



Senior Cycle Options 2022

[Thursday March 24th]

Who are you going to meet this evening?

- Mr. Purcell- Principal
- Mr. Cleary- Deputy Principal
- Ms. Cleary- Guidance Counsellor
- Ms. Flanagan- TY Coordinator
- Mr. Little- Student Options & Timetable Coordinator
- Ms. Reilly- Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Coordinator
- Ms. Bradshaw- Third Year Year Head



THE INSTITUTE OF GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

Leaving Certificate Subject Choice



The Institute
Of Guidance
Counsellors

LCVP



Leaving Cert LCA



TY



PROGRAMME

SUBJECTS FOR LEAVING CERTIFICATE

Irish, English, Maths.....Core Subjects

Optional Subjects

- **Humanities group- French, Spanish and History**
- **Science group- Physics, Biology, Chemistry and Agricultural Science, Computer Science**
- **Artistic and Creative group- Art and Music**
- **Practical group - Construction, Engineering and DCG**
- **Business group - Business Studies**
- **Social group - Geography and Home Economics**

Consider the following factors when choosing your subjects:



Important Considerations

- Interest in the subject
- Ability in the subject
- Career aspirations



Guidelines for choosing subjects

- 1. Interest in the subject - Genuine interest is important in terms of motivation. If you pick a subject you are interested in you are going to get better grades.





Does it come easy to you ?

Guidelines for choosing subjects

- 2. Ability in the subject- Reflect on what subjects you are good at?. Chatting to teachers may also help to gauge your ability in a subject area.



- 
- The image shows a grey signpost with a spherical top. It has two blue directional signs. The top sign is a left-pointing arrow with a white border, containing a bulleted list. The bottom sign is a right-pointing arrow with a white border, also containing a bulleted list. The background is a clear blue sky with some light clouds.
- Degree
 - Future Career

- Post Leaving Cert
 - Course options
 - Subject Choices

Guidelines for choosing subjects

- 3. Career needs- Reflect on what subjects you need to get into particular courses/colleges.



2 Key Questions

- Do I study a language?
- Do I study a science subject?



Do I study a language

- You need to take 3 considerations into account when deciding whether to pick Spanish or French.



Do I study a language?

- 1. What is my level of ability in French/Spanish to date?
- 2. Do I have an interest in studying French or Spanish.?
- 3. Do I need French or Spanish to get into a particular college/course?



What happens if I do not take a language other than Irish and English

- **The colleges of the National University of Ireland require a pass in a third language for entry into a large number of their courses.**
- **These colleges are Maynooth University, University College Dublin, NUI Galway and UCC and a range of constituent colleges, all of which are listed on the NUI website.**
- **Trinity accepts Irish as a second language requirement. UL and DCU and the Institutes of Technology/Technological Universities do not require a third language for entry purposes to most of their courses.**

Non Curricular EU Languages

- **Some students opt to take a non - curricular EU Language. These are languages that are not part of the normal school curriculum.**
- **These languages include Latvian, Romanian, Slovenian, Modern Greek, Finnish, Estonian, Slovakian, Swedish, Czech, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Danish, Dutch, Croatian and Maltese.**
- **Take a look at the State exams commission for more details.**

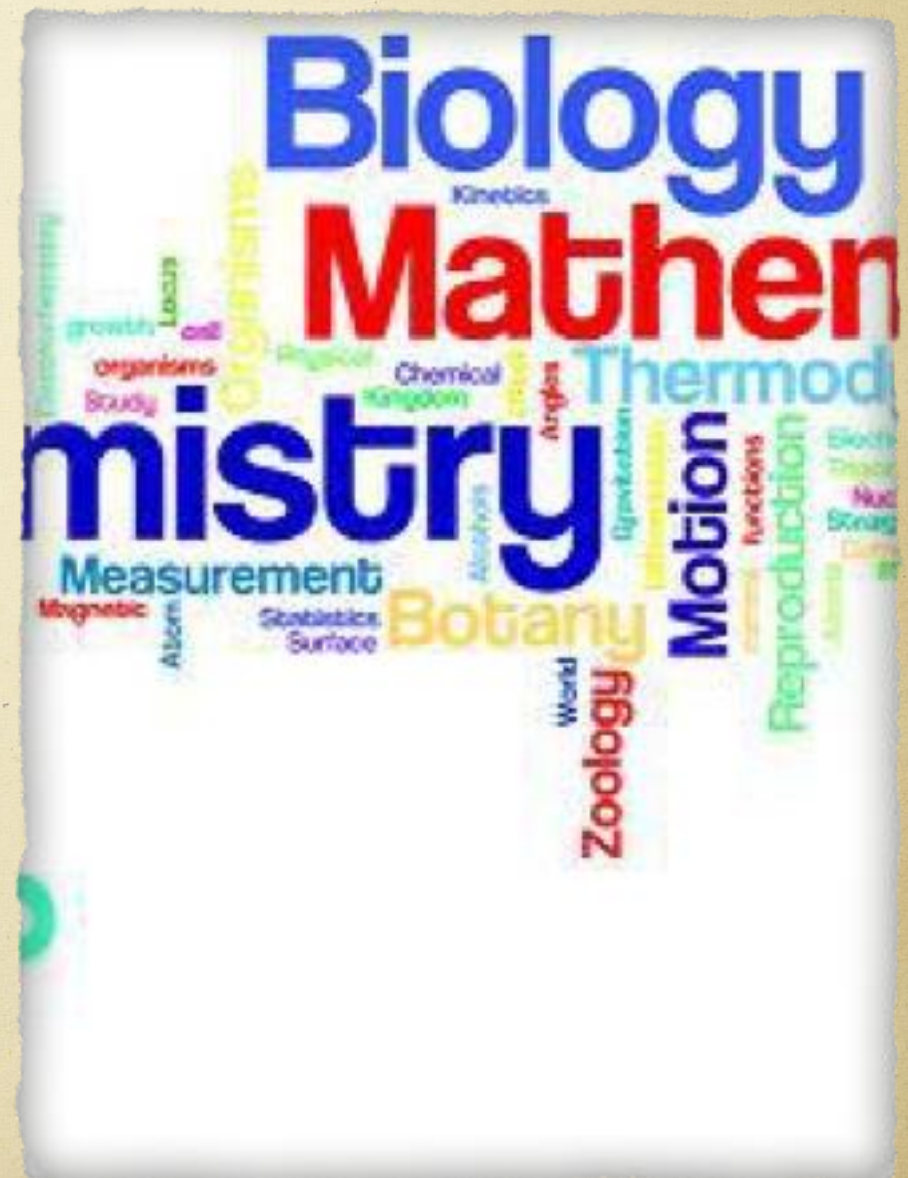
Do I study a science subject

- You need to take three considerations into account when deciding whether to select a science subject/s for Leaving Cert.



