

Official Notices

3 March 2006 – Vol 15 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.

The decision or advice contained in each notice is effective immediately (that is, on and from the date of publication of this edition of Official Notices) unless another date is specified in the notice, in which case the effective date is the date so specified.

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**Approved scientific calculators
for the 2006 HSC examinations**

BOS
01/06

The list of approved scientific calculators for use in the 2006 HSC Examinations has been updated, and can be found on the Board's website at:

www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/manuals/calculators_hsc06.html

Schools seeking approval for the use of any scientific calculator not on this list should contact Chris Thompson by Friday 30 June 2006.

Please note that this list of approved calculators does NOT apply to the General Mathematics HSC examination or School Certificate tests. The criteria for the use of calculators in the General Mathematics HSC and School Certificate tests are available at:

www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/manuals/calculators_hsc_gen_maths.html

The examinations in which scientific calculators are permitted are listed in the equipment checklist, which can be found on the Board's website at:

www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/manuals/equipment_list.html

Contact: Chris Thompson
Senior Assessment Officer, Mathematics
(02) 9367 8069
thompson@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**Marking Guidelines for Drama:
Submitted Works**

BOS
02/06

Following the 2005 HSC examinations, some adjustments have been made to the marking guidelines for the Individual Project: Video Drama. The revised marking guidelines are available on the Board's website in the *HSC Examination Resources* section of the *Syllabus, Support Documents and Specimen HSC Exams* page at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/syllabus2000_listd.html

Effective: 2006 HSC examination

Contact: Garry Webb
Chief Assessment Officer
(02) 9367 8093
webbg@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**Changes to Latin Extension
Examination Rubrics**

BOS
03/06

The prescriptions for Latin Extension in 2006 and 2007 are texts related to philosophy. Note the following change to rubrics for the 2006 and 2007 Latin Extension HSC examination:

Question 1
In the second dot point, replace 'characteristics of elegy' with *content and style of the author*

Question 2
In the second dot point, replace 'poet's' with *author's*

Question 3
In the first dot point, replace 'Latin elegies' with *Latin philosophical writing*

Question 4
In the third dot point, replace 'the literary features of elegy' with *Latin philosophical writing*

The updated rubrics can be found on the Board's website at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/latin_ext_rubrics.html

Effective: 2006 and 2007 HSC examinations

Contact: Helen Bristow
Principal Assessment Officer
(02) 9367 8095
bristow@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**2005 HSC Notes from the
Marking Centre**

BOS
04/06

The Board advises that the 2005 HSC *Notes from the Marking Centre* can be found on the Board's of Studies website at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/hsc_exams/index.html. These documents contain information about how students responded to the questions in the HSC examinations, and include the correct answers to the multiple-choice questions (where appropriate), and the marking guidelines used at the marking centre.

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

**2005 HSC Components Reports****BOS
05/06**

The Board advises that the 2005 set of HSC Components Reports is now available for download from Schools Online.

HSC Components Reports are produced for all HSC courses with examinations containing more than one component. These courses include English (Standard); English (Advanced); English (ESL); all language courses; and all courses requiring both written examinations and performances or submitted works.

These reports show, for each student in a school group, their relative performance across the components of the examination. From this report principals and teachers can identify areas of relative strength and weakness within a course; this can inform the teaching of the course to current or future students. To assist teachers in the interpretation and use of this data, a page of information is included with each set of HSC Components Reports.

Contact: **Dr Samantha Pickering**
Senior Project Officer,
Measurement And Research Services
(02) 9367 8101
pickering@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**English Stage 6 Prescriptions for
HSC 2006-2007****BOS
06/06****Speeches HSC English (Advanced)****Module B: Critical Study of Texts – Nonfiction, Media
or Multimedia****Support Document**

www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/pdf_doc/english_speechsupport.pdf

Minor amendments have been made to the version of Paul Keating's speech "Funeral Service of the Unknown Australian Soldier" located in the online English Stage 6 Speeches HSC English (Advanced) Module B: Critical Study of Texts – Nonfiction, Media or Multimedia Support Document. The amended speech reflects the version that appears on the Australian War Memorial's website.

