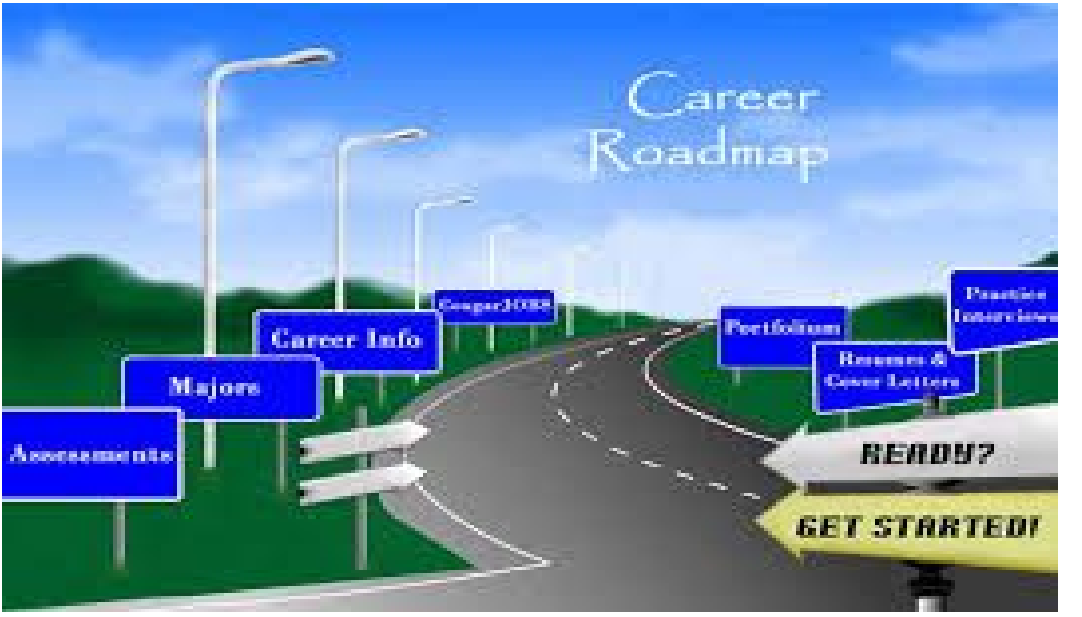
Crana College

Subject Choice for Leaving Certificate 2022



The following subjects will be on offer

for Leaving Certificate 2022

Compulsory

Irish (unless you have an official exemption from the Department of Education)
English
Mathematics

Non-Compulsory

Spanish
Business
Accounting
Economics
Physics
Biology
Chemistry
Agricultural Science
Computer Science
Design & Communication Graphics
Technology
Construction Studies
Engineering
Art
Home Economics
Music
History
Geography

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) is also available to students depending on the subject combination chosen -Details in this booklet

Please read the following information booklet regarding each of the subjects and careers where a particular subject is useful or in some cases essential.

Compulsory Subjects

Everybody must study, Irish, English and Maths you only need to choose the level you are going to take. This is something which largely depends on your Junior Cycle Results so you don't need to worry about this now.

New Subjects

Some subjects are new but you will be doing a related subject. For example, if you like Business Studies, then there is a good chance that you will do well at Business, Economics or Accounting. Look at your test results and reports.

Choosing your Option subjects

When you are deciding which subjects to take in the Leaving Certificate, remember that this decision can have unintended consequences in two years' time - certain paths into college may be blocked by not having the particular subjects required for entry to a chosen course. A decision therefore not to take any Science subject or Spanish may have major implications on the range of careers open to you later on.

If a student is making their subject choices and has not as yet decided what career they wish to follow after school, I would advise them to keep all their options open by taking a Science and European language subject from among their four optional subjects.

Our school will offer you seven subjects, with those taking certain combinations of subjects, being eligible to take the LCVP as an additional option.

Subjects fall into 5 main areas...

Core / Compulsory	English, Maths, Irish (unless exempt)
Languages	Spanish
Arts	Art, Music
Sciences	Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Agricultural Science, Computer Science.
Humanities	History, Geography
Business	Business, Economics, Accounting
Practical Subjects	Home Economics, Technology, Design & Communication Graphics Construction Studies & Engineering.

Some students may have decided what they want to do when they leave school. If this is the case, you should choose subjects that will be useful for your chosen career.

There are certain subjects that are essential for entry to particular courses, colleges and careers and it is important you are aware of these. Generally they are very few and can be checked online.

If you have not decided on your future career you are not alone. The majority of students will not have identified their career path at this stage. In this situation you should choose subjects that will keep your career options open, selecting one subject from each area. There are lots of combinations that would keep your options open.

Two examples:-

Eg.1 Business subject, Science subject, Spanish, Practical subject

Eg.2 History/Geography, Science subject, Practical subject, Spanish

What not to do:-

- Don't choose a subject because your friend is doing it
- Don't choose a subject based on the teacher you might have
- Don't choose a subject because you think it will be a doss – There is no such thing as an easy Leaving Certificate subject

What to do

- Pick subjects you like and are good at
- Talk to your parents about the subjects you feel would suit you best.
- Listen to what the subject teachers tell you about the Leaving Certificate course content and the difficulties you will face if you choose a subject for Leaving Certificate that you struggled with at Junior Cycle.
- Look at the Leaving Certificate textbooks and notes to get a feel for what lies ahead
- Choose subjects you can cope with and you don't find too difficult in order to maximise your performance at Leaving Certificate.

Before Choosing:

1. Reflect on your experience of a subject at Junior Cycle.

3. Talk to individual subject teachers.

3. Reflect on what the teachers told you about the subject

4. Check www.ncca.ie and check syllabus/curriculum .

5. Browse a current textbook with a view to the level of interest in the material rather than the level of difficulty.

6. Check www.examinations.ie and look at previous exam papers with a view to the level of interest in the material rather than the level of difficulty.

7. Talk to a 5th year student who is taking this subject .

8. Talk to a 6th year student who is currently finishing this subject.

And ask yourself:

9. Do the skills required to do the subject match mine?.

10. How interesting is the material?.

11. What is the potential grade?

12. How useful will the subject be for a particular college degree?

There are three types of requirements for entry into 3rd Level Colleges

1. **Minimum Entry Requirements (Matriculation)**
   These are the subjects/grades you have to have before you will even be considered for a 3rd level course. These requirements vary from college to college and can be checked on www.cao.ie and www.qualifax.ie

2. **Specific Course Requirements**
   There are particular subjects you must have studied or certain grades you must have reached to be considered for a certain course. For example, you must have Higher Level H4 in Irish to be considered for Primary Teaching. (You can check this online at www.cao.ie or www.qualifax.ie.)

3. **Points Requirements**
   When the demand for a course is greater than the number of places available the places are awarded on the basis of points. Points are calculated from your six best subjects on one sitting of the Leaving Certificate.
   Note: CAO will only calculate your points for a course if you have satisfied both the minimum entry requirements and specific subject requirements as mentioned above.

