



# Senior Cycle Options



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## Leaving Certificate Subject Choice



The Institute  
Of Guidance  
Counsellors

# LCVP



## Leaving Cert LCA



# TIY



# PROGRAMME

---

# 1. Traditional Leaving Cert

# 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**
- **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:



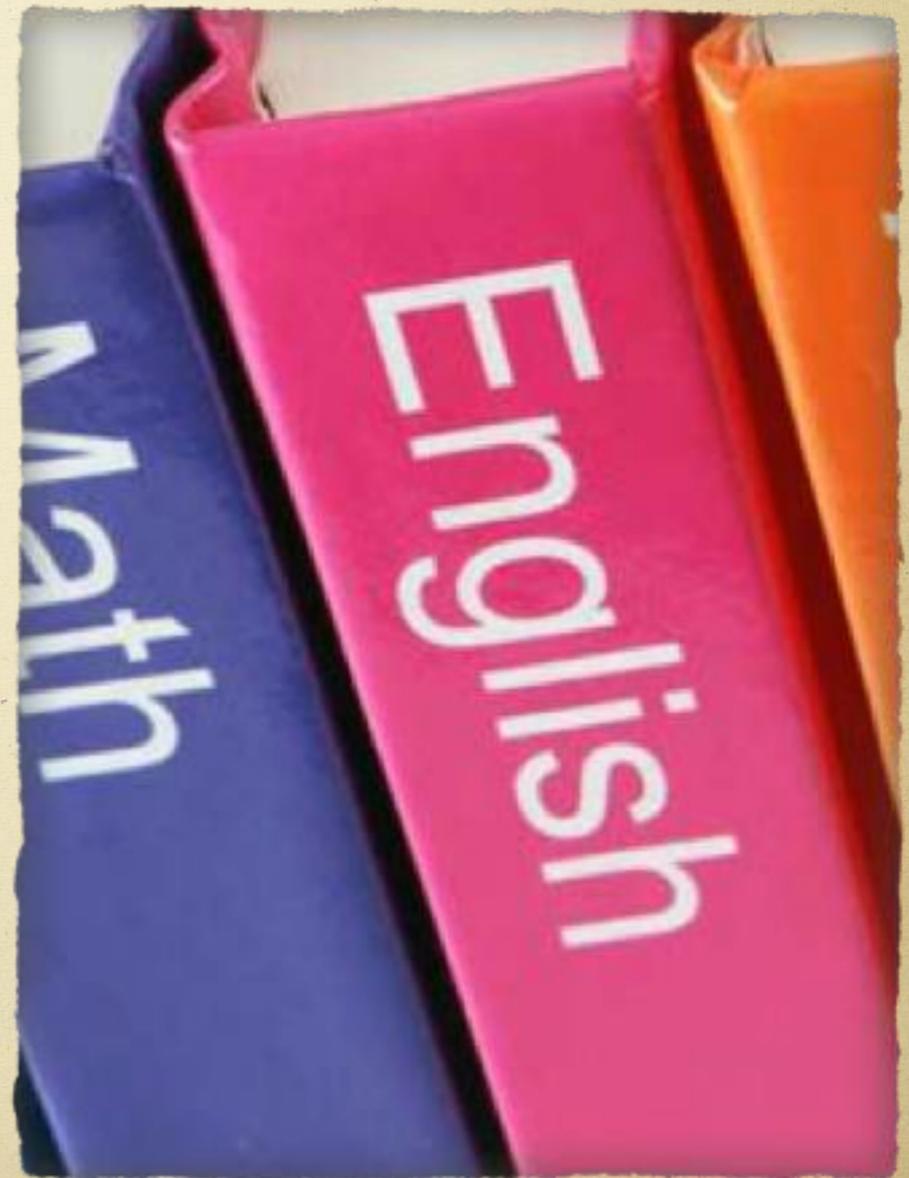
# Important Considerations

- 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.



