



# New Junior Cycle Information for Parents

Parents Association A.G.M.

8<sup>th</sup> October 2018



# What stays the same?

- Students experience a broad and balanced curriculum
  - Standards and expectations remain high
  - Subjects continue to play an important role in the Junior Cycle
  - The Department of Education and Skills will monitor quality across all schools
  - The State Examinations Commission will continue to be involved in assessment for certification
- 



# What is Changing?

- A **more engaging learning experience** for your daughter – students become better learners and develop a love for learning
- Updated subject **specifications** – subjects introduced on a phased basis
- Changes to **assessment** - assessment procedures to support learning
- New **grading system**
- Quality reporting back to parents and students
- An emphasis on Key Skills and preparation for life
- A sound preparation for learning at Senior Cycle and beyond
- **“Wellbeing”** – central theme



JUNIOR CYCLE  
**WELLBEING  
GUIDELINES**

# Wellbeing – Key Points

- ▶ “Student Wellbeing is present when students realise **their abilities**, take **care** of their physical wellbeing, can **cope** with normal stresses of life, and have a **sense of purpose and belonging** to a wider community.
- ▶ **300** hours, rising to **400** hours
- ▶ Includes **PE, SPHE, CSPE** and **Guidance**
- ▶ **Other Pastoral Care Culture & Practices** already established in the school incl. Health Promoting Schools
- ▶ **Every teacher** has a role

# New Junior Cycle (NJC)

- 8 Key Skills to be taught by all teachers in all subjects and Short Courses
- Allows students to
  - Be more active engaged with learning
  - Take greater ownership of their learning
  - Have a critical engagement with digital technology
  - Be encouraged to problem solve and think critically and creatively



# Current 3rd Year Students 2018/2019

## • Still in the 'old' Junior Cert

- Maths
- Irish
- History
- Geography
- Modern Languages
- Home Economics
- Art
- Music
- Religious Education
- CSPE

## New Junior Cycle Certification in 2019

- English
- Science
- Business Studies

# Current 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Students 2018/2019

- **Still in the 'old' Junior Cert**

- Maths
- Home Economics
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Religious Education

- **New Junior Cycle certification in 2020**

- English
- Science
- Business Studies
- Irish
- Modern Languages
- Art



# Current 1<sup>st</sup> Year Students 2018/2019

- **Still in the 'old' Junior Cert**
- Religious Education

- **New Junior Cycle Certification 2021**
- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Modern Languages
- History
- Geography
- Science
- Business Studies
- Art
- Home Economics
- Music

# Subject Levels:

- ▶ English, Irish and Maths specified at Higher and Ordinary levels
- ▶ All other subjects specified at a Common Level
- ▶ Final Exam: Duration of 2 hours or less

Maths, English & Irish will have HL and OL. All other subjects and Short Courses examined at Common Level

# Changes to Assessment

- Subject State Examination = 90%
- Assessment Task = 10% (in school)
- Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs)(in school)
- Other Learning Experiences

All of these will feature on your daughter's  
**JCPA: Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement**

STATE CERTIFIED FINAL EXAMINATIONS		Classroom-Based Assessments - English	
Examination number: 45595		Oral Communication	In line with expectations
English (O) <sup>(1)</sup>	Distinction	Collection of Texts	Yet to meet expectations
Irish (O) <sup>(1)</sup>	A	Classroom-Based Assessments - Short Courses	
Mathematics (H) <sup>(1)</sup>	B	Coding	In line with expectations
History (H) <sup>(1)</sup>	C	Physical Education	Yet to meet expectations
Geography (H) <sup>(1)</sup>	D	Artistic Performance	In line with expectations
French (O) <sup>(1)</sup>	E	philosophy	Yet to meet expectations
Business Studies (H) <sup>(1)</sup>	NC		
Science (H) <sup>(1)</sup>	NC		
C.S.P.E. (C) <sup>(1)</sup>	B		

