

October 2020

Amendments to Classroom-Based Assessment 1 (CBA1) in Business Studies for the cohort of students 2019 – 2022 (students in 2nd Year in 2020/2021)

Difficulties may arise in conducting groupwork in schools due to the exceptional circumstances arising from measures implemented to curtail the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, schools, teachers and students may face challenges in completing Classroom-Based Assessment 1 (CBA1) in the academic year 2020/21. These challenges may be overcome, for example, through the use of digital technologies to collaborate online. However, this may not be possible in all schools.

In light of this, the following assessment arrangements for the completion of CBA1 in Business Studies for the student cohort 2019-2022 (2nd years) will now apply:

- Students will complete an amended **individually-assessed** CBA to take account of the challenges which may be faced in completing the group aspect of CBA1. The CBA will be completed **over three weeks** on an individual basis with **each student producing an individual report**.
- These amendments and the amended Features of Quality for CBA1 are outlined in the [Guidelines for Classroom-Based Assessment 1 Business in Action for the school year 2020-2021 \(2nd Year Students\)](#)

The NCCA will provide assistance and guidance to the Junior Cycle for Teachers support service in the provision of further advice in this regard.

The window within which schools can complete Classroom Based Assessments and SLAR meetings remains as outlined in the [Revised arrangements for the completion of Classroom Based Assessments](#) Where necessary, key dates for classroom-based assessments may be amended in light of particular circumstances schools may encounter due to Covid19.

The window for completion and key dates for award of provisional descriptors and completion of the SLAR meeting for CBA1 for second year students for 2020-2021 are as follows:

Student Cohort 2019-2022 (2nd Years) Business Studies CBA 1

Window for completion	Monday 2nd November 2020 – Friday 14th May 2021
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Wednesday 19th May 2021
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Wednesday 26th May 2021

Notes re: Classroom-Based Assessments in school year 2020 – 2021

Students in second and third-year complete classroom-based assessments with support and guidance from their teachers. Detailed information about the formats, topics and timeframe for completion of CBAs in each subject and short course is included in the relevant Guidelines for the Classroom-Based Assessments, which are available on www.curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle . Whilst Classroom-Based Assessments are designed to take place under the guidance of the teacher in a classroom context, schools have flexibility in the school year 2020 - 2021, in light of changing circumstances which may arise due to Covid19, to support students to complete CBAs in school and/or remotely.

- in the context of a full return to school, as previously, students complete CBAs primarily during class time, with support and guidance from the teacher
- the selection of activities and topics for CBAs should be guided by what is practical and safe at the time in line with public health advice
- students who cannot attend school due to circumstances arising from Covid19 can be facilitated to research, create and complete their CBA remotely, with support and guidance from the teacher
- adjustments to how schools conduct CBAs and/or the support of digital technologies, in line with schools' child protection, acceptable use and GDPR policies, may be necessary
- NCCA will work with teachers and JCT on an ongoing basis to provide advice and support and to collate advice from teachers, in adapting CBAs to current circumstances