



# **An tSraith Shóisearach Nua Cómhthéacs agus Réasúnaíocht**

Tuismitheoirí Ghaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin

Dé Máirt, an 28ú Feabhra 2017



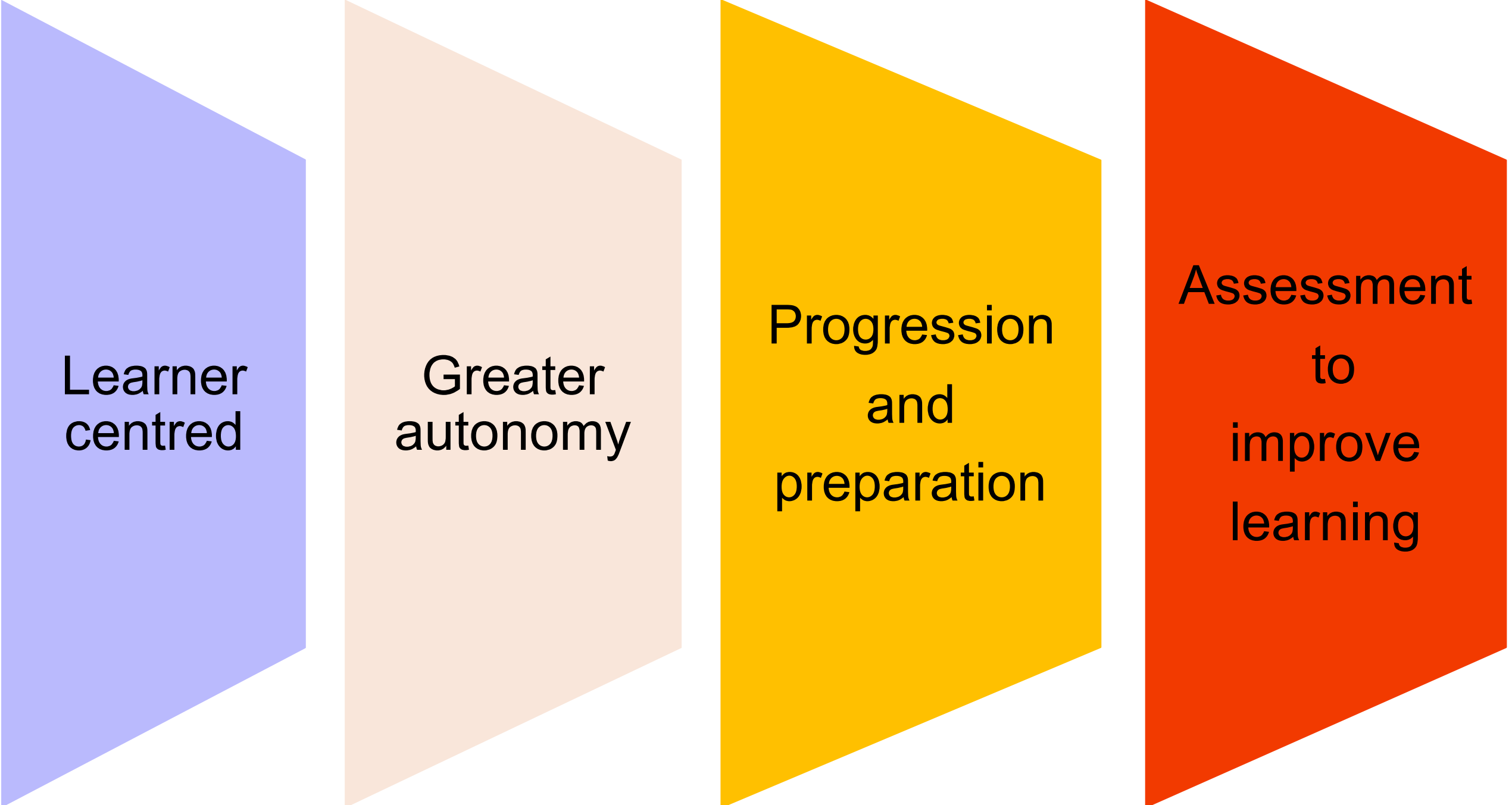
# Vision

“Junior cycle places **students** at the **centre** of the educational experience, **enabling** them to **actively participate** in their communities and in society and to be **resourceful** and **confident learners** in all aspects and stages of their lives.”