- 
- 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.**

# 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.





↳ **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...

A green road sign with white text and arrows. The sign is tilted and mounted on two wooden posts. It features a white arrow pointing left at the top left and a white arrow pointing right at the bottom right. The text "Success" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font in the upper middle, and "Failure" is written in a larger, white, sans-serif font below it. The sign is set against a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

Success  
Failure



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

,

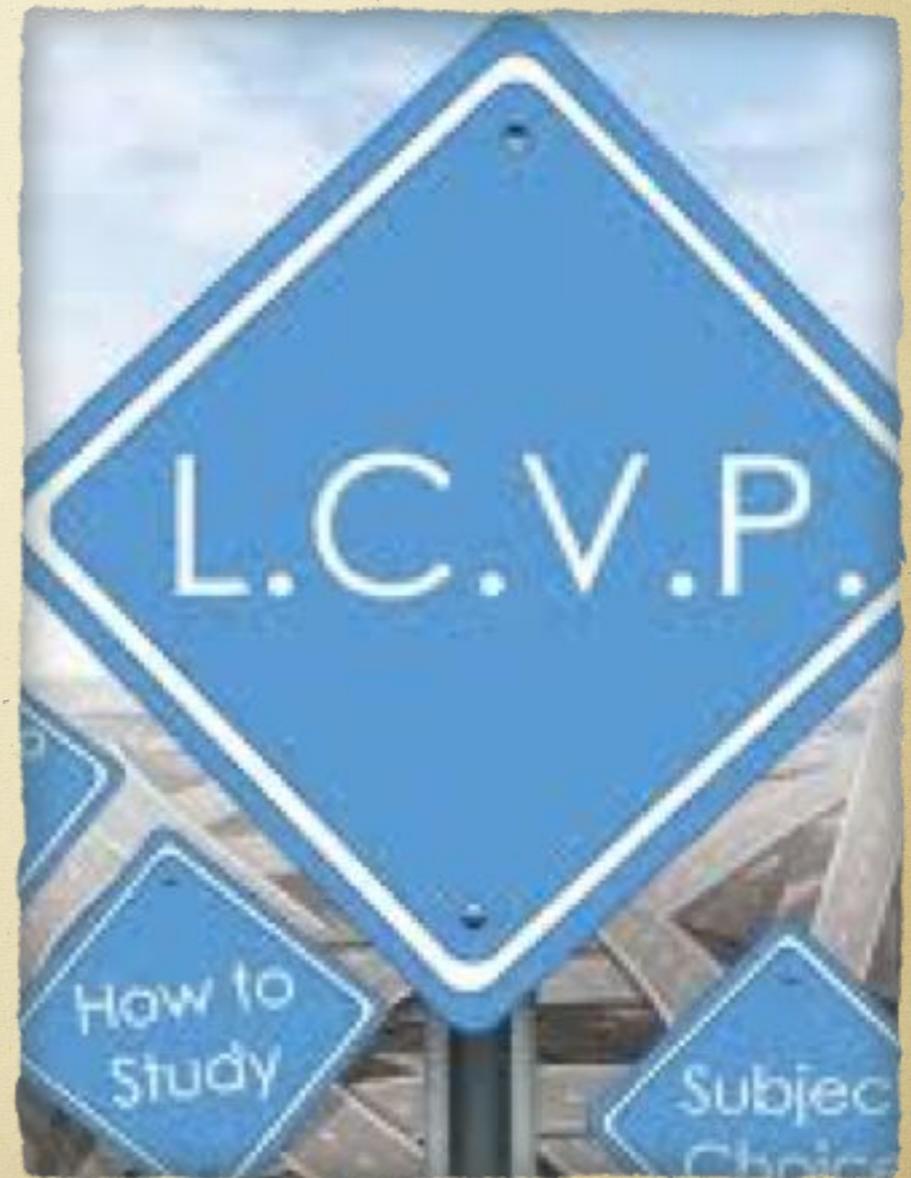


**All my friends are choosing that subject . Think for yourself. Friendship patterns can change.**

## **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) 2017/2018

### 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

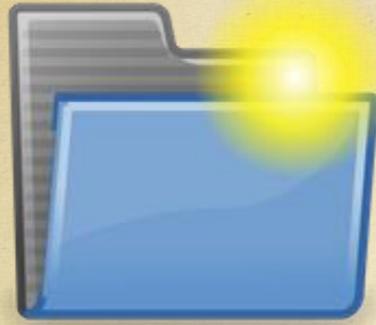
13 Home Economics **and** Accounting **or** Business **or** Economics

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

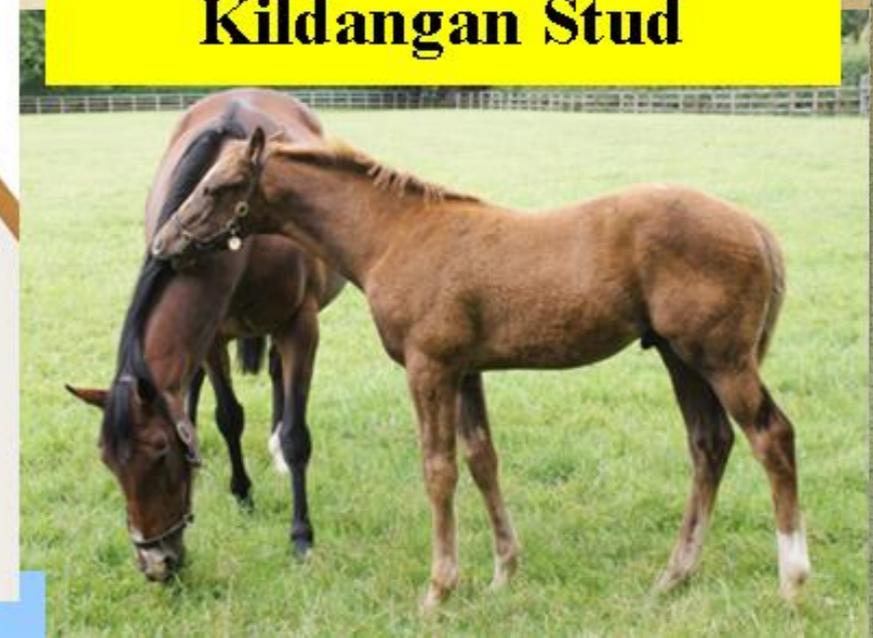
### Section C:

General Questions

## Kildangan Stud Induction Day



## LCVP Link With Kildangan Stud



## 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

**LCVP**



# **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

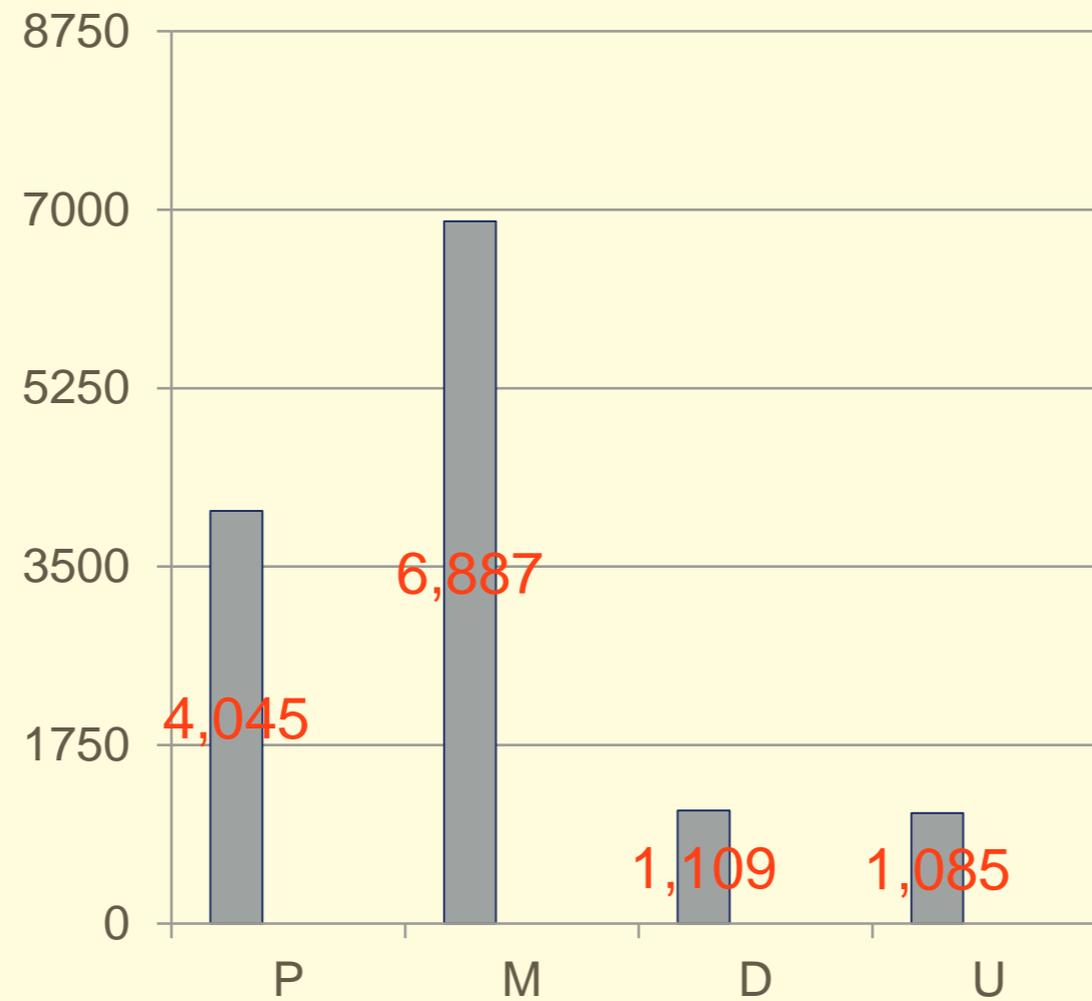
Merit

46

Pass

28

# LCVP Results 2019



# Leaving Certificate Applied

.....A Different Way

# **3.Leaving Cert Applied**

# Leaving Cert LCA

**What is LCA ?**

# LCA

- ↳ **LCA is a two year Leaving Cert available to students who wish to follow a practical programme with a strong practical and vocational emphasis.**



# Who would benefit most?

- 1. Students who are not adequately catered for by other LC programmes.
- 2. Learners who choose not to opt for those programmes.



# Rationale

- Prepares students for adult and working life
- Recognises talents of all pupils
- Promotes communication and decision making skills
- Applies knowledge and skills to the solution of real problems

# Curriculum

- ↻ **Vocational Preparation and Guidance**
- ↻ **English and Communications**
- ↻ **Mathematical Applications and IT**
- ↻ **Vocational Specialisms**
- ↻ **Arts Education**
- ↻ **Languages**
- ↻ **Leisure and Recreation**
- ↻ **Elective Modules**