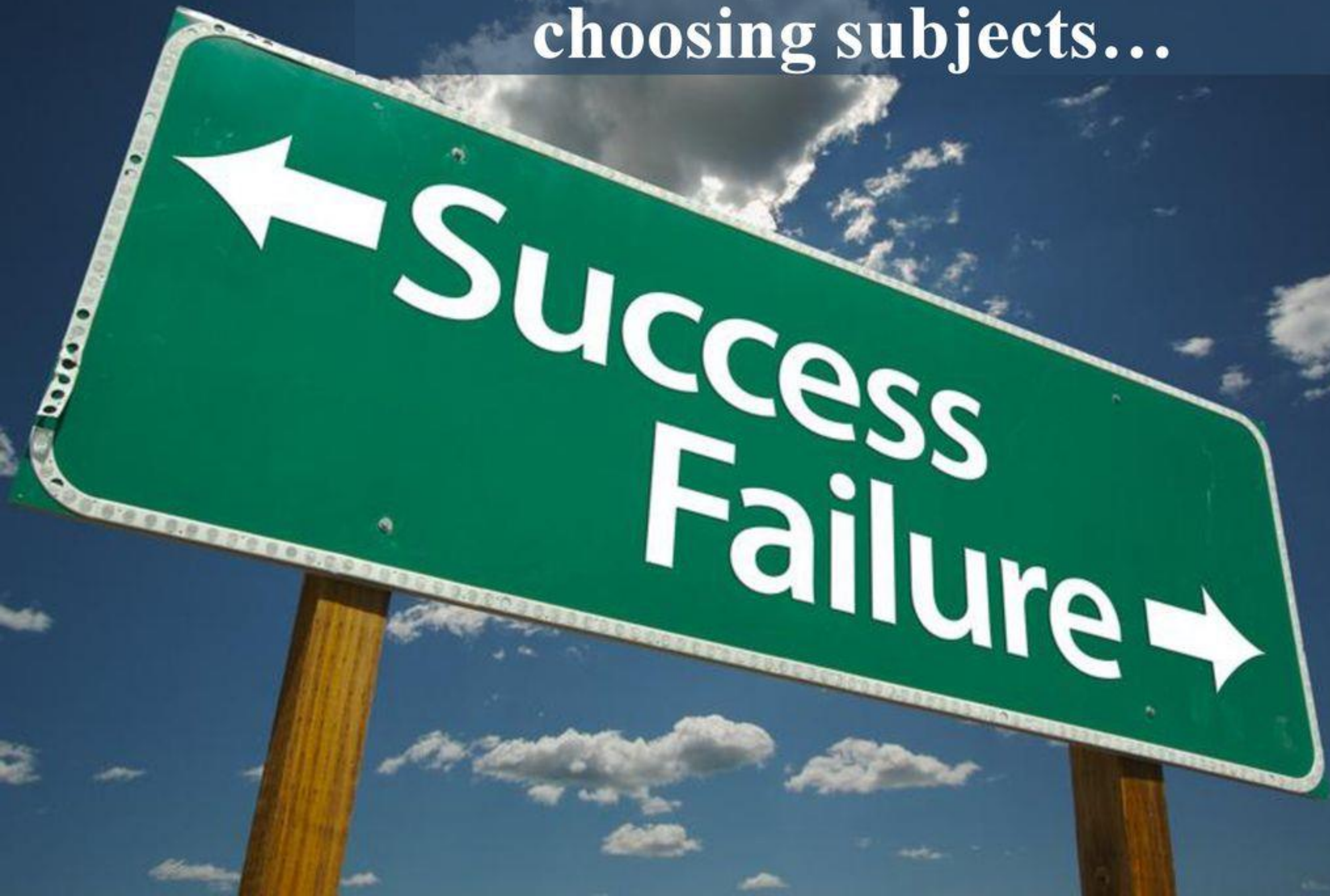
Do I study a science subject?

- 1. What is my level of ability in science to date?
- 2. What is my level of interest in science to date?
- 3. Do I need a science subject/s or specific science subjects to get into a particular course



➤ **A science subject(or 2 for some courses) is essential for most medical and scientific areas i.e. physiotherapy, radiography, nursing, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy etc.**

Things not to do when
choosing subjects...





You like the teacher - Make sure you like the subject also. Teachers can be switched or leave !!

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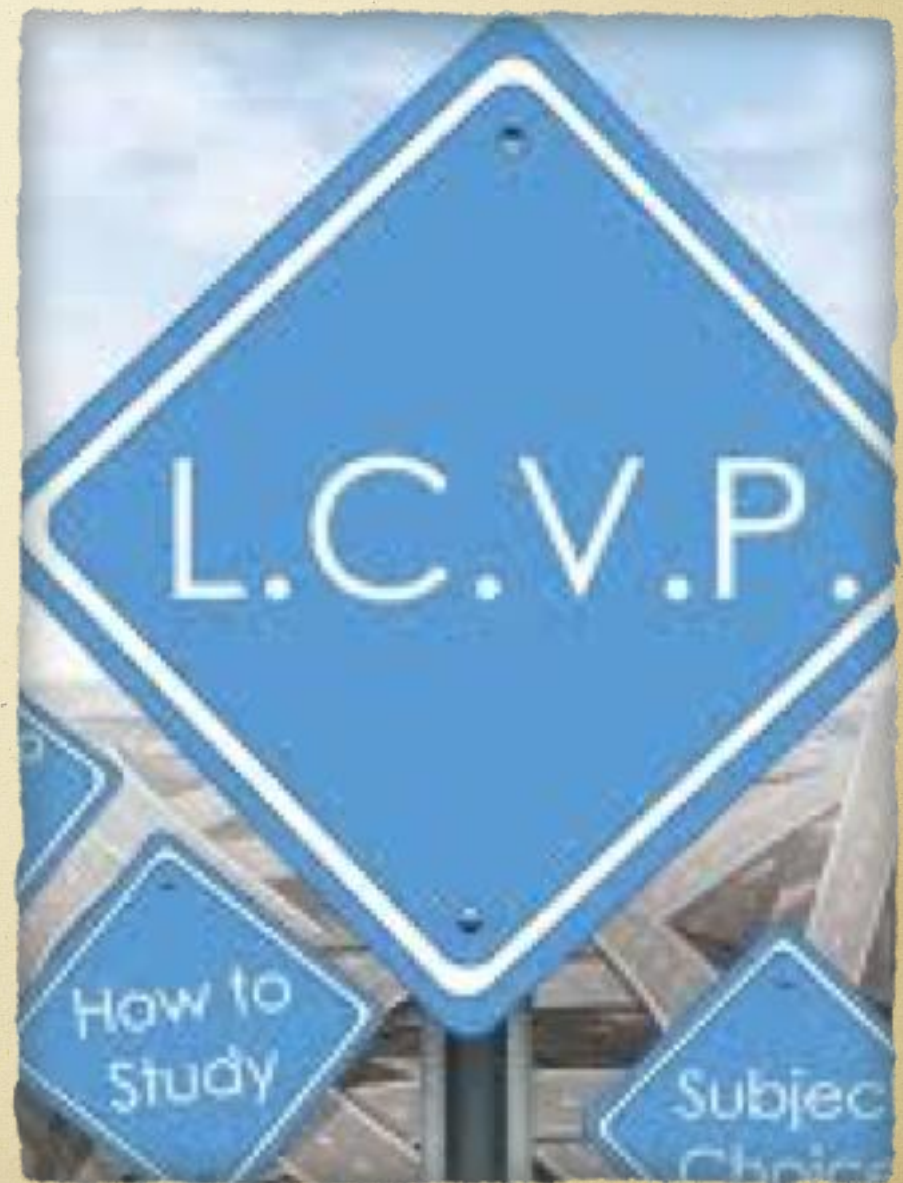


All my friends are choosing that subject . Think for yourself. Friendship patterns can change.

