

Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland.

School Based Assessment Policy for Junior Cycle (3rd Year) Students 2020

BACKGROUND

Further to the Minister for Education & Skills, Mr Joe McHugh TD's announcement on 10th April 2020 and subsequently on 29th April,

- *All third year Junior Cycle students to be awarded certificates for the completion of Junior Cycle by the Department of Education and Skills.*
- *Schools are given autonomy to assess students and all students are to receive a report on achievement.*

Schools are also being given autonomy to decide whether to run school-based assessments and what form they take.

INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the approach that **Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland** will take in the assessment of Junior Cycle students, 2020. The DES Guidelines for Schools, *Assessment and Reporting on Students' Learning at Junior Cycle, May 2020* and following consultation with all teachers has informed the recommended approach outlined here.

OVERARCHING PRINCIPLES

The guidelines provide for:

1. A **whole school approach** to the assessment of Junior Cycle students, 2020.
2. Inclusivity and equity of access by all students.
3. Transparency.
4. Completion of the assessment process by May 29th 2020.

ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

Presentation Secondary School's assessment procedure for Junior Cycle students 2020 provides for the inclusion of the following components:

- Recognition of Prior Learning
- May 2020 Assessment

Junior Cycle 2020	
Recognition of Prior Learning	May 2020 Assessment
Total Weighting: 70%	Total May 2020 Assessment Weighting: 30%

Where students are engaged in a **Junior Cycle** Subject a Grade Descriptor will be awarded.

Where students are engaged in a **Junior Cert** Subject a traditional grade will be awarded.

Where applicable Classroom Based Assessments (CBA) descriptors will be noted.

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- All components will be completed by May 29th, 2020. A timetable is provided for students to assist their completion of assessments.
- An assessment report will be issued to parents/guardians via VS Ware after 5th June 2020.
- A School Certificate will be issued in the Autumn. The School Certificate will also reference each student's participation in other Areas of Learning (e.g. Wellbeing programme)
- A Department of Education & Skills Certificate will also be issued for students in the Autumn.

BREAKDOWN of ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

The final Grade / Grade Descriptor will be awarded as follows:

<i>Total Weighting</i>	100% Grade Descriptor/Grade
<i>Breakdown</i>	20% October/mid term 20% Christmas test 30% Pre-Exam result 30% May Assessment

This decision was informed by the DES Guidelines (issued April 29th, 2020)

- *To ensure equity, greater weighting should be given to work that was completed by students in advance of the closure of schools on 12 March 2020.*
- *Cognisance may be given to work completed after that date but teachers should have regard to the impact that school closure will have had on students' ability to engage with further learning after 12 March 2020 and their ability to complete any additional assessment tasks.*

May 2020 Assessment

Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland will issue an assessment activity on Microsoft Teams to be completed in May 2020 and returned on Microsoft Teams.

The total weighting for this component will be 30%.

Students will be advised of the format and duration of each subject assessment by their subject teacher.

ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

- Assessments are an opportunity to celebrate your learning.
- Engage with your teachers and your classes for the remainder of the term.
- Be aware of your assessment timetable.
- Communicate with your teachers if you are unclear about arrangements.
- While the format of the assessment may differ from what you expected, it is still important, and you should give it your best.

Monday 25th May	Tuesday 26th May	Wednesday 27th May	Thursday 28th May
English	History	Science	Art
Religious Education	Maths	Business/Music	Geography
Home Economics	Spanish/French	Irish	

We wish you every success in your end of term assessment.