

Official Notices

February 2002 – Vol 11 No 1

IMPORTANT

The information below is the Board's official advice to schools of the decisions it has taken, and should be acted upon as such. Please ensure the *Official Notices* are circulated to all teaching staff.

Topics covered by Official Notices in this issue



Higher School Certificate

Approved Scientific Calculators for Higher School Certificate Examinations in 2002	BOS 01/02
2002 School Certificate Tests/Higher School Certificate Examinations Furniture and Accommodation Review	BOS 02/02
2001 HSC Notes from the Examination Centre	BOS 03/02
Textiles and Design Stage 6 Frequently Asked Questions	BOS 04/02
Generic Performance Descriptions for Board Endorsed Stage 6 Syllabuses.....	BOS 05/02
Geography Stage 6 Syllabus Amendment	BOS 06/02
English Stage 6 – Area of Study, Electives and Texts for the HSC	BOS 07/02
Errata – Primary Industries Stage 6 Curriculum Framework	BOS 08/02
Russian Background Speakers Stage 6 Course – Amendments and Remapping of Course Prescriptions	BOS 09/02
Studies of Religion Stage 6 Syllabus Development.....	BOS 10/02
Acceleration in VET Courses	BOS 11/02
2002 Japanese Beginners Speaking Skills Higher School Certificate Examination.....	BOS 12/02



School Certificate

Dance Stage 6 Course Prescriptions 2003–04.....	BOS 13/02
School Certificate Test in English-literacy.....	BOS 14/02
Trial Computing Skills Assessment at Year 10.....	BOS 15/02
2002 School Certificate Tests – Equipment.....	BOS 16/02
2002 School Certificate Test in Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship	BOS 17/02



Board Endorsed Courses

School Developed Board Endorsed Courses	BOS 18/02
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Advertisements – Writers and Markers

2002 School Certificate and Higher School Certificate Marking.....	BOS 19/02
Curriculum Writers – Call for Expressions of Interest.....	BOS 20/02


**Approved Scientific Calculators
for Higher School Certificate
Examinations in 2002**
**BOS
01/02**

The following scientific calculators are approved for use in the 2002 Higher School Certificate examinations:

AURORA	SC-170S	CITIZEN	SR-35N
AURORA	TC-611	CITIZEN	SR-135
CAIEION	FM-83	CITIZEN	SR-165
CASIO	fx-82	CITIZEN	SR-260
CASIO	fx-82D	HEWLETT- PACKARD	HP6S
CASIO	fx-82LB	HEWLETT- PACKARD	HP45
CASIO	fx-82SX	MICRONTA	EC-4039
CASIO	fx-82 NASER	MICRONTA	EC-4041
CASIO	fx-82TL	RADIO SHACK	EC-499
CASIO	fx-85SA	SHARP	EL-509G
CASIO	fx-85VH	SHARP	EL-509L
CASIO	fx-100	SHARP	EL-509R
CASIO	fx-100A	SHARP	EL-520L
CASIO	fx-100AU	SHARP	EL-520VA
CASIO	fx-100B	SHARP	EL-531A
CASIO	fx-100C	SHARP	EL-531D
CASIO	fx-115N	SHARP	EL-531G
CASIO	fx-115V	SHARP	EL-531LH
CASIO	fx-115WA	SHARP	EL-531P
CASIO	fx-122S	SHARP	EL-531RH
CASIO	fx-250HS	SHARP	EL-531VH
CASIO	fx-350D	SHARP	EL-540G
CASIO	fx-350TL	SHARP	EL-553
CASIO	fx-550	SMART	2
CASIO	fx-570	TANDY	EC-4032
CASIO	fx-570AD	TEXAS	TI-30X
CASIO	fx-580	TRULY	107
CASIO	fx-911W	TRULY	107A
CASIO	fx-991N		
CASIO	fx-992S		
CEDAR	SC-502		

Note that this list does NOT apply to the General Mathematics HSC Examination, or to the School Certificate tests – see *Official Notice 66/01 Board Bulletin Vol 10 No 4*.

