



Junior Cycle Final Examination in Music, 2022

Arrangements for the implementation of the Practical Examinations (Revised March 2022)

The Junior Cycle music practical examinations will be held from 9 May to 20 May 2022. Examiners will contact schools in the week beforehand (3 – 6 May) to confirm the date on which the examinations will be held.

A. Adjustments to performing requirements:

- (i) Adjustments already in place (*Assessment Arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2022*, issued 18 August 2021):
In 2022 only, candidates will be required to perform **two** musical songs/pieces
- (ii) In recognition of the lack of live rehearsal time that was available to students in preparation for the practical examination, the following adjustments to the performing requirements will be made:
 - a. Candidates presenting Group Performing will not be required to perform with a live group. **If they wish** they may
 - (i) perform with a recording of their group
 - (ii) perform their own part with an accompaniment/backingtrack
 - b. Duration of examination, including unprepared test: 10 minutes.

B. Measures to ensure the safe conduct of the practical examinations:

The SEC is conducting all of its examinations in accordance with prevailing public health advice. In line with the recent Information Note SD 0003/2022 from the Department of Education to the Managerial Authorities of all recognised Primary, Post Primary and Special Schools providing updated Covid-19 guidelines to schools the SEC recognises the removal of remaining restrictions relating to mask-wearing and physical distancing in schools.

The wearing of face masks or covering is generally no longer mandatory, other than as outlined by the HSE in certain specific circumstances. However, the SEC acknowledges that examiners and examination candidates may wish to wear a face mask or covering or not to do so. This will lead to circumstances

- in which the examiner may wear a mask but the candidate chooses not to;
- the candidate may wear a mask but the examiner chooses not to;
- both parties may wear a mask;
- neither party wears a mask.

All of these scenarios will constitute a valid test. Candidates should be advised of their choice and the examiner's choice in relation to mask/face coverings in advance of the commencement of the examinations. Schools and candidates should make themselves aware of the latest public health advice.

C. Examination centre requirements:

1. The examination centre must be set up in a large well-ventilated area.
2. A minimum of two areas/rooms should be set up as examination centres to allow for continuity when the primary area/room is being aired. The examination centres must be aired appropriately throughout the day.
3. A desk inside the entrance to the centre for the signing of the roll. Each candidate must bring their own pen for signing the roll.
4. Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes
5. A desk for the examiner.
6. A second desk, for the use of an advising examiner.
7. A music stand for the unprepared tests.

Candidates who choose sight-reading for their unprepared test may not touch the test booklet. The examiner will open the booklet at the appropriate page and will indicate the test to be attempted.

D. Preparation and rehearsing in advance of the test:

All preparation and rehearsing in advance of the state examinations must be conducted in line with public health advice to ensure the health and safety of all concerned. Candidates should be briefed on the safe preparation for their tests and provided with clear and appropriate advice in relation to rehearsing and practicing for the assessments.