



MCS JUNIOR SUBJECT OPTIONS 2023

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JUNIOR CYCLE REFORM



	SUBJECT	Students in...	JCPA in...	Number of subjects
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	Sept 2018	Autumn 2021	12
Phase 5	English, Science, Business Studies, Irish, MFL, Art, Maths, Home Ec., History, Music, Geography, Technology subjects, Religious Education, Jewish Studies & Classics	Sept 2019	Autumn 2022	All

MANDATORY CORE SUBJECTS MUST DO IN 2ND YEAR

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- MFL *French / Spanish*
- Science
- History



- CSPE
- SPHE
- PE
- Religion
- Computer Studies



2ND YEAR SUBJECT OPTIONS



- Geography
- Business
- Metalwork
- Woodwork

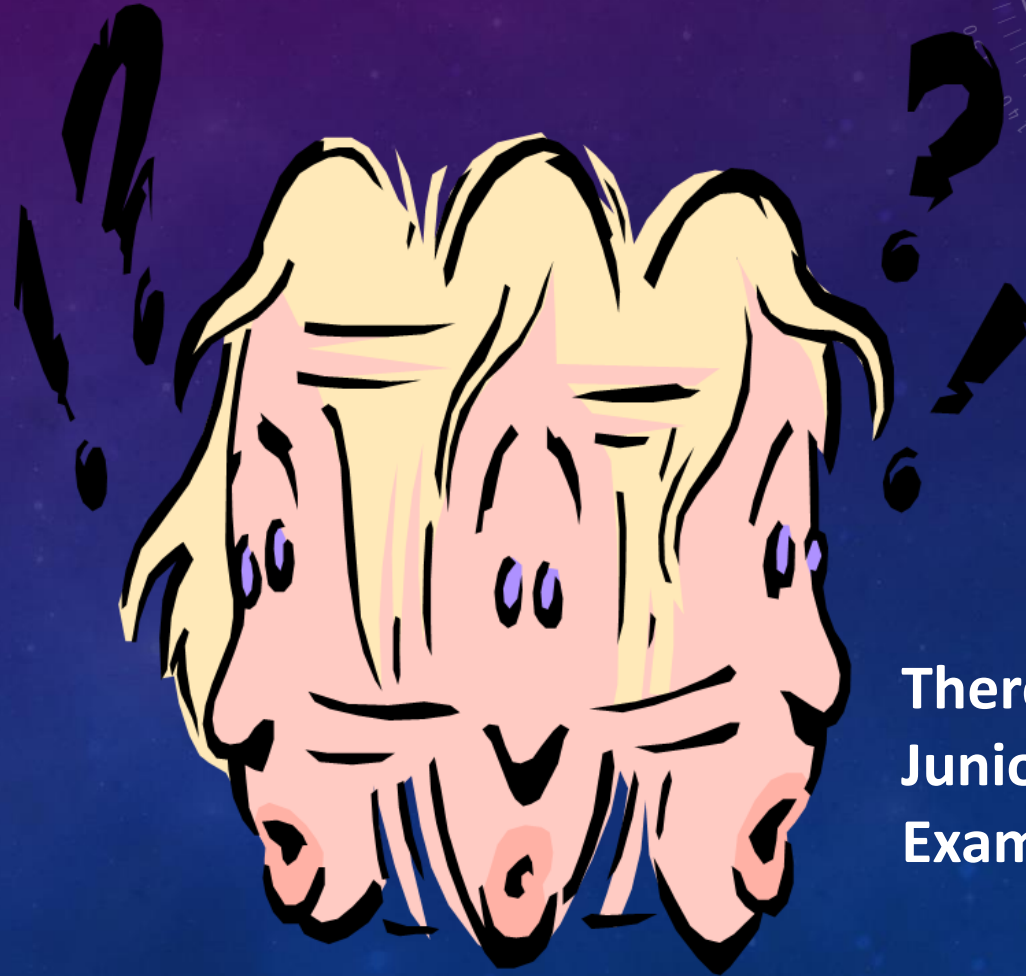


- Home Economics
- Technical Graphics
- Art
- Music

CHOICES: HOW MANY DO I HAVE?



