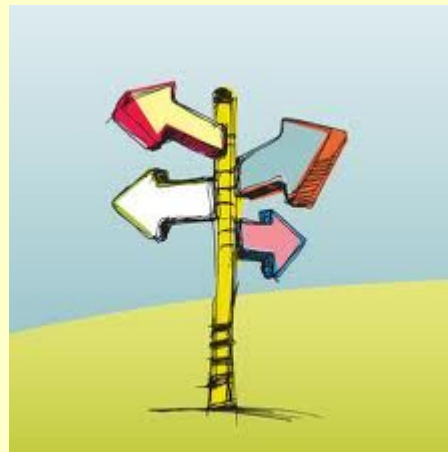




# SUBJECT CHOICE LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2027

February 2025



## SUBJECT CHOICE FOR LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2027

Mark the subjects below in order of preference (from 1 – 7 where 1 is your first choice). You must specify preferences for **at least 7** subjects.

SUBJECT	PREFERENCE
Accounting	
Art	
Agricultural Science	
Biology	
Business	
Chemistry	
Economics	
French	
Geography	
History	
Home Economics	
Music	
Physical Education	
Physics	
Spanish	

Subject choices must be made on VShare by **Wed. 5th March 2025**.

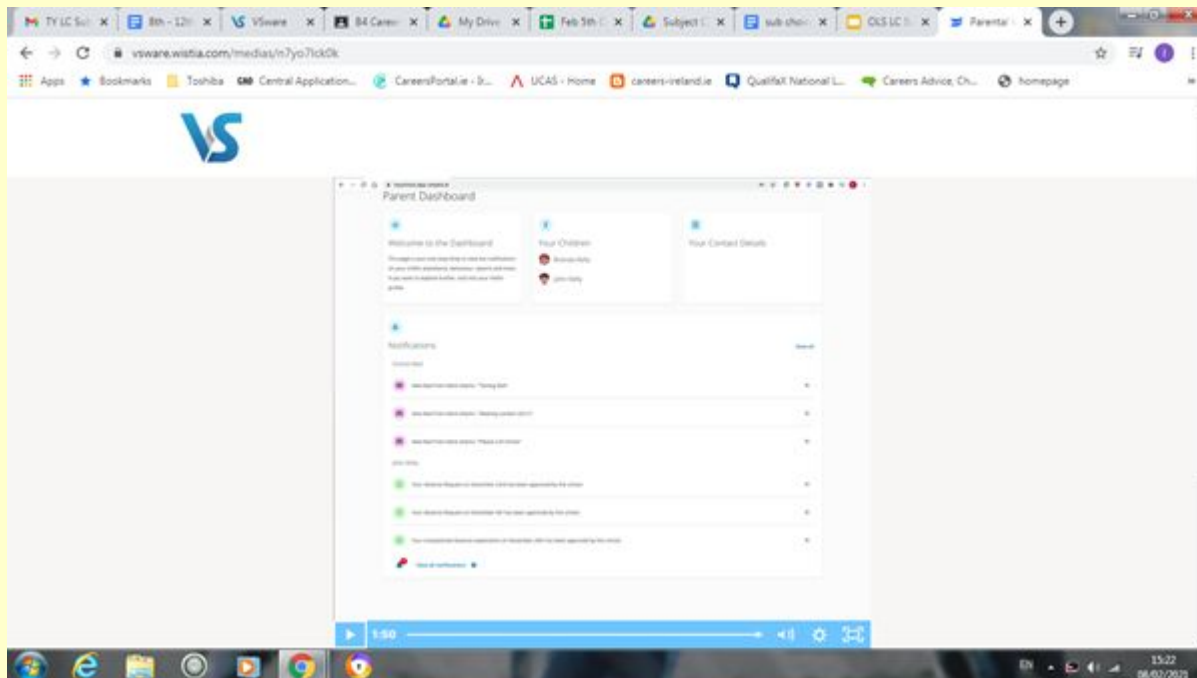
With regard to subject availability, every effort is made to offer each student her preferences. Please note however that due to timetabling restrictions, it may not be possible to offer all students their top preferences. The viability of running a specific subject is dependent on the number of students choosing this subject as an option as well as available staff resources.

Students can select LCVP and/or Applied Maths as an additional option with classes taking place outside school hours.

Students interested in taking the **Leaving Certificate Applied** must ask their parents to make a final declaration of interest in taking up a place in LCA. This must be received via email to [principal@olschool.ie](mailto:principal@olschool.ie) by Wednesday 5th March 2025

# To complete choices on VSware

## Video guide to competing subject choices on VSware



# Short Video - LC Subject Choices

## Things to consider



# Options after the Leaving Certificate

Work

Year Out

Apprenticeships/Training

Further Education (Post Leaving Certificate courses - PLC)

Tertiary Degrees

Higher Education (Third Level Education - CAO)



# Continuing your education after the Leaving Certificate.

## The options

### Further Education

- Post Leaving Certificate Course  
1 or 2 years

### Higher Education - CAO

- Level 6 Certificate 2 years
- Level 7 Ordinary Degree 3 years
- Level 8 Honours Degree 3/4 years





# LC grading & CAO points

25 bonus points will continue to be awarded for

Higher Level Maths for H6 and above providing the total for the grade achieved in Maths with the added bonus is among your top 6 scoring subjects.

Higher Level Grades	Higher Level Points	% Bands	Ordinary Level Grades	Ordinary Level Points
H1	100	90-100%	O1	56
H2	88	80-89%	O2	46
H3	77	70-79%	O3	37
H4	66	60-69%	O4	28
H5	56	50-59%	O5	20
H6	46	40-49%	O6	12
H7	37	30-39%	O7	0
H8	0	0-29%	O8	0



# Leaving Certificate

Two-year programme that gives the opportunity to take seven subjects at Higher, Ordinary or Foundation Level. Foundation level is available in two subjects - Irish and Mathematics.



# What is Leaving Certificate Applied?

If you would like more information about LCA please email [admin@olschool.ie](mailto:admin@olschool.ie)

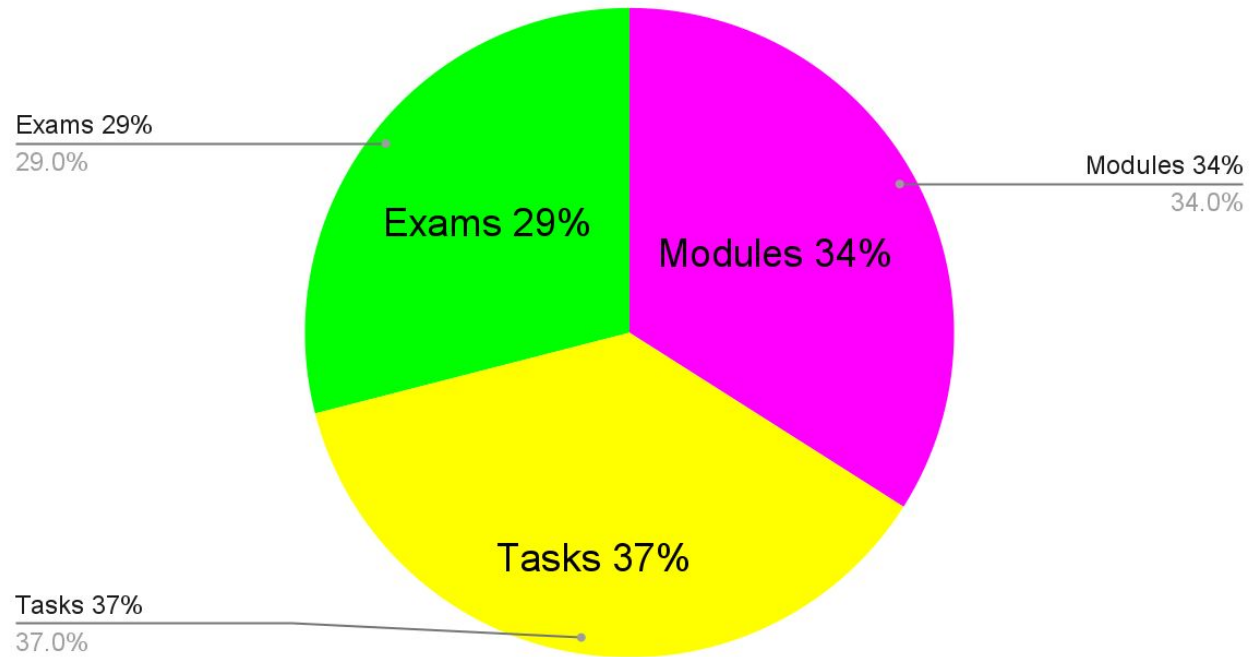


**What  
subjects are  
on the  
programme?**

<b>Curriculum</b>	
<b>Vocational Preparation</b>	<b>Vocational Preparation &amp; Guidance</b>  <b>English &amp; Communications</b>
<b>Vocational Education</b>	<b>Mathematical Applications</b>  <b>1) Hotel, Catering &amp; Tourism</b> <b>2) Childcare &amp; Community Care?</b>  <b>Information Communication Technology</b>
<b>General Education</b>	<b>Arts Education (Music/Drama/Dance/Visual Arts</b> <b>Social Education &amp; SPHE</b> <b>French/Spanish/Irish</b> <b>Leisure &amp; Recreation &amp; PE</b> <b>Religious Education</b>

# How is LCA assessed?

## Leaving Certificate Applied Assessment



## 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".

# Progression routes from LCA

- There are many options open to Leaving Certificate Applied students after completing the programme.
- Aside from directly entering into the world of work, students can also progress onto Further Education/Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses, Apprenticeships & Traineeships.
- The Gardai (following completing a level 5 Further Education/PLC course) and the Defence Forces.
- LCA students do not have *direct* access to Higher Education CAO courses and must either complete a PLC course or a Pre-University access course to progress.

