

Supporting History teachers to support young Irish historians

September 2018: History is made in Post-Primary Junior Cycle History Classrooms



The Junior Cycle History team would like to welcome you to the first issue of our newsletter which aims to support Junior Cycle History teachers with the implementation of the new History specification. We hope to release a newsletter regularly to reflect the questions and opportunities that the implementation may present to teachers. We had the opportunity to meet with over 1,500 Junior Cycle History teachers from November 2017 to March 2018. We will be holding over 55 workshops with another 1,600 teachers registered to attend between the 10th of September and the 18th of October 2018 in Education Centers all over Ireland.

All the materials from our workshop, *The Nature of Junior Cycle History*, are available online on our website www.jct.ie/history

Junior Cycle History

Click on Image to view specification



From Left to right: Angela Hanratty, Frieda Crehan, Fintan O'Mahony, Denise Nolan, Áine Mc Alpine & Donal Evoy

Keep in touch!

3 ways to keep up to date with the JCT History Team are:

1. Visit our webpage—www.jct.ie/history
2. Follow us on twitter -@JctHistory
3. Join our mailing list—

Join the Mailing List

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History Departmental Planning

At this time of the year, teachers are working together in their subject departments where they are planning how to bring the specification to life in their school and their classroom with their first year students. On the 1st of March 2018, we held a webinar providing advice about possible approaches to support your planning for Junior Cycle History. The webinar can be found on our website under Elective CPD. We also have a planning section on our website where we have outlined three possible approaches to departmental planning.



History Teachers' Association of Ireland Cumann Múinteoirí Staire na hÉireann



HTAI Conference
Radisson Hotel , Athlone Save the Date:

Friday 5th of October to Sunday 6th of October 2018

To book and see conference programme go to www.htai.ie

The Junior Cycle History team is looking forward to supporting History teachers at the HTAI annual conference .

Meet the team

Junior Cycle History Full time Team 18-19

Frieda Crehan



Seconded from Malahide Community School, Co Dublin. Increasing young people's understanding of current affairs through a strong knowledge of history is one of my main hopes for the new specification. The inclusion of historical empathy is a very welcome addition. *Learning Outcome 1.1: Students should be able to develop a sense of historical empathy by viewing people, issues and events encountered in their study of the past in their historical context.*

Frieda.crehan@jct.ie

Donal Evoy



Seconded from Coláiste Chraobh Abhann, Kilcoole, Co Wicklow. The recognition that the specification gives to the Great Famine is a most welcome part of the new course, and working with teachers in relation to exploring sources around this topic is something I'm very much looking forward to. *Learning Outcome 2.7: Students should be able to Investigate the causes, course and consequences, nationally and internationally, of the Great Famine, and examine the significance of the Irish Diaspora.*

Donal.evoy@jct.ie

Angela Hanratty



Seconded from Castleblayney College, Co Monaghan. As someone who has been heavily involved with the *My Adopted Soldier* project, I am delighted to see that the new specification acknowledges the contribution of Irish soldiers to WWI. I feel this will provide a vast range of opportunities for History students to discover an aspect of our heritage that has been neglected in the past. *Learning Outcome 2.8: Students should be able to describe the impact of war on the lives of Irish people, referring to either World*

Angela.hanratty@jct.ie



Seconded from St. Oliver PP, Oldcastle, Co Meath. I am looking forward to examining the significance of the Irish Diaspora *from Learning Outcome 2.7: Students should be able to investigate the causes, course and consequences, nationally and internationally, of the Great Famine, and examine the significance of the Irish Diaspora.* Although we are a nation of approximately 5 million, more than 70 million people across the globe claim some degree of Irish ancestry. The Irish Diaspora is a huge part of the History of Ireland and is a very welcome part of the new specification.

Denise.nolan@jct.ie



I have been teaching History and English in Scoil Mhuire in Carrick on Suir since 1993 and loved every minute of it. Meeting History teachers every day is a great experience though - they'll always tell you what they think! My choice from the specification would have to be the inclusion of Learning Outcome 2.9: Students should be able to explain how the experience of women in Irish society changed during the twentieth century. Working in a girls' school and having three daughters, women's history is a very welcome addition for me.

