

3rd March, 2015.

**Re: Junior Cycle developments**

Dear Workplace Representative,

Meetings of the TUI Executive Committee and ASTI Standing Committee took place on Friday, February 27th to consider the revised *Junior Cycle Reform, A Way Forward* document, which was issued by Dr Pauric Travers last week.

Following these meetings, the TUI and ASTI stated that while the document does not represent a comprehensive resolution, it does represent the basis for further intensive negotiations, including on the following issues:

* Parity of treatment of subjects
* External assessment of oral tests, projects, practicals, etc.
* Confirmation of CSPE as a State certified exam
* Deferral of second-year English component
* Issues relating to capacity including time, workload and other appropriate resources

Both unions have called for further intensive engagement with the Department of Education and Skills in order to reach a resolution. In this light we have offered to suspend all industrial action, provided the Department agrees not to proceed with any further aspects of the implementation of the Framework for Junior Cycle (CPD, meetings, planning, etc.) during the period of suspension.

We are awaiting a response from the Minister.

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|  **Directives**In the meantime members should note that pending a response from the Minister, the TUI/ASTI Directives on the Framework for Junior Cycle remain in place. These direct members in all schools, including Junior Cycle Network Schools, not to co-operate with aspects of the implementation of the Framework including CPD, meetings, planning activities, and short courses. A copy of the directives is available at [www.asti.ie](http://www.asti.ie) and [www.tui.ie](http://www.tui.ie) |

We thank all our members for the commitment, loyalty and solidarity they have demonstrated in recent months. Further updates will be posted on the TUI and ASTI websites in the coming days.

Yours sincerely,
