



Coláiste na Carraige

Bileog Eolais

Ag déanamh na roghanna cearta sa Sraith Shóisearach








Information Booklet

Choosing the right options at Junior Cycle



Clár na nÁbhar

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Click on any of the subjects to learn more

Réamhrá

Introduction



Parents and Guardians,

We are conscious that the transition of your child from primary to post-primary education marks another milestone in your child's development. As you help your child through this transition, it is natural to feel a degree of anxiety and concern at the challenges before them.

We hope that you will find this booklet informative and worthwhile, and that we will address any concerns that you may have regarding subject choices.

Your son/daughter will study ten subjects for the Junior Cycle. These are Irish, English, Mathematics, History, French, Science, plus four other optional subjects.

All optional subjects are enclosed in this booklet.

For more information about any of the subjects in this booklet click on www.curriculumonline.ie

Principal: Ms Caroline Gallagher

Deputy Principal: Ms Emma Kane

An tSraith Shóisearach

Junior Cycle

Curaclam

Curriculum

Junior Cycle caters for students in the first three years of their post-primary education. The junior cycle was introduced on a phased basis between September 2014 and September 2021. It features revised subjects and short courses, a focus on key skills, and new approaches to assessment and reporting. Schools have more freedom to design junior cycle programmes that meet the learning needs of all students. For students, the junior cycle curriculum available in their schools is a mix of subjects and short courses as well as other learning experiences. In addition to classroom-based assessments, students complete state examinations at the end of their three year junior cycle and receive a Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement.

Measúnú Rangbhunaithe

Classroom-based Assessment

During second and third year, students complete a number of Classroom-Based Assessments. In addition to classroom-based assessments, students complete state examinations at the end of their three year junior cycle and receive a Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement.

For a small group of students with special educational needs, priority learning units (PLUs) are provided. These components enable the statements of learning and key skills to become a reality for these students throughout their three-year junior cycle.

Ag roghnú an rogha ceart duit

Choosing the Right Option for you

Identify the subjects/options that you think might suit you best and justify your choices.

- Are you good with your hands?
- Do you like drawing/painting?
- Do you really enjoy mathematics?
- Are you neat and careful?
- Are you logical and methodical?

At this stage in a young person's life it is best not to specialise, but choose a range of subjects from different groups.

EXAM SUBJECTS	NON EXAM SUBJECTS
Business Studies	S.P.H.E.
Engineering	Religion
Home Economics	C.S.P.E
Music	P.E
Science	Computers
Graphics	
Wood Technology	
Irish	
English	
Mathematics	
French	
History	
Geography	



Staidéar Gnó

Business Studies

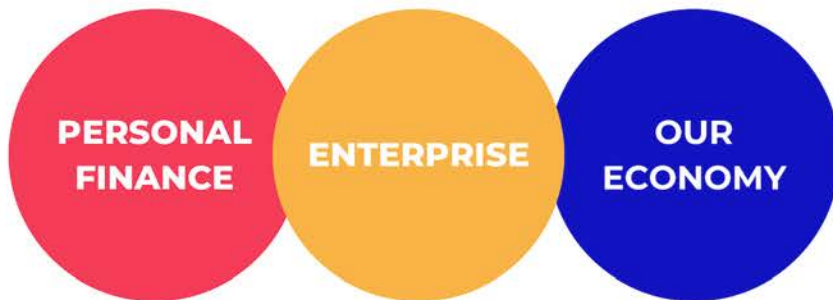


Staidéar Gnó

Business Studies

Business Studies is a subject where you learn how businesses operate and the role they play in our lives and the economy. It's like getting a behind-the-scenes look at how your favorite shops run, understanding why prices change, and learning how products are made and sold. This subject covers everything from managing money wisely to how companies grow and succeed in the competitive market.

In junior cycle business studies, you'll dive into the exciting world of how businesses work. You'll learn about managing money, creating your own projects, and understanding how our economy ticks through the three interconnected strands: Personal Finance, Enterprise and Our Economy.



Conas gur féidir leis an ábhar seo bheith úsáideach dom ?

How will this subject be useful to me?

Learning Business Studies is incredibly useful for everyday life. It teaches you how to handle money, saving for things you want and making smart buying decisions. It also gives you insights into how businesses work, which can be valuable whether you're buying something online, watching advertisements, or even thinking about starting your own business someday. Plus, it helps you understand the news better when you hear about the economy or new business trends.

Measúnú Rangbhunaithe

Classroom-Based Assessment

The assessment of Business Studies for the purposes of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) will comprise:

- Two Classroom-based Assessments, *Business in Action and Presentation*
- Written Examination



Eacnamaíocht Bhaile

Home Economics



Eacnamaíocht Bhaile

Home Economics

Home Economics focuses on helping individuals, families, and society live their best, healthiest, and most sustainable lives. We face many challenges in our daily lives, like eating well, managing family issues, making smart purchases, and caring for the environment. In Home Economics class, you'll learn how to tackle these real-life problems responsibly and practically.