# LCVP

- Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme- designed by Dept. Of Education to give strong vocational aspect to the traditional LC.
- Can be used to gain Leaving Cert. points for CAO
- 2 year course consisting of 2 link modules
- Exam structure -

Terminal Examination Paper - 40% of marks

Portfolio of Coursework – 60% of total marks

# Structure

## Link Module 1- Preparation for the World of Work

### UNITS

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

## Link Module 2- Enterprise Education

### UNITS

1. Enterprise Skills
2. Local Business Enterprises
3. Local Voluntary Organisations / Community Enterprises
4. An Enterprise Activity



# Course work

## Core Items

### All items to be presented

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. Career Investigation
3. Summary Report
4. Enterprise/Action Plan

## Optional Items

### Two items to be presented from

1. Diary of Work Experience
2. Enterprise Report
3. Recorded Interview/Presentation
4. Report on 'My Own Place'

# CAO Points

Grade	Number of Points
Distinction (80 – 100%)	66
Merit (65 – 79%)	46
Pass (50 – 64%)	28
Unsuccessful (0-49%)	0

# LCVP

Students achieving below 6 H4s or students studying more than one subject at ordinary level may benefit points wise from LCVP

Provision of a broader curriculum- preparing students for further education and the working world

Majority of students who sit LCVP use it towards their CAO points total

Please note classes in LCVP will take place outside school hours

# SUBJECT CHOICE

When it comes to making subject choice it is important to research options and to choose wisely.

There are

Essential subjects

Useful subjects



**WHERE COULD  
YOUR SUBJECT  
CHOICES  
TAKE YOU?**



## **Subject Groups**

### **Language Group**

Irish, English, French, Spanish

### **Science Group**

Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Agricultural Science.

### **Business Studies Group**

Accounting, Business, Economics.

### **Artistic Group**

Art, Music.

### **Humanities & Social Group**

History, Geography, Home Economics, Physical Education.

### **Mathematics Group**

Mathematics, Applied Maths





# Language Group

Irish  
English  
French  
Spanish







# Science Group

Physics  
Chemistry  
Biology  
Agricultural Science





# **Business Studies Group**

Accounting  
Business  
Economics





# Artistic Group

Art

Music





Welcome  
to  
Geography

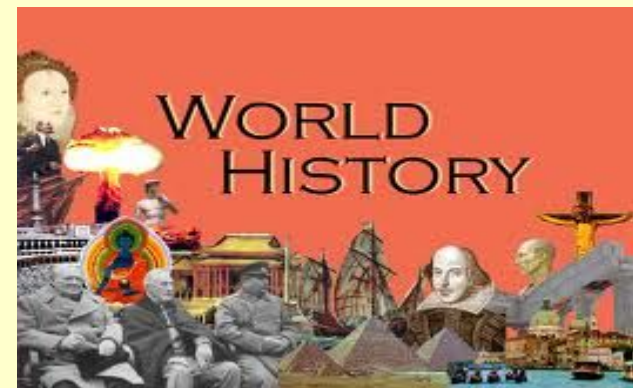
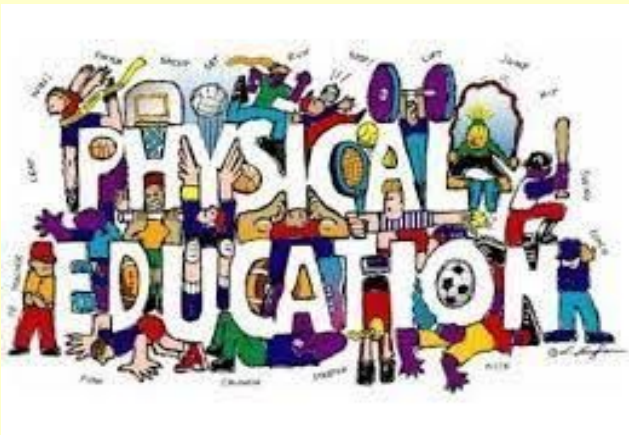
# Humanities & Social Group

History

Geography

Home Economics

Physical Education

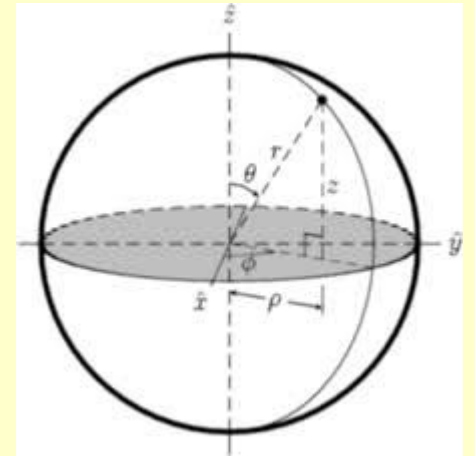
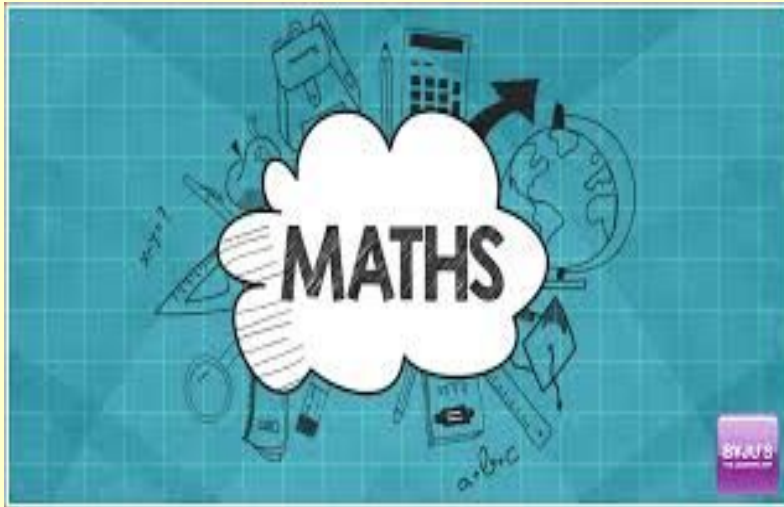




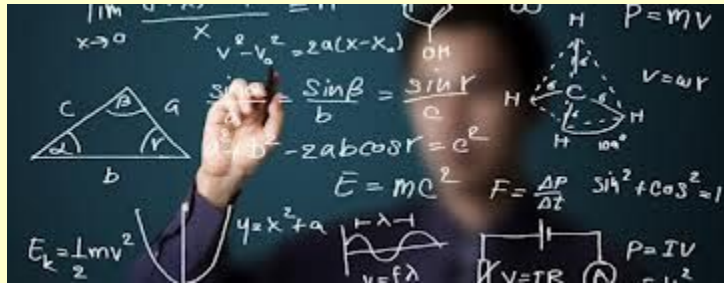
# Mathematics Group

Mathematics

Applied Maths



$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dx}{x^n(x^2-a^2)^r} &= \frac{1}{a^n} \int \frac{dx}{x^{n-1}(x^2-a^2)^r} \\ &= \int \frac{dx}{x(x^2-a^2)^r} = \frac{2}{n\sqrt{a^n}} \cos^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{x}{a^n}} \end{aligned}$$



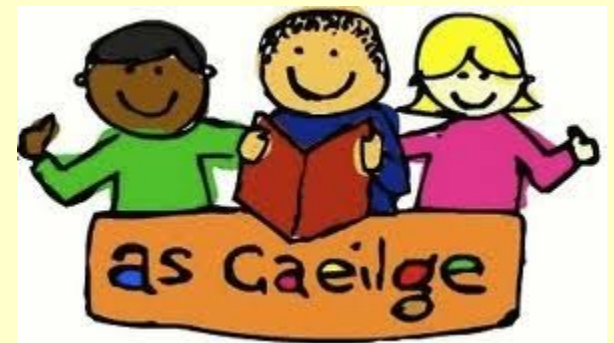
# Obligatory subjects

The core subjects are:

Irish

English

Mathematics







What four to  
choose from  
the available  
subjects?

*Accounting, Art, Agricultural Science, Biology,  
Business, Chemistry, Economics, French,  
Geography, History, Home Economics, Music,  
Physical Education, Physics, Spanish.*

Additional option LCVP and/or Applied Maths -  
Yes or No ?

# European Language

Students are recommended to consider studying a European Language because it is generally a entry requirement to study at NUI colleges (eg UCD, Maynooth, UCG, UCC) and RCSI

Some exceptions apply including courses in Engineering, Nursing, Science, Ag. Science, Social Science, Computer Science and some other others.

Please consult college websites.





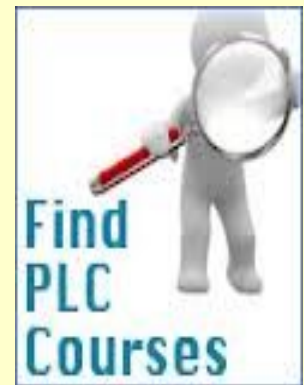
## Entry Requirements for 3<sup>rd</sup> level Colleges

1. Minimum entry requirements
2. Specific Subjects requirements
3. Points

These must be considered when choosing subjects.

# MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR FURTHER/HIGHER EDUCATION

- Level 8 – Honours Degrees
  - 3/4 years study
  - Min. of 2 H5 and 4 O6/H7 for most courses  
(TCD & a small no. of level 8 courses-Min 3 H5 and 3 O6/H7)
- Level 7 – Ordinary Degrees
  - 3 years study
  - Min. 5 O6/H7
- Level 6 – Higher Certificate
  - 2 years study
  - Min 5 O6/H7
- Post Leaving Certificate Courses
  - 1 year study
  - Min. 5 passes in H/O/F level
  - Complete LCA



Entry requirements for courses  
can be found at links below:

[Courses Search | Qualifax](#)

[https://coursefinder.careersportal.ie/coursefinder/index.html?types\\_in=2](https://coursefinder.careersportal.ie/coursefinder/index.html?types_in=2)



There are certain subjects that are essential for entry to particular courses, colleges and careers.

Look at the College website or Prospectus.

All subjects are equal. (Higher Maths has bonus points & LCVP has different CAO points scoring)



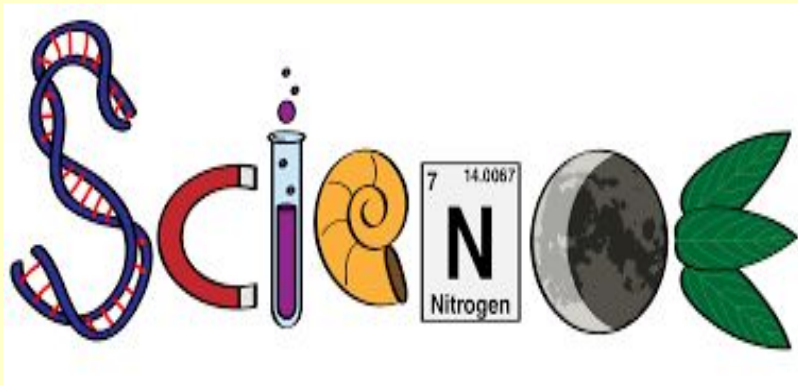


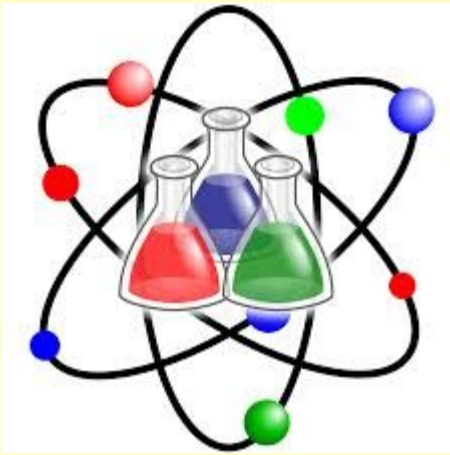
So what about the next three?

A science subject (often two science subjects) is essential for careers in medical, paramedical careers: physiotherapy, radiography, human nutrition, pharmacy, biomedical science and nursing.



In universities, a science subject is required for a career in engineering and most faculties of science require one to have a laboratory science subject.





However, many of the courses available in science, engineering and electronics in the Technological Universities/Institutes of Technology do not require a science subject.



It really comes down to one's interest in science to date.

If one is struggling with science now it is highly unlikely that it will suddenly become one's best subject at Leaving Certificate!

# Science Essential

SCIENCE

ENGINEERING

MEDICINE

DENTISTRY

VETERINARY

PHARMACY

PHYSIOTHERAPY

RADIOGRAPHY

NURSING

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

SPEECH THERAPY

SPORTS SCIENCE

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

DIETETICS

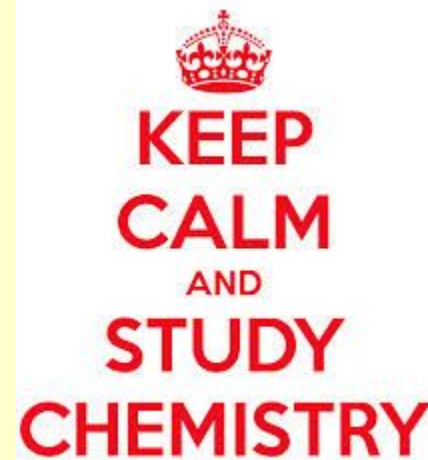
OPTOMETRY





# CHEMISTRY essential for:

- PHARMACY
- VETERINARY
- MEDICINE (essential for some, recommended for all)
- DENTISTRY
- HUMAN NUTRITION & DIETETICS
- Chemistry is essential for 7 CAO courses





# Agricultural

# Science/Biology/Physics



- Biology is an essential requirement for 5 CAO courses (Genetics - UCC, Health Science with Dietetics/Occupational Therapy/Physiotherapy Studies - Letterkenny IT, Human Health & Disease -TCD)
- Physics is a essential requirement for 1 CAO course (Theoretical Physics - TCD)
- Agricultural Science is a useful subject for many college courses but it is not an essential subject for any course.





