



# Nenagh College



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Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

RE: Remote Teaching and End of Year Assessment.

Dear Parent(s),

We hope that you are all keeping well at this time and that you are coping as best you can, given the unique challenges which are presenting for us all in every aspect of our lives.

It is now over five school weeks since we have been able to work in the manner to which we have all been accustomed with remote teaching replacing the traditional model.

Our teachers, pastoral teams, AEN team and middle management team have been meeting remotely to plan for the continuation of remote teaching up to the end of this academic year (29<sup>th</sup> May 2020) and for end of year assessments.

Teachers will continue to set assignments for their classes and provide feedback on assignments which are completed and returned. It is important that you work with your son / daughter to ensure that they are completing the tasks which are set for them. We have received feedback from parents and students and arising from this the timelines and work loads are continuously reviewed to ensure that they are manageable.

There has been an amount of conversation around the Junior Cert exam, particularly with the Minister announcing it's cancellation some time ago. He updated his statement on Friday last to include the following regarding final certification:

**Each student will receive a Certificate of Completion 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.*

**Each student will receive School Report setting out the learning achievements of students in Junior Cycle.** *Students should receive a written report on the broad range of learning that they have achieved in each subject, short course and/or priority learning unit at the end of Junior Cycle. This assessment of their learning will be provided by their teachers. Schools will have autonomy in how this assessment is to be arrived at and the format in which the report is provided.*



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We are in an ever changing situation and feel strongly that students and parents should be able to access their end of year reports on a system with which they are already familiar i.e. VS Ware.

Following on from the Minister's most recent directive and the meetings, referenced above, I outline, below, the models of assessment on a subject by subject basis.

Wishing all students the very best and our assurance that your progress and safe passage through this difficult time is our clear priority.

Sincerely,

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Principal

## **Programmes Report:**

### **Leaving Cert Applied:**

5th year students will receive results for session 1 (Sept to end of Jan) from SEC in due course. These reports will be posted out to students once received.

These students will also have a Leaving Irish exam to complete in July (Date TBC).

Teachers will continue to assign work until the end of year. Teachers will give feedback on students learning in an end of year report.

### **Transition Year:**

For all subjects/modules, the class teacher is to provide an Assignment/Task to be completed as part of the TY Students Summer Assessment.

Class Teachers provide Grade and Comment on VS Ware for Summer Assessment.

**\*\* TY Teachers, TY Students & Parents of TY Students have been fully informed\*\***

Tues 23rd April: TY Teachers have been made aware of the plan via email.

Wed 29 April: TY Students given full video presentation explaining their Summer Assessment and recommendations as to manage their remaining weeks of Remote Learning:

Wed 29 April: Parents/Guardians of TY sent a text message informing of video sent to students MS Teams, the plan for Summer Assessment and asked to continue to encourage students to engage with teachers via Online Learning



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## Gaeilge:

**3<sup>rd</sup> Years:** Previous assessment results (including mock result) alongside professional discretion of teachers, in line with Ministerial directive.

**5<sup>th</sup> Year:** Final Continuous Assessment (CA 6) in May

Average score based on all continuous assessments this academic year (5 before 12th March, 1 online in May). Students that do not engage in the online CA6 will have average grade calculated from the previous 5 in-school C.A.

**2<sup>nd</sup> year:** 50% for average grades of class tests, 25% Research Presentation Poster/PowerPoint (chosen by class teacher based on level/ability of class) 25% Voice Recording (topic selected by class teacher)

**1<sup>st</sup> year:** 50% for average grades of class tests, 25% Research Presentation Poster/PowerPoint (chosen by class teacher) 25% Voice Recording (topic selected by class teacher)

## Maths:

**Years 1/2/4/5:** 80%: average of previous class tests/ continuous assessments. 20%: online assignments

**3<sup>rd</sup> Year:** Use end of term tests/ mocks to get average grade and use as evidence to award grade in line with the new descriptors.

## English:

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Years:** Average of tests/continuous assessment/participation in class from Sept 2019 to March 2020. Positive comment on report if student has engaged with remote learning since March.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Years:

Results of 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Christmas and Summer tests, CBA 1 & CBA2 results plus mock results to be combined to get an average grade.

## French:

**1<sup>st</sup> Year:** Result based entirely on performance up to 12th March with engagement in Remote Learning rewarded in teacher comments, where applicable.

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Year:** Result based on a combination of performance up to 12th March and online assessment(Oral) with greater weighting given to performance prior to 12th March.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Years:

Grade will be determined entirely on their performance up to school closure (12<sup>th</sup> March)



## **Music:**

### **Third Year:**

25% practical full marks for all students as outlined by the Minister.

75% average of school exam results from Christmas of Second year, Summer of Second year and Feb 2020 Mock Exams

### **First and Second Year:**

50% = Practical and previous class work, home work and assessments

25% = Listening Project ( ongoing research from 16th March 2020). This is currently being submitted on a weekly basis on Teams

25% = Rhythm composition task to be completed in May 2020. To be submitted by students on Teams.

