



# Junior Certificate Subject Options 2010/2012



Pobalscoil na Tríonóide, Youghal

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL / FOCAL ÓN bPRÍOMHOIDE

*A Thuistí / Chaomhnóirí / Scoláirí*

The Junior Certificate examination is a very important milestone for most young adults.

The first step in obtaining an excellent Junior Certificate is for each individual to choose subjects most suited to themselves.

We hope you find this booklet a valuable source of information and guidance.

As a matter of policy we will make every effort with the resources available to offer students the subjects of their choice.

Le gach dea-ghuí

***Séamus Ó Ceallacháin***

***Príomhoide***

# INTRODUCTION

This booklet contains subject information on choosing subjects for Second Year. It contains information that will help you to choose your subjects wisely.

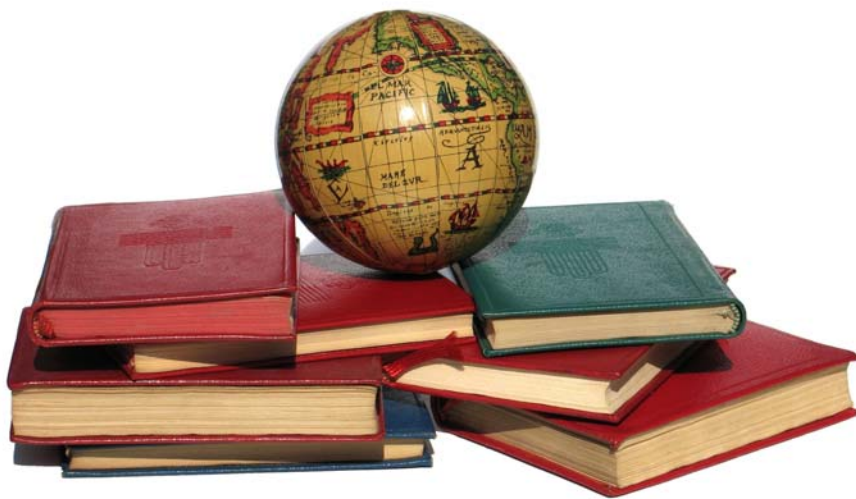
Information is provided about the content of optional Junior Certificate subjects. We have given some examples of career areas linked to the various subjects.

In choosing your subjects for the Junior Certificate you also need to consider your options on progressing to the Senior Cycle .

We wish to thank all of the subject teachers who provided the information on subject content for this booklet.

*Guidance Department*

February 2010



# ACHIEVING YOUR POTENTIAL IN THE JUNIOR CERTIFICATE

The Junior Certificate requires a three year commitment to work and study from students.

The following guidelines are suggested for Students.

Minimum Time	Daily /Incl. weekend	Total Weekly
First Year	1 ½ hours	9 hours
Second Year	2 hours	12 hours
Third Year	3 hours	18 hours

## EXAMINATION INFORMATION/EOLAS SCRÚDAITHE

### Guide to levels

A = Ardeibhéal/Higher Level

G= Gnáthleibhéal/Ordinary Level

B = Bonnleibhéal/Foundation Level

### GRADE INTERPRETATION

### GRADE PERCENTAGE

A	85% - 100%
B	70% - 84%
C	55% - 69%
D	40% - 54%
E	25% - 39%
F	10% - 24%
NG	0% - 9%



# HOW MANY SUBJECTS WILL YOU STUDY FOR THE JUNIOR CERTIFICATE?

*Irish/Gaeilge, English/Béarla, Maths/Mata, Religion/Creideamh and Civic, Social, Political Education/Oideachas Saoránach, Sóisialta agus Polaitiúil are compulsory Junior Certificate examination subjects. (Some students may have an exemption from Irish).*

YOU WILL THEN STUDY 6 OTHER SUBJECTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