Please note that the amendments are minor and will have no impact on HSC questions for this module.

Effective: Immediately

Contact: **Don Carter**
Inspector, English
(02)9367 8276
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**School Certificate from 2006****BOS
07/06**

From 2006, students will receive a School Certificate based on study of the revised Years 7 to 10 syllabuses, which have been implemented progressively since 2004.

School Certificate grades

As in the past, schools will assign a grade, A, B, C, D or E, to each student for all courses completed in Stage 5. In Mathematics, the grades have been further differentiated to nine levels: A10, A9, B8, B7, C6, C5, D4, D3, E2. The grade awarded summarises the student's achievement in the course.

New Course Performance Descriptors have been written for all Stage 5 Board Developed Courses, for teachers to use when awarding School Certificate grades. These were distributed to schools in late 2005, and are available in the Assessment Resource Centre section of the Board's website at arc.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/go/sc/sc-grading/cpds/. To assist teachers across the state in consistently interpreting the standards represented by the grades, work samples aligned to grades have been produced for all the mandatory Stage 5 courses, and for the major elective courses. These are in the Assessment Resource Centre at arc.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/go/sc/student-work-samples/.

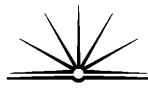
For awarding grades in Board Endorsed Courses (including Content Endorsed Courses), the Board's General Performance Descriptors are to be used. These are printed on each of the Course Performance Descriptor documents, and are available in the Assessment Resource Centre at arc.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/go/gen-info.

In response to requests from schools, the final date for submitting School Certificate grades has been moved later in the year, to Wednesday 22 November 2006. (See the School Certificate Event Timetable on the Board's website at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/events/index.html#eventtimetables). In order to produce School Certificate credentials in time, it is vital that schools adhere to this deadline.

School Certificate

From 2006, the School Certificate Computing Skills test is mandatory for all students. Schools may elect to offer this test to their students in either online or pen-and-paper form. The test will be administered immediately following the other School Certificate tests.

Scope statements for each of the syllabus-based tests have been revised as a result of the introduction of the new syllabuses. The test specifications have also been modified slightly, and there will be some slight changes to the format of the test papers. Schools should note



that the time allowed for the Science test has been increased to 2 hours.

Information about the School Certificate tests is available on the Board’s website at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/schoolcertificate/index.html. Specimen tests will be available on the website during Term 1 2006.

School Certificate credentials

The School Certificate credentials to be given to students from 2006 have been simplified. In addition to the School Certificate testamur, students will receive a School Certificate Record of Achievement that shows the grades awarded in all Stage 5 courses completed, and the student’s results in the School Certificate tests. It also lists the mandatory curriculum requirements that the student has met for the award of a School Certificate. Sample credentials will be placed on the Board’s website during Term 1 2006.

Life Skills

Life Skills outcomes and content are incorporated in all the revised Years 7 to 10 syllabuses. Students whose program of study includes Life Skills outcomes and content will have these courses credentialled on their School Certificate Record of Achievement. In addition, schools will record Life Skills outcomes achieved from each relevant syllabus, and these will be printed on an individual Profile of Student Achievement, which schools will issue to students at the same time as their School Certificate credentials.

The Computing Skills test is optional for any student whose program of study includes Life Skills outcomes and content. For students enrolled in English (Life Skills), Mathematics (Life Skills), Science (Life Skills), Australian History (Life Skills) or Australian Geography (Life Skills), participation in the corresponding School Certificate test(s) is not required.

