



PRESS RELEASE

Interim Resumption Arrangement for Public Examinations and SBA of 2024 HKDSE Elective Subjects

With full-day face-to-face classes resumed in an orderly manner since February this year, the learning and teaching in schools has gradually resumed to normal. A full resumption of the assessment requirements of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) will also be implemented by phases. Nonetheless, in view of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the learning progress of current Secondary 5 students, after consultation with various stakeholders, an interim resumption arrangement (IRA) will be implemented for the 2024 HKDSE, in which the assessment requirements of 19 Category A Senior Secondary elective subjects will be adjusted. The arrangement has been approved by the Public Examinations Board of the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA).

For public examinations, the written or practical examination requirements of 10 elective subjects will be streamlined, while some subjects will partially resume the original assessment arrangements. The 10 elective subjects with a School-based Assessment (SBA) component will all resume SBA, with the SBA requirements in nine of the subjects streamlined. The public examinations and SBA of the four core subjects, namely Chinese Language, English Language, Mathematics and Citizenship and Social Development, will be carried out according to the respective Assessment Frameworks.

In addition, the assessment tasks of Category B Applied Learning subjects should be conducted according to the Assessment Scheme of individual subjects. The course provider should apply to the HKEAA if they need to make changes to the Assessment Scheme.

Details of the IRA of elective subjects are as follows:

IRA	Elective Subjects & Details
Written/ Practical Examination Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Business, Accounting and Financial Studies [Paper 2]<ul style="list-style-type: none">2A Accounting Module – Section B: Turning compulsory questions optional, i.e. choose to answer 2 out of 3 questions;2B Business Management Module – Section B: Turning compulsory questions optional, i.e. choose to answer 1 out of 2 questions.Chinese History [Paper 1]<ul style="list-style-type: none">Section 1: Dividing the compulsory question into 2 optional questions, i.e. choose to answer 1 question;

- Section 2: Resuming to the original arrangement that candidates are required to answer 1 out of 3 questions from each of Part A and Part B, i.e. attempt 2 questions in total;
- The examination time remains at 2 hours 15 minutes.

3. Design and Applied Technology [Paper 2]

- Candidates are required to answer only one elective module, instead of two, from the five modules. In the chosen module, candidates are still required to answer 2 out of 3 questions (i.e. the total number of questions to be attempted will be reduced from 4 to 2);
- The examination time is reduced by 45 minutes. The revised examination time is 1 hour 15 minutes.

4. Economics [Paper 2]

- Cancelling Section C structured/essay-type questions. The marks concerned will be re-allocated to Sections A and B, and questions will be added to both sections.

5. Ethics and Religious Studies [Paper 1]

- Part A: Turning compulsory questions optional, i.e. choose to answer 3 out of 4 questions.

6. Geography [Paper 1]

- Combining Section B fieldwork-based question (FBQ) and Section C data-based questions (DBQs). Candidates are required to answer 3 out of 5 questions from the combined sections, instead of answering 1 compulsory FBQ in Section B and 2 out of 4 DBQs in Section C;
- Trimming the coverage of the FBQ from three designated modules to one module (The designated module for 2024 HKDSE is 'Climate Change');
- The examination time is resumed to 2 hours 45 minutes.

7. History [Paper 1]

- Turning compulsory questions optional, i.e. choose to answer 3 out of 4 questions;
- The examination time is reduced by 15 minutes. The revised examination time is 1 hour 45 minutes.

8. Tourism and Hospitality Studies [Paper 2]

- Candidates are required to answer 2 out of 5 questions, instead of answering 3 out of 5 questions;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The examination time is reduced by 30 minutes. The revised examination time is 1 hour 15 minutes. <p>9. Music</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● [Paper 2: Performing I] Assessment requirements resume to normal. ● [Paper 3: Creating I] Trimming the total duration of the composition works from 6-15 minutes to 4-12 minutes. <p>10. Physical Education [Paper 3: Practical Examination]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical Activity 1: Cancelling game assessment; ● Physical Activity 2: Assessing only on 1 event instead of 2 events; ● Physical Fitness: Assessment requirements resume to normal.
<p>SBA Requirements</p>	<p>1. Chinese Literature [weighting: 15%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Candidates are only required to submit 2 creative exercises, instead of 3; while the exercises should cover two genres among the four: Prose, Poetry, Novels and Plays. <p>2. Literature in English [weighting: 20%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The word length for the essay/writing is reduced from around 2,000 to 2,500 words to around 1,200 to 1,500 words. <p>3. Biology [weighting: 20%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reducing the minimum number of assessments required from 2 to 1 for each of Area A (Practical Skills), Area B1 (Experimental Design) and Area B2 (Results and Discussions). <p>4. Chemistry [weighting: 20%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reducing the minimum number of assessments required from 4 to 2, including one assessment for Volumetric Analysis (VA) and one assessment for Qualitative Analysis (QA)/ Other Experiments (EXPT). <p>5. Physics [weighting: 20%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reducing the minimum number of assessments required from 3 to 2, including one experiment (EXPT), and one investigative study (IS)/an experiment with a detailed report (EXPT*). <p>6. Health Management and Social Care [weighting: 20%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Candidates are required to submit Reflective Journal only. Field Learning Plan and Field Note will not be counted.

	<p>7. Information and Communication Technology [weighting: 20%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Candidates are required to complete Guided Task 1 (Design & Implementation) only, instead of completing two Guided Tasks. <p>8. Technology and Living [weighting: 30%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Candidates are required to complete the Project/Design folio only, and need not submit the prescribed task. <p>9. Visual Arts [weighting: 50%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Apart from submitting a research workbook, the number of artwork/critical studies required will be reduced from 4 to 3 pieces. <p>10. Design and Applied Technology [weighting: 40%]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Resuming complete version of SBA. Candidates are required to complete a design project (consisting of both Part 1 and Part 2).
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The Assessment Frameworks of 19 Category A elective subjects in the 2024 HKDSE will be revised according to the IRA, and the weighting of the papers/components of the subjects concerned will be adjusted accordingly. Please refer to the revised [Assessment Frameworks](#) and [SBA Teachers' Handbooks](#) for details.

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Date: 28 March 2023