Home Economics teaches you everything you need to know to live a healthy and sustainable life, both on your own and as part of a family and community. You'll explore three key interconnected strands: Food, Health and Culinary Skills, Responsible Family Living, and Textiles and Craft.

Conas gur féidir leis an ábhar seo bheith úsáideach dom ?

How will this subject be useful to me?

The skills you learn in Home Economics will be invaluable in your daily life, from taking care of yourself to handling shopping and helping others. You'll become better at managing your time and resources, which will serve you well in various careers such as cooking, catering, fashion, childcare, teaching, food industry roles, tourism, and health and nutrition.

Measúnú Rangbhunaithe

Classroom-Based Assessment

The assessment of Home Economics for the purposes of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) will comprise:

- Two Classroom-Based Assessments: *Creative Textiles and a Food Literacy Skills brief*
- A practical food skills examination
- A written examination

Practical food skills examination 50% | Written examination 50%





Innealtóireacht

Engineering



Innealtóireacht

Engineering

Engineering is a field that involves creating and designing products and systems to solve problems and improve our lives. It's about using creativity and practical skills to come up with solutions to real-world challenges. In simpler terms, engineering is like being a problem-solver who uses science and technology to make things work better. Engineering is all about making ideas a reality and making the world a better place.



Conas gur féidir leis an ábhar seo bheith úsáideach dom ?

How will this subject be useful to me?

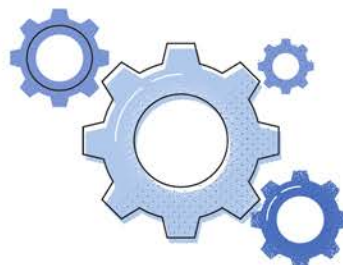
Engineering helps you look at the world differently, seeing not just how things are, but how they could be better. You'll learn skills that are super useful in daily life, like how to fix a broken gadget at home or how to create a model of your dream skateboard park. These skills also open up exciting career paths in fields like robotics, environmental science, and aerospace. Plus, engineering projects can be a blast—imagine designing your own video game controller or building a robot to do your chores. Whether you're dreaming up the next big thing or finding a new way to use old stuff, engineering gives you the tools to turn your imagination into reality.

Measúnú Rangbhunaithe

Classroom-Based Assessment

The assessment of Engineering for the purposes of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) will comprise:

- Two Classroom-Based Assessments: Engineering in action, and Research and development
- A project
- A written examination.



Project 70% | Written examination 30%



Ceol

Music



Ceol

Music

Music offers a dynamic platform for students to immerse themselves in a rich musical experience. From vocal mastery to instrumental proficiency, encompassing singing, instrument playing, and exposure to diverse genres like pop, classical, and traditional Irish music. Students develop the capacity to create and appreciate authentic music, honing critical skills and literacy essential for navigating the contemporary musical landscape.

The specification for Junior Cycle Music focuses on giving students the opportunity to develop their musical knowledge, skills and cultural awareness through the practical and cognitive engagement with music. This can be achieved through the three interconnected strands: Procedural knowledge, Innovate and ideate and Culture and context. A student will experience learning in each of these three strands as they progress through their junior cycle.

**PROCEDURAL
KNOWLEDGE**

**INNOVATE
& IDEATE**

**CULTURE &
CONTEXT**

Conas gur féidir leis an ábhar seo bheith úsáideach dom ?

How will this subject be useful to me?

Music has a very important part in many peoples' lives. Some people may even decide to take up a career in music in areas such as Education (Teacher, Lecturer), Business (Sound Engineer, Lyricist, Reviewer, Therapist) and Performance (Composer, Performer, Conductor).

Measúnú Rangbhunaithe

Classroom-Based Assessment

The assessment of Music for the purposes of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) will comprise:

- Two Classroom-Based Assessments: *Composition portfolio and a Programme note*;
- A practical examination
- A written examination.

Practical 30% | Written examination 70%





Grafaic

Graphics

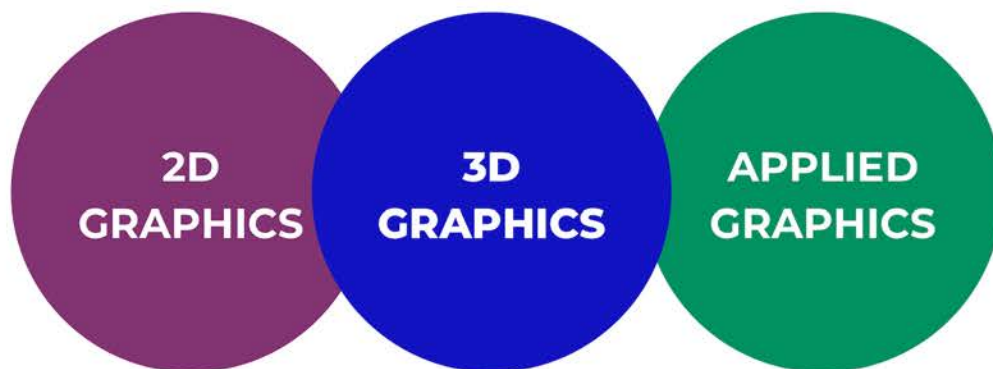


Grafaic

Graphics

Graphics is recognised as the underpinning language of the technology disciplines and is transferable across a wide range of subjects such as mathematics, science and art.

