



Date: 18/05/2018

Circular Number: 0033/2018

**To the Principals and Boards of Management of Second-Level Schools and Special
Schools, and to the Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards**

**Business Syllabus – Leaving Certificate
Revised arrangements for the updating of legislation**

The Leaving Certificate Business syllabus is in place since 1997. At the time of its introduction, the Draft Guidelines for Leaving Certificate Business provided a list of relevant legislation. The draft guidelines also stated that this list of legislation would be updated by circular as needed, and this has occurred on a number of occasions since then. However, since the introduction of the syllabus the speed and complexity of legislative changes has increased. This means that the list of relevant legislation becomes outdated quickly.

This Circular gives formal notice that updates will no longer be issued in relation to relevant changes in legislation. Where changes or amendments to legislation are enacted that relate to the relevant syllabus outcomes, it is the responsibility of the teacher to ensure that candidates will have knowledge of the most recent developments, to inform learning and to ensure that students experience information as it relates to current business practice.

In order to address this, teachers must ensure that students are suitably informed of the relevant legislation when completing the syllabus outcomes.

Legislation will continue to be examined in the state examination. Students will be required to demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the most recent and relevant legislation in the examination and apply their learning to familiar or unfamiliar contexts presented in the examination. From 2020 onwards students will be required to reference the current relevant legislation and institutions in their examination responses. Reference to outdated legislation and institutions may result in students losing marks in the examination.

In supporting this change, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) has provided the following Updated Syllabus Guidelines: Legislation in the Business Syllabus, available at <https://curriculumonline.ie/Senior-cycle/Senior-Cycle-Subjects/Business>. These updated guidelines list the legislation that currently applies and also restate the position outlined above, i.e. that further circulars will not issue and that teachers should instead update their practice in this regard as a matter of course whenever relevant legislation changes. Where the relevant legislation has changed during the two years immediately prior to the examination, questions will be framed in such a way that candidates can engage with them on the basis of the older or newer legislative position, without penalty.

The following links are provided for information purposes:

1. Consumer
www.ccpc.ie
www.citizeninformation.ie
2. Industrial Relation and Employment
www.workplacerelations.ie
www.citizeninformation.ie
3. Data Protection
www.dataprotection.ie
www.citizeninformation.ie
4. Private Company Formation
www.cro.ie/Registration/Company
www.citizeninformation.ie

Please bring this Circular letter to the attention of teachers of Leaving Certificate Business. This circular may be accessed at www.education.ie.

**Eamonn Moran,
Principal Officer,
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Unit.**

