

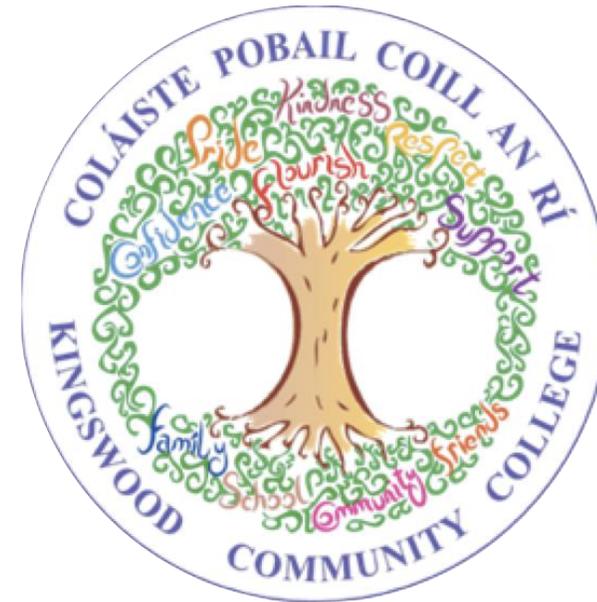
Programme and Subject Choice Information

Príomhoide Debor
ah Dunne

Guidance
Speaker Oide
Maeve



Leaving Certificate Applied



Leaving Certificate Applied

The Leaving Certificate Applied programme is a two-year Leaving Certificate, available to students who wish to follow a practical or vocationally orientated program.



Aims of the Leaving Certificate Applied

The programme sets out to **recognise the talents of all students** and to provide opportunities for developing personal responsibility, self-esteem and self-knowledge, and helps students **apply what they learn to the real world.**

The Leaving Certificate Applied is structured around three main elements:

- **Vocational Preparation** – developing your soft skills needed for **work** e.g. communication and job interviews
- **Vocational Education** – developing your **practical skills** needed for work e.g. Mathematical applications, Construction and Graphics or Hotel, Catering and Tourism
- **General Education** – developing you **e** e.g. ICT, Social Education or Leisure & Recreation



It is a two-year programme to prepare students for **adult and working life**

Course Overview

2 Year Breakdown

Leaving Cert Applied

Year 1 (5th Year)

Year 2 (6th Year)

Session

1

(Sep – Jan)

Session

2

(Jan – May)

Session

3

(Sep – Jan)

Session

4

(Jan – May)

Key Underlying Principles of LCA

student centred curriculum

personal and social development

integration and cross curricular links

team work

literacy & numeracy development

active teaching/learning methodologies

community links

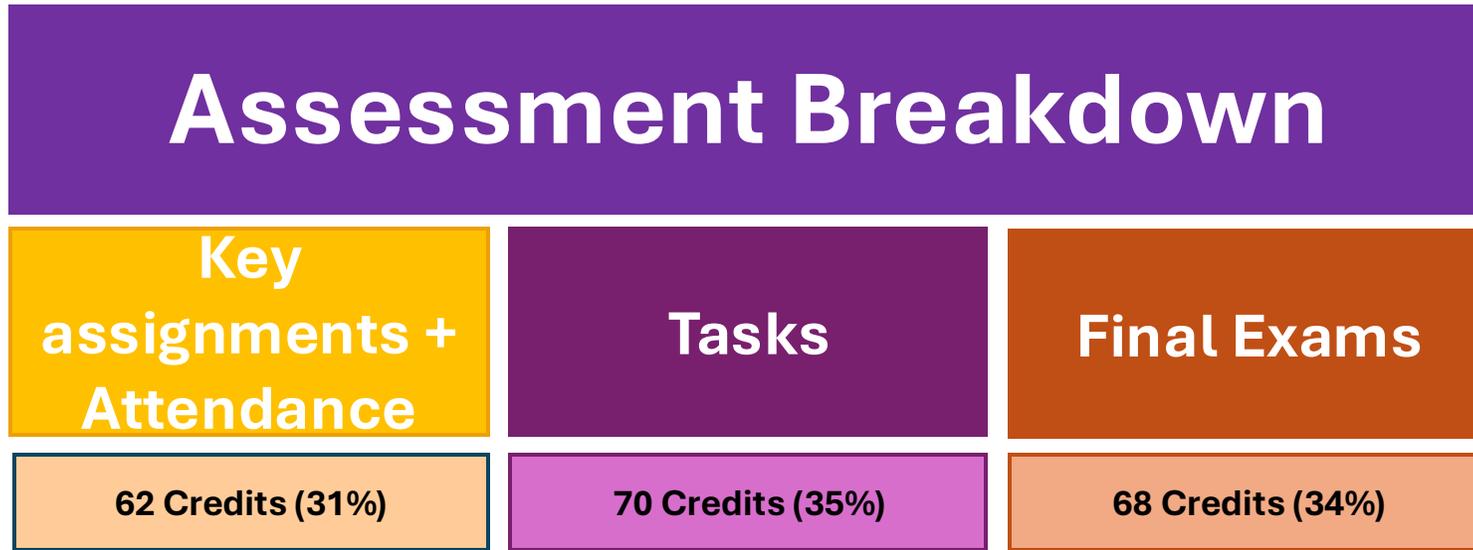
reflection

Module Breakdown (2 years)

Vocational Preparation	Vocational Education	General Education
Vocational Preparation & Guidance	Mathematical Application	Arts Education (Visual Arts and Drama)
English and Communication	Construction and Graphics	Social Education
	Hotel Catering and Tourism	Intro to ICT
		Leisure and recreation
		<u>Gaelige and Spanish</u>
		Arts and Crafts
		Horticulture

The modules are not delivered in the same manner as LCE e.g. Spanish is not like Spanish for LCE

Students can get 200 credits over the two years.



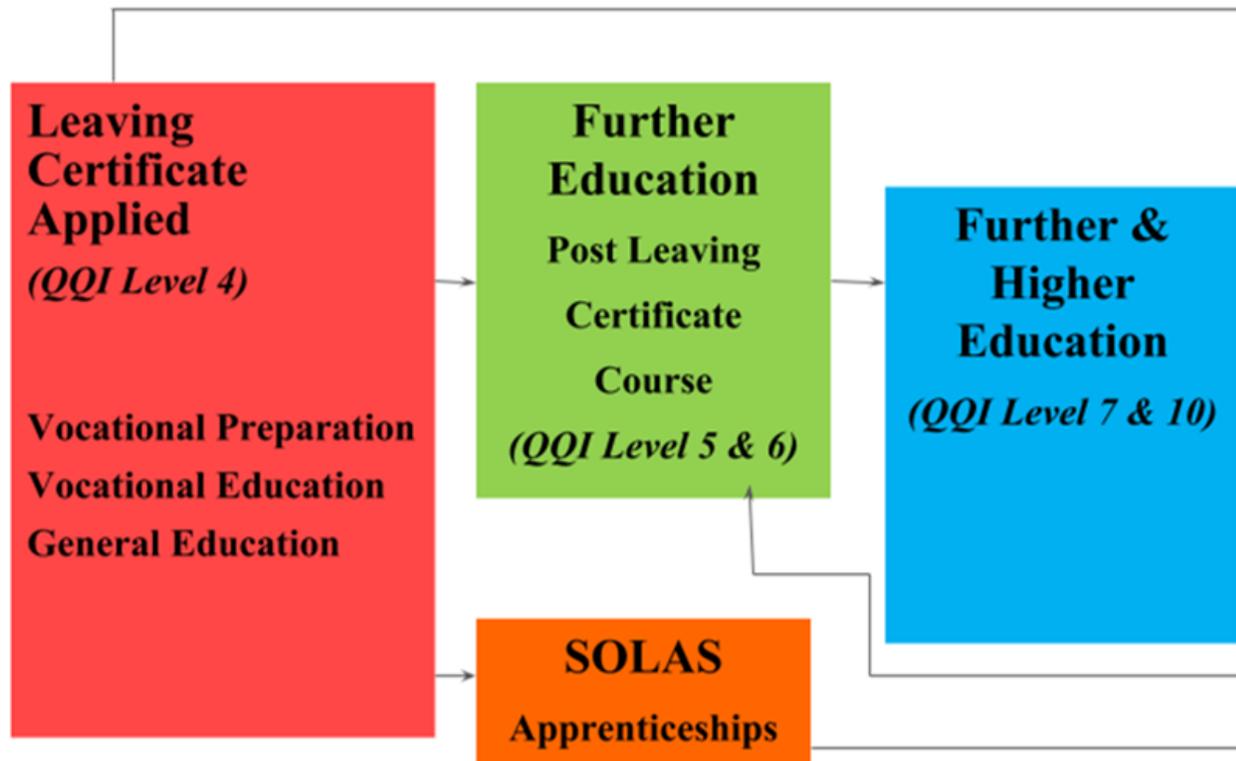
Students have 2/3 of their leaving cert completed before they even walk into the exam hall

*By completing the key assignments and doing well in the tasks - **before** even sitting an exam students have already achieved a pass*

Certificate awarded at three levels:

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

Opening new opportunities: Leaving Cert Applied Route Map



Example PLC courses:

- Performing Arts
- Nursing Studies
- Vocational Studies
- Beauty Therapy
- Tourism
- Pre-Childcare
- Office Administration
- Engineering
- Culinary Skills
- And many more.....

