CPD CLUSTER DAY - OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

Venues for workshops

Some of the schools involved in a cluster will generally act as hosts for the CPD workshops. Local education centres, if situated close to a cluster of schools, will also be used. Details of venues will be included on the schedule of workshops that can be downloaded from our portal at **www.jctregistration.ie**.

Schools need to bring this schedule to the attention of teachers in advance of the school cluster day, (e.g., it could be displayed prominently on a staffroom notice board).

Start and finishing times

Workshops on a school cluster day start at 9:15am. Teachers will be able to sign the attendance register from 9:00am. To facilitate accurate records, all teachers are asked to ensure that they sign the attendance register before leaving any of the venues. Workshops generally conclude at 3:45pm.

Breaks and Lunch

A tea/coffee break is provided mid-morning. Lunch is also provided on site at each venue.

Certificate of attendance and expense forms

JCT does not issue certificates of attendance in respect of school cluster CPD days.

Claim forms should be completed and forwarded by the teacher to their local Education Centre for processing. (Teachers from ETB schools can send their completed claim forms to their ETB head office).

Other Personnel

Separate CPD workshops for school leaders are being provided by JCT on an ongoing basis. JCT writes directly to the school's Principal to give notice of these workshops. School leaders are welcome to attend any of the workshops that we provide on a school cluster day.

Schools will need to make separate arrangements for special needs assistants (SNAs) on a school cluster day.

Where can I get more information?

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 Framework for Junior Cycle (2015) through the provision of appropriate high quality continuing professional development for school leaders and teachers, and the provision of effective teaching and learning resources.

www.curriculumonline.ie – This is the website of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) where you will find key documents.

www.juniorcycle.ie - In this NCCA website you can find the Assessment Toolkit which is designed to support and assist teachers in their work on junior cycle assessment.

Follow us on Twitter **@JCforTeachers**

We have a team of full-time advisors who can also be contacted by email at **info@jct.ie**

An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí

Junior**CYCLE**
for teachers

Junior Cycle Information on CPD Cluster day

ATECI · Ionad Oideachais Mhúinteoirí · AN ROINN OIDEACHAIS AGUS SCILEANNA | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS
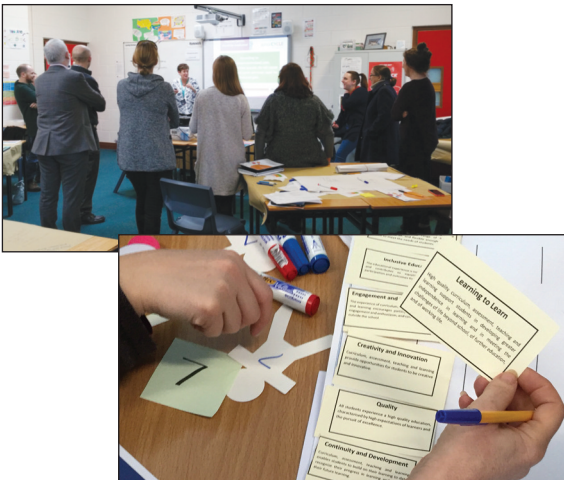
What is a Junior Cycle CPD Cluster day?

The Department of Education and Skills is providing schools and teachers with a comprehensive programme of continuing professional development (CPD) to support schools in implementing the new Framework for Junior Cycle (2015). This CPD is being provided by the Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) support service.

Given the large number of subjects that CPD is being provided in simultaneously, the traditional model of CPD provision, based in local education centres, becomes unsuitable.

In a bid to minimise disruption to teaching and learning at school level JCT is operating a different model of CPD provision for subject specific CPD – the **CLUSTER MODEL**.

This new model entails a number of schools (usually 6 to 10 schools) in a particular geographical region closing to students on the same day so as to ensure that all of the teachers in each of these schools can come together for the purpose of attending Junior Cycle related CPD.

How does it work?

1. Schools register ALL of their teachers for participation in the cluster model on JCT's registration portal at www.jctregistration.ie. It is vital that a school registers ALL of their teachers in advance, as ALL teachers on the day will attend CPD, irrespective of whether their new subject specification has been introduced yet or not.

2. Following the registration process, JCT then issues a letter to each participating school asking the school to revisit the registration site, www.jctregistration.ie. Once logged in at this point schools will be able to see their cluster date, including the option to view the CPD workshop schedule for all of their teachers. This schedule identifies the subject that each registered teacher is scheduled to receive CPD in on their cluster day. The principal, or his/her nominee, may make changes to the schedule at this stage if necessary, then save any changes and print the schedule for display in the school staffroom for all teachers to view.

3. Closer to the actual school cluster date itself, normally one to two weeks in advance, schools will be notified to log onto www.jctregistration.ie again to view the venues and print their CPD workshop schedule (if not already done) for their cluster day. All of the workshop details (e.g., start time, venue, etc.,) will be on www.jctregistration.ie and on the schedule that can be printed by schools.

What workshops are being provided on a cluster day?

The following fifteen workshops are being provided as part of a school cluster CPD day during the 2017/2018 school year.

- English
- Science
- Business Studies
- Gaeilge
- Visual Art
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Mathematics
- Music
- Home Economics
- History
- Geography
- Level 2 Learning Programmes - L2LPs
- Civic, Social and Political Education - CSPE
- Physical Education
- Activating Digital Aspects of the Junior Cycle Key Skills or Junior Cycle: Principles in Action

The majority of teachers whose subjects do not yet have a new subject specification in place will attend our "Activating Digital Aspects of the Junior Cycle Key Skills" workshop, or our "Junior Cycle: Principles in Action" workshop.