

RÁITEAS MISIN

Léirimís meas ar a chéile,
cuirimid luach ar an bhfoghlaím,
tugaimid tús áite dár bpobal,
téimid i dtreo na foirfeachta de shíor



MISSION STATEMENT

Together we respect one another,
value learning, nurture community
and pursue excellence

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Message from the Principal/ Focal ón bPríomhoide

A Thuistí/Chaomhnóirí/Scoláirí

The Leaving Certificate examination is a very important milestone for most young adults.

The first step in obtaining an excellent Leaving Certificate is for each student to choose subjects, most suited to themselves.

We hope you find this booklet a valuable source of information and guidance.

As a matter of policy, we will make every effort with the resources available, to offer students the subjects of their choice.

Le meas

Edward Cronin

Príomhoide

Introduction

In Pobalscoil na Tríonóide we offer the Established Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied. This booklet refers to the Established Leaving Certificate **only** and contains information that will help you choose your subjects wisely. Information is provided on the content of the optional Leaving Certificate subjects, as well as information on the assessment of these subjects in the Leaving Certificate. We have given some examples of career areas linked to the various subjects.

In choosing your subjects for Leaving Certificate you also need to consider your options on completion of Leaving Certificate. Information is provided on the CAO points system as well as the essential subjects needed for specific courses. There is further information available regarding courses on college websites and other websites, details of which are provided in this booklet.

While the information contained in this booklet is accurate at the time of publication, course requirements are constantly changing and students need to verify specific course requirements with colleges via website or brochures.

We wish to thank the subject teachers who provided the information on subject content for this booklet

Guidance Department

2026

Achieving your potential in the Leaving Certificate

The Leaving Certificate requires a two-year commitment to work and study from students. The following guideline is suggested for 5th year students.

September – December **15 hours homework and study combined per week**

January – June **18 hours homework and study combined per week**

How many subjects will you study for Leaving Certificate?

Irish, English and Maths are core subjects on the Senior Cycle curriculum. (Some students may have an exemption from Irish and/ or a European language)

You will then study 4 other subjects from the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accounting• Agricultural Science• Art• Biology• Business• Chemistry• Computer Science• Construction Studies• Design and Communication Graphics• Economics• Engineering• French• Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• German• Gearmáinis• History• Home Economics• Music• Politics and Society• Physics• Physical Education• Religion• Spanish• Russian
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- The availability of certain subjects will be dependent on demand
- All subjects are offered at Higher and Ordinary Level. Maths and Irish are also offered at Foundation level. However, Foundation Level does not satisfy as an entry requirement for Third Level courses in general. Points are awarded for Foundation Level grades for certain subjects in some Technological Universities. Please check individual higher education institution brochures.

Gaelscoil na Tríonóide

Students in Gaelscoil na Tríonóide will access some of their non-examination subjects through Irish. A limited number of subjects from the options may be offered through Irish and will be available where the demand is sufficient.

How will you choose your subjects for Leaving Certificate?

- Identify subjects you like
- Identify subjects you are good at
- Some subjects are ***essential*** for entry to particular colleges and courses. Check the list of essential subjects required for specific Third Level courses. Consult college websites e.g. www.ucc.ie, www.mtu.ie, www.setu.ie
- If you are uncertain about your future direction, choose a range of subjects which will keep your options open e.g. a Science subject and/or Business subject and/or European language and/or Practical subject

Essential Subjects for Some Courses – some examples

Higher Level Irish (H4) - Primary School Teaching

Higher Level Mathematics – Most Level 8 Honours Engineering Degrees

Higher Level Chemistry – Veterinary Medicine, Human Nutrition and Dietetics

Higher Level Chemistry and Higher Level in either Physics or Biology – Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy in UCC

Higher Level in a Laboratory Science Subject - Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy in UCC

A Laboratory Science Subject – Nursing

All essential subjects for courses may be found on college websites and on www.qualifax.ie

Please note the following:

- 1. A European language is a necessary subject requirement for degrees in Arts, Commerce, Social Science, Law, Medicine,**

Dentistry, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Radiography in the NUI Colleges. A European language may also be required/ useful for other career areas not specified here.

2. Many courses at Third Level require Garda Vetting prior to being accepted on the course.

Where can you get further information?