The choice is yours...

Who would benefit most?

Students who would benefit from **continuous assessment and practical learning** rather than final summative assessments.

Students who are likely to go into an **apprenticeship or the working world straight after school rather than college**



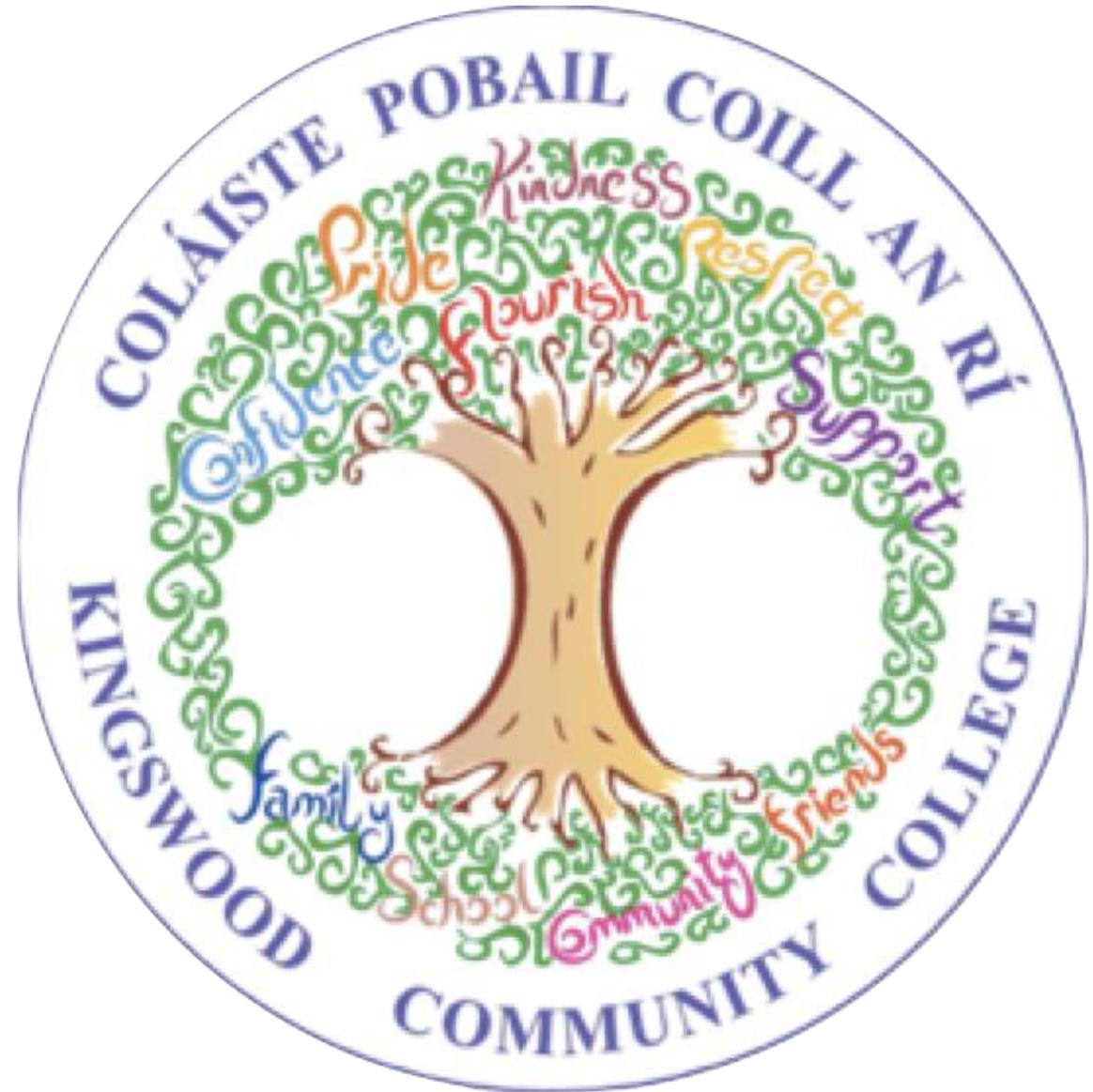
LCA Programme Application:

- Students must select 'LCA Programme' on Senior Cycle options form – going live Thursday 27th November through school website.
- If selecting the LCA Programme on this form students/parents/guardians need to familiarise themselves with the **LCA Interview Questions** – link to these questions available on the school website also.
- Students applying for the LCA programme will need to complete an interview based around their: **reasoning for selecting the programme, why they feel they are a suitable candidate for this programme and be able to display an understanding of this programme and the aims of this programme.**
- **Students who are invited for interview do not automatically gain a place in the programme.** Suitability criteria for the programme will involve: review of interview answers along with review of other areas of school life such as academic attainment, ability to meet deadlines & attendance.
- **Interviews for the programme will be held on Monday 15th, Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th of December 2025.** Students will receive notice of interview time, location & date on prior to interview. **Students must arrive for interview at the allocated time to be considered for a place in the programme.**
- Successful applicants will be notified on **Monday 5th January**, unsuccessful/unsuitable candidates for the programme will then have the option to select TY programme (if in 3rd year) or LCE Programme.



Questions & Queries

If you have any questions or concerns about the information you received this evening, please email: info@kingswoodcc.ie



Subject Information for Third Year and Transition Year Students



Guidance Department:
Oide Maeve
Oide Linda
Oide Dee

Subject Choice for Leaving Certificate Established

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Is choosing the right subject really that important?

The simple answer is YES! Subject choice for Senior Cycle is a time for making some serious decisions.

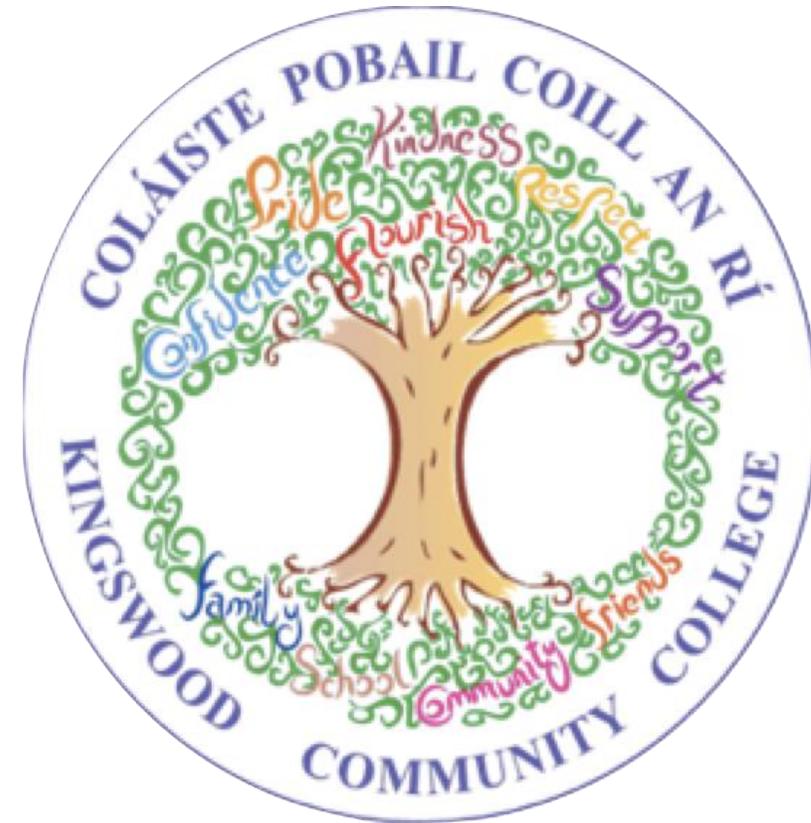
Considerable time should be put into choosing your subjects carefully, as the wrong choices here may have some unintended consequences in a couple of years' time when choosing your college courses or career path.



How many subjects do I have to do?

In KCC, our students study 7 subjects for the Leaving Certificate. These will comprise of the three core subjects of Irish (unless you are exempt), English and Maths, which leaves FOUR more subjects to choose from. Some students may study LCVP as an eighth subject.

