



# Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit

## *State Examinations Commission*

Leaving Certificate Examination, 2021

### **Politics and Society**

### **Citizenship Project Report (20% of total marks)**

### **Requirements and prescribed list of Citizenship Projects, 2021**

#### **General Information**

- Details of the arrangements for completion of the Citizenship Project Report for candidates in 2021 are presented herein.
- Assessment comprises of two elements: (1) a final written examination (80%), and (2) a Citizenship Project Report.
- Citizenship Project titles are common to Higher and Ordinary Level.
- All candidates (Higher and Ordinary) are required to complete and submit a report on a Citizenship Project title selected from the list of four titles listed overleaf.
- Candidates are required to submit the Citizenship Project Report in two formats:
  - A digital copy in WORD format, using the digital completion booklet provided by the State Examinations Commission, and saved to CD or USB flash drive, and
  - A printed hard copy of the same.
- The school authority should retain securely a digital copy of each candidates' Citizenship Project Report until such time as the candidate has received their final result (i.e. until after results have issued and all appeal processes have been completed).
- Reports will be retained securely in schools until the day of the written examination in June, when the examination centre superintendents will associate them with the relevant written scripts, for transmission to the State Examinations Commission.
- The date for submission to the class teacher of completed Reports will be **30 April 2021**.

#### **Information for Teachers**

- The Citizenship Project and Report must be completed under the supervision of the class teacher in accordance with the conditions set down by the State Examinations Commission.
- The Report presented for assessment must be the candidates' own individual work – authenticated by the candidate, the teacher and the school management authorities.

- Where a report cannot be authenticated as the candidate's own work, it will not be accepted for assessment. This will result in the forfeit of the marks associated with this examination component.
- Any incidence of suspected copying, improper assistance from another party, plagiarism or procurement of work prepared by another party will be thoroughly investigated.
- The Citizenship Project Report must be completed using the prescribed structure as set out in the digital completion booklet provided by the State Examinations Commission.
- Updated guidelines for completing the Citizenship Project and Report, issued by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment in October 2018, should be consulted and studied carefully in tandem with this document.

## Information for candidates

- You should download the **digital completion booklet** provided by the State Examinations Commission from the SEC website at [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)
- Your Citizenship Project Report must be completed using the digital completion booklet provided by the State Examinations Commission for this purpose.
- You must submit your Citizenship Project Report to the SEC in two formats:
  - On an individual **digital copy** comprising one file, named 'Citizenship Project Report, 2021 (examination number)'. This file should contain a digital copy of the completed Report in the provided WORD format and it should be saved for transmission on a CD or USB flash drive. No other files should be included on the CD/USB flash drive.
  - A **printed hard copy** of the same document.
- You must clearly identify all materials submitted for assessment with your examination number which will be issued to your school early in 2021.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that all electronic materials submitted are free from viruses, so that examiners can open the file for assessment.
- For protection during transit, you must place the printed hard copy, the CD or the dedicated envelope with the USB flash drive labelled with your examination number in the SEC candidate envelope and handed to your teacher for secure storage in the school pending return to the SEC for assessment. In this regard you should also write your number on the outside of the CD/USB with a permanent marker.
- The Citizenship Project Report submitted for assessment must be **your own individual work** and must be completed under the supervision of the class teacher.
- If you include material copied directly from the Internet or from other sources and do not identify it clearly as such, this will be regarded as plagiarism.
- You should keep notes of your individual work as part of the planning, research and execution of the project. For example, recordings of interviews, where undertaken, should also be retained or photographic evidence of work undertaken as part of the Project. You will need to retain such material until the appeals process has concluded. It should be made available to staff of the SEC where it is deemed necessary to establish the authenticity of a candidate's work.
- You are advised that marking will be based on what is presented in the printed hard copy and that neither audio-visual files nor links to such like material will be marked. Accordingly, only clear images such as pictures, graphics, tables, graphs etc. should be presented in the space provided at the end of the booklet.

- The Citizenship Project Report must be completed by **30 April 2021**. In addition to submitting a digital and hard copy of the Citizenship Project Report for assessment, a digital copy must be lodged with the school authority for retention until a final result has issued.

**State Examinations Commission**

**Athlone**

**January 2020**

## **Citizenship Project Titles for Candidates sitting the Leaving Certificate Examination in 2021**

**Each candidate is required to complete a Citizenship Project Report on one of the following titles:**

- 1.** Research the environmental impact of 'Fast Fashion'. Use your findings to raise awareness of this problem by holding an event to promote environmentally sustainable fashion.
  
- 2.** Investigate whether imposing an age restriction on smart phone ownership would be a protection or a denial of children's rights. Using your findings, make recommendations on this topic to the Minister for Children and to a relevant children's organisation.
  
- 3.** Examine the issues around granting the vote in general elections to Irish citizens living outside the State. Use your findings and informed opinions to lobby a politician of your choice.
  
- 4.** Research hate incidents and establish whether such incidents are an issue for young people in Ireland. Use your findings to inform a day in your school that celebrates diversity and inclusion.