Higher		Ordinary	
GRADE	POINTS	GRADE	POINTS
H1	100		
H2	88		
H3	77		
H4	66		
H5	56	O1	56
H6	46	O2	46
H7	37	O3	37
H8	0	O4	28
		O5	20
		O6	12
		O7	0
		O8	0

LCVP GRADE	LCVP POINTS
Distinction	66
Merit	46
Pass	28

Only count your best 6 subjects

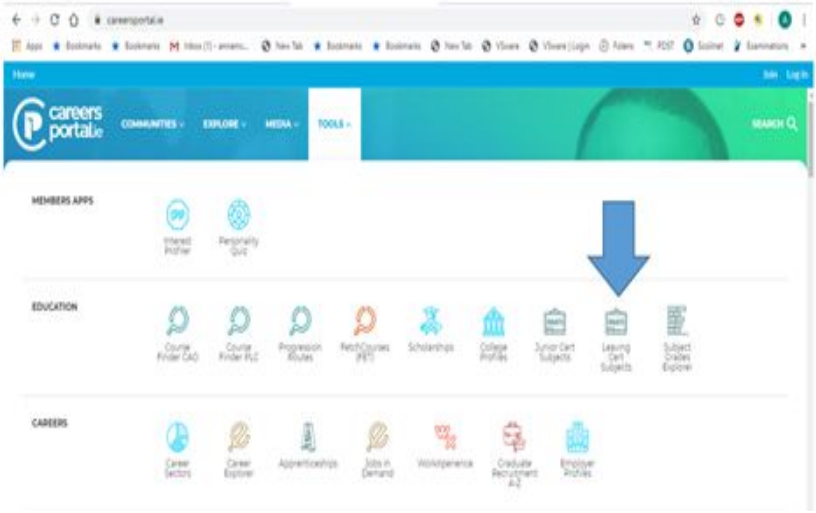
Maths Bonus Points

25 bonus points will continue to be awarded for Higher Level Mathematics for H6 grades and above. For example, if an applicant receives a H6 grade, an additional 25 points will be added to the 46 points already awarded for a H6 grade i.e. Higher Level Mathematics now carries a points score of 71 for this applicant.

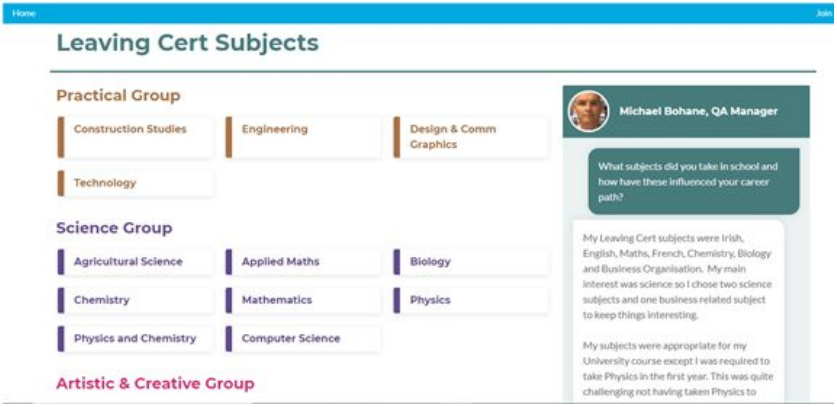
USEFUL WEBSITES FOR YOUR RESEARCH

For more information on our Leaving Certificate subjects log onto www.careersportal.ie

Click on TOOLS then LEAVING CERTIFICATE SUBJECTS



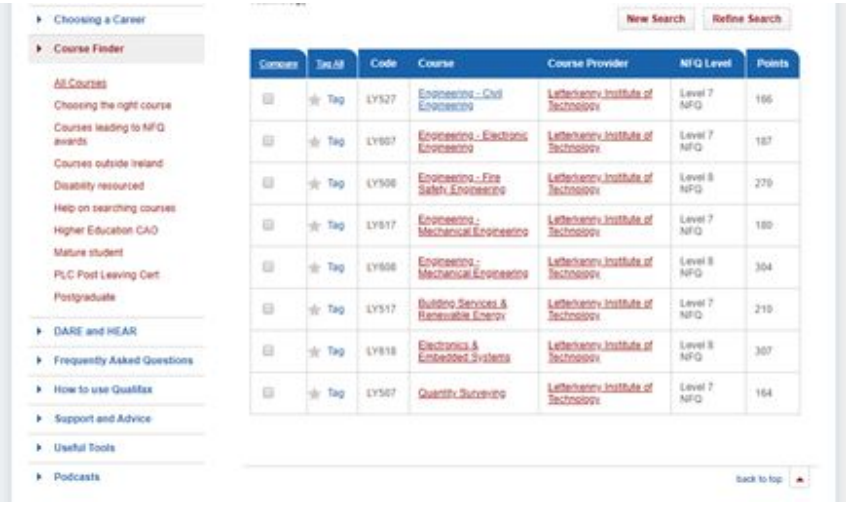
This will lead you to a list of all the leaving Certificate Subjects as in the diagram below which will give you a detailed description of each subject at Leaving Certificate, a course overview, course content, exam structure and potential careers.



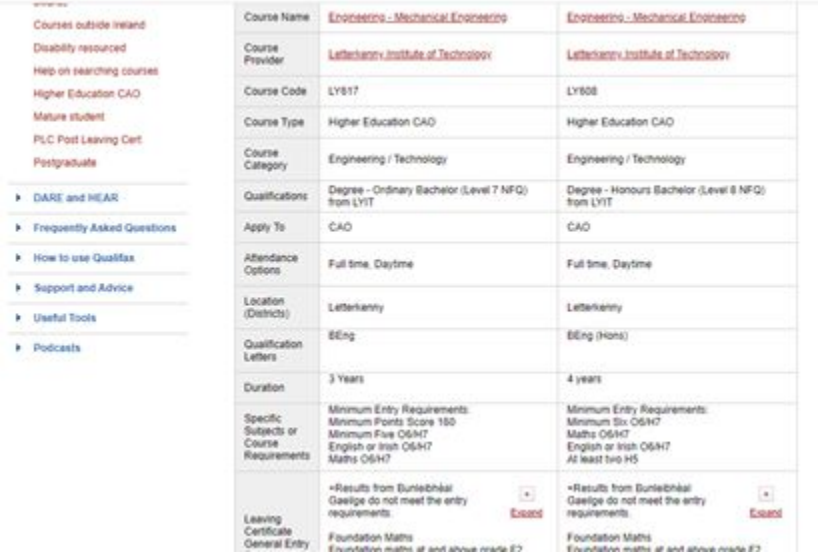
Another website that you will find helpful is www.qualifax.ie
This is a complete database of every course available in every college in Ireland. It will show any specific Leaving Certificate subjects which are required for entry onto any course you choose.

Click on SEARCH ALL COURSES to access the screen below. Put the career or course you like into the Course Title/Keyword section and click on SEARCH at the bottom of the screen.

You will get a list similar to the one below. Click on the course which interests you to obtain a detailed course description.



Alternatively, you can tick up to three courses and click on compare at the top of the screen. This will list the courses side by side so they can be compared under each of the headings.



IMPACT OF DROPPING A LANGUAGE

Some third level colleges do not require entrants to have a European language in order to meet the matriculation, or minimum entry requirements.

- At Trinity College Dublin, students are required to pass English and another language, and Maths or Latin.
- The matriculation requirements for DCU are Maths and English or Irish.
- UL - The University of Limerick requires students to have English, Maths and Irish or another language.

So, a student who does not take a foreign language at Leaving Cert will typically meet the entry requirements for these universities, as long as they take Irish, or have an Irish exemption.