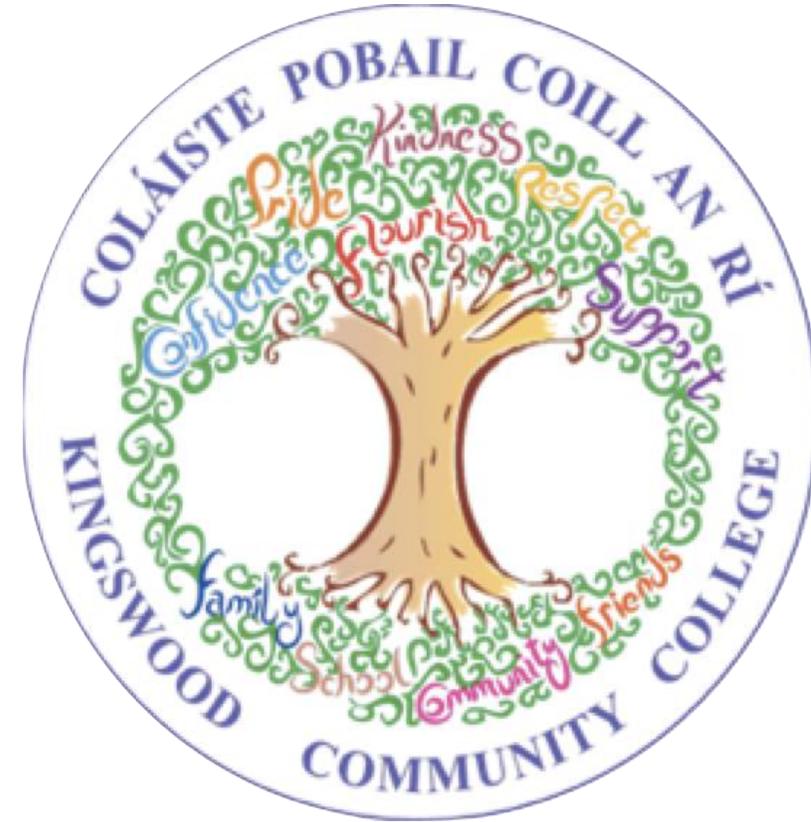
Other students may decide to study an extra subject(s) outside of school in their own time.



What happens if I do not choose a 3rd Language?

In order to keep as many options open as possible, you should strongly consider choosing a 3rd language to study for your Leaving Certificate

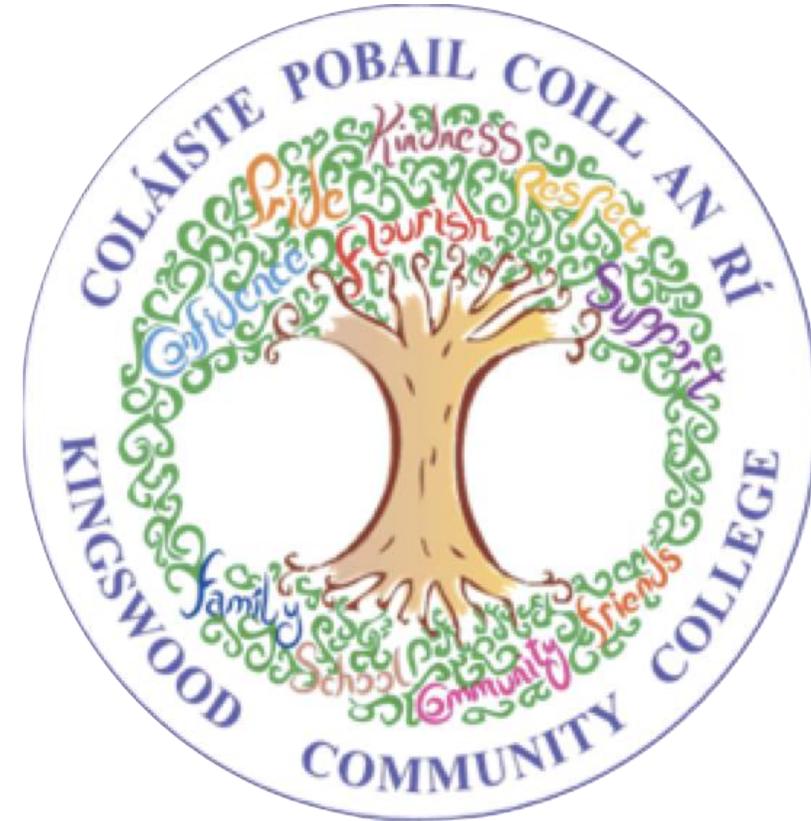
National University of Ireland (NUI) Colleges such as Maynooth University, require a pass in a 3rd language for entry into many of their courses.



What happens if I do not choose a 3rd Language?

Trinity College Dublin will accept Irish as their language requirement. University of Limerick, DCU and the Technological Universities do not require a 3rd language for most of their courses, apart from those where language forms part of the degree.

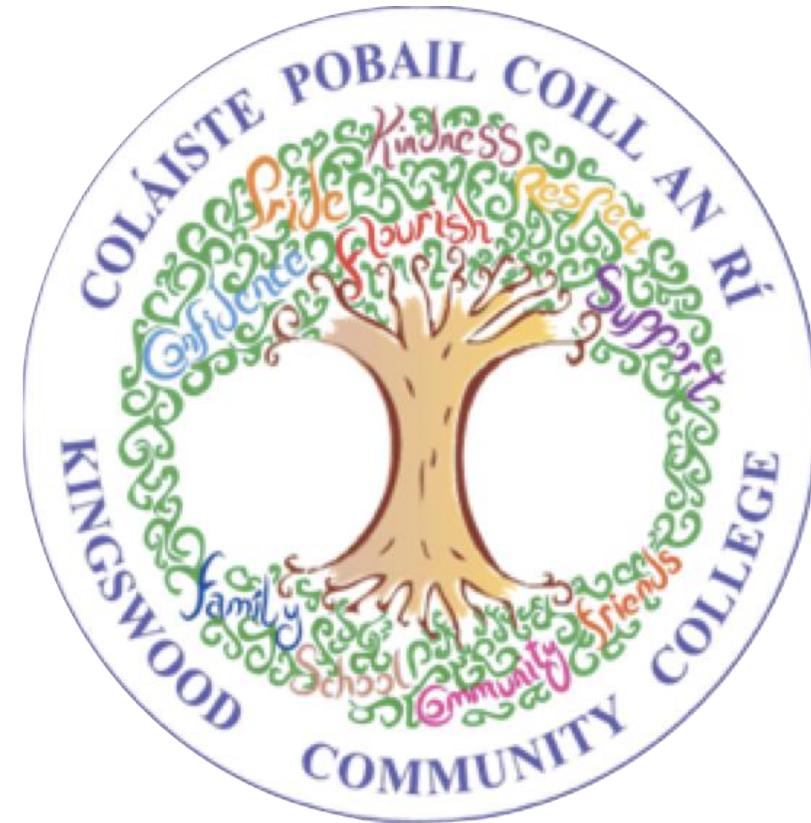
A 3rd language is also a requirement for entry into the Cadetship in the Army or Air Corps.



What about science subjects?

Science subjects are required for entry into a wide range of college courses. Most Science, Engineering, Medical and Healthcare courses require at least ONE laboratory science subject.

Many degrees in Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry and some related fields of study will require TWO science subjects.



Are there any combinations of subjects that complement each other?

Some combinations can give students a deeper understanding of the topic and can sometimes cut down on the workload.

