

# Borrisokane Community College

Seeking to promote a caring and committed school community

# Junior Cycle Subject Choice 2023





# Subject Choice Pathways Through BCC



1<sup>st</sup> Year

2<sup>nd</sup> Year 3<sup>rd</sup> Year TY LCA LCE

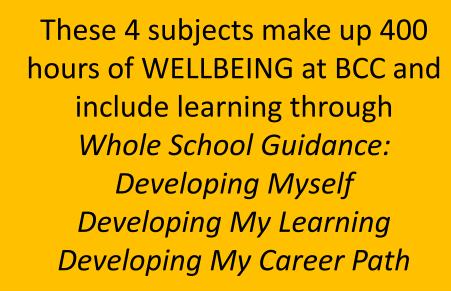
At various stages students make subject or programme choices.

First year allows students to sample all subjects.

This facilitates an informed decision regarding subject choice for 2nd & 3rd year

# Junior Cycle Core Subjects – (compulsory)

- Irish (unless exemption)
- English
- Maths
- Science
- Religion
- History
- PE
- SPHE
- CSPE
- Wellbeing





# 3 Junior Cycle Optional Subjects — (Choice)

- Art
- Business
- Home Economics
- Geography
- Music
- French
- German
- Wood Technology
- Graphics
- Engineering (Metalwork)
- ➤ short courses (100 hours approx.):

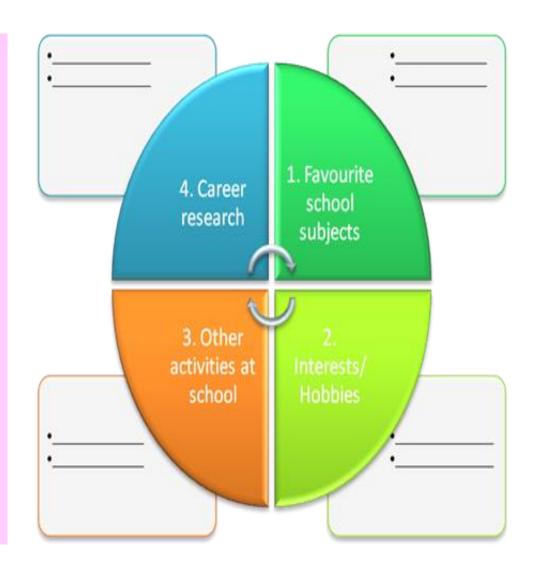
  Digital Media Literacy <u>or</u> Coding



- ✓ Students will study **three** options for Junior Cycle.
  - ✓ Place five subjects in order of preference.
  - ✓ Indicate which short course you wish to take.

# General advice when Choosing Subjects

- ✓ Choose subjects you **enjoy**.
- ✓ Choose subjects you excel in.
- ✓ Be aware of College requirements (eg. Language).
- ✓ Be aware you may receive your 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> choice.
- ✓ Talk to **teachers** of the subjects.
- ✓ Research subjects using www.curriculumonline.ie
- ✓ Ask for **advice** from Guidance Dept.



# How do you like to learn?

### **Consider:**

- 1. Do you like **reading & learning** factual information?
- 2. Do you prefer **practical** hands-on tasks?
- 3. Do you enjoy discussion and analysing information?
- 4. How are you at **problem solving**?
- 5. Are you **creative** and enjoy expressing yourself through creativity?
- 6. Do you prefer **project work** or **assignments** or performing in **exams**?



# Future Career & Study Path

- Discussion & reflection on possible careers & further study supports decision making.
- Be mindful JC subjects may have an impact on **senior cycle** subject choices.
- Skills & knowledge learned in subjects at Junior Cycle are expanded upon in most Senior Cycle subjects.



https://classroomguidance.ie/test/musaic-psychometric-test/

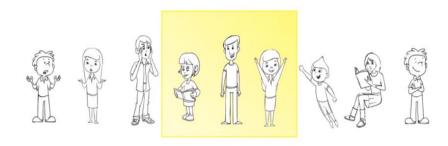
# What is CAT4 used for?