Features of approved calculators

In addition to the features of a basic (four operation) calculator, a scientific calculator may include some or all of the following:

- fraction keys (for fraction arithmetic)
- a percentage key
- a π key
- memory access keys
- an EXP key and a sign change (+/-) key
- square (x^2) and square root ($\sqrt{\quad}$) keys

- logarithm and exponential keys (base 10 and base e)
- a power key (a^x , x^y or similar)
- trigonometrical function keys with an INVERSE key for the inverse functions
- a capacity to work in both degree and radian mode
- a reciprocal key ($1/x$)
- permutation and/or combination keys (${}^n P_r$, ${}^n C_r$)
- cube and/or cube root keys
- parentheses keys
- statistical operations such as mean and standard deviation
- metric or currency conversion.

Features that are not permitted

Calculators with the following features will not be approved:

- programmable (any calculator that can have a sequence of operations stored and then executed automatically is considered programmable and hence not allowed)
- capable of storing alphanumeric data input by a user (calculators with memories that are used to store intermediate numerical results obtained during calculations and required later are permitted)
- capable of storing, manipulating or graphing functions entered in symbolic form (this includes calculators with a graphic display capacity)
- capable of performing 'hard-wired' numerical routines for operations such as differentiation, definite integration, and the solutions of equations
- capable of performing 'hard-wired' symbolic manipulations such as addition of algebraic expressions, binomial expansion and symbolic differentiation.

General requirements

All calculators must meet the following criteria:

- battery or solar powered
- hand-held
- silent (except in approved cases for blind candidates).

Calculators that allow modules to be plugged in are permitted only if they meet all the above requirements, and all plug-in modules are removed.

Instruction booklets or cards (eg reference cards) on the operation of calculators are not permitted in the examination centre. Candidates are expected to familiarise themselves with the calculator's operation beforehand.

Calculators must have been switched off for entry into the examination centre.

Schools seeking approval for the use of any calculator not on this list should contact Chris Thompson by Friday, 5 July 2002.

**Contact: Chris Thompson
(02) 9367 8233
thompson@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au**

**2002 School Certificate Tests / Higher School Certificate Examinations Furniture and Accommodation Review**BOS
02/02**Attention: Principals of Secondary Schools**

The 2002 School Certificate Tests/Higher School Certificate Examinations Furniture and Accommodation Review survey was dispatched to all secondary schools in the week beginning 2 December 2001.

Where possible, schools are encouraged to complete the survey via the Board of Studies website – eBOS schools online (www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au). Alternatively, the survey forms should be completed and returned to the Office of the Board of Studies. All surveys should reach the Office no later than 22 February 2002.

Contact: Mrs Annette Kearton
Procurement Coordinator
Administration Branch
Office of the Board of Studies NSW
GPO Box 5300
SYDNEY NSW 2001
Tel: (02) 9367 8155
Fax: (02) 9367 8484
kearton@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**2001 HSC Notes from the Examination Centre**BOS
03/02

The Board advises that the 2001 HSC Notes from the Examination Centre will be placed progressively on the Board of Studies website (www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au) commencing Week 2 of Term 1, 2002.

Contact: Howard Jacobs
(02) 9367 8039
jacobs@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**Textiles and Design Stage 6 Frequently Asked Questions**BOS
04/02

The Board wishes to advise that in the HSC 2001 Syllabus section on the Board of Studies website, there is now a 'Frequently Asked Questions' section for the Textiles and Design Stage 6 Syllabus. Teachers might find this useful in clarifying questions they have about the syllabus.

Contact: Howard Kennedy
Inspector, Technology Education
Curriculum Branch
(02) 9367 8246
kennedy@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**Generic Performance Descriptions for Board Endorsed Stage 6 Syllabuses** BOS
05/02

The Board advises that a draft set of generic performance descriptions has been developed for use with Board Endorsed Stage 6 syllabuses. From 2003, it is intended that the marks teachers submit for Content Endorsed Courses (CECs) and School Designed Courses will be determined with reference to syllabus outcomes and aligned to the descriptions in the performance scale. Teachers are invited to comment on the draft set of performance descriptions that are available on the Board's website (www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au). Comments should be directed to the contact shown below by Friday, 22 March 2002. Advice on the use of the generic performance descriptions will be sent to schools in Term 2, 2002.

Contact: Martin Sormus
Principal Assessment Officer
Assessment Branch
(02) 9367 8241
sormus@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**Geography Stage 6 Syllabus Amendment**BOS
06/02

The Board of Studies wishes to advise teachers of Geography Stage 6 of the following amendment to 8.3.3: People and Economic Activity; Local case study, page 34.

