

INNOVATION RESPECT COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE

Welcome Parents & Guardians

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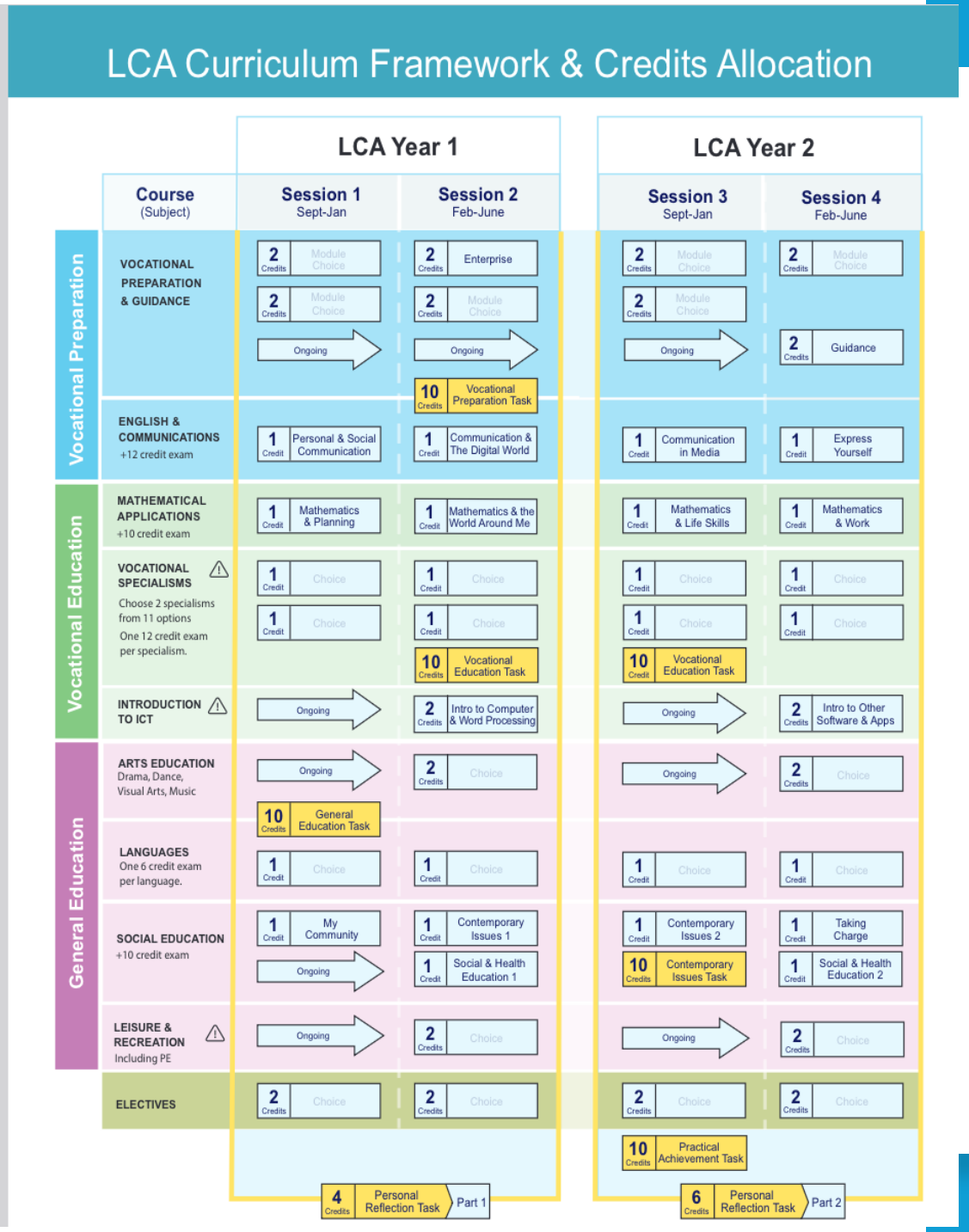

DROGHEDA EDUCATE TOGETHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
D.E.T.S.S
LCA
LEAVING CERT
APPLIED

LCA 2026/27

LCA 2026/27

We're in Session 3 Sept –Jan

Session 4 Runs Feb- May



Practical Achievement TASK

This is the biggest Change from Last Year

Link to documents for more information for parents

https://padlet.com/OIDE_LCA/practical-achievement-task-resources-pvltm1jnw86808yr

KEY TARGETS for LCA

1. Attendance needs to Top
2. Understand Deadlines
3. Keep Work Experience to a High Standard
4. Prepare for multiple exams and the end of the Year
5. Keep doing your best!!!