- Art / Ealaín
- Business / Staidéar Gnó
- French / Fraincis
- Geography / Tír Eolas\*
- German / Gearmáinis
- History / Stair\*
- Home Economics / Eacnamaíocht Bhaile
- Music / Ceol
- Materials Technology (Metal) / Miotalóireacht
- Materials Technology (Wood) / Adhmadóireacht
- Science / Eolaíocht
- Technical Graphics / Lín Theicniúil



*These subjects are offered through the medium of Irish to 1AG where classes are viable. All subjects are offered at Higher and Ordinary level.*

- *\*Students are required to choose History or Geography or if they wish they may study both.*
- *It is highly recommended students study a European language at Junior Certificate level.*
- *Students who choose not to study French or German will have only 10 examination subjects at Junior Certificate level. Instead extra tuition will be provided in subjects e.g. Maths & English.*

*Students are also required to study the following non exam subjects:*

Physical Education ( PE)  
Social Personal & Health Education (SPHE)

# HOW WILL YOU CHOOSE YOUR SUBJECTS FOR THE JUNIOR CERTIFICATE?

- 1. Identify subjects you like.
- 2. Identify subjects you are good at.
- 3. Some subjects are essential for entry into particular colleges. Check the list of essential subjects required for specific third level courses. Consult college websites e.g. [www.ucc.ie](http://www.ucc.ie). (University College Cork), [www.cit.ie](http://www.cit.ie) (Cork Institute of Technology), [www.wit.ie](http://www.wit.ie) (Waterford Institute of Technology).
- 4. If you are uncertain about your future direction, choose a range of subjects which will keep your options open e.g. a European Language, Science and/or Business and/or a Practical subject.
- 5. Ask your Guidance Counsellor if you have a specific query.

In general, it is expected that if a student wishes to study a subject in Fifth Year they are required to have studied that subject at Junior Certificate Level. Outlined below is the range of subjects offered in the Junior Cycle and their corresponding subject(s) in the Senior Cycle.

## JUNIOR CYCLE

Irish/Gaeilge  
English  
Mathematics

German  
French  
History  
Geography

Science →  
→  
→  
→  
→

Business →  
→  
→

Music  
Art  
Materials Technology-Wood  
Materials Technology-Metal  
Technical Graphics  
Home Economics

## SENIOR CYCLE

Irish/ Gaeilge  
English  
Mathematics

German  
French  
History  
Geography  
Applied Mathematics  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Agricultural Science

Business Studies  
Economics  
Accounting

Music  
Art  
Construction Studies  
Engineering  
Design & Communication Graphics  
Home Economics Social & Scientific

## WHERE CAN YOU GET FURTHER INFORMATION?

- Speak to your Subject Teachers.
- Speak to your parents, older brothers and sisters, who may have studied these subjects before.
- Speak to your Guidance Counsellor.
- [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie) provides student friendly subject fact sheets.
- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie) contains information on courses requiring specific subjects in the Junior Certificate.

### OTHER USEFUL WEBSITES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

[www.skool.ie](http://www.skool.ie)

[www.scoilnet.ie](http://www.scoilnet.ie)

[www.universityscience.ie](http://www.universityscience.ie)

[www.careerdirections.ie](http://www.careerdirections.ie)

[www.ucc.ie](http://www.ucc.ie)

[www.cit.ie](http://www.cit.ie)

[www.wit.ie](http://www.wit.ie)



*Each class is allocated their own Guidance Counsellor. Parents/Guardians are welcome to make an appointment to discuss their daughter's/son's subject choice if they wish or with other school personnel, contact details are as follows.*

1A1 & 1A2	Mr. Frank Delaney	024 25722
1A3 & 1A4	Ms. Eilis O Mahony	024 25730
1A5, 1A6 & 1AG	Ms. Gillian Crowley	024 25733
Special Educational Needs	Ms. Marina Cusack	024 25836
	Ms. Aisling Cuddigan	024 25836
Year Head First Year	Ms. Catherine Murphy	024 25836
Assistant Year Head	Ms. Crona Mc Carthy	024 25836
Ceann Soisearach	Gráinne Ní Fhlatharta	024 25720

# ART, CRAFT & DESIGN / EALÁIN



## Brief subject content

One of the most exciting subjects you can study is Art, Craft and Design. You will see examples every where you look. It is part of what we are, the way we live and the things we do. The syllabus has a varied and interesting content. Students learn a variety of skills, including drawing, painting, graphic design, crafts and model –making.