Effective: 2006 School Certificate

**Contact: Garry Webb
Chief Assessment Officer
(02) 9367 8093
webbg@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au**



Registration and Accreditation of Systemic Non-Government Schools NSW **BOS 08/06**

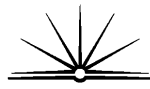
The *Education Act 1990* requires that the following applications be submitted from Registration Systems by 31 March 2006:

- applications for renewal of registration and, if applicable, accreditation where the registration/accreditation of member schools expires at the end of 2006
- applications for registration and, if applicable, accreditation where the provisional registration/accreditation of member schools expires at the end of 2006
- applications for renewal of exemption from registration where the exemption of member schools expires at the end of 2006
- applications for exemption from registration where exemption from provisional registration of member schools expires at the end of 2006
- applications to commence new Years of schooling in existing registered/accredited member schools in 2007
- applications to open new member schools in 2007.

The requirements for registration and accreditation are detailed in the *Registration Systems and Member Non-Government Schools (NSW) Manual*.

Applications may be made online. Copies of the application forms, the manual and information regarding making an online application are available on the Board’s website: www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**Contact: Mr Kerry Sheehan
Senior Registration Officer
(02) 9367 8422
sheehan@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au**

**Registration and Accreditation of
Individual Non-Government
Schools NSW****BOS
09/06**

The *Education Act 1990* requires that the following applications be submitted from individual schools by 31 March 2006:

- applications for renewal of registration and, if applicable, accreditation where registration/accreditation expires at the end of 2006
- applications for registration and, if applicable, accreditation where provisional registration/accreditation expires at the end of 2006
- applications for renewal of exemption from registration where exemption expires at the end of 2006
- applications for exemption from registration where exemption from provisional registration expires at the end of 2006
- applications to commence new Years of schooling in existing registered/accredited schools in 2007
- applications to open new schools in 2007.

The requirements for registration and accreditation are detailed in the *Registered and Accredited Individual Non-Government Schools (NSW) Manual*.

Applications may be made online. Copies of the application forms, the manual and information regarding making an online application are available on the Board's website: www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

Contact: Mr Kerry Sheehan
Senior Registration Officer
School Registration
(02) 9367 8422
sheehan@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

**Revised Assessment,
Certification and Examination
(ACE) Manual (2005)****BOS
10/06**

The Assessment, Certification and Examination (ACE) Manual describes the rules and procedures for the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate. Copies of the revised ACE Manual (2005) were delivered to secondary schools at the beginning of Term 1. Schools may also access the new manual on the Board's website www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/manuals

Information in the revised edition has been streamlined and unnecessary repetition eliminated, resulting in a decrease in the length of the manual and a reduction in the number of sections.

The new edition provides information regarding Years 7-10 courses and the School Certificate that includes:

- new Years 7-10 syllabuses

- School Certificate credentialling for 2006 and beyond
- Computing Skills test requirements and eligibility
- procedures relating to Years 7-10 courses based on Life Skills outcomes and content
- the study of courses with external providers and outside tutors.

Updated information on the Higher School Certificate includes:

- Board Developed and Board Endorsed Courses available for the HSC
- exclusions related to Board Developed and Board Endorsed HSC courses
- eligibility for Continuers courses in languages where there are Background Speakers courses
- eligibility for Beginners courses in languages
- eligibility declarations relating to English as a Second Language (ESL), Continuers and Beginners languages courses
- the study of courses with external providers and outside tutors.

Further information about the ACE Manual may be obtained by contacting the Board of Studies Liaison Officer (BOSLO) in your region or by telephoning the Office of the Board of Studies on (02) 9367 8102 or (02) 9367 8106.

Contact: Jenny Bryant
Senior Project Officer
Policy and Development
(02) 9367 8106
bryant@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



**2006 HSC Marking Applications
Opening Soon**

**BOS
11/06**

Applications to mark the 2006 HSC examinations and School Certificate tests will open on Monday 6 March 2006.

