

Welcome to the 21st edition of JCToday.

This edition is filled with information that will bring you right up to date with all things junior cycle.

As *JCToday* is published, we are still in the midst of the pandemic that has impacted on so many aspects of our professional and personal lives. In response to this environment, our provision of junior cycle continuing professional development has moved online for the immediate future. Some of these supports bring a new wave of junior cycle CPD resources including repurposed supports that have been viewed and downloaded by many teachers. Our CPD is informed by the needs of teachers and school leaders and undergoes a significant quality assurance process. We are confident that you will benefit both personally and professionally from these and future supports in the weeks and months ahead.

As always, we welcome feedback at info@jct.ie.

Implementing Supports for 2020/21

JCT is currently planning for our programme of CPD delivery for 2020/2021. To ensure email communication between JCT and classroom teachers all schools should now update classroom teachers details, including school email addresses for all teachers on www.jctregistration.ie22/51

Amended Guidelines for CBA 1 Business in Action for 2020/21 (2nd Year Students)

In light of Covid-19 related challenges in facilitating the group-based CBA1, the NCCA have published amended CBA1 Guidelines for this year. This new individually-assessed 'Business in Action' CBA1 project will see students produce a report over the course of 3 weeks.





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Points of interest

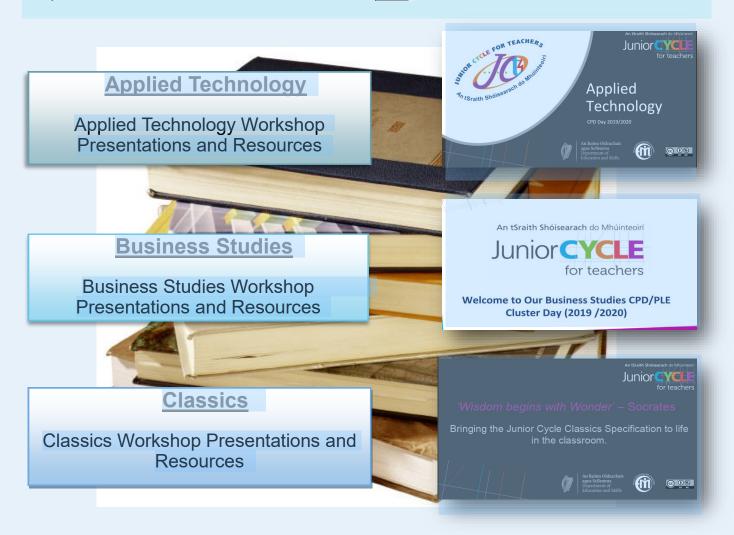
- Second Teaching Subject Support.
- · Whole School Support.
- Teaching Strategies
- Supporting physically distanced classroom.
- Upcoming Webinars

Teachers who teach a second subject and who were unable to attend a workshop in that subject during the 2019/2020 school-year, can now access the relevant workshop presentations and materials online, via www.jct.ie.

These repurposed workshops were made available in early September and have been viewed and downloaded by many teachers and will continue to be of support to teachers of Junior Cycle into the future.

Due to the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic, these online workshops replace the traditional face-to-face CPD that was planned to take place in Education Centres at this time. Our subject teams have worked to make the content as manageable as possible in the online environment and we invite you to engage with them. This section provides a collated list of the workshops. Click on the links below to access individual workshops and presentations.

A summary of all Second Teaching Subject Supports, including descriptions of content, and printable / downloadable resources, can be found here.









Chief Examiners Report

The State Examinations
Commission (SEC) has
recently published Junior
Cycle Examination 2019
Chief Examiner's Reports
for Science and Business
Studies.

Click on the images below to view.



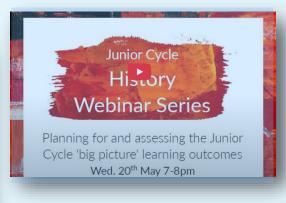
Report on early enactment of Junior Cycle Business Studies and Science published by the NCCA can be accessed here.

