



An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí
JuniorCYCLE
for teachers

Junior Cycle at Loreto Fermoy

*Information Overview for Parents of Junior
Cycle students 2015-2020 & beyond*





"Education is the most
powerful weapon which
you can use to change
the world."

- Nelson Mandela

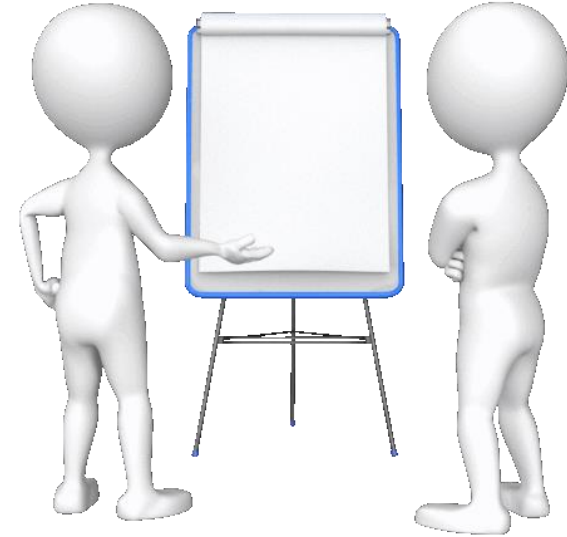




Overview

- Our students
- Structure of the Junior Cycle
- Subjects, Short Courses and Other Learning Experiences
- Assessment and Reporting
- Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement

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Our Students

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Literacy
and
numeracy
for learning
and life

Connecting
primary and
secondary

Settling in
and making
progress in
first year

A purposeful
second year

Ongoing
assessment to
support
learning





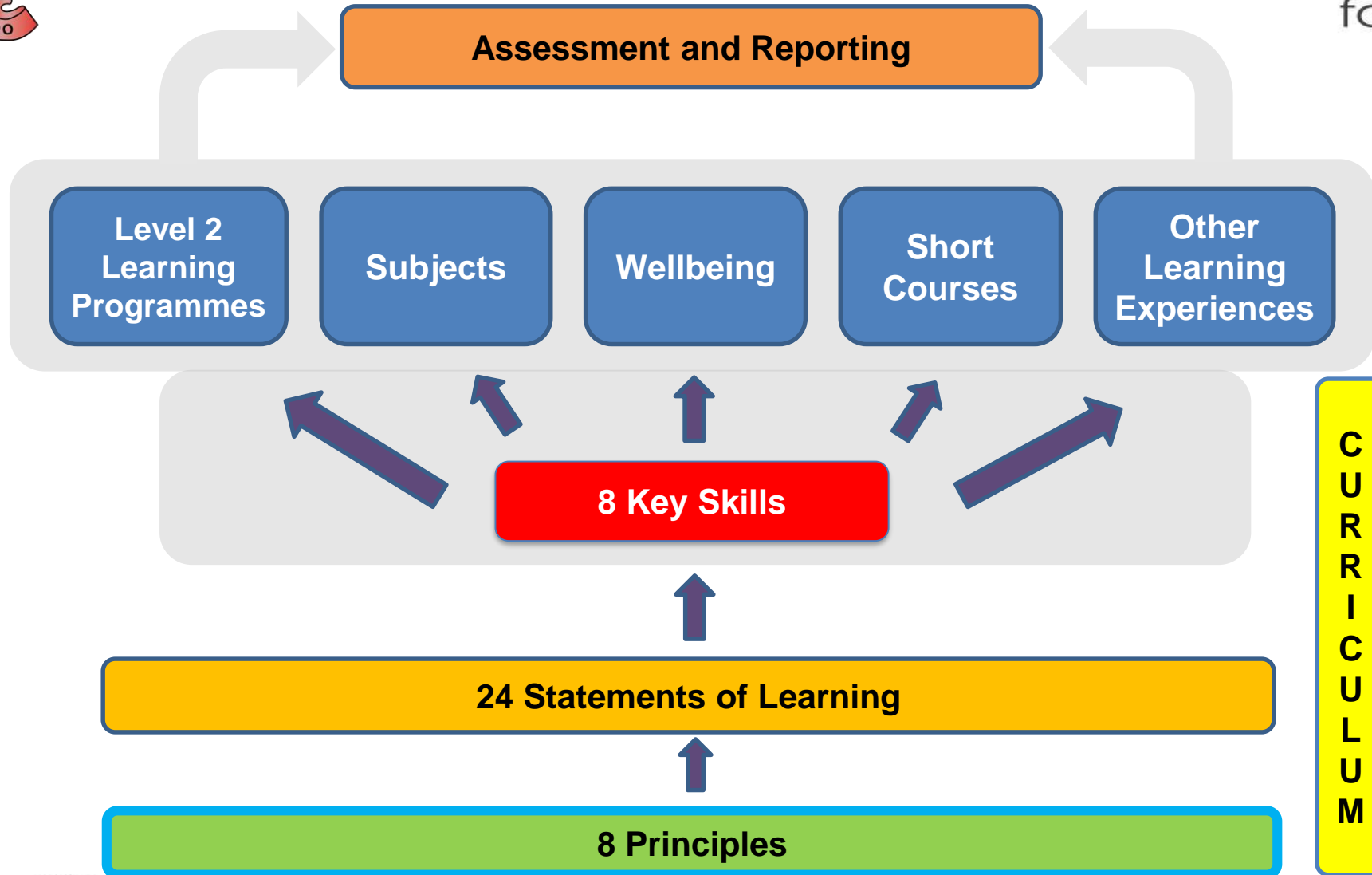
What is the purpose of education in Junior Cycle?

