

# Official Notices

April 1998 — Vol 7 No 3

## 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



#### School Certificate External Tests and HSC Examinations

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#### Creative Arts

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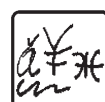
HSC Drama 1997 Examination Report Erroneous Information — Individual

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#### Human Society and Its Environment

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**Use of Calculators in School  
Certificate External Tests 1998**

**BOS  
11/98**

The use of calculators will be allowed in the School Certificate Mathematics External Test (Section 2 but not Section 1) and the Science Trial External Test. The use of calculators will not be permitted in either the English-literacy External Test or the Trial External Test for Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship.

The Mathematics Test (Section 2) and Science Test will allow the use of silent, battery or solar-powered, hand-held calculators, including graphics calculators, the use of which is encouraged in the teaching and learning of the new Year 9 and 10 Mathematics courses. However, calculators capable of communication by means of a cable are not to be used for this purpose (cables are not to be taken into a test room). Calculators capable of communication by means of infra-red signals are not to be used.

No list of approved calculators will be created for School Certificate External Tests. The list of approved scientific calculators published by the Board each year applies only to the Higher School Certificate Examination for 1998.

**Effective: Immediately**  
**Contact no: (02) 9367 8233**



**HSC Drama 1997  
Examination Report  
Erroneous Information —  
Individual Project Design:  
Poster, Program, Advertising  
and Promotional Copy**

**BOS  
12/98**

The Board advises that the information included on page 14 of the HSC Drama 1997 Examination Report concerning the Individual Project: Design — Poster, Program, Advertising and Promotional Copy is incorrect. Students are to prepare two design concepts and each design concept should consist of the following items:

- one poster
- one program cover and layout
- one flyer
- one print advertisement for a newspaper
- one media release aiming to attract the reader's attention and providing essential information
- one in-depth media treatment of the production.

Teachers and students are referred to pages 84–85 of the *Creative Arts Stage 6 KLA Handbook* (HSC 1998) for correct information regarding the prescriptions for this project. They should also note that there is no specified length for the in-depth media treatment of the production.



**2 Unit Drama — Content Area 4  
Topic Area 3 — State and  
Regional Theatre Companies**

**BOS  
13/98**

The Board advises that the New England Theatre Company and the Q Theatre listed as suitable for study in this Topic have merged to become the Railway Street Theatre Company. Students may study the Railway Street Theatre Company for Topic Area 3 for the 1998 HSC Examination.

Students should also note that the Royal Queensland Theatre Company listed as suitable for study in Topic Area 3 is now titled the Queensland Theatre Company.

**Effective: 1998 HSC Examination**  
**Contact no: (02) 9367 8154**



**Economics Stage 6 — Balance  
of Payments**

**BOS  
14/98**

The Board provides the following advice to assist teachers in interpreting the Economics Stage 6 Syllabus (1994).

- The Core Section: The International Context for Economic Management requires study of balance of payments issues.
- The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) announced a change in the basis of compilation and presentation for balance of payments statistics on 29 September 1997.
- The Balance of Payments issues — Current Account and Capital Account — should be studied in accordance with the changes announced by the ABS.
- These changes are outlined in the ABS publication: *Upgraded Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics 1997*, AGPS, Canberra. Catalogue No 5363.0

**Effective: Immediately**  
**Contact no: (02) 9367 8150 HSIE Inspector**  
**(02) 9376 8330 Curriculum Officer**

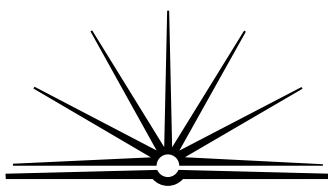


**Languages Other Than English  
Declaration of Eligibility for  
2 Unit Z Courses**

**BOS  
15/98**

Students who have no experience of the language applied for or those whose experience is derived solely from the study of 100 hours or less of the language applied for in Stages 4 and 5 are eligible to undertake the 2 Unit Z Course in that language. No other student is eligible. (The relevant rules are to be found in Section 11.12.3 of the ACE Manual and pp 335–36 of the *Languages Other Than English Stage 6 KLA Handbook*.)