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

In 3rd Year Students will embark on a **Project**. This project will consist of choosing a theme, then developing it through painting, graphic design, craft and 3D studies. 300 marks are assigned to the project. This project will begin in September and will be completed in early May.

A Drawing Examination will also take place in May. Students are expected to draw an object that is natural/man-made and a drawing of the human form. 100marks are assigned for the Drawing Examinations. This will complete the Junior Certificate Art, Craft and Design Examination.

## Careers with Art

Architecture, Art Teacher, Advertising, Artist, Graphic Designer, Painter and Decorator, Marketing, Primary Teacher, Fashion Designer, Florist, Television and Theatre, Sign writer, Occupational Therapist, Sculptor, Interior Designer.

# BUSINESS / STAIDÉAR GNÓ



## Brief subject content

- Household Budget, Assessment of a Business
- Final accounts of a Business/Service Firm/Farm/Club
- Insurance, Marketing, Economics, Foreign Trade
- Employment, Industrial relations, Unions, Wages
- Banking: Services, Accounts and Statements
- Consumer Protection Legislation, Communication

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

### Higher level

2 papers (2 ½ hours and 2 hours)

Paper 1 20 short questions (80 marks)

4 long questions (4x40) = 160 marks. Some choice

Paper 2 4 long questions (4x40) = 160 marks. Some choice

### Ordinary Level

1 paper (2 ½ hours)

20 short questions, 5 long questions (5x60) 300 marks

## Careers with Business

Teaching, Banking, Accounting, Corporate Finance, Company Secretary, Taxation, Financial Services, Business Administrator, Insurance, Law, Secretary/Receptionist, Management, Merchandising.

# FRENCH / FRAINCIS



## Brief subject content

- ▶ The benefits of studying a language are many and varied, apart from the university requirements.
- ▶ Studying a language raises cultural awareness and the development of language skills. Language students are highly sought after by employers. Fluency in a language also makes travel infinitely more enjoyable.
- ▶ We are fortunate in Pobalscoil na Tríonóide to have our French Department headed up by a native French speaker.

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

### Higher Level

- |                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| ▶ Listening Comprehension | 140 marks |
| ▶ Reading comprehension   | 100 marks |
| ▶ Written Expression      | 80 marks  |

### Ordinary Level

- |                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| ▶ Listening comprehension | 140 marks |
| ▶ Reading comprehension   | 100 marks |
| ▶ Written expression      | 80 marks  |

# GERMAN / GEARMÁINIS



## Brief subject content

- ▶ The development of 4 German Language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing) through a variety of themes relevant to students' life experiences. Themes include school life, hobbies, part time work and family life.
- ▶ Introduction to the culture of the German speaking countries.
- ▶ No prior knowledge of language is required. The First Year programme is beginner's level
- ▶ It is very important to know that language learning requires on- going consistent work with a high level of attention to detail.

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

- |                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| ▶ Listening comprehension | 45% |
| ▶ Reading comprehension   | 30% |
| ▶ Written expression      | 25% |

## Careers with Languages

Teaching, Interpreter, Translator, Tourism: Hotels / Restaurants / Tourist Offices Business / Marketing at home or abroad Bilingual Secretary, Law, Journalism, Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Pilot, Army, Navy & Air Corps Cadetships, Medicine.

# GEOGRAPHY / TÍREOLAS



## Brief subject content

Geography involves a general overview of Physical, Human and Economic Geography. An understanding of map reading and aerial photographs is important at this level. The Geography course gives the pupils a very good general understanding of their environment both globally and locally. Pupils who study Geography to Junior Certificate and beyond acquire valuable skills and general knowledge. This promotes in them the ability to understand and question many issues that are topical at any given time. It compliments many other subjects such as History, CSPE, English, Art, Religion and Science.