- Speak to your subject teachers
- Speak to your parents, older brothers and sisters, who may have studied these subjects before
- Speak to your Guidance Counsellor
- www.curriculumonline.ie Information on all subjects for Leaving Certificate
- www.qualifax.ie Information on courses requiring specific subjects in Leaving Certificate
- www.careersportal.ie Excellent information on all subjects, including course content, exam structure, reasons why the subject might suit you, career possibilities. Here is the direct link to the subject choice page on CareersPortal https://careersportal.ie/school/subject_explorer.php

Leaving Certificate Points Scoring System for College Entry

% Band	L. Cert. Grades	Points for Higher Papers	Points for Ordinary Papers
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90 - 100	H1/O1	100	56
80 < 90	H2/O2	88	46
70 < 80	H3/O3	77	37
60 < 70	H4/O4	66	28
50 < 60	H5/O5	56	20
40 < 50	H6/O6	46	12
30 < 40	H7/O7	37	00
00 < 30	H8/O8	00	00

Enterprise/LCVP (Link Modules)

% Band	L. Cert. Grades	Points (Paper is Common)
80-100	Distinction	66
79-65	Merit	46
64-50	Pass	28

- You may only count 6 subjects for points purposes
- All subjects are treated equally for points*
- Max 625 points in one sitting of the Leaving Certificate

*Bonus Points for Higher Level Mathematics

All students who achieve a H6 or above in Higher Level Mathematics will have 25 points added to their score in Mathematics. Bonus points are not awarded for a H7 in Higher Level Mathematics.

Science Subjects



A science subject is a necessary requirement for many courses. These include engineering, medicine, paramedical courses, physiotherapy, radiography, nutrition and

dietetics. Some courses require two science subjects, for example Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary Medicine. In some cases students have a choice as to which science subject they present. Further details are available on www.qualifax.ie, www.careersportal.ie

Physics

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Physics&search1=physics&search2=&course_id=26&lc_subject_group=2

Physics Course Content

A new Senior Cycle Physics specification will be examined for the first time in 2026. The new course builds on the Physics strand of the Junior Cycle Science specification.

The course consists of 4 strands:

1. Forces and Motion
2. Wave Motion and Energy Transfer
3. Electric and Magnetic Fields
4. Modern Physics, Atomic and Nuclear

and a unifying strand (the Nature of Science) that runs through all 4 of the strands above.

Mathematical Content

Higher level Mathematics is not necessary, but a good understanding of mathematical concepts is required. We strongly recommend that students who choose to study Physics are comfortable with core Junior Cycle Mathematics concepts, e.g.

- Using a scientific calculator
- Solving equations (both linear and quadratic)
- Plotting graphs and calculating slopes
- Manipulating algebraic expressions
- Trigonometry

Assessment

Assessment in Physics is composed of 2 sections:

1. Terminal examination: 60% of marks are awarded for a 3-hour exam
2. Additional Assessment Component: 40% of marks are awarded for a “project”.

An Investigation Brief will be published by the SEC during year 1 (5th year).

Students are expected to:

- Carry out background research
- Design and plan an experiment
- Conduct a scientific experiment
- Analyse data and form conclusions
- Write a report

It is envisaged that this will take 20 hours to complete and will be submitted during year 2 (6th year) of the course

Courses and Careers with Physics

The following is a list of some of the courses and careers that would benefit from an education in Physics: Architecture, Astronomy, Biophysicist, Dentist, Doctor, Engineer, Marine Radio Operator, Biomedical Scientist, Metallurgist, Meteorologist, Naval Service, Pharmacist, Optician, Teacher, Science Laboratory Technician, Telecommunications and various Trade Apprenticeships especially that of Electrician and Instrumentation Technician.

In addition, Physics is a very important subject in all Engineering courses. Physics is also very relevant to medical courses.

Biology

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Biology&search1=biology&search2=&course_id=6&lc_subject_group=2

Biology involves the study of four main strands

Unifying Strand	Nature of science (this encompasses all other strands)
Strand One	Organisation of life
Strand Two	Structures and Processes of life
Strand Three	Interactions of life

The aim of Leaving Certificate Biology is to provide students with an experience that develops their interest in and enthusiasm for the scientific study of life. In doing so, it

aims to build the knowledge, skills, values and dispositions necessary for students to become scientifically literate citizens who are well-prepared for the challenges and opportunities of their future, embracing life-long learning and sustainable living, as citizens in a technologically developing society.

Assessment

There are two assessment components: a written examination (60%) and an additional assessment component comprising a Biology in Practice Investigation (40%). The written examination will be at higher and ordinary level. The Biology in Practice Investigation will be based on a common brief. Each component will be set and examined by the State Examinations Commission (SEC)

Courses and Careers with Biology

Biology is an essential aspect of careers which include Oceanography and Ecology, Medicine, Biotechnology, Agricultural Research, Zoology, Radiography, Nursing, Dental Nursing Marine Biology, Occupational Therapy, Microbiology, Genetics, Health Inspector, Biomedical Engineering, Dietetics, Food Science & Technology and Chiropody.

