

22 November 2024

Dear students, parents and carers

Update from the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

I write to provide an update on this year's VCE assessments and the work underway to address the errors that have impacted the 2024 Victorian Certificate of Education examinations.

Now that the VCE exams have finished, marking is well underway.

As with every year, exams are being marked by assessors who are experts in their area of study. All subjects are marked to the same standard and there are multiple checks to make sure that marking is fair. All VCE examinations are independently marked by at least two assessors, with third and fourth markings taking place where agreement cannot be reached between the earlier assessors.

At the same time, the VCAA has conducted a review of all 56 exams and questions affected by the production error, to begin to review the potential extent of impact of early access to the exam materials.

Following this review, the expert advisory panel that was appointed to oversee the assessment and analysis of this year's exams gave the direction that independent VCE subject matter experts should review the VCAA's assessment of the extent of impact.

These experts represent our state's peak teaching associations and bodies, including the Victorian Commercial Teachers Association, the Mathematical Association of Victoria, Master Teachers-in-Residence at the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership, as well as representatives from universities.

Next steps

The expert panel are applying the anomalous grade check process.

This process will:

1. **Review** student marks in the affected exams and identify any anomalies in how students have responded to the affected questions, including how the affected question relates to the rest of the exam.
2. **Analyse** if any discrepancies are identified and if so, further analysis will be undertaken. This could include comparing how students performed compared to other students, and how students performed on other examinations and assessments.
3. **Adjust** student marks if any questions are identified as providing anyone with an unfair advantage. This could mean invalidating questions and awarding all students who sat this exam a full mark if necessary.

I can confirm that we remain on track to release the 2024 results on 12 December as planned.

Information, including Q&As, is on our website, see: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au

Once again, I extend my sincere apologies for these errors and remain committed to ensuring that all students work is marked fairly during this process.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M Devlin', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr Marcia Devlin AM
Interim Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority