

1st Year Subject Choice



Loreto College
2023/2024

Important Considerations



- Your interest in the subject
- Your ability in the subject



Loreto College



All First Year Students Study:

- English (HL or OL)
- Irish (HL or OL)
- Mathematics (HL or OL)
- History (Common)
- Geography (Common)
- Science (Common)
- Physical & Health Education (Wellbeing)
- Choir (Wellbeing)
- CSPE (Wellbeing)
- Religion (non-exam)
- Digital Literacy (Computing) (non-exam) only in 1st year.

Three Other Subjects....

What to Choose?



Loreto College Subject Options

- Visual Art
- Home Economics
- Music
- German
- Spanish
- French
- Business Studies
- Classical Studies



Visual Art



Visual Art

How is it Assessed?



Assessment in Visual Art (continued)

After completion of the second Classroom-Based Assessment, students will reflect on and use the feedback from their teacher and peers, as the basis to create **further significant developmental work** and **two realised pieces** for the state-certified examination.

To aid in their reflections of both their ideas and work students will submit a Communicate and Reflect Form.

This work will be marked by the State Examinations Commission (SEC). There is no Assessment Task (AT) or final drawing examination.

Features of Quality

To support teacher judgement in the CBAs, descriptors called Features of Quality are set out in the Assessment Guidelines.

Subject Learning and Assessment Review

Subject Learning and Assessment Review (SLAR) meetings provide teachers with the opportunity to share and discuss samples of their assessments of student work and build a common understanding about the quality of student learning. Teachers' judgement is recorded for the purpose of the SLAR meeting and for the school's reporting to parents and students.

Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA)

Results of the CBAs and the overall SEC result are recorded on the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA).



Visual Art Learning Journey

Year 1

- Students develop knowledge, understanding, values and skills in Visual Art
- Laying down the groundwork in formative Assessment
- Use Visual Art Sketchpad to show evidence of learning

Year 2

- Continue developing knowledge, understanding, values and skills in Visual Art
- Use Visual Art Sketchpad to show evidence of learning
- Term 2 - CBA 1 (From Process to Realisation)
- Scenarios (*a combination of theme and strand*) issued by the NCCA at beginning of term 2
- Group or individual project
- Present work. Subject Learning and Assessment Review meeting (SLAR)
- Reported in JCPA at end of year 3, using Descriptors

Year 3

- Use Visual Art Sketchpad to show evidence of learning
- Term 1 - CBA 2 (Communicate and Reflect)
- Scenarios (*a combination of theme and strand*) issued by SEC at the beginning of the year
- Individual project
- Presentation or discussion. Subject Learning and Assessment Review meeting (SLAR)
- Reported in JCPA using Descriptors
- Term 2 & 3 - based on analyses & reflection on feedback received from CBA 2, students significantly develop their ideas further and realise two artefacts for the State Examination Commission (SEC).

Website: www.jct.ie
Twitter: [@JCforTeachers](https://twitter.com/JCforTeachers)
Contact: info@jct.ie

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JuniorCYCLE
for teachers

**Junior
Cycle
Information
on
Visual
Art**



Visual Art



How you will be examined:

- Year 2-Term 2 *Classroom Based Assessment 1*
- Year 3- Term 1 *CBA 2*
- Individual Project
- There is no *Assessment Task* or *Final Drawing Examination*

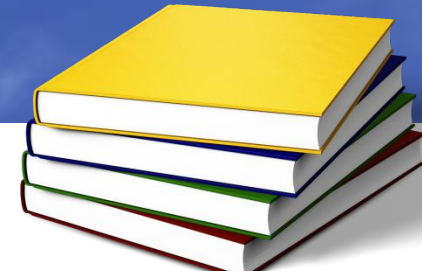
Art

How it will be useful to you:



- Many of the skills you learn will be very useful outside of school.
- Areas covered in Visual Art are: Media, Art Elements and Design, Visual Culture and Appreciation, Drawing, Critical and Visual Language.

Home Economics



Home Economics



What you will do/ learn about:

- Your body – what is good to eat and how to keep healthy.
- Food - how it nourishes your body, how to choose, prepare and cook it.
- Using money – how to spend it wisely, how to save it, and how you are protected as a consumer.
- Your home – about design in the home, about safety and hygiene.

Home Economics



How you will be examined:

Final Assessment

The final assessment comprises of a practical food skills examination and a written examination.

Supported by Ongoing Formative Assessment	Final Assessment (Year 3) (Issued & marked by the State Examinations Commission)	
	Practical Food Skills Examination	Written Examination
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Based on CBA 2, the Food Literacy Skills BriefDemonstrate culinary and creative food literacy skills in the implementation of the chosen brief1hr 30 mins + 30 mins preparation time50% of final examination mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1hr 30 mins50% of final examination mark
Reported on in JCPA		

Where can I get more information?

www.curriculumonline.ie – This is the website of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) where you will find key documents such as the Framework for Junior Cycle (2015), the Junior Cycle Home Economics Specification and the Junior Cycle Home Economics Assessment Guidelines for the Classroom-Based Assessment.

www.jct.ie – This is the website of the Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) schools' support service. Our aim is to support schools in their implementation of the new Framework for Junior Cycle through the provision of appropriate high quality continuing professional development for school leaders and teachers, and the provision of effective teaching and learning resources.

Follow JCT @JCTforTeachers and the Home Economics Team using @jctHomeEc on Twitter

We have a team of full-time advisors who can be contacted by email at info@jct.ie

Junior Cycle Home Economics Learning Journey

Year 1

Engage with learning outcomes
Learning supported by formative assessment

Year 2

Engage with learning outcomes
Learning supported by formative assessment
Classroom-Based Assessment 1
Creative Textiles
(Subject Learning and Assessment Review (SLAR) Meeting)

Year 3

Engage with learning outcomes
Learning supported by formative assessment
Classroom-Based Assessment 2
Food Literacy Skills Brief
(Subject Learning and Assessment Review (SLAR) Meeting)
Practical Food Skills Examination
(Issued & marked by the State Examinations Commission)
Final Written Examination
(Set & marked by the State Examinations Commission)

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Information
on
Home
Economics

Home Economics

How it will be useful to you:



- You will be able to use the information in your everyday life; from looking after yourself, to shopping and caring for others.
- There are a number of cross curricular elements to this subject.

Music



Music



What you will do/ learn about:

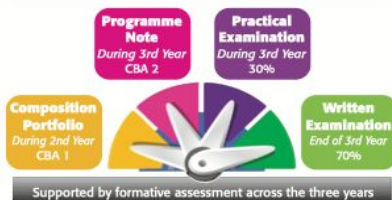
- You will sing and take up the recorder & ukulele in First Year
- You will listen to many types of music such as pop, classical and traditional Irish music.
- You will also start composing.
- It is not necessary to already play an instrument.

Music

How you will be examined:



The Learning Journey



First Year

The Learning

- The learning in first year will be derived from the 36 learning outcomes from across the three interconnected strands and through the three integrated elements.
- Learning is supported by formative assessment.

Second Year

The Learning

- The learning across second year will again be derived from the 30 learning outcomes but will now build on learning from first year.
- Learning is supported by formative assessment.

Classroom Based Assessment 1

- **Composition Portfolio** is a collection of the students' musical ideas and creative expressions.
- The focus is on the developmental and progressive nature of the student exploring creative ideas.
- Can be in any musical style, written for any instrument, including voice, and as a solo or group.
- Presented in written, visual, digital, audio or any other format.
- Student Reflection is included on each of the final two pieces chosen for assessment purpose.

Subject Learning Assessment Review (SLAR)

- The results of CBA1 are reported using descriptors

Third Year

The Learning

- As the learning outcomes are for three years, teachers plan for learning building on the learning that took place in first and second year.
- Learning is supported by formative assessment.