End of Year Exam Timetable is not finalized yet but there is an idea what it might look like here.

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Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
LEAVING CERTIFICATE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMME
PROVISIONAL* SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATION AND COMPLETION DATES 2026/2027

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2026	
Monday, 2 November	Home Economics Food Studies Coursework
Friday, 27 November	Latin Research Study Report Ancient Greek Research Study Report
Friday, 11 December	Physics in Practice Investigation
Friday, 18 December	Physical Education Physical Activity Report Economics Research Study
MARCH / APRIL 2027	
Friday, 5 March	Engineering Project Component
Friday, 12 March	Business Alive Investigative Study Climate Action and Sustainable Development Action Project
Tuesday, 16 March	Computer Science Coursework Project
Friday, 19 March	Physical Education – Performance Assessment Technology Practical Coursework
Saturday, 20 March – Thursday 25 March	Leaving Certificate Oral Examinations: Irish, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Lithuanian, Portuguese, Polish and Arabic
Friday, 9 April	Applied Mathematics Mathematical Modelling Project
Monday, 5 April – Friday, 9 April	Coursework Submission Window 2
Monday, 5 April – Friday, 16 April	Music Practical Examinations
MAY 2027	
Tuesday, 4 May – Friday, 14 May	Coursework Submission Window 3
Tuesday, 4 May – Thursday, 6 May	Engineering Studies Practical
Wednesday, 19 May	Leaving Certificate Computer Science - Written Examination Higher and Ordinary Level. Section A & B: 9.30 – 11.00 Section C: 11.30 – 12.30

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2027	
Friday, 15 January	Design & Communication Graphics Practical Coursework Classical Studies Research Study Report
Monday, 25 January – Friday, 29 January	Coursework Submission Window 1
Friday, 26 February	LCVP: Link Modules Portfolio of Coursework Biology in Practice Investigation
APRIL 2027	
Friday, 16 April	Textile Studies Elective Coursework in Home Economics. Scientific and Social Art Practical Coursework
Friday, 23 April	Drama Film and Theatre Studies Creativity in Practice Project Chemistry in Practice Investigation
Tuesday, 20 April – Thursday, 22 April	Art Practical Examinations
Tuesday, 27 April – Thursday, 29 April	Construction Practical Examinations
Wednesday, 28 April	LCVP: Link Modules Written Examination (10.00 – 12.30)
Friday, 30 April	Agricultural Science Individual Investigative Study Politics & Society Citizenship Project Geographical Investigation Report History Research Study Report Religious Education Practical Coursework Construction Studies Project Component Music, Higher Level Elective in Composing
JUNE 2027	
Tuesday, 8 June – Wednesday, 23 June	Marking (in schools) of Leaving Certificate: Construction Studies Practical and Project Components Engineering Practical and Project Components Textile Studies, Elective Coursework in Leaving Certificate Home Economics Scientific and Social Technology Practical Coursework Art Coursework and Practical Components

* Dates are subject to change in line with the Standardisation of the School Year circular

Coursework Completion dates
Coursework Submission window
Examination dates

PROVISIONAL

KEY POINTS FOR LCA STUDENTS AND ALL STUDENTS

- KNOW YOUR DEADLINES AND MEET THEM
- KNOW WHAT ASSIGNMENTS ARE WORTH
- Attendance links to Attainment
- THIS IS DIRECT SCORED FOR LCA


tyro

Account Set-up

All parents and guardians should have received an email from Tyro.

In this email there is a link. Click on this link to set up your Tyro account.

If anyone has not received an email from Tyro, please contact the school office via email and we'll rectify the issue as quickly as possible.

General Reminders

All payments for the school will be paid via Tyro.

All email communication, will be done through Tyro.

Download the Tyro app, **please turn on the Notifications**

Do not contact teachers directly. Contact the office.

Organisation is a skill – not a trait

A calm 10 minute evening routine, prevents a rushed 30 minute morning.

1) **Check**: Look at tomorrow's timetable.
2) **Pack**: Books, folders, exam papers, pens, pencils, ruler, etc.
3) **Charge**: iPads charged to 100% the night before.
4) **Reset**: Weekly bag and locker tidy up.