2. LCVP

Leaving Cert Vocational Programme (LCVP)

- LCVP is a programme that prepares students for the world of work.
- LCVP is a programme that students take along with taking other Leaving Cert subjects.
- Students must study a combination of certain subjects in order to be eligible for LCVP



Vocational Subject Groupings (VSGs) 2020/2021

Specialist Groupings

- 1 Construction Studies; Engineering; Design and Communication Graphics; Technology - **Any Two**
 - 2 Physics **and** Construction Studies **or** Engineering **or** Technology **or** Design & Communication Graphics
 - 3 Agricultural Science **and** Construction Studies **or** Engineering **or** Technology **or** Design & Communication Graphics
 - 4 Agricultural Science **and** Chemistry **or** Physics **or** Physics/Chemistry
 - 5 Home Economics; Agricultural Science; Biology - **Any Two**
 - 6 Home Economics **and** Art - Design Option **or** Craft Option
 - 7 Accounting; Business; Economics - **Any two**
 - 8 Physics **and** Chemistry
 - 9 Biology **and** Chemistry **or** Physics **or** Physics/Chemistry
 - 10 Biology **and** Agricultural Science
 - 11 Art - Design Option or Craft Option **and** Design & Communication Graphics
-

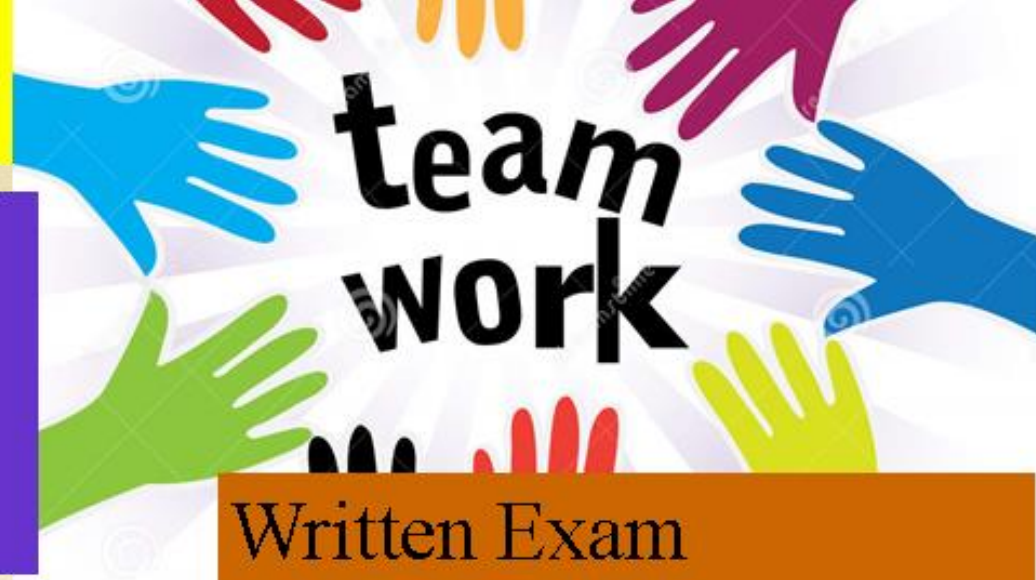
Services Groupings

- 12 Engineering **or** Technology **or** Construction Studies **or** Design & Communication Graphics **and** Accounting **or** Business **or** Economics
- 13 Home Economics **and** Accounting **or** Business **or** Economics
- 14 Agricultural Science **and** Accounting **or** Business **or** Economics
- 15 Art Design or Craftwork Option **and** Accounting **or** Business **or** Economics
- 16 Music **and** Accounting **or** Business **or** Economics

Preparation for the World of Work



Exam	
Portfolio	60%
Written Exam	40%



Portfolio

Core Items:

Curriculum Vitae
Summary Report
Career Investigation Report
Plan

Optional (Any 2)

Diary
Formal Report
My Own Place
Recorded Interview

Written Exam

Section A:

Audio Visual

Section B:

Case Study

Section C:

General Questions

Kildangan Stud Induction Day



LCVP Link With Kildangan Stud



LCVP



Link Modules Assessment Portfolio of Coursework

(from Sept 2002)

■ **Core Items**

- CV
- Career Investigation
- Enterprise/Action Plan
- Summary Report

■ **Options - any two from:-**

- Diary of Work Experience
- Enterprise Report
- Recorded Interview/Presentation
- Report on “My Own Place”

The LCVP is funded by the Department of Education and Science
under the National Development Plan

Link Module 1 - Preparation for the world of work

1. Introduction to Working Life
2. Job-Seeking Skills
3. Career Investigation
4. Work Placement

Link Module 2 - Enterprise Education

5. Enterprise Skills
6. Local Business Enterprises
7. Local Voluntary Organisations/Community Enterprises
8. An Enterprise Activity



Link Modules Assessment Written Examination

- **Section A - Audio Visual**
 - Video sequence of an enterprise
 - 30 marks
- **Section B - Case Study**
 - Received 4 weeks in advance
 - 30 marks
- **Section C - General Questions**
 - Choice of 4 questions from 6
 - 100 marks

The LCVP is funded by the Department of Education and Science
under the National Development Plan

