

Senior Cycle Business

Assessment Overview

This document outlines how students are assessed in Leaving Certificate Business and what this means for their final grade.

1. What is Assessment?

Assessment in senior cycle Business:

- Involves gathering and interpreting information about student learning
- Helps identify strengths and areas for improvement
- Supports learning through feedback and guidance
- Contributes to final certification

It is an ongoing process that helps students progress and achieve their potential.

2. Assessment for Certification

Students are assessed through **two components**:

A. Business Alive Investigative Study (40%)

- An **Additional Assessment Component (AAC)** completed during the course
- Based on a **common brief issued annually by the State Examinations Commission (SEC)**
- The brief is released in **Term 2 of 5th Year**
- Students work on their study over **up to 20 hours**
- Final report is **submitted in 6th Year** in a format set by the SEC

What students do:

- Develop a **research question** based on the brief
- Conduct research using a **variety of sources**
- Analyse and evaluate information from **different perspectives**
- Apply business knowledge to real-world contexts

- Present **findings, conclusions and/or recommendations**

Skills developed:

- Critical thinking and decision-making
- Research and analysis skills
- Communication and report writing
- Independent learning and project management

B. Written Examination (60%)

- Sat at the end of 6th Year
- Available at:
 - **Higher Level**
 - **Ordinary Level**
- Exam questions assess:
 - Knowledge and understanding
 - Application of business concepts
 - Ability to analyse and respond to real-world scenarios

4. Summary of Weighting

Component	Weighting
Business Alive Investigative Study	40%
Written Examination	60%

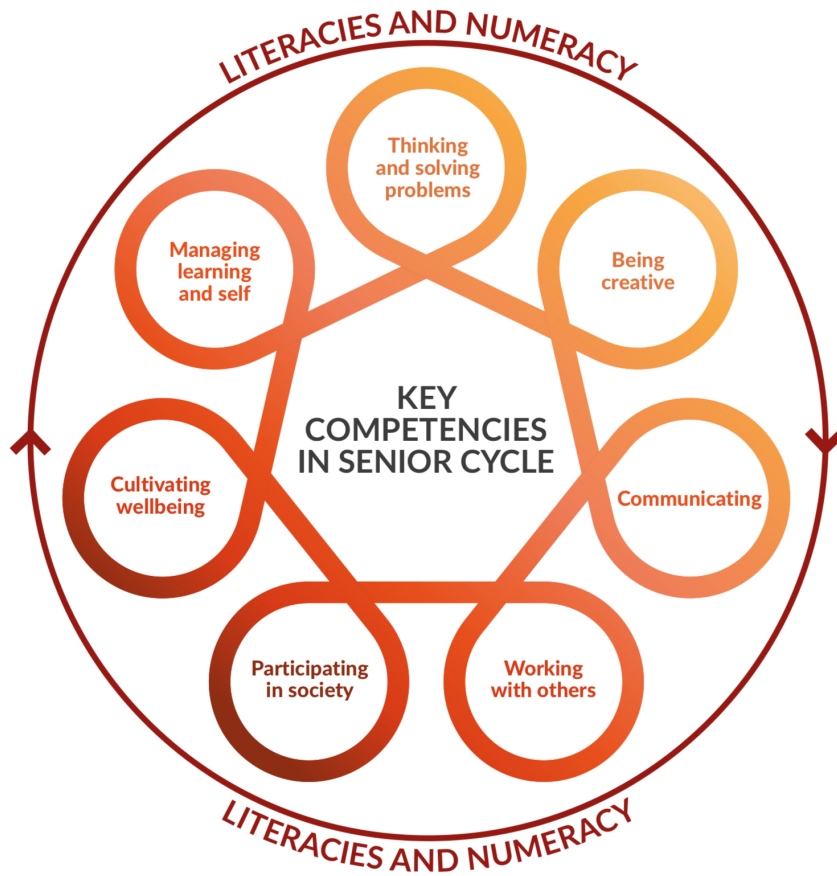


Figure 2: Key Competencies in Senior Cycle, supported by literacies and numeracy

Key competencies

Key competencies is an umbrella term which refers to the knowledge, skills, values and dispositions students develop in an integrated way during senior cycle.



Figure 1: The components of key competencies and their desired impact