- Students wishing to study Genetics in UCC require Higher Level Biology in Leaving Certificate
- Students wishing to study Beauty Therapy at Cork College of Commerce require the study of Leaving Certificate Biology
- Students taking Biology as an elective for Home Economics Teacher training in St. Angela's College Sligo, must present Biology at Ordinary or Higher Level in the Leaving Certificate
- Biology is an essential requirement for entry to Dental Hygiene Nursing (UCC).
- Biology is also essential for Human Health and Diseases in TCD
- HL Biology or Agricultural Science required for Vet. Nursing in Dundalk IT
- It is a great subject to take if you are considering Nursing or Medicine

Chemistry

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Chemistry&search1=chemistry&search2=&course_id=8&lc_subject_group=2

The Leaving Certificate Chemistry course is a wide-ranging and interesting subject for students who enjoy Science. The course includes:

Atomic Chemistry, Molecular Bonding, the Periodic Table of Elements, Physical Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Environmental Chemistry.

There is also a very important practical aspect to the subject.

Assessment

There are two assessment components: a written examination (60%) and an additional assessment component comprising a Chemistry in Practice Investigation (40%). The written examination will be at higher and ordinary level. The Chemistry in Practice Investigation will be based on a common brief. Each component will be set and examined by the State Examinations Commission (SEC).

Courses and Careers with Chemistry

Chemistry is a core science subject and offers a wide range of opportunities in the scientific field including Brewing, Biotechnology, Biomedical Science, the Pharmaceutical Industry, Pharmacy and Human Nutrition and Dietetics.

- Human Nutrition and Dietetics courses in TU Dublin requires a H4 in Chemistry
- Dentistry, Pharmacy and Medicine in UCC require the study of Higher Level Chemistry plus Higher Level Physics or Biology
- Veterinary Medicine requires the study of Higher Level Chemistry
- Pharmacy in all colleges requires Chemistry

Agricultural Science

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Agricultural%20Science&search1=Agricultural%20Science&search2=Agriculture&course_id=2&lc_subject_group=2

Agricultural Science covers the study of soils, plants and their functions including farm crops, animals and trees. It is preferable that students should have studied science at Junior Certificate Level. The course contains large segments of Biology.

Assessment

A terminal exam: 75% of marks

Coursework: 25% which includes a project, based on actual farm experience

Careers with Agricultural Science

Laboratory Technician, Farm Manager, Pharmacologist, Sales Representative, Veterinary Assistant and Agricultural Advisor. Agricultural Science graduates may

work in the Dairy Industry, with Feed Manufacturers, Pharmaceutical/Biotechnological firms and in Environmental Companies.

Computer Science

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Computer%20Science%20&search1=&search2=&course_id=55&lc_subject_group=2

This subject follows on from the Junior Certificate Short Course in Coding. This is optional and does not have to be done before taking on Leaving Certificate Computer Science.

What do you study?

1. Computers and Society
2. Computational Thinking
3. Design and Development
4. Abstraction
5. Algorithms
6. Python Programming
7. Computer Systems
8. Data
9. Evaluation & Testing
10. HTML & CSS
11. Javascript
12. Modelling & Simulation
13. Embedded Systems

Assessment

There are two assessment components at each level, an end of course exam (70%) which consists of a written exam and a computer-based exam and a coursework project (30%).

Key Times of Year

Project December - February of Sixth Year

Exam May of Sixth Year - held earlier than other LC subjects due to the computer component of the exam.

Careers with Computer Science

IT in any Sector, Web Development, Software Engineer, Teacher, Computer Game Design, Business Analyst.

Humanities



Geography

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Geography&search1=geography&search2=&course_id=16&lc_subject_group=5

The Leaving Certificate course is a direct continuation of Junior Certificate i.e. Physical, Social, Regional and Economic Geography. The topics are dealt with in much greater detail. Students who are prepared to work can achieve a very good grade in this subject. Geography is a very valuable asset for anybody considering employment in Teaching, Town Planning, Engineering, Science, Horticulture, Tourism, Politics and Communications.

Assessment

Pre submitted Geographical Investigation

A terminal exam

Students are expected to answer 5 questions in the Leaving Certificate exam which lasts two hours and fifty minutes. The paper is fair and offers a good deal of choice.

Key Times of Year

April of 6th Year: Geographical Investigation report is handed up (20% of Leaving Certificate exam).

