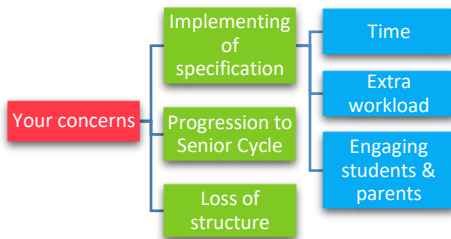


Dear Teacher of Science,

We hope this newsletter finds you well as you approach the end of the school year and we wish you the very best in your work in the lead up to a well-earned summer break. As we look to the introduction of the Science Specification this September, we are sending you the first of many newsletters in which we hope to keep the fruitful conversation that started on CPD Day 1 going. The changes in Junior Cycle Science are ongoing and we look forward to working with and learning from you throughout this process.

You asked - we listened! Feedback from CPD Day 1

The JCT Science Team are committed to listening and responding to your feedback. This year, 1,100 teachers attended 76 Science CPD Day 1 workshops in education centres around Ireland. Thank you for the detail you provided in your feedback forms. It provided us with a clear picture of your concerns and your expectations of future supports:



What You Said You Would Like		
Curricular Guidance	Online Supports	CPD Supports
Information on assessment	Teaching & learning ideas	Elective CPD
Planning & approaching the course	Teachers sharing practice	Sharing amongst teachers
Working with Learning Outcomes		Cluster meetings
		School-based workshops

Over time, we commit to addressing your needs and concerns through onsite and online CPD supports. We shall begin by addressing a number of items in this newsletter:

Please click [here](#) to join our mailing list

Information on assessment

Under **Assessment** in the Science section of our website (click [here](#)) you will find a number of supports related to assessment, including:

- Information related to ongoing assessment in Junior Cycle Science
- A [video](#) introduction to the Classroom-Based Assessments in Science
- A [timeline](#) for the new assessments in Junior Cycle Science for the first cohort of students beginning this September

The NCCA Assessment Guidelines for Science are now available [here](#).



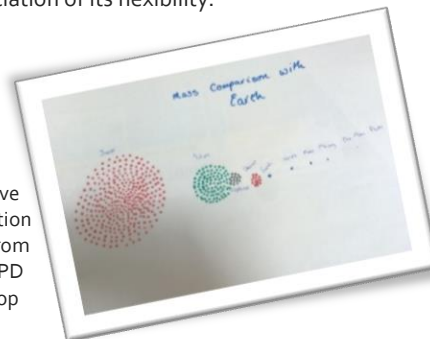
Professor Aoife McLysaght speaking to teachers at the Science Gallery CPD event.

Elective CPD

A number of elective CPD workshops have been run nationwide this term in partnership with Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and The Science Gallery Dublin. JCT has also partnered with EPISTEM, the National Centre for STEM Education at the University of Limerick for the STeP into Science project.



These partnerships provide opportunities for teachers to engage creatively with the Science Specification while developing an appreciation of its flexibility.



A creative presentation of data from an SFI CPD workshop

Engaging 1st years in Junior Cycle Science

You might like to show your 1st year students this [video](#) to give them a flavour of the new Junior Cycle Science.

Planning and Connecting

We in JCT are committed to providing CPD support **by teachers, for teachers**. A strong response came from you on CPD Day 1 that you would like to connect and share ideas with other teachers. As such, we would like to hear from you on the different ways you are collaborating with your colleagues. We would like to build a national picture of how you are planning and connecting with each other. We plan to share this information and to support and promote this culture of sharing ideas in Irish Science education.

Connecting with teachers

What do you currently do to connect with other Science teachers? In your school? Online? At events? We'd love to hear from you! Please click [this link](#) to fill out a very short Google form with information you would like to share about how you connect with other Science teachers.

Planning

As we turn our attention to our Science classrooms, we would like to hear and share your ideas on planning. What are your ideas and plans for September? As a department? Individually? What are you thinking about? We would love to hear from you - please click [this link](#) to fill out a very short Google form.

Remember – there are a number of supports available to you under **Planning** in the Science section of our website (click [here](#))

Alternatively, you can send us a tweet @JCforTeachers using #JCTScience and let us know the interesting ways that you are planning for Science and connecting with other teachers. Let's get talking!

Finally, we would like to thank you for your engagement on Science CPD Day 1 and for all of the interactions that we have had with you at other events and workshops. Best wishes for the remainder of the school year and enjoy the summer holidays!

Kind Regards,
The JCT Science Team