- Help students become better learners and develop a love of learning
- To build student capacity for independent, self-directed learning
- Provide a solid foundation for further study
- To develop skills for learning and life
- To support learning through improved reporting to both students and parents



Overview of the Junior Cycle

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When did/will your daughter begin 1st Year?

Sept 2015

New course:
English

Sept 2016

New courses :
English
Science
Business Studies

Sept 2017

New courses :
English
Science
Business Studies
Irish
Visual Art
German & French

Short Courses: Philosophy
& PE

Wellbeing: ICT, Choir,
SPHE, CSPE, PE &
Guidance

Sept 2018

New courses :
English
Science
Business Studies
Irish
Visual Art
German & French
Home Economics
History
Music
Geography
Maths

Short Courses: Philosophy & PE

Wellbeing: ICT, Choir, SPHE, CSPE,
PE & Guidance



What stays the same?

- Students experience a broad and balanced curriculum
- Educational standards and expectations remain high for all students
- 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 improving?

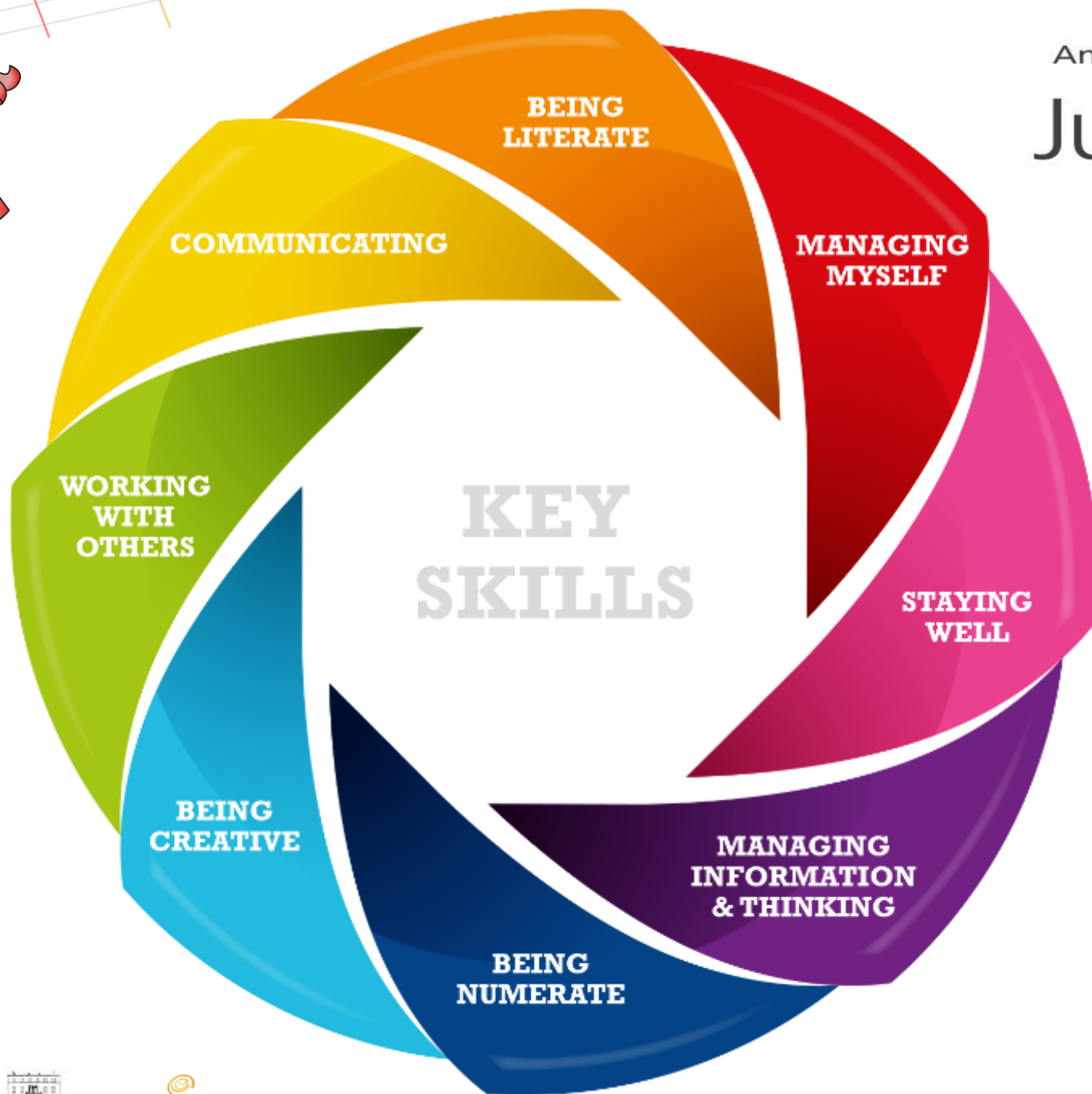
- A better and a more engaging learning experience for your child
- Updated subject specifications
- Quality reporting back to parents and students
- Varied assessment to support learning
- An emphasis on Key Skills and preparation for life as well as knowledge acquisition
- A sound preparation for learning at Senior Cycle and beyond



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Music
Art, Craft and Design

Mathematics
Science
Home Economics
Business Studies

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History
Geography

Technology
Visual Art

English
German
Irish
French

24 Statements