The colleges of the National University of Ireland (NUI) have traditionally required a pass in a third language for entry to many courses in the NUI colleges at Maynooth, UCD Dublin, NUIG Galway and UCC Cork, and to a range of associated constituent colleges, all of which are listed on the NUI website.

More recently, NUI colleges dropped their third language requirement for Engineering and Science programmes. UCD also dropped the third language requirement for a number of other courses including Agricultural and Law.

Nursing at NUI colleges never required a third language.

Please be aware that these entry requirements can change from year to year and you should check the entry requirements for each course and each college directly on the college website.

The Institutes of Technology generally expect students to have O6/H7 in English and Maths - not choosing a language should have no impact on a candidate's ability to get place in one of their programmes.

PLC colleges do not require students to have taken a language.

A modern European language will also be required for application to cadetships in the Defence Forces.

So, while not choosing a language will not affect entry to the majority of third level institutions, it will restrict choice to some extent

EXEMPTIONS FROM IRISH

If you were born outside the Republic of Ireland (26 counties) and you study Irish for the Leaving Certificate you can present Irish as your language requirement for entrance to NUI universities.

A student with an Irish exemption may apply for exemption from the requirement to present Irish as a matriculation subject from the university they will be applying to.

Students can also apply to NUI for an exemption from the requirement to have a third language. Further Information on: http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/exemption.pdf

IRISH

Irish is compulsory for all students except those who have an official Department of Education exemption. Higher level Irish is an attractive subject for those who have a love of Irish. Apart from not being able to take a number of higher level degree programmes, which have Irish, as a core entry requirement, the main consequence of not taking higher level Irish, is that you cannot study to be a primary school teacher in any of the Irish training colleges.

ENGLISH

A good higher-level subject, provided students have a good tradition of reading extensively and are prepared to work very hard. Good written expression is required, to achieve a good result. Some students can underestimate the extent to which they must learn their own language in the modes that they are required to express themselves, particularly at higher level.

MATHS

Leaving Certificate Maths is a challenging and rewarding course. You need to be aware that certain higher level degree programmes have higher level Maths as a core entry requirement, (check with qualifax.ie).

A pass in Ordinary level Maths is essential for entry to virtually all courses after the Leaving Certificate. While foundation level is available it limits your career choice and should only be considered in sixth year when you have decided on a definite career path. Whatever you do over the next two years, don't neglect your work in this subject.

SPANISH

Spanish as a Leaving Certificate subject aims to bring students closer to fluency in the Spanish language, as well as developing a good knowledge of literature, culture, and geography to provide a context for communication. **As the second most natively spoken and second most studied language on the planet,** it has widespread use in international business and makes travel to Spain, Mexico, most of South America and increasingly the USA more accessible.

Course Content

Students will have 5 classes each week which will be divided into oral (speaking), aural (listening), grammar and translations to build up your vocabulary. Spanish requires students to be proficient in the following skills:
Oral/speaking, Written, Aural/listening, Reading

Grammar and Cultural Awareness are essential elements of these courses.

Exam Structure

Mark Allocation for L.C. Spanish

Section	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Oral (Speaking)	25%	20%
Aural (Listening)	20%	25%
Written Paper	55%	55%

The Oral Exam (15 mins)

This takes place in March/April of 6th year. Total marks for the oral is 100 marks, 70 marks for the general conversation and 30 marks for the role play.

Aural/Listening Exam (40 - 45 mins)

This exam takes place after the written examination in June. It involves listening to a variety of dialogues and news items in the target language and then answering in English.

Written Exam (2 ½ hours)

There are literary and journalistic passages in the written exam with a variety of questions to be answered in both Spanish and English. For Higher Level the written section involves formal

letters, dialogues, diary entry, message/fax/email and expressing an opinion. For ordinary level the written section involves an informal letter, note or diary entry.

What kind of student might Spanish suit?

- Anyone with an interest in Spanish culture, history, and language.
- Students interested in travelling the world.
- Students who are considering working in Spain (or other Hispanic countries) or international relations in the future.

Third Level Entry Requirements

See page 9 of this booklet.

Assessment

Assessment is by means of a written examination at two levels, Ordinary level and Higher level. There is also an aural and an oral examination at both levels.
Our experience has shown that it is possible to gain a good Leaving Certificate standard in Spanish provided students have sound basic language ability and are willing and able to give sufficient time to the subject.

COMPUTER SCIENCE (New Subject)

Computer Science is an exciting New Leaving Certificate Science subject made available to all students. It is the study of computers and algorithmic processes.
Leaving Certificate Computer Science includes how programming and computational thinking can be applied to the solution of problems, and how computing technology impacts the world around us. Students will learn how computer systems operate and what parts make a computer system, for example software (the code), hardware (the actual machines), data, communications and users.

The role of programming in computer science is like that of practical work in the other subjects — it provides motivation, and a context within which ideas are brought to life. Students learn programming by solving problems through computational thinking processes and through practical applications such as applied learning tasks. The Leaving Certificate Computer Science specification is designed for all students. It applies to many aspects of students' lives and is therefore relevant to a wide range of student interests.

Course Structure

The course is structured in three core strands,

Strand 1: Practices and principles	Strand 2: Core concepts	Strand 3: Computer science in practice
▸ Computers and society ▸ Computational thinking ▸ Design and development	▸ Abstraction ▸ Algorithms ▸ Computer systems ▸ Data ▸ Evaluation/Testing	▸ Applied learning task 1 - Interactive information systems ▸ Applied learning task 2 - Analytics ▸ Applied learning task 3 - Modelling and simulation ▸ Applied learning task 4 - Embedded systems

Learning Outcomes

At the close of the course, students will be assessed on their understanding of the following learning goals:

- The fundamentals of computer technologies and their potential applications.
- Understanding how computers work and how they can be used to address problems and design solutions.
- How to read, write, test and modify computer programs.
- How computers work and how their component parts interrelate.
- The ethical, social and environmental role of information technology, in today's world as well as the past and the future.
- Ability to communicate effectively and work both independently and collaboratively.
- Be a responsible, competent, confident, reflective and creative user of computing technology.

Assessment:

(A) An end of course computer-based examination, comprising a varied format assessing all aspects of the Computer Science course worth 70% of the total mark.

(B) Coursework worth 30% - this will assess the ability of students in the elements of the course that cannot be assessed properly in an examination. It will involve the creation of an original computer application, combined with a report detailing the work involved in creating the application and how it functions.

Career Options:

This subject builds skills and knowledge that are particularly useful for careers in the following Career Sectors:

https://cc.careersportal.ie/sectors/sectors.php?sector_id=8

- Computers and ICT
- Physics, Mathematics & Space Science.

BIOLOGY

Biology forms the knowledge base for hundreds of careers. It provides an insight into all forms of life, understanding the way animals and plants function, reproduce and grow and how they depend on each other. Students thinking of doing further study in the science/biology field would find it very difficult without prior biological knowledge. As with the other science subjects, students undertake twenty-four mandatory experiments, the details of which they record in their laboratory book.

Considerations

- Biology has **NO practical or project mark** at Leaving Certificate.
- **It is a 100% theory based exam in June**. This should be given serious consideration before choosing the subject at Leaving Certificate.