NCCA



# Key Messages



Learner  
centred

Greater  
autonomy

Progression  
and  
preparation

Assessment  
to  
improve  
learning





The diagram consists of a central teal circle surrounded by seven colored segments, each with a white border. The segments are arranged in a ring around the center. The colors of the segments, starting from the top and moving clockwise, are: orange, purple, brown, dark grey, green, gold, and light grey.

# Our Changing World

Information Age

Independent Learners

Collaboration

Higher Order Thinking

Preparation for Life

World of Work

Entry Reform at 3rd Level

Literacy and  
numeracy  
for learning  
and life

Connecting  
primary and  
secondary

Settling in  
and making  
progress in  
first year

## Our Students

A purposeful  
second year



Ongoing  
assessment to  
support  
learning



# What is improving?

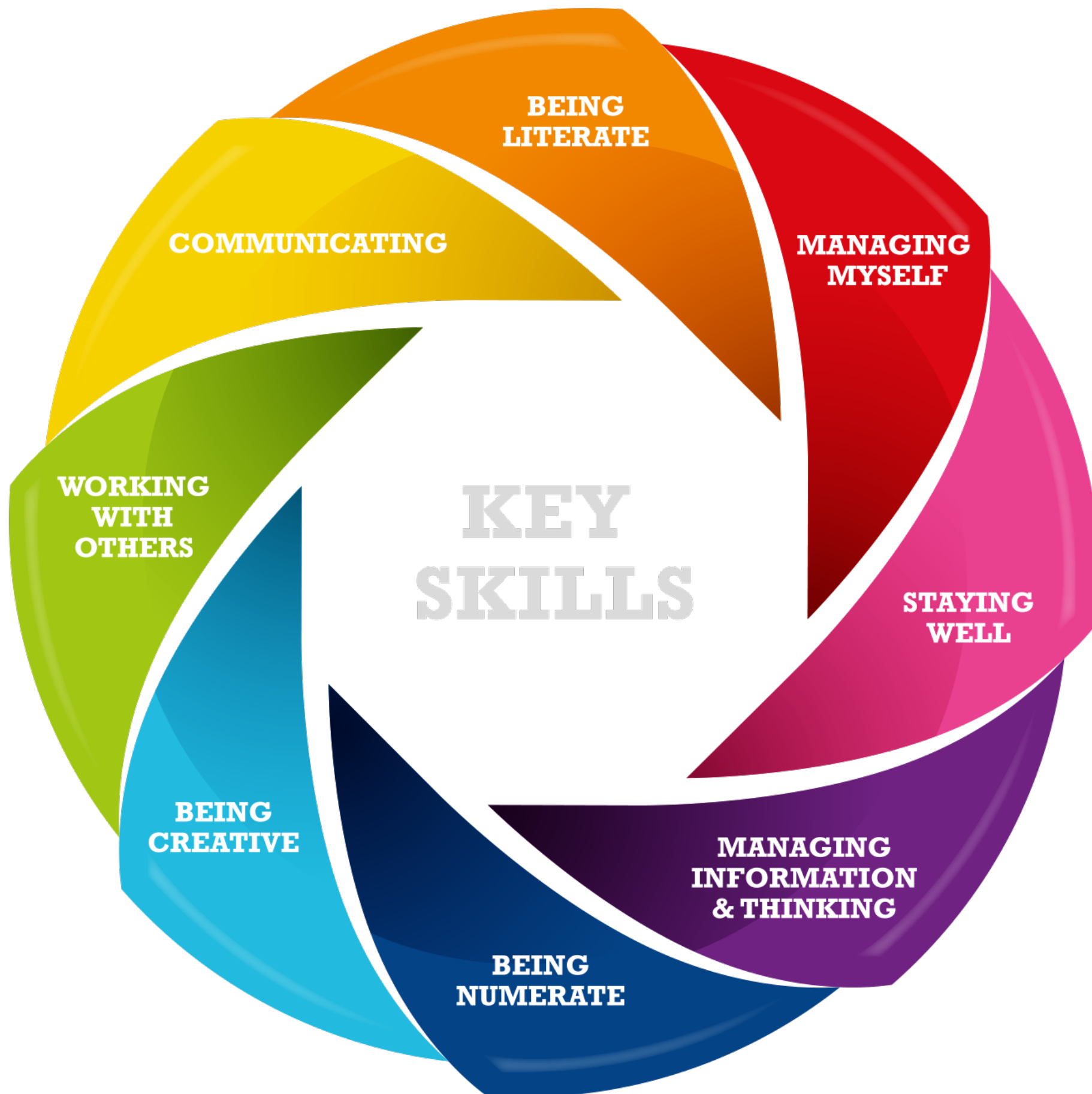
An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí  
**JuniorCYCLE**  
for teachers

