



---

From: Mr Dario Pirotta  
Director, MATSEC Support Unit

Through: Mr Gaetano Bugeja  
Director, Department of Curriculum Management

To: College Principals  
Heads of School

Subject: MATSEC Communication 8 [2016-2017]

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016

---

The MATSEC Support Unit would like to bring the following to your attention:

### **1. Reading time during examinations**

As from May 2017 candidates will be allowed to take notes on the examination script during the reading time. This five minute period is now identified as 'Reading and Noting Time'.

### **2. SEC French and Italian Listening Comprehensions**

In an effort to ensure quality, MATSEC is striving towards having an increasing number of listening comprehensions carried out in recorded format. Currently the SEC Arabic, German and Spanish listening comprehensions are recorded. As from the May 2017 session, the SEC French and Italian listening comprehensions will also start to be carried out in recorded format.

### **3. French Spelling**

MATSEC would like to bring to the attention of all stakeholders involved that with respect to the link outlined below regarding French spelling, MATSEC will be instructing its examiners of SEC, Intermediate and Advanced Matriculation French to accept both the old and new French spelling until further notice.

<https://www.orthographe-recommandee.info/enseignement/regles.pdf>

### **4. VET Policy Document**

The VET policy guidelines were recently updated. Changes were made to the:



- i. Preamble in the Achievement section, mainly to subsections 4.1 to 4.13;
- ii. Assessment Policy:
  - (a) Scheme of Assessment section, mainly to subsection 3.5;
  - (b) Retention of Assignments section, mainly to subsection 12.1;
  - (c) Synoptic Assessment section, mainly to subsection 13.7.
- iii. Registration policy:
  - (a) Initial Registration section, mainly to subsections 2.2, 2.7, 2.8 and 2.9;
  - (b) Registration for Access Arrangements, mainly to subsection 5.4.

Kindly inform both teachers and students of these changes and update the student handbook accordingly.

## **5. VET Tracking Sheet**

Due to changes made to parts of the VET result tracking sheet, a two hour training seminar is being held to explain these changes in some detail. You are cordially invited to send your representative to this seminar taking place at the MATSEC Support Unit on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 9.00am. It is recommended that the representative is the same person who will be collating the marks of the VET subject teachers.

## **6. MATSEC Research on Typeset**

The MATSEC Support Unit is conducting research designed to provide information on whether different typesets can aid or hinder the readability of a text to a significant extent. The MATSEC Support Unit is inviting students aged 15 years or more to participate by filling in the attached questionnaire and returning it to the MATSEC Support Unit. This questionnaire can be filled in electronically and returned to the MATSEC Support Unit via e-mail ([matsec@um.edu.mt](mailto:matsec@um.edu.mt)) or filled in traditionally and returned to the MATSEC Support Unit by hand or by post (MATSEC Support Unit, University of Malta, Msida). You are kindly asked to bring this questionnaire to the attention of all Form 5 and post-secondary students in your school/college.