Course Content

Unit 1 – The study of life – Scientific Method, Nutrition, Ecology, Characteristics of life.
Unit 2 – The Cell - Structure, Metabolism, Diversity, Genetics.
Unit 3 – The Organism - Diversity of Organisms, Organisation of Vascular systems, Transport & Nutrition Breathing & Excretion, Responses to stimuli & Reproduction.
There are also 24 mandatory Experiments

Assessment(100% Exam Paper)

Section A – Short questions,
Section B – Experimental questions
Section C – Long Questions

Desirable Criteria

- Shown a strong interest and good aptitude for science at Junior Cycle level.
- Scientific literacy is extremely important.
- An eye for detail and curiosity about their surroundings
- An interest in carrying out experiments, and forming conclusions

Careers

Agriculture
Ambulance Driver
Biology Teacher
Chiropodist
Dental Hygienist
Dentist
Dietician
Doctor/Nurse
Forensic Science
Health Inspector
Horticulturist
Lab Assistant

CHEMISTRY

Students studying chemistry develop an understanding of key elements of the world we live in, such as water as well as everything we use, wear, or consume.

Desirable Criteria

- High Grade at Junior Cycle Science
- Honour at Junior Certificate Higher Level Mathematics.

Course Content

The syllabus consists of approximately 70% pure Chemistry and the remaining 30% deals with the social and applied aspects of Chemistry. The course consists of nine Core topics and two Option topics.

Practical Work

The course includes 28 mandatory experiments and many specific demonstrations – these are all examinable. Students must keep a Record of Experiments – this can be requested by the Inspector as proof that experiments were completed.

Assessment

The Leaving Certificate examination in Chemistry is offered at two levels – higher Level and Ordinary Level. At each level the student will be assessed on work covered in both the CORE and OPTION topics. Objectives taught will be tested along with practical work done and both will be tested by a written examination paper. Knowledge and understanding skills will be examined along with both problem solving and practical work; all three will make up an integral part of the way in which the subject is taught.

A good Chemistry student

- Can appreciate how humanity has benefited by the study and practice of chemistry
- Enjoys practical procedures involved in Chemistry
- Can acknowledge the scientific, social, economic environmental and technological aspects of Chemistry
- Finds Chemistry interesting, challenging and enjoyable

Careers

Pharmacy
Biochemistry Nursing,
Medicine Teaching
Food Scientist
Dentistry
Lab Technician,
Physiotherapy
Forensic Scientist
Chiropodist
Science Courses

PHYSICS

Physics is the most fundamental of the science subjects hence, can be found at the heart of many other areas such as Engineering, Medicine, Computing and Astronomy, to name a few. Throughout history, Physics has improved human understanding and quality of life on many different levels.
The Physics leaving certificate course mainly focuses on the physical world which humans encounter in everyday life such as heat, light, sound, forces, electricity, magnetism and electronics. Experimental work covers a large portion of the course, as there are 22 mandatory experiments at Ordinary Level and 24 mandatory experiments at Higher Level.
Possibly more than any other leaving certificate subject, Physics demonstrates its practical applications across a vast range of career options. Higher level Physics will give you a distinct advantage in a wide range of technically based courses. The study of Physics provides training of many skills, particularly in the areas of problem solving and logical thinking which are highly valued by employers in a wide range of careers.

Course Content

Mechanics
Temperature
Heat
Waves
Vibrations & sounds
Particle Physics
Electricity
Applied Electricity
Light

Assessment(100% Exam Paper)

The Leaving Certificate examination in Physics is offered at two levels – higher Level and Ordinary Level.
Assessment is in the form of a three hour written exam. There are 2 sections to the exam.
Section A – Three questions based on experiments done in class
Section B - Calculations based on information given in the exam & questions describing experiments done.
Practical work is also assessed through the exam paper.

A good Physics student

- Preferably has studied Junior Certificate Maths at Higher level.
- Thinks in a logical way
- Enjoys working out problems
- Likes doing puzzles
- Is interested in technology, lasers, computers

Careers

Science,
Computing,
Medicine,
Veterinary,
Material Science,
Engineering,
Pharmacy,
Architecture,
Ophthalmic,
Electronics,
Nursing,
Physiotherapy,
Computing,
Radiography,
Archaeology,
Technology,
Dentistry,
Sports Science,
Education,
Law & Finance,
Space Science,
Environment & Climate,
Music & Television

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

This is a practical and theory based subject where students learn skills and knowledge aimed at agriculture and horticulture; as well as processes and industries linked to agricultural products.

Course Content

Soil Science	Plant physiology	Animal Physiology
Genetics	Pollution & Environment	Farm & Farmyard
Experiments		

Assessment

The overall examination is in two parts - the Leaving Certificate exam and project work which are apportioned as follows:

- Written Exam: 75% (Leaving Cert.);
- Coursework: 25% (Project).

Project

1. Animal (experience on farm - lambing, pigs).
2. Plant (experience of crops – silage, potatoes).
3. Identifying plants and animals.
4. Farmyard layout drawing.
5. Assessment of Lab Copy.

A good Agricultural Science Student

- Finds Science in general interesting.
- Appreciates Agriculture and its importance in industry and society.

Note: It is not necessary to have a farming background, but this can help.

Careers

Veterinary Profession; Agricultural Industry; Farming and Agribusiness; Medicine; Engineering Technology (farm machinery); Food and Agribusiness Management; Dairy Business; Forestry; Horticulture; Food Science.

SCIENCE SUBJECTS

Holding on to one Science subject for Senior Cycle (Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Agricultural Science, Computer Science) keeps several college options open including Healthcare courses, most Science courses, Sports & Physical Education and Engineering courses.

GEOGRAPHY

Geography is a "Living" subject happening everywhere. It is about the real world outside the classroom and integrates many other subjects such as Biology, History, Maths, Politics and ICT. It is unique in that it is recognised as being both a Science and an Arts subject, and the skills acquired by Geography students are sought after by many employers. In Ireland it is one of the most popular leaving Certificate subjects with almost half of all students taking the subject. For both Science and Pharmacy at TCD, geography is accepted as a science subject for entry requirements.

Course Content

Physical Geography:
Covering main topics including: Plate tectonics, Rocks, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Surface processes, Map & Photo skills.

Regional Geography:
Covering exam topics including: Types of regions, Irish regions, EU and non – EU regions.

Human Elective:
Covering the most examined topics such as: Settlement, Land Use, Maps & Photos, Population and Cities in the Developed and Developing World.

Geoecology Option:
Covering soils, Soil forming Processes, Soil Erosion, Biomes (Deserts/Rainforests) and Human influence on Biology

Assessment

The written exam makes up 80% (Higher & Ordinary)
A field trip question which is prepared in class and written up in school makes up 20% of the marks.

A good Geography Student

- Enjoys reading and has an inquisitive nature
- Enjoys researching various issues and topics
- Displays a keen interest in current world affairs by reading newspapers and watching TV reports and documentaries

Careers

Town Planning	Teaching	Marine Engineering
Architecture	Quantity Surveying	Meteorology
Travel and Tourism	Arts Degree	Marketing
Journalism	Science Degree	Cartographer

HISTORY

History is the study of the past from important political people and world events to ordinary people (like you and me) and their everyday lives. You may also learn about the cause and effect of major world events.