# Art and Music



If you wish to take a course at third-level in music, some courses require that you have studied **MUSIC**, others may not but you may be required to complete a audition and /or a music test.

Likewise, it is not always essential to study **ART** in order to pursue it at third-level. However, a substantial portfolio of work is usually required.





# Humanities & Social Group

History

Geography

Home Economics

Physical Education



History, Geography, Physical Education are useful for many college courses but not essential for any.

Home Economics is essential for 1 CAO course (Home Economics - St Angela's College Sligo)





# Business Subjects

Accounting, Business and Economics are useful subjects if you are thinking of taking a Business/Economics/Accounting course at college but Business and Economics are not essential for any college courses. Accounting is essential for 1 CAO course. (Commerce - Accounting- NUI Galway)



# HOW DO STUDENTS MAKE THIS TOUGH CHOICE?



## *Research*



- Interest
- Motivation & ability to work at a subject
- Aptitude
- Career Options

# HOW DO STUDENTS MAKE THIS TOUGH CHOICE?

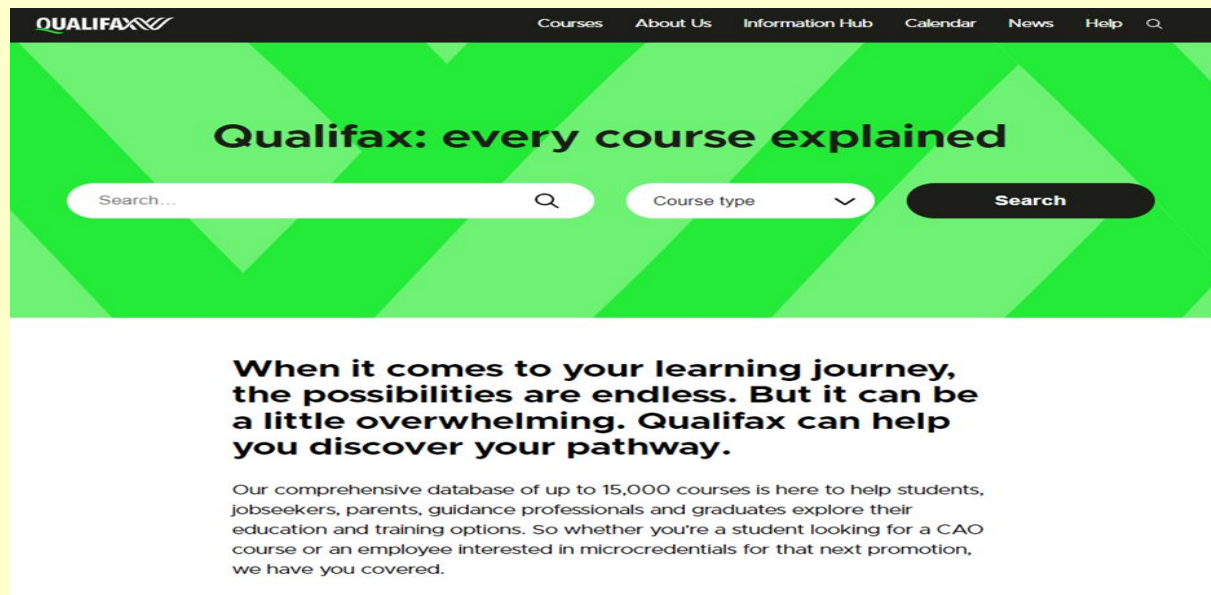
- Look for subjects you would like and be good at
- Find out as much as you can about the subjects
- Talk to teachers
- Look at some of the text books
- Talk to students taking the subject
- Consider the possible careers related to the subject



After final selection students should examine options carefully to see that they have kept their career options open.

