

SCOIL DARA



15th September 2023

RE: Junior Cycle Class Based Assessment (CBA) - Information for Current Third Year Students (2023-2024)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope this correspondence finds you all well. The opening term of the new academic year is well underway with students settling into the routine of school, working with their teachers and classmates, setting learning goals and engaging positively with the learning opportunities available to them. In the case of our current 3rd year students, we encourage them to begin to plan for their home learning and revision schedules, developing effective habits which will support their progress in the year ahead.

Revised NCCA (National Council for Curriculum and Assessment) Guidelines Regarding CBA2 Completion (3rd Year students)

We are writing to share the national schedule of **Junior Cycle - Class Based Assessments (CBAs)** - which third year students will be involved in over the coming months. CBAs are an integral part of the Junior Cycle programme, with the outcomes of subject specific Class Based Assessments an important feature of the Profile of Achievement awarded to each student on completion of the Junior Cycle learning journey.

The NCCA Guidelines for the academic year 2023-24 support the completion of one CBA in a range of subjects (aside from those listed below). Subjects listed in the table below are required by NCCA to complete CBA 2 during 3rd Year.

CBA 2 Subject: 3rd Year 2023-2024
Graphics CBA 2
App. Tech CBA 2
Wood Tech CBA 2
Visual Art CBA 2
Music CBA 2
Home Economics CBA 2
Gaeilge CBA2

*CBA timetable in line with the NCCA (National Council For Curriculum and Assessment) scheduling and completion guidelines https://ncca.ie/media/6316/key-dates-for-cbas-2023-2024_en.pdf

NEW JUNIOR CYCLE GRADING SYSTEM

The following table provides an explanation of the revised grading system for Junior Cycle subjects and CBAs.

Third Year Students 2021-22	JUNIOR CYCLE SUBJECTS		Class Based Assessment Descriptors
	Award	% Equivalent	
Higher and Ordinary Level options in Irish, English and Maths. Other subjects examined under New Junior Cycle schedule are undertaken at a common level.	Distinction	90-100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exceptional• Above Expectations• In Line with Expectations• Yet to meet Expectations
	Higher Merit	75-90	
	Merit	55-75	
	Achieved	40-55	
	Partially Achieved	20-40	
	Not Graded	0-20	

Teachers work to support all students towards success in their subject CBA, explaining success criteria, learning outcomes and expectations, planning timelines for progress and completion with their classes and providing formative feedback regarding CBAs throughout the process. In most cases the subject CBA takes place during class-time, over a 3-week period.

We appreciate that home will play a significant part in assuring success. Parents can support their sons/daughters by ensuring they **attend school during the CBA completion and presentation period**, encouraging them to engage fully with the completion process, checking in with them about their plans for CBAs and assignments and encouraging them to work to their best ability and meet the assigned deadlines.

We take this opportunity to wish all 3rd year students the very best as they continue in their preparations for the for the successful completion of Junior Cycle Programme.

Sincerely and with kind regards,

Mr. D. Mc Cormack
Principal

Ms. T. Tighe
Year Head

Ms. M. Hickey
JC Management