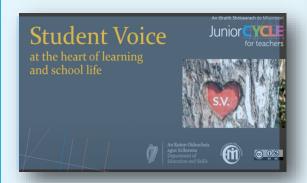


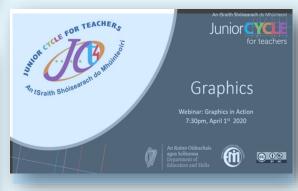
Webinars 2019/20

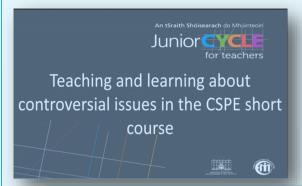
Junior Cycle for Teachers hosted a series of elective webinars from March 23rd - April 30th to support teachers across the junior cycle curriculum. Two webinars took place each evening. Webinar recordings and all materials are available here.

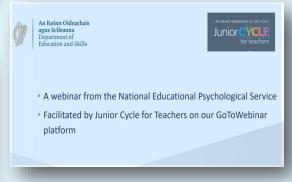












Places across our upcoming elective ONLINE LEARNING EVENTS are filling up, some are already full. Register here to avoid disappointment.

A wide range of workshops are available. Recordings will be uploaded to www.jct.ie. soon after each event. Go to page 18 for more details.

Podcasts

Junior Cycle Talks is a podcast that explores a variety of issues, themes and topics that may be of interest to all teachers, students, parents and school leaders.

All Junior Cycle Podcasts can be found here.





POW! *Portfolio of Writing* project which took place in the 2019—2020 academic year, resulting in the publication of Visions and Revisions: *A Collection of New Writing by Junior Cycle Teachers*. This is one of many Podcasts where contributors discuss their literary journey.

Aoibhinn is an Assistant Professor in the UCD School of Mathematics & Statistics where she is director of the BSc. Science, Mathematics & Education programmes in the UCD College of Science. Her research investigates issues in Mathematics Education, with particular focus on teacher education and the development of teacher pedagogical content knowledge.



ODCAST EPISODE

POW: Visions And Revisions, Meet the Teachers.

Junior Cycle Talks



In this Podcast episode, user experience designer Aoife O'Dwyer talks to us about her journey into the design industry, her process in solving problems and prototyping design solutions.

Galway based poet, novelist, playwright and teacher, Elaine Feeney, shares her approaches to supporting students in developing their writing skills and the importance of feedback and encouragement.

Chair of the Irish Wood Turners' Guild, Willie Creighton, talks about his life and times, his passion for his craft and where he finds his inspiration.



Junior Cycle Talks

Arts in Junior Cycle

TO INSPIRE, SUPPORT AND EMPOWER JUNIOR CYCLE TEACHERS
TO ENGAGE WITH AND BE ENRICHED BY THE ARTS AND LEARNING



The Arts in Junior Cycle team got off to a flying start in September and have been busy working with partners to develop creative and innovative professional learning experiences for the online space. *Visual Thinking Strategies* workshops, developed in partnership with The LAB Gallery, Dublin City Council, PDST and NCCA are ongoing. We have launched a new writing initiative with Poetry Ireland called *Style & Purpose: Developing your Voice*, and have other exciting projects coming soon with partners including: Camara Ireland, the Design & Craft Council Ireland and Dolmen Design.

A range of online elective opportunities are taking place as part of our Autumn programme, designed to provide teachers with space and time to engage with an extensive range of art forms and experiences. These include:

Exploring Possibilities: a webinar introduction to the Junior Cycle short course in Artistic Performance: Engaging with the Arts – 19th October

Listen Now Again: An exploration of Seamus Heaney – 9th November In collaboration with the National Library of Ireland, participants explore the importance of drafting and editing in Heaney's writing process.

Exploring Graphic Novels and Cartooning – 18th November

Look at the power of graphic novels with cartoonist and graphic novelist Luke Healy Rap and Beats – 30th November

Learn the basics of how to compose rap and song lyrics and create your own hip hop beats with Garry McCarthy/GMC Beats.

