

Directions for students

External assessment

You must observe the QCAA's student directions as well as your school's policies and those of any other external assessment venue you attend.

Read the directions carefully.

IMPORTANT: If you breach any of the following directions your external assessment (EA) result may be withheld.

1. Do not attempt to gain access to or receive information about any 2024 external assessment.
2. Do not allow someone else to sit an external assessment on your behalf.
3. Arrive at least 30 minutes before your scheduled assessment. Contact the EA coordinator at your school/assessment venue immediately if you will arrive late for your assessment.
4. Bring your own [approved equipment](#). You may use a clear plastic container or ziplock bag to carry it in.
5. Place all prohibited materials in your bag or locker before entering the assessment room. Bags must be stored outside the room.
6. Do not bring food into the assessment room unless you have access arrangements and reasonable adjustments (AARA) approval.
7. Follow all directions given by supervisors.
8. On arrival, line up in an orderly manner outside the assessment room and follow directions regarding behaviour and equipment checks.
9. Do not enter the room until instructed.
10. Once you enter the room, do not speak to anyone except a supervisor — if you need to speak to them, raise your hand and wait quietly.
11. Sit at the desk identified by your place card.
12. If you have a water bottle, place it on the floor when not in use.
13. Remove your watch and place it in clear view on your desk. (**Note:** smart watches and fitness trackers are prohibited.) Equipment may be removed from a container or ziplock bag and placed on your desk.
14. When instructed, attach a barcode from your place card to the response book in the space provided on the front cover. Then write your name, learner unique identifier (LUI), school name and school code in the spaces provided.
15. Do not pick up any writing equipment or touch a calculator during perusal time.
16. Do not write in the response book or touch a calculator during planning time.
17. Do not cheat or help others to cheat. All work submitted must be your own. Do not look at or copy another student's work.
18. Do not ask to borrow equipment from other students. Do not communicate in any way with any other student.
19. Do not ask anyone to explain or interpret an assessment item.
20. If you need additional assessment materials, or need to leave the room, signal a supervisor by raising your hand and waiting quietly.

21. You will not be able to leave the assessment room in the first 40 minutes of the scheduled start time except in an emergency or for the use of approved AARA (i.e. you may leave after 9:40 am for a morning session and after 1:10 pm for an afternoon session).
22. You will not be able to leave in the last 10 minutes of the assessment session except in an emergency or for the use of approved AARA.
23. Carefully follow the instructions written on all your assessment materials.
24. Do not write or draw any offensive content on your assessment materials.
25. Keep your response books intact. Do not remove any pages or parts of pages.
26. Stop writing immediately when instructed to do so by a supervisor.
27. Remain seated and silent at the end of the assessment session while your assessment materials are collected and checked.
28. Do not leave the assessment room until instructed by a supervisor.
29. Do not take any assessment materials with you when you leave the room — including place cards, planning paper, stimulus books and question books.



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External assessment equipment list

External assessment 2024

Supervisors will check equipment before students enter the assessment room.

Approved equipment for all assessments

Students are permitted to take the following items to assessments:

- black or blue pens
- 2B pencils, sharpener and eraser
Note: 2B pencils are only required for multiple choice questions and drawing graphs or diagrams. Black or blue non-erasable pens must be used for all other written responses
- highlighters — students should not highlight their responses but may highlight stimulus or questions when permitted by the supervisor
- a clear plastic ruler
- water in a clear unlabelled bottle
- asthma inhaler.

Students may use a clear plastic container or ziplock bag to carry equipment if needed.

QCAA-approved calculators

Only calculators approved for use in assessments are permitted. Calculators must be handheld and solar- or battery-powered. Scientific and graphics calculators must:

- meet the requirements set out in the [Scientific calculator list](#) and [Graphics calculator list](#)
- be cleared of memory before entering the assessment room.

For subjects that permit the use of a non-programmable calculator during assessment (Accounting, Economics, Geography, Legal Studies), calculators should be able to perform addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, square roots and powers. They must not allow access to a computer algebra system (CAS), spellchecker, dictionary, thesaurus or translator.

For Aerospace Systems assessments, a QCAA-approved flight calculator is required.