CAT4: Cognitive Abilities Test Fourth Edition

- ✓ Understanding how a student thinks
- ✓ Identifying academic potential

- ✓ Determining where further support may be necessary
- ✓ Informing decision making regarding subject choice

Students that achieve a Standard Age Scores between 89 - 111 are all within the 'average' range



60 100 140

# Consider their SAS (Standard Age Score) in the following Batteries:

### Verbal Reasoning

focuses on how a student thinks with words It remains one of the best indicators of potential educational outcomes



➤ Verbal Reasoning subjects: Languages, History, Geography, Home Economics & Business.

### Non-Verbal Reasoning

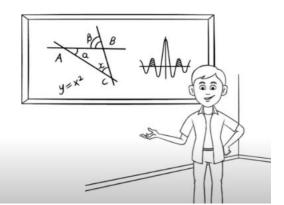
explains a student's ability to problem solve using pictures and diagrams It is an excellent way to understand how a student uses critical thinking to solve problems



➤ Non-Verbal Reasoning subjects: Maths, Art, Graphics, Metalwork, Wood Technology, Science

### Quantitative Reasoning

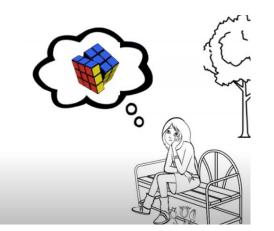
reveals a student's ability to think with numbers This is a skill applicable well beyond mathematics



➤ Quantitative Reasoning subjects: Maths, Metalwork, Graphics, Science

### Spatial Ability

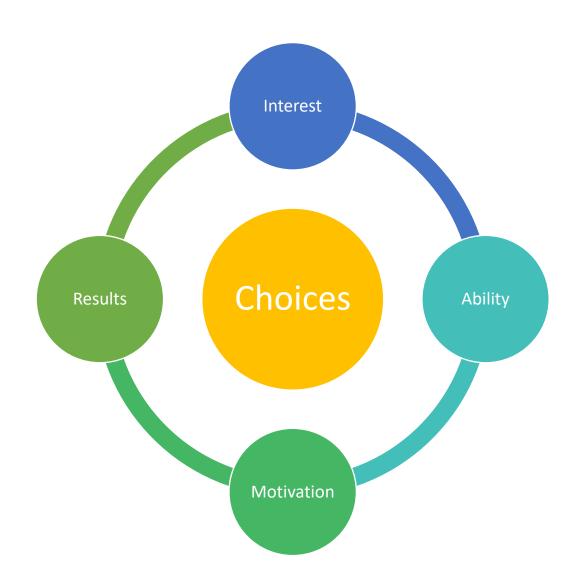
demonstrates how well a student can think and draw conclusions in 3D in their mind This is a key skill for STEM and careers in engineering, architecture and design

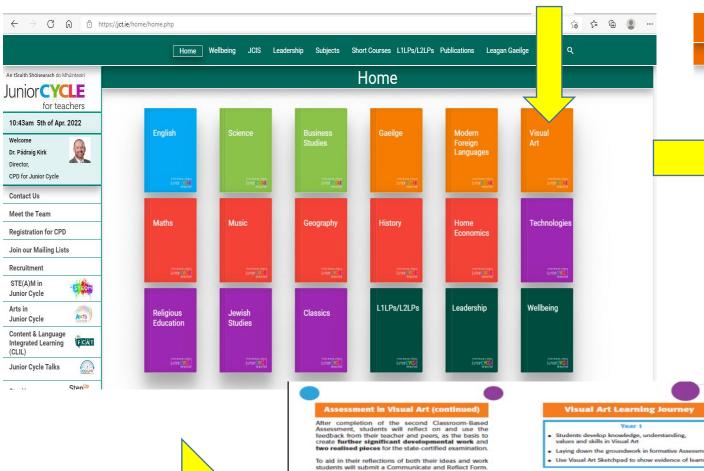


> Spatial Ability subjects: Art, Metalwork, Home Economics, Wood Technology, Geography & Graphics.

