**Information Note for 2nd & 3RD Year Parents re Classroom Based Assessments**

As the parent/guardian of a 2nd or 3rd Year student, you will be aware that the new Junior Cycle places a much greater emphasis on classroom-based and continuous assessment.

For 2nd Years, the Classroom Based Assessments in 2020 will take place across Science, Business, English, Art, Modern Languages, Maths, History, Geography, Home Economics and Music. These Assessments will run between now and May 14th. The dates are set by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and it is a formal and national timetable.

It is therefore very important that your daughter engages with these CBA’s in school as fully as possible in the coming months. Results of these assessments will appear on the official JCPA report that is issued in the school term following the Junior Cycle. This report also includes state certified final examinations, third year CBA results in addition to other areas of learning.

The grading system for the CBA’s is as follows:

• Exceptional

• Above Expectations

• In Line with Expectations

• Yet to Meet Expectations

Sometimes, illness or unforeseen circumstances may impact attendance. Please inform the school if such a situation arises. Being absent from class during this important period of your daughter’s Junior Cycle, may result in her missing the Classroom Based Assessments for Junior Certificate.

For 3rd years there are slight amendments to the CBA’s for 2020/2021 due to the disrupted period of learning in 2019/2020. These students will not be required to complete Assessment Tasks. All subjects complete one CBA only. However some subjects must complete CBA 2 as these assessments are linked to the final examination. These subjects are Visual Art, Home Economics and Music. The calendar outlining each subject CBA timeframe for third years is available to view on this website.

Particular attention is drawn to the following:

* in the context of a full return to school, as previously, students complete CBAs primarily during class time, with support and guidance from the teacher
* the selection of activities and topics for CBAs should be guided by what is practical and safe at the time in line with public health advice
* students who cannot attend school due to circumstances arising from Covid19 can be facilitated to research, create and complete their CBA remotely, with support and guidance from the teacher
* adjustments to how schools conduct CBAs and/or the support of digital technologies, in line with schools’ child protection, acceptable use and GDPR policies, may be necessary
* NCCA will work with teachers and JCT on an ongoing basis to provide advice and support and to collate advice from teachers, in adapting CBAs to current circumstances
* As teacher/student interaction is integral to the communicative task in Gaeilge (CBA2) and oral communication in Modern Foreign Languages (CBA1), students should interact with the teacher when completing this CBA. Digital tools may be used to support this interaction.
* In Visual Art, one CBA must usually be presented in 3D. This requirement is waived for students in third year in 2020/2021.