- A better and a more engaging learning experience for your child
- Updated subject specifications
- Quality reporting back to parents and students
- Assessment to support learning
- An emphasis on Key Skills and preparation for life
- A sound preparation for learning at Senior Cycle and beyond

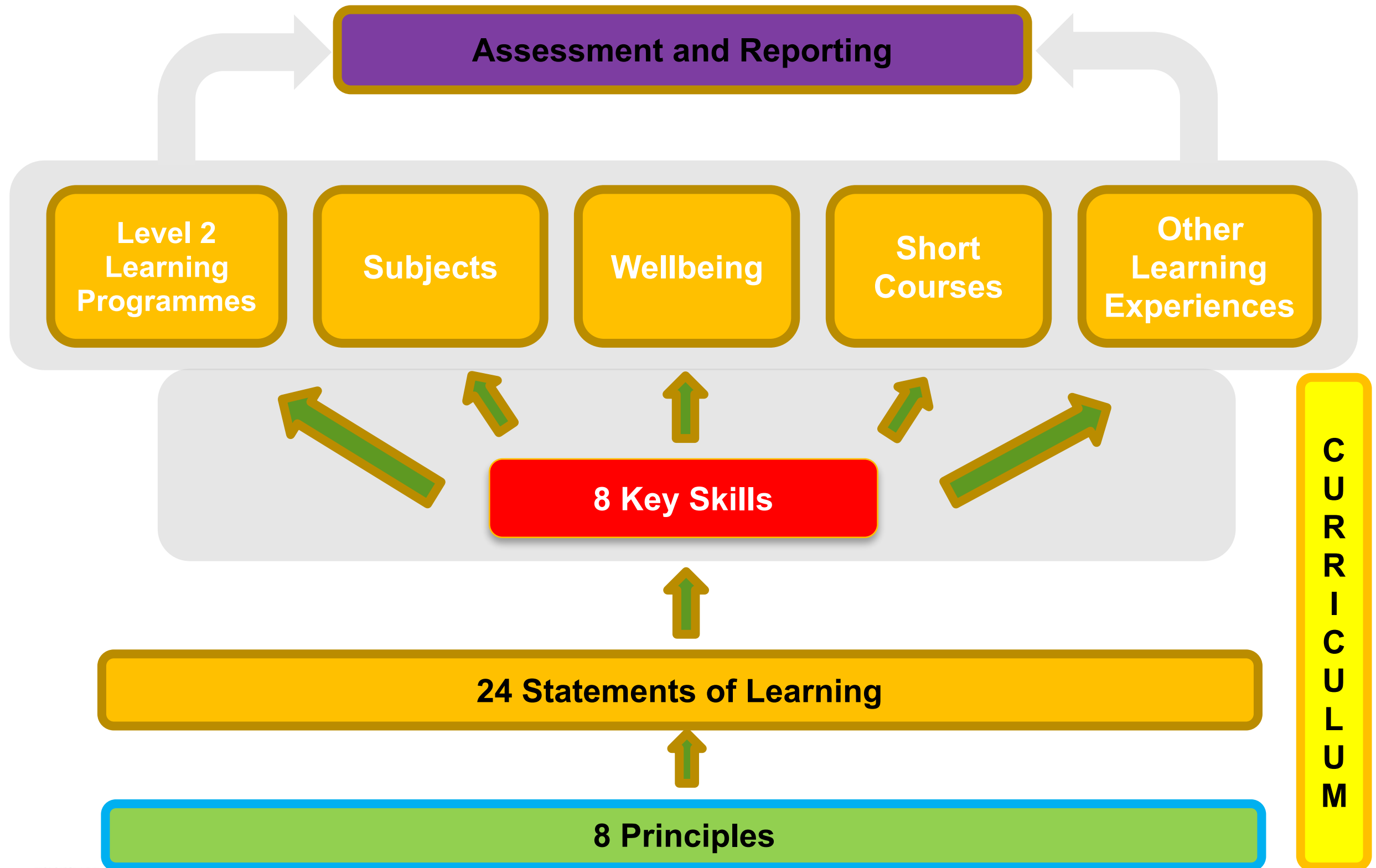
# Your child will be involved in

- Reviewing feedback and identifying what they have done well