# Further Information

- www.curriculumonline.ie
- www.jct.ie
- www.examinations.ie
- www.qualifax.ie
- www.careersportal.ie





'Information Leaflet'

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.

unior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA)

Results of the CBAs and the overall SEC result are

recorded on the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement

### **Visual Art Learning Journey**

- Students develop knowledge, understanding,
- Laying down the groundwork in formative Ass

### 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

- 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
- 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).

Visual Art

Home Wellbeing JCIS Leadership Subjects Short Courses L1LPs/L2LPs Publications Leagan Gaeilge Search Q



Key Documents

Planning



Assessment

News/Events



CPD Workshops



Resources

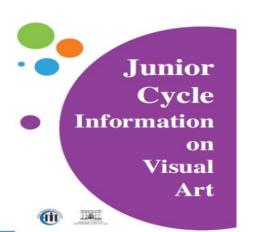


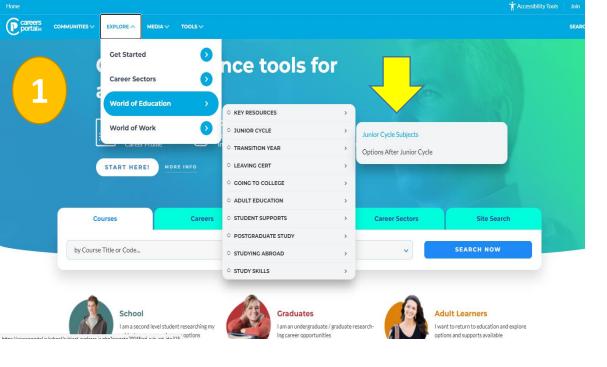


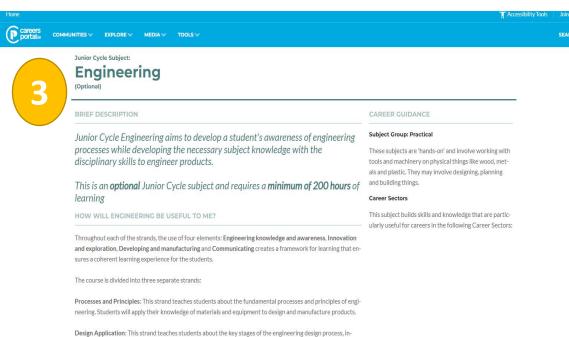


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cluding building an understanding of the importance of design in both the end-user experience, and the eco-



2

### **Junior Cycle Subjects**

### **Practical**

These subjects are 'hands-on' and involve working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals and plastic. They may involve designing, planning and building things.



### **Science**

These subjects demonstrate how to explore nature using carefully planned methods, and teach the basic methods and findings of scientific investigation.





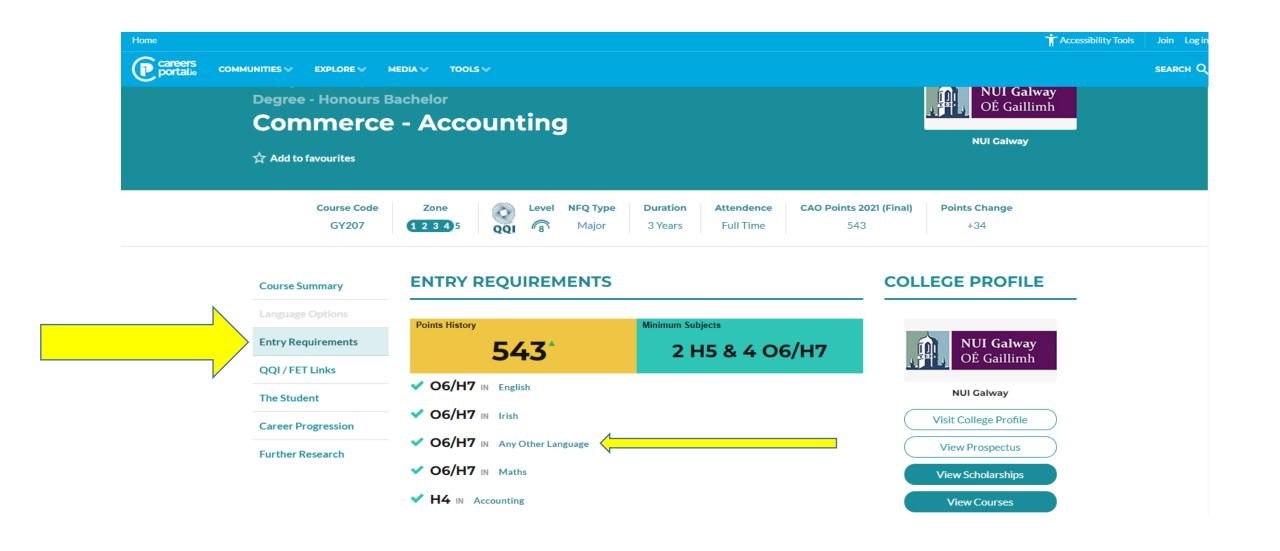
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### COURSE AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

