**JUNIOR CYCLE - SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS BY TUI/ASTI**

**State Certification:**

State Certification was abolished by Ministerial decision in 2012.

*Now: State Certification has now been restored and the results of State Examinations will be provided to students in the normal way each September. (In a separate and distinct exercise a school report on each student’s development over the three years will be provided to parents and students before Christmas in the post Junior Cycle Year.) The Travers’ proposal for external moderation has been completely withdrawn.*

**External Assessment:**

In 2011 the NCCA Framework proposed that teachers would award 40% of each subject’s marks for State Certification.

In 2012 the Minister proposed that all assessment (written, practical and oral) would be carried out in school by teachers.

*Now the Externally Assessed State (SEC) Terminal Examination is to continue along with External State (SEC) Assessment of a third year school based task to be undertaken by students. The original 60% 40% division of marking is now gone. There will therefore be no link between classroom based assessment and State Certification.*

**Terminal Examinations:**

In 2012 The Junior Cert Terminal Examination was abolished by Ministerial decision.

*Now the State Assessed Terminal Examination for Junior Cycle students has been restored and modernised.*

**June Exam Date:**

The original proposals provided for end of the year examinations to take place in May while schools were open (except for English, Irish and Maths exams in June).

*Now it is confirmed that the terminal exams for third years will be run by the State Examinations Commission (SEC) in the month of June.*

**Teachers’ Time:**

In the original NCCA Framework Proposals and in proposals from the Minister in 2012 no specific allowance was made for the extra demands to be placed on teachers’ time and workload.

*Now the statement agreed between ASTI/TUI and the Minister confirms that there will be no imposition of additional workload or time demands on teachers. Seven times in the Statement it is confirmed that the Junior Cycle, CPD, assessment activities, meetings of subject teachers etc will be accommodated* ***within teachers’ timetables****.*

**Protecting Subjects:**

In 2011 the NCCA Framework Proposal reduced the number of subjects for certification to 8.

*Now Students will take 10 subjects for State Certification and in addition a new area called “Well-being” to incorporate PE, SPHE (RSC) and CSPE. (There will be State Assessment of CSPE in the June 2018 examinations).*

**English Implementation Option:**

*For the first cohort of students (current 1st years) there is now going to be an option for teachers to have students complete their Classroom Based Assessment task in Spring 2016 or to defer it to the beginning of third year. There is now a firm commitment to address the concerns of teachers of English.*