

2nd Year Parents Welcome

JUNIOR CYCLE
INFORMATION EVENING
SEPTEMBER 29TH 2020



Management and Support team

- Principal – Ms Lorraine Mynes
- Deputy Principal – Mr Neal Martin
- Year Head – Ms Deirdre Cremin
- Guidance Counsellor – Ms Lisa O'Shaughnessy

Everyday Reminders

- 8.50 Registration with Year Head/Prefects
- Mon, Thurs, Fri (finish 3.15) / Tues, Wed (finish 3.55)
- Notes when absent
- Appointments outside school time
- No calls / text messages from student to parent re illness - must involve an adult in school
- Sign out – ring door bell and someone will bring your daughter out
- Comply with uniform - including P.E.
- No driving on school campus

Covid 19

- ▶ DES Guidelines
- ▶ Year Hubs
- ▶ Masks & Social distancing
- ▶ Covid 19 - Symptoms
- ▶ Illness
- ▶ Communication

Why change is needed?

Research highlights that some students:

- ❑ DISENGAGING IN SECOND YEAR
- ❑ NOT DEVELOPING their PARTICULAR SKILLS AND INTERESTS

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE TERMINAL EXAMINATION:

- ❑ IS NO LONGER A HIGH STAKES EXAM – 90% of students (nationally) progress onto leaving certificate.
- ❑ HAS DRIVEN TEACHING STYLE – OVER FOCUSED ON EXAMS
- ❑ STUDENTS ARE STRESSED

WHAT STAYS THE SAME?

- ▶ STUDENTS EXPERIENCE A BROAD AND BALANCED CURRICULUM
- ▶ STANDARDS AND EXPECTATIONS WILL REMAIN HIGH FOR ALL STUDENTS
- ▶ SUBJECTS WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE JUNIOR CYCLE
- ▶ SEC WILL CONTINUE TO BE INVOLVED IN ASSESSMENT FOR CERTIFICATION
- ▶ THE DES WILL MONITOR RESULTS ACROSS ALL SCHOOLS