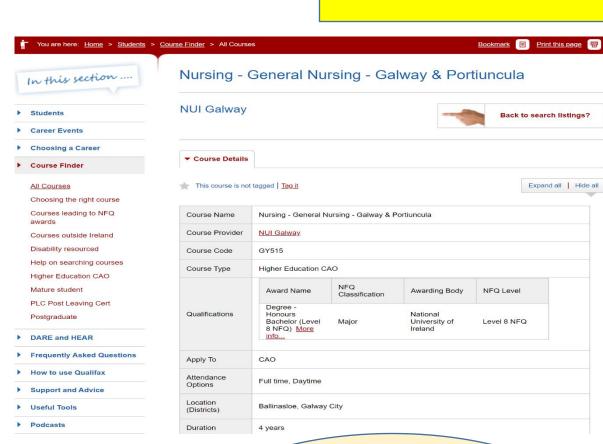
The Engineering Specification has three strands: **Processes and Principles**; **Design Application** and **Mechatronics**.

Number of hours over 3 years	Final Exam	Classroom-Based Assessments (CBAs)	Assessments Task	
200 hrs minimum	1hour 30min paper	Two CBAs to be taken over 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	Students complete a <b>project</b> set by the SEC after CBA 2 in 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year.	
	Taken at Common level Worth 30% of overall grade	CBA 1- Engineering in Action CBA 2- Research and Development	Worth 70% of overall grade	Breakdown of course