Replace the dash point:

- linkages and flows of people, goods, services and ideas within the economic enterprise

with the new dash point:

- internal and external linkages and flows of people, goods, services and ideas

Effective: Immediately

Contact: Lindsay Swan
Board Inspector, HSIE
Curriculum Branch
(02) 9367 8150
swan@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**English Stage 6 – Area of Study,
Electives and Texts for the HSC**

BOS
07/02

The Board wishes to advise that some minor corrections are required to *English Stage 6 Prescriptions: Area of Study, Electives and Texts for the Higher School Certificate 2001–3*. Details are provided below.

Schools should note that the website version of *English Stage 6 Prescriptions: Area of Study, Electives and Texts for the Higher School Certificate 2001–2003* has been reviewed and is the correct version.

p 20

Shakespeare and Non-fiction

replace ‘Jan Carstenz’ with ‘Jan Carstenzs’
replace ‘William Vlamingh’ with ‘Willem de Vlamingh,’
replace ‘Emily Creaghe’ with ‘Emily Caroline Creaghe’
replace ‘Louis de Rougement’ with ‘Louis de Rougemont’

p 25 and p 41

Prose Fiction

replace ‘Maloney, James’ with ‘Moloney, James’

p 29

place OR between ‘...may further supplement student’s study of this elective’ and ‘Elective 2 English for Study’

p 34 and p 38

Film

replace ‘Gast, Robert’ with ‘Gast, Leon’

p 35 and p 40

Film

replace ‘Kapur, Shekar’ with ‘Kapur, Shekhar’

The Board also wishes to advise that a correction is required to the support document *English Stage 6 Speeches HSC English (Advanced) Module B: Critical Study of Texts, Non Fiction, Media or Multimedia*. Details are provided below.

p 56

Remove final paragraph from ‘Those of us who believe that words can hurtmore theoretical than actual.’

This paragraph is repeated from p 55. The final paragraph should end ‘you are free to speak, but you will never have the last word.’

Effective: Immediately

**Contact: Tony Moore, Inspector, English
(02) 9367 8276
moore@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au**

**Deb McPherson
Senior Curriculum Officer
(02) 9367 8147
mcphersond@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au**



**Errata – Primary Industries Stage 6
Curriculum Framework**

BOS
08/02

The Board wishes to advise teachers of the following amendments to the Primary Industries Stage 6 Curriculum Framework.

Primary Industries Curriculum Framework Stage 6 Syllabus Part B. The Unit of Competency AG2353GRA Operate trailed/mounted equipment is amended as outlined below:

Correct all **Elements of Competency** to:

- 2353.1 Select and prepare trailed and mounted equipment
- 2353.2 Set, adjust and monitor performance of trailed/mounted equipment
- 2353.3 Use trailed/mounted equipment
- 2353.4 Clean and store trailed/mounted equipment

Correct all **Performance Criteria** to:

- 2353.1.1 Trailed and mounted equipment is selected and attached to complete the task
- 2353.1.2 Implements are prepared to enterprise requirements
- 2353.1.3 Faults and malfunctions are corrected and/or reported to enterprise requirements
- 2353.2.1 Trailed/mounted equipment is set and adjusted for effective performance in relation to conditions
- 2353.2.2 Performance of trailed/mounted equipment is monitored under field conditions
- 2353.2.3 Worn and damaged parts are identified and replaced where necessary
- 2353.3.1 Trailed/mounted equipment is operated in accordance with enterprise and manufacturers requirements
- 2353.4.1 Trailed/mounted equipment is cleaned and serviced for storage to enterprise requirements and manufacturer’s manual
- 2353.4.2 Damage to trailed/mounted equipment is identified and recorded to enterprise requirements
- 2353.4.3 Trailed/mounted equipment is stored in location to minimise deterioration

Correct all **Underpinning Skills & Knowledge** to:

A basic working knowledge of:

- operational requirements for grain production including seedbed preparation, sowing, fertilizer and pesticide application, harvesting and transport and stationary equipment
- road traffic laws
- procedures for various equipment
- enterprise procedures for safe use of vehicles and equipment
- relevant OHS requirements for storage of equipment

The ability to:

- obtain required licences and permits
- drive vehicles in a range of conditions
- operate the range of grain production equipment in line with enterprise requirements
- demonstrate emergency procedures in the operation of vehicles and equipment

Correct all **Evidence Requirements** to:

Key Outcomes

Competency is to be demonstrated in the critical aspects of:

- trailed and mounted equipment on the farm and on public roads as necessary in a range of conditions
- identifying operational faults
- rectifying minor faults
- attachment of equipment to vehicles
- record and reporting
- pre-start checks
- cleaning and storage of vehicles and equipment

OHS that impact upon the performance of this unit

Relevant OHS hazards identification, risk assessment and risk control measures. These include

- systems and procedures for the safe operation and maintenance of machinery and equipment, including and guarding of exposed moving parts
- no passenger rule enforced and obeyed
- safe manual handling systems and procedures
- safe systems and procedure for outdoor work, including protection from solar radiation
- protection from hazardous noise
- protection from organic and other dusts
- selection, use and maintenance of relevant personal protective clothing and equipment

Holistic Outcomes

- trailed and mounted equipment is operated in a safe and effective manner to enterprise requirements

Correct the **Range of Variables** to:

Enterprise specifications may include:

- pre-operation checks, standards of operation, policies and routines relating to wear and damage, safeguards, reporting routines

Vehicles may include:

- cycles (2, 3 or 4 wheel), all terrain vehicles, cars and utilities, light trucks, tractors, a range of trailers, including livestock feeding equipment, fertiliser spreaders, portable silos, field bins, augers

Equipment may include cultivation, seeding, harvesting and fertiliser application and grain handling equipment.

Pre-start checks may include:

- fuel, water, oil, brake and transmission fluid levels, lubrication, battery, tyres, belts, leads, hydraulic lines and connections, air cleaners, air conditioners, brakes, off-road safety equipment

Other variables may include:

- equipment use may require licences
- operating conditions may include on and off road conditions which can be smooth, rough, uneven, slippery, boggy, steep or hilly
- tyre pressures are maintained at levels appropriate to operating conditions
- operating methods may include those for turbocharged engines
- all storage, maintenance and operation must conform to relevant Occupational, Health and Safety legislation
- records may be paper based or use electronic data processing devices
- mounted and trailed/mounted equipment may also be used for inter-row cultivation of row crops

Assessment Guide for Operate Trailed/Mounted equipment, Unit Code AG2353GRA, is unchanged.

HSC Requirements for Operate Trailed/Mounted equipment, Unit Code AG2353GRA, are unchanged.

An amended version of this unit of competency is available on the Board's website at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

Effective: Immediately

**Contact: Scott Thomson
Senior Curriculum Officer, VET
(02) 9367 8175
thomson@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au**



Russian Background Speakers Stage 6 Course – Amendments and Remapping of Course Prescriptions BOS 9/02

The Board wishes to advise that information in relation to the prescribed texts for the Russian Background Speakers course for the 2002 HSC has been updated. The prescribed texts have been amended and the mapping to themes has been revised.

This information has also been updated on the Board's website (<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au>).

Russian Background Speakers Stage 6 Course – Amended and Remapping Course Prescriptions

The Board wishes to advise that information in relation to the prescribed texts for the Russian Background Speakers course for the 2002 HSC has been updated. The prescribed texts have been amended and the mapping to themes has been revised.

This information has also been updated on the Board's website (<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au>)

Prescriptions for Russian Background Speakers

Козаков, Ю.П., 'Некрасивая', 'Двое в декабре', in *Во сне ты горько плакал*, «Современник», Москва, 2000 г. (Kozakov U.P., 'The Plain Girl', 'Two in December', in *You Cried in Your Sleep*, Sovremennik, Moscow, 2000).

Меньшов, В., *Москва слезам не верит*, Мосфильм, 1978 г. (Menshov V., *Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears*, Mosfilm, 1978).

Нагибин, Ю.М., 'Ворота в небо', 'О чём думал герой', in *Ты будешь жить*, Современник, Москва, 1974 г. (Nagibin, U., 'Gate into the Sky', 'What the Hero was Thinking About', in *You will Live*, Sovremennik, Moscow, 1974). #

Пушкин, А.С., 'Станционный смотритель', in *Повести Белкина*, «Детская литература», Москва, 2000 г. (Pushkin, A.S., 'The Station Master', in *Belkin's Stories*, Detskaya Literatura, Moscow, 2000).

Рязанов, Э., *Служебный роман*, Мосфильм, 1977 г. (Ryazanov, E., *Office Affair*, Mosfilm, 1977).