Careers with Geography

Geography is a useful subject for students interested in Town Planning, Architecture, Meteorology, Surveying, Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Archaeology, Air Traffic Controller, Anthropologist, Marine Officer, Development Work Abroad, Geologist, Tour Guide, Naval Cadet, Quantity Surveyor, Dept. of Foreign Affairs Official and Tourism and Teaching.

History

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=History&search1=history&search2=&course_id=19&lc_subject_group=4

The study of History involves learning about the experience of human life in the past through the investigation of evidence relating to such experience. History is unique in its investigation of how aspects of human life and human institutions have undergone

change over time. You will learn about how such change has taken place in Irish history and the history of Europe and the wider world. Your study will deal with political, social, economic, cultural, religious and scientific history. The history syllabus allows you to develop an appreciation of the society in which you live and of other societies, both past and present. You will also develop an awareness of your historical inheritance and gain insights into your own identity and traditions. Students will study closely the work of an archaeologist on a school excavation site and workshops on history are organised every year.

Assessment

History will be assessed at two levels, Higher and Ordinary Level

- A pre-prepared special topic essay, which is submitted prior to the Leaving Certificate exam
- 2¾ hour terminal exam - Four topics to be answered. One question is document based; remaining questions are essay style at Higher Level and long paragraphs at Ordinary Level

Key times of Year

The special topic must be completed by April of 6th Year (20% of overall mark in Leaving Certificate).

Careers with History

History is useful for careers in Politics, Journalism, Law, Social Work, Sociology, Archaeology, Civil Service, Teaching, Museum Work, Trade Union Official, Prison Service, Garda, Tourism, Broadcaster and Librarianship.

Politics and Society

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Politics%20and%20Society&search1=politics&search2=society&course_id=53&lc_subject_group=5

Politics and Society is a challenging and rewarding subject that suits any student who is interested in human rights, equality, diversity, sustainable development, power and democratic decision-making. If you want to become a more informed and active global

citizen, then this subject will be of interest to you. Studying Politics and Society gives students a real insight into people, power and how society works. Politics and Society has never been a more relevant subject than in our current time. In a world that has war in Ukraine, refugee crises, Brexit, the role of social media in our lives, the socio-economic issues of housing and health in Ireland, the rise and threat of ISIS and of course climate change. If understanding any of these issues intrigues you, then Politics and Society might be for you. Politics and Society is nothing like CSPE, although some topics are related between the two subjects. Students will learn about social and political theories and how these theories relate to current issues. There will be lots of classroom discussion, debate and reflection on the different ideas and perspectives. Through this, students will develop valuable analytical and evaluation skills, as they debate topical and sometimes controversial issues, study different viewpoints and form their own political opinions.

The Politics and Society course is split up into the following key strands:

- Human rights and responsibilities / Power & decision making /
- Active citizenship /Sustainable development /Globalisation

Assessment

Politics and Society will be assessed at two levels, Ordinary Level and Higher Level. There will be two assessment components at each level – a written examination which accounts for 80% of the final grade and a citizenship project which accounts for 20%. The citizenship project enables students to research a topic of interest to them and then apply their learning in action.

Careers and further study

Politics and Society is useful for further studies in politics or sociology or other courses such as law, anthropology, philosophy, development studies, media studies, law, journalism.

Religion (As an exam subject)

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Religious%20Education&search1=religion&search2=&course_id=28&lc_subject_group=5

The Senior Cycle Leaving Certificate Religious Education course invites students to explore the richness and complexity of religion in both personal and global contexts. Throughout the programme, students develop an informed understanding of religious traditions, belief systems, and moral frameworks, while also examining how religion continues to shape culture, identity, and contemporary issues.

1. The Coursework / Research Project (20%)

Completed **during 5th or 6th year**, depending on your school's timeline.

- Students choose a topic from the annual prescribed titles issued by the SEC.
- They conduct independent research using a range of sources
- The final submission is a written report, usually around **1,500–2,000 words**.

2. The Written Examination (80%)

Examines content from the core and elective sections of the course. It includes:

- **Short-answer questions** focusing on key concepts and definitions and **longer structured essay-style questions** that require explanation, comparison, evaluation, and critical reflection

Career Possibilities with a Religious Education Degree

Post-primary teacher (Religion, SPHE, Philosophy, CSPE, Wellbeing) , Chaplaincy, Youth work , Adult education or community education programmes, Social services support roles, NGO or charity sector, Interfaith and intercultural dialogue organisations, Civil Service roles in policy, diversity & inclusion, ethics committees, Community liaison or integration services, Hospital chaplaincy roles (with further training), Journalism, Human resources, Counselling, Pastoral Care & Support Services Counsellor, Bereavement support roles, Mediation and conflict resolution, Religious Vocations, Priest, Minister, or other religious leadership roles.



