

Summary of Enhancements included in latest release of P-POD August 2017

The latest release of PPOD contains functionality relating to Ethnicity and Cultural Background, Eircodes and a number of functions relating to the production of the new Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) for students who completed their junior cycle in 2017. More information on the functionality in this release is set out below.

Ethnicity and Cultural Background and Eircodes

1. Ethnicity and Cultural Background field is no longer mandatory when pupils' data is being entered onto P-POD
2. Schools can now record the Eircodes for pupils and schools.

JCPA functionality

A previous PPOD release (JCPA – Phase 1) enabled schools to record the fact that Junior Cycle students were undertaking short courses. This latest release (JCPA – Phase 2) includes the following:-

1. The ability to perform the following actions in batch/bulk updates:-
 - a. Record short courses for Junior Cycle pupils
 - b. Record Priority Learning Units (PLUs) for groups of Junior Cycle pupils
 - c. Multi Assessment Fast Entry screen for Junior Cycle Year 2 and Year 3 pupils - this will enable schools to record assessment results/outcomes for Class Based Assessments for subjects, short courses and PLUs if applicable for groups of Junior Cycle pupils at a time.
2. The ability to perform the following actions for individual students:-
 - a. Record Short Courses for JCSP pupils. It was not possible for schools to record short courses for their JCSP pupils until now.
 - b. Recording of PLUs for individual pupils.
 - c. Input Individual Classroom Based Assessment results for subjects and Short Courses and assessments for PLUs (where applicable)

Release also includes information relating to JCPA user support and changes to search functionality

The Department will shortly be in further contact with schools on the arrangements regarding the production of JCPAs by them for their students this year and on the JCPA more generally.

Schools should refer to the various P-POD User Guides published on the Department's website for very specific information on each of the new features as outlined above.

User guides can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services>Returns/Post-Primary-Online-Database-P-POD-Project/>