- Identifying what to do next
- Setting and achieving personal goals
- Redrafting and correcting their own work
- Giving feedback to others
- Considering examples of good work and identifying how they can improve on their own work





# Structure of the Junior Cycle





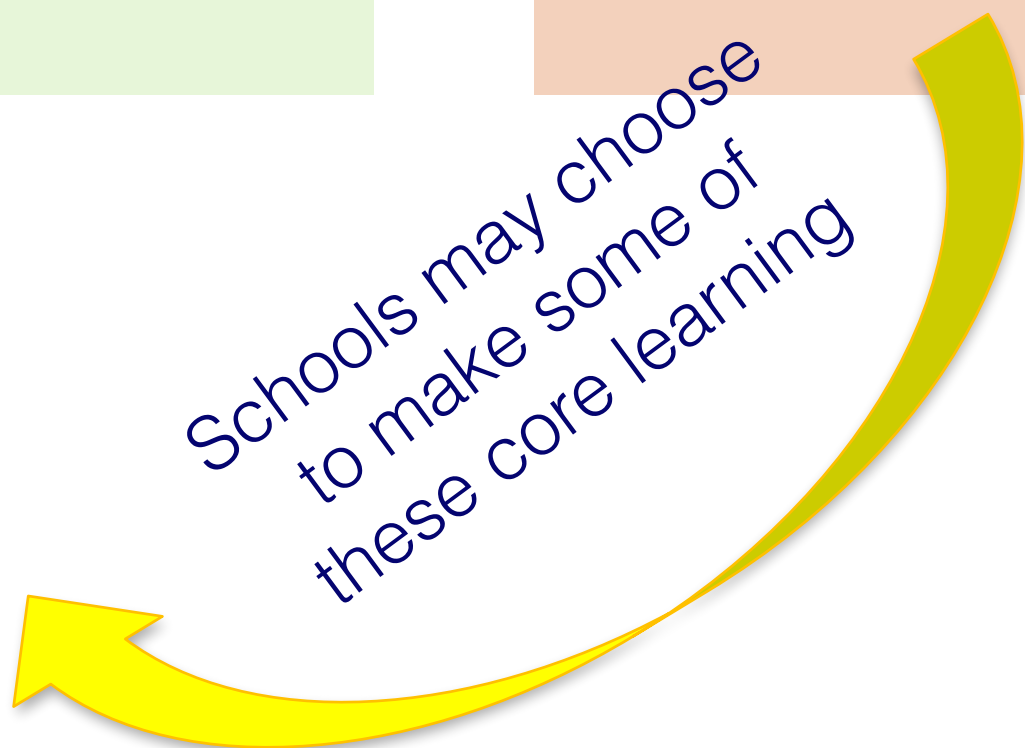
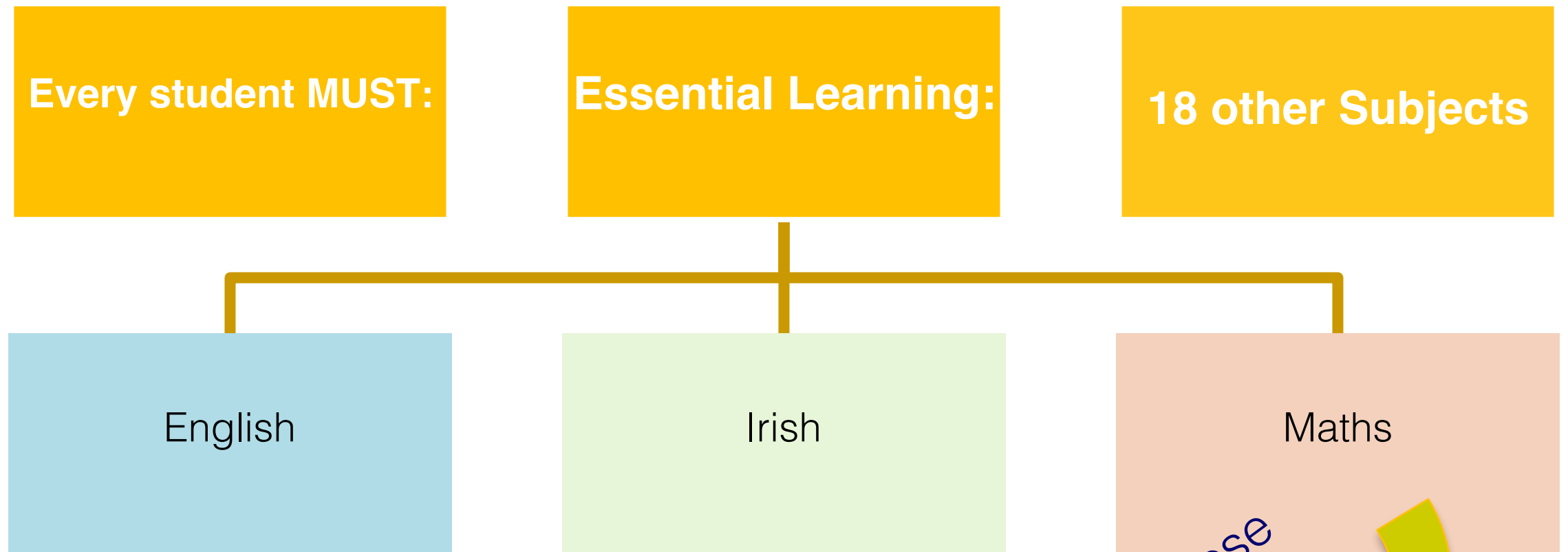
## Reporting