Токарева, В., 'Длинный день', 'Я есть, ты есть, он есть', in *Гладкое личико*, «Издательство АСТ», 2000 г. (Tokareva, V., 'A Long Day', 'I Am, You Are, He Is', in *Smooth Face*, AST Publishing House, Moscow, 2000).

Толстой, Л.Н., 'После бала', in *Книга для ученика и учителя*, «Издательство АСТ», 2000 г. (Tolstoy, L., 'After the Ball', in *Tolstoy: A Book for Students and Teachers*, AST Publishing House, Moscow, 2000).

Russian Background Speakers Prescriptions Mapped to Themes

Theme	Text Type	Prescribed Text
The individual and the community	Short Stories	• In Козаков (Kozakov)
The individual and the community	Short Stories	• In Токарева (Tokareva)
The individual and the community	Film	• In Меньшов (Menshov)
The individual and the community	Film	• In Рязанов (Razanov)
Youth culture	Short Stories	• In Нагибин (Nagibin) #
Youth culture	Short Stories	• In Токарева (Tokareva)
Youth culture	Film	• In Меньшов (Menshov)
Russian life as depicted in contemporary texts	Short Stories	• In Козаков (Kozakov)
Russian life as depicted in contemporary texts	Short Stories	• In Нагибин (Nagibin) #
Russian life as depicted in contemporary texts	Short Stories	• In Токарева (Tokareva)
Russian life as depicted in contemporary texts	Film	• In Меньшов (Menshov)
Russian life as depicted in contemporary texts	Film	• In Рязанов (Razanov)
Relevance of classical Russian literature in contemporary society	Novella	• In Толстой (Tolstoy)
Relevance of classical Russian literature in contemporary society	Short Story	• In Пушкин (Pushkin)

Availability

Prescribed texts are available from:

Ozon - <http://www.o3.ru> and follow the prompts to order.

The films are also available from: The Russian Video Club — ЕВГЕНИЙ И ДОЧЕРИ

Eugene and Daughters

7 Albert Road STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

Ph (02) 8746 0799 or (02) 9743 2691

The prescription marked # is available from the Board of Studies website (<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au>).

The following website is a compilation of many Russian resource retailers:

The Russian Shopping Club — ВАГРИУС (Vagrius) <http://www.vagrius.com> and follow the prompts to order.



Studies of Religion Stage 6 Syllabus Amendment

BOS
10/02

The Board of Studies wishes to advise teachers of Studies of Religion Stage 6 of the following amendment to the syllabus to bring it into line with changes announced in Official Notices BOS 67/99, BOS 57/00 and BOS 16/01.

Replace the tables on page 97 with the tables below.

12.7 Summary of Internal and External Assessment

Studies of Religion I

External Assessment	Weighting	Internal Assessment	Weighting
<i>Section I – Foundation Studies</i>	30	<i>Foundation Studies 1 and 2</i>	25
Part A - Foundation Studies 1 and 2 Part B - Foundation Study 1 Part C - Foundation Study 2		<i>Cross Religion Studies</i> Assessment of the above components may include the following tasks: - Primary Research - Secondary Research - Oral - Test	15
<i>Section II - Cross Religion Studies</i>	20	<i>Interest Study Project</i>	10
	50		50

Studies of Religion II

External Assessment	Weighting	Internal Assessment	Weighting
<i>Section I – Foundation Studies</i>	40	<i>Foundation Studies 1 and 2</i> <i>Foundation Study 3</i>	25 15
Part A - Foundation Studies 1 and 2 Part B - Foundation Study 1 Part C - Foundation Study 2 Part D - Foundation Study 3		<i>Cross Religion Studies</i> Assessment of the above components may include the following tasks: - Primary Research - Secondary Research - Oral - Test	50
<i>Section II - Cross Religion Studies</i>	60	<i>Interest Study Project</i>	10
	100		100

Effective: Immediately

Contact: Chris Graham
Senior Assessment Officer, HSIE
(02) 9367 8218
graham@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**Acceleration in
VET Courses**

**BOS
11/02**

Schools are reminded that although the Board's policy on acceleration, as stated in the *ACE Manual* and the *Guidelines for Accelerated Progression*, provides in some circumstances for students to study Stage 6 courses while in Stage 5, the Industry Curriculum Framework courses were developed for Stage 6 study only. Stage 5 students are not permitted to accelerate into Industry Framework courses.