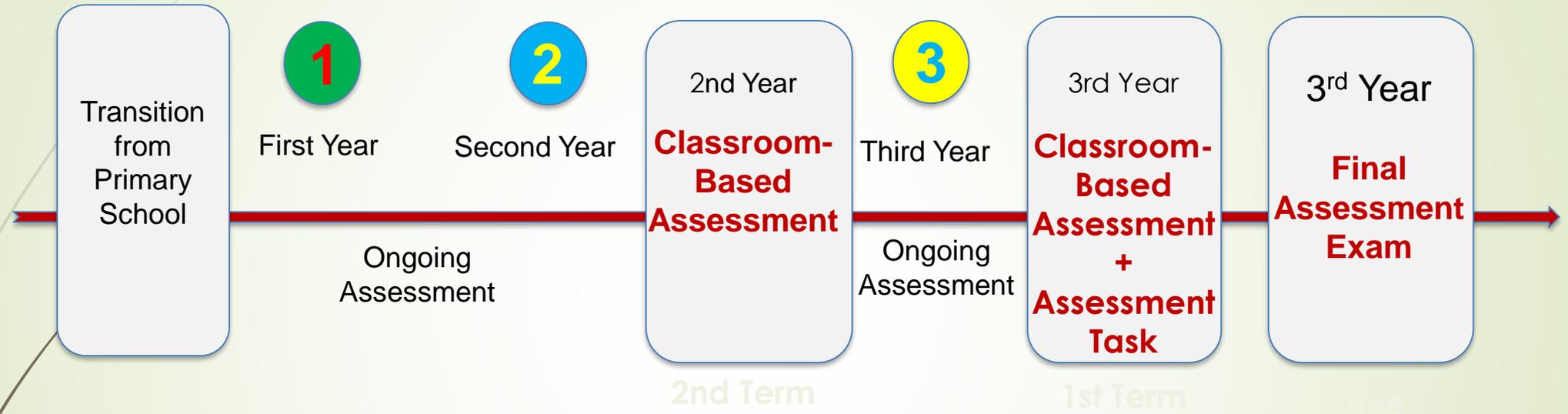
**Other Areas of Learning**

The school has flexibility to report on other learning experiences/events that the student has participated in outside the formal timetabled curriculum such as:

- Engagement with co-curricular or extra-curricular activities such as a science fair, school's sporting activities or debating.
- Specific learning opportunities that do not form part of subjects or short courses, i.e. leadership training; activities relating to guidance; membership of school clubs or societies; membership of school's student council.
- Engagements that form part of the formal timetabled curriculum but not reported on in other sections of the JCPA i.e. engagement with a school's own religious education programme or with elements of the PE, SPHE curriculum and CAPS.

Principal: Year Head: Roll Number: 60000

# One Subject's Journey



Ongoing assessment that supports student learning



# Your daughter will be involved in....

- Reviewing feedback and identifying what they have done well
- Identifying what to do next
- Setting and achieving personal goals
- Redrafting and correcting their own work
- Giving feedback to others
- Considering examples of good work and identifying how they can improve on their own work

## Classroom-Based Assessment (CBA)

Classroom-Based Assessments will provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their understanding and skills in a way which would not be possible in a formal examination.

The tasks will cover a broad range of activities including oral presentations, written work of different types, practical or designing and making activities, artistic performances, scientific experiments, projects or other suitable tasks.

A particular purpose of the Classroom-Based Assessments will be to facilitate developmental feedback to students.

# How do Classroom-Based Assessments (CBAs) take place?

- Details of the Classroom-Based Assessment are set out in Assessment Guidelines of each Subject and Short Course
- Teachers will choose Classroom-Based Assessment tasks as per the Assessment Guidelines
- Features of quality National Standards are described for each Classroom-Based Assessment



# Ensuring Quality with marking CBA'S

- Schools will organise “**Subject Learning and Assessment Review**” (SLAR) meetings
- Teachers will compare their assessment of students' work and ensure a common approach across the school that align to a national standard



## Assessment Task

Worth 10% of final grade in a subject.

The Assessment Task will be completed in class under the supervision of the teacher and will be sent to the SEC for marking along with the script for that subject in the state-certified examination.

It may require the student to demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge and skills developed during the second Classroom-Based Assessment.