LCVP Grade

Revised LCVP
Points

Distinction

66

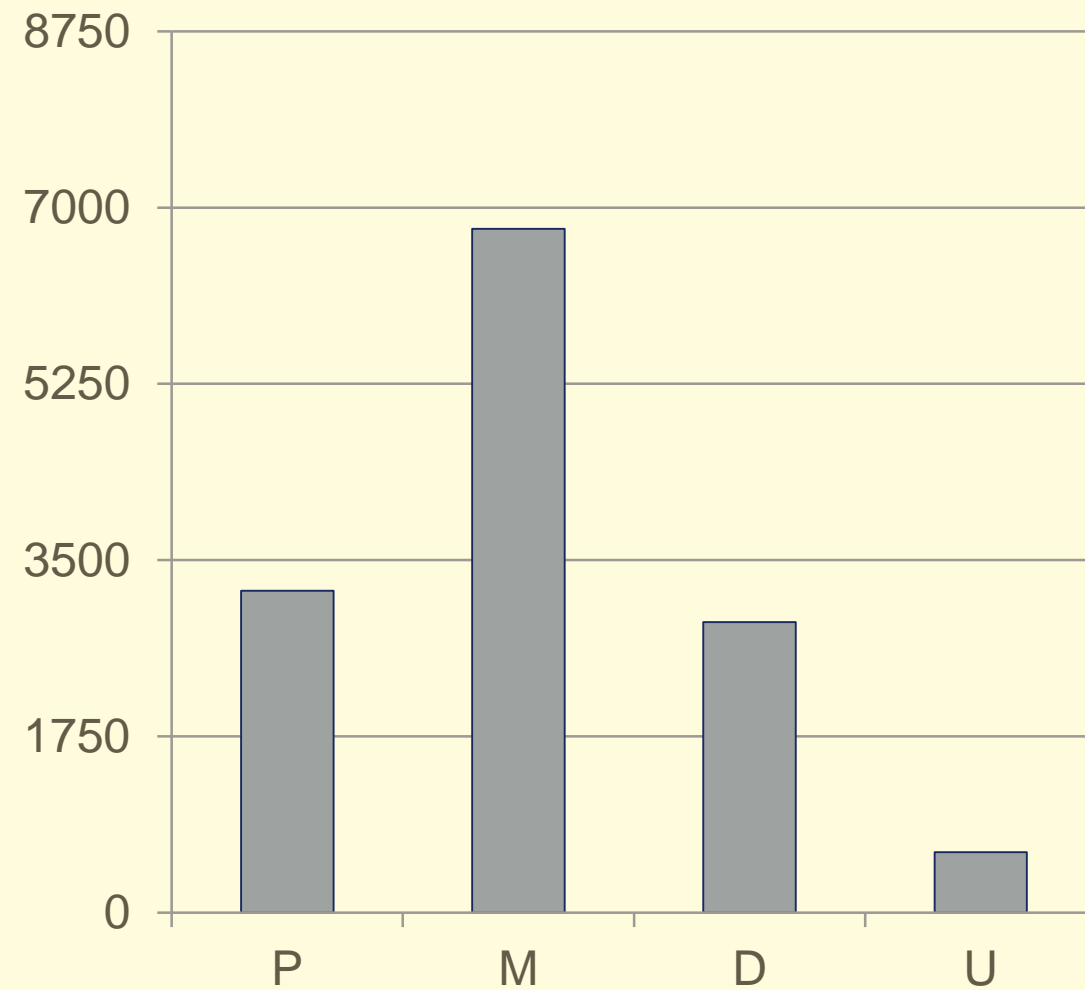
Merit

46

Pass

28

LCVP Results 2020



Leaving Certificate Applied

.....A Different Way

Leaving Certificate Applied 2022 - 2024



What is Leaving Certificate Applied?

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a two-year Leaving Certificate available to students who wish to follow a more practical and vocational programme aimed at preparing them for adult and working life.

This Program is certified by the Department of Education & Skills.



What is different about Leaving Certificate Applied?



It is a practical Leaving Certificate programme which places particular emphasis on preparation for the world of work and life-long learning.

Work experience is a significant component of the programme and students get to sample a range of jobs and get first hand experience of the world of work.

The learning experiences are **active and practical** where students apply their knowledge, skills and experience to real life situations in the school, in the workplace and in the wider community.



The programme provides a wealth of opportunities which enhance the self esteem and confidence of students.

There is **less emphasis on the final examinations** as course work is assessed throughout the two years and students' gain 'credits' as they go along.

Student's work and skill development is assessed in different ways including through interview, in written work, orally and in practical assignments.



Four times throughout the two years, students will receive a statement of results (CREDITS) from the State Examinations Commission.



In this way, they experience regular feedback on their success and achievement.



Who should consider Leaving Certificate Applied?



- ▶ Someone who wants to stay in school and get a Leaving Certificate
- ▶ Someone who prefers learning by doing
- ▶ Someone who would be motivated by continuous assessment
- ▶ Someone who wants to get work experience to help them with their career choice
- ▶ Someone who wants to develop skills which help them in their future career

Develop skills for work and for life

- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Team Work
- ▶ Enterprise
- ▶ Motivation
- ▶ Initiative
- ▶ Planning

- ▶ Organisation
- ▶ Self-Awareness
- ▶ Confidence
- ▶ Self-Esteem



Leaving Cert Applied in St. Farnan's P.P.S.

Two Year Program divided into

YEAR ONE		YEAR TWO	
Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Sept - Jan	Feb - June	Sept - Jan	Feb - June



Key Underlying Principles

student centred
curriculum

personal and
social
development

integration and
cross curricular
links

team work

literacy &
numeracy
development

active
teaching/learning
methodologies

community links

reflection



Subjects in Leaving Cert Applied

- › English & Communication
- › Vocational Studies / Work Experience / Career Guidance
- › Social Education
- › Maths Application
- › Art
- › Leisure & Recreation (incl. PE)
- › Mandatory ICT
- › Languages: Communicative Irish, MFL (French or Spanish etc. at basic level)
- › Specialisms e.g: ICT / Hotel Catering & Tourism / Engineering
- › Electives e.g: HCT
- › Career Guidance & RSE



How are students



LCA Modes of Assessment

Satisfactory completion of modules + 90% attendance

- Evidence of completion of 4 key assignments for each module
- One credit per course module in which there is a final exam
- Two credits per course module in which there is NO final exam

**62
credits**

31%

7 Student Tasks @ 10 credits each

Vocational Preparation

Vocational Education (x2)

General Education

Contemporary Issue

Personal Reflection

Practical Achievement

**70
credits**

35%

Final Examinations

English &
Communication

Vocational
Specialisms (x2)

Languages
(x2)

Social
Education

Mathematical
Applications

12 credits

12 credits each

6 credits each

10 credits

10 credits

**68
credits**

34%

Total

**200
credits**

100%

LCA Certification



Certification awarded at 3 levels

PASS	120 - 139 credits	60-69%
MERIT	140 - 169 credits	70-84%
DISTINCTION	170 - 200 credits	85-100%

Students who acquire less than 120 credits or who leave the programme early will receive a "Record of Experience".

Accreditation of Key Assignments



- Each session credits are given for modules which have been satisfactorily completed on both **90% attendance** and **evidence of 4 key assignments for the specific module.**
- **Two Credits**
per course module that does NOT have a final exam.
- **One Credit**
per course module that does have a final exam.

What are Key Assignments?

Each subject has 4 **Key Assignments** which are normally carried out in class with the teacher. **Credits** are given for completed Key assignments and attendance at the end of each session & results are input into the DES by the Programme Coordinator & validated by the Principal.

What is a Task.

A type of project that carries 10 Credits awarded following an interview by an outside examiner. Students are asked questions about their Project/Task to show the steps they took and the learning that took place.

Student Task



Definition

A practical activity by which learning is applied to....