Classroom Based Assessment 2

- Programme Note is an individual task and is intended to illuminate the content of the student's performance for their practical examination
It could include:
 - Brief introduction to the composers/songwriters
 - Description about the historical context
 - Interesting musical point to listen out for in each piece
 - Famous exponents of a tune or instrument
 - Student's role in a group performance

Subject Learning Assessment Review meeting

- The results of CBA2 are reported using descriptors

Practical Examination (SEC) worth 30%

- Three solo and/or group songs / pieces
- Can be presented on a combination of instruments
- Standard is based on three years class-based tuition
- Choice of unprepared test: aural memory or sight reading or improvisation.

Written Examination (SEC) worth 70%

- One paper at common level
- One and a half hour's duration
- Sample of the 36 learning outcomes will be examined

Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA)

Results of the CBAs, and the overall SEC result are recorded on the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement.

Website: www.jct.ie
Twitter: @JctMusicEd
Contact: info@jct.ie

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Music**



Modern Languages



German



Spanish



French



Modern Language



What you will do/ learn about:

- How to speak in the language about yourself, your family and friends, your hobbies, your school.
- This will help you to talk to people who speak the language.
- The skills of listening to, reading and writing in the language.
- Information about the countries where people speak the language.

Modern Language

How you will be examined:



Where can I get more information?

www.curriculumonline.ie – This is the website of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) where you will find key documents such as the specification for Modern Foreign Languages, Guidelines for the Classroom-Based Assessments and the Assessment Task.

www.juniorcycle.ie – Here you can find the Assessment Toolkit which is designed to support and assist teachers in their work on junior cycle assessment.

www.jct.ie – This is the website of the JCT schools' support service. JCT's aim is to support schools in their implementation of the new Framework for Junior Cycle through the provision of appropriate high quality continuing professional development for school leaders and teachers, and the provision of effective teaching and learning resources.

www.examinations.ie – for sample examination materials.

Within your own subject department in your own school. Collaboration with teaching colleagues is promoted through SLAR meetings and professional time allocations.

JCT has a team of full-time advisors who can be contacted by email at info@jct.ie



Follow us on Twitter @JCTforTeachers

Learning Journey - MFL

A dual approach to assessment, involving classroom-based assessment across the three years and a final externally-assessed, state-certified examination enables the appropriate balance between preparing students for examinations and also facilitating creative thinking, engaged learning and better outcomes for students

Final Examination
.....
End of Year 3
.....
Based on a sample of the Learning Outcomes
Set and marked by the SEC
Breakdown of final mark awarded by SEC:
10% Assessment Task
90% Final Examination (35% of which is allocated to an aural component)

Assessment Task
.....
Year 3
.....
End of Term 1
.....
Based on the Learning Outcomes of CBA2. Set by NCCA & marked by SEC. Accounts for 10% of Final Examination

Student Language Portfolio
CBA 2
.....
Year 3
.....
End of Term 1
.....
School based assessment, followed by SLAR. Reported in JCPA using Descriptors

Oral Communication
CBA 1
.....
Year 2
.....
Final Term
.....
School based assessment, followed by SLAR. Reported in JCPA using Descriptors

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Foreign
Languages**



Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things, but learning another way to think about things.
— Flora Lewis

Modern Language

How it will be useful to you:



- Useful for travelling and careers such as Tourism, Education, Business and Translation.
- NUI universities require you to have a Modern Language to enter some of their courses.

Business Studies



Business Studies



What you will learn about:

Personal Finance focuses on students making informed decisions to effectively and responsibly manage their financial resources. This includes Budgeting, Financial services and Consumer Rights & Responsibilities.

Enterprise encourages students to identify opportunities and develops an understanding of the financial, marketing and operational functions of an organisation. This includes a practical project setting up their own business.