Student devices

A student device is a battery-powered laptop or tablet. For assessments that require the use of a student device, students will bring their own device or one will be provided by their school. Schools should advise students of the arrangements that apply to devices for their assessments.

Students should have:

- individual access to a device on which they can listen to and/or view digital stimulus as many times as they need to throughout the assessment session
- the latest version of a media player that plays MP3 and MP4 files installed on the device
- wired earphones/headphones consistent with the guidelines for academic integrity (Bluetooth-enabled earphones/headphones are not permitted).

Students, supervisors and relevant teachers should be confident using the device and media player.

Subject-specific equipment

Subject	Additional approved subject-specific equipment
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • non-programmable calculator
Aerospace Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved scientific calculator • QCAA-approved flight calculator • protractor • ruler or plotter
Agricultural Science Agricultural Science AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved calculator permitted; must meet the requirements set out in the Scientific calculator list or the Graphics calculator list
Ancient History Ancient History AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
Arabic SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monolingual and/or bilingual print dictionaries in one or two volumes (written examination only)
Biology Biology AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved calculator permitted; must meet the requirements set out in the Scientific calculator list or the Graphics calculator list
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved calculator permitted; must meet the requirements set out in the Scientific calculator list or the Graphics calculator list
Chinese Chinese SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Chinese Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Dance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Design Design AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black ink pens • black felt-tip pens • 2B pencils, sharpener and eraser • ruler • a set of coloured pencils or pens
Digital Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Drama Drama AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Earth & Environmental Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved calculator permitted; must meet the requirements set out in the Scientific calculator list or the Graphics calculator list
Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ruler free from markings other than measurement indicators

Subject	Additional approved subject-specific equipment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • non-programmable calculator
Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved scientific calculator • protractor • ruler
English English SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
English & Literature Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
English as an Additional Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Film, Television & New Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Food & Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
French	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
French Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
General Mathematics General Mathematics SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved scientific calculator
Geography Geography AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • non-programmable calculator • coloured pencils • ruler free from markings other than measurement indicators • lead pencils • eraser
German	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
German Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Indonesian SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Italian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Japanese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Korean SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Latin SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dictionary
Legal Studies Legal Studies AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • non-programmable calculator

Subject	Additional approved subject-specific equipment
Literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Marine Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved calculator permitted; must meet the requirements set out in the Scientific calculator list or the Graphics calculator list
Mathematical Methods — Paper 2 (Technology-active) Note: Paper 1 is Technology-free; no calculator or technology of any type is permitted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved graphics calculator • QCAA-approved scientific calculator (permitted)
Modern Greek SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monolingual and/or bilingual print dictionaries in one or two volumes (written examination only)
Modern History Modern History AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Music Music AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Music Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Philosophy & Reason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Physical Education Physical Education AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nil
Physics Physics AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved calculator permitted; must meet the requirements set out in the Scientific calculator list or the Graphics calculator list
Polish SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monolingual and/or bilingual print dictionaries in one or two volumes (written examination only)
Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved calculator permitted; must meet the requirements set out in the Scientific calculator list or the Graphics calculator list
Punjabi SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monolingual and/or bilingual print dictionaries in one or two volumes (written examination only)
Russian SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monolingual and/or bilingual print dictionaries in one or two volumes (written examination only)
Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) • student device
Specialist Mathematics — Paper 2 Specialist Mathematics AS — Paper 2 Note: Paper 1 is Technology-free; no calculator or technology of any type is permitted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-approved graphics calculator • QCAA-approved scientific calculator (permitted)
Study of Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil

Subject	Additional approved subject-specific equipment
Tamil SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> monolingual and/or bilingual print dictionaries in one or two volumes (written examination only)
Vietnamese SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> suitable wired earphones/headphones (cannot be Bluetooth) student device
Visual Art Visual Art AS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> nil

Prohibited materials

The items below are prohibited in any assessment room, except if specifically approved as an AARA, or listed as approved subject-specific equipment for an assessment, e.g. for a subject that requires students to use a device or permits the use of a dictionary.

