

Meeting of the committee for Junior Cycle English

10th September 2012

Agenda:

Junior Cycle Developments, an introduction

Documentation/Discussion:

[Innovation and Identity: Ideas for a new Junior Cycle](#)

Developing a specification for junior cycle English

The committee discussed these features of the specification:

- Learning outcomes
- A focus on learner progression
- Setting out clear expectations for learners
- The need for a focus on the [junior cycle key skills](#) and on [literacy and numeracy](#)

The committee considered the specification provided by the **Junior Certificate syllabus of 1989** and of the **Rebalanced Draft syllabus of 2008**

Syllabus documents available for download on [Curriculum on Line](#)

[Rebalanced Draft syllabus of 2008](#)

[Junior Certificate syllabus of 1989](#)

These emerging issues were identified:

- **Online specification** provides opportunities for flexible support for teaching and learning and for teacher judgement; yet a short handbook that complements the online specification is worthy of further consideration
- Establishing much clearer **links between the primary language curriculum and junior cycle English** (especially first year) is a priority area
- There needs to be more systematic focus on the **development of oral language skills** in junior cycle, especially their potential to contribute to the development of thinking skills, reading and writing
- Adoption of **Oral Language, Reading, and Writing** as strands for junior cycle English is being considered in place of Personal, Social and Cultural literacies

Next meeting: The next meeting of the group is scheduled for **Tuesday 23rd October 2012**