



Examinations Council of Eswatini

P.O. Box 1394
Mbabane
Eswatini

Tel: (+268) 24178000

Fax: (+268) 24162862

Website: www.examsCouncil.org.sz

Vision: To be a Centre of Excellence in the provision of accessible and globally competitive assessments and qualifications
Mission Statement: To provide credible customer-centric assessment services through our efficient staff and stakeholders using relevant technologies

ECESWA UPDATE ON THE 2023 EGCSE MALPRACTICE

Ezulwini – The Examinations Council of Eswatini (ECESWA) wishes to provide the following update on the suspected malpractice involving a leak of some of the 2023 Eswatini General Certificate of Secondary Education (EGCSE) examination papers:

1. ECESWA launched an intensive investigation as soon as a tip-off was received on the suspected leak. A case was also opened with the Royal Eswatini Police which is also investigating the matter. While the probe is on-going, preliminary findings show that the magnitude and extent of the leakage was not contained or confined to a particular Centre or region in Eswatini. This means a number of Candidates country-wide somehow had access to or received contents of some question papers before the examination was written.
2. Our investigations revealed that the following components were affected by the malpractice:
 - Mathematics Paper 3 and 4
 - Religious Education Paper 1 and 2
 - Physical Science Paper 2 and 4
 - SiSwati Paper 3
3. To protect the credibility and integrity of our examination, ECESWA, in full consultation with our quality assurer, Cambridge Assessment International and the Ministry of Education and Training has, therefore, resolved that Candidates must re-write examinations involving all the aforementioned components. We consulted Cambridge International when making this decision and it fully supports this decision.
4. ECESWA currently has a legally binding contract with Cambridge Assessment International to ensure that all our Cambridge accredited examinations that will lead to the awarding of school leaving certificates always remain credible. Within the ambit of this contract, certain standards must be upheld and protocols maintained for Cambridge International to certify our qualifications.
5. The timetable of the resit papers will be shared with Candidates by Heads of Centre (Headteachers). The timetable will also be published on the ECESWA website and social media platforms.
6. Heads of Centre have already been engaged and informed of the resit of affected components. ECESWA appreciates the cooperation and professionalism displayed by the Heads of Centre in reaching a way forward in dealing with the malpractice.
7. ECESWA is also cognisant of the fact that some candidates did not have access to the leaked examination papers. However, to uphold and safeguard fairness in the examination, the resit then

becomes necessary.

8. We currently have overwhelming information at this stage that the leak was viral and may lead to losing our much-needed accreditation.
9. Against this background, ECESWA had to act fast to mitigate the situation and to ensure that the integrity of the EGCSE qualification is not compromised.
10. All candidates are urged to take heed to this important notice and to embrace the resolution that has been taken on the resit.
11. For any inquiries, Candidates and parents are free to contact ECESWA in this number: **2417 8000**

By Management

