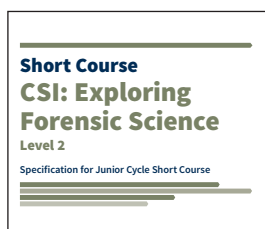
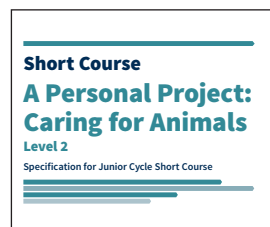


## What are Short Courses?

Short courses are a new and optional curriculum component which:

- offer greater flexibility to schools
- require 100 hours of student engagement
- emphasise students' active learning
- are assessed through Classroom-Based Assessment
- will be reported upon by the school



Short Course specifications are available to download on [www.curriculumonline.ie](http://www.curriculumonline.ie)



## Where can I get more information?

L2LP Guidelines and Level 2 Short Course specifications are available on:

[www.curriculumonline.ie](http://www.curriculumonline.ie)

JCT supports schools and teachers of L2LPs by facilitating CPD activities and providing high quality teaching and learning resources. Our core workshops introduce L2LP's and focus on their implementation. They also consider planning and teaching the L2LPs.

JCT will also provide various elective workshops in areas where additional support may be required.

### Find out more information:

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Phone: 047 74008

An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí

Junior **CYCLE**  
for teachers

Junior  
Cycle  
Information  
on  
Level 2  
Learning  
Programmes





## Introduction

There is a new Junior Cycle pathway for students with particular special educational needs called Level 2 Learning Programmes (L2LPs).

L2LPs are designed to suit both special school and mainstream post-primary school settings.

The L2LPs will build upon prior learning and are designed primarily around five Priority Learning Units (PLUs) and two short courses that focus on the social, personal and pre-vocational skills that prepare students for further study, for work and life.

### The PLUs include:

- Communication and Literacy
- Numeracy
- Personal Care
- Living in the Community
- Preparing for Work



### Who?

Level 2 is designed for a very specific group of students who have general learning disabilities in the higher functioning moderate and low functioning mild categories.

These students would have an existing individual education plan and would most likely be accessing Learning Support/Resource in mainstream settings.

### Why?

L2LPs have been introduced in order to provide an inclusive, realistic and beneficial education for all of our learners.

Level 3 does not meet all of the learning needs and abilities of some students. Students can now access the Junior Cycle at Level 2 and/or Level 3.

### When?

Level 2 was introduced in 2014. Its first accreditation will be in 2017. Students will receive a Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) that reflects which aspects of Junior Cycle they have undertaken and achieved in.

### What?

L2LPs focuses the students towards independence and provides them with the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for adult life.

### Where?

L2LPs focus on skills based learning and the transference of those skills into different situations and experiences, i.e., classrooms, school community, real life situations.

## The five PLUs include

- 1. Communication and literacy:** Covers both verbal and non-verbal ways of receiving and giving information. Reading and writing are further developed.
- 2. Numeracy:** Develops awareness of patterns and relationships in shape and number, as well as skills in managing money, measurement and problem solving.
- 3. Personal care:** Deals with health and wellbeing, covering areas such as healthy eating and healthy lifestyles.
- 4. Living in a community:** Students develop strategies to establish and maintain positive relationships with people around them. Seeking help and advice, as well as dealing with conflict, are also covered.
- 5. Preparing for work:** Assists students in developing skills that help them to make the transition from school to further education, training or employment.

PLUs are broken down into Elements, with each Element covering a number of Learning Outcomes.

### For full accreditation:

Students must achieve the majority of learning outcomes in all elements from five Priority Learning Units. (PLU's)

Students must complete 2 short courses.

Assessment of PLUs is school based.

A portfolio of evidence will be created by students completing the L2LPs.