Junior Cycle Framework

- **8 PRINCIPLES**
- **24 STATEMENTS OF LEARNING**
- **8 KEY SKILLS**

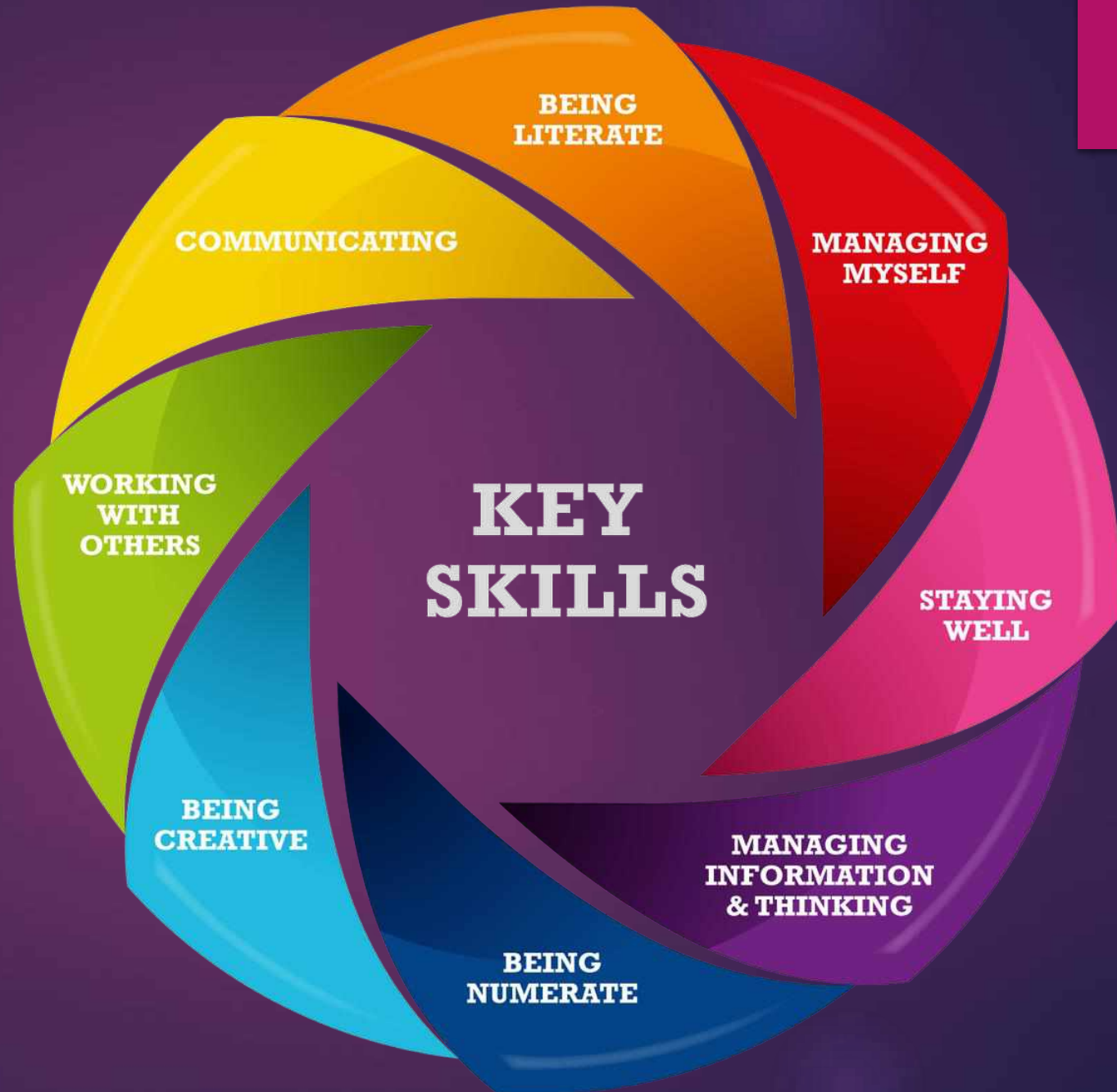
8 Key Skills

Be more actively engaged with learning

Take greater ownership of their learning

Have a critical engagement with digital technology

Be encouraged to problem solve and think creatively



24 STATEMENTS OF LEARNING

These describe what your daughter should know, understand and value having participated in Junior Cycle. Such as create and present artistic works and appreciate the process and skills involved, take initiative , be innovative and develop entrepreneurial skills.

Wellbeing

A positive school climate and culture is fundamental to staff and student wellbeing

Wellbeing is central to all aspects of Junior Cycle reform

Whole school endeavour



What is Changing?

- ❑ STUDENTS WILL STUDY A **MINIMUM OF 8 SUBJECTS TO A MAXIMUM OF 10 SUBJECTS**
- ❑ **Classroom based assessments** in all subjects in years 2 and 3 of the course
- ❑ **SCHOOL-WORK COMPONENT FOR ALL SUBJECTS COMPLETED IN Year 3**
(generally 10% of overall marks but may vary across subjects)
- ❑ **Final assessment** component (90% of marks)
- ❑ An **examination of no more than two hours**
- ❑ **Grades Awarded**
- ❑ **Two levels for english, irish, maths. Common level for all other subjects**

Grading System

Instead of A,B,C's the following descriptors will be used:

- ▶ Distinction 90-100%
- ▶ Higher Merit 75-89%
- ▶ Merit 55-74%
- ▶ Achieved 40-54%
- ▶ Partially Achieved 20-39%
- ▶ Not Graded 0-19%

Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs)

- ▶ One in 2nd year
- ▶ One in 3rd year – linked with Assessment Task
- ▶ Vary in type and design from subject to subject

English

2nd Year Oral Presentation

3rd Year Collection of Texts

Business

?

?

Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs)

Students are awarded grades by their teachers in line with the features of quality as provided by the SEC and are awarded In consultation with subject department colleagues

- ▶ Exceptional
- ▶ Above expectations
- ▶ In line with expectations
- ▶ Yet to meet expectations

We got to choose the subject of our CBA

I could be more creative

I enjoyed doing projects in class other than normal work

Student Voice



learning new skills

I liked working individually and in groups

I like doing the research

Presenting
the ones
we had to
out loud

How close
all the
CBAs were
together

Student Voice



They were
very stressful

The
amount of
work

there was a lot
of writing and
time spent on
them

Follow
instructions

Stay on top of
work and
make time at
home for the
CBAs

Pick a topic
that interests
you and that
you would like
to work on

Student Advice

Start
working
early

Be confident
in your orals
and do not
overthink it

Don't
stress over
them

The Assessment Task

- ▶ Students complete a **written assessment task in class** to be **submitted** to the **SEC** for marking as part of the state-certified examination
- ▶ This will be allocated a **% of the marks** used to determine the grade **awarded by the SEC**
- ▶ The assessment task will assess students in different aspects of their learning depending on the subject being assessed
- ▶ The assessment task is **linked to the second classroom based assessment** in all subjects

Other learning experiences

- ▶ Students will have the opportunity to engage with a **wide range of other learning experiences** as part of their junior cycle programme and these will be recorded on the JCPA – Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement.
- ▶ Other learning experiences play a critical role in ensuring that students are provided with a **broad and balanced educational experience**.
- ▶ These learning experiences could include student **participation in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities** such as; young scientist, school's sporting activities, debating, musical performance etc.
- ▶ Specific **learning opportunities that do not form part of subjects**, such as; leadership training, activities relating to guidance, membership of school clubs or societies, membership of school's student council.

Profile of achievement (JCPA)

The JCPA will be issued in the autumn after third year and will include the following:

- State certified final examinations results
- Classroom based assessments – subjects
- Other areas of learning

What is the purpose of education in Junior Cycle?

- ▶ Help students become better learners and develop a love of learning
- ▶ Provide a solid foundation for further study
- ▶ To develop skills for learning and life
- ▶ To support learning through improved reporting to both students and parent

VS Ware

- ▶ School's management system – replacing E Portal
- ▶ Login on the school website
- ▶ View the student's timetable, attendance, and assessment reports. This will be expanded to include behaviour over the coming months.
- ▶ <https://support.vsware.ie/parent-profiles>
- ▶ Text message with your login details

Schoolwise

- ▶ Educational Platform
- ▶ Login using school email
- ▶ Controlled learning environment
- ▶ Contains all the students classes
- ▶ Access to notes, homework, online classes
- ▶ Communicate with teachers, other students

Twitter

@DCWschool

School Website

www.dominicanwicklow.net



Parents Association

Chairperson: Ms Hilary Bunce

AGM: Wednesday Sept. 30th, 19:30

Fundraise / school policies / parent's
voice

Questions