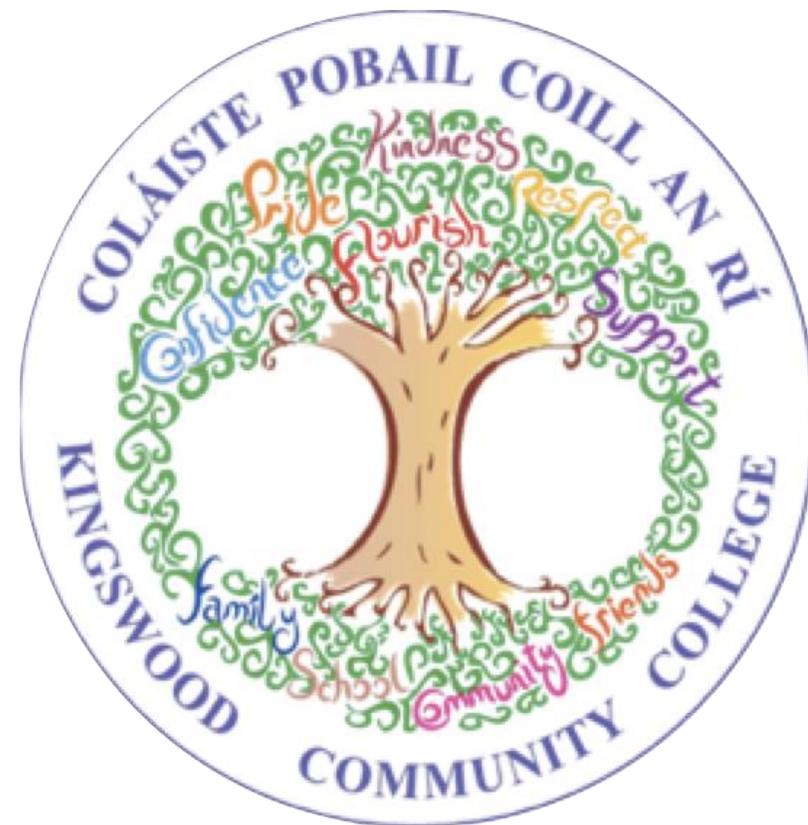
These include-

Maths, Physics and Applied Maths

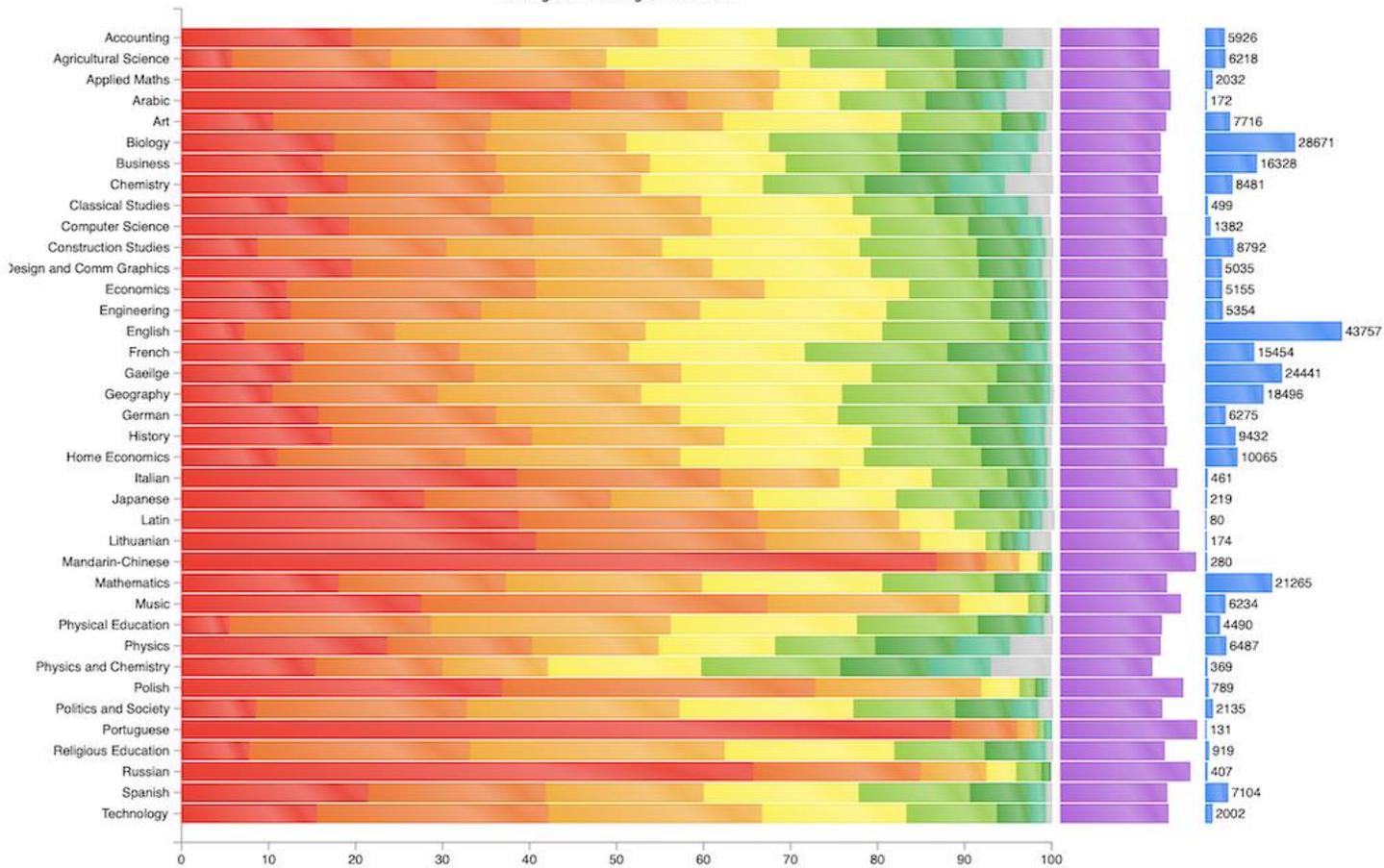
Biology, Agricultural Science and Home Economics

Business and Home Economics

Art and DCG



Leaving Certificate Higher Level 2022



• Are some subjects easier to get higher grades than others?

Sort By:

- Subject Name
- Average Points
- Candidates

Sort By Grades:

- H1 (A1)
- H2 (A2-B1)
- H3 (B2-B3)
- H4 (C1-C2)
- H5 (C3-D1)
- H6 (D2-D3)
- H7 (30-39%)
- H8 (0-29%)

Sort By Grade Bracket:

- H1-H2
- H1-H3
- H1-H4
- H1-H5
- Pass
- 0-29

Change Year:

- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011

Change Level:

- Higher
- Ordinary

Things to consider.....

Points to consider when choosing your additional Leaving Cert Subjects.

-
- What do I like?
 - What am I good at?
 - What subjects and grades do I need for the course/college I am interested in?
 - Language requirements for NUI etc



Core Compulsory Examinable Subjects

ENGLISH

IRISH

MATHS

Leaving Cert reforms for 2026 5th Years

- **Business**
- **Biology**
- **Chemistry**
- **Physics**
- **Accounting**
- **Construction Studies**
- **Engineering**
- **English**
- **Geography**
- **PE**
- **LCVP Link Modules**

Leaving Cert reforms for 2026 5th Years

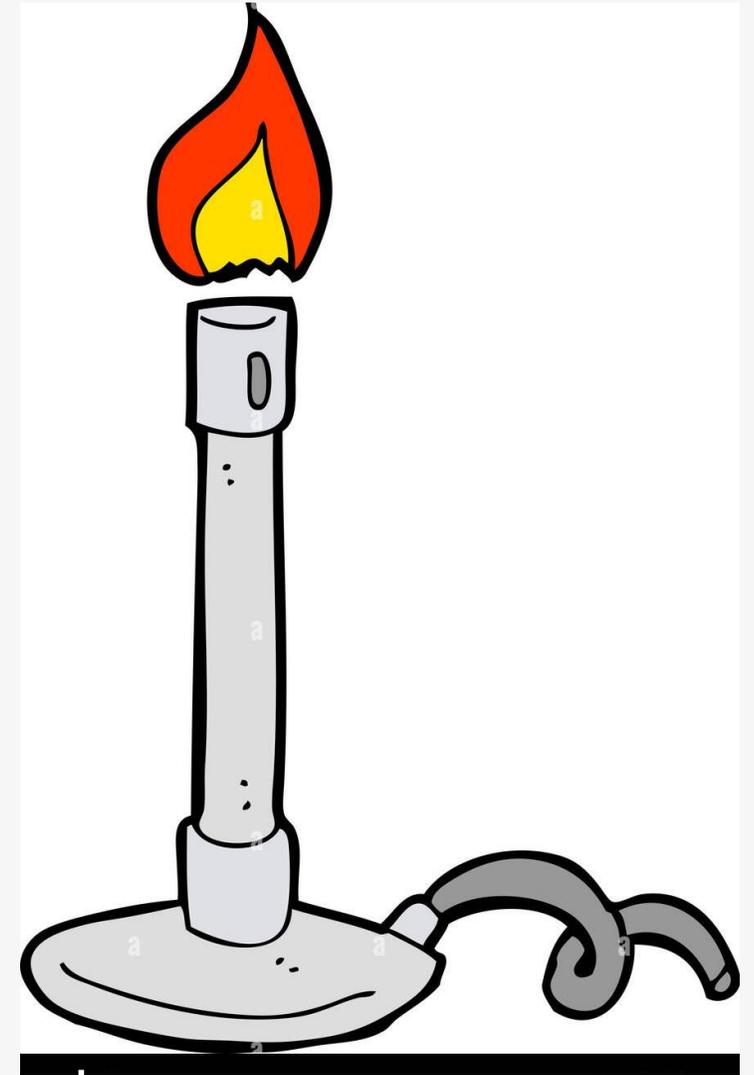
- Practical work will be assessed externally by the SEC and will be part of your overall Leaving Cert Mark.
- We do not know yet as to what this practical work will look like or timelines.
- When we find out, we will let you know.

Science Subjects

Having a lab science (Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics & Chemistry) is a requirement for some university courses.

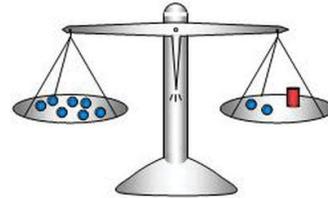
Be aware that most courses in **Healthcare professions** require at least one science subject e.g. Nursing, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy. Two science subjects are required for Dentistry and Medicine.