Types of Tasks for general education, vocational education & vocational preparation

- **Development** of a product / artefact
- **Investigation** of an issue/topic
- **Staging** of an event
- A **performance** group or individual
- **Provision** of a service

Purpose

Vehicle for curriculum integration of as many courses as possible

Final Examinations



Area	Credits
English & Communication Oral and written incorporating audio visual	12
Vocational Specialisms (x2) Practical and written - practical briefs issued in advance <i>(see next slide for details)</i>	12 each
Languages (x2) Oral and written incorporating aural	6 each
Social Education Written incorporating audio	10
Mathematical Applications Written - research topic (Q.2 issued in advance)	10
Total	68

Can a student go to further education and training?



Yes. The Leaving Certificate Applied is accepted for a wide range of Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses at FETAC Level 5. It also provides access to most apprenticeships and other vocational training awards.

Can a student go to Higher Education?

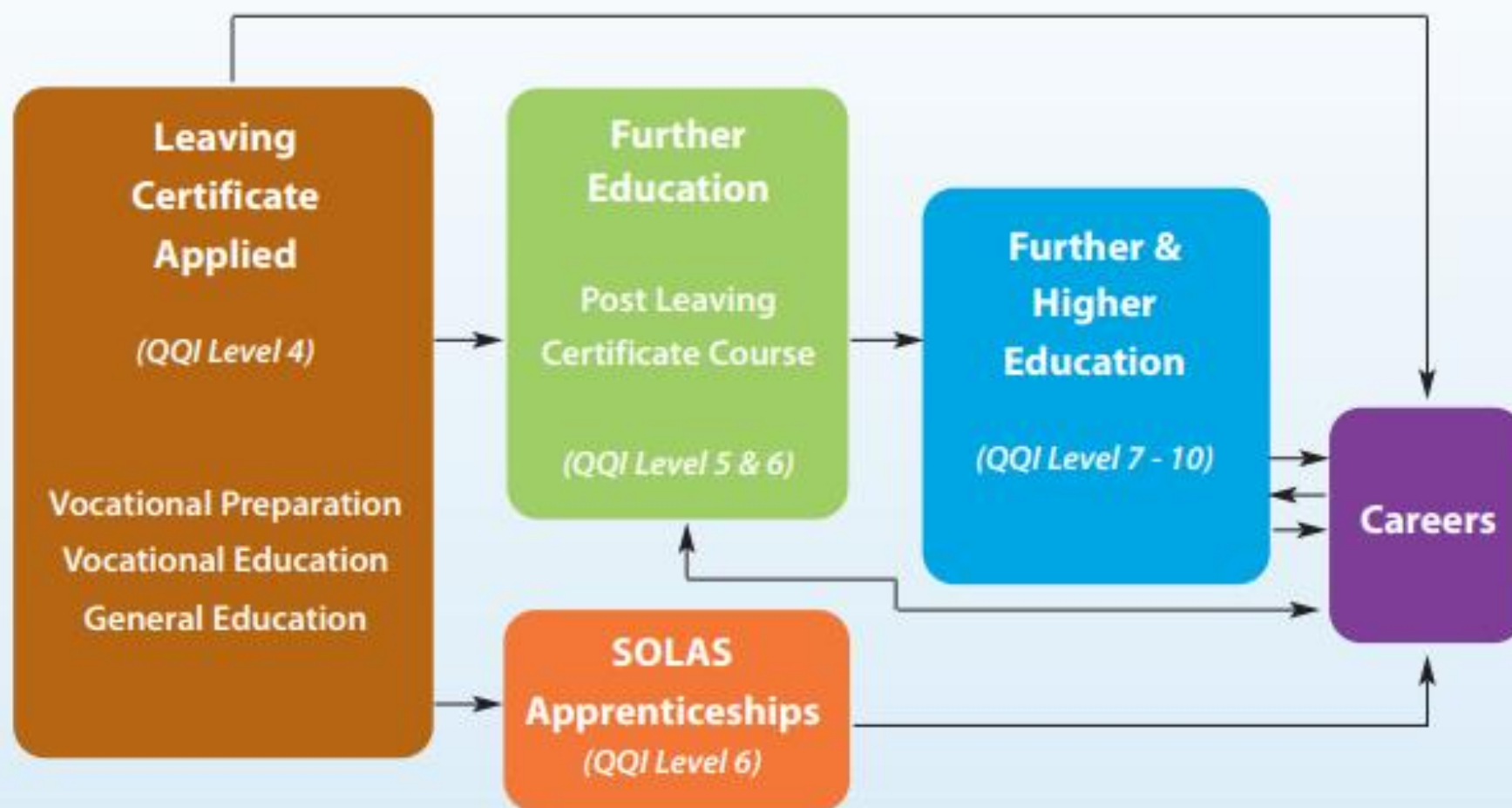


Graduates of Leaving Certificate Applied **do not have direct access** to Higher Education through the Central Applications Office (CAO).

However, achieving an appropriate further education award e.g. FETAC Level 5 may provide access for those who wish to apply to courses in Third Level colleges.

Opening up New Options

The Leaving Certificate Applied Route Map



TY



PROGRAMME



Description of Transition Year

Transition Year is an optional year which can be taken following the JC, before a student begins their LC.

It is not like a normal school year because students follow a completely different curriculum and have a more varied course with new modules, trips and projects.





Why opt for Transition Year?

- ❧ Challenges facing our Young People.
- ❧ Changing attitudes to Education
- ❧ Need for skills based learning
- ❧ Age profile of Irish students leaving school
- ❧ Time to mature





Students' reasons for choosing TY

- ❧ Year to mature
- ❧ Assess Junior Cert results/prepare for Senior Cycle
- ❧ Explore new subjects/experiences/skills
- ❧ Gain a more positive attitude towards school
- ❧ To gain confidence
- ❧ Age





Applying for Transition Year

- Students fill in an application form.
- The co ordination team interview the students.
- The school use the information gathered to assess if we feel TY would benefit the student.



Subjects studied in Transition Year

English	Future Leaders
Irish	Mini-Company
Maths	Home Economics
Music	Photography
Science	Art
Heritage Studies	DCG
European Studies	Metalwork
IT	Woodwork
PE	Work Experience

Assessment of Subjects studied in Transition Year

- **System of credits**
- **Build credits towards their final award
– Pass, Merit or Distinction**
- **Credits also for attendance,
application, their TY folder, uniform
etc.**
- **Additional credits can be awarded**

Additional Courses/Programmes

- ❧ First Aid
- ❧ Manual Handling
- ❧ Work Experience Etiquette
- ❧ Team Bonding
- ❧ European Parliament Ambassador
Schools Programme
- ❧ Work



Additional Courses/Programmes

- ❧ Film Making
- ❧ GAA/FAI course
- ❧ Road Safety Awareness
- ❧ Substance Abuse Awareness
- ❧ Glasnevin Cemetery Tour Guiding
- ❧ Maths Challenges – Castlecomer
- ❧ Discovery Park
- ❧ Christmas Baking
- ❧ Forensics Workshop



Subject-related Outings

- ✧ Baysports, Athlone
- ✧ National Ploughing Championships
- ✧ Microsoft Dreamspace
- ✧ National Museum, Dail
- ✧ Mount Lucas
- ✧ European Commission Offices
- ✧ National Gallery
- ✧ Dublin Castle
- ✧ Glasnevin Tour Guiding
- ✧ Riverbank Theatre
- ✧ Bord Gais Theatre – Christmas Trip
- ✧ End of Year overnight trip...