# Assessment

## 3 Modes

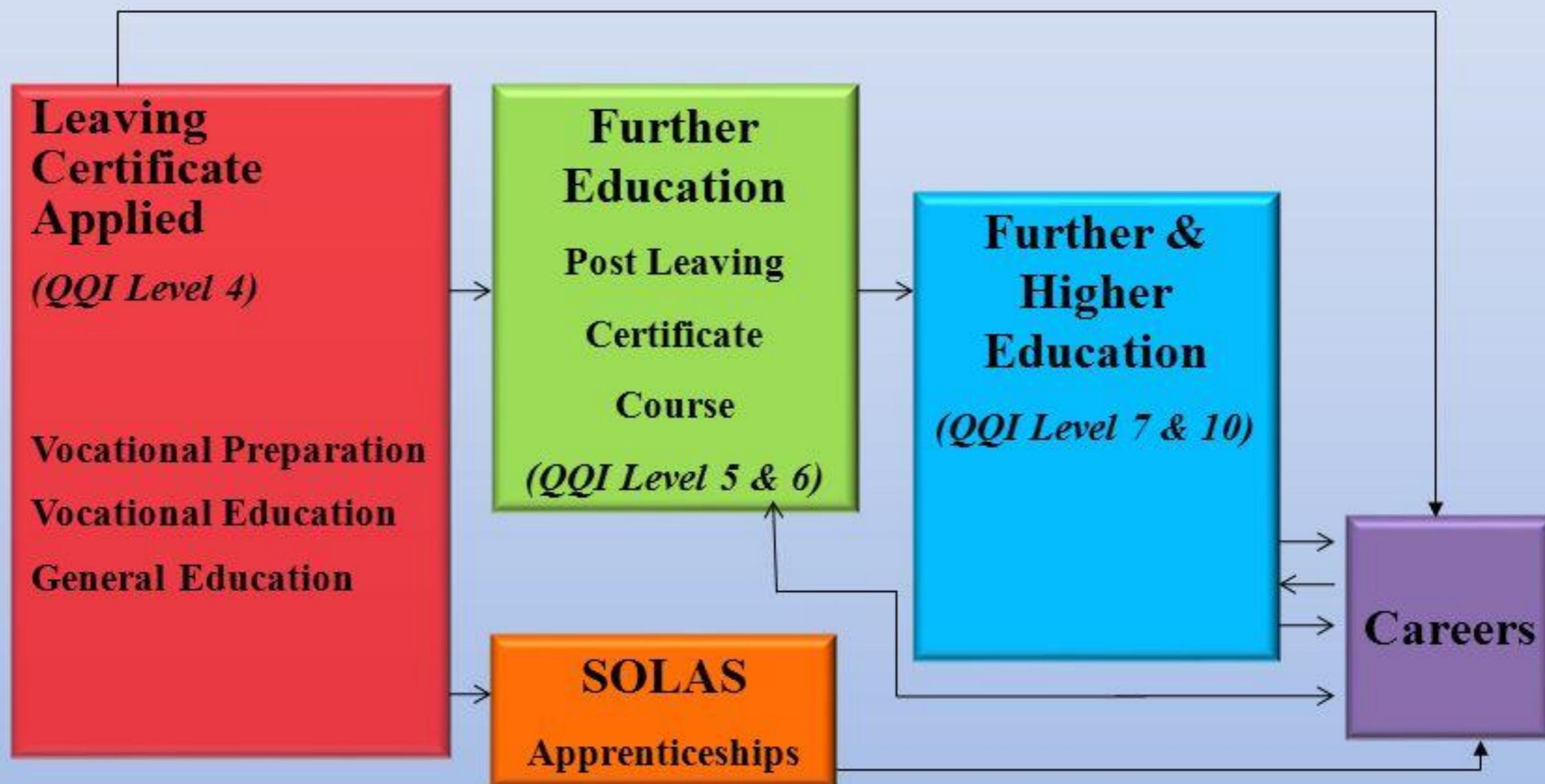
Satisfactory completion of Modules	62 credits (31%)
7 Student tasks	70 credits (35%)
Final examinations	68 credits (34%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>200 credits (100%)</b>

## Certificate awarded at three levels:

Pass	60-69 %	(120 - 139 credits)
Merit	(70-84 %)	(140 - 169 credits)
Distinction	(85-100 %)	(170 - 200 credits)