Some Engineering university courses require a science subject, but Maynooth and UCC will accept Technology as an alternative. However, physics would be a desirable subject for Engineering.



Biology

Biology is the science of life and living things. It requires a lot of memory work. A considerable amount of learning and study is necessary to do well in this subject



Chemistry

Chemistry contains a lot of formulas. If you enjoy Maths, you could be a good candidate for Leaving Cert Chemistry.

Physics

The subject involves thinking logically, observing and understanding scientific methods.

Physics would suit students who are interested in the following careers: Electrician, Optician, Doctor, Dentist, Engineer, Computer Technician and Programmer.



- **Home Economics**

The subject results in careers in food, textiles, science, design, social studies and tourism. Assessment will involve the Leaving Cert exam (80%) and an assessment of practical work digitally (20%)

- **Physics/Chemistry**

This subject would suit students who have an interest in both physics and chemistry, but don't have enough time to commit to both subjects separately.

- **Agricultural Science – Written paper 75%, Project 25%**

Plants and animal types associated with agriculture are studied, and investigations are undertaken into such aspects as soil, ecology, plant and animal physiology, farm crops, farming practices, genetics and microbiology

Foreign Languages



Spanish

French

Japanese

Spanish and French : Written paper 55%, Oral 20% and Aural 25%
Japanese Written paper 50%, Oral 25% and Aural 25%

The SEC will provide examinations in many of the recognised languages of the European Union. This needs to be flagged with the school as early as possible. Other EU languages may be recognised as your "Third language".

Humanities and Social Subjects

- **History – project worth 20%**

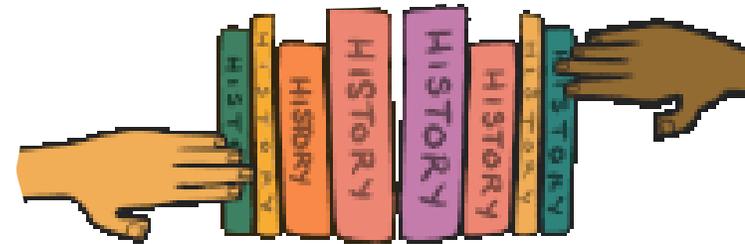
History is a demanding subject that would suit students who have strong English language skills and can write long essays.

- **Geography - project worth 20%**

Geography is the study of people, their environment, and the interaction between the two.

- **Politics and Society - project worth 20%**

It will suit any student who is interested in areas such as human rights, equality, diversity, sustainable development, power and democratic decision-making.



Practical Group

Construction Studies (50% exam, 25% practical and 25% project)

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

Engineering (40% exam, 30% practical and 30% project)

This practical subject gives students hands-on experience of working with tools and machinery. However, there is a theory side to this subject too.

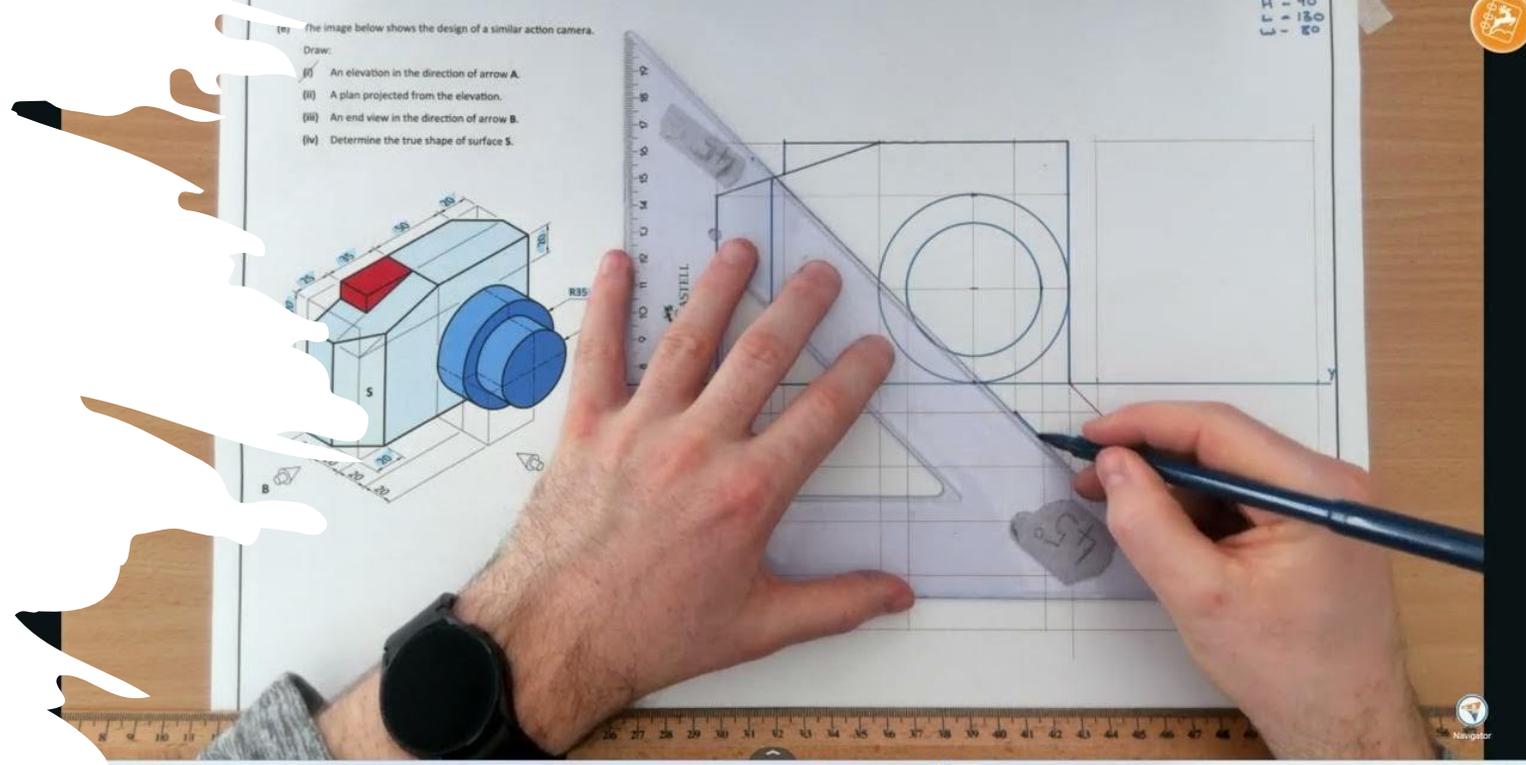


- **Technology (Note this is 50% exam and 50% project)**

This is a design based subject where students solve technological problems,

- **Design and Communication Technology (Note this is 60% exam and 40% project)**

Problem solving skills are developed through the analysis and solution of both 2 and 3-dimensional graphics. For this subject there are freehand sketching skills, traditional drawing equipment and CAD.



Leaving certificate

Technology

Business Subjects

- **Accounting**
 - For those considering studying accounting, actuarial studies or finance in future, it would be wise to choose accounting.
- **Business**
 - Business would be beneficial for candidates who might be interested in courses or careers in the area of finance, enterprise, law and communications
- **Economics**
 - Economics deals with demand and supply. Studying economics would suit anyone considering a future career in any area of business, journalism, communications or finance.



Artistic and Creative Group

Music

The music syllabus covers the areas of performing, composition and listening.

The Leaving Certificate examination has three components

- Practical exam – (performing) 25% of overall mark
- Aural exam – (listening) 25% of overall mark
- Written exam – (composing) 25% of overall mark

The student can choose where the remaining 25% will come from – performing, composing or listening.



Art

Three Practical Papers = 63% (250/400)

One Theory Paper = 37%

Art combines drawing, painting, sculpture, craft, design and the History of Art.

It will meet the needs of students who will undertake further studies in Art and Design, eg Graphic Design/Textile Design etc.



Physical Education (As an exam subject)



The course should suit physically active students who are engaged in individual or team sports as well as activities such as dance and gymnastics

There are three assessment components in Leaving Certificate Physical Education:

1. A physical activity project (Worth 20% HL and OL) takes 8-10 weeks and is completed in a digital format.-
2. A performance assessment (Worth 30% Common level) - Learners choose one of the three selected physical activities being studied by their class
3. Written examination (Worth 50% HL and OL)

Leaving Cert Vocational Preparation/ Link Modules

This programme provides two Link Modules which teach the skills and knowledge needed to understand business and the working world.

