

Press release

Ministers Foley, Madigan and Byrne extend good wishes to all candidates beginning state examinations

From [Department of Education \(/en/organisation/departments-of-education/\)](/en/organisation/departments-of-education/)

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Minister for Education Norma Foley, Minister of State for Special Education and Inclusion Josepha Madigan and Minister of State for Sport and Physical Education Thomas Byrne have extended good luck and best wishes to all candidates across Ireland beginning state examinations today (Wednesday 7 June).

A total of 135,033 students combined will sit this year's Leaving Certificate, Leaving Certificate Applied and Junior Cycle examinations at over 800 post-primary schools and other venues across Ireland from today.

Minister Foley said:

“Today is a milestone day in the lives of 135,033 students across Ireland who have reached the culmination of their studies across Leaving Certificate, Leaving Certificate Applied and Junior Cycle programmes in post-primary schools and other centres across the country.

“To all candidates, I extend the very best of luck and good wishes as you begin your examinations. This is an opportunity to showcase the hard work and time you have dedicated to your studies and the wide range of knowledge you have acquired. You have worked tirelessly, even throughout unique challenges encountered through the course of your studies. The hard work is done and will stand to you over the days and weeks ahead.

“A deferred sitting of the Leaving Certificate examinations will again be held this year for eligible candidates who miss examinations in the main sitting as a result of serious illness, accident, injury or a close family bereavement. Full details have been issued in advance to schools and candidates.”

Minister Madigan said:

“To all examination candidates across Ireland, but particularly those with special educational needs, who are beginning their state examinations today, I would like to wish you all the very best of luck for the days and weeks ahead.

“The examinations are an opportunity to showcase the knowledge and skills you have acquired over the course of your studies. No matter how they go, however, there will be several different pathways available to your chosen career route in the future.”

Minister Byrne said:

“I want to offer the very best of luck to all candidates beginning their examinations today and in particular, offer my best wishes to those students who will be sitting the Physical Education exam. I hope that you will continue to take advantage of the insights, skills and good healthy habits offered by the study of Physical Education, into the future.

“Please remember that support is available to you if you feel you could benefit from it at any time over the days and weeks ahead. Don’t hesitate to speak with members of your school community, parents, siblings or friends, or with one of many support organisations, who are there to listen to you and help support you through this time.”

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