



NCCA


An Chomhairle Náisiúnta
Curaclaim agus Measúnachta
National Council for
Curriculum and Assessment

SENIOR CYCLE REDEVELOPMENTS


THE JOURNEY TO DATE

Diarmuid Mooney

Workshop Overview


 About the NCCA


 How a subject specification is developed

 Question break

 Senior cycle redevelopment to date

 Question break

 Consultations and how to get involved

 Question to the room

When you see:

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About the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA)

- Curriculum and Examinations Board (1984)
- NCCA (1987)
- Established under the Education Act (1998) to advise Minister for Education on matters relating to
 - a) the curriculum for early childhood education, primary and post-primary schools, and
 - b) the assessment procedures employed in schools and examinations on subjects which are part of the curriculum

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Council (2022 – 2026)

- 26 members from 19 nominating bodies
- Advisory and representative; doesn't decide policy
- Not an implementing body
- Unique model of curriculum development in Europe



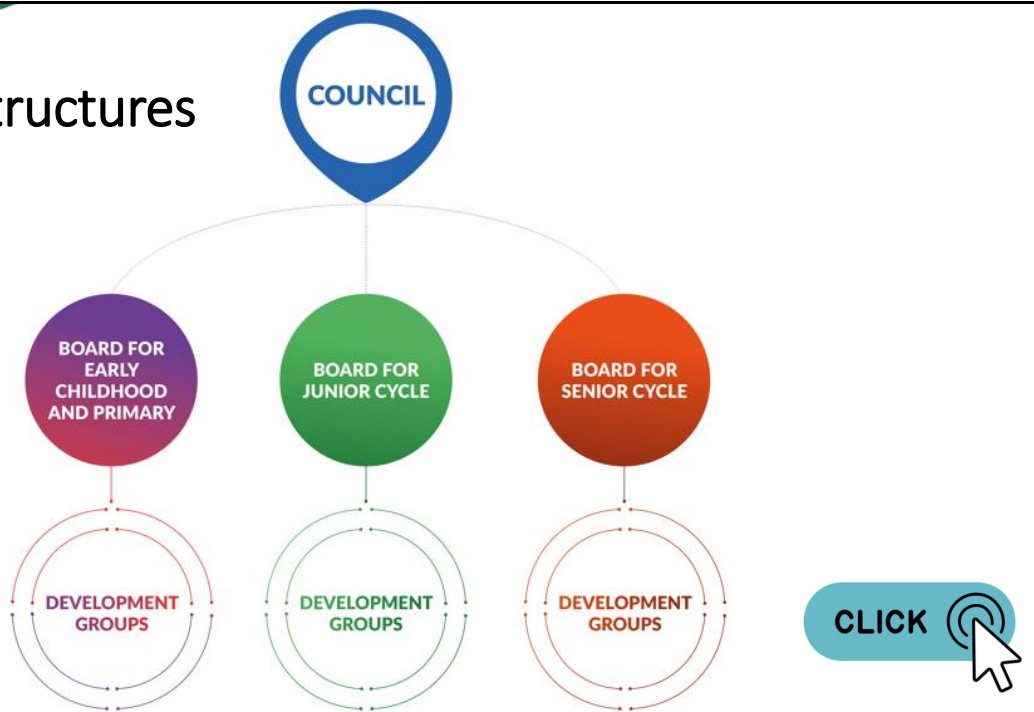
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How we develop advice