- **Preparation for the World of Work**
- **Enterprise Education**



Distinction (80 – 100%) Points awarded: **66**
Merit (65 – 79%) Points awarded: **46**
Pass (50 – 64%) Points awarded: **28**

Benefits of taking LCVP

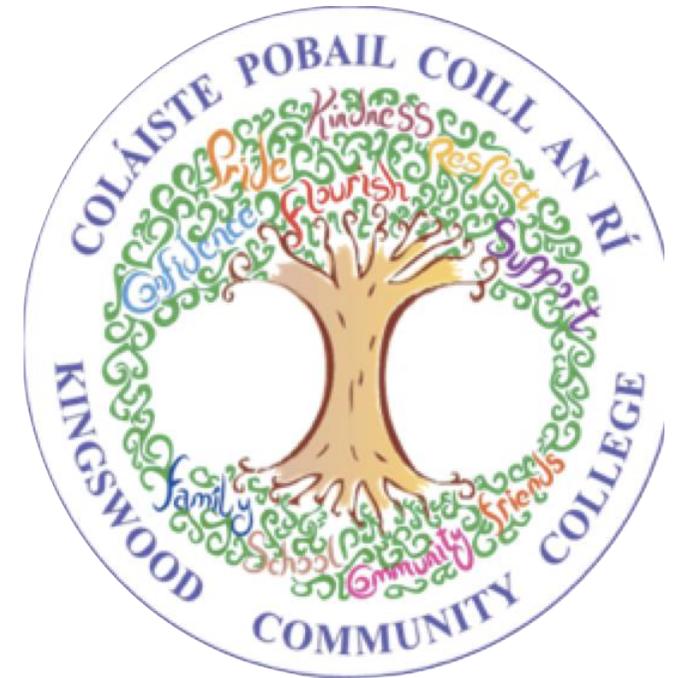
- Provides the opportunity to maximise CAO points
- A practical subject/programme that suits practical students
- LCVP promotes self-directed learning, vocational, interpersonal and technological skills.

Assessment

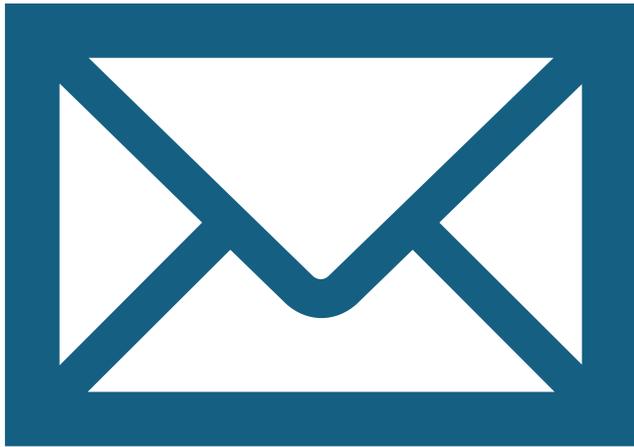
- Portfolio of coursework to be submitted in January of 6th year- **worth 60%**
- Terminal exam (common level) in May of 6th year- **worth 40%**

Finally, here are my tips for subject choice....

- You can **keep your options open** by choosing a 3rd Language and a Science
- Choose subjects that you will **enjoy doing**
- Choose subjects that you know you **are good at**
- **Discuss** with your Parents/Guardians, Subject Teachers and your Guidance Counsellor
- **Research** about each subject and its content (use www.careersportal.ie as a guide)
- Choose subjects linked to a possible future career



Important Dates - Senior Cycle Choice



- Applications are made via an online form on our website
 - Link will be sent via VSWare Mail also
- This page will be live on the 27th November at 10 a.m.
- Closing date for applications to LCA is **Friday 5th December**
Late applications will not be considered
- Closing date for applications to TY and LCE is 9th of January
- Places to TY will be offered on January 16th
- Subject Choice will be available in the new year once programme allocation is made



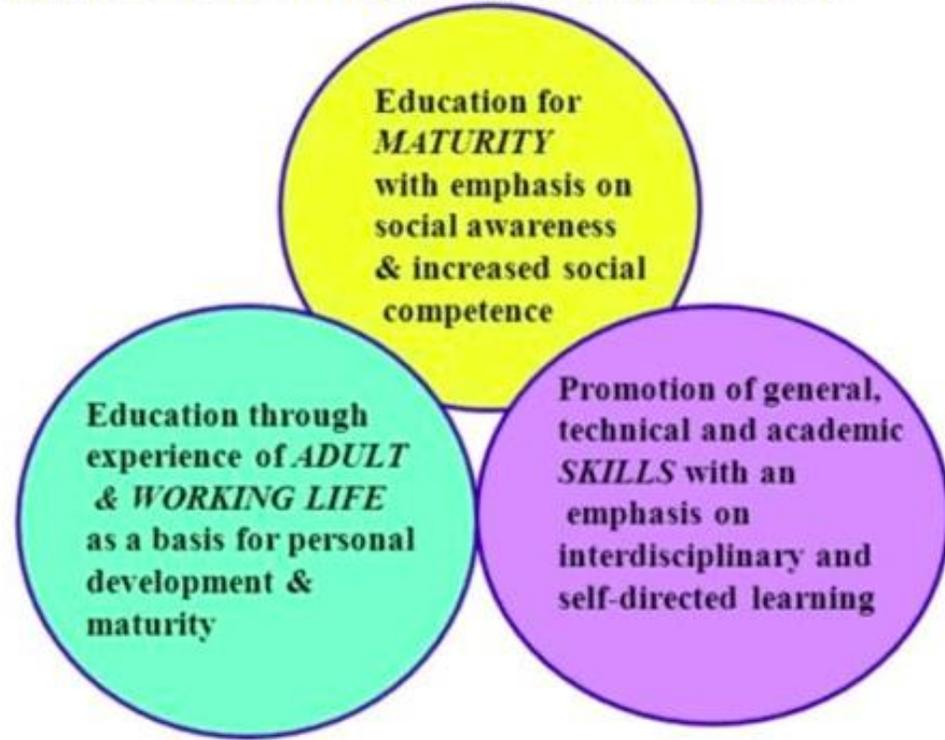
The Transition Year Programme in KCC

Transition Year (TY)

Transition Year is designed to act as a bridge between the Junior Cycle Programme and Leaving Certificate Programme.



AIMS of Transition Year



Engage in independent, self-directed learning.

Develop general, technical and academic skills.

Mature and develop without the pressure of an examination.

Academic Focus.

The aims and philosophy of Transition Year should permeate the entire school.



TY Curriculum Overview

Input from students, parents & teachers in designing the TY curriculum

Core Subjects

- English
- Maths
- Irish
- Life Skills
- Reflective Practice
- ICT
- PE
- SPHE/RSE/ Guidance

Personal Growth 1 (Full Year) Choose 1:

- Speech/Drama
- Production & Design
- Music
- Business

Personal Growth 2 (Compulsory Rotation) Complete all across the year:

- Gym/Japanese
- Chinese/ Computational Thinking

Elective:

- Accounting
- Chemistry
- Film/Music
- Physics
- Agricultural Science
- Action on Global Citizenship
- Biology
- Art History/Modern Art
- Political Science
- Financial Justice
- Marine Scene
- Media Studies
- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Nutrition
- Outdoor Ed
- Construction
- Spanish
- French
- Road Safety
- Car Maintenance
- True/Crime
- Ethics

5. What module/subject have you enjoyed the most this year? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

58 Responses

Latest Responses

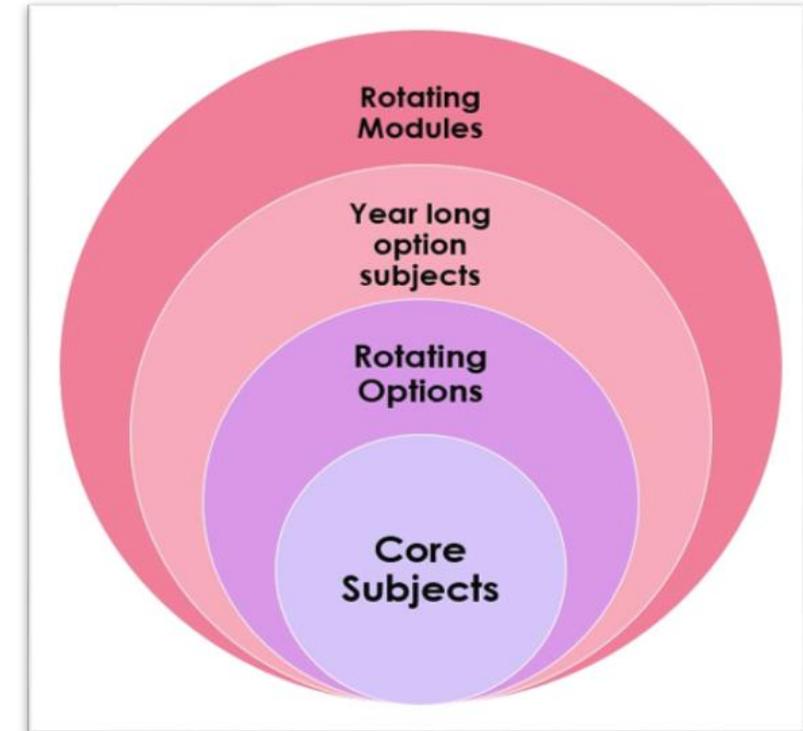
"True crimes"