Business Subjects

Accounting

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Accounting&search1=Accounting&search2=&course_id=1&lc_subject_group=6

Accounting involves the preparation of Final accounts - of Sole Traders, Manufacturing Firms, Departmental Firms, Companies, Farms, Clubs and Service Firms. As well as the preparation, it also involves the analysis and interpretation of such accounts for the purpose of making economic decisions.

Other topics include:

Assessment of a Business, Cash Flow Statements, Published Accounts and Management Accounting (Costing – Budgets)

Students **are advised** to have studied Junior Certificate Business Studies in order to take Accounting for Leaving Certificate.

Being able to think logically, analyse skilfully and present information concisely is extremely important for this subject.

Assessment

A terminal 3 hour written paper – Higher and Ordinary Level

Section 1: 1 question x 120 marks or 2 questions x 60 marks each from Q.2,3 and 4

Section 2: (2 x 100) from 3 Questions; Section 3: (1 x 80) from 2 Questions

Careers with Accounting

Essential for a career as an Auditor, Budget Analyst, Financial Accountant, Management Accountant, Tax Accountant/Consultant. Accountants work in Private Accounting Firms, Government Agencies and Departments, Public Companies, Banks and Co-Ops. Certified Accountants also work as Sole Traders or in Partnerships providing Accountancy Services to small businesses, farms etc.

Education – Teaching and Lecturing.

Economics

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Economics&search1=economics&search2=&course_id=11&lc_subject_group=6

Aims to stimulate students' curiosity and interest in the economic environment and how they interact with it. Keeping up with the "here and now" of the economy is important so that you have knowledge of occurring topical events.

Microeconomic topics range from consumer behavior, demand and supply, to market structures. The new course looks at market failures and interventions to combat such events. Macroeconomics concentrates on topics such as Banking, Government aims and policies, the National Income, and all the main economic variables.

The overriding theme of the new course is how we as economists, consumers, suppliers and Government make choices ensuring sustainable development is fundamental in our actions.

Objectives of Economics

- Develop a set of skills, knowledge and values to enable students to understand the economic forces which affect their everyday lives, their society and their economy at local, national and global levels
- To develop in students, the capacity to apply these principles and to help them transfer this knowledge to new situations, and to achieve critical thought
- To develop in all our students an interest in everyday economics and to aid them in their education for citizenship

Assessment

There are two assessment components in Leaving Certificate Economics:

- Research study (20%) Year 2

Differentiation at the point of assessment is achieved through written examinations at two levels – Ordinary Level and Higher Level. The research study will be based on a brief issued annually by the State Examinations Commission (SEC). A common brief will be issued for Ordinary Level and Higher Level.

Careers

Economics is useful for Administration, Accounting, Banking, Barrister, Civil Servant, Business Teacher, Economist, Hotel Management, Insurance, Journalist, Human

Resource Officer, Politician, Public Relations Officer, Quantity Surveyor, and Marketing.

Business

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Business&search1=business&search2=&course_id=7&lc_subject_group=6

Business looks at how organisations are formed and financed. Also, banking, transport, taxation and organisations.

Core Units: Introduction to people in business,
Enterprise
Managing
Business in action
Domestic Environment
International Environment

It is factual based, with lots of learning and relatively little Mathematics.

Assessment

Terminal exam for all will be worth **60% of the final grade**

Higher Level

3 hour written examination

8 short questions (80 marks), 1 compulsory question (80 marks)

4 long questions (60 marks each)

Ordinary Level

2 ½ hour written exam

10 short questions (100 marks)

4 long questions (75 marks each)

Additional Assessment Component

Investigative study (Project work with a common brief for both HL and OL)

40% of the overall grade

Careers and Courses with Business

Business is useful for Banking, Bookkeeping, Hotel Management, Financial Services, Management, Receptionist, Hospital Administrator, Merchandising, Customs and Excise, Recreation and Leisure Courses.



Artistic/Creative Subjects

Art

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Art&search1=art&search2=art%20&course_id=5&lc_subject_group=3

Art offers students the opportunity to develop their creativity by using a range of skills in a wide variety of contexts. It develops the expressive, communicative and functional modes of art, craft and design in the individual.

Students who choose Art should have a genuine interest in drawing, graphic design, painting and art history. Some students may wish to pursue a career in Art and Design but generally the subject is chosen because it is a creative and enjoyable one.

<u>Painting and Mixed Media:</u>	Still life/imaginative composition	100 marks
<u>Craft Work:</u>	Batik, block print, dry point etching	100 marks
<u>Life Drawing:</u>	Drawings of Human Form	50 marks
<u>Art History:</u>	Art in Ireland	50 marks
	European Art	50 marks
	Art Appreciation	50 marks

Gallery visits are organised in both 5th and 6th Year

Assessment

Painting and mixed media and Craft work are examined through a 10-week coursework classroom-based assessment which commences in January of 6th year (200 Marks).

Practical exams are held in May of 6th year

- Life drawing exam (50 marks) 1 hour
- Terminal written exam in June (150 marks) 2 ½ hours

Careers with Art

Architecture, Art Teacher, Advertising, Artist, Graphic Designer, Painter and Decorator, Marketing, Primary Teacher, Fashion Designer, Florist, Television and Theatre, Sign writer, Occupational Therapist, Sculptor, Interior Designer, Chef.

Art is a useful subject for those students who are applying for Art and related courses at Third Level, where a portfolio is required for entry, e.g. Architecture, Graphic Design.

Music

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Music&search1=music&search2=&course_id=25&lc_subject_group=3

Music at Leaving Certificate level comprises two sections: Practical performance and a written examination.

Practical Performance

50% of the overall mark in Music is awarded for the practical examination. Students may present for examination on one instrument of their choice performing six pieces or alternatively may choose to perform four pieces as part of a group and four solo pieces. Student can also choose to include Music Technology as part of their practical. Marks are awarded in the performance examination, provided students work consistently and attend regularly for either private or classroom-based tuition.

Written exam

25% of the marks are awarded for a listening exam. Students undertake a study of Irish music and Orchestral works, 25% of the marks are awarded for composition. Students are required to complete a 16-bar harmony exercise and a 16-bar melody.

Assessment

Practical exam which takes place in April of 6th Year

Three-hour terminal exam

Careers with Music

Teaching – Primary and Secondary, Musician, Conductor, Composer, Dancer, Actor, Film/TV Work, Music Producer, Marketing/Sales, Entertainment- Groups, Orchestra, Bands etc., Event Management.

Practical Subjects



Home Economics

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Home%20Economics&search1=home%20economics&search2=&course_id=20&lc_subject_group=5

Home Economics is a subject that provides students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes that will enable students to manage their own lives. It is concerned with the way individuals and families manage their resources to meet physical, intellectual, social and economics needs. The emphasis is on the acquisition of management theory and skills and the application of the principles of management.

The course is divided up into the following sections:

Food Studies	(45%)
Resource Management and Consumer Studies	(25%)
Social Studies	(10%)
Social Studies Elective	(20%)

Assessment

Practical and investigative work are an integral part of the course. All students are currently required to complete four cookery assignments in class time. The students are required to fill in a written record of their four cookery assignments together with evidence of carrying out investigatory research on the topic. The written record books are examined in **November of Sixth Year**. Students may be awarded up to 20% of their Leaving Certificate result upon successful completion of the food studies assignments. The written exam paper is worth 80% of the overall result. The exam is composed of twelve short questions, one compulsory food studies question, one

compulsory elective question and any other two long questions from section B. The course is offered at both higher and ordinary level. Every effort is made to encourage students to think independently and apply the knowledge they acquire in class to their everyday lives.

Careers with Home Economics

Chef, Nutrition, Food Science, Hotel Management, Social Worker, Home Economics Teacher, Fashion Design, Demonstrator, Textile Science, Baking, Confectionery, Childcare and Tourism.

Design and Communication Graphics (DCG)

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Design%20and%20Comm%20Graphics&search1=graphics&search2=drawing&course_id=32&lc_subject_group=3

DCG is a follow on from Junior Certificate Technical Graphics. Although not a requirement, it is highly recommended that graphics has been studied at Junior Cycle level. More emphasis on design required. It consists of a core section comprised of:

(a) Plane and Solid Geometry and (b) Communication Computer Graphics.

Assessment

40% of marks awarded for a project completed between September and Christmas of the Leaving Certificate Year.

60% of marks awarded for a terminal Drawing Exam.

Careers with Design and Communication Graphics

All Engineering and Engineering Technician Careers, Architecture and Architectural Technician, Construction trades e.g. Bricklayer, Carpenter etc., Engineering Trades e.g. Fitter, Toolmaker, etc. Industrial Designer, Industrial Engineer, Structural Design, Town Planner, Draughtsperson.

