LEAVING CERT PRESENTATION

WELCOME

Good start- Simple things right, Positive attitude, Uniform, Mobile phones

Support Team: Principal, Deputy Principal, Year Head, Tutors, Guidance Counsellor, School Counsellor, HSCL, SCP

What to expect during 6th year:

- Leaving cert exams
- Subjects and levels
- Coursework, practicals, oral exams, project work
- AAC's (Additional Assessment Components)- Business, Biology & Chemistry
- Study & revision strategies
- Pre-exams
- CAO, SUSI, HEAR & DARE
- Arup mentoring

Attendance, Punctuality & Engagement

- Good attendance and positive attitude= Achievement
- Attend school everyday
- Attend to the end of school year- revision of exam questions, exam technique, exam strategies, time management
- No easy half-days
- Engagement in all classes
- Being punctual in mornings & afternoons, getting to all classes on time

Part-time jobs

- Benefits of part-time job- own money and independence
- Look at long term goal, the bigger picture especially if your son or daughter has ambitions to do a good Leaving Cert- cuting back on working hours
- How might it impact on your son or daughter's study time and the amount of energy they will have to study?

School supports

- After school study- Mon, Tues & Thurs 3.40--5pm no distractions, no cost
- Jump a Grade- free grinds- students given opportunity to avail of these free of charge
- Studyclix- Mrs. O'Shaughnessy, available to all students in LC
- Revision days UCC & MTU- very beneficial. If students sign up, they need to attend

Open door Policy- feel free to contact the school at any time and make an appointment if needed

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK OF QUALIFICATIONS



APPRENTICESHIPS



- **Earn while you learn**
- **Gain a recognised qualification & real work experience**
- **70+ programmes across many sectors**
- **You need to find an employer who will register you as an apprentice**

An apprenticeship is another route to a career — alongside college and other options.

See apprenticeship.ie for further details on apprenticeships.

FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- **PLC courses (QQI Levels 5 & 6)** in a wide range of career areas.
- **Practical, career-focused courses** with opportunities for work experience.
- Can lead **directly to employment or progression to higher education**.







HOW DOES THE CAO WORK?