"True crime"

"Japanese and true crimes"

17 respondents (29%) answered **True Crime** for this question.

mug on a computer Film music Localise volunteering
Crime and Chemistry solid works crime or musical Junk kouture
Chemistry & Japanese **True Crime** Japanese different items
science Nutrition Agricultural scienc
Political science Marine Scene Stained glass Built environment
items on the computer Nutrition studies



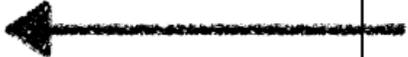
TY Credit System

Handout of credit system

ATTENDANCE
85-100% - 50 credits
75-84% - 45 credits
61-74% - 40 credits
50-60% - 30 Credits
30-49% - 20 credits
0-29% - 10 credits

MUSICAL: Allocated now based on preferences but these will change again when cast is selected

All students will do all modules for 5 or 10 weeks depending on module across the year



<u>TY Credit System</u>		
Students receive a TY Certificate of Achievement with the grade they achieve at the TY End of year Celebration in May.		
TY Programme Credits	300 Credits	47%
Attendance	50 Credits	
TY End of Year Interview	100 Credits	
TY Portfolio	100 Credits	
Work Experience	50 Credits	
TY Electives	150 Credits	24%
Elective Modules (15 in total completed, 10 credits each)		
Personal Growth 1 – Musical Option	60 Credits	10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speech/Drama• Music• Business• Production/Design		
Personal Growth 2 – Compulsory Rotation	60 Credits	10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Localise Volunteering 20 Credits• Gym 10 Credits• Japanese 10 Credits• Chinese 10 Credits• Computational Thinking 10 Credits		
Whole Year Courses	60 Credits	10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ICT 30 Credits• PE 30 Credits		
TOTAL CREDITS	630 Credits	100%

You will get a certificate of achievement at your TY End of year celebration outlining the award that you earned based on the credits you achieved.



CREDITS ACHIEVED

0-299 Credits
300-399 credits
400-499 credits
500+

AWARD

Completion
Pass
Merit
Distinction



TY Portfolio

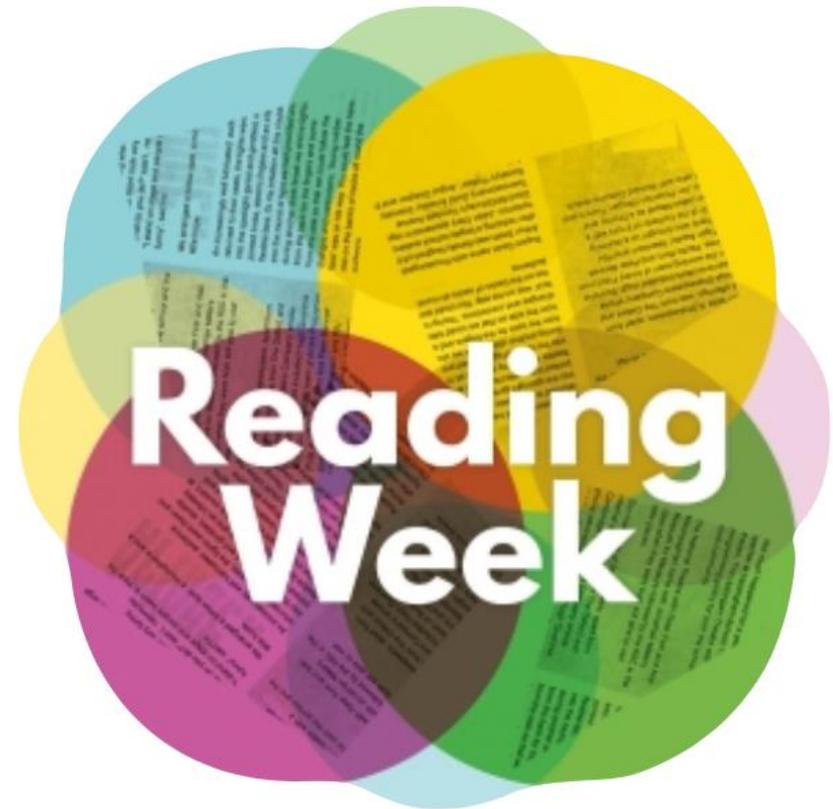
The document is the **most important evidence** of Transition Year.

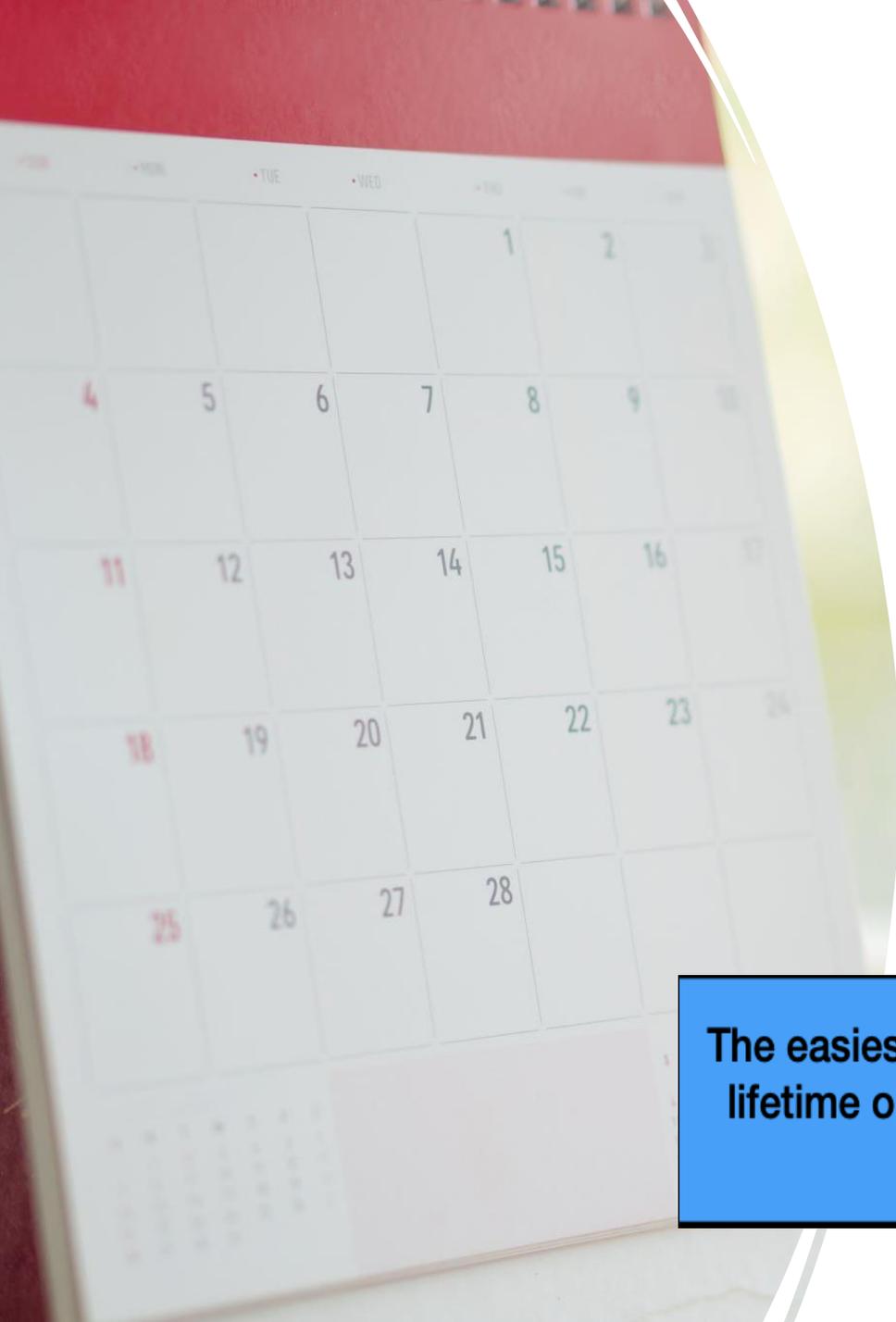
- Used as a resource in TY Interviews.
- The Portfolio should include photos, videos and detailed information about what students have accomplished through doing TY
- It CAN include things students do outside of school as a result of being in TY e.g. volunteering etc. - Things you may not get to do during a 'normal' school year
- Each student must complete the Portfolio fully by the end of the year in order to be eligible for a Transition Year Certificate.
- Parents/guardians will also get a copy of your portfolio at the end of year

TY Assessment:

There are 3 assessment periods in Transition Year, as per all other years, in Kingswood Community College. TY Students will have formal assessments in their core subjects – English, Irish, Maths and their MFL if studied.