Energise, Engage, Create: Drama in the Physically Distanced Classroom –

20th Oct and 1st December

Developed in collaboration with Youth Theatre Ireland, this workshop explores creative drama strategies designed to support and inspire teachers to develop more confidence and skills in their own creativity in the physically distanced classroom.

Follow in my Footsteps - 7th December

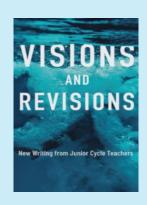
Explore how Foley sound effects and footsteps are created for film, television and video games with Foley artist Caoimhe Doyle. Change the way you think about the big screen!





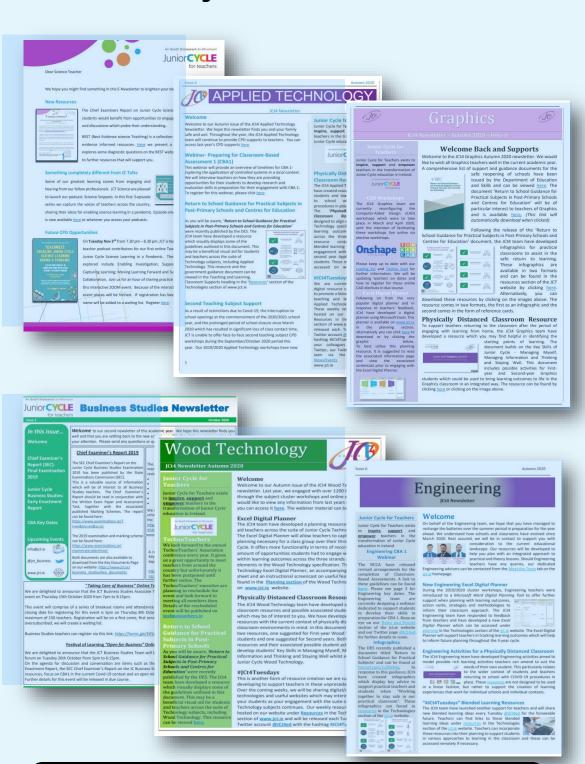
Arts in Junior Cycle in partnership with Fighting Words is pleased to announce the launch of Visions and Revisions: A Collection of New Writing by Junior Cycle teachers. The collection is the culmination of the POW! - Portfolio of Writing project 2019-2020 which took place Nov 2019 to June 2020.

A partner programme between Fighting Words and Arts in Junior Cycle, the teachers attended a series of workshops at Fighting Words to draft, redraft, edit and publish this collection of work. This creative programme offers teachers the time and space to explore and consider possibilities around the creation of portfolios across all subjects at Junior Cycle.



Now, more than ever, we need to find our creativity, raise our voices to each other and share our experience.

Subject Newsletters



Check out subject news/updates on www.jct.ie to stay up to date with current developments, resources and planning tools, all of which are updated regularly.

Science Supports

'Reconnecting Students with Learning' is a short video to consider how to assist our students in moving forward with their learning. Click on the image below.



'Working like a scientist' is a new resource. It looks to support students in being safe when carrying out science practical work, wherever that may occur. Click here for details.

Home Economics Supports

The JCT Home Economics
Team have collaborated
with the Competition and
Consumer Protection
Commission (CCPC) to
develop an online
interactive Unit of
Learning, Me and My
Money.



CBA Completion Dates

NCCA revised arrangements for the completion of **CBAs**, including key dates for both 2nd and 3rd Years can be found by clicking on image below.



Assessment Arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2021 can be found by

clicking on the image below.



Whole School Supports

JCT continues to provide Whole School CPD support subject to Public Health Advice and supporting the needs of schools as appropriate. The Whole School team are currently contacting schools supporting their needs as appropriate and outlining CPD supports for the months ahead. These current supports consist of online elective CPD supports including:

- Supporting Student Learning in the Wellbeing programme during this unique time.
- Supporting Student Learning through the use of Digital Portfolios.
- Supporting Student Learning: 'Learning to Learn'.