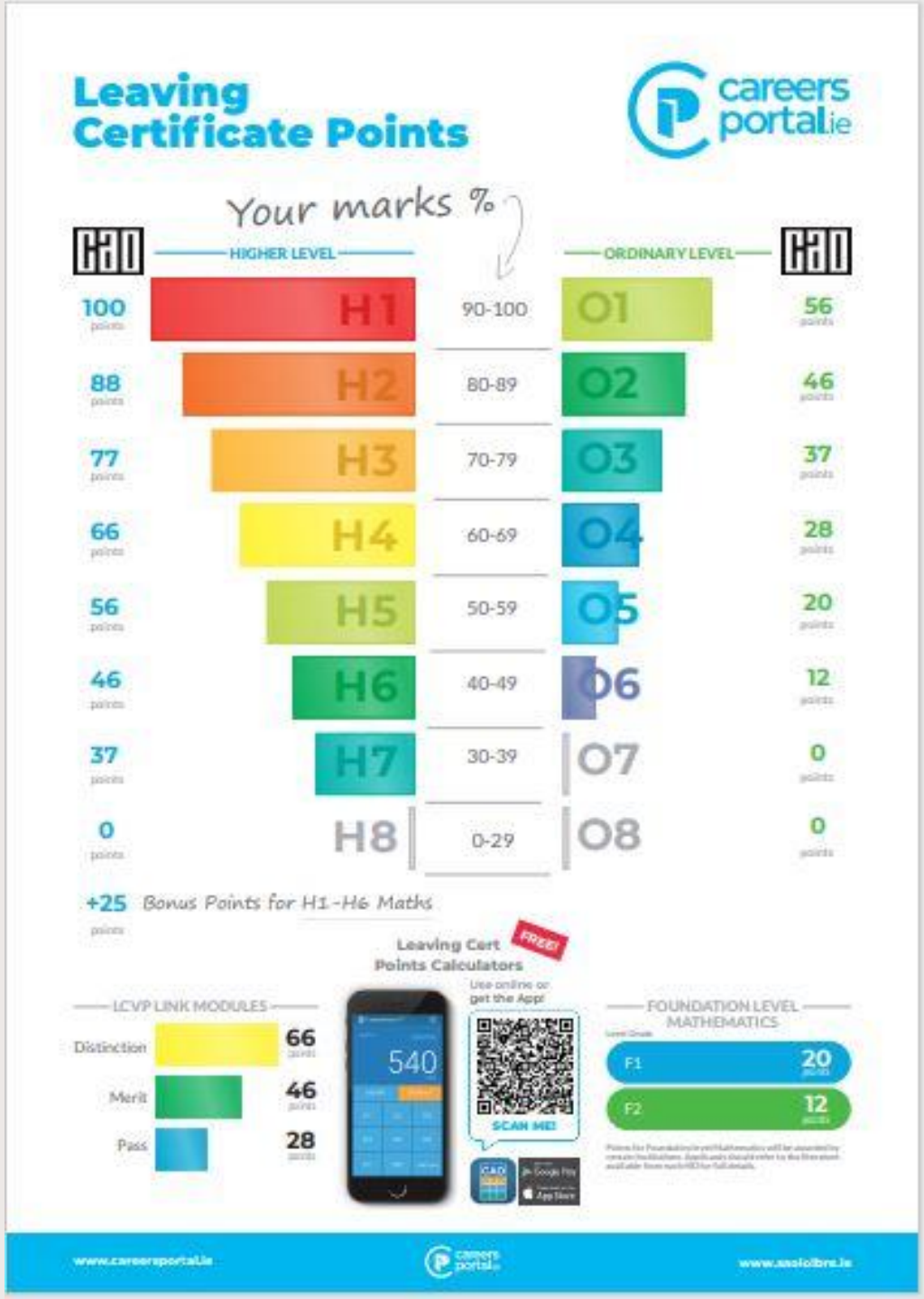
The CAO is used to apply for higher education courses, such as university and college courses in institutions like UCC and MTU.

- **Students choose courses in genuine order of preference.**
- **Level 8:** up to 10 course choices | **Level 7/6:** up to 10 choices.
- **Leaving Cert results are converted into points —** normally the best six results are counted.
- Students must meet the **minimum entry requirements** for a course.
- Offers are made based on **points and the student's order of preference**.
- **You don't need to predict the points —** put courses in the order you genuinely want them.

CAO POINTS

Based on 6 best subjects

An extra 25 points for H6 or higher in Higher Level Maths if one of 6 best subjects



TERTIARY DEGREES

- An option whereby students complete a degree without applying through the CAO process
- They are required to complete a personal statement and an interview and meet certain minimum requirements.
- It is a combined education pathway that leds you start an undergraduate degree at a local FET and finish it a university.
- There are tertiary degrees available in Nursing, Primary Teaching, Process Manufacturing, Occupational Therapy and others.
- See nto.ie for further information



SUSI GRANT

- **Eligibility is based on household income**, with different levels of support depending on income.
- **The higher the household income, the lower the level of support.**
- Families with household income **up to €120,000 may still qualify for some support**, depending on circumstances.
- **2027/28 applications open in April 2027** and will look at **income earned during 2026**.

It is worth checking eligibility – SUSI support is not simply "you qualify" or "you don't".



HEAR AND DARE

HEAR – Higher Education Access Route

- For students who may be **socio-economically disadvantaged**.
- Eligibility is based on a range of criteria, including **household income**.
- **For 2027 entry, household income from 2025 (below €58,470) is relevant.**
- Can provide access to **reduced-points places and additional college support**.

DARE – Disability Access Route to Education

- For students whose **disability has had a significant impact on their second-level education**.
- May allow eligible students to be considered for **reduced-points places and additional supports**.
- DARE is a **separate application process from HEAR**.

Key message: *If a student may be eligible, investigate HEAR/DARE early – the application involves additional forms and supporting documentation.*