In school opportunities

- **Gaisce – Breakfast Club, Primary School Literacy Programme**
- **Seachtain na Gaeilge**
- **European Day of Languages**
- **Maths Week**
- **Science Week**
- **Talent Show**
- **Community Clean up**



In school opportunities

- **Guest speakers**
- **Charity Fundraisers – Special Olympics**
- **TY Page of School Website**
- **Mini Companies**
- **School Branch of Croi Laighean Credit Union**
- **EU Model Debate in Dublin Castle**

Work Experience

- **Students have work experience one day a week - Wednesday.**
- **Students are given the opportunity to explore various career choices which interest them.**
- **Employers give written feedback to students and to the school.**
- **TY coordinator maintains regular contact with placement providers.**
- **Students keep a weekly diary which includes reflection on their work experience**

Community Work Experience Week

- **Students have one week of work experience in May in a community setting**
- **Theme of the week is “Giving Back”**
- **Students are encouraged to try to find a placement of particular interest to them**
- **We hope it will be a very positive end to their year before they graduate**

Application to 3rd level

- There are 3 conditions that must be met for a student to be offered a place on a 3rd level course in a Higher Education Institute (HEI):
 - 1) Minimum Entry Requirements
 - 2) Specific Course Entry Requirements
 - 3) Points

CAO

- **The CAO is an organisation that deals with applications from students who want to study in an Institute of Technology/Technological University or University**

New Common CAO Points Scale

Higher Grade	Points	Ordinary Grade	Points
H1 90-100%	100	O1 90-100%	56
H2 80<90%	88	O2 80<90%	46
H3 70<80%	77	O3 70<80%	37
H4 60<70%	66	O4 60<70%	28
H5 50<60%	56	O5 50<60%	20
H6 40<50%	46	O6 40<50%	12
H7 30<40%	37	O7 30<40%	0
H8 0<30%	0	O8	0

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



These must be satisfied before “points” are considered.

Minimum Entry Requirements

E.g. UCD

- Pass 6 subjects
- At least 2 H5/O6
- Pass in:
 - ✓ Irish
 - ✓ English
 - ✓ Another Language
 - ✓ Mathematics*
 - ✓ Science Subject*

