

Where can I find examples of short courses?

The NCCA has developed ten short courses for schools to use on an optional basis to support students' learning in relation to various statements of learning.

There are eight short courses which are broadly aligned with Level 3 of the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).

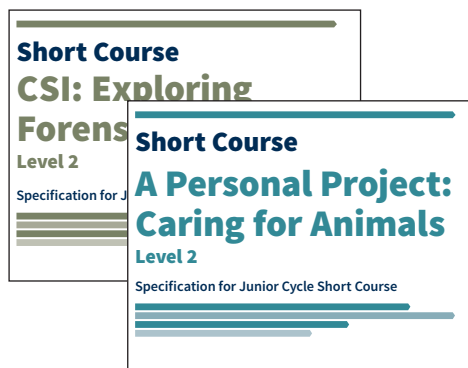
- Civic, Social and Personal Education (CSPE)
- Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE)
- Physical Education (PE)
- Coding
- Digital Media Literacy
- Artistic Performance
- Chinese Language and Culture
- Philosophy

There are two short courses which may form part of Level 2 Learning Programmes (L2LPs)

- A Personal Project: Caring for Animals
- Exploring Forensic Science

An additional short course at Level 2 in 'Enterprise and Animation' will be made available by the NCCA

The above short courses are available at:
www.curriculumonline.ie



Where can I get more information?

www.curriculumonline.ie - This is the website of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) who have developed Short Courses.

www.juniorcycle.ie - Here you can find Guidelines for schools who are considering the development of their own short course.

www.jct.ie - This is the website of the JCT schools' support service. JCT's aim is to support schools in their implementation of the new Framework for Junior Cycle through the provision of appropriate high quality continuing professional development for school leaders and teachers, and the provision of effective teaching and learning resources.

Register for the short courses newsletter 'Short Courses in the Spotlight' at www.jct.ie

The JCT Short Courses team can be contacted by email at info@jct.ie



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Introduction

During junior cycle, a student will learn through a number of subjects or a combination of subjects and short courses. Through the curriculum, schools will ensure that all twenty-four statements of learning and the eight key skills of junior cycle feature in the programmes offered to students.



Why have short courses been introduced?

Short courses have been introduced because schools have been seeking opportunities to connect with their communities, and also to consolidate and strengthen aspects of students' learning. Short courses also allow schools flexibility to introduce new and different learning experiences into their junior cycle programmes, and allows students to profile their achievements in these experiences.

What are short courses?

Short courses are a new and optional curriculum component in the junior cycle which:

- offer greater flexibility to schools
- require 100 hours of student engagement
- should emphasise students' active learning
- are assessed through Classroom-Based Assessment
- will be reported upon by the school

A school may offer a maximum of four short courses for certification purposes.

It is not intended that short courses would replace existing subjects, but their inclusion will allow a school to broaden the range of learning experiences for students, address their interests and encompass areas of learning not covered by the combination of curricular subjects available in the school.

Short courses may be considered for inclusion as part of a school's Wellbeing programme. Associated short courses include Physical Education (PE), Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) and Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE).

Short courses are also a key feature of the Level Two Learning Programmes (L2LPs) and form part of the Junior Cycle pathway for students at that level.



What type of short courses can be included on a school's junior cycle programme?

Schools may opt to include short courses developed by the NCCA, or alternatively, short courses that have been developed either by the school or another organisation in accordance with a template and guidelines set out by the NCCA.