- Junior Cycle will build on reporting currently carried out at Primary level
- Reporting will happen in first, second and third-year
- First-year reporting will focus on student learning and self-development
- Second and third-year reporting will include the school-based components that will form part of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement
- The NCCA will develop templates for providing these reports to students and parents



# Junior Cycle Subjects:

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# 10 subjects for Junior Cycle, as follows:

- Gaeilge
- English
- Maths
- Science
- Spanish
- Geography
- 2 Short Courses (=1 subject) : Well-being plus STEM or Chinese
- Three optional subjects from History, Music, Art, Business, Home Economics, Technology, Technical Drawing.
- PLUS: Other Learning Experiences: PE, CSPE & Religion.



- **The subject specification** in English was introduced to students entering first year in 2014.
- **Short Courses** were available for schools to introduce in 2014.
- **Level 2 Learning Programmes** for students with particular special educational needs have been available from September 2014.

2014-2015

2016-2017

2017-2018

2018-2019

2019-2020





- **Subject specifications** in Science and Business Studies to be introduced for students entering first year in September 2016.
- This is the last year that the existing CSPE syllabus can be offered for examination to incoming first years.





# PHASE 3

IRISH, MODERN LANGUAGES AND  
ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

Introduced to first years in 2017-2018  
For certification in autumn 2020

- **Subject specifications** in Irish, Modern Languages (*French, German, Spanish, Italian*) and Art, Craft & Design to be introduced for students entering first year in September 2017.
- This is the last year that the existing Environmental and Social Studies syllabus can be offered for examination to incoming first years.

