

St Aidan's Community College

Junior Cert Schools Programme Policy

The Junior Certificate school Programme (JCSP) is a national programme under the auspices of Oide, a Department of Education Support Service. JCSP operates within the Junior Cycle curriculum. It follows the curriculum framework set out for the Junior Cycle, which is refocused to cater for JCSP students.

It is intervention into the Junior Cycle and not an alternative to it. It helps to make the curriculum assessable and relevant to young people who would benefit from a different approach to the Junior Cycle.

Rationale for JCSP Programme

- A curriculum framework that allows students access to Junior cycle, those who may be at risk of early school leaving or has a special educational need.
- JCSP helps students to experience success and to support positive self-esteem.
- On completion of the programme students receive a profile which is a record of their success and achievement from the DES.
- JCSP main focus is the support of numeracy and literacy in teaching and learning in the classroom.
- The programme places emphasis on active teaching and learning and on the development of basic skills.
- Subject based statements and cross curricular statements are used to support teaching and learning in the classroom.

Selection Process

As part of St Aidan's inclusive approach all students in Junior Cycle are registered as JCSP students, this helps to minimise any stigma which may be associated with the JCSP programme. All students are treated the same this help promote inclusion and supports are added to help all student.

Organisation of JCSP.

As some of the JCSP students are placed in mixed ability classes others are in small support groups the resources are targeted, theses supports can differ depending on class size, student needs. These resources are varied from SNA support, team teaching and small support groups to name a few. Student are engaged in the JCSP programme in a variety of subjects and programmes including level 2 programme and ASD students

Curriculum Provision

All Junior Cycle subjects are included English, Maths, Geography, Engineering, Woodwork, Home Economics, Art CSPE and Learning support subjects of Animal care, Numeracy and literacy to name a few

Profiling.

Profiling meeting takes place in April, as all students are in volved in the JCSP programme an excel spreadsheet is available on the JCSP Teams channel. Teachers can access Subject statements and enter student statements.

Subject Statements are undertaken by teachers across a wide range of subjects and are used by teachers

1. To form a framework for teaching a topic
2. An evaluation or self-appraisal for students, of the quality and quantity of work completed.

Cross-curricular statements are used by class teachers and Learning Support teachers as a motivational and appraisal tool.

When all subject statement have been entered on the excel sheet the coordinator compiles the results onto the JCSP database, and the student profile will be issued to the school.

The student profiles are issued to the students when they get their Junior Cycle results.

Programme Co-ordination and Development

The JCSP Co-ordinator is allocated hours from the Co-ordinator allocation.

JCSP Co-ordinator – Eamon Breen

SEN Co-ordinator – Sinead Flanagan

HSCL Teacher – Joe Cotter

BFL Support – Jodi Furlong

Induction of New Teaching staff

New teachers are inducted and all staff informed of the different initiatives and statements in the JCSP programme by the Co-ordinator at the start of the year. A presentation is given explaining the key concepts of the JCSP programme.

Involvement in JCSP Initiatives

Emphasis through JCSP this year is on Literacy, in collaboration with Numeracy & Literacy Strategy as well as field trips to highlight pathways in education.

At the beginning of the year during the JCSP update to staff the coordinator highlights the different initiatives available and the application process

Initiatives include but are not restricted include

DEAR

Book Review

Paired Maths

Paired reading

Key Words

Christmas Celebration

JCSP Resources

JCSP Co-ordinator orders resources three times a year, a list of resources are available on the JCSP teams channel and teachers can request resources as required from the JCSP coordinator. A variety of resources are stored in Room 6 and also the BFL office.

Parental Involvement

Participation from HSCL target group is encouraged.
JCSP postcards have also been used.

JCSP Celebration

Celebrations will take place in December and May.

Evaluation of the Programme

The Core JCSP Team meets in May to evaluate the relevance and value of initiatives and profiling for that current year. Recommendations are taken on board for the coming year

Chairperson BOM

Date: ____