### **Fifth Year:**

Summer Assessment Format

50% Practical, class work, homework and class tests

25% Melody Composition to be submitted on Teams

25% Set Works revision test to be submitted on Teams

## **Business:**

### **1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

Each student will receive an average grade from their assessments throughout the year (Christmas Tests etc.)

### **5<sup>th</sup>:**

Collation of Continuous assessments taken throughout the year ( total 4)

### **3<sup>rd</sup>:**

The 3rd year students will be assessed looking at previous exams (Mocks, Christmas Test) and the CBA's they would have completed also (CBA 1 & 2).

## **Materials Technology Wood:**

**1st Year Wood Technology:** Series of assignments on Teams (5x20%)

**2nd Year MTW -** Assignments on Teams to include design task and theory based questions.

## **Technical Graphics:**

**1st Year Graphics:** Series of assignments on Teams (5x20%)

**2nd Year Technical Graphics:** Weekly assignment accounting for proportion of final assessment on Teams.

## **Construction Studies:**

**5th Year Construction:** Assessed on engagement with research and design to inform 6th Year project as outlined on Teams.

## **DCG:**

**5th Year DCG:** Completion of specific outputs of a past design brief on Teams.



## **History and Politics:**

### **1st, 2nd, 5th Year History & 5th Year Politics:**

80% of the grade is based on an average of previous tests/ continual assessments completed in class during this school year.

20% of the grade is based on active participation of completing assigned work by their teacher. This grade is at the discretion of the class teacher who uses their own professional judgement evaluating the participation/ completion of assignments by a student. Final grade will follow the same format as a new junior cert cycle – merit, distinction etc.

### **3rd year History:**

Students will be assessed on previous tests completed in class, starting from summer test in 2nd year, class tests in 3rd year and mock exams. An average grade will be calculated and this will be their final grade for the year.

## **Geography:**

### **Third Year:**

Grade will be determined using 1st and 2nd summer and Xmas results plus mocks in 3rd year to get an average. This grade will then be converted into Higher Merit, Lower Merit etc. as per new Junior Cycle grading system.

**First Year:** Average of class tests from Sept 2019 to March 12th 2020 and comment (positive) if engaged since March 12th.

**Second Year:** Average of class tests from Sept 2019 to March 12th 2020, CBA1 result and comment (positive) if engaged since March 12th.

**5<sup>th</sup> Year:** Average of Continuous Assessments Sept 2019 to March 12th 2020 and comment (positive) if engaged since March 12th.

## **Science:**

**1st and 2nd Years:** 2 Assessment tasks will be given over 2 weeks in May worth 10% each. The other 80% will come from an average of their class tests up to the 12th March. We will also write a positive note on the participation in online teaching since March for those who have engaged.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Years:**

Grades will be awarded following completion of, 2 projects over 2 weeks in May, worth 25% each (50%) and 50% will be awarded for results from Mock Exams.



## **Chemistry / Agricultural Science / Physics / Biology:**

**5<sup>th</sup> Year:** 80% calculated on the average of their class tests up to 12th March. 20% based on their engagement since March. Again, a good note could be included for those who have engaged well in the online teaching.

## **Metalwork:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Year:** Students given any average of class projects.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year:** Grade based on class project results Christmas to March and participation and quality on online work since March.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Year:** 75% for their Junior cert project and 25% for class assignments.

## **Engineering:**

**5<sup>th</sup> Year:** Grade based on continuous assessment/ class project results September to March and participation and quality on online work since March.

## **Home Economics:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Year:** They will be given an assignment for the next 4 weeks @ 25% for each assignment.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Years:** For the next 3 weeks will be given 3 assignments @ 25% each and final week is online quiz based on theory covered this year @ 25%.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Years:** 35% for practical cookery 20% for craft project and written support folder 45% for average of results from 2nd Year Christmas/Summer exams and mock results.

**5<sup>th</sup> Years:** Average of their continuous assessment will be given and also project online aswell.

## **Art:**

**3<sup>rd</sup> years:** CBA 2 (Sept to Christmas, collection of work ), 3D + Booklet. (Descriptor Sentence only).

**2<sup>nd</sup> years:** CBA 1 = 50%. Drawing exam question x 3, remotely assessed in May = 50%.

**1<sup>st</sup> years:** School Classwork + Xmass grade= 50% Remote Learning in May assessment x 3 = 50% (Taken from book 1st yr Art Odessey)

**5<sup>th</sup> Years:** Continuous Assessment Grade =50% (Average). On- line,3 assignments in May (1 Life Sketch 10m , 1 History Question 10m 1 Still Life 10m) = 50%



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**PE Short Course, Years 1 & 2:** CBAs are not required until 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Students will be assessed on overall participation throughout the year. Students who have completed the challenges set in on line classes will be acknowledged in notes attaching to result.

**Coding Short Course, Years 1 & 2:** Students will be assessed by submitting an on - line project on “Scratch”.