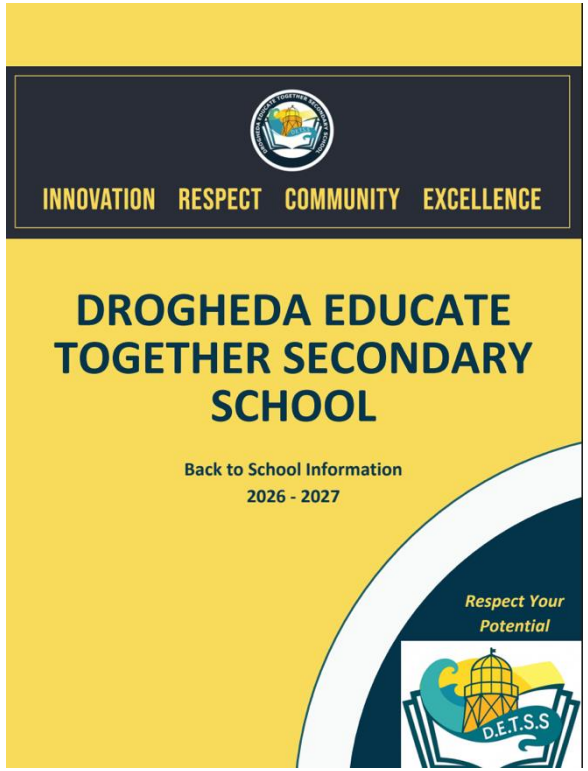


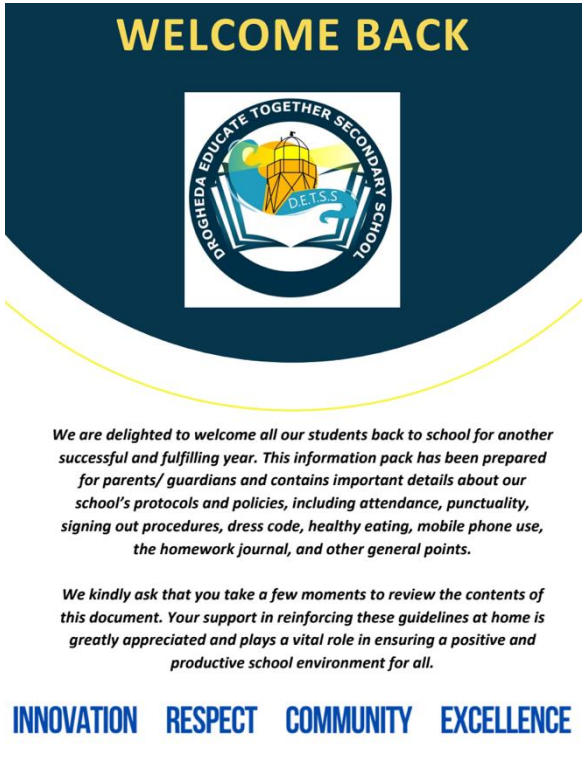


Policies & Procedures

Back to School Pack

- Sent to all Parents and Guardians via email. It includes:
  - ✓ Logging absences
  - ✓ Signing out procedures
  - ✓ Phone policy
  - ✓ Healthy eating
  - ✓ Dress code
  - ✓ Smart watches
  - ✓ Bicycles





Phone Policy Reminder



The Dept of Education have issued a directive to all schools to put regulations in place prohibiting the use of mobile phones in schools.

- Phones should be turned off and stored in student's schoolbag or locker.
- Students are ***not permitted to carry a mobile phone in their pockets***.
- At the end of the school day, power on again - outside the school gate.
- When students are on extra-curricular, they will be given a secure phone pouch to store their phone (Yonder).
- If a phone is powered on or goes off in school, the phone will be confiscated until the end of the day, and the student will complete a 1 hour after-school learning opportunity with a Progress Leader.

Attendance

Attendance

- **It is known as chronic absenteeism when a student is absent from school for 20+ days.**
- **Low attendance rate is linked directly to:**
  - Lower points (80) achieved at LC, higher levels of stress and low mood.
  - Students feel a disconnect with their community and their peers.

"School absence has disrupted key developmental processes that enhance wellbeing, coping strategies and social ties in later life." **-** The Economic and Social Research Institute.