These online supports will allow for discussion and reflection to explore current key considerations and opportunities for schools when planning for student learning. We will continue to respond to the needs of schools and further elective supports will be available over the coming weeks.



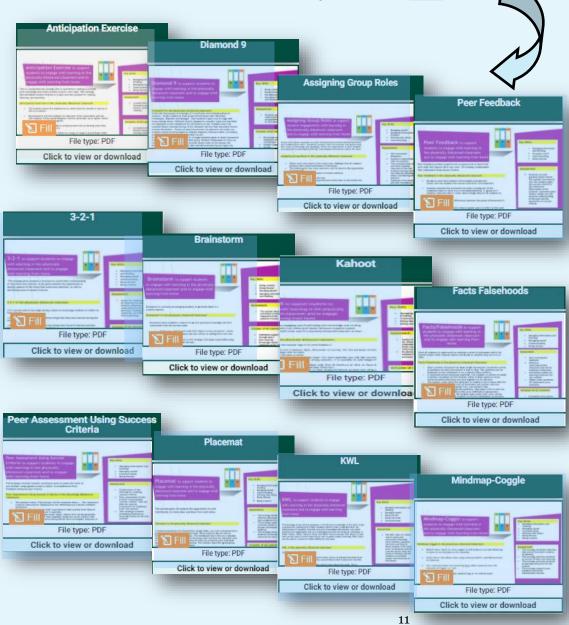
Our whole school team have engaged in direct contact/provided support to 728 schools over recent weeks.

We wish to thank all those school leaders and teachers, in particular those allocated the management resource hours who have engaged to date and we look forward to reaching out to all schools over coming days.

Teaching Strategies

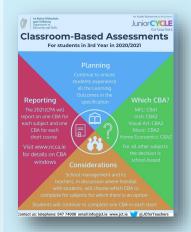
JCT recognises the importance of teaching and learning strategies to activate student's engagement and participation with learning. Using these strategies, however, is particularly challenging during the current Covid-19 pandemic.

The JCT Whole-School Team have repurposed 24 of the existing teaching and learning strategies for students and teachers in the physically distanced classroom and for students engaging with online learning from home. They are available for download in PDF format. This will support all students in the progression of their learning in the unusual circumstances that present this year. Examples are provided below with the full list of downloadable strategies available here.



CBAs for 3rd Year students

Classroom-based Assessments, for students in 3rd Year in 2020/2021 'some considerations', click on the image to enlarge.



SPHE Supports

A clear overview of Hobfoll's 5 principles, as well as examples of how teachers can promote a sense of safety, calm, connectedness, self & community efficacy, and hope in their work with students, can be viewed from this NCCA/JCT hosted webinar. Click on the image to view.



Leadership



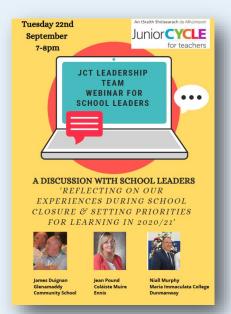
Schools, no matter what medium, schools can be hubs of response and recovery, a place to support emotional recovery and promote social togetherness – and this is as important as achievement gains'

(John Hattie, 7 April 2020)

2020).

The JCT leadership team continue to support school leaders in the implementation of junior cycle in their schools and we are adapting our work and supports to ensure that we are meeting the needs of school leaders on the ground in the midst of these challenging and uncertain circumstances. In September and October, the leadership team hosted three webinars specifically aimed at the immediate needs of school leaders.