### www.careersportal.ie



## www.Qualifax.ie



Specific Subject Requirement: IR, Eng, Mat,

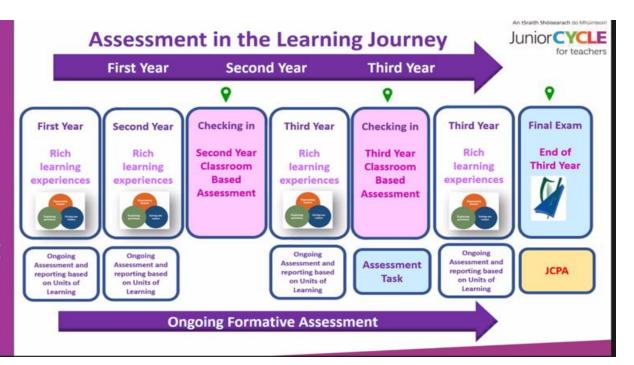
Lab Sc O6/H7

\*Irish Exemption Contact admissions office\*

Specific Subjects or Course Requirements	-Leaving Certificate Entry Requirements: Minimum Grade H5 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at O6/H7 level in the Leaving Certificate, including Irish, English, Mathematics, a laboratory science subject (i.e., Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science), and any two other subjects recognised for entry purposes.  Additional Requirements: All successful applicants who are offered places on the degree programme will be required to have medical screening and Garda vetting; this will include medical assessment, screening and, if necessary, vaccination prior to the first clinical placement, in accordance with the policies of NUI Galway and the Saolta University Health Care Group.			
Leaving Certificate General Entry Requirements	+MATRICULATION For holders of the Leaving Certificate, six subjects are required, with a minimum Grade H5 in two subjects, and at least Grade O6/H7 in four other subjects.  An applicant may combine the results of the Leaving Certificate examinatio			
Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme LCVP	Points Awarded for LCVP Link Modules by NUI Galway  Distinction 66 Merit 46 Pass 28  Note: While Link Modules are acceptable for points scoring purposes, they may not be counted as one of the six subjects to satisfy minimum entry/matriculation requirements. Students will have the opportunity to use their points allocation for the Link Modules as one of their six subjects for the purposes of calculating points.			
QQI FET Applicants General Information	For a full list of all QQI/FET/FETAC pathways to full-time undergraduate degrees, please s www.nuigalway.ie/ access/qqifetac/  Find out more Access Programmes Office NUI Galway e.access@nuigalway.ie w.nuigalway.ie/accesscentre/			
QQI FET Entry Requirements	Web Page - Click Here			
Mature Applicants	+MATURE—APPLYING ON THE GROUNDS OF MATURE YEARS If you are at least 23 years of age on or before 1 January 2021 and if your school leaving examination results do not meet normal matriculation and entry requirements, you may apply on the grounds of			
Alternative Entry	No matter who you are, or what course or programme you're interested in, we'll let you know exactly what you need to do to apply.  Go to: http://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/how-to-apply/			
Higher Education Access Route HEAR	Web Page - Click Here			

### Points History

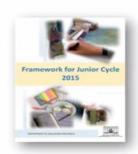
Year	Points
2021	502
2020	476
2019	442



Junior CYCLE for teachers

### A Dual Approach to Assessment

A dual approach to assessment, involving classroom-based assessment across the three years and a final externally assessed, state-certified examination can enable the appropriate balance between preparing students for examinations and also facilitating creative thinking, engaged learning and better outcomes for students. This approach will recognise and value the different types of learning that take place in schools and will allow for a more rounded assessment of the educational achievements of each young person.



Adapted from the Framework for Junior Cycle (2015)

When considering the subjects you wish to take keep in mind that throughout 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> year there will be CBA's (Classroom Based Assessments); with a final exam in 3<sup>rd</sup> year\*

### **Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement**

'It will be important to see the state-certified examination as **one element of a balanced, broader approach to assessment**. All aspects of assessment will contribute to providing a **comprehensive** picture of student achievement which will be captured in the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement.'



JCPA

# Modern Foreign Languages

Choice between French or German.



### 3 Strands:

- 1) Communicative Competence
- 2) Language Awareness
- 3) Socio-cultural Knowledge & Cultural Awareness

### **Examination:**

CBA 1 (2nd Year) Oral Examination

CBA 2 (3rd Year) Language Portfolio

SEC Examination: 90% Final Exam (1 Common Paper). (Aural 35%)

10% Assessment Task

**Careers/Courses:** European Studies, Marketing, Hotel Management, Translation, EU, Teaching, Cadets, Tourism & Leisure.

https://curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/Modern

<sup>\*</sup>For 4 of the 7 universities you need a foreign language (exceptions: Science, Nursing and Engineering).

# Business



Business Studies is concerned with understanding the environment in which business operates including households.

3 Main Sections: 1)Personal Finance

2)Our Economy

3)Enterprise

### **Examination:**

CBA 1 (2nd Year) Business in Action

CBA 2 (3rd Year) Presentation

SEC Examination: 90% Written Test (1 Common Paper).