Engineering

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?search1=engineering&search2=&course_id=12&course_name=Engineering&lc_subject_group=1

This subject follows on from Junior Certificate Metalwork.

Topics:

Theory/Structure of materials and properties, Equilibrium Diagrams, Ferrous/Non-Ferrous metals and Plastics, Welding, Material testing.

Lathe work/Grinding/Milling/Drilling, Brazing and Soldering, Pneumatics, Electronics, Structures and Mechanisms, Design Process.

Assessment

Engineering Higher Level

150 marks – 25% - project (Design based) and folder

150 marks – 25% practical (6-hour exam in May)

300 marks – 50% theory (written exam in June)

600 marks TOTAL

Engineering Ordinary Level

150 marks – 30% - project (Design based) and folder

150 marks – 30% practical (6-hour exam in May)

200 marks – 40% theory (written exam in June)

500 marks TOTAL

Key Times of Year

Project November – March of Sixth Year

Practical Exam – A day in May of Sixth Year

Terminal exam – June of Sixth Year

Careers with Engineering

Mechanical, Production, Civil and Structural Engineer, Welder, Turner, Motor Mechanic, Metalwork and Engineering Teacher, Mechanics, Electrician, Fitter, Plumber, Army, Air Corps, Biomedical or Chemical Engineering, Software Development, Animation, Sound Engineering.

Construction Studies

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?search1=construction&search2=&course_id=10&course_name=Construction%20Studies&lc_subject_group=1

Construction Studies is a straight follow on to Senior Cycle from Materials Technology Woodwork in the Junior Certificate.

Construction Studies offers students an insight into the various technologies and designs that shape the world we live in and investigates the new technologies that are being developed to provide sustainable energy into our homes. It offers the motivated student a pathway to accessible points.

The core topic for the theory section is looking at the various components that make up a modern dwelling. Other topics that are covered in this course are Planning, History of Buildings, Construction and Environmental Sustainability.

What do I need to do this course?

Having Materials Technology (Wood) in at Junior Certificate level is very important. A good knowledge of Technical Graphics, and an interest in Construction and Design, is also important.

Assessment

Theory exam	50%
One day practical exam	25%
A practical project which includes a portfolio	25%

Careers and Courses with Construction Studies

Civil Engineering, Structural Engineering, Architecture, Carpentry, Town Planner, Cabinet maker, Production Designer, Quantity Surveyor, Construction Site Manager.

Physical Education

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Physical%20Education&search1=&search2=&course_id=54&lc_subject_group=5

Theory

The theoretical elements of Physical Education will be studied in a classroom setting. Students will be assessed at the end of the course with a written examination taken at Ordinary or Higher Level. This will make up 50% of the student's final grade.

Some examples of areas of study;

- Learning and improving skill and technique
- Planning for Optimum performance
- Physical activity and Inclusion
- Technology, Media and Sport

Practical Performance Assessment

Students will study 3 different activities in depth in practical classes. Students will be assessed in ONE of the activities at a COMMON level for 30% of their final grade. Video evidence of the students' performance will be submitted for assessment.

Physical Activity Project

This element is assessed at an Ordinary or Higher level. It is a project spanning an 8-to-10-week period as a coach or performer that is to be submitted in a digital format. Evidence of the following is to be included:

1. Performance analysis

2. Identification of performance goals
3. Evidence of on-going training/practice and reflection
4. Concluding analysis



Languages

Please remember, that a European language is a necessary subject requirement for degrees in Arts, Commerce, Social Science, Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, Speech and Language Therapy, Dentistry, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Radiography in the NUI Colleges.

German

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=German&search1=german&search2=&course_id=17&lc_subject_group=4

Further development of the four German Language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. There is a greater emphasis on the development and use of oral skills to reflect examination structure of the Leaving Certificate.

Good level of attention to detail needed. On-going consistent work required to achieve a good level of language competency.

Assessment	HL	OL
Oral exam	25%	20%
Listening Comprehension	20%	25%
Reading Comprehension	30%	40%
Grammar	6 ¼%	6 ¾%
Written Expression	18 ¾%	11 ¼%

Key Times of Year

Oral Exam in April of Leaving Certificate

Terminal exam

French

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=French&search1=French&search2=&course_id=14&lc_subject_group=4

Studying a language raises cultural awareness and the development of language skills. Language students are highly sought after by employers. Fluency in a language also makes travel infinitely more enjoyable.