Course Content

This new improved course looks at the sporting, music, leisure and entertainment aspects of modern day living and how these influence ordinary everyday lives in the following areas:

- Modern Irish history up to the present day
- Modern European Studies
- U.S.A. up to the 1990's

Assessment

1. 4 essay style questions worth 20% each

2. A written project about a topic of interest to you in your local area or a major political event of your choosing and the politicians which shaped it. This is submitted in advance of the written paper and is worth 20%

A good History Student

- Is able to express themselves accurately and select relevant information
- Enjoys reading, research and doing written projects
- Has an interest in the world around them and how it came to be so

Careers

Politics	Tourism	Museum work
Journalism	TV Broadcaster,	Heritage Centres
Teaching	Researcher	etc
Archaeology	Genealogy	

BUSINESS

Business is concerned with understanding how a business operates from the very first step of getting an idea for a product/service, organising finance to start the business, advertising your product to finally expanding the business when it becomes a success. **The subject Business does not include bookkeeping** – this is taught in Accounting. Business is primarily theory based while incorporating practical examples in the form of case studies and video footage from the world of business.

Course Content

The Business Syllabus contains 7 units as follows:
Unit 1 People in Business
Unit 2 Enterprise
Unit 3 Managing -Skills and Activities
Unit 4 Managing 2 -Human Resource Mgt.
Unit 5 Business In Action
Unit 6 Domestic Environment
Unit 7 International Environment

The course investigates areas such as:

The stakeholders in a business,
Business finance,
Taxation
Drawing up a business plan,
Break-even Analysis
Contract law
Industrial Disputes,
European Union.
Idea generation,
Ratio Analysis,
Insurance,
Marketing mix -4 P's
Consumer Law
Employment Law
International Trade,

Assessment

One paper - 3 hour paper at HL.
The first section of the paper consists of 10 Short Questions taken from the entire business course (Do 8 out of 10).
Section two is the Applied Business Question (Honours only) and is based specifically on 3 units of the course.
Section three consists of 7 long questions from the entire course of which **you do 4.**

A good Business student

- Has displayed a strong interest and good aptitude for Business at Junior Cycle level.
- Is highly organised in their work
- Is interested in setting up their own business in the future
- Is interested in the business world
- Displays a keen interest in current business affairs by reading newspapers and watching TV reports and documentaries.

Careers

Self-employed	Building Society	Law
Accountancy	Clerk	
Banking	Clerical work	
Auctioneering	Insurance	
Auditing	Teaching	

ECONOMICS

Leaving Certificate Economics aims to stimulate students' curiosity and interest in the economic environment and how they interact with it.
It develops a set of skills, knowledge and values that enables students to understand the economic forces which affect their everyday lives, their society and their economy at local, national and global levels, making them more informed as decision-makers.
As a discipline, Economics is divided into two broad categories:

Microeconomics

Microeconomics considers how individual people decide what goods they are willing to buy or not buy based on maximising their personal 'utility' (getting as much benefit as possible from their money), and how firms and businesses will try to take advantage of consumers' habits to maximise profit. It also examines how multiple businesses in a market will price their goods based on their competitors and their various costs.

Macroeconomics

Macroeconomics then considers how governments handle the economy as a whole, and how they select policies which meet their goals, such as stable economic growth (avoiding recessions), minimising the national debt, and encouraging employment. How the government handles issues such as fiscal policy (how much money flows in the economy), international trade, and banking all have implications for economic stability and growth.

What kind of student might Economics suit?

Anyone considering a future career in any area of business or finance.
Students who enjoyed Junior Cycle Business.
Students who take an interest in politics, current affairs, or psychology.

Subject content

The subject is concerned with understanding the workings of a modern economy from both Micro and Macro level.

The main topics covered in Micro Economics are:
Demand, Supply, Consumer, Cost of Production, Elasticity, Market Structures, Perfect Competition, Monopoly, Price Discrimination, Imperfect Competition and Oligopoly and Factors of Production – Land, Labour, Capital and Enterprise.
Macro Economics consists of Money & Banking, National Income, Government & Economy, International Trade, Economic Growth & Development and History of Economic Thought.

There is a common syllabus covering Higher and Ordinary level, which will fulfil the aims and objectives of the course.

Assessment

The written exam makes up 80% (Higher & Ordinary).
A Research Study is carried out in 6th year. This is worth 20%.

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Exam Structure

Higher Level & Ordinary Level
One Paper – 2.5 hour paper
Section A – 9 Q's do 6 (100 marks)
Section B – 8 Q's do 4 (75 marks each 300 in total). Large element of choice here.

Comment

This subject is suited to students who are willing to work hard and caters for all abilities. It is not necessary for students to have studied Junior Cycle Business Studies, but this would be a help. Ideally, students should have a general interest in how the economy works.

Careers

Economist	Actuary	Insurance Agent	Teacher
Bank Manager	Civil Service	Economic Researcher	Stockbroker

ACCOUNTING

Accounting is a continuation of bookkeeping and accounts as studied at Junior Cycle Level, and it aims to record and classify financial transactions in an accurate and orderly fashion in accordance with legal requirements and the codes of practice laid down by accounting regulatory bodies. The course also includes management accounting involving budgeting and costing.

Course Content

Accounting is concerned with the preparation, recording, presentation and analysis of financial information for the purpose of making economic decisions. It would be an advantage to have studied Business Studies at Junior Cycle.

Assessment

Accounting is offered at two levels – Higher Level & Ordinary Level Examination is three-hour examination at the end of the Leaving Certificate Year. It is intended to introduce an assignment in Computer Applications.

A good Accounting Student

- Has an aptitude for numerical skills
- Has good logic and organisational skills
- Has a sense of accuracy and attention to detail

Careers

Business Courses
Service Industry
Entrepreneur
Finance
Commercial
Banking
Commercial Law
Economist
Administration
Marketing/Sales
Lecturer
I.T.
Stocks & Shares
Accountant
Actuary
Business Teacher
Communications
Investment

ART & DESIGN

Unlike most other subjects, most of the marks for Leaving Certificate Art have been awarded by the time the June exams come around. Only 37.5% of the final grade is based on a written exam, which is on Art History.

Students will study still life, figure/portrait drawing, craftwork and poster/advertising design. They are encouraged to experiment with different mediums, techniques, develop existing projects and work hard. The curriculum is organic in nature, to provide personal attention and to encourage an understanding of what the individual drawing projects aims and objectives are in preparation for the project/examinations. Students will interact with one another and be motivated by a sense of shared enthusiasm for this exciting subject.

Course Content

Currently the Leaving Certificate curriculum is undergoing changes, in line with the new Junior Cycle curriculum, to facilitate a smoother transition to Leaving Certificate.

Currently the Leaving Certificate course is a combination of one coursework component and two invigilated exams:

- **Craft & Still Life/Imaginative Composition**:
  10 week project carried out during class from January to March: 50% of total marks

- **Life Sketching**: Drawing Exam requiring 2 sketches: 12.5% of total marks
- **History of Art:**
  Written Exam (3 questions to be answered): 37.5% of total marks

General Aims of Art, Craft & Design education

- To enhance a balanced education, giving students a broad and challenging experience that will enable them to produce a body of knowledge, understanding, perceptive and manipulative aptitudes and capabilities and so prepare them

to be creative participants in a creative environment.