10% Assessment Task

**Careers / Courses :** Accounting, Banking, Bookkeeping, Administration, Insurance, Sales, Marketing, Customs and Excise, Taxation and Law.

https://curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/Business-Studies/Rationale

# Visual Art



This course aims to develop the expressive, communicative and functional modes of art, craft and design with drawing as the central activity. Four main areas:

- 1 Art Drawing, Painting, Printmaking etc.
- 2 Design Poster, Pattern, Book Cover Design etc.
- 3 Craftwork Batik, Embroidery, Pottery etc.
- **4 Visual Culture & Appreciation**

### **Examination:**

CBA 1 (2nd Year) From Process to Realisation

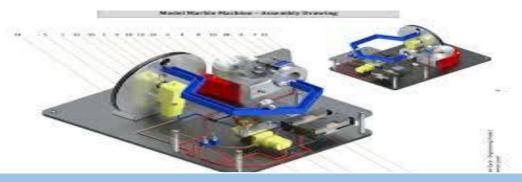
CBA 2 (3rd Year) Communicate & Reflect

SEC Examination: a school-based project, chosen from a list of themes completed during 3<sup>rd</sup> year

**Careers/Courses:** Website/graphic designer, Architect, Photographer, Art teacher, Fashion/interior designer, Animator, Digital illustrator, Art therapist, Film & Video editor, Artist, Make-up artist, Painter, Craftworker, Product designer.

https://curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/Visual-Art/Rationale/

# Engineering



In Engineering you will learn how to work with metal and assemble different parts. Plastics and wood are also investigated. What will you do:

- ✓ examine properties of metal/wood/plastics
- ✓ examine how things work
- √ freehand sketching
- ✓ joining and assembling materials
- ✓ learn about basic electronic components

### **Examination:**

CBA 1 (2nd Year) Engineering in Action

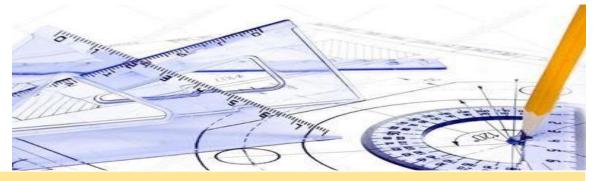
CBA 2 (3rd Year) Research & Development

SEC Examination: Project 70% & Written Examination 30%

**Careers/Courses:** Aircraft Technician, Fitter/Turner, Industrial Design / Operatives, Mechanics, Mechanical Production, Structural and Civil Engineer, Toolmaker and Welder.

https://curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/Engineering/Rationale/

# Graphics



In Technical Graphics you will learn how to represent 3-D objects on paper and on computer. What will you do:

- ✓ produce neat drawings of everyday items
- ✓ create models on the computer
- ✓ sketching, colouring and shading of objects
- ✓ make cardboard / paper cut-outs of items

### **Examination:**

CBA 1 (2nd Year) Communication through Sketching

CBA 2 (3rd Year) Graphical Presentation Skills

SEC Examination: Project 70% & Written Examination 30%

**Careers/Courses:** Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Construction Management, Architecture, Product Design, Quantity Surveyor, Draughtsman, Graphic Design and Teaching.

https://curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/Graphics/Rationale/

# Wood Technology



In Woodwork you will learn to design small projects and the skills required to use tools and equipment to make your designs. Main sections:

- 1) Examine trees & the environment
- 2) Sketching
- 3) Design Project & Folder
- 4) Woodwork theory