Neart

Supporting mental health in post-primary schools

JIGSAW
Young people's
health in mind



An Roinn Oideachais
agus Óige
Department of Education
and Youth

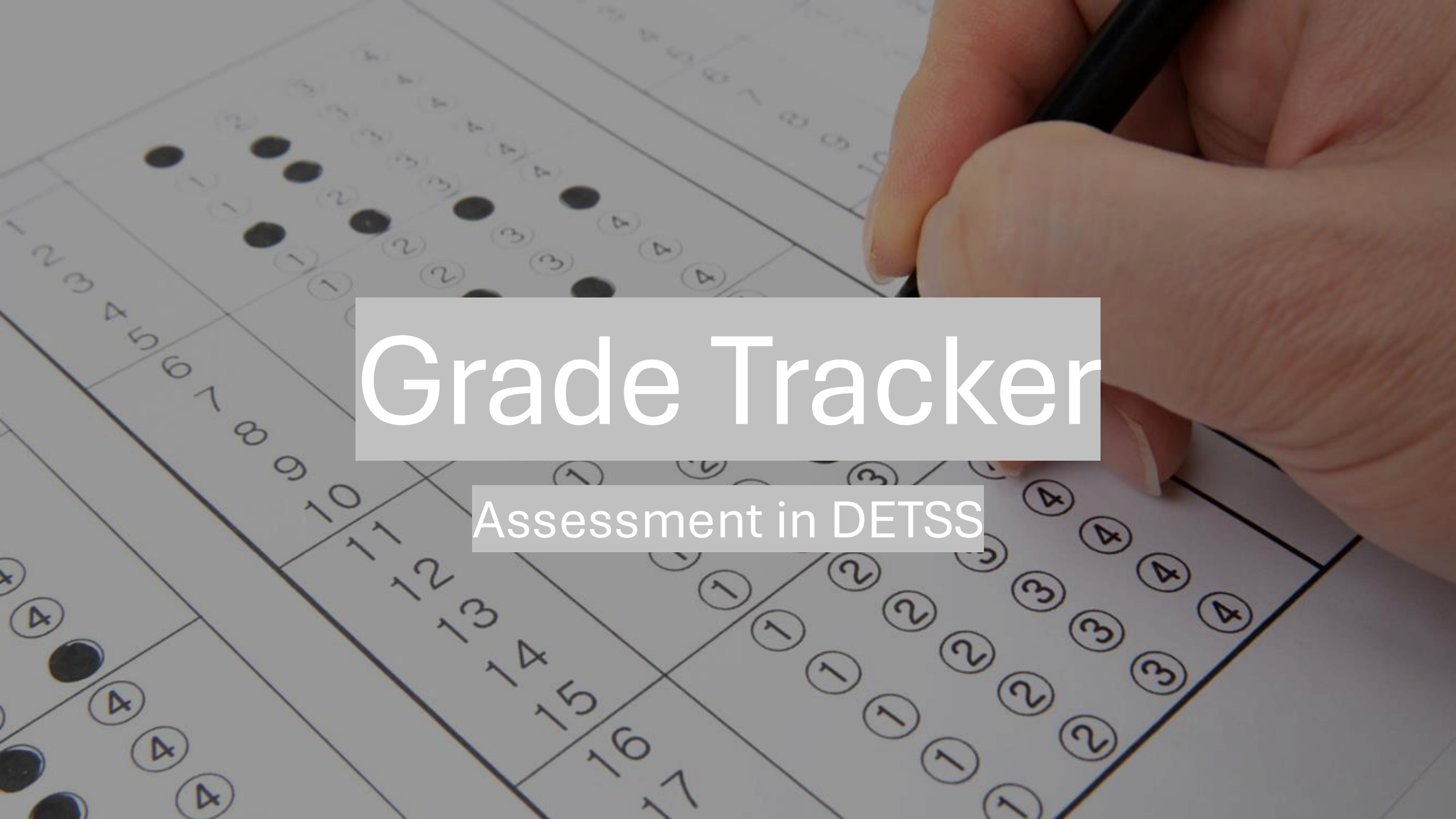
Supports for Parents and Guardians

What is NEART?

- It is the name of the national mental health and wellbeing program for post-primary schools in Ireland.
- It is delivered by Jigsaw and the National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS).
- The programme offers resources, training, and support for students, teachers, and parents/guardians to foster resilience and positive mental health in the school community
- See email for live links with access to resources.

Topics include:

- ✓ Managing anxiety.
- ✓ Supporting young people who are struggling to attend school.
- ✓ Social media and young people's mental health.
- ✓ Supporting your own self-care.

