

## Junior Cycle Programme Policy



This policy is rooted in the Mission Statement and aims of the school, fostering partnership between parents, teachers and the community in the interest of children’s learning. All members of the school community will be treated with respect and compassion irrespective of social, racial, sexual or ethnic background.



### Rationale:

To outline clearly procedures in relation to the following main areas of assessment of the New Junior Cycle Programme which are carried out within the school.

1. CBA (Classroom based assessment)
2. SLARS (Subject Learning and Assessment Review)
3. Assessment Task
4. To inform parents of developments Appendix 1&2

The School shall at all times ensure the integrity of the New Junior Cycle Programme is protected and that the guidelines as set out by the Department of Education and Skills, the NCCA and the JCT are adhered to while also ensuring that local arrangements provide students and staff with a positive learning and teaching experience.

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Students in ....</b>	<b>JCPA in ....</b>	<b>No of subjects</b>
Phase 1	English	Sept 2014 & 15	Autumn 2017	1
Phase 2	English, Science & Business Studies	Sept 2016	Autumn 2019	3
Phase 3	English, Science ,Business Studies Irish, Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), Art	Sept 2017	Autumn 2020	7
Phase 4	English, Science ,Business Studies Irish, MFL, Art ,Maths, Home Ec, History, Music & Geography (Geog)	Sept 2018	Autumn 2021	12
Phase 5	English, Science ,Business Studies Irish, MFL, Art ,Math’s, Home Ec, History, Music, Geog, Technology subjects, Religious Education, Jewish Studies & Classics	Sept 2019	Autumn 2022	All

**Class Room Based Assessments (CBA 's):**

- Students undertake two Classroom-Based Assessments in each subject facilitated by their teacher - one in second year and one in third year.
- Classroom-Based Assessments in all subjects are specified at a common level.
- These assessments can include oral tasks, written work of different types, practical or designing and making tasks, artistic performances, scientific experiments, projects or other suitable tasks, depending on the subject in question see [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie).
- Details of the timetable along with assessment guidelines for each subject are available on [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie).
- The detail available to the school so far in relation to CBA's is outlined below.
- The School will identify a timeframe for the completion of the CBA to ensure that students are not overloaded at any one particular time of the year (Appendix 3).
- The school will be conscious that over assessment does not occur.
- Students will be given every opportunity to complete their CBA with the support of their teacher and management. However in some cases it is accepted that some students may not complete their CBA.

*Visual Art, Music, Home Economics and the Technology subjects involve practical work, a performance, or the creation of an artefact which is currently marked by the SEC. These subjects will continue to have an external SEC assessment of the practical work, performance or artefact, together with the related accompanying written evidence, as appropriate. In these subjects the second CBA will be linked to the forthcoming practical work, performance or artefact. The formative assessment related to the production of these artefacts and performances will be reported upon to the student and parent/guardian by the school as for all other second Classroom-Based Assessments.*

## CBA Breakdown per subject

Subject	CBA1	CBA2	Assessment Task
English	Oracy (3 weeks)	Collection of texts (ongoing)	Yes
Science	Extended Experimental Investigation (EEI) (4 weeks)	Science in Society Investigation (SSI) (4 weeks)	Yes
Business	Business in Action (4 weeks)	Presentation (4 weeks)	Yes
Irish	Language portfolio (ongoing)	Oracy (3 weeks)	Yes
Art	Project (4 months)	Project (4 months)	N/A
Maths	Report	Report	Yes
History	Display (3 weeks)	Written Record (3 weeks)	Yes
Geography	Response to a media source (3 weeks)	Geographical investigation (3 weeks)	Yes
Home Economics	Creative textiles (project)	Food Literacy Brief	N/A
MFL	Oracy (3 weeks)	Portfolio (ongoing)	Yes
Music	Composition Portfolio (ongoing)	Programme note (3 weeks)	N/A
Wood	<h1>To be confirmed</h1>		
DCG			
Engineering			

## **Subject Learning and Assessment Review (SLARS)**

- The School will identify a timeframe for the completion of the SLAR while allowing each department some autonomy.
- The completion of CBAs and SLAR meetings will remain as close together as possible.
- In all instances, when recording and storing students' work, teachers and schools are required to act in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), in force since 25 May 2018, and child protection requirements.
- When assessing the level of student achievement in a Classroom-Based Assessment against the learning outcomes, teachers will use 'on-balance' judgement in relation to the *Features of Quality* ( Each CBA will have its own set of Features of Quality which will be issued by department of education)
- Where there is a single teacher of a subject in the school, that teacher can be facilitated to participate in a SLAR meeting with another school.
- SLAR meetings play a key role in developing a collegial professional culture and building up expertise about the judgements that teachers make about student achievement.
- SLAR coordinator will rotate among subject teachers. The SLAR coordinator will be teaching the year group ( a list of SLAR coordinators shall be kept by Junior Cycle co ordinator)
- Time and Venue of SLAR will be communicated clearly to all subject teachers, JCT co ordinator ( Sara Kelly), Principal and Deputy Principals

### **After each SLAR the SLAR co ordaintor will:**

- Collect a list of CBA results from each teacher and give them to the JCT co –ordiantor
- Submit a Report to the Principal (Appendix 4)
- All recordings will be deleted unless permission has been given to individual teachers to maintain a sampler of work

***Teaches will report outcomes to students and parents /guardians. This may be done in a number of ways – journal/class room discussion/official school report.***

### **Assessment Task**

- The written Assessment Task for each subject will be specified by the NCCA in conjunction with the SEC and published by the NCCA [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie)
- The Assessment Task will relate to the learning outcomes of the second Classroom-Based Assessment and will be based on activities to be completed by students as part of their study of the particular subject specification.
- The Assessment Task will be returned to the SEC for marking and will be marked as part of the Final Examination. Marks for the Assessment Task in each subject will be incorporated into the calculation of the grade for that subject by the SEC.
- Every student must have the opportunity to undertake the Assessment Task in line with the arrangements set out by the SEC in order to be eligible for the full Final Examination marks.
- The value to be assigned to the Assessment Task is included in the assessment guidelines for each subject. Detailed guidance in relation to the arrangements for the completion of the Assessment

Task in individual subjects will be issued by the State Examinations Commission as the independent body responsible for the administration of the Final Examinations.

- Students will be given every opportunity to complete their Assessment task with the support of their teacher and management. However in some cases it is accepted that some students may not complete their Assessment task.
- Parents and Students will be informed of this procedure

## Reporting:

- ▶ The results of CBA's will be given in class/school report and will appear on the JCPA issued after the completion of the Junior Cert examination
- ▶ Results of terminal examination issued as normal by DOES in September- the assessment task is 10% of this result but is not reported individually
- ▶ The JCPA will be issued by the school and will contain :
  1. CBA results
  2. Terminal examination results
  3. Other areas of learning