2014-2015

2016-2017

2017-2018

2018-2019

2019-2020



# PHASE 4

MATHS, HOME ECONOMICS, HISTORY,  
MUSIC AND GEOGRAPHY

Introduced to first years in 2018-2019  
For certification in autumn 2021

- **Subject specifications** in Maths, Home Economics, History, Music and Geography to be introduced for students entering first year in September 2018.
- The current Junior Certificate examination in CSPE is being examined for the last time in June 2019.

2014-2015

2016-2017

2017-2018

2018-2019

2019-2020



# PHASE 5

TECHNOLOGY SUBJECTS, RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION, JEWISH STUDIES & CLASSICS

Introduced to first years in 2019-2020

For certification in autumn 2022

- **Subject specifications** in the technology subjects (*Materials Technology / Wood, Technical Graphics, Metalwork, Technology*), Religious Education, Jewish Studies and Classics to be introduced for students entering first year in September 2019.

2014-2015

2016-2017

2017-2018

2018-2019

2019-2020

# Programme structure for JCPA

Maximum of 10 Subjects  
Maximum of 4 Short Courses

10 Subjects  
OR  
9 Subjects &  
2 Short Courses  
OR  
8 Subjects &  
4 Short Courses

9 Subjects  
OR  
8 Subjects &  
2 Short Courses  
OR  
7 Subjects &  
4 Short Courses

8 subjects  
OR  
7 subjects &  
2 Short Courses  
OR  
6 subjects &  
4 Short Courses

L2 Learning  
Programme  
5 PLUs and  
2  
Level 2 Short  
Courses

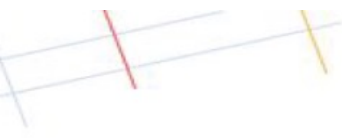




# A changing assessment culture

An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí  
**JuniorCYCLE**  
for teachers

- Assessment in support of learning
- Assessment focused on offering effective feedback
- Greater variety of assessment activity - “fit for purpose” and relevant to students
- Teachers talking to teachers about assessment
- Building capacity, knowledge and confidence in assessment, in schools



## **Assessment:** Subjects

**Exams will be set, held and marked by the State Examinations Commission in June of third year.**

- English, Irish and Maths specified at Higher and Ordinary levels
- All other subjects specified at a Common Level
- Duration of 2 hours or less

## **Assessment:** Subjects



### Classroom-Based Assessments

- 2 Classroom-Based Assessments ....over the course of second and third year.
- An Assessment Task in third year
- CBA reported to parents and students by the school
- Variety of assessment methods used

# The Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement will report on

- SEC examinations of subjects
- Classroom-Based Assessments including subjects and short courses
- Wellbeing
- Priority Learning Units PLUs
- Other areas of learning





# Junior Cycle English





# Junior Cycle English 2015-2018

First Year  
students 2015/16  
will be the **second  
group** to complete  
the Junior Cycle  
English  
curriculum





# Presentation Aims:

1. To give an **Overview** of new Junior Cycle English Course
2. To look at Past and Present **Assessment Practices**
3. To review **Learning** in Gaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin
4. Quick Focus on **C.B.A. 1 - Oral Communication Task**

