An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí

JuniorCYCLE
for teachers

Support Materials
Junior Cycle
Short Course
in Coding

Ionad Oideachais Mhúineacháin

AN ROINN | DEPARTMENT OF
OIDEACHAIS | EDUCATION
AGUS SCILEANNA | AND SKILLS

www.jct.ie

Introduction

The *Framework for Junior Cycle* (2015) outlines the key educational changes that the Department of Education and Skills (DES) is putting in place for young people in the first three years of their post-primary education, and represents one of the most significant educational reforms in Ireland since the foundation of the state. The framework incorporates a shared understanding of how teaching, learning and assessment practices should evolve to support the delivery of a quality, inclusive and relevant education that will meet the needs of all junior cycle students, now and in the future.

Short courses are a new and optional curricular component within the *Framework for Junior Cycle*. Short courses allow a school the flexibility to broaden the range of learning experiences for students, meet student needs, address their interests, and encompass areas of learning not covered by the combination of curricular subjects available in the school. Short courses require 100 hours of student engagement and are assessed through Classroom-Based Assessment, and reported on to parents/guardians and students by the school.

The Framework for Junior Cycle (2015) presents a hugely developmental opportunity for Computer Science in schools. The introduction by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) of the Short Course in Coding (2016) provide opportunities for schools to;
- design a outcomes-based learning experience in Coding to suit the needs and interests of their students.
- allow students to profile their achievements in Coding on the final award at Junior Cycle - the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement

The Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) school support service was established in 2013 to assist schools in implementing their junior cycle programme through the provision of high quality continuing professional development (CPD) opportunities and relevant learning and teaching resources.

The following resources have been developed by the Short Courses teams within JCT to assist Coding departments in their work in terms of curriculum planning and programme development.

They include:

- Short Course in Coding – Course Overview Template
- Short Course in Coding – Unit of Work Template
- Short Course in Coding – Unit of Work Weekly Planning Template
- Short Course in Coding – Departmental Review Template
- Short Course in Coding - Yearly Planning and Review Template

For further information, please contact JCT at info@jct.ie

Short Course in Coding – Course Overview Template

Teachers:		Reviewed :		Date of next review:	

	Summer – Midterm 1	Midterm 1 – Christmas	Christmas – Midterm 2	Midterm 2 – Easter	Easter - Summer	
Year 1 **Unit Title** **Learning Outcomes** **Assessment** **Reporting**						
Year 2 **Unit Title** **Learning Outcomes** **Assessment** **Reporting**						
Year 3 **Unit Title** **Learning Outcomes** **Assessment** **Reporting**						

Short Course in Coding – Unit of Work Template

Unit Title:		**Term:**	
Teacher/s:		**No of Weeks**:	
		Date of Review:	

Learning Outcomes (from Specification)
At the end of this unit, students will be able to…

Assessment
Students will demonstrate their learning when they…

Learning Experiences
-
-
-
-
-

Element/s of Key Skill/s		**Wellbeing Indicator/s**	

Post Unit Reflection

Short Course in Coding – Unit of Work Weekly Planning Template

Week 1	Week 5

Week 2	Week 6

Week 3	Week 7

Week 4	Week 8

Reflection on the Unit:

Short Course in Coding – Departmental Review Template

Teacher/s:		Date of Review:	

Strengths	Challenges

Opportunities	Other comments

Short Course in Coding - Yearly Planning and Review Template

September – Area and Action	Christmas - Review	Easter – Review	Summer - Review

Potential Areas may include:

Facility Development	Resources	Assessment Approaches	Meetings with School Management
Curriculum Development	CPD Opportunities	Self-Evaluation Practices	Linking with Outside Agencies