Specific Subject Requirements

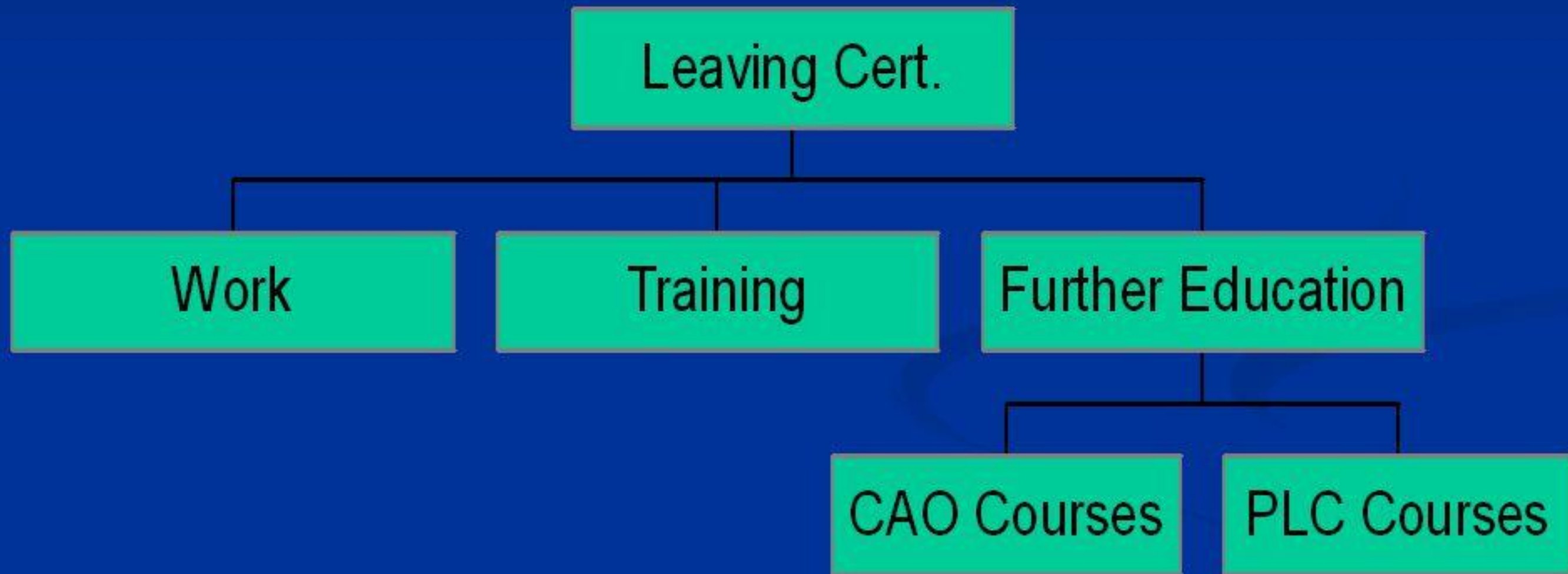
E.g.s

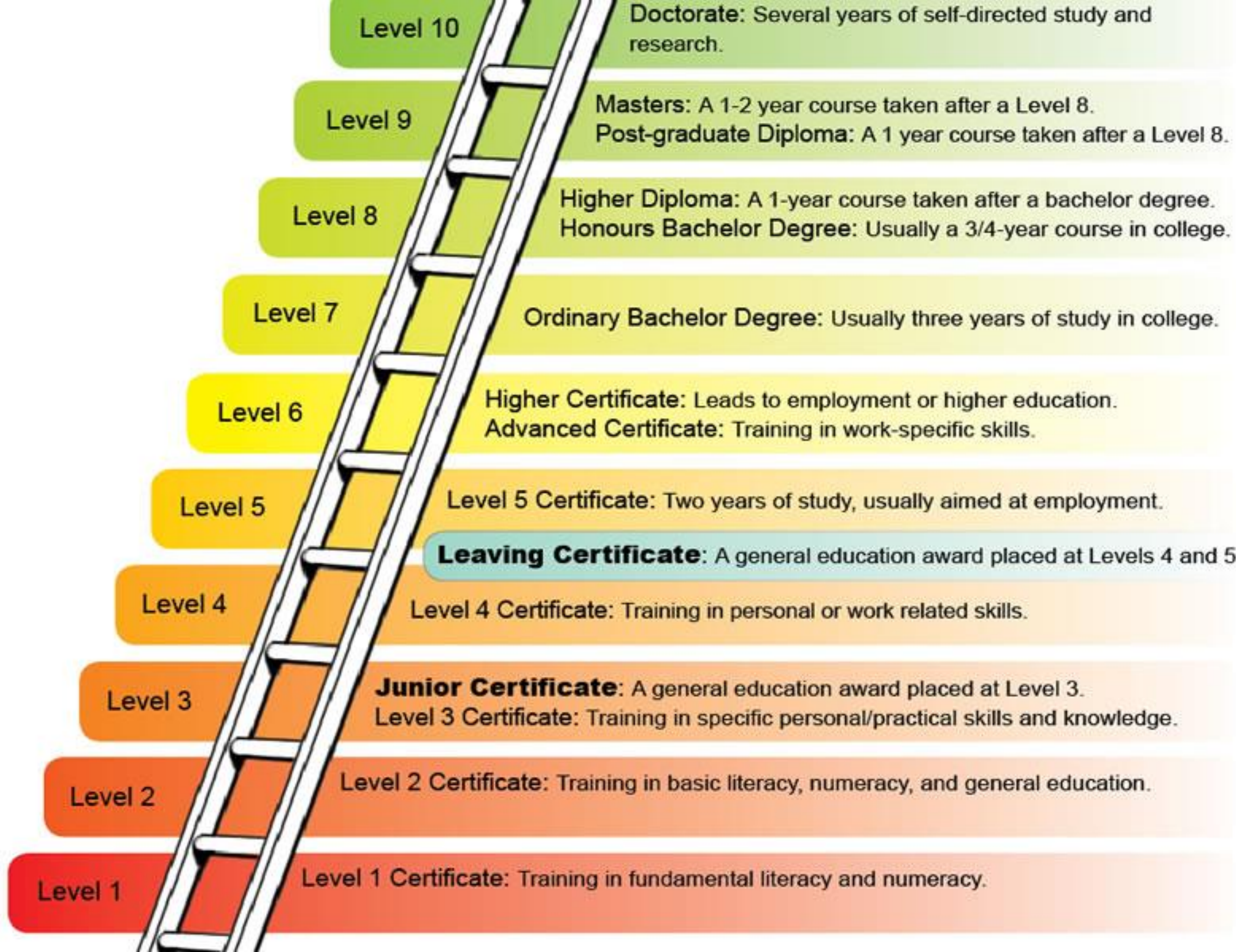
Engineering(UCD)

- H4 Maths
- Veterinary Medicine(UCD)
- H4 Chemistry
- French Law(TCD)
- H 3 French

If all Entry Requirements are met → applicant is deemed 'Qualified' to apply.

OPTIONS after the Leaving Certificate





Filling up your course choices on the CAO Form

► LEVEL 8

(Honours Degree Courses)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

► LEVEL 6 & 7

(Higher Certificate & Ordinary Degree Course)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

ORDER OF *PREFERENCE* IS THE RULE!!!!

Research

- ❧ **Research your options by talking to your family, friends, students in fifth and sixth year, by talking to the Guidance Counsellor and other teachers.**
- ❧ **Research entry requirements of courses/colleges.**
- ❧ **You need to take the responsibility yourself to start the research process to enable you to make good decisions regarding subject choice.**

Websites to assist with subject choice

1. www.qualifax.ie - (click on students, then go to Useful Tools and then onto Minimum Subject Requirements and then click on Leaving Cert Subjects to research what 3rd level courses may or may not require certain subjects).
2. www.careersportal.ie (Click on TOOLS and then click on EDUCATION and then Leaving Cert Subjects to find out a lot of information about the individual LC Subjects) Click on TOOLS and then Career Sectors to find out more about different Career Sectors and courses that relate to the different Career Sectors.

St. Farnan's PPS

Andrew Little – Student Options &
Timetable Coordinator



Prosperous, Co. Kildare, W91W520
Guthán / Telephone: 045868152
Idirlíon / Internet: www.stfarnans.ie
R-Phost / E-mail: info@stfarnans.ie
Príomhoide / Principal: Andrew Purcell
Príomhoidí Tánaiste / Deputy Principal: John Cleary

Senior Cycle in St. Farnan's PPS

Dear 3rd year Students, Parents & Guardians,

In St. Farnan's Post Primary School, we offer a number of pathways following the 3rd year of Junior Cycle. An explanation of the pathways will be given at the Transition Year/Fifth Year Information Evening but can also be found in the Senior Cycle Student Options Handbook.

Please complete the table below indicating which preferred pathway that you wish your son/daughter to follow for the 2022-2023 academic year.

STUDENT NAME: _____ Current 3rd year class: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Please TICK the course that you wish your son/daughter to follow this August 2022:

☐ Transition Year (4th year) ☐ 5th Year (Leaving Cert Year 1) ☐ Leaving Cert Applied Year 1

- The **Transition Year Programme** will be explained in detail at the Information Evening meeting.
- **Leaving Cert Applied (LCA)** is split into four half-year *sessions*, with more emphasis on continuous assessment instead of the end of year exams. Students are awarded a Distinction, a Merit or a Pass. The Leaving Certificate Applied has a strong vocational dimension which equips students with skills for the world of work and life-long learning. Credits are also dependent on 90% attendance in LCA classes.

The following subjects are taken during the 2 years of LCA: Irish, Maths Applications, English & Communications, Intro to ICT, Vocational Preparation & Guidance, Work Experience, Social Education, Leisure & Recreation, Hotel & Catering, Visual Art, Engineering, Modern Foreign Language.

Students wishing to further their education after LCA can do so by progressing into Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses. These are one-year courses (two in some cases) in a very wide range of specialist areas. PLC courses are at level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications (www.nfq.ie). Students may then proceed to college or university to undertake further study.

- The **Established Leaving Certificate** information and Options Subjects choice are on the reverse of this page and includes information on the **Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)**.

PLEASE TURN OVER PAGE AND COMPLETE

Form given to students in school today. Expression of Interest in programme of study and option subjects. Please fill in option subject preference regardless if picking TY Return forms to Mr. Little by Wednesday March 30th

Vsware for Parents/Guardians

- Opening student management system for parents to enter 5th year Student option choices after March 30th- this will be confirmed by text message
- Distribute web address, user name and password.
- <https://stfarnans.app.vsware.ie/>
- Access to personal data, timetable, results, attendance, merits and conduct comments.
- St Farnan's uses a text messaging system for important information. If you update your mobile number please let us know.