# 1. Overview of new Junior Cycle English Course

## Aim:

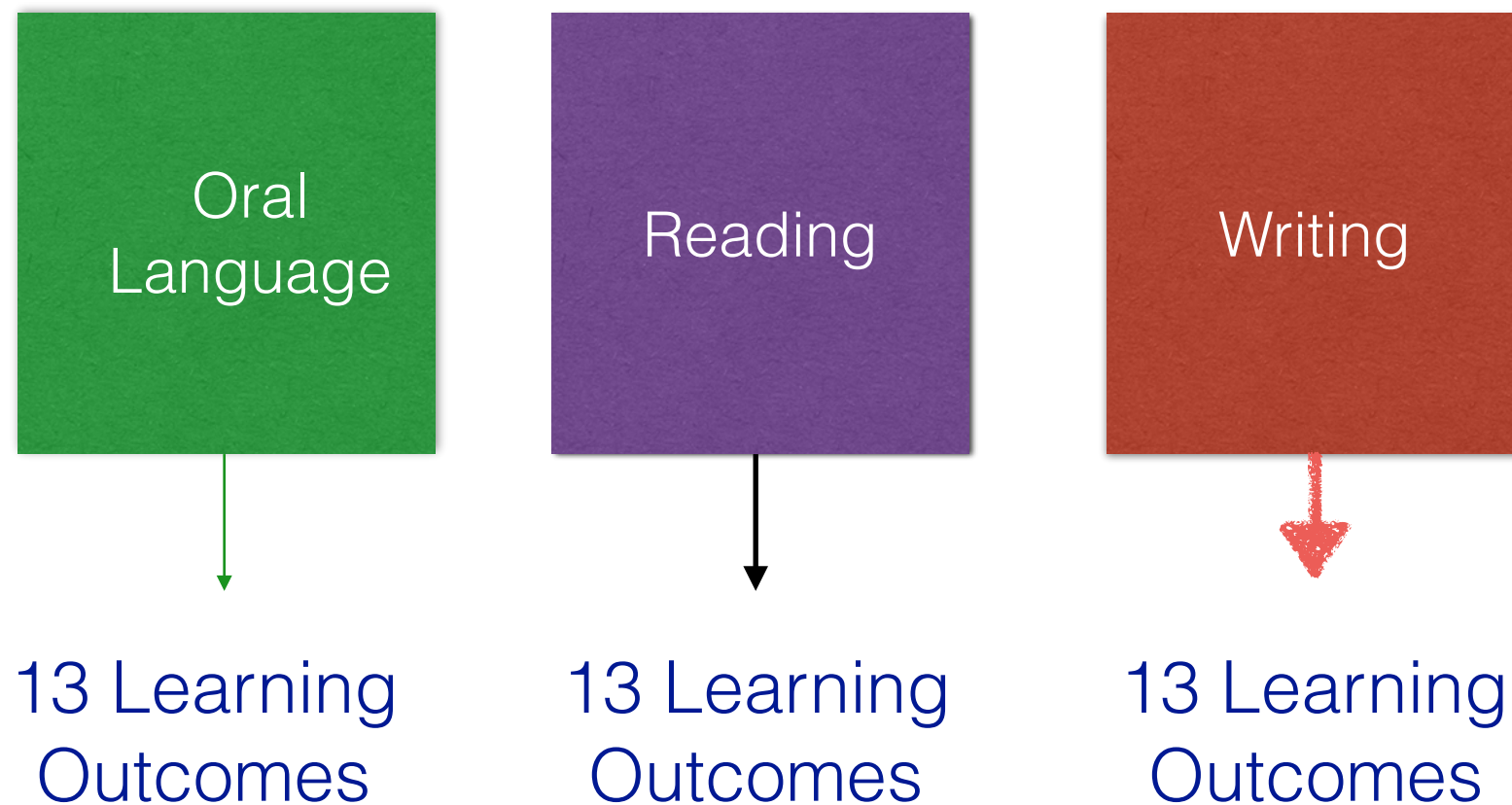
“English in junior cycle aims to develop students’ knowledge of **language** and **literature**, to consolidate and deepen their **literacy skills** and make them more **self-aware** as learners.”

- Junior Cycle English Specification, page 5.



# 1. Overview of new Junior Cycle English Course

## Course Overview:



39 Learning Outcomes (Sub-set 22 for 1st Year)

## 2. Assessment Practices

How has Assessment changed with Junior Cycle English?

Junior Cert English (PAST)	Junior Cycle English (THE FUTURE)
<p>One final exam at end of Third Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 exam papers</li><li>• divided into 7 sections (Functional Writing, Media Studies etc.)</li><li>• 5 hours in total</li><li>• worth 100%</li></ul>	<p>2 Classroom-Based Assessments</p> <p>Assessment Task (10%)</p> <p>Final Assessment (90%)</p>

## 2. Assessment Practices

How has Assessment changed with Junior Cycle English?