of Learning

‘Exam’
Subjects
At Loreto

Key Skills

Loreto students study 9 subjects & 2 short courses

L2LP blended programme available (please contact SEN co-ordinator for details if required)

NCCA approved curriculum specifications available at curriculumonline.ie



Physical Education

24 Statements
of Learning

Short
Courses
At Loreto

Key Skills

Philosophy

NCCA approved curriculum specifications available at curriculumonline.ie

Wellbeing



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300+ hours delivery on timetable of 1st years from September 2017-June 2020.

- Physical Education
- Social, Personal and Health Education (including Relationship and Sexuality Education)
- Civic, Social and Political Education
- Guidance (including Friends for Life resilience programme – WHO approved)
- ICT (Microsoft 365 account & usage, internet safety & coding/programming)
- Choir & Performance

400 hours of Wellbeing will be available to students commencing at Loreto from September 2019 onwards (as per DES circulars). The increased hours will be delivered through school & externally supported programmes, events & activities.



Religious Education
Spirituality,
Ethics & Morality

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Co-curricular activities
Choir
Quizzes
Competitions

Visiting Speakers
Debating

24 Statements
of Learning

Other Areas of
Learning (OALs)

Key Skills

Guidance and
Counselling

Pastoral Care
Class Prefect

Citizenship
Student Council
Cairdeas groups

Sports
Freshers' Club

An overview of all Loreto's other areas of learning
(OALs) available in our school is accessible via our
Parent/ Student calendar on our website
www.loretofermoy.ie



‘The purpose of assessment at this stage of education is to support learning’.