Fintan.omahony@jct.ie



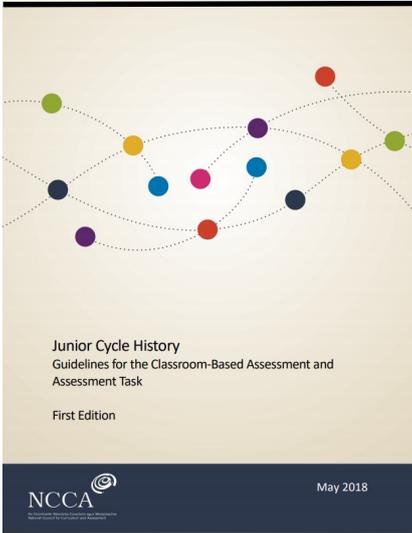
Seconded from St Louis Community School, Kiltimagh, Co Mayo. One of the learning outcomes I am particularly looking forward to exploring is *Learning Outcome 2:11 Students should be able to make a connections between local, personal or family history and wider national and/ or international personalities, issues and events.* Coming from just outside Westport, I think Major John MacBride would make for a very interesting investigation for local students. There are various monuments erected in Westport to acknowledge Major MacBride's contribution to local, national and international events and of course if one wanted to arrange an interview with the extended MacBride family, some continue to live in Westport

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An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí

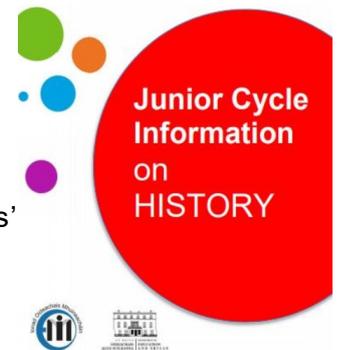
Assessment Guidelines Published

In May 2018, the NCCA Published the first edition of the Junior Cycle History Guidelines for the Classroom-Based Assessments and Assessment Task. These guidelines are a great support for teachers in implementing the dual approach to assessment as outlined in the History specification. The team is currently developing a workshop to support teachers in engaging with both the specification and the Assessment Guidelines which will be delivered in the November to April cluster events.

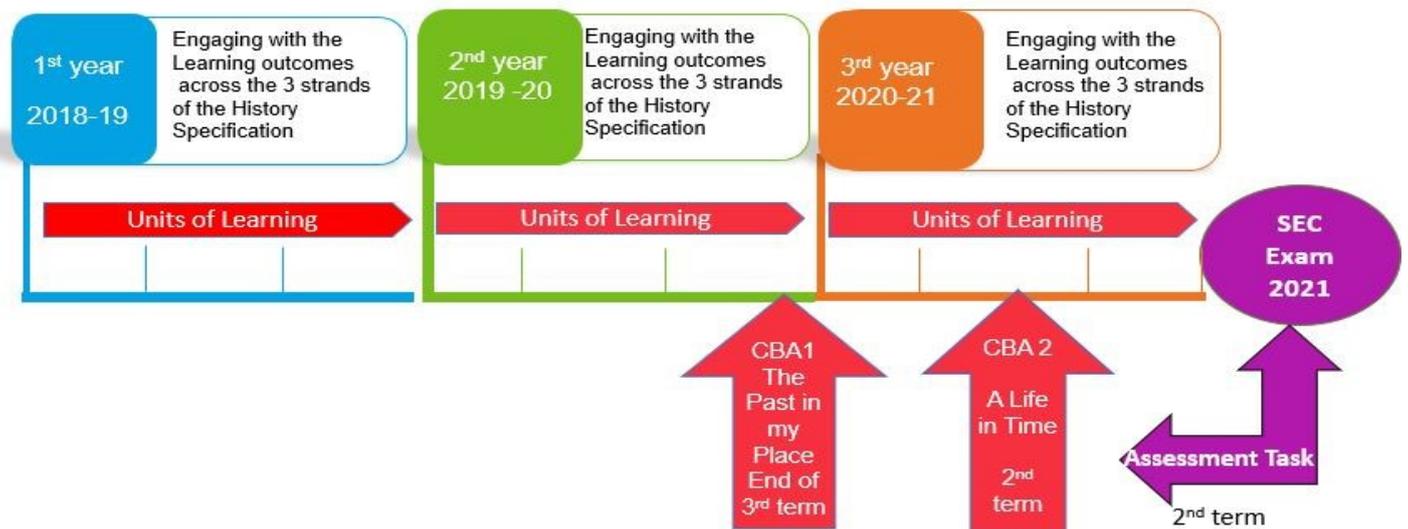


School Open nights - Information leaflet on History

We have published an information leaflet about Junior Cycle History on our website. This leaflet may be useful to share with parents (and teachers of other subjects) to give an overview of the changes in the course. It details the students' learning journey, the three strands of the new specification and assessment changes.



The class of 2018 Junior Cycle History Learning Journey



The first cohort of students that will study the new Junior Cycle History specification will follow the learning journey above. The students will complete their first Classroom-Based Assessment, *The Past in My Place*, during the third term of second year in 2020. The students will complete their second Classroom-Based Assessment, *A Life in Time*, and the Assessment Task in the second term of third year in 2021. They will sit the first History Junior Cycle 2 hour common level State Examinations Commission (SEC) exam paper in June 2021.

In 2021, the History students' learning journey will be recorded on their Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) documenting the results of the two CBAs and the combined result of the Assessment Task and the (SEC) final exam.