*Framework for Junior Cycle 2015, p. 38*

# New Grading System

## State Exam

## Classroom Based Assessment

Junior Certificate			Junior Cycle	
Level	Percentage	Grade Descriptor	Percentage	Grade Descriptor
Higher, Ordinary, Foundation/ Ard, Gnath, Bonn	≥ 85 to 100	A	≥ 90 to 100	Distinction
	≥ 70 and < 85	B	≥ 75 and < 90	Higher Merit
	≥ 55 and < 70	C	≥ 55 and < 75	Merit
	≥ 40 and < 55	D	≥ 40 and < 55	Achieved
	≥ 25 and < 40	E	≥ 20 and < 40	Partially Achieved
	≥ 10 and < 25	F	≥ 0 and < 20	Not Graded (NG)
	≥ 0 and < 10	NG		

- Exceptional
- Above expectations
- In line with expectations
- Yet to meet expectations

Grades in CBAs are awarded based on Features of Quality and following a SLAR meeting. There are no corresponding marks.



# Reporting

- Reporting will continue as it currently does in first, second and third-year with reports issued throughout the year.
- Progress may be shown in the form of Descriptors as used by the SEC

# The Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement will report on

- SEC examinations of subjects (examined in June)
- Classroom-Based Assessments (in term time, assessed by subject teachers)
- Other Areas of Learning (extra-curricular and co-curricular activities)



John Kelly

DOB: 21 June 1952

### STATE CERTIFIED FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Examination number: 456985

English (O) <sup>(2)</sup> Distinction

Irish (O) <sup>(2)</sup> A

Mathematics (H) <sup>(2)</sup> B

History (H) <sup>(2,3,4,5,6)</sup> C

Geography (H) <sup>(2)</sup> D

French (O) <sup>(2)</sup> E

Business Studies (H) <sup>(2)</sup> NG

Science (H) <sup>(2)</sup> NG

C.S.P.E. (C) <sup>(2)</sup> B

### Classroom-Based Assessments - English

Oral Communication In line with expectations

Collection of Texts Yet to meet expectations

### Classroom-Based Assessments - Short Courses

Coding In line with expectations

Physical Education Yet to meet expectations

Artistic Performance In line with expectations

philosophy Yet to meet expectations

### Other Areas of Learning ?

The school has flexibility to report on other learning experiences/events that the student has participated in outside the formal timetabled curriculum such as;

- Engagement with co-curricular or extra-curricular activities such as a science fair, school's sporting activities or debating.
- Specific learning opportunities that do not form part of subjects or short courses, i.e; leadership training; activities relating to guidance; membership of school clubs or societies; membership of school's student council.
- Engagements that form part of the formal timetabled curriculum but not reported on in other sections of the JCPA i.e; engagement with a school's own religious education programme or with elements of the PE, SPHE curriculum and CSPE.

 STATE CERTIFIED  
FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Examination number: 458985

English (O)

Distinction

Irish (O) <sup>(2)</sup>

A

Mathematics (H)

B

History (H)

C

Geography (H)

D

French (O) <sup>(2)</sup>

C

Business Studies (H)

B

Science (H)

B

C.S.P.E. (C)

A

# Subjects

Classroom-Based Assessments - English

Oral Communication

Above expectations

Collection of Texts

In line with expectations

# Other Areas of Learning

The school has flexibility to report on other learning experiences/events that the student has participated in outside the formal timetabled curriculum such as:

- ▶ Engagement with co-curricular or extra-curricular activities such as school sporting activities, debating, fundraising, school musical events
- ▶ Specific learning opportunities that do not form part of subjects e.g. leadership training, activities related to guidance, membership of school clubs or societies, membership of school student council
- ▶ Engagements that form part of the formal timetabled curriculum but not reported on in other sections of the JCPA e.g. school's programme of Religion, P.E., S.P.H.E. and C.S.P.E.



# Samples of Other Areas of Learning

- ▶ **Basketball:** I participated in physical activity confidently and competently. I developed the key skills of staying well and working with others.
- ▶ **Student Council:** I valued what it means to be an active citizen, with rights and responsibilities in local and wider contexts. I developed communication skills and the ability to manage information and thinking.
- ▶ **Young Scientist Competition:** I brought an idea from conception to realisation. I valued the role and contribution of science and technology to society, and their personal, social and global importance. I developed creativity, enquiry and critical thinking skills.



# Sources of Information





THANK YOU