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

The Junior Certificate exam lasts two hours.

Paper 1 consists of 20 short questions.

Paper 2 consists of 5 long questions, three of which must be answered

## Careers with Geography

Geography is useful for Town Planning, Architecture, Meteorology, Surveying, Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Archaeology, Air Traffic Controller, Anthropologist, Marine Officer, Development Work Abroad, Geologist, Tour Guide, Naval Cadet, Quantity Surveyor, Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Tourist Office Receptionist, Travel Agency.

# HISTORY / STAIR



## Brief Subject Content

Three year course in which students learn about ancient, middle and modern history.

One book is required, 'Focus on the Past'.

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

Written exam at Higher and Ordinary level.

## Careers with History

History is useful for careers in Politics, Journalism, Social Work, Sociology, Archaeology, Civil Service, History Teacher, Museum Work, Solicitor, Trade Union Official, Prison Service, Garda, Tourism, Broadcaster, Librarianship.

# HOME ECONOMICS / EACNAMAÍOCHT BHAILE



## Brief subject content

Home Economics has direct relevance to the present and future life of all students. It provides students with the knowledge and skills for application in everyday life at home and in the community. The main areas of study are Food Studies and Culinary Skills (40%), Consumer Studies (15%), Social and Health Studies (10%), Resource Management and Home Studies (10%), and Textile Studies (10%).

There is also one optional area of study from the following - Childcare, Craft, Textile Skills (15%).

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

Assessment consists of both practical and written exams at Higher and Ordinary level.

Project in the Optional area of study begins in the final term of Second Year and is completed in Third Year (15% of marks)

Practical Cookery exam in April of Third Year (individual exam: 35% of marks at Higher level, 45% of marks at ordinary level)

Written exam (50% of marks at Higher level, 45% at ordinary level)

## Careers with Home Economics

Chef, Nutrition and Food Science, Hotel Management, Social Worker, Home Economics Teacher, Fashion Design, Demonstrator, Textile Science, Baking, Confectionery, Childcare.

# MUSIC / CEOL



## Brief subject content

Junior Cycle Music includes a detailed study of Classical, Popular and Traditional Irish music with particular emphasis on aural awareness and historical content. Students are also instructed in the area of composition and practical performance. While receiving instrumental tuition outside school is helpful, it is not obligatory for the practical examination, as this aspect of the course is covered in class.

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

The format of the examination is a "listening and composition paper" to be sat in June while the practical exam is held in April.

Practical Exam.

Students are required to perform 4 pieces as part of a group or individually.

## Instrumental tuition

Singing and piano tuition available outside school time.

Students encouraged to involve themselves in the school choir.

Students encouraged to involve themselves in the traditional music group.

## Careers with Music

Teaching – Primary and Secondary, Musician, Conductor, Composer, Dancer, Actor, Film/T.V. Work, Music Producer, Marketing/Sales Entertainment- groups, orchestra, bands etc.

# MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY (METAL) / MIOTALÓIREACHT

## Brief subject content

Theory :

- Brief properties of materials
- Metals
- Plastics
- Safety
- Marking out and Measuring
- Drilling
- Fitting and assembling (threading, soldering, brazing, adhesives)
- Hot and cold forming
- Lathe work
- Decorative Finishing
- Design and Electronics
- Structures and Mechanisms



## Assessment for Junior Certificate

### Higher Level

Total 400 marks.

150 marks project

150 marks practical exam.

100 marks Theory

Between November and April of Junior Certificate year

3 hour exam in May of Junior Certificate

2 hour written exam in June

### Ordinary Level

Total 400 marks

300 marks Project

100 marks Theory

Done between November and April of Junior Certificate year

1 ½ hour exam in Junior Certificate exam

## Careers with Materials Technology (Metal)

Mechanical, Production, Civil and Structural Engineer, Welder, Turner, Motor Mechanic, Metalwork and Engineering teacher, Mechanics, Electrician, Fitter, Plumber, Army, Air Corps.

# MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY (WOOD) / ADHMADÓIREACHT

## Brief subject content

The new syllabus concentrates on developing the student's problem solving ability by presenting her/him with everyday problems and guiding them towards a practical solution thereby developing their practical reasoning and equipping them with the wherewithal to tackle problems in a practical manner while still emphasising the traditional skills associated with the woodworking industry.

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

Practical Project (two thirds of the Junior Certificate marks)

Pre-scribed project issued by the Department of Education and Science

e.g. "Many toys are designed to develop and refine the manipulative skills of a child"

Design and make an attractive and stimulating toy for use by a child.

The toy should include a device or mechanism which will enhance the child's manipulative skills.

Theory exam (one third of the marks)

A written exam completed in June.



## Careers with Materials Technology (Wood)

Woodwork teacher, Town planning, Architecture, Quantity Surveyor, Civil and Structural Engineer, Carpenter, Do-it-Yourself, Furniture making, Product Design.

# SCIENCE / EOLAÍOCHT

## Brief Subject Content

Science at Junior Certificate level is an amalgamation of three disciplines, Physics, Chemistry, and Biology. In Years 1, 2, and 3 students will study the basics of these three subjects.

The course consists of:

- The theory and concepts of Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- A set of mandatory experiments, in all three disciplines, to be carried out by every student and recorded in a laboratory note book as a record.
- A student designed investigation(s).



## Assessment for Junior Certificate

Assessment for Junior Certificate Science occurs in Third year, and can be summarised as follows:

1. Students sit a Terminal examination, in June of Third Year. This accounts for 65% of the total mark for science.
2. Students will perform and write up a set of mandatory experiments, which will be presented in a laboratory notebook. This is equivalent to 10% of the total mark for science.
3. Students will carry out and write up two investigations which will be corrected and graded by DES examiners. This is worth 25% of the final marks.

**Careers with Science** Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing, Science Teacher, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Radiography, Dietician, Food Scientist, Food Business, Architecture, Industrial Design, All types of Engineering; Civil, Chemical, Structural, Electronic, Electrical, Mechanical, Industrial, Health Promotion, Beautician, Scientist, Sports Science, Chemist, Medical Laboratory Scientist, Pilot, Horticulturalist .

# TECHNICAL GRAPHICS / GRAFAIC THEICNIÚIL

## Brief subject content

- Comprises of 3 main sections interlinked that provide the student with spatial problem solving and graphical communication
- Plane Geometry - Basic geometric construction
- Plane Loci
- Transformation geometry
- Properties of Plane Figures
- Orthographic Projection
- Pictorial Projection
- Developments of Modelling
- Shade and Shadow
- Sections of Solids
- Drawing Standards
- CAD
- Freehand Sketching
- Graphical design, illustration techniques

## Assessment for Junior Certificate

- Terminal Exam
- Higher level 3 hours
- Ordinary level 2 ½ hours
- Section A - 10 out of 15 short questions
- Section B - 4 out of 6 long questions

## Careers with Technical Graphics

All Engineering and Engineering Technician Careers, Architecture and Architectural Technician, Construction trades e.g. Bricklayer, Carpenter etc., Engineering Trades e.g. Fitter, Toolmaker etc. Industrial Designer, Industrial Engineer, Structural Design, Town Planner, Draughtsperson.

# REMEMBER !!!!!

## DO

Choose subjects you enjoy

Choose subjects you are good at

Choose subjects you may need for your chosen career

Keep your options open for the future by making a balanced choice now

Talk to your Guidance Counsellor, Class Tutor, Teachers

Talk to your Parents or Guardians

## DON'T

Choose a subject because your friend is taking it

Choose a subject just because you like or dislike the teacher

Choose a subject because you think it will be easy

Choose a subject without finding out more about it

Make a decision at the last minute without thinking about it

But don't panic



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