# Opening up New Options

## The Leaving Certificate Applied Route Map



# TIY



# 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

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

# **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**
- **Tour Guiding Course**



# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> level

- There are 3 conditions that must be met for a student to be offered a place on a 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 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**

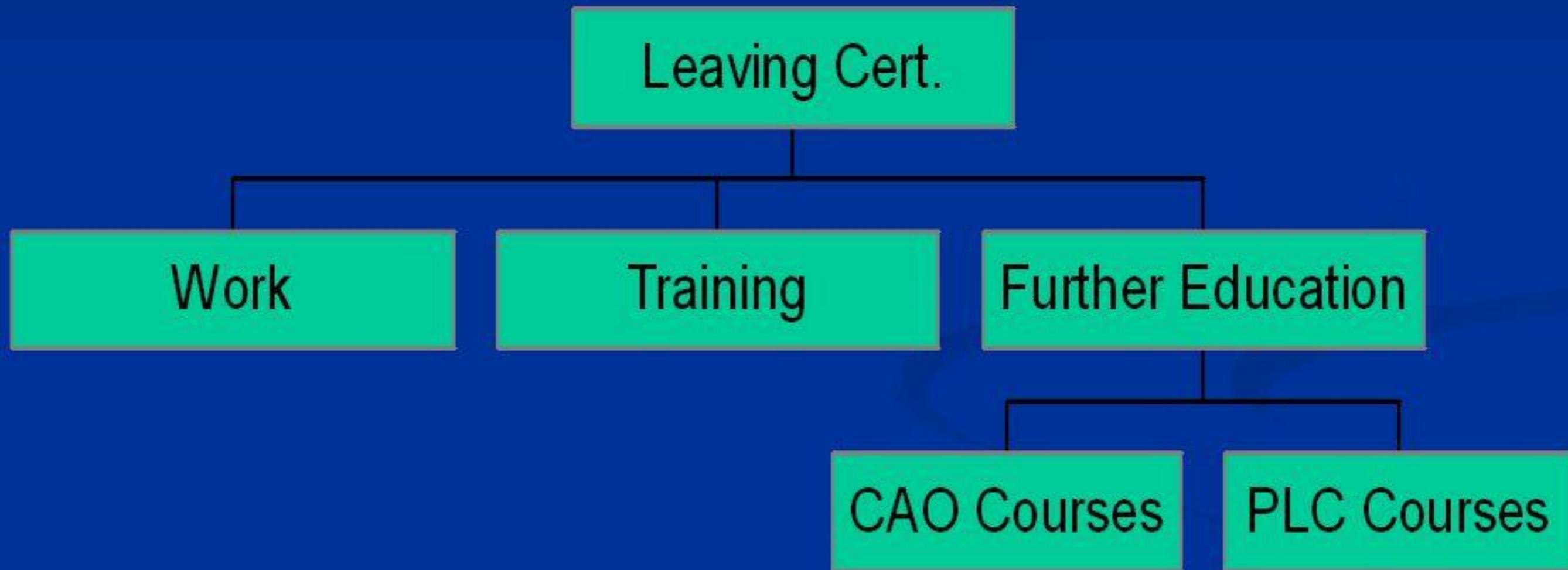
E.g.s

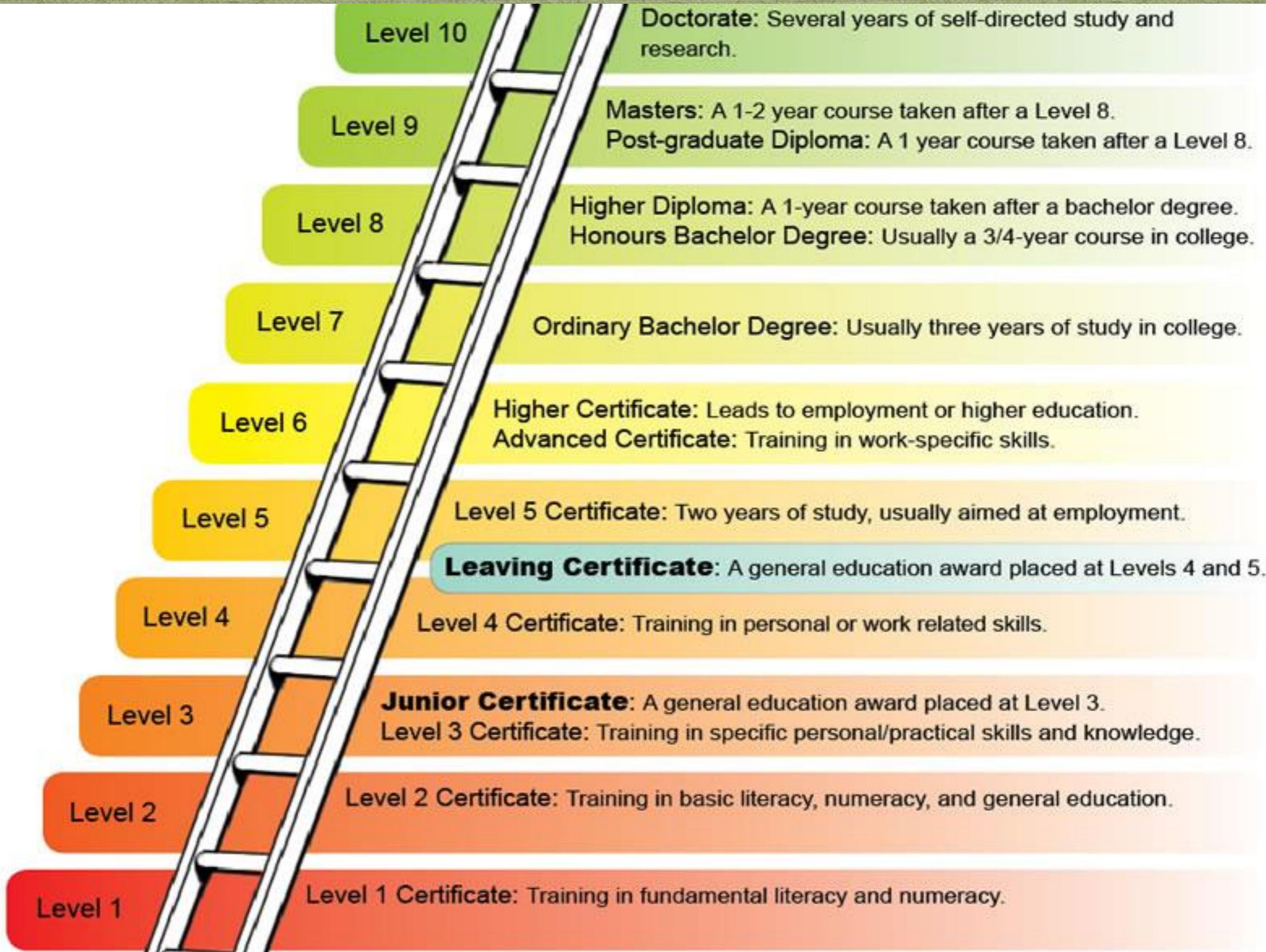
**Engineering(UCD)**

- 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.**

# Choosing a Subject

Successful subject choice requires:

## RESEARCH

Subject Teachers,  
Guidance Classes, TY  
Programme

L.C. Books, Publications,  
Other Students



## DISCUSSION

Guidance Counsellors,  
Current Teachers

Family, Friends



## REFLECTION

Consider all the  
information, views and  
opinions

Then, ultimately each  
student must make up  
their own mind.



## DECISION

# Websites to assist with subject choice

1. [www.qualifax.ie](http://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](http://www.careersportal.ie) ( Click on TOOLS and then click on 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.