- ❖ to enable students to integrate knowledge and skill, together with qualities of cooperative investigation and reflective thought, in developing solutions to aesthetic and technical problems.
- ❖ to facilitate the development of a variety of communication skills, which will inspire students to express their creativity in a practical & imaginative way, using a variety of forms.

What kind of student might Art suit?

- Students who wish to undertake further studies in Art & Design
- Students who will study or take up careers, for which an Art & Design education is relevant/desirable e.g. Primary School Teaching, Architecture
- Those who, while having an interest & aptitude in the subject, will benefit from the course in achieving maximum points - yet are not intending to study the subject further
- Students with a focus on maximising points and completing a balanced examination period. (3 out of 4 components completed by Easter time).

A good Art student

- Is creative and imaginative
- Is visually aware
- Enjoys learning new skills
- Can be an independent learner
- Motivated & focused

Careers

Art Teacher
Lecturer
Graphic Design
Textile Design
Fine Art
Fashion Design
Interior Design
Sculpture
Theatre
Web Design
Video and Film
Illustrator
Architecture
Jewellery Design

HOME ECONOMICS

...provides students with knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes necessary for managing their own lives, for further and higher education and work. The learning experiences in Home Economics develops flexibility and adaptability in students, prepares them for a consumer-oriented society and provides a learning foundation for a wide range of careers in food, textiles, science, design, social studies and tourism.

Home Economics is an applied subject combining theory with practice. It is concerned with the management of resources (material and human) to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual, social and economic needs of individuals and families. The study of Home Economics emphasises the interdependent relationships that exist between individuals, families and their immediate and distant environment.

There is also a link with some other subjects, namely Biology, Business Studies and even Building Construction – again, this cross-curricular advantage is helpful when choosing subjects.

Subject Content

The syllabus consists of Core Areas and Three Electives:

The Core Areas

1. Food Studies - 45%
2. Resource Management and Consumer Studies - 25%
3. Social Studies - 10%

Electives

1. Home Design and Management - 20%

or

2. Textiles, Fashion and Design - 20%

or

3. Social Studies - 20%

Students opt for one Elective area only.

Practical Course Work

As part of the Core Areas, a mandatory section comprises of 'Practical Cookery Coursework' which must be completed during the two years and will be sent to the Department of Education and Science for inspection. This is 20% of the final examination marks.

Exam Structure

The Leaving Certificate Home Economics (Social and Scientific) syllabus is examined as follows:

1. **Written Exam paper** – 80%

2. **Practical Coursework**- 20%

This is worth 20% of the final mark – as stated already; this is submitted in journal form earlier in the Leaving Certificate year

MUSIC

The structure of this course follows the Junior Certificate outline with three essential activities in performing, composing and listening. This course allows pupils to develop their musical skills and knowledge. This is a challenging course that requires completion of the Junior Certificate Music course and a passion for music of all genres.

Assessment

Music is examined at Ordinary and Higher Level.
The examination at both levels is split into three sections:

Performing 50% - Practical exam on your instrument solo and/or groups. Music technology is also a practical option for LC music.

Written Exam 25% - Composing melodies and harmonies.

Aural Exam 25% - Listening to a range of musical styles and genres.

A good Music student

- Is enthusiastic about Music
- Is interested in solo or group performance.
- Wants to compose music and should have a good general musical knowledge.

Careers

Music Therapy	Professional Musician	Sound engineer
Education	TV, Radio	Music production

TECHNOLOGY

Leaving Certificate Technology provides students with knowledge and skills associated with technology education. Students apply their knowledge and skills creatively in a design-based approach to solving everyday technological problems, mindful of the impact on natural resources and on the environment. The syllabus comprises core areas of study, which are mandatory, and five optional areas of study, from which students choose two.

Core Elements

The Core is a broad general introduction to the nature of Technology that provides students with a consolidation, extension and refinement of the knowledge, skills and techniques acquired in the Junior Certificate. It is intended that all elements in the core are learned in an integrative manner by means of a design and make approach in the context of safety and the impact of Technology on society.

- A Process of Design
- Project & Quality Management
- Materials and Production
- Communication and Graphic Media
- Information & Communications Technology
- Structures and Mechanisms
- Energy, Electricity and Electronics

Optional Modules

The optional modules allow students to undertake a more in-depth study of specific elements within the core. Each student will study two options in addition to the core. Reference should be made to the syllabus document for more detailed information.

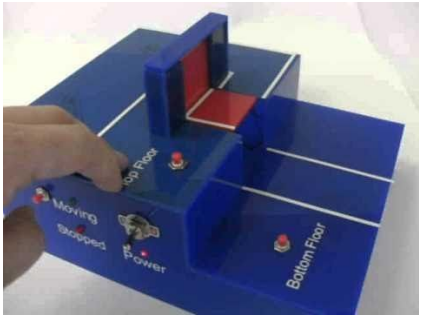
- Electronics and Control
- Applied Control Systems
- Information & Communication Technology
- Manufacturing Systems
- Materials Technology

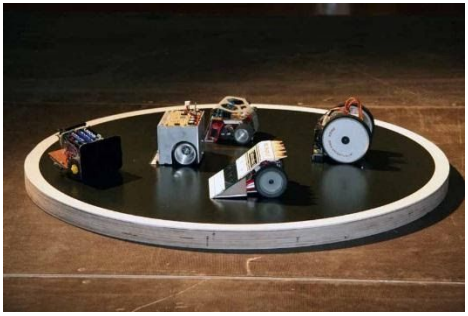
Assessment

There are two parts to the assessment, a term based practical project which involves the design and production of an artefact accompanied with a portfolio and a final written exam. The breakdown of marks at higher level and ordinary level are the same as outlined below:

1 Main project	50%
2 Final written exam	50%

Sample Student projects





Comments

Students do not need to have taken Technology at Junior Certificate to qualify for this course. It would however be an advantage to have one of Technical Graphics, Metalwork, Woodwork or Technology.

Careers

Engineering, Technology, Robotics, Project & Quality Management, Architecture, Education, ICT, Design, Electronics.

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

Construction Studies introduces Leaving Certificate students to the knowledge and skills associated with construction technology and construction materials and practices. This is achieved through theoretical study and integrated practical projects which provide a basis for the thorough exploration of materials and processes.

Course Content

Students will study the following topics during the two years of the course:

- Planning and design
- Drawings and documents
- Site preliminaries and foundations
- Walls and partitions
- Floors, roofs
- Fireplaces
- Windows and doors
- Stairs
- Plastering and painting
- Plumbing and heating
- Services
- Drainage
- Heat and thermal effects in buildings,
- Illumination and sound in buildings

Assessment

There are three parts to the assessment, a term based practical project accompanied with a portfolio, a four hour practical skills based exam and a final written exam. The breakdown of marks varies at higher level and ordinary level as outlined below:

	Higher level	Ordinary level
1 Main project	25%	30%
2 Practical exam	25%	30%
3 Final written exam	50%	40%

A good Construction student

1. It is recommended that a student taking Leaving Certificate Construction Studies has a general interest in buildings and the built environment.

2. Each student should have an aptitude and interest for design and practical work and have a curiosity about the built environment and its sustainability.

3. Junior Certificate Woodwork and/or Technical Graphics would be desirable subjects to have taken at Junior Certificate though not compulsory.