Students will use a variety of media to communicate their ideas and designs through this unique language. Throughout the course, students will explore the geometric world to gain an appreciation of the importance of graphics in the world around them. They will develop cognitive and practical skills such as graphical communication, spatial visualisation, creative problem-solving, design capabilities and modelling, both physically and through the use of computer-aided design. This will be achieved through three inter-connected contextual strands: 2D graphics, 3D graphics and Applied graphics.



Conas gur féidir leis an ábhar seo bheith úsáideach dom ? **How will this subject be useful to me?**

The study of Graphics develops a student's creativity, spatial ability, and capacity to reason and communicate ideas through engagement with abstract and applied geometric problem-solving activities.

Measúnú Rangbhunaithe **Classroom-Based Assessment**

The assessment of Graphics for the purposes of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) will comprise:

- Two Classroom-Based Assessments; *Communicating through sketching and Graphical presentation skills*
- A project
- A final examination

Project 30% | Written examination 70%



Teicneolaíocht Adhmaid

*Wood
Technology*

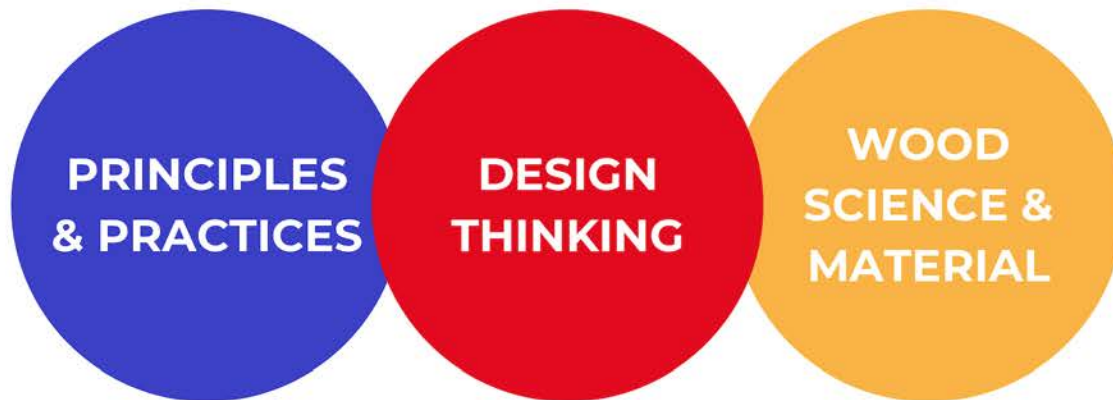


Teicneolaíocht Adhmaid

Wood Technology

Wood Technology (WT) is one of the technology subjects offered at Junior Cycle. In WT you will learn to design small projects and the skills required to use tools and equipment to make your designs. You will work mainly with wood but also with other materials. You will learn about wood as a material and how it is produced.

The specification for Junior Cycle Wood Technology focuses on three interconnected strands: Principles and practices, Design thinking and Wood science and materials.



Conas gur féidir leis an ábhar seo bheith úsáideach dom ?

How will this subject be useful to me?

Students can learn many practical skills that can prove useful for later in life. They will learn the correct procedures to follow when developing an idea into a finished artefact e.g. a piece of furniture or a child's toy etc. They will be able to identify different trees, recognise their importance to us and our environment and they will learn some of the skills to make objects from wood and know how to apply appropriate finishes to them, e.g. paint, varnish, stain, or polish.

Measúnú Rangbhunaithe

Classroom-Based Assessment

The assessment of Wood Technology for the purposes of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) will comprise:

- Two Classroom-Based Assessments: *Wood science in our environment, and Self-analysis and evaluation*
- A project
- A written examination

Project 70% | Written examination 30%





Tíreolaíocht

Geography



Tíreolaíocht

Geography

In Geography you will study about places, people and what shapes the environment. You will learn how the environment influences people, and how they change the environment. You will develop your ability to draw and understand maps, graphs and diagrams, as well as studying photographs and collecting information outside the classroom through fieldwork.

This is achieved through the three interconnected strands: Exploring the physical world; Exploring how we interact with the physical world; and Exploring people, place, and change, with one overarching concept entitled Geoliteracy



Conas gur féidir leis an ábhar seo bheith úsáideach dom ?

How will this subject be useful to me?

Everybody uses geography in their daily lives. When you think of where to go on holiday or wonder what tomorrow's weather will be like, you are thinking geography. When you look at an atlas map, or a town plan, or a weather map, you use what we learn in Geography. Geography prepares you for careers in Town Planning, Outdoor Pursuits Education, Weather forecasting, Tourism and Transport.

Measúnú Rangbhunaithe

Classroom-Based Assessment

The assessment of Geography for the purposes of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) will comprise:

- Two Classroom-Based Assessments: *Geography in the news*; and *My geography*
- Formal written Assessment Task





www.colaistenacarraige.ie