Assessment	Key Elements	Deadline
Classroom-Based Assessment (C.B.A.)		
1. Oral Communication Task	Individual or group <b>presentation</b>	End of 2nd Year / Beginning of 3rd Year
2. Collection of Student Texts	<b>Texts</b> produced over time by student	December of 3rd Year
Assessment Task	Worth <b>10%</b> Builds on work from C.B.A. Marked by State Examinations Commission	Following completion of the second Classroom-Based Assessment (December of 3rd Year)
Final Assessment	Worth <b>90%</b> One <b>two-hour written examination</b> paper Higher or Ordinary Level Marked by State Examinations Commission	End of 3rd Year

### 3. Learning in Gaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin

#### First Year Guidelines:

22  
Learning  
Outcomes

A studied **novel**, with on-going, sustained reading through the year

A variety of **drama extracts** to suit appropriate learning outcomes

A variety of **non-literary texts**

A number of **short stories**

At least **10 poems**

Spelling,  
Grammar,  
Punctuation

Ability to  
express your  
personal opinion  
clearly

### 3. Learning in Gaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin

39  
Learning  
Outcomes

#### Guidelines:

- Two **novels** (From choice of 20 prescribed novels)
- Two **drama texts** (From choice of 16 prescribed drama texts, one must be Shakespearean drama)
- **Film / Documentary / Travel Text / Biography** (From choice of 10 films)
- At least **16 poems**
- **Non-literary texts**
- A number of **short stories**

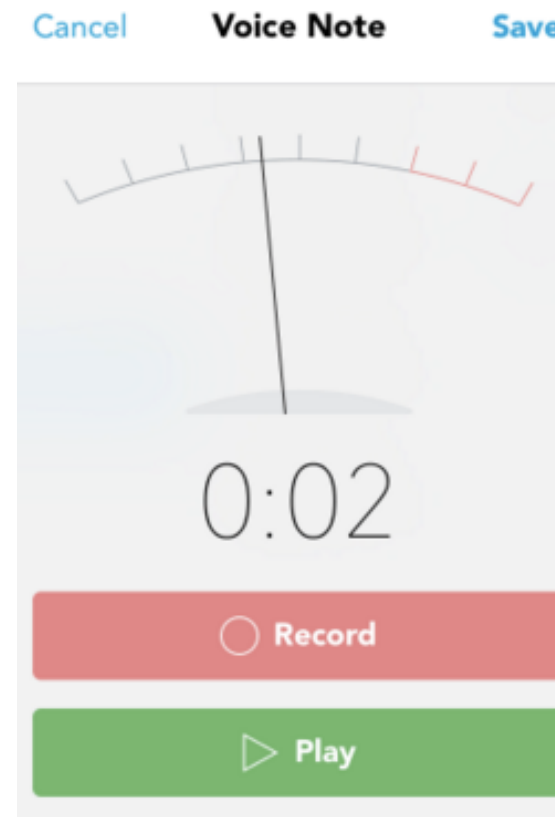
Focus on  
Oral Ability  
(C.B.A.1)

Preparation  
for CBA2

### 3. Learning in Gaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin

#### Are we on the right path?

- Strong focus on Oral Language (one of the 3 strands)
- Students' Collection of Texts (10% of First Year Christmas Exam)
- Creative Writing Tasks
- First Year Spelling Bee (March 2017)
- Reading Competition (April 2017)
- Drop Everything and Read





# C.B.A. 1 - Oral Communication Task

[http://www.curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/English/Examples-of-Student-Work/Examples-of-Oral-Communication-\(2nd-year\)](http://www.curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/English/Examples-of-Student-Work/Examples-of-Oral-Communication-(2nd-year))

April 2017

# C.B.A. 1:

- Features of Quality: Exceptional/Above expectations/In line with expectations/Yet to meet expectations
- Recorded and assessed by Subject Teacher
- Subject Learning Assessment and Review (SLAR) meeting afterwards
- Comment goes on JCPA (Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement).



# For further information:

- [www.jct.ie](http://www.jct.ie)
- [www.jct.ie/english/](http://www.jct.ie/english/)
- [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)

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