*continued on page 4*



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF STUDIES  
NEW SOUTH WALES

## 2 UNIT Z LANGUAGES ELIGIBILITY DECLARATION

### For students wishing to study through THE OPEN HIGH SCHOOL

This declaration is designed to help verify your eligibility for a Board of Studies 2 Unit Z course in a Language Other Than English, studied through the Open High School (OHS). Your eligibility will be determined in the first instance by the Principal of the OHS. If the information provided does not enable the school to make a clear determination of your eligibility, the Principal of the OHS will send the forms to the Board of Studies.

Name of Applicant: Mr/Ms \_\_\_\_\_

Language Applied for: \_\_\_\_\_

Home School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home School Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Home School Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Home School Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Course: *(please tick as applicable)*

Preliminary

HSC

### For signature by Principal

A determination has been made, in terms of the Board's eligibility rules, for the 2 Unit Z course in the language indicated above.

Principal, The Open High School \_\_\_\_\_

I certify the following: *(please tick as applicable)*

1. I understand that Z courses are intended solely for those Year 11 students who have very little or no previous knowledge of the language, whether spoken or written, at the time of enrolment in the course.
2. I have *not* studied this language for more than 100 hours in Years 7–10.
3. I have *not* been on a Student Exchange for more than 6 months in a country where this language is spoken.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please ensure that all details in this application, including sections 1 to 4, are completed and that any supporting documentation (as appropriate) is provided.**

**If the OHS is unable to make a clear determination, this application may be forwarded to:**

The Inspector, Languages  
Office of the Board of Studies  
GPO Box 5300, Sydney NSW 2001

Fax: (02) 9367 8476

Phone: (02) 9367 8152 or (02) 9367 8280

For eligibility rules relating to 2 Unit Z courses, please refer to the ACE Manual 11.12.3 or the  
*Languages Other Than English Stage 6 KLA Handbook* pp 335–336

**Initial determination for students studying through their home school/TAFE campus**

Within these rules, the initial determination of course eligibility is delegated to Principals/TAFE Supervisors who make a decision on behalf of the Office of the Board. Having a student complete Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the “Z” Eligibility Declaration form, which is to be found in the ACE Manual Section 11.12.3 and in the LOTE Stage 6 KLA Handbook, should inform Principals/TAFE Supervisors when making their initial decision.

**Initial determination for students studying through The Open High School (OHS)**

In the case of students wishing to study a 2 Unit Z course in one of the languages available through The Open High School (OHS), a copy of the special cover page (provided in this Official Notice) should be completed, in addition to the other information pages already printed in the ACE Manual 11.12.3 or the LOTE Stage 6 KLA Handbook. The home school or TAFE campus should forward these documents, together with an enrolment form, to the Principal of the OHS, as required. The Principal of the OHS will then verify the eligibility declaration.

**Effective:** Immediately  
**Contact no:** (02) 9367 8152 Graham Sims  
 (02) 9367 8280 Harry Oppermann  
 (02) 9367 8304 Hilary Dixon  
 (02) 9367 8180 David Harland



**Stages 4–5 Agriculture**

**BOS  
16/98**

A new Agriculture Stages 4–5 Syllabus has been approved for implementation in Years 7 and 9 in 1998 and Years 8 and 10 in 1999. The syllabus was distributed to schools in December 1997.

Support materials, including:

- Agriculture Stages 4–5 Support Document; and
- Agriculture Stages 4–5 Video of Students’ Work Samples

were distributed in February 1998.

Courses for Year 10 students in 1998 will be based on the 1985 syllabus and hence the current (1991) Course Performance Descriptors in Agriculture should be used for assessment of student achievement for the award of the School Certificate.

Course Performance Descriptors for 1999 Year 10 students will be distributed during Term 3, 1998.

**Effective:** Immediately  
**Contact no:** (02) 9367 8246 Howard Kennedy

**Cumulative List of all Official Notices to date for 1998**

**School Certificate External Tests and HSC Examinations**

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 1998 Higher School Certificate — Dates for Practical Submissions and Itinerant Marking of Performances.....BOS 6/98 Vol 7 No 2  
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**Human Society and Its Environment**

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**Mathematics**

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