

Junior Cycle Examinations

I hope this message finds you and your family well!

As you are aware Education Minister Joe McHugh has cancelled Junior Cert State Examinations in June and said they will be replaced with school-based assessments, set by the State Examinations Commission (SEC), in the autumn. Considering this announcement and to assist our 3rd Year students to maintain a focus on their schoolwork, we had decided to conduct in-house summer assessments for our 3rd Year students.

Unfortunately, there has been very little communication from the State Examinations Commission. In this vacuum, we have been deliberating on this issue for a while. Mr Dunne with others has been looking at various options on how best to support our 3rd Year students during this extraordinary time.

In the interest of the health and well-being of our students we have decided to conduct in-house Junior Cycle Assessments in place of school-based Junior Cycle Assessments in September. We deem it very unfair that students would be expected to remain focused on their Junior Cycle Assessments over the Summer. We believe in the professionalism of our teachers to conduct these assessments as they do with all other assessment of their students with a fair and balance approach.

While everyone is trying their best at Remote Teaching & Learning, it is not a substitute for the experience of learning in the classroom. We think that it is only fair that our students and teachers would be able to return to this model at the earliest opportunity, without the burden of examinations at the beginning of the school year. While we will be focussing on all our students with varied approaches to reflect their needs, we feel that our incoming 3rd and 6th Years will require a significant focus upon our return to our school building. Commencing the new school year with exams for students would not serve any value to our school community.

Our planned Junior Cycle Assessments will begin on Wednesday 13th May continuing until Thursday 28th May. We propose to have one assessment most days. The schedule for the subjects will follow as close as possible that of the June timetable (attached). The times will be different. A full timetable will follow shortly. We will plan to support students with additional learning needs. We will make every effort to facilitate all students to complete these assessments. We will shortly provide information supporting our approach.

We have learned through the media this morning that an announcement in relation to the Junior Cycle Assessments by the relevant State Bodies is due in the coming days. However, this is now our definitive approach.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pádraig Nolan". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned on a light grey rectangular background.



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

JUNIOR CYCLE EXAMINATION

TIMETABLE 2020

Each candidate should note carefully the dates and hours, as fixed on this official timetable, for the examinations in the subjects in which he/she intends to present himself/herself. The Commission will not be responsible for any errors which may occur in the reproduction of this timetable by outside agencies. Candidates are required to be in attendance at least half an hour before the examination begins in the subject in which they first present themselves. There are significant changes to the scheduling of Junior Cycle examinations this year. The start time of all Junior cycle afternoon examinations is 1.30p.m.

Junior Cycle candidates must indicate their final choice of subject level not later than 13 March 2020.		
JUNE	SUBJECT	TIME
	H = Higher Level O = Ordinary Level F = Foundation Level C = Common Level	
WEDNESDAY 3	English - H & O	9.30 – 11.30
	Religious Education - H & O	1.30 – 3.30
THURSDAY 4	Irish T1 - H & O (incl aural)	9.30 – 11.30
	Irish T2 - H & O (incl aural)	9.30 – 11.30
	History - O	1.30 – 3.00
	History - H	1.30 – 4.00
FRIDAY 5	Geography - H & O	9.30 – 11.30
	Environmental and Social Studies - H & O	9.30 – 11.30
	Mathematics - F	1.30 – 3.30
	Mathematics, Paper 1 - O	1.30 – 3.30
	Mathematics, Paper 1 - H	1.30 – 4.00
MONDAY 8	Mathematics, Paper 2 - O	9.30 – 11.30
	Mathematics, Paper 2 - H	9.30 – 12.00
	Science - Common Level	1.30 – 3.30
TUESDAY 9	Business Studies - Common Level	9.30 – 11.30
	Technology - H & O	1.30 – 3.30
	Italian (incl aural) - Common Level	1.30 – 3.30
	Ancient Greek - H & O	1.30 – 4.00
WEDNESDAY 10	French (incl aural) - Common Level	9.30 – 11.30
	Home Economics - O	1.30 – 3.30
	Home Economics - H	1.30 – 4.00
THURSDAY 11	Spanish (incl aural) - Common Level	9.30 – 11.30
	Latin - H & O	1.30 – 4.00
	Classical Studies - H & O	1.30 – 4.00
FRIDAY 12	Materials Technology (Wood) - H & O	9.30 – 11.30
	German (incl aural) - Common Level	1.30 – 3.30
MONDAY 15	Metalwork (Materials & Technology) - O	9.30 – 11.00
	Metalwork (Materials & Technology) - H	9.30 – 11.30
	Music (Listening, Composing & General Study) - H & O	1.30 – 3.30
	Jewish Studies - H & O	1.30 – 4.00
TUESDAY 16	Technical Graphics - O	9.30 – 12.00
	Technical Graphics - H	9.30 – 12.30

The start date for the 2021 Examinations will be Wednesday 9th June.