- Students may choose **2** subject options in 2nd year at MCS



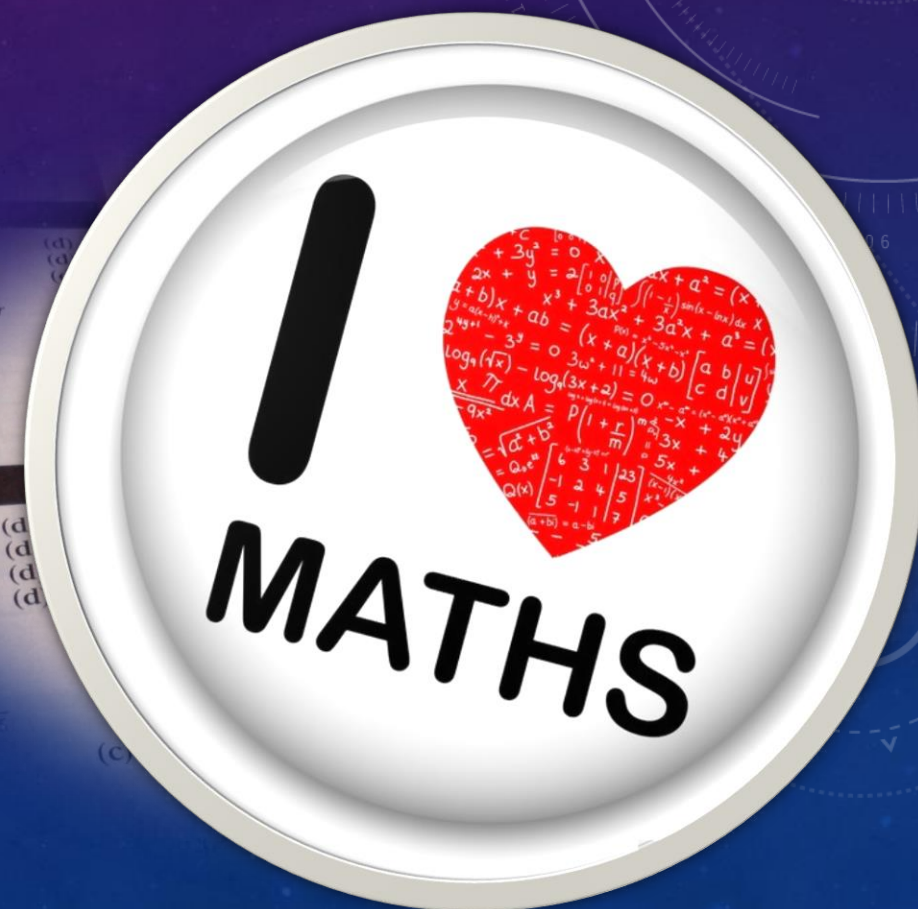
There will be eight Junior Certificate Exams.



IN SELECTING OPTIONS

Consider the following...

- **Interest** in the subject
- **Aptitude/ability** in the subject
- **Variety** for your Junior Cycle Exam and for the future-senior cycle and beyond



ADVICE – WHAT TO DO...

Students need to:

- Discuss their options with **parents/guardians**
- Seek **advice** if needed
- Look at interests **and** abilities
- Pick subjects that will allow them to **do their best** in the Junior Cert exams
- Think long-term, **not** short-term
- Ask **questions**



ADVICE – WHAT NOT TO DO...



- Do **NOT** choose subjects simply because your friend is doing them
- Do **NOT** choose subjects based on who is teaching them...
your interests and aptitudes are most important in the long-term
- Students are advised **NOT** to make these decisions on their own



MANDATORY / CORE JUNIOR CERT SUBJECTS

*These are the 'must do'
subjects for Junior Cert*

- Irish
- English
- Maths
- Foreign Language



SCIENCE ALSO A CORE SUBJECT



- Science is **necessary** and a **core** subject
- Basic knowledge of biology, chemistry and physics in Junior Cycle offers preparation for Senior Cycle when these subjects are chosen individually
- Students may also study **Agricultural Science, Computer Science** and **Applied Maths** in senior cycle

JUNIOR CERT SCIENCE

CHEMISTRY

BIOLOGY

PHYSICS

AGRICULTURAL
SCIENCE

IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCE



- Most MCS students do at least **one** science subject for Leaving Certificate with many selecting **two**



PRACTICAL SUBJECT CHOICES

- Metalwork
- Woodwork
- Art
- Music
- Technical Graphics
- Home Economics



PRACTICAL SUBJECT CHOICES



- Practical subjects combine **theory** with **practical** work and Junior Cycle Assessments inspect one's knowledge of theory with a **practical project** and/or **assessment**
- Practical subjects add **variety** to students' subject choices at junior *and* senior cycles



BUSINESS AND HUMANITIES

- **Business** at Junior Cycle leads to **Accounting, Business** and **LCVP** (Link Modules) at Senior Cycle
- **Humanities** (Geography) is also offered at senior cycle and is assessed in a terminal exam and a field study worth 20%.



WELLBEING IN JUNIOR CYCLE



- Wellbeing is a **new area** of learning in Junior Cycle
- Wellbeing: this is the provision of guidance within **several subject areas** that contribute to young people feeling confident, happy, healthy, and connected at school



WELLBEING IN JUNIOR CYCLE



- Through the Wellbeing programme students will be learning the **knowledge, attitudes** and **skills** to enable them to protect and promote their own wellbeing and that of others



WELLBEING IN JUNIOR CYCLE

- The pillars of the Junior Cycle Wellbeing programme include...

Physical Education (PE)

Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE)

Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE)

- Religion
- Guidance Education
- Other subjects, short courses and learning units also contribute to the Wellbeing programme



CONCLUSION

- **Variety is the spice of life...**
- Junior cycle subjects should have variety
- Languages, Science, Humanities, Practical and Business – and related subjects if possible

