

LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED

CBS THURLES



LCA

Leaving Certificate Applied
Ardeistiméireacht Fheidhmeach



What is Leaving Certificate Applied?

- It is a **two-year** Leaving Certificate available to students who wish to follow a **practical** Leaving Certificate programme with a **vocational focus**
- It is structured around 3 main elements:
 1. **Vocational Preparation**
 2. **Vocational Education**
 3. **General Education**



What is different about LCA?

It is a practical leaving certificate which emphasises preparation for the world of work

Students get to sample a range of jobs through work experience

There is less emphasis on the final exam as coursework is assessed throughout the two years



Who would benefit from LCA?



Students who excel in hands on learning environments where their efforts lead to tangible outcomes.



Students that do not have their needs catered for appropriately in the traditional leaving certificate



Students who prefer engaging in continuous assessment, project-based work and a supportive classroom environment.



Students who want a clear path into further education, apprenticeships or employment value earning credits through classwork and assignments rather than relying solely on final examinations at the end of the two-year cycle.



LCA Programme Requirements

Each year of the two year programme is divided into two sessions.

- September to January
- February to June

The programme consists of a range of courses

Each course is designed on a modular basis

A module is of 30 hours duration and is completed usually within a session

Over the 2 years students will complete 42 modules



WHAT COURSES ARE OFFERED IN LCA?

Vocational Preparation	No. of Modules
Vocational Preparation & Guidance	8
English and Communication	4
Vocational Education	No. of Modules
Vocational Specialisms (2 full courses)	8 (4x2)
Mathematical Applications	4
Introduction to Information and Communication Technology	2
General Education	No. of Modules
Social Education	4
Languages: Gaeilge Modern European Language or Sign Language for participants from the deaf community	2 2 (4)
Arts Education (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts)	2
Leisure and Recreation (including Physical Education)	2
Elective Modules	No. of Modules
Participants must complete four elective modules	4
TOTAL	42

What are Vocational Specialisms options?

Practical courses or areas of study that students choose to focus on allowing them to develop skills and knowledge relevant to specific areas

Choose any two from:

- Active Leisure Studies
- Agriculture / Horticulture
- Childcare/ Community Care
- Craft and Design
- Engineering
- Graphics and Construction Studies
- Hair and Beauty
- Hotel Catering and Tourism
- Information and Communication Technology
- Office administration and Customer Care
- Technology

WHAT ARE 'CREDITS'?

There are 200 credits for the LCA awarded as follows:

Mode	Credits	Percentages
Satisfactory Completion of Modules*	68	34%
7 Student Tasks	74	37%
Final Examinations	58	29%

Assessment

Performance will be recorded in **three modes**:

1. Module Completion (42 modules)

- At the end of each session, students will receive credit for successfully completing modules
- To earn credit, students must:
 - Attend classes and related out-of-school activities. **(Minimum attendance: 90%)**
 - Complete all key assignments for the module.

2. Student Tasks (7 tasks)

- Individual performance in Student Tasks will be assessed using specific criteria

3. External Examinations (6 exams)

- At the end of Year 2, students will sit final exams in:
 - English and Communication
 - Two Vocational Specialisms
 - Mathematical Applications
 - Two Languages

OUTLINE OF STUDENT TASKS

Summary of Tasks

Task	Credit	%	Completed in session	Assessed
1. General Education Originating in Arts Education, Leisure & Recreation, Language or Social Education	10	5	1	Jan/Yr 1
2. Vocational Preparation Originating in either Vocational Education & Guidance or English & Communication	10	5	2	May/Yr 1
3. Vocational Education - 1st specialism Originating in one Vocational Specialism	10	5	2	May/Yr 1
4. Vocational Education - 2nd specialism Originating in the second Vocational Specialism	10	5	3	Jan/Yr 2
5. Contemporary Issues Anchored in Social Education	10	5	3	Jan/Yr 2
6. Practical Achievement Generally out of school / centre	10	5	3	Jan/Yr 2
7. Personal Reflection Statement 1 from year 1 will be stored and returned to SEC when Statement 2 is complete	10	5	2 & 4	May/Yr 2

AWARD OF THE LCA

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”**.

