

Principal
Mr. Brendan Daly

Deputy Principals
Mr. Tomás Earls,
Ms. Samantha Hughes &
Ms. Una Osborne



F.C.J. Secondary School
Bunclody
Enniscorthy
Co. Wexford

Tel: 053 9377308
School App: FCJ Bunclody
Email: office@fcjbunclody.ie
Web site: www.fcjbunclody.ie

19th September 2023

Second Year Exams/Assessments & Other Areas of Learning 2023/2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The following formal arrangements are in place in FCJ Secondary School for second year exams/assessments in the current academic year:

- November exams: November 14th – 17th as per school calendar.
- Classroom Based Assessments will follow the schedule as outlined in the enclosed document.
- May exams: May 28th – 31st as per school calendar.

Other Areas of Learning

Students are encouraged to engage in school related activities outside of the classroom. In addition to the CBAs and formal State examinations, engagement in these other areas of learning can be reported on the students Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement which will be issued to all students in the year following completion of the Junior Cycle.

Please find enclosed schedule for completion of CBAs 2023/2024 and the FCJ Policy Document relating to same.

It is imperative that students and parents/guardians note the dates of CBAs and assessments and ensure attendance within the set timetable. Students must take personal responsibility during any absence to keep up to date with work. We would appreciate that you support your son/daughter and the school in ensuring all deadlines are met as outlined.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Daly
Principal

Úna Osborne
Deputy Principal

Founded by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus, in 1861

Companionship Justice Excellence Hope Dignity Gentleness

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Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) & Assessment Tasks (ATs)

The Junior Cycle spreads assessments throughout the three years of Junior Cycle giving students the opportunity to demonstrate their learning away from the exam hall.

All new courses incorporate two new elements to the assessment of students:

- Classroom Based Assessments
- Assessment Tasks

Classroom Based Assessments

Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their learning and skills in ways not possible in a pen and paper examination, for example, their verbal communication and investigation skills.

Students will complete one CBA in second year and one CBA in third year. All CBAs are compulsory and they are all set at common level, regardless of subject.

The CBA results will be reported in the JCPA using the following descriptors:

- Exceptional
- Above Expectations
- In Line with Expectations
- Yet to meet Expectations
- Not reported (where a student does not complete a CBA)

The results of all CBAs will be reported on in the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA), which is issued in the school year following completion of the Junior Cycle programme.

Assessment Tasks

The Assessment Task (AT) for each subject will be specified and published by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). It is a written task and will relate to the learning outcomes for the second CBA. Students must complete the second Classroom Based Assessment (CBA2) before completing the Assessment Task. The AT will be completed in class time under the supervision of the teacher in accordance with a timeframe and guidance from the NCCA. It is not marked by the class teacher, but is sent to the State Examinations Commission for marking as part of the state-certified examination. The written exam in June accounts for the remainder of the marks awarded in the subject. The value assigned to the Assessment Task will be included in the guidelines for each subject. These can be accessed at CurriculumOnline.ie.

Subject specific details of CBAs and ATs are provided by subject teachers on commencement of the relevant assessment period.

Calendar 2023/2024

Both the Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) and Assessment Tasks (ATs), where relevant, are undertaken by Junior Cycle students during set timeframes, within class contact time and to a national timetable.

Please find below details of CBA requirements for 2nd year students for the period 2023/2024.

SECOND YEARS

Second Year - CBA 1			
Subject	Title	Date begins	Date ends
PE		Mon. Nov 6 th	Fri Dec 22 nd
Geography	Geography in the news	Mon Nov 20 th	Fri Dec 8 th
Business Studies	Business in action	Mon Nov 20 th	Fri Dec 15 th
Home Economics	Creative textiles	Mon Nov 20 th	Fri Jan 26 th
History	The past in my place	Mon Nov 27 th	Fri Dec 15 th
Visual Art	From process to realisation	Mon. Jan 8 th	Fri. Apr 19 th
Applied Technology	Exploring the application of controlled systems in a local context	Mon. Jan 8 th	Fri. Jan 26 th
RE	A person of commitment	Mon Jan 8 th	Fri Jan 26 th
Science	Extended experimental investigation	Mon Jan 29 th	Fri. Mar 1 st
Maths	Mathematical investigation	Mon. Feb 19 th	Fri. Mar 8 th
Graphics	Communicating through sketching	Mon. Feb 19 th	Fri. Mar 8 th
Wood Technology	Wood science in our environment	Mon. Feb 26 th	Fri Mar 15 st
French/Spanish (MFL)	Oral communication	Mon. Mar 18 th	Fri.19 th Apr
SPHE		Mon. Mar 4 th	Fri Apr 26 th
English	Oral communication	Mon. Apr 8 th	Fri. Apr 26 th

*Junior Cycle Gaeilge CBA1 Language Portfolio is finalised and submitted in the first term of third year.

* Junior Cycle Music – portfolio is completed across the year.

October Mid Term Break – Monday 30th October – Friday 3rd November (incl.)

Christmas Holidays – Friday 22nd December (12 noon) – Friday 5th January (incl.)

February Mid Term Break – Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February (incl.)

Easter Holidays – Monday 25th March – Friday 5th April (incl.)

Please note that where a school closure/day off results in a class being missed within the particular window for completing the CBA, the start/finish date can be amended by the teacher to ensure that students are not adversely affected in the completion of their CBA. Individual teachers will notify their students regarding same.

FCJ School Policy around Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) and Assessment Tasks (ATs)

1. As CBAs are reported on in each student's Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) it is vital that students and parents/guardians note the dates of the CBAs and do their very best to ensure student's attendance within the national set timetable. Parents/guardians are encouraged to schedule essential appointments outside of school time where possible.
2. FCJ realises that students may have to attend important extra-curricular school events during the CBA timeframes. In this instance students must take responsibility on themselves to catch up on any work missed due to such absences. It is the responsibility of the student to notify their teacher of such an absence in advance.
3. Students should note that while they will be allowed to attend important school extra-curricular activities during the CBAs, they must attend for their Assessment Tasks.
4. Where a student is absent, under exceptional circumstances, for the completion of all or part of the Assessment Task, FCJ will make arrangements to allow the student to complete the task as close as possible to the timeframe scheduled for completion. Such students can be expected to furnish the school with a doctor cert or other relevant documentation.
5. Only work that is the student's own can be accepted for assessment in the JCPA.

Please sign and return the blue copy of this page to the school office by Thursday 28th September 2023. Please retain this copy for your own records.

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Please sign and return the blue copy of this page to the school office by Thursday 28th September 2023.
Please retain the second copy for your own records.

I have read and understand the above guidelines and school policy as they relate to Classroom Based Assessments and Assessment Tasks.

Student signature: _____ Class _____ Date: _____

Student signature: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

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