

Parental Information regarding Subjects for 2nd Year 2020/2021

Dear Parents,

We are asking all 1st Year students (and their parents) to make subject choices for second year. Fewer subjects for exams is considered a good direction to be taking – with this in mind our students will do nine Junior Cycle exam subjects thus reducing the pressure on them and allowing more time for Classroom Based Assessments/ Assessment Tasks that have to be completed in almost all subjects for the evolving Junior Cycle.

The subject choice form is an online form, which we are sending out to the students' @colaisteris.ie school emails. Please discuss all options with your son/ daughter and complete the form online before **Monday 20th April**.

Please bear in mind the points to note at the bottom of this page.

In Second Year:

- **All students will study:**
English, Maths, Irish (except for those who have been granted an exemption);
RE, Wellbeing (encompassing SPHE, PE etc.)

We now need students to choose 5 from the following list:

Art, Business, French, Geography,
German, History, Home Economics,
Music, Science, Spanish,
Technical Graphics and Woodwork (MTW).

Points to note:

- **A language (French, German or Spanish) may be very important for your child for entry to some colleges after school- in particular the National University of Ireland (NUI) certain courses in these universities require a modern language for entry into the course. The four main NUI third level colleges are; Maynooth (NUI)/ UCD/ UCC (Cork)/ NUI Galway. Other colleges are affiliated with NUI and may require a third language (English, Irish and a modern Language) but not all courses require a language subject. If picking a language make sure it is the one done in 1st Year.**
- In First Year, students sampled four optional subjects from the list – **Art, Home Economics, Music, Technical Graphics, and Woodwork (MTW)** – and they chose two to study from Christmas on. If picking one/ two of these subjects make sure to choose the subject(s) studied since Christmas.
- **Junior Cert Business divides into three possible subjects for Leaving Cert – Accounting, Business and Economics.**
- **Science divides into four possible subjects – Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Agricultural Science. Some third level courses require a science subject for entry into the course.**
- While we are reducing the number of subjects for the Junior Cycle examination we will introduce a subject missed/ subject make-up option in Transition Year (in two years' time for your son/ daughter) to re-engage with a subject dropped now but which students may want to do for Leaving Cert.