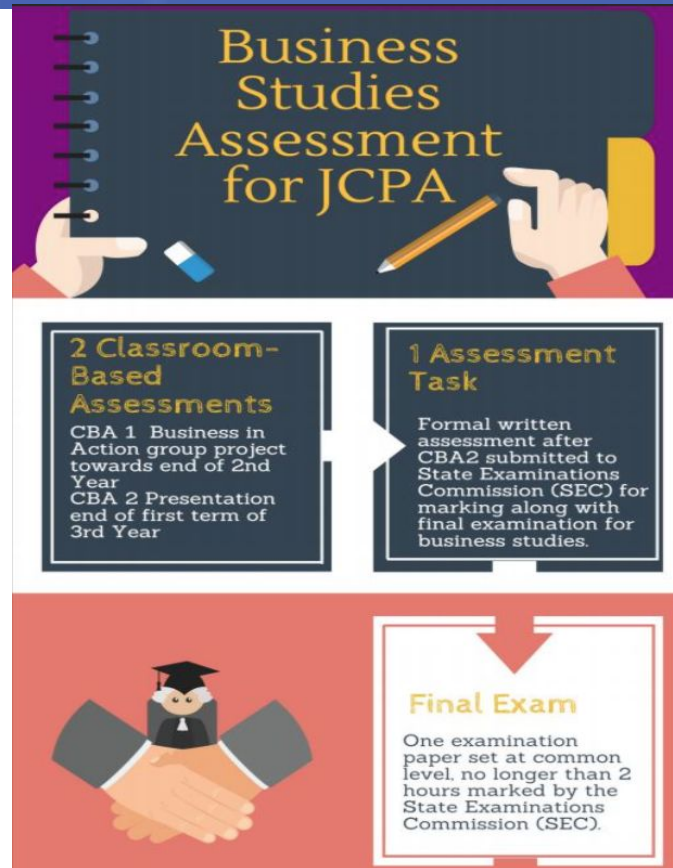
Our Economy enables students to understand the dynamic relationship between the local, national and international economic situation.



Business Studies



*How is it
Assessed?*



Business Studies



How it will be useful to you:

- This is a life skills based subject, introducing students to the work environment, budgeting, saving, investing and borrowing. The skills developed aim to equip students with the knowledge to make informed and responsible decisions with all the resources available to them.
- Business studies aims to stimulate students' interest in the business environment and how they interact with it.

Classical Studies



Classical Studies

Classical



What you will do/ learn about:

- Course breaks down into Mythology, daily life of Ancient Greeks and Romans, studying Iliad and Roman Architecture.
- Find out who the Ancient Greeks and Romans were, what they achieved and why they remain important to us today.

Classical Studies



How you will be examined:

- CBA 1 & 2
- Assessment Task during CBA 2 to be marked by the SEC (10%).
- Written Examination (SEC) (90%)

Classical Studies

How it will be useful to you:



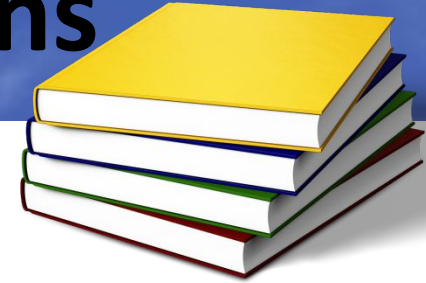
- Useful to explore ancient civilizations and even further study after leaving school.
- There is a crossover with other subjects like History and Art.

Subject Choice



Loreto College Subject Options

- Art
- Home Economics
- Music
- German
- Spanish
- French
- Business Studies
- Classical Studies with Latin



We Recommend....



You should...



- (a) Focus on what you think you'll **enjoy**
- (b) Consider the subjects you are **good at** and subjects which you may not have studied before in Primary School
- (c) Take into account the **work load** involved.
- (d) Take the **Modern Language** (not compulsory)

You should...



- (e) Talk to people who have studied it.
- (f) Try not to pick subjects based on what their friends are doing.
- (g) Take a look at: JCT.ie for more information on each subject.

Best of Luck with your Decision!!



Donnchadh O Mahony
Guidance Counsellor