

30<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of Third Year students,

As you may have heard, the Minister for Education made a significant announcement yesterday, 29<sup>th</sup> April, regarding Junior Cycle exams for students expected to sit this exam in 2020.

The newest direction from the Department of Education is that Junior Cycle assessment and reporting will take place in May 2020, before the end of term three. This assessment will be administered and reported on by the school.

The Minister has given a significant amount of freedom and scope to schools to organise assessments as they see fit and in the best interests of the students and families concerned. This is a welcome announcement.

Coláiste Cois Siúire began a consultative process with all staff over one week ago to consider how this assessment might work best. Following due process, further consultation and measured decision-making, we will publicise the arrangements for third years in the coming days.

Importantly, for now, all parents are asked to communicate the following to their son(s)/daughter(s):

- Junior Cycle Assessments are taking place at the end of this term, not in September.
- The school will administer the assessments and produce Junior Cycle results.
- Assessment marks *can* be awarded for a wide range of work and data depending on the subject, not just one final test. This is to be decided.
- It is of utmost importance to engage fully with all teachers on Teams for the remaining three weeks: this will be your final Junior Cycle preparations.

Please find further information in relation to the Minister's announcement at this helpful questions and answers page:

<https://www.education.ie/en/Learners/Information/StateExaminations/junior-cert-2020.html>

The State Examinations Commission has asked that the following be brought to your attention:

*Junior Certificate/Cycle Fees : Students will not be required to pay examination fees to the SEC in relation to the 2020 Junior Cycle examinations, the SEC will be issuing a*



*refund to all students who have already paid. There is no need to contact the State Examinations Commission as refunds will be made automatically.*

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents who have supported the school's endeavors to preserve the educational continuity of students in a remote setting since the school closures.

I hope that your family are well in this challenging time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CP' with a flourish extending to the right.

Conor Power  
Principal