Careers

Civil Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
Teaching
Quantity Surveyor
Architecture
Renewable energy consultant
Trade apprenticeship
Interior Design
Furniture Design
Town Planner
Cabinet Maker
Estate Agent
Archaeology

DESIGN & COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS

This subject was formerly known as Technical Drawing. It is still a continuation of the Technical Graphics at Junior Certificate. In the new course more emphasis will be placed on the use of Computer Aided Drawing and also on freehand sketching as a means of conveying ideas and designs. The subject will be offered at Higher and Ordinary levels

Course Content

The new course will be delivered differently. There are three fundamental areas of study and these will be divided into two parts. The first part, known as the core and compulsory will include
A) PLANE AND DESCRIPTIVE GEOMETRY,
B) COMMUNICATION OF DESIGN & COMPUTER GRAPHICS.
The second part is optional and will study APPLIED GRAPHICS. *By optional it means that the student selects 2 disciplines from 5.*

Assessment

There are two assessment components

1. A course assignment of which CAD is a compulsory part worth 40%
2. A final three hour exam paper worth 60%

A Good Technical Drawing Student

- Solves problems logically
- Understands complex drawing
- Can visualise the finished product
- Can Convey ideas
- Can Illustrate their designs
- Is accurate, neat and organised.

Careers

Engineering
Engineering Technician
Architecture
Interior Designer
Army & Air Corps Apprenticeships
Graphic Designer
Construction Trades
Bricklayer
Carpenter
Draughtsperson
Advertising
Teaching
Printing

ENGINEERING

Engineers apply maths and science for the betterment of society through:

Design

Manufacturing

Research & Development

Management

Continual Improvement

Engineers are problem solvers who make things work better, more efficiently, quicker and cheaper.

This subject follows on from Junior Certificate Metalwork and Junior Certificate Technology. It involves the study of a wide range of mechanical engineering processes, materials and technological applications along with the development of manual skills, resourcefulness and creativity. Above all, engineers are problem solvers who make things work better, more efficiently, quicker and cheaper.

Course Content
Engineering comprises of two elements: -

Workshop Processes
This is the making of a variety of projects utilising computerised machines ie. the cnc lathe and the router, manual machines, tools & electronics. These projects are completed whilst learning new processes.

Materials and Technology
The Engineering course is a wide and varied syllabus. It is designed to help students overcome small mechanical problems using a design process. In this course you learn
i) How different materials are made, where they originate from and how they are tested for different applications.
ii) Different processes used to manufacture everyday items eg. Welding, milling.
iii) That engineering incorporates everything around us.

Assessment
Practical section worth 50% of the marks (a project involving the use of electronics, plastics and metal)
Theory section also worth 50% (the study of materials and engineering processes).

A good Engineering Student
- Is dedicated and organised
- Enthusiastic and willing to learn
- Enjoys working in a practical environment
- Can solve problems and work as part of a team
- Loves discovery learning

Careers:
Mechanical, Electrical, Chemical, Industrial, Civil, Education. Automotive, Aerospace, Agricultural, Biomedical, Computer, Environmental, Materials, Nuclear, Robotics.

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)

This programme was introduced in 1994 to run in conjunction with the established Leaving Certificate. It appears as an eighth Leaving Certificate subject. If you are taking certain combinations of Leaving Certificate subjects (LCVP Vocational Subjects Groupings), you are eligible to take the LCVP. Sixty percent of the marks available are awarded for a portfolio of work, compiled during the two years of the programme which consists of 5 documents and a recorded interview, with the remainder being awarded for a written paper, sat in early May of your Leaving Certificate year. Students awarded a distinction in the LCVP (over 80%) will gain 66 points from this module, with 46 points allocated for a merit(65-79%) and 28 points allocated for a pass (50-64%). L.C.V.P. is accepted by all colleges in the CAO system.

Course Content

The LCVP educates the students in two main areas or "Link Modules"

(a) Enterprise Education
(b)Preparation For The World of Work

Enterprise Education

Procedures for starting a business, enterprise skills, profile of local entrepreneurs, visits to local firms, visits in by local entrepreneurs, business plans,market research & advertising

Preparation for the World of Work

Curriculum Vitae, job applications, 5 days work experience in 5th Year, completion of work experience diary, career investigations & computer skills.

Assessment

Portfolio of Coursework - 60%
Written Exam – 40%

To be eligible to study LCVP you must choose 1 of the combinations listed below:

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
5. Home Economics; Agricultural Science; Biology - **Any Two**
6. Home Economics **and** Art
7. Accounting; Business; Economics - **Any two**
8. Physics **and** Chemistry
9. Biology **and** Chemistry **or** Physics
10. Biology **and** Agricultural Science
11. Art **and** Design & Communication Graphics
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 **and** Accounting or Business or Economics
16. Music **and** Accounting or Business or Economics

A good LCVP Student should

- Be innovative and enterprising
- Take responsibility for own learning
- Work in teams
- Enjoy working with computers
- Present work well
- Be able to meet deadlines
- Be able to learn from their experiences and discuss what they have learned.

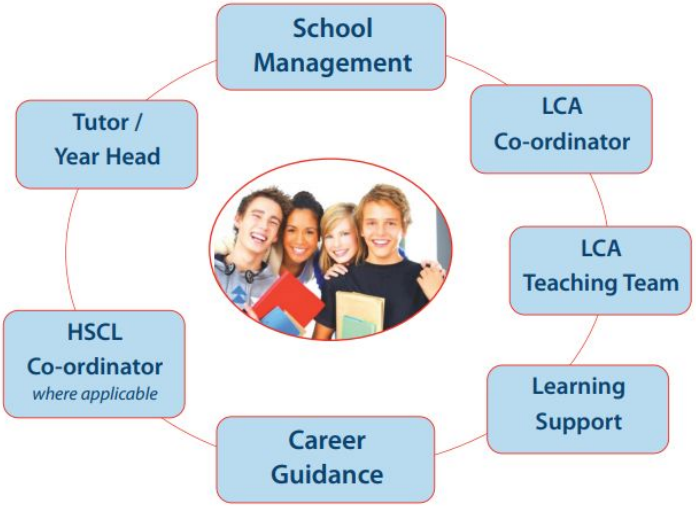
LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED

Leaving Cert Applied is a two year programme.
The primary objective of this person-centred programme is to prepare participants for adult and working life.

The two-year programme consists of four half-year blocks called *Sessions* and achievements are credited in each of these Sessions.

LCA 5: Sept- Jan= Session 1 (10%)
LCA 5: Feb- June= Session 2 (20%)
LCA 6: Sept- Jan= Session 3 (20%)
LCA 6: Feb- June= Session 4 (15%)
Final Exam: June (35%)

What Support is available?



Who does LCA suit?

