What subjects are included in the subject CPD online cluster days?

Up to sixteen workshops are being provided as part of the subject CPD online cluster day this year, including:

- English
- Science
- Business Studies
- Gaeilge
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Visual Art
- Mathematics
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Home Economics
- Engineering
- Wood Technology
- Classics
- Religious Education
- Physical Education

*Applied Technology, Graphics, CSPE and SPHE will be provided separate to these online Cluster days.

Other Personnel

Separate CPD workshops are provided by our whole-school, school leadership and L1/L2LPs teams on an ongoing basis. School leaders are welcome to attend any of the subject workshops in an online cluster day but will need to register in advance in order to be assigned a link to the online workshop. The same applies in the case of Professional Masters in Education (PME) students, who may be registered using their school or third level college email address.

Certificate of attendance

JCT does not issue certificates of attendance for subject CPD in online clusters.

Where can I get more information?

A link to a video, illustrating how the online subject CPD days work, will be available on the homepage of **www.jct.ie** soon.

Teachers will be sent details, via their school email address, of their subject CPD workshop about two weeks in advance of their school's online cluster day. These details will include the specific Zoom workshop meeting link that has been assigned to them, via their school email address.

Any queries regarding our subject CPD online cluster days may be emailed to **info@jct.ie**

Follow us on Twitter **@JCforTeachers**

Follow Subject, Whole-school, Leadership and L1/L2LPs teams on Twitter for updates and news. If you are not on Twitter, JCT tweets can be viewed on the homepage of **www.jct.ie**

An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí

Junior CYCLE for teachers

JCT Subject CPD Online Cluster Days

What is an online cluster day for subject CPD?

Schools and teachers are familiar with the face-to-face cluster day model of continuing professional development (CPD) used by Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) to support schools in implementing the Framework for Junior Cycle (2015).

Given the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the face-to-face model of subject CPD provision based in schools is not possible for this academic year. We have devised a new **ONLINE CLUSTER MODEL** which entails schools in a number of geographical regions closing to students on the same day so as to ensure that all of the teachers in each of these schools can come together online for the purpose of attending Junior Cycle subject CPD.

What will the online cluster day look like?

The subject CPD workshops will be delivered on the Zoom platform. Many teachers are familiar with its ease of use and accessibility across a range of devices. Each subject workshop will follow the same timetable:

Session 1:	9.30 a.m.
Tea/coffee break:	11.00 a.m.
Session 2:	11.20 a.m.
Lunch break:	1.00 p.m.
Session 3:	2.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Teachers are asked to log on at least 10 minutes before the start of the morning workshop.

Within the three sessions outlined, subject teams will use the allotted time differently and teachers will experience a variety of activities across the day, which may include:

- Facilitator-led input
- Stimulus for discussion
- Opportunities for collaboration
- Opportunities for creativity
- Break-out group activities / discussion
- Reflection moments
- Reading / writing offline
- Engaging with audio or video on main screen / on separate device
- Workshop material online (downloadable)
- Other custom workshop resources

Breaks and Lunch

Tea/coffee break and lunch break are at a common time for all workshops.

How will I register and access the workshop?

Your school will be informed of the date for subject CPD in your school's area. The Principal (or their nominee) will assign teachers for their subject CPD workshops on our teacher registration portal in advance of the CPD day.

JCT staff have been in contact with the teacher(s) with junior cycle Management Resource Hours in your school. They have gathered school email addresses for all teachers for the express use of enabling a workshop Zoom link to be sent to you directly by email. You are advised to ensure that you can access your school email account in advance of your online cluster day. The Zoom link will be specific for your subject workshop and you will need to retain the link in order to access the workshop to which you are assigned. **Only school email addresses can be used for the purposes of our online subject CPD days.**

If you are not familiar with Zoom, don't worry! You will receive an email with detailed instructions to help you log on and access the CPD workshop. At the start of the workshop, the facilitating JCT Advisor will also demonstrate the Zoom features that will be used as part of the day's professional learning activities.

Will I attend the workshop from school and what will I need on the day?

Each teacher will need access to a desktop computer or a laptop or a tablet-type device with an in-built or added webcam and mic. Teachers will also need to decide in advance whether to access the subject workshop material online, on another device (e.g., tablet or phone), or by downloading and printing in advance. Pen and paper may also be required. If other materials are required, for example, in the context of practical subjects, teachers will be advised in advance.

School leadership will advise whether teachers access the online cluster workshops from school or otherwise. This decision will take into account the above requirements along with broadband connectivity and a suitable environment in which to engage in online CPD.

Checklist:-
✓ Desktop computer, laptop or tablet-type device, with webcam and mic
  - Optional: A second device (e.g., smart phone or tablet) with fully charged battery and charger (for the purpose of viewing relevant documents while online if a teacher opts not to print out material)
✓ Download workshop booklet/material
✓ Pen & paper
✓ Other materials for a particular subject, as advised in advance
✓ Good quality broadband
✓ Suitable environment