



30<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Heads / Principals,

The MATSEC Examinations Board, at its meeting of the 7th September 2016, has expressed concern about candidates for the Matriculation Certificate who fail to qualify for the award because their choice of subjects does not conform to the regulations. In particular, the Board has encountered cases where candidates pass their examinations with high grades but do not qualify for the Certificate because they miss a pass in a Group 1, a Group 2 or a Group 3 subject. Other candidates just sit for the examination in five subjects rather than the six subjects required by the regulations and expect to be awarded the Certificate.

It would be in everybody's interest to ensure that all candidates for the Matriculation Certificate, including first year and second year students, are made aware of the regulations.

Moreover, in order to avoid unpleasant surprises at the end of their sixth form studies, it would be best if schools require their students to keep them informed of any changes they decide to make in their original choice of subjects. In this way, the school would be able to advise the students on whether the subjects they are studying would fulfill the requirements for the award of the Matriculation Certificate.

Thank you,

Frank Ventura  
Chairman  
MATSEC Board