LCA Route to Further Education⁺

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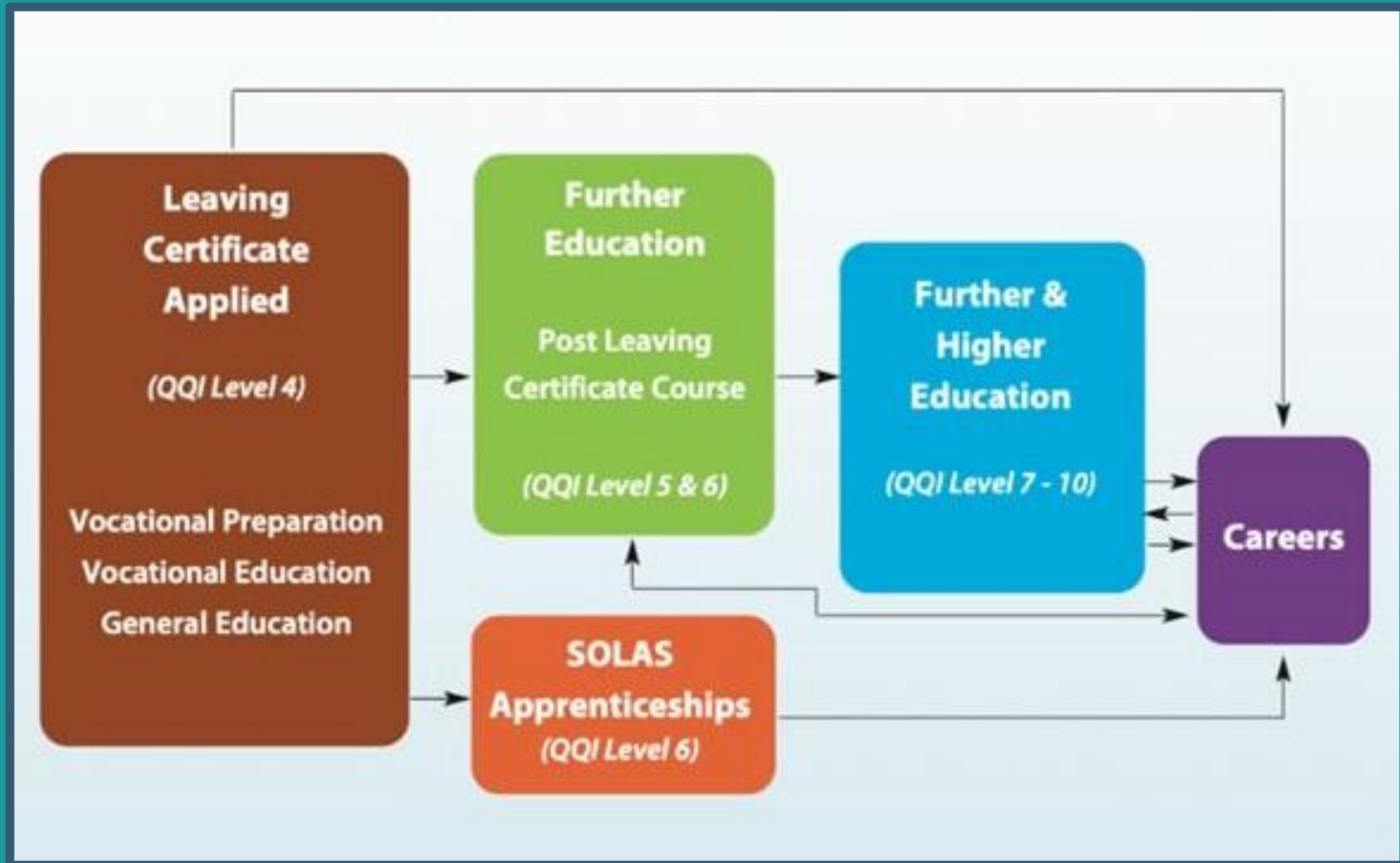
Can a student go to Further Education and Training?

Yes, the LCA is accepted for a wide range of apprenticeships and PLC courses at FETAC Level 5

Can a student go to Higher Education?

Graduates of LCA do not have direct access to Higher Education through the CAO, however achieving an appropriate further education award eg, FETAC Level 5 may provide access for those who wish to progress to Higher Education

LCA Route Map



Where can I find more information?

- <https://youtu.be/vDkB7GAbZjE> (video presentation)
- https://careersportal.ie/school/lca_programme2.php?parent=10&ed_sub_cat_id=20
- <https://oide.ie/post-primary/home/programmes-support/lca/>
- <https://pdst.ie/post-primary/post-primary-programmes/lca>
- <https://www.curriculumonline.ie/senior-cycle/lca/>