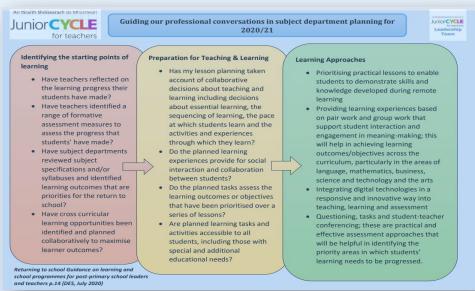
All recordings of webinars and accompanying resources can be accessed here. We wish to acknowledge the great work that school leaders do in all post-primary schools around the country and of course all teachers and ancillary staff in schools who worked so hard to ensure students returned to school and can remain in school despite the current circumstances.



Reflecting on our experiences during school closure & setting priorities for learning in 2020-21' - A Discussion with School Leaders

This webinar explored the experiences of three school leaders, one from each of the school sectors, during school closure. It set out how each of the school leaders were supporting their schools in the return to learning and how they were setting priorities for the school year ahead. Some specific leadership for learning actions for school leaders were explored during this discussion, using the guidance from the *Returning to school Guidance on learning and school programmes for post-primary school leaders and teachers (DES, July*

Please contact the leadership team, Fiona.obrien@jct.ie and Helen.costello@jct.ie if you require any support with implementing aspects of Junior Cycle in your school.

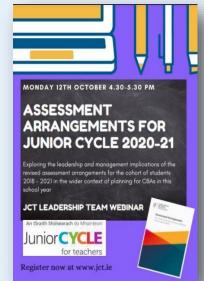


Leadership

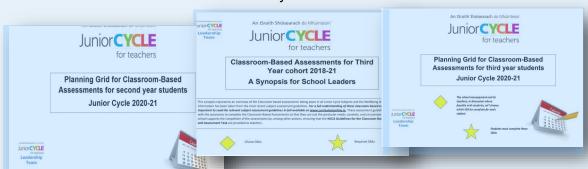


Assessment Arrangements for Junior Cycle 2020-21

This webinar explored the leadership and management implications of the revised assessment arrangements for the cohort of students 2018-2021 in the wider context of planning for CBAs in this school year. The guidance documents used were the Assessments arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate examinations 2021 (DES, 2020) and the NCCA published Revised assessment arrangement for the completion of classroom-based assessment for the cohort of students 2018-2021.

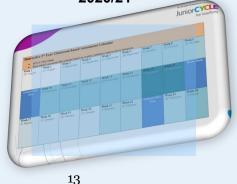


Details addressed in the webinar included the changes to junior certificate and junior cycle examinations for 3rd years, where relevant and adjustments to the requirements for 3rd year students regarding their classroom-based assessments. We also discussed the considerations for school leaders in the planning of the 2nd year CBAs. The present second years are the first cohort of junior cycle students who have classroom-based assessments in all their junior cycle subjects. We also introduced five new resources to help planning and scheduling of the classroom-based assessments for both 2nd and 3rd year students.



Interactive 2nd Year CBA Timetable 2020/21 | Compared to the control of the cont

Interactive 3rd Year CBA Timetable 2020/21



An overview of 2nd Teaching Subject CPD

This is a very useful synopsis document for school leaders who are planning their teacher's engagement with 2nd teaching subject CPD. The document lists the following for each junior cycle subject CPD; description of content, resources to print and download to engage in the CPD, mode of transmission and approximate time required to engage with the CPD.



The leadership section of www.jct.ie website contains many useful resources and templates that can be used for planning and discussion purposes. To keep up to date with developments, why not join us on twitter @JctLeadership for regular updates and announcements?



Leadership

The third webinar will take place on Thursday 22nd October entitled *Collaboration* in the physically distanced classroom – considerations for school leaders



This webinar explores how school leaders can support whole school approaches to collaboration in the physically distanced classroom in their schools. We reflect on the role of active learning in the students' sense making process and how their engagement with learning contributes to both their sense of enjoyment in class and their sense of wellbeing. Active learning and collaboration can be challenging prospects in the physically distanced classroom and in this webinar, we look at whole school and subject resources and approaches to support school leaders in developing practice in their schools.

