**Scoil Mhuire - Greenhill**

**Information for students receiving their Junior Cycle School Certificate 2020/21**

The certification for Junior Cycle has changed for this year, instead of receiving an official Junior Cycle Certificate of Achievement (JCPA), you will receive a school report similar in content to the JCPA.

The report will contain the following:

1. **The results of your 3rd year Exams**
2. **The results/descriptors of your Classroom-Based Assessments.**
3. **Information on ‘Other Areas of Learning’ you have undertaken during First, Second and Third Year. This shows more information about you as a learner and is a chance to celebrate achievements you are proud of.**

While the exam and the CBA results are formulated by your teachers you are responsible for the ‘Other Areas of Learning’ information.

**SUITABLE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR INCLUSION AS AN OAL;**

Remember this achievement must have been school based and completed as a part of Junior Cycle!

If you played for a Munster Soccer team for example; you can be incredibly proud but it is not connected to the school. But if you used that knowledge to help coach a 1st Year Team for example – then you are connecting that learning to an activity in Scoil Mhuire.

Examples of OAL include:

* Being a Prefect
* Representing your school on Open Nights.
* Winning a Student Award for an outstanding achievement.
* Being part of a school sports team/panel.
* Member of the Students’ Council.
* Entered a competition like the BT Young Scientist etc.
* Been actively involved in the organisation of a charity fundraising event in the

School for example - Shoe Box Appeal.

* Performed in front of classmates/schoolmates at a school event like the Christmas Concert or the talent show.
* Being a part of any school club like the Hobbies/Drama clubs.
* Any learning experience you feel has benefitted you so far in Scoil Mhuire.

Only two OALs will be included on your JCPA, so you need to carefully consider which of your achievements you wish to include. The following pages will give examples of how the OALS will be worded. It is important that you start considering what you think your own OALs could be.

**The following are examples of how OAL’s will appear on your certificate.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **School Sports Team** | X’s participation in a school sports team has improved her skills in working with others, co-operating and contributing within a team environment. | X’s participation in successful schools sporting teams has improved her skills in working with others, co-operating and contributing within a team environment. |
| **Class Project** | X’s preparation for a class project has taught her how to think creatively and developed her skills in digital technology as she researched and gathered her information. | X’s preparation for a class projecthas developed her skills in working with others. She realises the value of respecting all opinions, having a positive attitude to learning and co-operating in teamwork. She has also developed her confidence in presenting information to others. |
| **School Award** | X has been awarded a class spirit award. This award encouraged her to be positive in her daily interactions with others and in her approach to learning. |  |
| **Prefect** | X was appointed class prefect by her peers. In this role she improved her communication skills and her ability to work successfully with others. Her leadership skills were also enhanced as she developed her ability to problem solve. | As a member of the Student Council, X was enthusiastically involved in creating solutions to areas of concern in school life and confidently communicating those ideas to make the school community a better place. |

**The link for submitting the OAL information is available through the Third Year Team page. You are only allowed to submit a response once so please be prepared before clicking on this link.**

**Preparation: There is a template of OAL comments stored in the files section of this Team group. It is recommended you analyse these and choose the learning experience and activity most suited to you. If you are not satisfied with the learning description or a particular experience is not included, you may write your own Other Area of Learning. Please see the following section for guidelines.**

**Section 2-Writing your own OAL comment.**

Students should only write their own OAL comments to describe relevant achievements that are not covered in the standard comments.

They should use the starter sentences below to help them and it would be helpful if these comments were checked by their parents before being entered onto the form.

The OAL starter sentences are based on the eight key skills for Junior Cycle:

**Working with Others**

* X demonstrated the key skill of cooperating and learning with others while…

**Being Creative**

* X developed her imagination and stimulated her creativity as a result of participation in ….

**Communicating**

* X improved her communication skills when she performed/presented…
* X’s language, discussion and debating skills have been enriched as a result of…

**Staying Well**

* X maintains her health as a member of the school \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_team. X’s participation in sport enhances her social skills and confidence as well as making a positive contribution to the school community.
* X has developed her confidence and social skills and enriched the school community by/through…