

## Assessment and Reporting

Assessment of your son's progress takes place every day in the College, through questioning, classwork, homework, student's own reflection on their learning, class tests and formal examinations. Feedback to students and parents can take the form of verbal and written comments on students' work, test reports, CBA results, Parent Teacher Meetings, written report cards. The move from 40-minute teaching periods to 60-minute periods provides not only opportunities for a variety of learning activities but also 1-hour blocks for exams.

The most recent review of our assessment programme undertaken by our teaching staff resulted in a schedule which we consider takes into account the varying needs of six different year groups, the structure of the school year and its pressure points, and the drive in recent years to include more formative assessment alongside the more commonly recognised summative exams.

Our teaching staff have attended workshop training on the following topics: Learning intentions and success criteria, Effective questioning, Formative feedback, Students reflecting on their own learning, and the importance of identifying Learner Outcomes. The NCCA website <https://ncca.ie/en/junior-cycle/assessment-and-reporting/> provides further information and background.

Our emphasis on preparation for State Examinations has always been and remains a central focus of academic life at Castleknock College. Formal examinations for a senior student take place at November and May in Fifth Year, and in February and June in Sixth Year. For Junior Cycle students, formal exams take place at the end of each year and also as Mock exams in Third Year. Other Year Groups have an assessment programme which is appropriate to their level.

In summary, the assessment schedule for different year groups at Castleknock College is as follows. Each block represented below is accompanied by a report available on VShare.

Year	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
1 <sup>st</sup>	CA		CA		PTM	CA			Exam	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	CA		CA		PTM		CA		Exam	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	PTM			CA		Mock Exam				SEC Exam
4 <sup>th</sup>	Module 1		Module 2		Module 3		Module 4		Module 5	
5 <sup>th</sup>	CA		Exam	PTM	CA				Exam	
6 <sup>th</sup>	CA			PTM		Mock Exam				SEC Exam

CA= Continuous Assessment PTM= Parent Teacher Meeting

Note: In 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year, Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) are spread throughout the year for all subjects.