Marking is a very rewarding professional opportunity for suitable qualified teachers. The benefits include:

- experiencing the full range of responses from across the course candidature
- contrasting different approaches to the examination
- developing marking skills that may be applied at school
- discussing issues related to assessing and marking with other teachers.

While most marking takes place outside school hours, a number of courses are targeted each year for day marking. This option is particularly attractive to markers with family or other responsibilities after school. Some projects and performances are marked by itinerant markers.

Marking venues in the metropolitan area include Blacktown, Canterbury, Homebush, Redfern and Rosehill. Certain courses are marked in regional centres at Bathurst, Coffs Harbour, Gosford, Newcastle, Tamworth, Wagga Wagga and Wollongong.

Applicants are particularly encouraged to apply for the following courses where a larger number of vacancies are anticipated:

- Agriculture
- Biology
- Community and Family Studies
- Dance
- Drama
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Engineering Studies
- English
- History Extension
- Industrial Technology
- Languages
- Legal Studies
- Senior Science
- Studies of Religion
- Textiles and Design
- VET courses
- School Certificate English – Literacy
- School Certificate Australian History, Civics and Citizenship

Markers are also encouraged to consider applying for the role of judge marker in the Board's Standard Setting operation.

All intending markers should discuss their application with their Principal prior to its submission online to the Board. New applicants for marking should complete a Markers Online Registration Form via the Board of Studies website www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au following the links through eBoS Online Services and Markers Online. They will be issued with a Marker Number and security PIN to access the Markers Online application website.

All applicants for marking should visit the Markers Online link via the Board of Studies website to apply for marking. Applications open on Monday 6 March 2006.

Contact: Marker Support Unit
markersupport@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au
(02) 9367 8183
(02) 9367 8215
(02) 9367 8226



Expressions of Interest

BOS
12/06

The Office of the Board of Studies is seeking Expressions of Interest from highly experienced teachers for appointment to various Supervisor of Marking positions for the 2007 School Certificate tests and HSC examinations. Expressions of Interest are also sought for various HSC Advice Line Subject Coordinator positions for the 2006 HSC Advice Line program. Subject areas are detailed below.

2007 School Certificate and HSC Supervisors of Marking

2007 School Certificate tests

- Science

2007 Higher School Certificate examinations

- English (Standard) Paper 2 Module A
- English (Standard) Paper 2 Module B — Bathurst
- English (Standard & Advanced) Paper 1 Section 1
- English (Standard & Advanced) Paper 1 Section 2
- English (Standard & Advanced) Paper 2 Module B – Wagga Wagga
- English (Advanced) Paper 2 Module B – Tamworth
- English (Advanced) Paper 2 Module B – Coffs Harbour
- English (Advanced) Paper 2 Module C — Newcastle
- English (ESL)
- History Extension
- Ancient History
- VET Tourism
- VET Metals & Engineering
- VET Information Technology
- VET Primary Industries
- VET Business Services
- VET Hospitality
- VET Retail
- VET Construction
- Physics
- Biology – Newcastle
- Earth & Environmental Science
- Agriculture
- Economics
- Business Studies – Sydney
- Mathematics/Mathematics Ext 1/Mathematics Ext 2
- Industrial Technology (Written)
- PDHPE – Coffs Harbour
- Spanish
- Modern Greek

2006 HSC Advice Line Subject Coordinators

- Ancient History and History Extension
- Business Studies
- Community & Family Studies
- General Mathematics
- Information Processes & Technology and Software Design & Development
- Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Senior Science)
- Visual Arts

The closing date for all applications is Friday, 10 March 2006

Expressions of Interest for SC and HSC Supervisor of Marking positions and HSC Advice Line Subject Coordinator positions are only being called for in the above subject areas. Unless otherwise indicated, marking in 2006 and 2007 will be conducted in the Sydney metropolitan area.

Please note that details regarding the application process for School Certificate and HSC marking and HSC advising positions will be available in March 2006.

Cumulative list of all Official Notices to date for 2006

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