Reading week will take place the week before Assessment Week 1 and Assessment Week 2. During this time, students will not be engaging in workshops, trips and events. Students will only be engaging in classwork. This will ensure the academic focus is reinforced. Teachers can take this time to complete assessments in non-core subjects for reporting.





Work Experience in Transition Year

- 2 scheduled weeks of work experience at the end of January/start of February each year.
- You can complete work experience in one place (2 weeks) or two different places (1 week each)
- Support given in school for writing a CV, cover letter, letter of application and how to apply for placements.
- Use family and friends for contacts.
- **Start looking for placements once you have secured a place in TY.**
- It is the student's responsibility to source a placement well in advance of the placement dates – must be secured by November.

**The easiest + most convenient placement is not always the best placement - once in a lifetime opportunity - make the most of it + choose somewhere worthwhile/different/
have interest in/are curious about**

TY 'Special Leave of Absence'



- **Granted in certain circumstances**
- **Paperwork that must be completed + returned before it can be approved by school**
- **If approved it does not count as an unexplained absence, if not approved or correct paperwork is not returned it will be marked as an unexplained absence**
- **Students must inform their teachers in advance of the dates - respect**

- **Granted for work placements which cannot be completed in the designated KCC work experience time frame due to the organisations regulations/rules**

- **Cannot be granted for placements which could be completed as a part time job/ summer/seasonal job**



**Tithe an
Oireachtais
Houses of the
Oireachtas**

A sample TY Event Calendar

September

1. TY Hike – Tibradden Woods
2. Forensic Fun Workshop
3. Team works – Teambuilding Day
4. Trip to Sean O Casey theatre
5. Tenderfoot Drama Workshop
6. Musical Auditions for all students
7. Musical Screening

October

1. Overnight Trip to Kilkenny
2. Concern Global Citizen Workshop
3. Special Effects Make Up workshop
4. Bank of Ireland Business start-up talk
5. Defence Forces Visit
6. First Aid Workshop
7. Aviation Industry Zoom Webinar – Sign up
8. Climate Action Workshop – Sign up
9. Localise Volunteering Activity Day
10. Ambassador visit to the school – Pol/Sci Class

November

1. Road Safety Workshop – RSA
2. Criminal Courts Visits
3. RSA Shuttle Bus
4. Zoom call with Holocaust Survivor
5. Trip to the Oireachtas – Pol/Sci Class

Assessments

December

1. Mondello Driving School Experience
2. Choc Biscuit Workshop – Home Ex
3. Marie Keating Awareness Talk
4. Boxing Showcase in National Stadium
5. TY Quiz afternoon

January

1. DSPCA Animal Cruelty Talk
2. Barista Training
3. Water Safety Workshop – RNLI
4. Spanish Film Trip & French Film Trip
5. Irish Aid Centre workshop
6. Museum of Literature Ireland Tour – sign up
7. Work Experience

February

1. Work Experience
2. Work Experience
3. Tony O Reilly – Gambling Awareness
4. Fairtrade Fortnight Coffee Morning
5. Seachtain na Gaeilge – Irish café trip

March

1. Photography tour + Museum
2. Gaisce Trip Overnight
3. Kilmainham Gaol
4. Border Hopping Trip Abroad

April

1. Day trip to Belfast
2. School Musical
3. Jumpzone Trip + Shopping in Liffey
4. Brilliant Monday's motivation Workshop
6. The Big legal Law Q&A

May

1. Segways for School
2. Trip to Zoo
3. TY Fashion Swap
4. End of Year Interviews
5. End of Year Celebration

Some of the additional TY opportunities

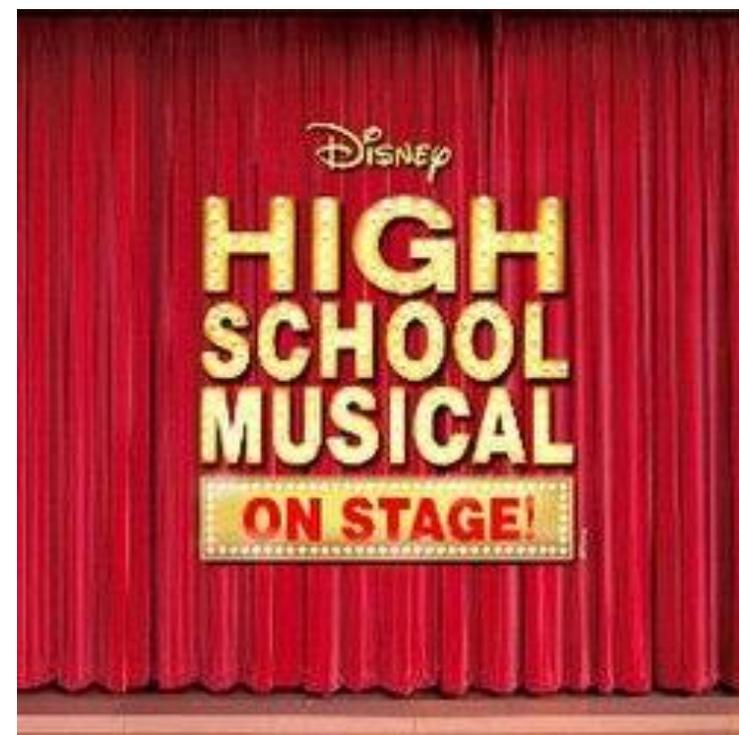
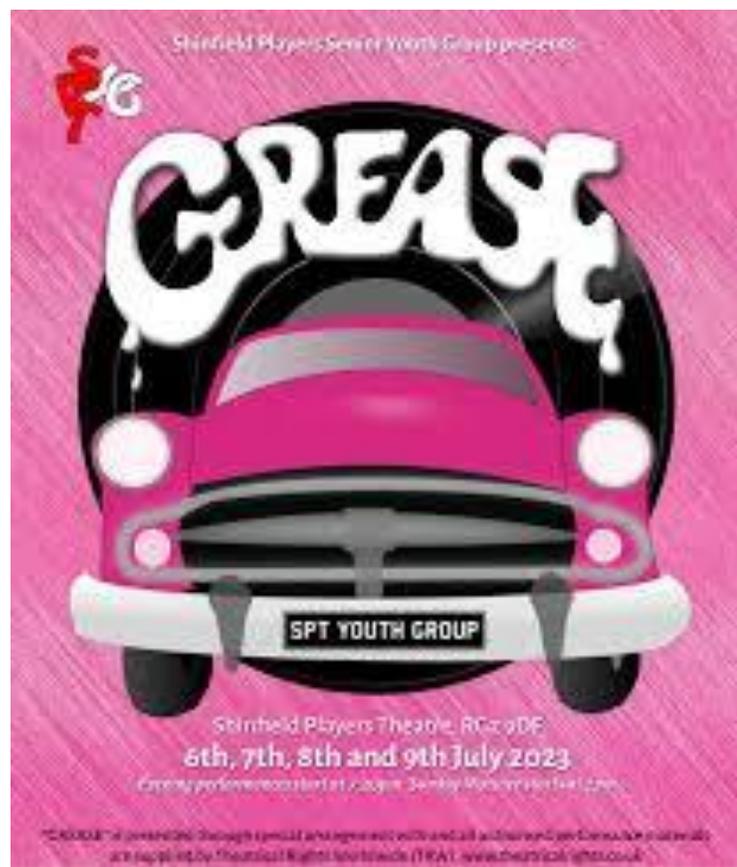
Additional Opportunities offered to students to get involved in

- Tenderfoot application
- TY Greeting Committee
- Lost Property Committee
- Subsounds – Music Workshop
- Festival of Music
- An Ríocht Ambassadors
- Toastmasters
- Webwise Ambassador
- Cookalong Webinar – TY Students
- The Night belongs to Us - DJ & Comedy Workshops in Tallaght Library

Boxing Programme with Michael Carruth – Silver & Gold Programme – All Students









 *Boarding Pass* 

DESTINATION

FUTURE OF WOMEN IN AVIATION WEBINAR



Localise
youth volunteering



**An Roinn Gnóthaí
Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of
Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Is Transition Year for me?

Are you...

Motivated, enthusiastic, committed and willing to engage with all that TY has to offer?

Motivated to find your own work experience opportunities?

Enthusiastic about trying all subjects the TY programme has to offer?

Committed to being present, punctual and engaged with all aspects of the TY course?

Willing to volunteer your time and expertise to helping others?

Are you creative, a leader, good at working in a group setting?

Do you want to improve your skills and gain useful certification?; eg-First Aid, IT, Gaisce, etc.

Transition Year - Cost and payment schedule

Places Offered –
16/01/26

Transition year fee: €500

Deposit to confirm acceptance of
place: Thursday 12th February 2026 - €250

Instalment 2 - Friday 27th March 2026 - €150

Instalment 3 – Friday 8th May 2026 - €100

Please engage with the school if an alternative
payment plan is required.

Questions & Queries

If you have any questions or concerns about the information you received this evening, please email: info@kingswoodcc.ie

