



Is it possible to follow some subjects at Level 3 and also do L2LPs?

A student undertaking a L2LP may be able to achieve some aspects of a Level 3 subject or short course but the majority of their programme would be at Level 2.

The school says my child is able for JCSP as part of the existing Junior Certificate.

Your child should not be undertaking L2LPs because they are designed only for those students who are not able to take the existing Junior Certificate.

How will my child's progress be reported?

There will be regular reporting during junior cycle. At the end of junior cycle your child will receive a school certificate (the Junior Cycle Student Award) and a school report. The school certificate will record results in the PLUs and short courses your child has successfully completed. Other learning experiences and features of school life such as attendance will be recorded in the school report.

Have schools been involved in the planning for L2LPs?

Yes. The L2LPs have been developed with schools already working with this group of students. The NCCA has drawn on this experience to produce a range of material on L2LPs for teachers, which is on the NCCA website.

The material contains the L2LPs guidelines for teachers, case studies illustrating how they have been accommodated in different settings as well as short videos of practice and an online tool for planning L2LPs.

Your child's post-primary school will have more information on the new junior cycle and how they will plan a L2LP with you and your child.



Find out more

For further information about junior cycle generally and about Level 2 Learning Programmes see:

www.juniorcycle.ie

Personalised Programmes in a New Junior Cycle

An Information Leaflet About Level 2 Learning Programmes

The junior cycle is changing...

First year students in 2014 will begin taking elements of the new junior cycle. The changes include programmes, called Level 2 Learning Programmes (L2LPs) for a small minority of students with particular special educational needs. L2LPs are designed to suit both special school and mainstream settings.

The L2LPs will build upon prior learning and are designed primarily around 5 Priority Learning Units (PLUs) that focus on the social, personal and pre-vocational skills that prepare students for further study, for work and life.

The PLUs include:

Communicating and literacy: Covers both verbal and non-verbal ways of receiving and giving information. Reading and writing are also further developed.

Numeracy: Develops awareness of patterns and relationships in shape and number as well as skills in estimation, measurement and problem solving.

Personal care: Deals with health and wellbeing, covering areas such as healthy eating and healthy lifestyles.

Living in a community: Students develop strategies to establish and maintain positive relationships with people around them. Seeking help and advice as well as dealing with conflict are included here.

Preparing for work: Assists students in making the transition from school to further education, training or employment.

What certification is associated with a Level 2 Learning Programme?

All students who complete a junior cycle programme will receive a certificate awarded at Level 2, or Level 3 of the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). L2LPs will lead to a certificate at Level 2. Students undertaking L2LPs also study two short courses at this level.

How will I know if my son/daughter should be following this programme?

Students undertaking a L2LP are those with disabilities categorised as being in the lower mild to higher moderate range of general learning disabilities.

These students will benefit from an L2LP as it purposely focuses on development and learning in such areas as: basic literacy and numeracy, language and communication, mobility and leisure skills, motor co-ordination and social and personal development.

As far as possible the student will be included in mainstream classes.

A personalised programme

If the programme has been recommended for your child, s/he will follow a personalised educational programme to meet his/her needs. It will be made up of aspects of each PLU and these will be taught through the junior cycle subject curriculum set out for all students by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA).

The L2LP for the individual student will be developed in consultation with students, parents, teachers and other relevant professionals.

Evidence of learning can be generated through a wide range of assessment methods and can be presented in a variety of forms.

Other features of L2LPs

- Using expressive arts to communicate
- Using information and communication technology for a range of purposes
- Developing spatial awareness
- Managing money
- Becoming aware of one's sexuality
- Making personal decisions
- Using local facilities
- Making consumer choices
- Preparing for a work-related activity
- Developing an awareness of health and safety using equipment