In general, VET courses are not available to Stage 5 students. There are some exceptions to this general rule (eg students attending isolated schools, students with special needs in juvenile justice centres). For such students, application may be made to the Board for approval to study Board Endorsed TAFE-delivered courses as part of their School Certificate program.

Stage 5 students may study the Board's Work Education course either by integrating work education modules within existing curriculum or through the 100-hour Work Education course.

Contact: David Patterson
Manager, Policy and Development
9367 8222
patterson@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**2002 Japanese Beginners
Speaking Skills Higher School
Certificate Examination**

**BOS
12/02**

The Board wishes to advise that as from the 2002 Higher School Certificate examination, the following approximate times will apply to the Speaking Skills Examination.

- Duration of examination: approximately 10 minutes
- Section I: Report and Conversation – approximately 7 minutes
- Section II: Role-play – approximately 3 minutes
- The preparation time of 10 minutes remains unchanged.

Please make the above amendments to page 22 of the Japanese Beginners Stage 6 Syllabus Amendments.

Effective: 2002 HSC Examination

Contact: Margaret Silink
(02) 9367 8304
Rhondda Anthony
(02) 9367 8152
Jeff Fussell
(02) 9367 8109



**Dance Stage 6 Course
Prescriptions 2003–04**

**BOS
13/02**

Teachers of Dance Stage 6 are advised that the Course Prescriptions for 2003–04 are now available on the Board of Studies website. These prescriptions detail the prescribed artists and works for Core Appreciation and the mandatory seminal work and prescribed eras and artists for Major Study Appreciation.

Effective: HSC examinations in 2003 and 2004

Inquiries: Jay McPherson (02) 9367 8030



**School Certificate Test in
English-literacy**

**BOS
14/02**

The Board of Studies advises that the 2002 School Certificate English-literacy test will be marked out of 100 marks instead of the current 90 marks. The additional 10 marks will be used to mark the first of the two writing tasks in Section 2 of the paper.

This will bring the test into line with other School Certificate tests and reflect the emphasis on writing in the English syllabuses K–12.

Test specifications will be amended to:

Section 1: Reading/Viewing will be worth a total of 60 marks. 45 marks will be derived from objective response type questions and the remaining 15 marks will be derived from short-answer responses.

Section 2: Writing will be worth a total of 40 marks. This will be derived from two separate writing tasks each worth 20 marks.

The test will be marked out of a total of 100 marks.

As was the case in previous tests there will not be a Listening Section in the test in 2002.

There will be one piece of colour stimulus material.

Effective: For the 2002 test and thereafter

Contact: Louise Ward
Senior Assessment Officer, English
(02) 9367 8069
lward@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**Trial Computing Skills Assessment
at Year 10** BOS
15/02

The Board advises that further trialling of computing skills assessment at Year 10 will occur in 2002 with 150 schools drawn from country and metropolitan regions, representing government and non-government school systems. This larger trial will comprise an external pen and paper test of 1.5 hours duration, and school-based assessment against draft competencies. These draft competencies have been drawn out of the syllabus mapping of ICT skills embedded in the mandatory curriculum across 7–10.

The trial will inform the development of the mandatory computing skills assessment in 2003, including the testing and reporting of student achievement of competencies.

Further consideration will be given to electronic delivery of a computing skills test at an appropriate time.

The trial test specifications for 2002

- (i) Duration of pen and paper test: 1.5 hours
- (ii) Machine-marked items comprising:
 - true/false items
 - multiple-choice items
 - multiple-choice items with more than one correct response
 - matching exercises
 - constrained text/numerical responses
- (iii) All questions will be answered on a separate machine-scored answer sheet.
- (iv) Total marks: 100

The trial test will be held late in Term 3, 2002 and participating schools will be notified of the date for the test.

Updates and information about the computing skills assessment is located at:

http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/docs_sc1998/computingskills_assessment.html

Contact: **Joe Merlino**
Senior Project Officer, Computing Skills
(02) 9367 8110
merlino@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**2002 School Certificate Tests
– Equipment** BOS
16/02

The Board wishes to advise schools of the equipment required by students for the 2002 School Certificate tests.

For all tests:

- pens (black is recommended)
- pencils and erasers
- a ruler marked in millimetres and centimetres
- (optional) highlighter pens.

Students should use a pen (preferably black) when answering multiple-choice questions on Answer Sheets, or other questions requiring a written response.

