



Department of Curriculum Management

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LETTER CIRCULAR

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To: All Heads of State Secondary Schools and Sections

From: Gaetano Bugeja – Assistant Director; Joanne Grima – Education Officer

Subject: Assessment of the Core Curriculum Programme (CCP) Subjects at Form 3

Each subject within the CCP will be assessed through a continuous assessment and through a summative assessment. The continuous assessment is based upon the evidence directly related to the outcomes, collected over time, by the student and the teacher through the available learning opportunities. Summative assessment consists of the Half-Yearly and the Annual examinations. The Half-Yearly examinations are set by the school/college/cluster and the Annual examinations are centrally set by the Department of Curriculum Management. Statemented learners are to be provided with the support that they are entitled to.

The total mark accumulated through the addition of the continuous and the summative assessment marks will be converted to a grade on the result report that students receive at home. The grade will be written in the examination mark column. The assessment column will be left empty. The report will clearly endorse that the student is following the Core Curriculum Programme.

Conversion of mark to grade will be done as follows:

Mark	Grade	Criteria
80-100	M	Mastered expected learning outcomes
51-79	P	Partially achieved expected learning outcomes
31-50	S	Starting to work towards expected learning outcomes
1-30	WB	Working below the expected learning outcomes

For the purposes of achieving MQF Level 1 Certification at the end of Form 5, learners need to accumulate an overall grade M between Forms 3 and 5.

Maltese CCP

The Maltese CCP summative examination paper carries 30% and the continuous assessment carries 70% of the total mark. A sample Maltese CCP examination paper is available in the CCP Fronter Room. The Listening paper will be 15 minutes long while the Reading and Writing paper will be 1 hour long.

English CCP

The English CCP summative examination paper carries 40% and the continuous assessment carries 60% of the total mark. The continuous assessment and the summative examination have the following weightings: Speaking 25%, Listening 25%, Reading 25% and Writing 25%. The Written paper will be 1 hour long while the Listening paper will be 15 minutes long. This is usually carried out right before the written paper. The Speaking paper will take 7-10 minutes for every student. The Speaking skill will be tested prior to the start of the examination sessions.

Mathematics CCP

The Mathematics CCP summative examination papers carry 25% and the continuous assessment carries 75% of the total mark. The examination paper will consist of a 15 minutes **non-calculator** paper (25 marks) and a 45 minutes **main paper** (75 marks). The continuous assessment will be assessed through a number of tasks associated with learning outcomes in the four strands as described in the subject programme. The best 10 tasks for every student are chosen, for a total of 100 marks.

The Annual Mark is to be computed as follows:

$$\text{Final Annual Mark} = 0.125 \times (\text{Half yearly summative mark} + \text{Annual summative mark}) + 0.75 \times \text{Continuous Assessment.}$$

In Mathematics, students give evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes repeatedly in Forms 3, 4 and 5 due to the similarity in content covered during these years. Consequently, an MQF Level 1 certificate in Mathematics is also awarded to students who score a final annual mark of 90 or more in Form 5 even if they do not meet the required standards in Forms 3 and 4.

Science and Technology CCP

The Science and Technology CCP summative examination paper carries 30% and the continuous assessment carries 70% of the total mark. The annual paper will gauge students' knowledge, skills and competence in an equal proportion. The summative examination paper will be a maximum of 1.5 hours. Evidence for the continuous assessment should be available in the learner's portfolio.

The following is a brief outline of the criteria for evaluating the Portfolio:

Organisation and Completeness	10%
Self-Evaluation	10%
Included Items	50%

Italian CCP

The Italian CCP will be assessed through a project file for continuous assessment which will carry 70% of the total mark and the Half Yearly and Annual examinations which will carry the remaining 30%. The summative examination marks will be as follows: Listening 30%, Speaking 30%, Writing 20% and Reading 20%. The teachers will be provided with an excel sheet which will automatically convert the 100% to 30%. The Half Yearly oral assessment will be conducted as usual during the days indicated in the letter circular DCM 329/2013. The Listening paper will be 30 minutes long and the Reading and Writing paper will be 1 hour long.

Religion CCP

The Religion CCP summative examination paper carries 20% and the continuous assessment carries 80% of the total mark. The continuous assessment is the collection of students' work and the criteria for assessment are described in the Religion CCP programme. The summative assessment will consist of a 10% written and a 10% oral examination. The oral will be conducted prior to the exam period. The written examination will be 1 hour long.

PE Certificate

The PE certificate assessment will be 100% continuous assessment and will be done (same as last year) according to the criteria explained in the PE certificate programme.

Further information about each subject together with model summative papers are available from the respective Education Officers or can be accessed on the CCP Fronter room. It is important that the marking criteria for each subject are followed to ensure standardisation.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Dr Frank Fabri
A/Director, Curriculum Management