



PRESENTATION SECONDARY SCHOOL

Educating the Students of Wexford Since 1818

"Our Best Always"



As the Junior Certificate has been cancelled & there is no State based Certification for Junior Cycle this Year, we believe that school certification is the best course of action rather than exams in September for which there will be no certification. Students will be awarded certificates for the completion of Junior Cycle by the Department of Education and Skills

- The decision has been made after consultation with Parents/Guardians, Students, Teachers that there will be no JC exams in September.
- Currently, we do not know when we will be back to school, or what type of school return we will have in September. We as of now do not know when we will be able to return and to what extent that return will look like in September
- Everyone in our school community only wishes the best for all stakeholders during this time of National emergency and what is paramount is the health and wellbeing of all of our students, teachers and parents/guardians.
- As a school community we do not wish to see students over the summer months caught up inside preparing for exams, worrying about when they might go ahead, if they go ahead. What if all that time were spent wasted when they could have been outside playing, working and helping family and friends through this difficult time
- When we return our 3rd years will be moving into TY or 5th year & all new academic school years should start like a new chapter.
- Any proposed exams that are not certified in September would have a negative impact on the school upon on return in terms of learning & teaching.
- We believe that this approach is fair and will help to keep our 3rd year students focussed and engaged the last few weeks of school.
- The below method of assessment will be conveyed to students by school management and by their subject teachers.



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Please see : Minister McHugh announces revised arrangements for Junior Cycle 2020

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- Schools given autonomy to assess students and all students to receive a report on achievement
- Adult learners to be given opportunity to take final Junior Cycle examinations in autumn

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The Minister for Education and Skills Joe McHugh TD has today (Wednesday 29 April 2020) announced revised arrangements for this year's Junior Cycle.

The decision was taken following recommendations from an advisory group of stakeholders as part of planning for the State Examinations in response to the Covid-19 public health measures and the decision that the Junior Cycle State Examinations will not run this year.

Minister McHugh attended the meeting of the advisory group and thanked the members for their work.

"In this difficult time for students I have listened to the very strongly-held and well-articulated views of students, parents and other stakeholders," Minister McHugh said.

"This decision has been made with the health and wellbeing of students, parents and teachers at the forefront of our thinking.

"It gives students and their families more clarity and certainty. It also gives schools freedom to decide how best to assess the progress of students following three years of hard work and learning."

Under the revised arrangements and in light of the exceptional circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the work and achievement of third year Junior Cycle students will be recognised with a state certificate from the Department of Education and Skills.

As soon as possible after the end of the current school year, students will receive a written school report on their learning achievements in each subject, short course and/or priority learning unit

Schools are also being given autonomy to decide whether to run school-based assessments and what form they take. Options to consider include school-designed examinations, tasks, projects, assignments, essay style questions, presentations, or other tasks agreed at a local level. Guidance for schools on reporting to students and parents, developed with the advice of the advisory group of stakeholders, will be published by the Department.

The State Examinations Commission is also being asked to put in place specific arrangements for adult learners to give them an opportunity to take final Junior Cycle examinations for which they are entered in autumn 2020.



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PSS Wexford, JC Assessment for end of year:

Students will complete assigned work for the remainder of this Term to achieve a grade in each subject, teachers will award this grade as they would for any other year group in the school as part of the House Exams II end of year exams.

Grades will be awarded to 3rd year JC students using the following method by teachers

- ✓ **50% - allocated from Project Work/Class Work/Oral Work/Aural Work/ CBA's can be included in this % as well if they have been completed. It can be a combined result of these. If you have no CBA in your subject or practical element – this 50% may be garnered from the results of House Exams from 1st & 2nd year.**
- ✓ **20% - allocated from the result of the Trial Junior Cycle Exams (Mocks)**
- ✓ **30% - allocated from class tests sat during the course of, 3rd year or a teacher can decide to schedule a test during the Remote Teaching Timetable between now and the end of the year.**
- ✓ **Individual teachers will be in touch with all of their JC classes to explain the process.**