- mobile phones
- smart watches and fitness trackers
- any other electronic device that stores, retrieves, displays or communicates digital information
- correction fluid or correction tape
- dictionaries
- erasable pens
- blank paper, notes, any printed/written material
- tissues brought by students. (**Note:** The assessment room must have tissues available for student use.)



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QCAA external assessment timetable 2025

About the timetable

The QCAA external assessment timetable 2025 includes the external assessments for General and General (Extension) subjects.

The timetable will be updated in Term 3 to include language and non-language Senior External Examinations (SEEs). SEEs are 100% external examinations and are different from the mainstream General subjects.

The timetable has been designed to:

- minimise clashes for students across the examination period. Where there is a clash within a morning or afternoon session, students will be allocated to the alternative session on the same day
- ensure most students sit no more than two external assessments on one day
- provide sufficient breaks between external assessments for popular courses and frequently combined courses
- enable all external assessments to be marked in time for students to receive their final Year 12 results.



QCAA external assessment timetable for General and General (Extension) subjects 2025

Session		Monday 27 October		Tuesday 28 October		Wednesday 29 October		Thursday 30 October		Friday 31 October	
Week 1	AM	Aerospace Systems	2hrs + 10mins	English	2hrs + 15mins	Economics	2hrs + 15mins	Business	2hrs + 15mins	Biology (Paper 1)	90mins + 10mins
		Design	2hrs + 15mins	English as an Additional Language	2hrs + 15mins						
	PM	Accounting	2hrs + 15mins	Visual Art	2hrs + 20mins	Ancient History	2hrs + 15mins	Drama	2hrs + 20mins	Biology (Paper 2)	90mins + 10mins
		Music	2hrs + 20mins			Engineering	2hrs + 10mins	Chinese Extension French Extension German Extension	2hrs + 20mins		
						Food & Nutrition	2hrs + 10mins				

Session		Monday 3 November		Tuesday 4 November		Wednesday 5 November		Thursday 6 November		Friday 7 November	
Week 2	AM	Modern History	2hrs + 15mins	General Mathematics (Paper 2)	90mins + 5mins	English & Literature Extension	2hrs + 30mins	Agricultural Science (Paper 2)	90mins + 10mins	Chemistry (Paper 1)	90mins + 10mins
				Specialist Mathematics (Paper 2)	90mins + 5mins	Health	2hrs + 15mins	Legal Studies	2hrs + 15mins		
						Music Extension	2hrs + 20mins				
	PM	General Mathematics (Paper 1)	90mins + 5mins	Geography	2hrs + 15mins	Agricultural Science (Paper 1)	90mins + 10mins	Chinese	2hrs + 5mins	Chemistry (Paper 2)	90mins + 10mins
		Specialist Mathematics (Paper 1)	90mins + 5mins			Film, Television & New Media	2hrs + 20mins	Dance	2hrs + 20mins		
						German	2hrs + 5mins	Digital Solutions	2hrs + 15mins		
						Spanish	2hrs + 5mins	Philosophy & Reason	2hrs + 15mins		

QCAA external assessment timetable for General and General (Extension) subjects 2025

Session		Monday 10 November		Tuesday 11 November		Wednesday 12 November		Thursday 13 November		Friday 14 November	
Week 3	AM	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies	2hrs + 15mins	French	2hrs + 5mins	Psychology (Paper 1)	90mins + 10mins	Study of Religion	2hrs + 15mins	Mathematical Methods (Paper 1)	90mins + 5mins
	PM	Physics (Paper 1)	90mins + 10mins	Physical Education	2hrs + 15mins						
		Physics (Paper 2)	90mins + 10mins	Literature	2hrs + 15mins	Psychology (Paper 2)	90mins + 10mins	Italian	2hrs + 5mins	Mathematical Methods (Paper 2)	90mins + 5mins
								Japanese	2hrs + 5mins		

Session		Monday 17 November		Tuesday 18 November		Wednesday 19 November		Thursday 20 November		Friday 21 November	
Week 4	AM	Marine Science (Paper 1)	90mins + 10mins	Earth & Environmental Science (Paper 1)	90mins + 10mins						
	PM	Marine Science (Paper 2)	90mins + 10mins	Earth & Environmental Science (Paper 2)	90mins + 10mins						



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