Visual Art

ATAI Conference

The Visual Art team were delighted to present three live workshops at the ATAI Conference – Shaping the Future Together 2020. This gave us the welcome opportunity to meet teachers of Visual Art virtually and we thank all who joined us for one of the 12 sessions.

The focus of the workshops was to give an overview of the key changes to the Assessment Arrangements for CBA 2 and the Final Assessment in Visual Art and to provide an opportunity for a live question and answer session. All the resources used in the workshop are available in the *Assessment* section of the

Visual Art section at www.jct.ie



Joining our Mailing List is a very useful way of keeping up to date with all the latest news, events & announcements. Ask your colleagues to make sure that they are signed up to get JCT <u>#VisualArt</u> news direct to their inbox. Click on the image to sign up.

Meeting with our Leadership associates

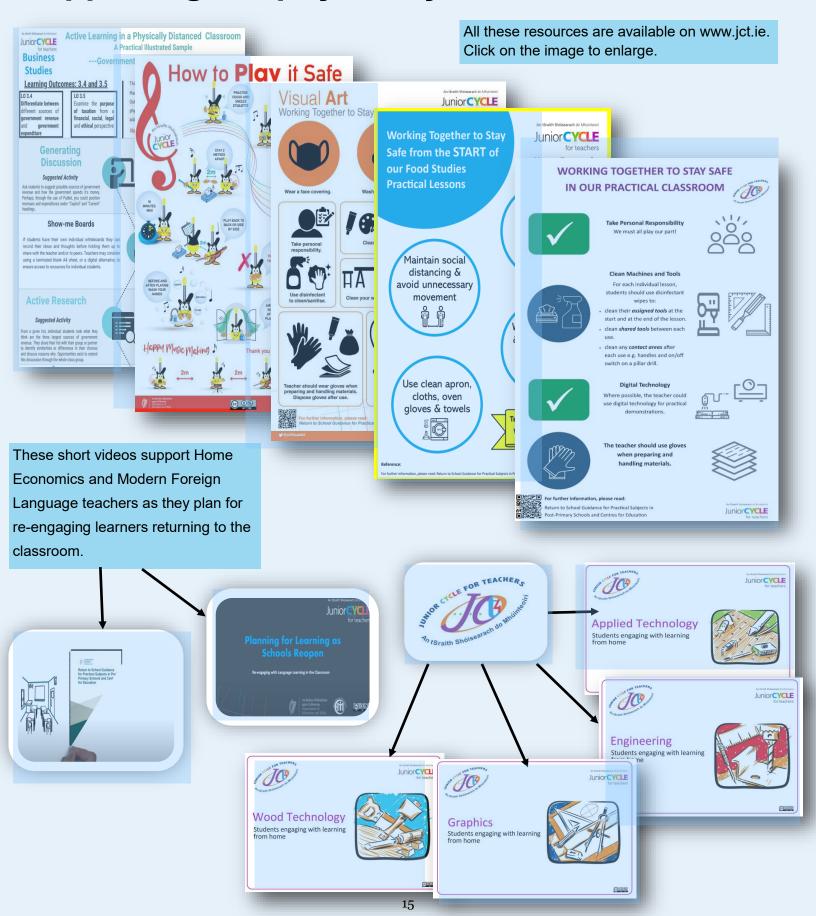
On the 1st of October we held an online zoom meeting with our leadership associates. These regular meetings with associates are crucial for us as a team to help inform our CPD design and to ensure the greatest amount of responsiveness to the needs on the ground. Thank you, once again, to our associates and we look forward to that continued engagement.

Visual Art CBA 2 and final Assessment for 2021

The Brief for Classroom-Based Assessment 2 and the state-certified Final Assessment for JC Visual Art 2021 and the accompanying Circular S30/20 has been issued. Click on the image below.



Supporting the physically distanced classroom



L1LPs/L2LPs





Return to School supports for all, collated by the L1/L2LPs Team. Click on image to view.

Teaching L2LPs for the first time? This Webinar will provide you with an overview of the Level 2 Learning Programmes.





