



Circular No. 0055/2010

To : The Management Authorities of all schools OTHER THAN THE 24 PROJECT MATHS SCHOOLS.

Revised syllabuses in Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate Mathematics – Mainstreaming of Project Maths in all schools

Circular 0024/2010 issued to post primary schools in March 2010 indicating that, building on the work of Project Maths, revised syllabuses in Mathematics would be introduced on a phased basis in all schools beginning in September 2010.

The revised syllabuses will be phased in over three years covering the following five strands of the mathematics curriculum:

Phase 1: Strand 1 - Statistics and Probability + Strand 2 - Geometry and Trigonometry

Phase 2: Strand 1+2+ Strand 3 - Number + Strand 4 - Algebra

Phase 3: Strand 1+2+3+4+ Strand 5 - Functions

Implementation is being scheduled as set out below.

Phase	Syllabus strands changed	24 Project schools commence	24 Project schools sit changed exams	All other schools commence	All other schools sit changed exams
1	Strands 1-2	Sept 2008	JC 2011 LC 2010	Sept 2010	JC 2013 LC 2012
2	Strands 1-4	Sept 2009	JC 2012 LC 2011	Sept 2011	JC 2014 LC 2013
3	Strands 1-5	Sept 2010	JC 2013 LC 2012	Sept 2012	JC 2015 LC 2014

Copies of the revised syllabuses

Hard copies of the revised syllabuses are being sent out separately to schools for Higher, Ordinary and Foundation levels in the Junior Certificate and the Leaving Certificate.

These syllabuses apply to

- (a) all schools other than the 24 Project Maths schools and

- (b) only to the cohorts sitting examinations in the Junior Certificate in 2013 and in the Leaving Certificate in 2012

These syllabuses contain the Strands 1 and 2 material used in the professional development programmes provided for teachers in 2009/10, together with the remaining topics which are unchanged from the previous syllabus. However, please note the footnote on page 22 of the Leaving Certificate syllabus as follows:-

In the examination, candidates will have the option of answering a question on the synthetic geometry set out here, or answering a problem-solving question based on the geometrical results from the corresponding syllabus level at Junior Certificate. This option will apply for a three year period only for candidates sitting the Leaving Certificate examination in June 2012, 2013 and 2014. There will be no choice after that.

The objective of providing an option in this area for the initial period is to make additional time and space available to compensate for the fact that these Leaving Certificate students will not have followed the revised syllabus and experienced the recommended teaching and learning approaches during their junior cycle.

It is the intention to issue revised syllabuses each year to take account of the phased implementation of the programme. **Special care should be taken to ensure that the syllabus used for each class group is the correct one for their examination year.** Copies of the syllabuses for the relevant examination year groups should be retained in the school until the implementation cycle is complete. They will also be available at www.ncca.ie

www.projectmaths.ie and www.ncca.ie/projectmaths will continue to provide updated resources and information on emerging developments, and the Project Maths Development Team hosted by Drumcondra Education Centre will keep in contact with all schools regarding professional development opportunities. The programme of support will continue to at least 2013.

Please bring this circular to the notice of all mathematics teachers in the school.

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

Margaret Kelly
Principal Officer
Qualifications Curriculum and Assessment Policy Unit.
September 2010