizontally ruled) will be available. Squared paper will also be available. Please note that there will be no change to the style of squared paper available on loose sheets in the examination. That is, supplementary paper ruled at 5 mm intervals will **not** be available.

4. Additional Examination Resources

As you may be aware, some schools have been working with draft versions of the new syllabuses three years in advance of all other schools. Accordingly, the State Examinations Commission has produced some additional examination material for use in these initial schools. This material is available on our website, www.examinations.ie, and may be of interest to teachers and candidates preparing for the 2014 examinations. Furthermore, a substantial amount of resource material for teaching and learning has been made available by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and the Project Maths Development Team. The materials produced by and available from the State Examinations Commission are as follows:

2011 Examination in the Initial Schools

Paper 2 of the examination at Higher and Ordinary level and the single paper at Foundation level, taken by the candidates in the initial schools in 2011, are of relevance. These papers are available in the *Examination Material Archive* on our website, alongside the other examination papers in Mathematics from 2011. Caution should be exercised in the use of these papers in the following respect:

- The papers relate to Phase 1 of the project. Hence they include material relevant to Strand 1 and Strand 2 of the new syllabus, with the rest of the material concerning the old syllabus. Nonetheless, all of the material in Paper 2 at Higher and Ordinary level, and all of the material in the Foundation level paper, is examinable in 2014, as it all appears in the relevant syllabus.

2012 Examination in the Initial Schools

All of the examination papers taken by the candidates in the initial schools in 2012 are of relevance (at all three levels). These papers are available in the *Examination Material Archive* on our website, alongside the other examination papers in Mathematics from 2012.

2013 Examination in the Initial Schools

All of the examination papers taken by the candidates in the initial schools in 2013 are of relevance (at all three levels). These papers are available in the *Examination Material Archive* on our website, alongside the other examination papers in Mathematics from 2013. Caution should be exercised in the use of these papers in the following respects:

- The papers relate to Phase 3 of the project. Hence they include some material relevant to Strand 5 of the new syllabus and do not include a section for the corresponding content of the old syllabus. These differences will be evident in Paper 1 at Higher level and Ordinary level, and in the Foundation level paper.

Please bring this circular to the attention of all relevant teachers and candidates. If you have any questions regarding the content of this circular, please contact Rose Buckley at 090 644 2759.

Yours sincerely,

Rose Buckley
Higher Executive Officer
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