



NCCA

An Chomhairle Náisiúnta
Curaclaim agus Measúnachta
National Council for
Curriculum and Assessment

Revised arrangements for the completion of Classroom Based Assessments

Student cohort 2019 - 2022 (students in 3rd year in 2021/2022)

September 2021

Students experienced disrupted periods of learning in 2020 and in 2021 because of school closures introduced to curtail the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the best efforts of teachers and schools to mitigate the effects of disrupted schooling, the learning experience of students varied. In this context, for the cohort of students who are currently in third year, the following assessment arrangements for Classroom-Based Assessments and related Assessment Tasks apply:

- In the exceptional circumstances arising from school closures, and recourse as a consequence to remote teaching and learning, each student must complete a minimum of one CBA in each subject and one CBA in each short course. Students from this cohort will not be required to complete Assessment Tasks.
- School management, following consultation with relevant teachers (and where feasible, discussion with students), have autonomy to decide whether to complete one or two CBAs in each subject. These decisions will be taken in light of the factors arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and their impacts on students and schools, which vary from school to school and in respect of which schools themselves are best positioned to decide
- There will be some exceptions to the choices made by schools:
 - to ensure assessment of oral communications skills, students must complete **CBA 2: Communicative Task in Irish and CBA 1: Oral Communication in Modern Foreign Languages**.
 - as they are linked in each case with the final examination in the subject, students studying **Visual Art, Home Economics, Music, Applied Technology, Engineering, Graphics and Wood Technology** must complete CBA 2.

Whilst these arrangements for CBAs are a response to a specific challenge, they also aim to encourage school autonomy; acknowledge teaching and learning decisions made at school level during school closures and ensure, as far as possible, that CBAs completed by students in 2020/2021, including during the period of school closures, and in 2021/2022 can be recognised and reported on.

Key dates for Classroom-Based Assessment 1

Student cohort 2019 – 2022 (students in third year in 2021/2022)

The window within which schools can schedule Classroom-Based Assessments (CBAs) and Subject Learning and Assessment Review (SLAR) is provided below. Classroom-Based Assessments should be completed within the time period allocated (e.g. 3 weeks, 4 weeks) as specified in the Assessment Guidelines for each subject. Subject Learning and Assessment Review should take place no more than a month after completion of the CBA. Where necessary, key dates for Classroom-Based Assessments and Subject Learning and Assessment Review may be amended in light of particular circumstances schools may encounter due to COVID-19.

Classroom-Based Assessment 1 in English, Science, Business Studies, Home Economics, Mathematics, History, Geography, Music, Religious Education, Jewish Studies, Classics (optional)¹

Latest date for completion	Friday 1 st October 2021
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Friday 8 th October 2021
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Friday 22 nd October 2021

Classroom-Based Assessment 1 in Modern Foreign Languages (required²)

Latest date for completion	Friday 3 rd December 2021
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Friday 10 th December 2021
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Friday 17 th December 2021

Classroom-Based Assessment 1 in Gaeilge (optional)

Latest date for completion	Friday 3 rd December 2021
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Friday 10 th December 2021
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Friday 17 th December 2021

¹ Note that the latest date for completion of CBA1 in Visual Art, Applied Technology, Engineering, Graphics, and Wood Technology (May 2021) has now passed.

² Students in this cohort (current third years) complete a minimum of one Classroom-Based Assessment per subject. Note exceptions to the choices to be made by schools, listed on page 1 above.