Have a look at the new layout of the L1LPs/L2LPs Planning Section on our website that includes implementation resources, planning templates, downloadable posters and useful screencasts. If you have any questions on the L1LPs/L2LPs please get in touch @ info@jct.ie

Nuacht Gaeilge

Teimpléad Pleanála Idirghníomhach agus Físghabháil scáileáin bunaithe air

Tá fáil anois ar leagan digiteach den teimpléad pleanála T1 agus T2 chomh maith le físghabháil scáileáin bunaithe air. Léirítear inti an úsáid is fearr gur féidir a bhaint as an

acmhainn áisiúil, chabhrach seo. Cuideoidh an teimpléad idirghníomhach go mór leat agus le do chomhghleacaithe, aonaid a phleanáil go comhoibritheach. Is doiciméad beo é an teimpléad pleanála gur féidir a leasú agus cur leis de réir a chéile.



Is féidir cóip den teimpléad seo a íoslódáil ónár suíomh, Gaeilge SSM faoin rannán 'Pleanáil'.

Feidhmchláir Teagaisc agus Foghl

Acmhainní Gaeilge

Tá sraith dar teideal 'Feidhmchláir Teagaisc agus Foghlama' ar fáil anois ar shuíomh na Gaeilge faoin rannán 'Acmhainní' chun tacú le múinteoirí maidir le taifid, aiseolas, físghabhálacha scáileáin agus tuilleadh 16 nach iad.

The L1LPs/L2LPs Autumn Newsletter will be emailed to all teachers on our mailing lists soon. We have created a separate newsletter for special schools this term. Join our mailing list here to keep up to date with all our news and events.



To support conversations with parents/guardians on L2LPs click on links below

- Video & consent form for gathering evidence,
- PLUs poster to give an idea on what the programme entails:
- Info Leaflet for parents
- Info Presentation

Check out this screencast below on implementing L2LPs in the Visual Art

JCt4 Update

We would like to wish all Technologies teachers well in the current academic year.

The JCt4 technologies team has recently broadcast four webinars which focused on *Classroom-Based Assessment* 1 in each of the Technology subjects. These webinars have a particular emphasis on classroom approaches in preparation for the CBAs. Click here to navigate to the relevant area of the JCT website.

Following on from the very popular digital planner and in response to teachers' feedback, JCt4 have developed a digital planner using Microsoft Excel. This planner is available on www.jct.ie in the planning section. To best utilise this planning resource, it is suggested you read the associated information page and view the associated screencast prior to engaging with the Excel Digital Planner. Both these documents can be accessed in the planning section of www.jct.ie or by clicking the images on the right.

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JCT online Learning Events

As part of the JCT Online Learning Events, the JCt4 team will be running subject specific workshops in the first week of November. Details of the events can be seen on the poster on page 18. The title of the workshop and the associated link to register for each individual subject can be found below.

Monday 2nd November: Applied Technology

Title: Developing Project Management Skills in Applied Technology

Tuesday 3rd November: Engineering

Title: Supporting Mechatronics in Engineering

Wednesday 4th November: Graphics

Title: Exploring geometry in Junior Cycle Graphics using "My Geometry Journey" resource

Thursday 5th November: Wood Technology

Title: Marquetry - 'A look through the window'

To support teachers returning to the classroom after the period of engaging with learning from home, the JCt4 team have also developed a resource which teachers may find helpful in identifying the starting points of learning. The document builds on the Key Skills of Junior Cycle - Managing Myself, Managing Information and Thinking and Staying Well. These documents include possible activities for First-year and Second -year students which could be used to bring learning outcomes to life in the classroom in an integrated way.



