

About this Resource

Connected has been specifically designed for teachers of the Junior Cycle Digital Media Literacy Short Course who wish to explore;

- Online wellbeing
- News, information and problems of false information
- Big data and the data economy
- Young people's rights online

This programme will give students an understanding of the role of digital technologies, their rights in the digital world and will help students develop key digital media literacy skills to responsibly navigate the online environment. Connected aims to empower young people to be effective, autonomous and safe users of technology and online media.

Grounded in a constructivist pedagogical orientation, the active methodologies used stimulate discussion, reflection and self-directed learning. The Connected resource is designed to promote creative, critical and responsible use of digital technologies including the internet. The programme is mapped to the Junior Cycle Digital Media Literacy Short Course and has links to the Junior Cycle SPHE Curriculum and CSPE (Modules 1 and 4). The Junior Cycle curriculum focuses on eight key skills⁶, the Connected programme offers opportunities to support all eight key skills. The resource is also suitable for Transition Year Programmes.

Assessment

The Junior Cycle Digital Media Literacy Short course supports a broad range of approaches to assessment. Some learning outcomes lend themselves to once-off assessment, others to assessment on an ongoing basis as students engage in different learning activities such as discussing, explaining, researching, presenting, planning and taking action⁷. Module 5 of this education programme provides a range of options for assessment based on the topics explored in the previous modules.

Project Based Assessment

Each of the tasks demonstrates engagements with learning outcomes across all four strands. Students are to work in groups of three and chose one of the four tasks to complete. Each of the tasks is based on topics and themes covered throughout the previous four modules. They provide a certain amount of freedom for students to pursue topics that are of interest/relevance to their lives within each of the areas. It is envisaged that students will provide evidence of their learning in a variety of ways, including digital media, audio recordings, video, presentations and written pieces.

Many of the teaching and learning activities outlined in this resource support formative and summative assessment tasks, with opportunities for reflection, self and peer assessment, as well as opportunities for teachers to give individualised feedback to learners/students.

Information and suggested tasks are outlined in Module 5.

¹ Livingstone, S., Stoilova, M., & Nandagiri, R. (2019). *Children's data and privacy online: growing up in a digital age: an evidence review*. Available at: www.lse.ac.uk/media-and-communications/assets/documents/research/projects/childrens-privacy-online/Evidence-review-final.pdf

² Livingstone, S. (2018). *Media literacy—everyone's favourite solution to the problems of regulation*. LSE Media Policy Project Blog. Available at: www.blogs.lse.ac.uk/mediapolicyproject/2018/05/08/media-literacy-everyones-favourite-solution-to-the-problems-of-regulation/

³ The Center for Media Literacy (CML) is an educational organization that provides leadership, public education, professional development and evidence-based educational resources nationally and internationally. CML works to help citizens, especially the young, develop critical thinking and media production skills needed to live fully in the 21st century media culture. More information is available at: www.medialit.org/media-literacy-definition-and-more

⁴ Turner, K. H., Jolls, T., Hagerman, M. S., O'Byrne, W., Hicks, T., Eisenstock, B., & Pytash, K. E. (2017). *Developing digital and media literacies in children and adolescents*. *Pediatrics*, 140(Supplement 2), S122-S126.

⁵ Howells, K. (2018). *The future of education and skills: education 2030: the future we want*. (OECD) Available at: [www.oecd.org/education/2030/E2030%20Position%20Paper%20\(05.04.2018\).pdf](http://www.oecd.org/education/2030/E2030%20Position%20Paper%20(05.04.2018).pdf)

⁶ NCCA, Key Skills of the Junior Cycle available at: www.curriculumonline.ie/getmedia/7f36551d-5f96-45d9-aad4-dd229515b1cb/JC-Key-Skills-Poster-English.pdf

⁷ Short Course Digital Media Literacy, Specification for Junior Cycle, NCCA, Available at: www.curriculumonline.ie/getmedia/71b6b946-971b-4003-8bfa-028932cc4daa/NCCA-JC-Short-Course-DML.pdf