Key dates for Classroom-Based Assessment 2

Students in 3rd year in 2021/2022 (student cohort 2019 – 2022)

Classroom-Based Assessment 2 in Applied Technology, Engineering, Graphics and Wood Technology³ (required)

Latest date for completion	Friday 8 th October 2021
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Friday 15 th October 2021
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Friday 22 nd October 2021

Classroom-Based Assessment 2 in Visual Art (required)

Latest date for completion	Friday 19 th November 2021
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Friday 26 th November 2021
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Friday 3 rd December 2021

Classroom-Based Assessment 2 in Gaeilge, Home Economics, Music (required)

Latest date for completion	Friday 11 th March 2022
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Friday 18 th March 2022
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Friday 25 th March 2022

Classroom-Based Assessment 2 in English, Science, Business Studies, Modern Foreign Languages, Mathematics, History, Geography, Religious Education, Jewish Studies, Classics (optional)

Latest date for completion	Friday 25 th March 2022
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Friday 1 st April 2022
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Friday 8 th April 2022

³ Relevant brief or project document for technologies subjects will issue immediately after the completion date for CBA2. See *Assessment Arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2022*

Key dates for Classroom-Based Assessment 1

Student cohort 2020 – 2023 (students in 2nd year in 2021/2022)

The window within which schools can schedule Classroom-Based Assessments (CBAs) and Subject Learning and Assessment Review (SLAR) for students in second year in school year 2021/2022 is provided below. Classroom-Based Assessments should be completed within the time period allocated (e.g. 3 weeks, 4 weeks) as specified in the Assessment Guidelines for each subject. Subject Learning and Assessment Review should take place no more than a month after completion of the CBA. Arrangements for this cohort remain as per the Framework for Junior Cycle (2015). Where necessary, key dates for Classroom-Based Assessments and Subject Learning and Assessment Review may be amended in light of particular circumstances schools may encounter due to COVID-19.

Classroom-Based Assessment 1 in all subjects, with the exception of Gaelige⁴

Window for completion	Monday 1 st November 2021 – Friday 13 th May 2022
Latest date for award of provisional descriptors by the teacher	Wednesday 18 th May 2022
Latest date for completion of Subject Learning and Assessment Review and for award of final descriptors by the teacher	Wednesday 25 th May 2022

⁴ Classroom-Based Assessments 1 and 2 in Gaelige are completed by students during their third year of junior cycle.

Notes re: Classroom-Based Assessments in school year 2021/2022

Students complete Classroom-Based Assessments with support and guidance from their teachers. Detailed information about the formats, topics and timeframe for completion of CBAs in each subject and short course is included in the relevant Guidelines for the Classroom-Based Assessments, which are available on www.curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle. Whilst Classroom-Based Assessments are designed to take place under the guidance of the teacher in a classroom context, schools have flexibility in the school year 2021 – 2022, in light of changing circumstances which may arise due to COVID-19, to support students to complete CBAs in school and/or remotely.

Particular attention is drawn to the following:

- With the exception of circumstances which may arise due to COVID-19, students complete CBAs primarily during class time, with support and guidance from the teacher.
- The selection of activities and topics for CBAs should be guided by what is practical and safe at the time in line with public health advice.
- Students who cannot attend school due to circumstances arising from COVID-19 can be facilitated to research, create and complete their CBA remotely, with support and guidance from the teacher.
- Adjustments to how schools conduct CBAs and/or deploy the support of digital technologies - in line with schools' child protection, acceptable use and GDPR policies - may be necessary.
- As teacher/student interaction, including conversation and responses to unscripted questions, is integral to the communicative task in **Gaeilge** (CBA2) and oral communication in **Modern Foreign Languages** (CBA1), students should interact with the teacher when completing this CBA. Digital tools may be used to support this interaction.
- In **Visual Art**, one CBA must usually be presented in 3D. This requirement is waived for students in third year in 2021/22.
- In **Physical Education** short course, students in third year in 2021/22 are required to complete a minimum of one Classroom-Based Assessment.
- In **Business Studies**, for students in **third year** in 2021/2022, CBA1 in Business Studies is an individual report. For more information see <https://www.curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Junior-Cycle-Subjects/Business-Studies/>.
- In **Business Studies**, for students in **second year** in 2021/2022, CBA1 is a group project, as outlined in the relevant assessment guidelines. Where necessary, in line with public health advice at the time or due to circumstances which may arise due to COVID-19, school

management, following consultation with the relevant teacher(s), may decide that students complete an individual report for their CBA1, as per the link above.