Upcoming Online Learning Events

JCT is hosting a series of online elective learning events across two weeks - 19th-22nd October and 2nd-5th November with three events each evening. They cover a wide range of current topics. Webinars will be subsequently uploaded to www.ict.ie. Register here

Week One			JCT Online Learning Events		
19th-	–22nd October	1	EVEN		
Monday 9th October	GEOGRAPHY Supporting Student Research	5 - 6.15pm	Monday 2nd November	APPLIED TECHNOLOGY Developing Project Management Skills in Applied Technology	5 - 6.15 pm
Monday 9th October	ARTS IN JUNIOR CYCLE Introduction to the NCCA Short Course on Artistic Performance	6.30 - 7.15pm	Monday 2nd November	RE & ENGLISH 'Between Land and Sea' - a cross-curricular webinar for teachers of Junior Cycle RE and English	6.30 - 7.15pr
londay 9th October	STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE ACTIVE STUDENT ENGAGE Promoting active engagement in the physically distanced classroom and for students learning from home	7.30- 8.15pm	Monday 2nd November	MUSIC Engaging with Learning Inside and Outside the Classroom	7.30 - 8.15pr
uesday Oth October	BUSINESS STUDIES "Open for Business" Discussion Forum: Chief Examiner's Report, NCCA Early Enactment Report, Subject Department Planning, and CBA1	- book early! 5 - 6.15pm	Tuesday 3rd November	ENGINEERING Supporting Mechatronics in Engineering	5 - 6.15pm
uesday Oth October	VISUAL ART IN COLLABORATION WITH ARTS IN JUNIO JCT Visual Art team in conversations with fine artist Blaise Smith and ceramist Tina Byrne	R CYCLE 6.30 - 7.15pm	Tuesday 3rd November	MATHEMATICS Task Selection and Problem-Solving in Mathematics	6.30 - 7.15pr
uesday Oth October	PHYSICAL EDUCATION Fostering resilience and supporting active engagement at this time	7.30 - 8.15pm	Tuesday 3rd November	SCIENCE Enabling Junior Cycle Science Learning in Pandemic Classrooms	7.30 - 8.15pr
/ednesday 1st October	MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE Numbers are limited Modern Foreign Languages Shop Talk: supporting student engagement in the physically distanced Junior Cycle MFL classroom	- book early! 5 - 6.15pm	Wednesday 4rd November	GRAPHICS Exploring geometry in Junior Cycle Graphics using "My Geometry Journey' resource	imited - book ear 5 - 6.15pm
Vednesday 1st October	GAEILGE An Phunann: Fás, Forás agus Forbairt tríd an bPunann Teanga	6.30 - 7.15pm	Wednesday 4th November	HOME ECONOMICS Planning for Learning using Learning Outcomes	7.30 - 8.15pr
Vednesday 1st October	HISTORY Commemorating Bloody Sunday in the Junior Cycle History classroom	- book early! 7.30 - 8.15pm	Thursday 5th November	WOOD TECHNOLOGY Marquetry - 'A look through the window'	5 - 6.15pm
hursday 2nd October	LEADERSHIP Collaboration in the physically distanced classroom - Considerations for School Leaders	5 - 6.15pm	Thursday 5th November	PHILOSOPHY Numbers are I Philosophical Enquiry and the Critically Engaged Classroom	imited - book ear 6.30 - 7.15pr
hursday 2nd October	STUDENT VOICE Experiencing Student Voice in our Schools - theory and practice	6.30 - 7.15pm	Thursday 5th November	GUIDANCE IN WELLBEING Resources for Guidance Counsellors to plan, develop and support a four-week unit of learning	7.30 - 8.15p
hursday 2nd October	L1LPS/L2LPS Engaging with the L1LPs/L2LPs Outside of the Classroom	7.30 - 8.15pm	14/14/	ister go to w.jct.ie	d

Staying in touch

In the current absence of sustained face-to-face continuous professional development (CPD), we are developing better ways to communicate and collaborate. To ensure that you stay abreast of developments and new resources, and if not already done so, sign up to one or more of our subject mailing lists. Click on the image













Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) Support Service

Administrative Office: Monaghan Ed. Centre | Armagh Road | Monaghan Tel.: 047 74008 Director's Office: LMETB | Chapel Street | Dundalk Tel.: 042 9364603