

## Assessment of Science for the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA)

Science Assessments for the JCPA will have the following components:

- Two Classroom-Based Assessments (CBAs), one to be carried out in second year and the second in third year, to be evaluated by the class teacher.
- A written Assessment Task, (AT) based on CBA 2 which will be submitted to the SEC for marking.
- A final exam, of not more than 2 hours, to be taken in June of third year.

**ALL ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS ARE AT COMMON LEVEL**

### Classroom-Based Assessments

- One Classroom-Based Assessment will take place in second year and a second Classroom-Based Assessment in third year.
- Classroom-Based Assessment 1 is an Extended Experimental Investigation (EEI), which offers students an opportunity to research a question they have, related to one of the following topics:

Water	Earth/Moon/Sun system	Food	Plant growth and behaviour
Chemical reactions	Plastics	Forces	Energy conservation

- Classroom-Based Assessment 2 is a Science in Society Investigation (SSI), offering students the opportunity to explore a scientific topic or issue, and its impact on society or the environment. It should relate to one or more of the following areas:
  - A technological application of science
  - An application of science that has an effect on human health.
  - An application of science that has an effect on the environment.
  - An application of science that has an effect on society.

**For more details on the CBAs please go to the relevant tab on this section of our website. You should also consult the [Junior Cycle Science Guidelines for the Classroom-Based Assessments and Assessment Task](#): For use with CBAs from October 2018**

## Assessment Task (AT)

Students will undertake a written Assessment Task, specified by the NCCA, to be submitted to the State Examinations Commission for marking, as part of the state-certified examination.

The Assessment Task will comprise of some or all of the following:

- Engagement with a short stimulus, either written, audio, audio-visual or multi-modal, in preparation for a written task.
- A written task that tests students in
  - Their ability to engage critically with scientific texts, evaluate reliability of sources, analyse and evaluate data, information and evidence and draw valid conclusions
  - Their ability to apply their learning to unseen contexts and scenarios
  - Their capacity to reflect on the skills they have developed through their engagement with the SSI.

The Assessment Task will be completed in class under the supervision of the teacher and will be sent to the SEC for marking. Marks for the Assessment Task will be incorporated into the presentation of the grade awarded by the SEC and will determine 10 % of the grade awarded by the SEC.

## State Exam

- There will be a written examination completed at the end of third year. Examinations will be set, administered, marked and reported by the SEC. The written examinations will be of no longer than two hours.
- The final examination will be available at a common level.

For more details on assessment for the JCPA please access the [Junior Cycle Science Guidelines for the Classroom-Based Assessments and Assessment Task](#): For use with CBAs from October 2018