St Joseph's College Lucan Co. Dublin
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2nd October 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you and your family are well. The State Examinations Commission has notified the school that the Junior Cycle results will be issued on Wednesday, 8th October 2025.

As this is an exciting time for our students the following arrangements will be in place for this day:

Students will come to school as normal at 8:37am on Wednesday, 8th October. Students will then gather in the school Assembly Hall, where they will receive their results at 12.20pm. Once they have received their results, students will be allowed to go home to celebrate with their families and friends. TY students will be treated to an activity day, arranged by the TY co-ordinator, Ms Dunne at a future date to celebrate their results with their friends. There will be school as normal for all students on Thursday, 9th October.

Students will be able to access their results online via www.examinations.ie from 4pm on Wednesday 8th October. Access to the results requires the use of the student examination number and a unique candidate Personal Identification Number which will be issued in advance to schools. Candidates who are unable to come to school on Wednesday to receive their results are asked to email Ms Butler to request their unique PIN so that they can access their results online on the day.

Similar to previous years, students will be able to apply to appeal their results if they wish to do so. This application has to be made through the school and incurs a fee of €**32 per subject**. **Applications and payment must be paid to school no later than 13th October 2025.** Please note, to raise an appeal, the Principal must attest that the examination result attained by the candidate varies significantly with the school's considered judgement of the performance of the student concerned at the examination in question.

I wish all TY students the very best of luck for their upcoming results. I am confident that all their hard work and determination will have paid off and all students will do brilliantly. We are very proud of all our students.

Yours Sincerely,

Bernadette Fitzgerald

Principal

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Junior Cycle Results 2025

Note for Candidates, Parents and Guardians on the new Junior Cycle Grade Bands

The 2025 Junior Cycle Results Date is Wednesday 8 October

New Junior Cycle grades bands have been introduced this year. The decision to effect this change was made by the Minster for Education and Youth taking on board feedback about the impact that the previous grade bands may have been having on the teaching and learning experience. This feedback came from many stakeholders including those taking examinations, their parents and guardians. The State Examinations Commission (SEC) was asked to implement this change for the 2025 Junior Cycle examinations.

With this change there are still the same number of Junior Cycle grades as before; Distinction, Higher Merit, Merit, Achieved, Partially Achieved and Not Graded. In very simple terms*, the Distinction band has been widened and now ranges from 85% or above to 100% and the Merit band has been narrowed and now ranges from 55% or above up to 70%. The impact of these changes is that more candidates will achieve the Distinction and Higher Merit Grades than previously with fewer Merits being awarded. This is because more candidates, who would previously have received a Higher Merit, will now achieve a Distinction, and more candidates, who would previously have achieved a Merit, will now achieve a Higher Merit. The new and old grade bands are set out in the table below.

Grade Descriptor	New Grade Band (2025)	Previous Grade Band (2015-2024)
Disinction	>= 85 to 100	>= 90 to 100
Higher Merit	>= 70 and < 85	>= 75 and < 90
Merit	>= 55 and < 70	>= 55 and < 75
Achieved	>= 40 and < 55	>= 40 and < 55
Partially Achieved	>= 20 and < 40	>= 20 and < 40
Not Graded	>= 0 and < 20	>= 0 and < 20

For 2025 these new grade bands have been implemented by the SEC as a technical adjustment. This means that the examinations were marked by examiners in the normal way using the grading standards based on the previous grade bands. When all of the marking and the results quality assurance procedures were completed, the SEC implemented a technical intervention to apply the new grade boundaries to the marks completed, the SEC implemented a technical intervention to apply the new grade boundaries to the marks achieved in the

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examinations. This approach was necessary in order that this important change could be introduced in 2025. From next year, the SEC intends to implement the change through the normal marking process which will entail aligning the examinations standard setting process with the new grade boundaries. *Note percentages are used by the SEC for communication purposes only in order to facilitate understanding of the examination grades awarded. In the examination marking and resulting processes, grades are derived from marks not percentages. At Junior Cycle, the grading tables, which are subject specific, can be out of 180; 240, 270, 360, 400 or 640. For example, a mark of 305 in an examination marked out of 360 is worth 84.7% when expressed as a percentage. However, 306 marks are required to achieve a Distinction in an examination marked out of 360 marks. As the grade is based on the mark of 305 the candidate will achieve a Higher Merit Grade. Rounding up to the next grade band does not arise. Details of the subject specific grading tables are available from the Candidate Section on the SEC's website www.examinations.ie

Bernadette Fitzgerald
Principal