

# JCSP

## *Junior Certificate School Programme*

### ***What is the Junior Certificate School Programme?***

The Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP) is a national programme under the auspices of the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST). Currently, the programme is offered in 223 schools throughout the country. JCSP operates within the Junior Certificate/ Cycle curriculum. It follows the curriculum framework set out for the Junior Certificate/Cycle, which is re-focused to cater for JCSP students.

It is an intervention into the Junior Certificate/Cycle and not an alternative to it. It helps to make the curriculum accessible and relevant to young people who would benefit from a different approach to the Junior Certificate/Cycle.

### ***What are the benefits?***

Students are provided the opportunity to become owners of their own learning by discussing statements and meeting agreed targets. Through engagement with this learning process, students begin to succeed and continue to build on this success.

Students also can participate in a wide range of initiatives in O'Carolan College that are offered through the JCSP programme. In addition to this, we seek to create positive contact with the students' families and with the community.

When students complete their Junior Certificate/Cycle examinations, they also get a final profiling certificate from the Department of Education and Skills containing a list of all they have achieved while engaged with the Programme.

### ***How have our students benefited?***

The JCSP Programme could not succeed if it was not for the support of teachers in O'Carolan College. We have had great success with students in our Programme where teachers have taken on initiatives and provided students with the opportunity to engage with other forms of learning. Some initiatives that have been completed with JCSP students and where all students in O'Carolan College have benefitted have been with:

- Accelerated Reading Programme
- Artist in the Classroom
- Author in Residence
- Christmas Celebration with First Years
- Trip to Tanagh
- Rocket Launch in Science
- Paired Reading Programme
- Celebrity Chef

- French Cuisine tasting session
- Dance Workshop
- Orientation workshop
- Career Guidance support
- Trip to Causey Farm (Habitat study)

- ***How is the subject awarded?***

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Trip to Tanagh where students got to explore its natural Habitat.



Students enjoy a trip to Tanagh where they gained teamwork, orientation and resilience skills.