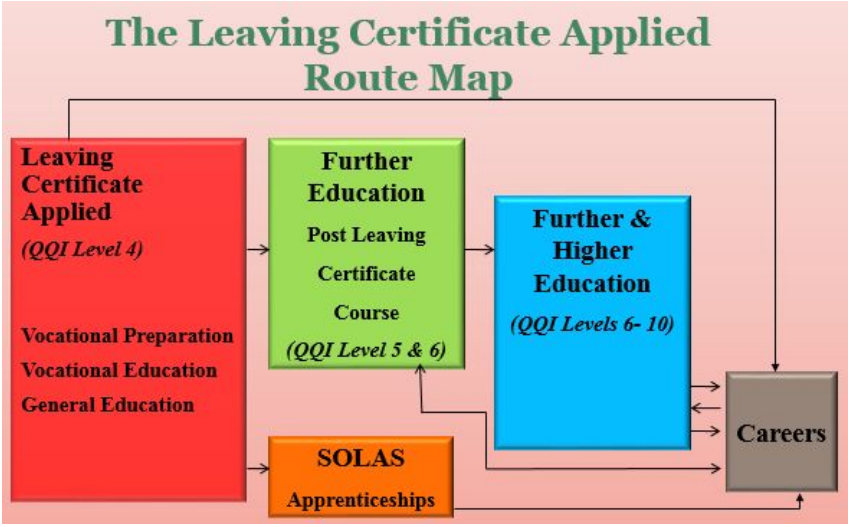
It is most suited to those students who would like an alternative to the Traditional Leaving Certificate programme, because they may have found the traditional programme too academic and too much emphasis on the final exam.

Leaving Cert Applied offers a more practical approach than the traditional Leaving Cert or LCVP. Assessment is continuous with 66% of marks allocated before the final exam through completing project/tasks in class.

The framework of the LCA consists of a number of modules grouped under three general headings:

1. General Education	-English and Communications -Job Search -Guidance (Vocational Preparation and Guidance)
2.Vocational Education	-Mathematical Applications -Information and Communications Technology (I.C.T.) -Engineering* -Craft & Design* -Woodwork*
3.Vocational Preparation	-General Education -Arts Drama, Dance, Music -Irish (Year 1)/ Spanish(Year 2) -Social Education -Leisure and Recreation

Students who take the LCA Certificate can apply to a one year access programme but are not eligible for direct entry to courses in University or Institutes of Technology. They can proceed directly to courses in the North West Regional College in Derry, LYIT Access programme, PLC courses or directly into employment.



Why choose LCA?

LCA	Traditional LC
• Work Experience 1 day per week over the 2 years. • Practical/ project work • Continuous assignments (Tasks/ Key Assignments) • Small class sizes more one to one tuition • Irish/ Spanish completed in one year.	• LCVP work experience one week in 5th year only • Academic/points orientated • LC exam counts for majority of marks • Generally bigger classes • Irish compulsory for 2 years

If you are interested in studying the Applied Leaving Certificate we will be asking you to indicate that preference on the subject choice forms.

Following that we will meet with prospective LCA students and parents in school.

TRANSITION YEAR

TY promotes maturity, independent learning and prepares students for the Leaving Certificate

Transition Year is a one year programme between the end of the Junior Cycle and the start of a Leaving Certificate programme. Transition Year tries to give a broad education to students. It's about learning in many different ways. As a Transition Year student you will learn the traditional way. But you will also learn through practical experience and you will learn through meeting people beyond the classroom. Transition Year will help you to find and develop your own special interests and talents, to become more aware of your place in the community and to lay a solid foundation for your future choice of Leaving Certificate.

Benefits of TY

- Students get opportunities to discover and develop their own individual gifts and strengths.
- Students experience a year where the emphasis will be on individual responsibility and the nurturing of thinking, caring, articulate and self-confident people.
- TY students have the opportunity to explore career ambitions by doing work shadowing placements.
- Students get a chance to learn: how to research, to use technology, to try new skills and to gather information. These are the strengths you'll need in college and beyond.
- Students will recognise, understand and appreciate the amalgamation of individual strengths when achieving effective teams.
- Students get extra time to explore choices for the Leaving Certificate. Choosing the right subjects for your interests and abilities is going to improve your performance.

Transition Year in Crana College

- TY is optional, it is not suitable to every student and a selection process will be in place
- TY Assessment involves project, portfolio and reflection-based activities
- TY will prepare you for the Leaving Cert
- TY will be a challenging, enjoyable and fun-filled experience.
- TY will be part of the Senior Cycle but is NOT year one of a three-year Leaving Certificate
- Since a large proportion of work in TY is IT and project-based, students will have the use of an IPAD for the year, which is provided by the school.
- TY comes at a cost of €150 payable in instalments. There will be additional nominal costs for IPAD insurance, trips and other activities

Core Subjects

Crana College will offer a core curriculum for the TY programme that will include subjects such as Creative Writing, Irish Studies, Mathematical Studies, Drama & Performing Arts, Languages, Science, Physical Education, Geography, History, Road Safety, Preparation for the World of Work and Further Study, Problem-Solving, Computer Studies, Life Skills and Etiquette, etc.

Subject Sampling

TY students will have the opportunity to sample subjects they may not have studied at Junior Cert. This will enable them to discover and develop skills that will inform their subject choices for Leaving Cert.

Sample subjects may include Business Studies, Home Economics, Engineering, Biology, Chemistry, Art and Crafts, History, Geography, Wood Design, Spanish, and Music.

Subjects offered may vary from year to year depending on class size and student requests allowing them to have an input into the programme offered in TY.

TY Modules / Activities

Crana College's TY modules will be devised both within the school and by external agencies. Modules can include: Gaisce, BT Young Scientist Exhibition, First Aid, Self Defence, Mini company, Nutrition & Lifestyle, Paired Reading in primary schools, Driver Theory, Road Safety, Tourism, Art, Chinese, Creative Writing, Calligraphy, Journalism, Fundraising, ECDL, Health Education, Life Saving, Photography, Sign Language, Dance, Debating, etc.

Work Experience

Orientation to adult and working life is a major aim of the Transition Year programme. Work shadowing, community service, and enterprise education are ways of achieving this aim.

Crana College TY students will have three work placements – one per Term. One day every week will be timetabled for you to experience life in a workplace of your choice.

Examples of work placements: National Schools, Pharmacies, Leisure Centres, Hotels, Pre-schools, Retail Shops, Craft Centres, Law Firms, Veterinary Practices etc.
A portfolio of thoughts and reflections on your Work Experiences will be gathered in a journal to record for future reference when choosing subjects for Leaving Cert and University courses as career options.

How are parents involved?

Parents' understanding of and support for student learning in TY in Crana College is a key factor in a successful Transition Year experience. An information evening will be arranged for parents of 3rd year students to discuss the Transition Year programme and the suitability of their son or daughter for the programme. Parents should attend and contribute. Parents will be encouraged to make their particular expertise available to the school during the TYP and parents will be involved also in the school's evaluation of its programme. It is most important that parents encourage their sons and daughters to avail of the numerous opportunities offered by this unique programme.

What about exams?

Assessment is a key part of any worthwhile learning programme and Crana College's Transition Year Programme gives students an opportunity to move beyond the narrow focus of end of year written exams. The emphasis will be on varied and on-going assessment with students themselves becoming involved in diagnosing their own learning strengths and weaknesses. Students will be assessed through assignments, projects, presentations, exhibitions and class tests. A portfolio assessment will take place in December and May as well as an end of year interview.

How do I apply for Transition Year?

Firstly, you will need to consider whether you are serious about doing Transition Year and then, in consultation with your parents, decide to submit an application form to the TY Co-Ordinator Ms Clare Bradley. There is a limited number of places available so should there be a lot of applicants there will be a selection process based on your TY Application Form.