They should check to see if they have the **essential requirements** for third-level courses in which they have an interest. It is too late finding out in your final Leaving Certificate year. Use the

[Subject Requirements Tool](#) on the Qualifax website

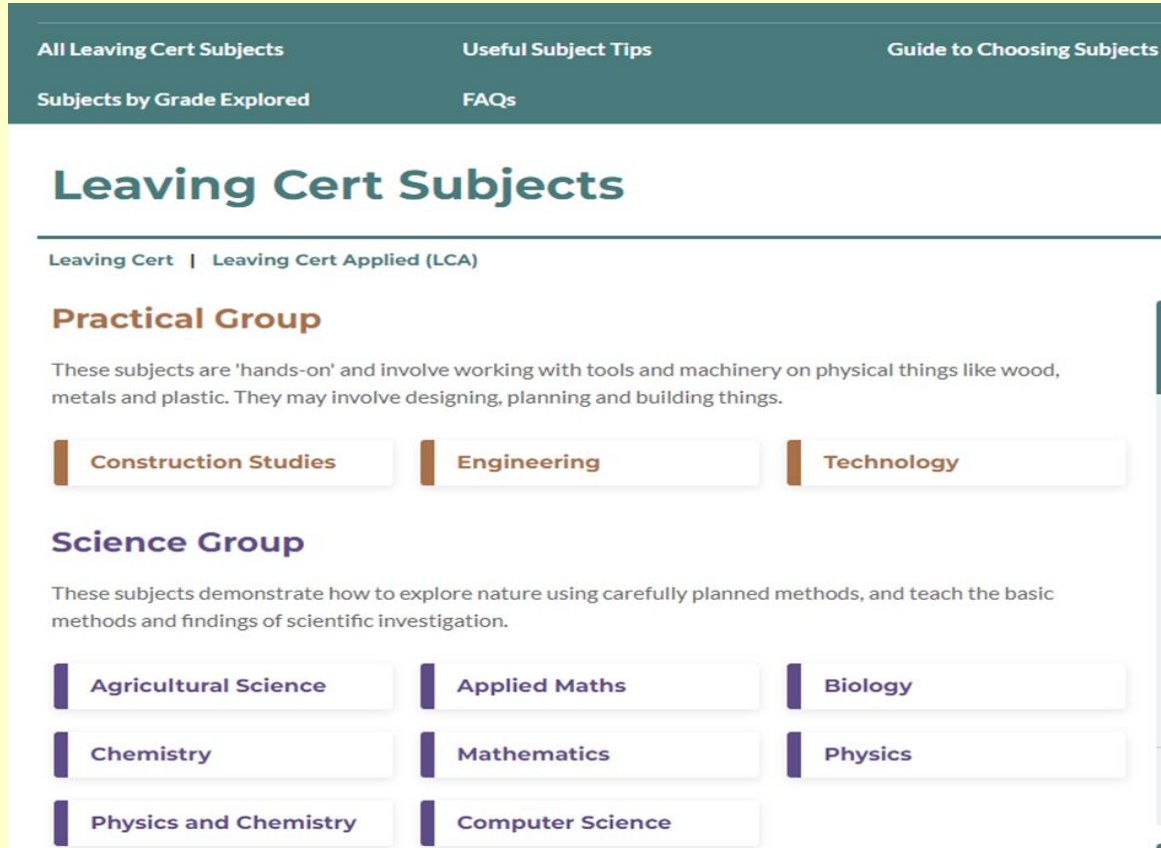




# Information on Leaving Certificate Subjects

[www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

## Information of Leaving Certificate Subjects



The screenshot shows a website interface for Leaving Certificate subjects. At the top, there is a dark teal navigation bar with links: 'All Leaving Cert Subjects', 'Useful Subject Tips', 'Guide to Choosing Subjects', 'Subjects by Grade Explored', and 'FAQs'. Below this is a main heading 'Leaving Cert Subjects'. A sub-header 'Leaving Cert | Leaving Cert Applied (LCA)' is followed by a section titled 'Practical Group'. This section describes subjects as 'hands-on' and involves working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals, and plastic. It lists three subjects: Construction Studies, Engineering, and Technology. Below this is the 'Science Group' section, which describes subjects as demonstrating how to explore nature using carefully planned methods and teaching basic scientific investigation methods. It lists seven subjects: Agricultural Science, Applied Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, and Physics and Chemistry, along with Computer Science.

All Leaving Cert Subjects    Useful Subject Tips    Guide to Choosing Subjects  
Subjects by Grade Explored    FAQs

## Leaving Cert Subjects

Leaving Cert | Leaving Cert Applied (LCA)

### Practical Group

These subjects are 'hands-on' and involve working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals and plastic. They may involve designing, planning and building things.

- Construction Studies
- Engineering
- Technology

### Science Group

These subjects demonstrate how to explore nature using carefully planned methods, and teach the basic methods and findings of scientific investigation.

- Agricultural Science
- Applied Maths
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Physics and Chemistry
- Computer Science



# www.careersportal.ie

## Chemistry

Career Zone

1 2 3 4 5



NFQ Level

4

Duration

2 Years

Summary

Grades Awarded

Course Overview

Course Content

Exam Structure

Career Possibilities

Career Guidance

### Summary



# To summarise:



- Essential & Useful Subjects
- How to make the tough choice?
- Check course and college requirements carefully!!!!!!!!!!!!