Our structures



How a subject specification is developed

School visits

Background Paper and
Brief

Development Group
Convened



Example of a Development Group: Chemistry

Chair

ACCS

ASTI x 2

OIDE

DE

ETBI

IBEC

ISTA

IUA

JMB

NPC

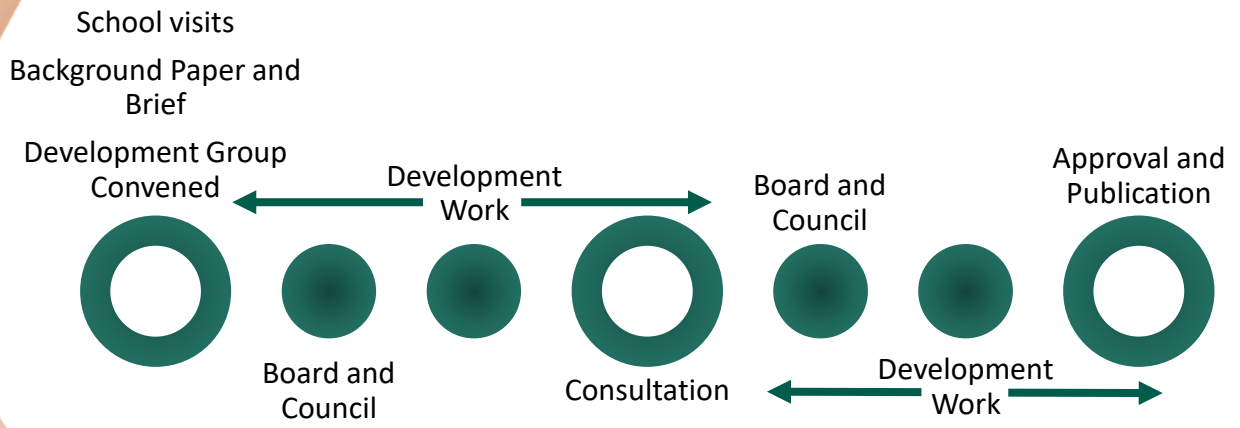
SEC

TUI x 2

THEA

Co-opt x 2

How a subject specification is developed



Question Break

Minister for Education's Announcement

In 2022, the Minister set out an ambitious programme for the redevelopment of Senior Cycle, guided by the vision of a Senior Cycle that delivers "equity and excellence for all."

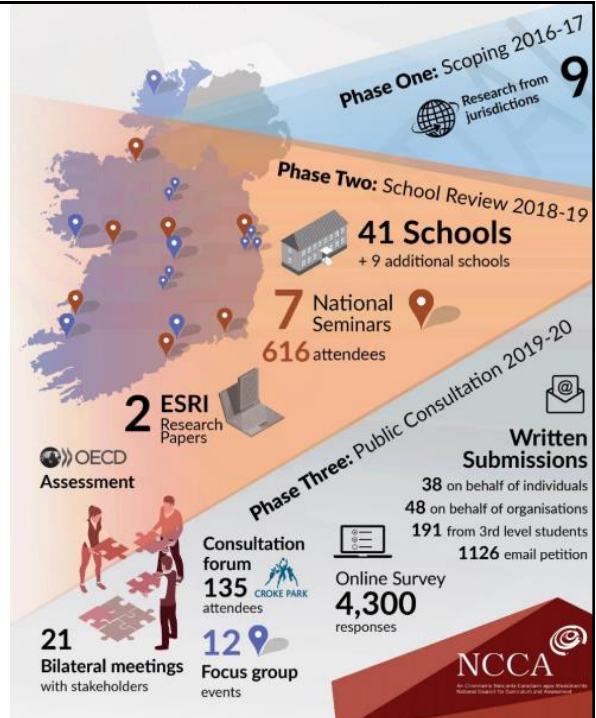
The programme is informed by, and builds upon, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment's (NCCA) advisory report on the review of Senior Cycle, as well as the experience of Leaving Certificate students, a growing demand for change and international experience and perspectives.

Equity and Excellence for All: where the student is at the centre of their Senior Cycle experience

The three tenets of Senior Cycle redevelopments are to:

1. empower students to meet the challenges of the 21st century
2. enrich the student experience and build on what's strong in our current system
3. embed wellbeing and reduce student stress levels.

What underpins the Advisory Report?



Purpose, vision and principles



The person, the learner, the citizen and all their futures

Realising the vision for senior cycle

Three over-arching and inter-connected aspects:

1. more integrated pathways for all students
2. greater variety of curriculum components to meet the needs of all students
3. a broader approach to assessment and reporting.

Update on redevelopment work

L1 L2 Follow-on Programmes

Key Competencies

Specification Format

LCVP

LCA

Transition Year

SPHE

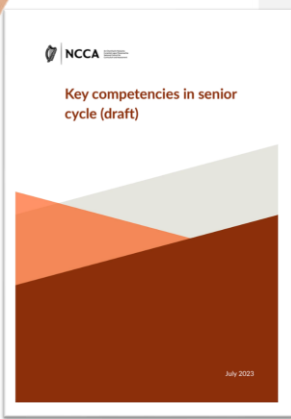
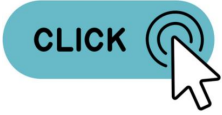
Tranche Schedule

