



## Holy Rosary College

MOUNTBELLEW, CO. GALWAY  
Tel: (090) 9679222 Fax: (090) 9679438  
Email: [info@hrc.ie](mailto:info@hrc.ie)  
Web Site: [www.hrc.ie](http://www.hrc.ie)

### Junior Cycle Assessment and Certification

01/05/2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April by Minister McHugh announced that the Junior Cycle state examinations will not run this year due to the fact that students have experienced a disrupted period of learning in 2019/20.

He also noted that the use of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) is not appropriate as a reporting and certification mechanism in 2020.

In 2020, the Junior Cycle learning achievement of students will be recognised through a specific form of certification designed to meet the current, exceptional circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

For each student, certification will involve two elements:

- A State Certificate of completion of Junior Cycle from the Department of Education and Skills. Students should receive a State Certification that they have completed three years of Junior Cycle education in a number of subjects/priority learning units. This certification will be provided by the Department of Education and Skills.
- A School Report setting out the learning achievements of students in Junior Cycle. Students will receive a written report on the learning that they have achieved in each subject.

In the context of Holy Rosary College the assessment will be based on 3 elements with varying weightings. The details are outlined below.

- Results from Christmas Exams 20% Weighting
- Results from Mock Exams 40% Weighting
- Summer 2020 School designed Assessments 40% Weighting

These school designed assessments will reflect the challenges experienced by students since the 12<sup>th</sup> March. They will take place between now and the end of May. School-designed examinations may take the form of tasks, projects, assignments, essay style questions, presentations, online examinations or other tasks chosen by the teachers within each subject department.

Each subject department will be issuing guidelines on the task/assessment to the students using Microsoft Teams from Tuesday onwards.

If a student missed the Mock or Christmas exam teachers will substitute another test or project as means to arrive at a result that they feel is appropriate for the student.

For French and German the CBA results given at Christmas will be converted to a percentage as students did not sit a Christmas exam.

For Irish, either the CBA result reported in the Christmas report which will be converted to a percentage, or the result of the exam given in November (whichever is better) will be used in place of the Christmas exam.

For students that have dropped from HL to OL since the mocks-the mock and perhaps the Christmas result would not be fair. Teachers will use tests etc since then to arrive at a grade suitable for the student.

If a student falls ill or cannot complete the task over the next number of weeks an alternative arrangement will be put in place for the student.

Students should note that these results will not be on their State Certificate that will be issued in September. They are two separate documents.

While there is no model that will reflect the impartial State Examinations we believe that this model is a fair way of assessing the students reflecting on the work they have completed to date and rewarding them for the huge effort they have made over their Junior Cycle.

We wish the Junior Cycle class of 2020 the very best over the coming weeks.

Yours Sincerely,

Tom Crehan

Martin Tierney