Additional equipment for the Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship test:

- a calculator¹

Additional equipment for the Mathematics and Science tests:

- a calculator¹
- a pair of compasses
- a protractor
- a set square.

Students may take into the Mathematics test curve-drawing templates, provided that such templates contain no printed formulae other than equations of simple curves (such as $y = x^2$) that may be drawn using the template.

Note:

- 1 Students are permitted to use calculators, including graphics calculators, that are silent, hand-held, and either battery or solar powered. Calculators that are capable of communicating or exchanging data may be taken into the test room, but are not to be used for this purpose in the tests.

A calculating device that incorporates a set of keys whose primary function is to represent the alphabetic characters (eg a QWERTY keyboard) is not deemed to be a calculator for the purpose of these tests, and will not be allowed.

Calculators to be used by students in the examination must have been switched off and have had all storage facilities cleared for entry into the test room.

Contact: **Chris Thompson**
(02) 9367 8233
thompson@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**2002 School Certificate Test in
Australian History, Geography,
Civics and Citizenship****BOS
17/02**

The Board advises that the School Certificate test in Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship is mandatory for all students in Year 10 from 2002, and is based on the mandatory Stage 5 History and Stage 5 Geography components of the Stages 4–5 History and Geography syllabuses (1998).

Taking into consideration feedback on the 2001 and previous trial tests, a Specimen Paper Package is currently being developed for distribution to schools in early Term 1. The Specimen Paper Package will include a specimen paper, sample marking guidelines for selected questions, and a scope statement for the 2002 test.

Contact: **Chris Graham**
Senior Assessment Officer, HSIE
(02) 9367 8218
grahamc@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**School Developed Board
Endorsed Courses****BOS
18/02**

In 2002, the closing date for submission of applications for School Developed Board Endorsed Courses is April 4. This will allow the Board Endorsement Panel to make determinations and notify schools of the result of their applications before the end of Term 2. Schools will then be in a position to offer approved courses in the subject selection process that generally takes place mid-year.

The School Developed Board Endorsed Course Guidelines Booklet has been revised and contains detailed and updated advice on the criteria for endorsement. There are no significant changes to the endorsement process this year, however the application form has been streamlined to facilitate the preparation of proposals. All schools should have received a copy of the Guidelines booklet at the beginning of Term 1. The Guidelines are also available for downloading from the Board's website (www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au), with copies of the application form in Word format.

Further information can be obtained from your local Board of Studies Liaison Officer (BOSLO). Contact details for all BOSLOs appear in this issue of the Board Bulletin (see page 12).

Contact: **Christopher Bounds,**
BOSLO
(02) 9367 8356
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Cumulative List of all Official Notices to date for 2002

Higher School Certificate

Approved Scientific Calculators for Higher School Certificate Examinations in 2002	BOS 01/02
2002 School Certificate Tests/Higher School Certificate Examinations Furniture and Accommodation Review	BOS 02/02
2001 HSC Notes from the Examination Centre	BOS 03/02
Textiles and Design Stage 6 Frequently Asked Questions	BOS 04/02
Generic Performance Descriptions for Board Endorsed Stage 6 Syllabuses	BOS 05/02
Geography Stage 6 Syllabus Amendment	BOS 06/02
English Stage 6 – Area of Study, Electives and Texts for the HSC	BOS 07/02
Errata – Primary Industries Stage 6 Curriculum Framework	BOS 08/02
Russian Background Speakers Stage 6 Course – Amendments and Remapping of Course Prescriptions	BOS 09/02
Studies of Religion Stage 6 Syllabus Development	BOS 10/02
Acceleration in VET Courses	BOS 11/02
2002 Japanese Beginners Speaking Skills Higher School Certificate Examination.....	BOS 12/02

School Certificate

Dance Stage 6 Course Prescriptions 2003–04.....	BOS 13/02
School Certificate Test in English-literacy.....	BOS 14/02
Trial Computing Skills Assessment at Year 10.....	BOS 15/02
2002 School Certificate Tests – Equipment	BOS 16/02
2002 School Certificate Test in Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship	BOS 17/02

Board Endorsed Courses

School Developed Board Endorsed Courses	BOS 18/02
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Advertisements – Writers and Markers

2002 School Certificate and Higher School Certificate Marking.....	BOS 19/02
Curriculum Writers – Call for Expressions of Interest.....	BOS 20/02