French is both a working language and an official language of the United Nations, the European Union, UNESCO, NATO, the International Olympic Committee, the International Red Cross and the International Courts. French is the language of three cities where the EU institutions are headquartered: Strasbourg, Brussels, Luxembourg. Canada has two official languages: English and French. French is the mother tongue of 6.6 million Canadians. In total French has 270 million speakers worldwide when you consider both native and secondary speakers.

Assessment

HL OL

12-minute Oral exam in March/ April of Leaving Certificate	25%	20%
Terminal exam consisting of:		
Listening Comprehension (35 minutes)	20%	25%
Reading comprehension	30%	40%
Written Expression	25%	15%

Careers with Languages

Business Careers, Teacher, Translator, Pilot, Journalist, Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Librarian, Archivist, Bilingual Secretary, Hotel Receptionist, Tourism, Law with Languages, International Marketing.

Spanish

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Spanish&search1=spanish&search2=&course_id=31&lc_subject_group=4

Further development of the four Spanish language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. There is a greater emphasis on the development of the use of oral skills to reflect the examination structure of the Leaving Certificate.

The Leaving Certificate course builds on core grammar and vocabulary acquired at Junior Cycle. On-going consistent work is required to achieve a good level of language competency.

Assessment:

Oral exam	25%
Listening Comprehension	20%
Reading Comprehensions	30%
Written Expression	25%

Key Dates

Oral Exam in March of Sixth year

Terminal Exam focusing on Aural, Reading and Written Expression in June

Russian

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=Russian&search1=russian&search2=&course_id=30&lc_subject_group=4

Russian as a Leaving Cert subject aims to bring students closer to fluency in the Russian language, as well as developing a good knowledge of literature, culture, geography, and national history to provide a context for communication.

Assessment is by means of a written examination, and an aural and oral examination at two levels - Ordinary Level and Higher Level.

Assessment:	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Oral exam	25%	20%
Listening Comprehension	20%	25%
Written Expression	55%	55%

Enterprise (LCVP)

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_subject_detail.php?course_name=LCVP%20Link%20Modules&search1=link%20modules&search2=lcvp&course_id=43&lc_subject_group=6

Brief Subject Content

- Link Modules is a subject designed to enhance the vocational dimension of the traditional Leaving Certificate. LCVP combines the *academic* strengths of the Leaving Certificate with a focus on *self-directed, student-centred* learning
- Students compile a portfolio of their work ongoing throughout the two year programme. This Portfolio includes Reports (based on speakers invited to visit the school and, on a visit, out to a local business/industry), Action Plans (developing student's planning/organisational/ entrepreneurial skills), Career Investigations (incorporating Work Experience placement) and a CV.
- ICT is a prominent component of LCVP, therefore students need to have a certain level of ICT skills on entering the programme. These skills will subsequently be developed and enhanced through participation in the subject.

Assessment

- Students are assessed through a combination of Portfolio items (60% of overall mark) and a written examination (40% of overall mark)
 - Six Portfolio entries are submitted over the two-year programme.
 - Written examination takes place on the first Wednesday of May of 6th year (6th Year)
 - Grade is awarded at three levels
- | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------------|
| Distinction | 80%-100% | (66 points/H4) |
| Merit | 65%-79% | (46 points/H6) |
| Pass | 50%-64% | (28 points/O4) |

Please note the following:

- **Students can use the subject for points but not as a minimum entry requirement.**
- **While LCVP may be counted for points, it may not be counted as one of the subjects to satisfy the minimum entry requirements for Level 6/7 and Level 8 courses in Universities and Institutes of Technology.**

Remember:

- Take time to discuss options with parents, subject teachers, friends, guidance counsellor
- All subjects carry equal points, except for Higher Level Maths and Enterprise/LCVP (Link Modules)
- Be realistic about your abilities

Contact Details of Guidance Counsellors

Guidance Counsellors meet with students on an individual basis. Parents/ Guardians are also welcome to make an appointment to discuss any concerns or queries they may have. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries.

Ms Gillian Crowley	024-25724	gillian.crowley@trionoide.ie
Ms. Christine Murphy	024-25722	christine.murphy@trionoide.ie
Ms. Finola Nyhan	024-25733	finola.nyhan@trionoide.ie
Ms. Kerri O'Donoghue	024-25836	kerri.odonoghue@trionoide.ie
Ms. Niamh Norris	024-25836	niamh.norris@trionoide.ie

Useful Websites for further information

www.qualifax.ie

www.careersportal.ie

www.ucc.ie

www.mtu.ie

www.setu.ie

www.solas.ie

www.nto.ie

www.ncca.ie

www.scoilnet.ie