Principals of Secondary Schools

Dear Principal

Special Examination Provisions for the
2006 School Certificate Computing Skills Test

Each school will offer the mandatory Computing Skills test in either pen-and-paper format or online format. Students with approved special examination provisions will be granted adjustments appropriate to the format of the test at their school. These adjustments may include modifications to the test itself. Further information about these is available in the enclosed brochure.

Students at a school that has decided to use the pen-and-paper form of the test will generally have similar provisions to those approved for other pen-and-paper tests.

Students doing the test in the online form who have applied for special examination provisions might find that they do not require any adjustment in order to successfully complete the test. Except for students who have severe difficulties accessing on-screen material, it is strongly recommended that all students attempt the 2006 School Certificate Computing Skills Practice Test, available via Schools Online, to see if they require any adjustments.

Students at a school using the online form who do require modifications to the test will use a separate test application, accessible via the internet. Schools are encouraged to accommodate these students with the main group wherever possible. However, there may be students who have specific difficulties that require individual adjustments. These will be negotiated individually.

A practice version of the modified online test will be available via Schools Online. Schools are strongly advised to ensure that all students who will be using the special online test use the practice version. This practice version will enable students applying for special provisions to set the test up to meet their individual requirements, and to practise answering questions presented in this format. However, only those students for whom an application for special examination provisions has been received will have access to this version of the practice test.

Supervision of students undertaking an online form of the test with special examination provisions will be managed by each school. Schools will receive a supplementary payment to support the supervision of these students at twice the rate of the cost of supervising students with special examination provisions in other School Certificate tests.

Further information about special examination provisions for the School Certificate Computing Skills test is available from the Computing Skills Administration Centre in Schools Online. For specific inquiries contact the Student Examination Support section at the Office of the Board of Studies on (02) 9367 8268 or (02) 9367 8164 or by email at specprovs@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

Principals are requested to inform their Presiding Officers of the chosen format of the test.

Yours sincerely

M A Pearce
Acting Director, Examinations
17/7/06