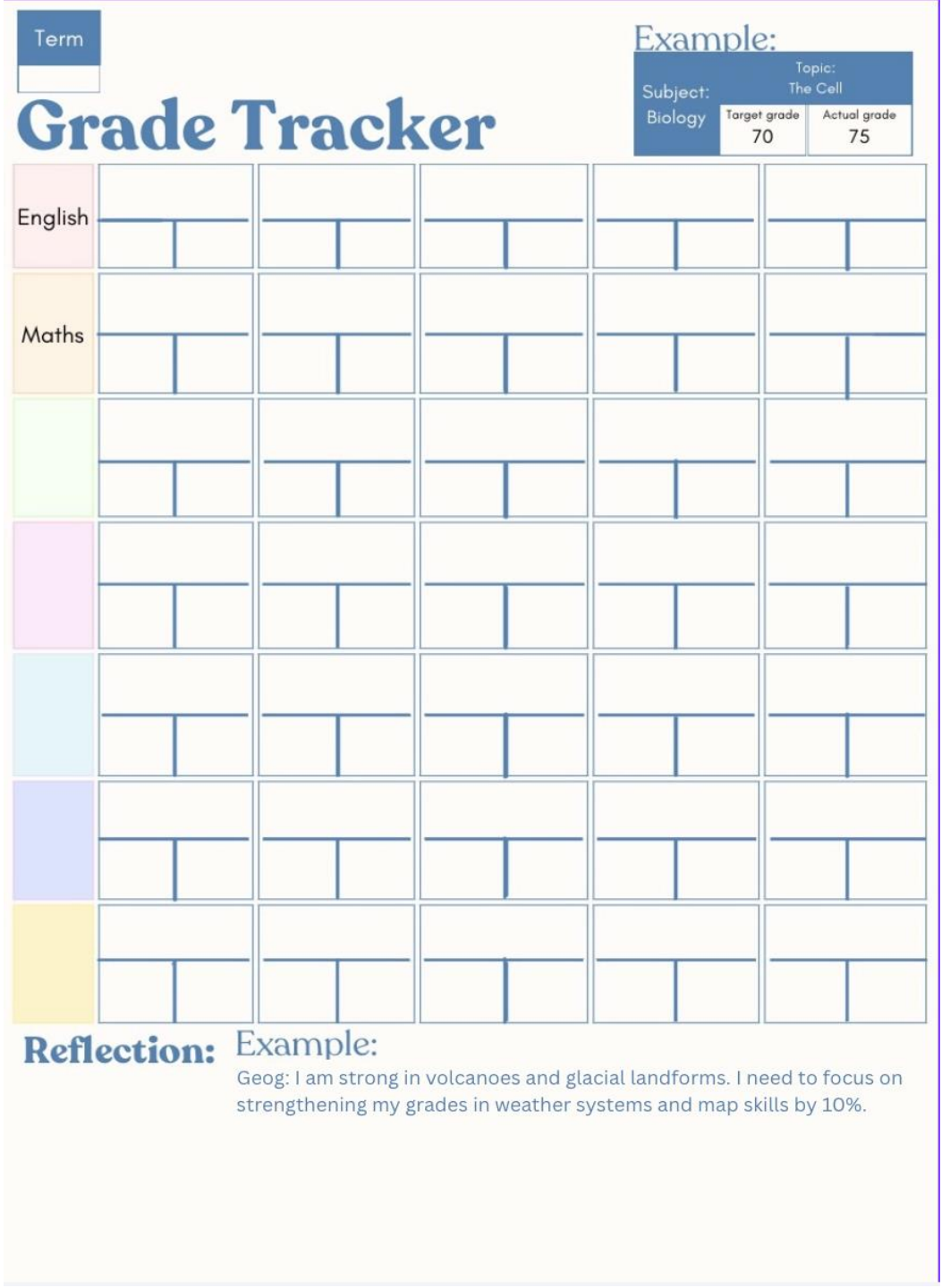


Grade Tracker

Assessment in DETSS

What is it?

- It was created with students in mind.
- It's a simple tool that students record all their test results into.
- It gives a clear, quick, and easy overview of how a student is progressing in each subject.
- We encourage the parents and guardians of our students to monitor it as well.
- Found on pages 35-37 of their journals.



Expectations from Staff

High attendance rates.

20+ days are seen as *chronic absenteeism*.

All homework is done on time and to a good standard.

It's used as a form of assessment and supports learning and preparation for exams.

Students take responsibility for their own work.

They are in control of how successful they are in the leaving cert.

Students track their progress using the Grade Tracker in journals.

Students create their own study timetable and stick to it.

How does DETSS support the students?