# Subject Choice

Closing date for completing subject choice is  
Wed 5 March 2025



# UCAS Useful Websites

- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
- [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
- [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
- [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
- [www.eunicas.ie](http://www.eunicas.ie)
- [www.apprenticeship.ie](http://www.apprenticeship.ie)
- <https://nto.heal.ie/>





**OUR LADY'S SCHOOL  
SUBJECT CHOICE  
INFORMATION BOOKLET  
LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2027**



Also Our Lady's School Subject Choice booklet  
(available on school website)

[www.olschool.ie](http://www.olschool.ie) → Curriculum → The Guidance Department

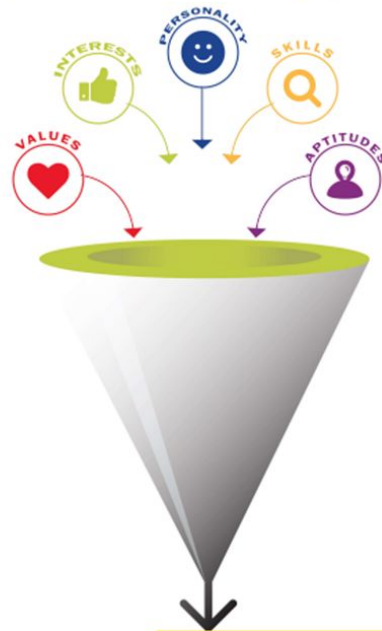
# Right Careers 4 Me -Career Assessment

TY students have completed these assessments and their result booklet has been emailed to the students.

We recommend parents and students read and discuss the results.

Rightcareers4me.com is an award winning psychometric career assessment system that has been used by thousands of students to help them make the right course choice. Information from the 10 assessments is combined to comprehensively assess you as a "Total Person" and scientifically identify your Top Career Areas.

## Unique VIPSA Career Matching System



### Values

Be clear how important different values are to you.

### Interests

Highlight what you are naturally drawn towards and are most interested in.

### Personality

Identify career options that will suit your natural behaviour and who you are as a person.

### Skills

Focus on the skills you enjoy using and are good at.

### Aptitudes

Understand how you score across 6 Aptitudes.



Your top career options have been scientifically identified based on the combination of your **Values**, **Interests**, **Personality**, **Skills** and **Aptitudes**.



rightcareers4me.com



## SUMMARY

The key information from each of your assessments i.e. **Values**, **Interests**, **Personality**, **Skills** and **Aptitudes** is summarised below.



### YOUR CORE VALUES

1. **Achievement**  
Sense of achievement.
2. **Being Expert**  
Have specialist knowledge or skills.
3. **Learning & Development**  
Training, enhancing your skills and experience.
4. **Challenge**  
Test the limit of your abilities.
5. **Work-Life Balance**  
Harmony between work and personal lives.



### YOUR PRIMARY INTEREST AREAS

- Investigative (8)**  
Analysing, exploring, problem-solving.
- Social (7)**  
Outgoing, supportive, helpful.
- Enterprising (7)**  
Leading, persuading, making decisions.



### YOUR PRIMARY PERSONALITY TRAITS

- Ideas**  
Ideas orientated and creative.
- Reliable**  
Detail focussed and conscientious.



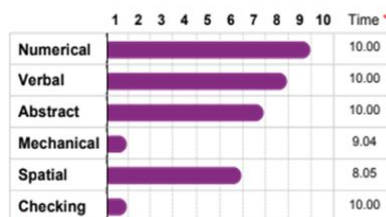
### YOUR MOTIVATED SKILLS AREAS

- Ideas (23%)**  
Working with concepts.
- People (21%)**  
Working with others.



### YOUR STRONGEST APTITUDES

- Numerical Reasoning (9)**  
Capacity to reason using numbers, and to evaluate and apply information coming from simple numbers.
- Verbal Reasoning (8)**  
Ability to understand and evaluate and apply information expressed verbally.
- Abstract Reasoning (7)**  
Ability to understand complex concepts and take in new information.



\* Time spend completing each aptitude is displayed. Maximum time allocated is 10 minutes.

## Overview - Top 10 Career Options

### INTRODUCTION

The information from your **Values**, **Interests**, **Personality**, **Skills** and **Aptitude** assessments is used to scientifically identify your most suitable careers.

This list provides you with an overview of your top 10 most suitable career options.

#### Careers Linked to CAO Courses

- Click on the [blue course buttons](#) to get a general list of CAO courses relating to each career option.

01. <i>Education and Training</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
02. <i>Science</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
03. <i>Business Management</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
04. <i>Health Professionals</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
05. <i>Marketing</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
06. <i>Financial Services</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
07. <i>Legal Services</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
08. <i>Human Resources</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
09. <i>Agriculture and Animal Care</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>
10. <i>Supply Chain Management</i>	<div></div>	<a href="#">Courses</a>