L1 L2 Follow-on Programmes

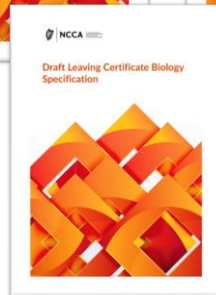
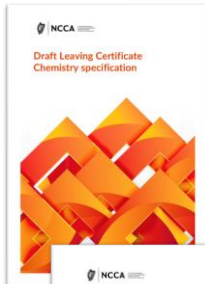
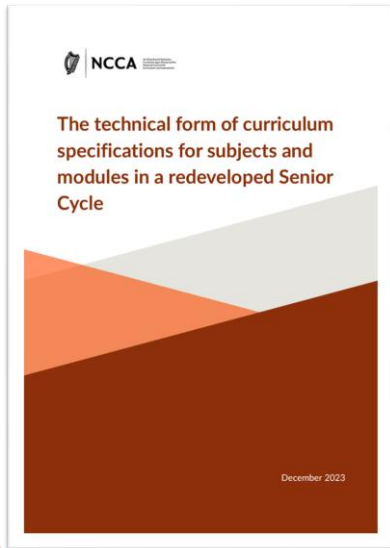


A new qualification will be introduced at level one and two on the National Qualification framework to provide an appropriate level of assessment to some students with special educational needs, building on the equivalent programme at Junior Cycle level (DE, 2022)

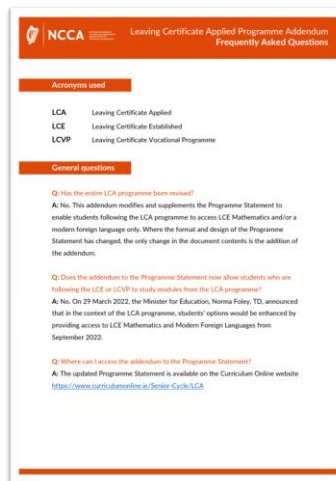
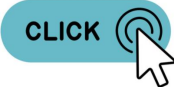
Key competencies in senior cycle



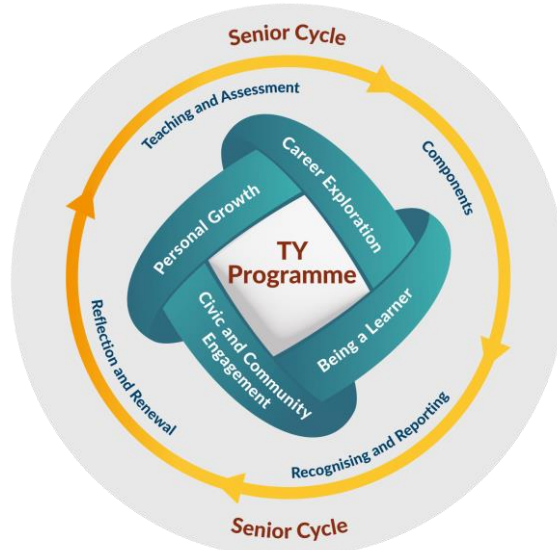
Format of senior cycle specifications



LCVP and LCA



Transition Year Programme Statement



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Schedule of subjects for redevelopment

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Tranche 1 subjects

Introduced to schools in 2025

Ancient Greek
Arabic
Biology
Business
Chemistry
Climate Action and Sustainable Development
Drama, Film and Theatre Studies
Latin
Physics

Tranche 2 subjects

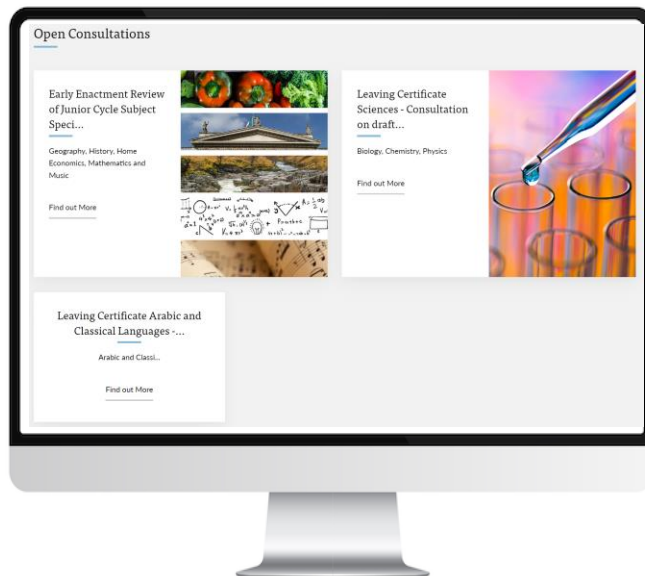
Introduced to schools in 2026

Accounting
Construction Studies
Engineering
English
Geography
LCVP Link Modules
Physical Education

Further tranches will be introduced on an annual basis.

Question Break

Consultations – How to get involved!



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ETBI Workshop

Have you any suggestions that would help us raise awareness amongst schools of our work?



Thank you!

Click here to sign up to receive updates from the NCCA on curriculum and assessment work and events, through our general info@ncca newsletter.

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