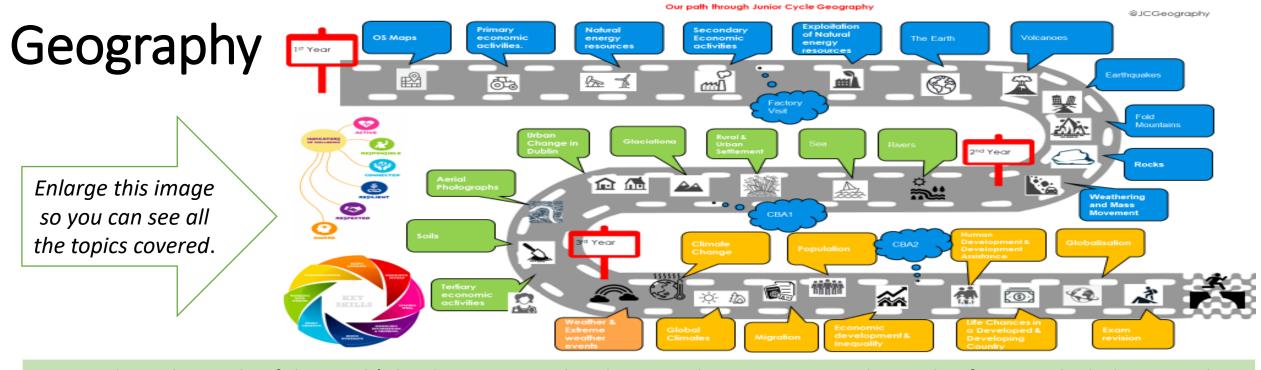
### **Examination:**

CBA 1 (2nd Year) Wood Science in our Environment

CBA 2 (3rd Year) Student Self-analysis & Evaluation

SEC Examination: Project 70% & Written Examination 30%

**Careers/Courses:** Sustainable Energy Consultant, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Construction Management, Architecture, Quantity Surveyor, Site Foremen, Plumber, Carpenter, Joiner.



Geography is the study of the Earth's landscapes, people, places, and environments. The study of geography helps to explore and understand the world around you. What will you learn?

- 1. The Human Habitat Processes and Change
- 2. Population, Settlement Patterns and Urbanisation
- 3. Patterns in Economic Activity

### **Examination:**

90% Written Test (1 Common Paper). 10% Assessment Task

Careers/Courses: Town planning, Teaching, Engineering, Geology.

https://curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/Geography/

# **Home Economics**



Junior Cycle Home Economics develops knowledge, understanding, skills and values necessary for healthy and sustainable living as an individual and as a member of families & society. 3 Strands:

- 1) Food, Health & Culinary skills
- 2) Responsible Family living
- 3) Textiles & Craft

### **Examination:**

CBA 1 (2nd Year) Creative Textiles

CBA 2 (3rd Year) Food Literacy Skills Brief

SEC Examination: Cookery Exam 50% & Written Exam 50%

**Careers/Courses:** Hotel, Catering & Tourism, Culinary Arts, Fashion & Design, Childcare, Home Economics Teaching, Social Care, Food Science

# Music

In Junior Certificate Music, you will sing and possibly learn how to play an instrument. You will listen to many types of music such as pop, classical and traditional Irish music. You will also start composing. What will you do:

- ✓ learn about many types of music
- ✓ learn how to read and write music
- ✓ learn how to sing songs and maybe how to play an instrument.

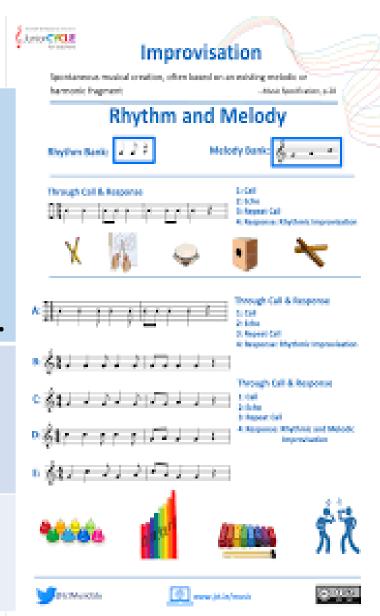
### **Examination:**

CBA 1 (2nd Year) Composition Portfolio

CBA 2 (3rd Year) Programme Note (Leads on to Practical Exam)

SEC Examination: Practical Exam 30% & Written Examination 70%

**Careers/Courses:** Composer, Conductor, Sound Engineer, Primary School Teaching, Drama & Theatre & Communications.



### Take the time to make an informed decision











When choosing subjects you need to consider 2 main questions:



What subjects do you enjoy?



What subjects are you good at?



Please talk to your parents/guardians and also contact your teachers for advice if you are unsure



Use the hyperlinks attached to this presentation to research the subjects on offer; to assess the type of learner you are or identify possible career interests