

Welcome

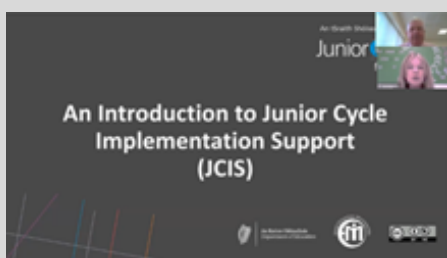
Dear colleagues, welcome to our November Newsletter. We hope the points we have included below are of some help to you over the course of this month. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries about any aspect of Junior Cycle in your school.

Management Resource Hours Teacher/Junior Cycle Co-Ordinator Community of Practice

Thank you all for attending our Online Learning Event, "*Strategic Planning for MRH personnel: A reflective discussion on how best to coordinate the implementation of their school's Junior Cycle programme*". It was attended by over 130 teachers. We would like to thank our panellists for their contribution to the event and especially for sharing their experience of their role as a Management Resource Teacher or Junior Cycle Co-ordinator in their school. Our panelists included: Patricia Knightly, Principal of St Finian's Community College in Swords and the following Management Resource Hours teachers: Samantha Forbes from St Finian's Community College in Swords, Caroline Lambden from St Oliver's Post Primary in Oldcastle and Patricia Farrell from Coláiste na hÍnse in Bettystown. We are currently planning our next community of practice meeting based upon the feedback from the participants who attended.

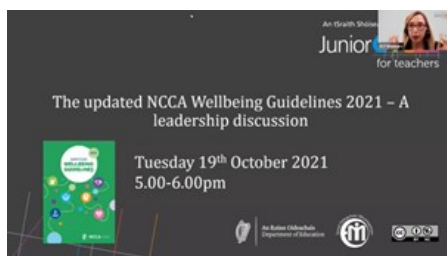
Webinar: An Introduction to Junior Cycle Implementation Support (JCIS)

As part of JCT's Autumn Online Learning Event (OLE) held in October 2021, the JCIS Team hosted a webinar in which they outlined how the JCIS team will support school as they reflect upon where they are at in terms of their implementation of junior cycle and in focusing upon further steps and initiatives that will support the teaching, learning, assessment and reporting of junior cycle students. The recording of this JCIS Webinar is now on our website [here](#).



Leadership Webinar on the updated NCCA Wellbeing Guidelines (2021)

The JCT Leadership team recently hosted a webinar which was a one hour discussion Focusing upon the updated NCCA Wellbeing Guidelines (2021). The discussion included updates on the guidelines and the implications for school leaders when planning for an effective and relevant Junior Cycle Wellbeing programme, from 2022 onwards. The panel guests were: Annette Honan, Education Officer NCCA, Marguerite O'Hora Deputy Principal, Dominican College, Dublin, Ciara Byrne Team Leader, SPHE Support and Thomas Gleeson Team Leader, CSPE Support. A recording of the webinar is available [here](#).



JCT Newsletter- JCToday

The latest edition of our JCToday Newsletter is available to view [here](#). This edition has a thematic focus upon the key skills of Junior Cycle with a focus upon how the eight key skills can be mediated in the junior cycle classroom. Links to suitable resources are provided across a range of curricular areas including English, Visual Art, MFL and Religious Education to name a few.



Upcoming Dates Subject CPD Online Cluster Days

JCT's Online Cluster Days will be taking place between January and March 2022. Up to sixteen workshops are being provided as part of the subject CPD cluster day this year. ***Applied Technology, Graphics, CSPE and SPHE will be provided separately to these online cluster days.**

Junior Cycle SPHE and CSPE Online CPD Days

JCT is providing those teachers who will be teaching the SPHE and CSPE Short Course Specifications with the opportunity to attend their 2021/2022 online CPD workshop earlier than usual this school year. These full day online workshops will take place during the month of December 2021. You are invited to register your SPHE and CSPE teachers for these workshops via **the blue buttons** on the dashboard of our registration site www.jctregistration.ie by Friday, 12th November 2021. Please note, we will be accepting a maximum of two teachers from each school (for each of SPHE and CSPE). It is recommended that teachers who attended our SPHE and CSPE workshops in previous years, if still on your staff, would be prioritised for attending these upcoming workshops. This is to ensure continuity of understanding and practice.

Subject Update

Junior Cycle – Wood Technology, Applied Technology, Graphics, Engineering, Classics, Religious Education and Jewish Studies, Final Examination Sample Papers

The new Junior Cycle subjects that will be examined for the first time in 2022 are as follows: Wood Technology, Applied Technology, Graphics, Engineering, Classics, Religious Education and Jewish Studies, all common level.

The State Examinations Commission has prepared sample examination papers and copies of each sample paper are on SEC website www.examinations.ie.

The sample papers provide a guide on the structure and content of the assessment in accordance with the subject specification.

Copies of each sample paper will issue to all schools in November. Any additional copies required can be downloaded from the SEC website www.examinations.ie.

Registering Teachers for the 2021/2022 Subject Cluster Days

A screencast focusing upon updating teacher details has been recently emailed to all school MRH contacts as per the details inputted in each school's JCT's registration portal. The screencast can be viewed by clicking [here](#).



Junior Cycle Implementation Support Team (JCIS)

JuniorCYCLE for teachers
2021 / 2022

Junior Cycle Implementation Support Team Leaders and Regions

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Full-time Education Centres ★ **Region**

An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

www.jct.ie @JCTforTeachers

Again, this year, schools may take one day for Junior Cycle whole-school planning and school-self-evaluation. JCT has established a new team, our Junior Cycle Implementation Support (JCIS) team, who will build on the work undertaken by our Whole-school CPD team in previous years through the facilitation of a more tailored CPD experience for schools. This team, who will operate across seven regions nationally will be available to work with schools from November 2021. Schools can book their whole-school planning and school-self-evaluation day input for the post November 2021 period now by contacting their relevant JCIS Team Leader. The JCIS team will endeavour to accommodate as many schools as possible in the remainder of the current school year.

November's Action Plan (To do list)

- ⇒ Check in with teachers/Senior Leadership Team
- ⇒ Register the teachers in your school for your upcoming Subject Cluster Day (this date can be found on your school's JCT Registration Portal)
- ⇒ Ensure teachers' school email addresses are correct
- ⇒ Check for spelling errors (teachers' names/email addresses)
- ⇒ Liaise with CSPE/SPHE teachers about Junior Cycle SPHE and CSPE Online CPD in December 2021 (letter sent to schools in November 2021)
- ⇒ If you run into difficulties, the following contact details will be of use:
Registration support: info@jct.ie

Kind regards,
The JCIS Team.