26th August 2026

Re: JCSP updates

Dear Colleague

We hope you and your colleagues are refreshed as we start this new academic year.

Oide would like to inform you of the Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP) professional learning and support for the year ahead along with a number of relevant updates.

Autumn 2026 - Programme of Professional Learning and Support

Oide's programme of customised school support and applications system is now open for 2026/2027 at this link Schools - Oide. Your principal can apply for up to three areas of support using the school roll number and password.

PLE 2026/2027

We are delighted to offer a calendar of dates for the new academic year which can be seen here. You can register online for these professional learning events at this link Teachers - Oide.

Make a Book 2027

Make a Book will take place in 6 regional events between early February and early March 2026. Registration will open in late November.

New Coordinators and Principals please register with JCSP

Congratulations on your new position!

As part of your role within the school and JCSP, you will need accounts created on the website http://www.jcsp.ie and the new JCSP resource ordering website www.codex.ie.

You are requested to register with the JCSP office. We ask that you read and complete this form https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/hJbPrKQEPt

GDPR – Register with JCSP

All JCSP Coordinators, Principals and JCSP Librarians are requested to register for JCSP services each academic year which can be done by completing this form https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/hJbPrKQEPt

Oifig an Stiúrthóra Bainistíochta, Sráid an tSéipéil, Dún Dealgan, A91 C7D8.
Managing Director's Office, Chapel Street, Dundalk, A91 C7D8.
Info@oide.ie
www.oide.ie

Programme Updates

We would be grateful if you could bring the following updates and resources to the attention of your colleagues. Further information on these and other areas will be provided to you throughout the year.

Collaborative Profiling Excel sheet

A copy of the "JCSP COLLABORATIVE PROFILING 2026-2027 Excel sheet" can be downloaded from the homepage of www.jcsp.ie. It is offered as an approach to help Coordinators collect JCSP student data within their school. Initially, you will need to download it, save it to your school platform before sharing it with teachers in your school. Each sheet will be a complete record for an academic year containing three tabs, one each for 1st, 2nd and 3rd year. Subject to Coordinator feedback and any amendments to be made, a new sheet issues each year.

School Based Statements

Schools may decide to write their own school-based statements. Guidance and Protocols for Writing JCSP School-Based Statements is available here.

School based statements must be submitted for approval to the JCSP office by email to Dorota Ruszczak, Profiling Administrator at jcspresources@oide.ie. Submissions should be made at least one term before issuing the Final Student Profile.

Previously approved school-based statements have been archived. Should you wish to continue using these statements, please contact Dorota Ruszczak, Profiling Administrator by email at jcspresources@oide.ie.

Initiatives

A separate communication will issue shortly regarding Initiative applications for 2026/2027.

Free Membership of the Oide JCSP Library Project Digital Library

Membership of the JCSP Library Project Digital Library is free to all JCSP and (pre- 2022) DEIS schools.

Existing member schools have received an updated set of Digital Library logins which includes a set of logins for incoming 1st Year students.

Eligible non-member schools can register at this link: https://jcsplibraries.com/jcsp- digital-library / following which you will be provided with details on how to complete the registration process.

The library contains over 14,000 unique e-book and e-audiobook titles (with multiple copies of many of these bringing the overall total to over 108,000 titles) together with a selection of over 1,100 (always available) Digital Magazine titles. There are over 100,000 individual students and 9,000 staff from over 230 schools using the library. As new titles are being added continuously, all schools are encouraged to use this fantastic free library service.

2026 saw the 500,000th checkout from our Digital Library. That's half a million books having been borrowed and read by JCSP/DEIS students right across the country. A significant milestone indeed.

JCSP Competition: Paint a picture with data

We are delighted to announce details of the latest JCSP student competition – "Paint a picture with data" details of which are available here. The entry template is available to download on the Co-ordinators page of http://www.jcsp.ie.

Ordering Resources – 4 orders per year without mailing/delivery costs

Orders are placed through our distributor, Codex, www.codex.ie, by the JCSP Coordinator (login and password required). Please complete the GDPR form https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/hJbPrKQEPt so that a new account can be created for you. We will use the student numbers in your school as of the end of the last school year to establish a base line for ordering resources.

There is no charge for JCSP resources for JCSP students. Four orders will be provided to schools during the 2026/2027 academic year (in addition to the ordering of initiative materials) at no cost. However, additional orders will incur a delivery cost of €30.

Circulars

The current Circulars governing the Programme are available at https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/services/allocation-of-teachers-to-schools/#post-primary and at the below links:

- Staffing arrangements in Voluntary Secondary schools for 2026/27 school year
- Staffing Arrangements in Education and Training boards for the 2026/27 school year.
- Staffing Arrangements in Community and Comprehensive Schools for the 2026/27 school

In the above circulars, for allocations please read page 6, point 1.9 and for coordination time, page 9, point 1.1 which also references the current circular on Posts of Responsibility Circular 0003/2018. Information notes and updates to this circular are available at this page Leadership and Management In Post-

Primary Schools

- The capitation grant details: 2025_VS_Capitation_Circular_0066-2025.pdf

Update of school records

We would be much obliged if you would complete the form https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/2HBuw8Sg6c detailing JCSP student numbers and how JCSP is organised in your school.

2027 Profiling

The profiling round for 2027 will open on the 11th of January 2027. All final profiles must be received by the JCSP Office by Tuesday the 16th of March 2027. No student profiling folders will be available before Tuesday 4th of May 2027.

We look forward to supporting and working with you and wish you, your staff and school community the very best for a fruitful year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Oide JCSP Team: Joanne Parry, Senior Leader, Brigid Murray, Leona Mc Mahon, Dearbhla Murphy and Ben Condon, Professional Learning Leaders. Senior Librarian: Kathleen Moran. Administrators: Elaine Flynn, Jill Byrne, Dorota Ruszczak.

This email has been sent to all registered JCSP contacts (Principal, JCSP Coordinator, JCSP Librarian). A copy of this email is available to view on www.jcsp.ie