Welcome to VSware

School



St Farnan's Post Primary School

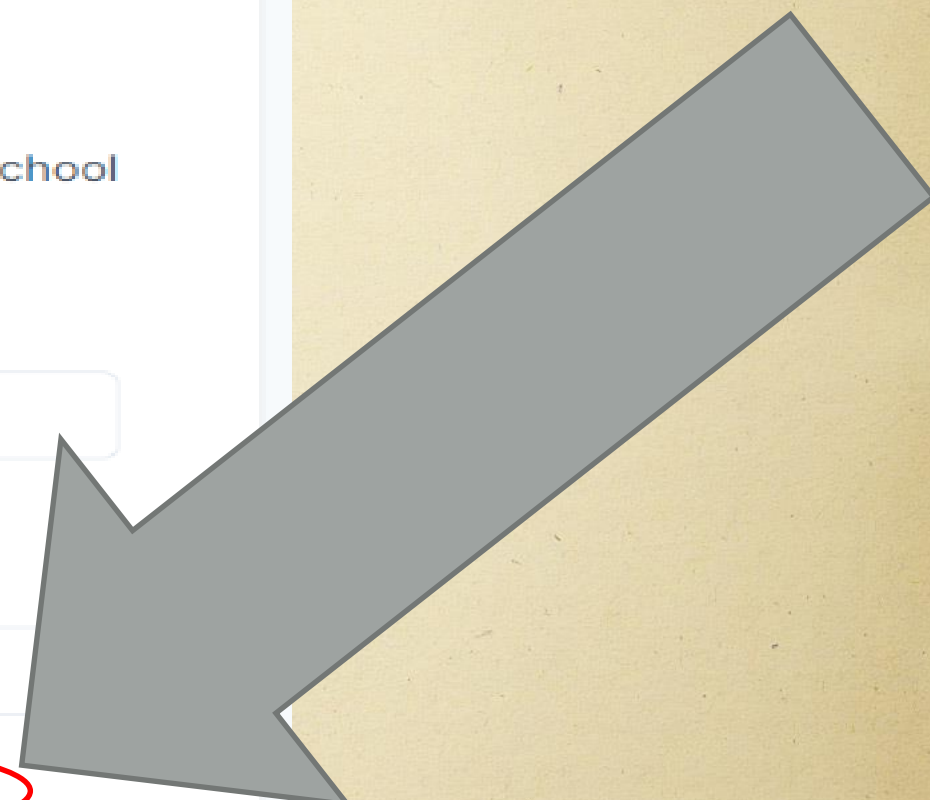
Username *

Password *

[Create or reset your password](#)

Login

Don't have an account? [Learn more](#)





- Once you have created your password take note of it, you will need this password any time you want to log in to VSware.
- The dashboard that opens has a number of sections to it.
- For the purposes of Option selection you will be looking for the one labelled 'Student Options'. This tab will only be available while the option selection period is live. Up until **March 22nd 2022.**

Pick an area to explore



Attendance

Monitor your child's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson.

[Learn More >](#)



Assessment

View your child's full academic record, track progress over time and download term assessments.

[Learn More >](#)



Behaviour

Keep track of your child's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback.

[Learn More >](#)



Timetable

View your child's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time.

[Learn More >](#)



Personal Info

Overview of your child's key info. Ensure that this is up to date.

[Learn More >](#)



Fees

Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card online.

[Learn More >](#)



Student Options

Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the school.

[Learn More >](#)

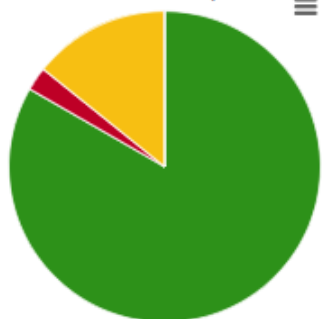
Attendance

Actions

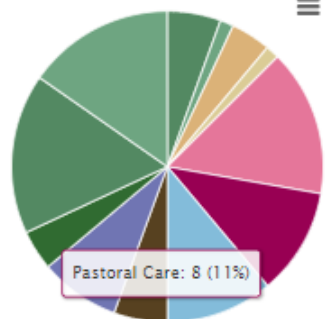
Academic Years

2017/2018

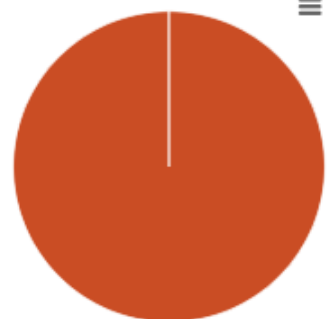
Absent Days



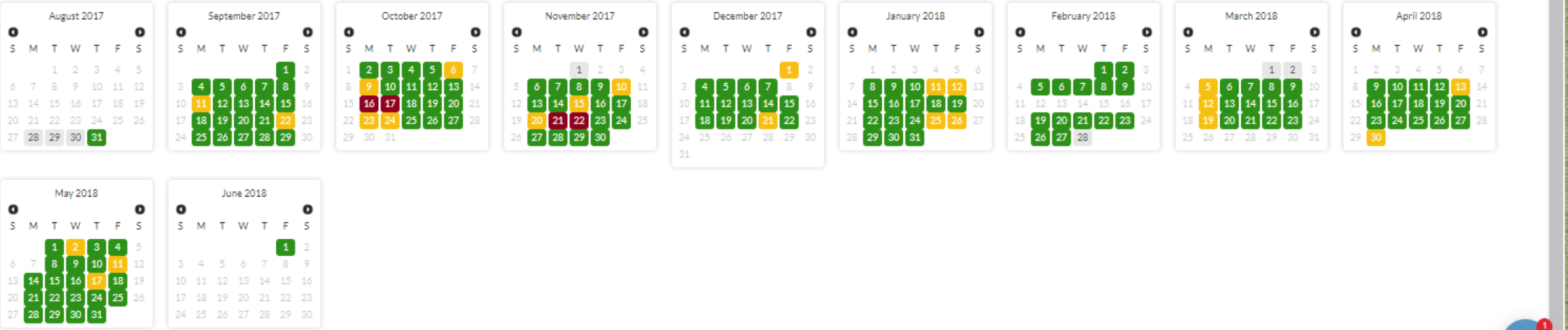
Lessons missed




TUSLA Return



3 Lates this year



- 
- When you select the Student Options tab you will be brought to the next page.
 - Here you will select 2 preferences in the Language Block- one of these subjects will appear on a students timetable.
 - You will also be asked to select 5 preferences from the Non Language Band- two of these subjects will appear on a students timetable.
 - Once selections are made ensure you press **CONFIRM** to save your selections and they are then submitted to the school.

Preference	Subject Choice
1	<div>Select a subject ▼</div>
2	<div>Select a subject ▼</div>
3	<div>Select a subject ▼</div>
4	<div>Select a subject ▼</div>
5	<div>Select a subject ▼</div>

Select options from dropdown list. Select in the order of preference- Number 1 most want and so on. **DON'T FORGET TO PRESS CONFIRM AT THE BOTTOM.**

Q&A

Thank you for listening



We hope that you have found this introductory talk enjoyable.

Reminder to complete and return Initial preference forms to Mr. Little by Wednesday 30th of March.