- ✓Team teaching in classes
- ✓Daily meetings with their tutors
- ✓Progress Leader
- ✓AEN team
- ✓Dedicated space for students to go to during break times
- ✓Guidance counsellor
- ✓Exam Revision

- ✓Higher options trip
- ✓Host after school study sessions supervised by highly qualified and trained professionals within the studious environment of DETSS.
- ✓Weekly, guidance and vocational lessons to support the next steps after school.
- ✓Teachers provide constructive feedback and guidance tailored to students needs.

Constructive Feedback

- Staff work hard to correct students work, monitor student progress and advise students accordingly.
- We have a school full of highly qualified, highly training and widely experienced members of staff.
- When they give advice, students need to recognise and take onboard this advice. Allow it to help students make informed decisions in their subject's.
- E.g. if they're being advised to change subject level: OL --> HL or vice versa, then this should be taken seriously.

After School Study

- It will begin 5th of October 2026
- It will take place every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
- It will run right up until the Summer house exam week
- €2 per student, per session
- Payment can be made in two separate instalments on Tyro
- Places will likely be limited to 30 students

Payment links and additional details will be made available in the next couple of weeks.

OCTOBER TO FEBRUARY
(16 WEEKS)

4 evenings per week
Monday to Thursday

15:30 – 17:30

€128 per student
for this 16 week block

FEBRUARY TO SUMMER
(12 WEEKS)

4 evenings per week
Monday to Thursday

15:30 – 17:30

€96 per student
for this 12 week block



A supervised, quiet environment in which students can study effectively and independently.

KEY INFORMATION

- Open to **2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th year students only**
- Quiet, supportive study environment
- Facilities and supervision provided
- Students work independently on their own study

Payment through

tyro

Payment can be made in two separate instalments (one for each block) through Tyro.

Easy. Secure. Convenient.

Good Habits Brighter Futures

STUDY | LEARN | SUCCEED

How parents/guardians can support students

✓Focus on practical home routines:

- **Examples**: no screen time, dedicated study and break times, consistent bedtime, etc.

✓Create a study space

- Set up a quiet, dedicated area for homework and revision, free from household distractions.

✓Manage screen time

- Help them monitor phone usage and reduce digital distractions during focused study blocks.

How parents/guardians can support students

✓Encourage healthy habits

- ➢Provide nutritious meals, ensure they eat breakfast, and encourage regular physical activity to lower stress and boost concentration.

✓Keep communication open

- ➢Listen without judgment and let them voice their worries about exams or the future.

✓Normalise stress

- ➢Remind them that anxiety and nervousness are normal during high-pressure years.

Important Dates

16th Sep 2026

Higher Options

RDS, Dublin

6th Oct 2026

Students Study Skills

DETSS

8th Oct 2026

Parent & Guardian Study Skills

Live online session

5th Nov 2026

Parent/Guardian Teacher Meeting

DETSS

19th – 29th Jan 2027

Leaving Cert Mock Examinations

DETSS

May - Date TBC

6th year Graduation

Last week of May

9th – 23rd June 2027

Leaving Certificate Exams

Higher Options Trip

- Wednesday September 16th 2026 (see permission slip on Tyro).
- Fantastic opportunity for students to speak with rep's from Ireland, UK, Europe and further afield from third-level institutions.
- At Ireland's largest education expo students gather information about their third-level options and attend career talks on a wide range of topics.
- This is the perfect opportunity to discover what's out there and for student's to plan their next steps.

Study Skills

- 6th year students will have their session on October 6th 2026.
- Parents and guardians will have theirs via zoom from 6pm – 7:15pm.
- Zoom link information will be sent out via email on your Tyro accounts.
- CAO information session will take place right after with Brian Calvey, DETSS Guidance counsellor.
- Both are live sessions so it's a perfect opportunity to engage with the experts and ask them any questions you may have.

Exam Revision

- DETSS has invested in this resource for our students.
- Fantastic tool at supporting student learning and assessment.
- Absence: If a student(s) is absent, fantastic way for them to catchup on work missed, e.g. video tutorials.
- Student's login details are the same as last year, if they don't know them/lost them, ask their Tutor.

Common practices a H1 student implements

- ✓They ask their teachers for specific feedback on their work, listen, take notes of their feedback and apply it to all future work they do.
- ✓Plan their time on a weekly basis and prioritise the weaker subjects/topics.
- ✓Have near perfect attendance.
- ✓Proactively take responsibility for their work.
- ✓Are involved in extracurricular activities, contributing to school community in a positive capacity.

Thank you for your attention

Any questions?