A changing assessment culture

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- Assessment in support of learning
- Assessment focused on offering effective feedback relating to both skills & knowledge development
- Greater variety of assessment activity - “fit for purpose” and relevant to students
- Teachers talking to teachers about assessment
- Building capacity, knowledge and confidence in assessment, in schools



Your child will be involved in:

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- 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



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Junior Cycle at Loreto Fermoy

Information for Parents on Assessment Procedures & Reporting



Assessment of : Subjects

Exams will be set, held and marked by the State Examinations Commission in June of third year.

- English, Irish and Maths specified at Higher and Ordinary levels
- All other subjects specified at a common level
- Duration of 2 hours or less
- Results issued by State Examinations Commission in September after 3rd year
- Results also recorded on Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement issued by school after 3rd year



Assessment: Subjects

Classroom-Based Assessments

- 2 Classroom-Based Assessments in each subjectover the course of second and third year.
- An Assessment Task in third year
- CBA reported to parents and students by the school
- Variety of assessment methods used
- Focus here is skills development
- General descriptors given at four different levels
- Outcome reported on Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) after 3rd year.





Assessment: Short Courses

- School based
- Schools report on a maximum of 2 Classroom-Based Assessments
- School reports to parents and students & outcome reported on Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement after 3rd year.



Assessment: Level 2 Learning Programmes – relevant only to students with mild to moderate learning difficulties.

- School based
- Assessment of Priority Learning Units (PLUs) will be on the basis of 'Achieved' or 'Yet to be achieved'
- All curricular components achieved will appear on the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA)
- Other areas of learning will also be noted on JCPA.



How do Classroom-Based Assessments take place?

- Details of the Classroom-Based Assessment are set out in each subject and short course specification
- Teachers will choose Classroom-Based Assessment activities as per the subject / short course specification
- The NCCA will provide guidance on assessing these Classroom-Based Assessments
- Features of quality are described for each Classroom-Based Assessment
- There is no appeal process for descriptors awarded in CBA assessments



Ensuring Quality

- Schools will organise “Subject Learning and Assessment Review” meetings
- Teachers will compare their assessment of students’ work and ensure a common approach across the school
- Teachers and schools will be supported by a team of assessment associates working with Junior Cycle for Teachers
- CPD will be provided for teachers to ensure that the Classroom-Based Assessments (CBAs) align to a national standard



Reporting on Junior Cycle:

- Junior Cycle will build on reporting currently carried out at Primary level
- Reporting will happen in first, second and third-year as has always been the case at Loreto Fermoy
- First-year reporting will focus on student learning and self-development
- Second and third-year reporting will include the school-based components (CBAs) that will form part of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement
- The NCCA are in the process of developing templates for providing these reports to students and parents



Steps towards the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement

- Classroom-Based Assessments of subjects (and Short Courses if offered) will be completed in second and third-year
- Students will sit written SEC prepared examinations in June of third-year
- Schools will sign off on Other Learning Achievements with students over the course of second and third-year (or in third year & TY in the case of students who complete JC in June 2017/2018)
- Schools will report on student achievement in the area of Wellbeing from 2020 onwards.



The Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement will report on:

- SEC examination results of subjects
- Classroom-Based Assessments including subjects and short courses
- Other areas of learning
- Wellbeing (from 2020 onwards)
- Priority Learning Units PLUs (L2LP students only)



John Kelly

DOB: 21 June 2001

STATE CERTIFIED FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Examination number: 456985

English (O) Distinction

Irish (O) ⁽²⁾ A

Mathematics (H) B

History (H) C

Geography (H) D

French (O) ⁽²⁾ C

Business Studies (H) B

Science (H) B

C.S.P.E. (C) A

Classroom-Based Assessments - English

Oral Communication Above expectations

Collection of Texts In line with expectations

Classroom-Based Assessments - Short Courses

Coding In line with expectations

Physical Education Above expectations

Artistic Performance Exceptional

Philosophy 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 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.

Principal

Ms Mary Ryan



Year Head

MR Jack Quigley



Roll Number: 60090Q

Anytown Secondary School
Anytown, Co. Anytown
V94HXW5



Anytown Secondary School



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