

Naas CBS Meánscoil lognáid Rís

Senior Cycle Subject Choice Information Evening

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Guidance Counsellors

Our Agenda for tonight:

- Senior Cycle Curriculum at Naas CBS
- Factors to consider when choosing subjects
- College / Course / Career Requirements



Subject Choice in the Leaving Certificate Established

- Students usually study 7 subjects
- Core subjects (3): English, Maths, Irish*
- Plus 4 optional subjects from the others available in the school
- Google Form Open from Wed 15th Jan → Wed 12th March



The CORE GROUP

ENGLISH

English Studies and English Literature -TCD H4

Communications - DCU H4 Journalism - DCU/TUD H4

Journalism & Digital Communication - UL H4 Media Studies - Maynooth H5



Required for entry to NUI colleges *Exemptions can be sought

The CORE GROUP

IRISH

UCD, Maynooth, UCC, Uni of Galway, RCSI, NCAD

Higher Level Irish is a requirement for primary school teaching - H4

Garda- Successful applicants are required to study and pass Irish as part of a module in the Garda College.



The CORE GROUP MATHS



Higher Level Maths - H6 25 bonus points



Economics & Finance UCD - H4
Computer Science TCD - H4
Data Science DCU - H3
Theoretical Physics TCD - H3

Actuarial and Financial Studies UCD - H2

DCU - H3



Higher Level H4 - Many Level 8 Engineering Courses



Option Subjects

Ag. Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Accounting, Business, Economics

Construction Studies, DCG

History, Geography, Art, Music

Applied Maths*, Computer Science, Physical Education

French, German, LCVP Option*.

Students are asked to select **4 option subjects.**

Students will order these in **preference**.



Decision Making: Use what you know from school so far

What do I enjoy now?

What did I enjoy at Junior Cycle?

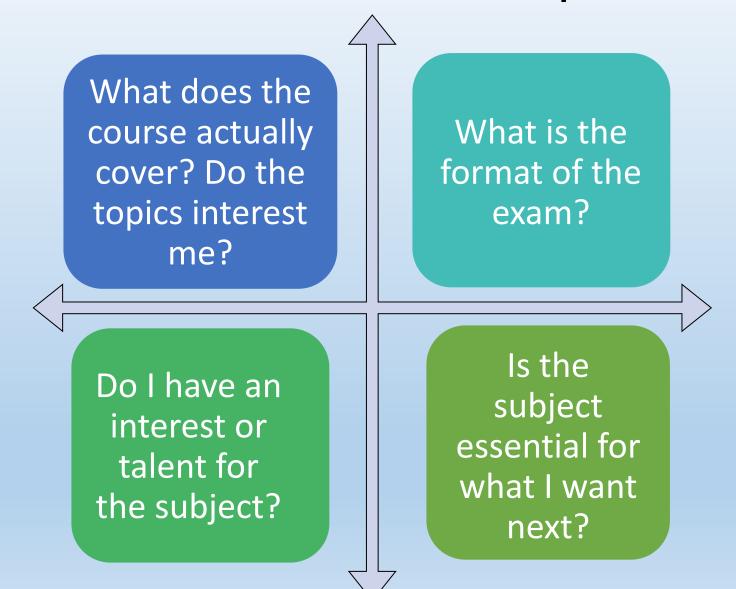
What subjects did I get my best results in?

How do I like to learn best?

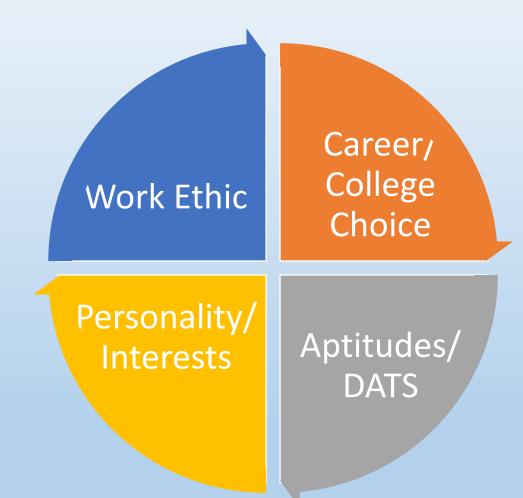
Do I have any idea of what I would like to do after school?



Find out the answers to these questions:



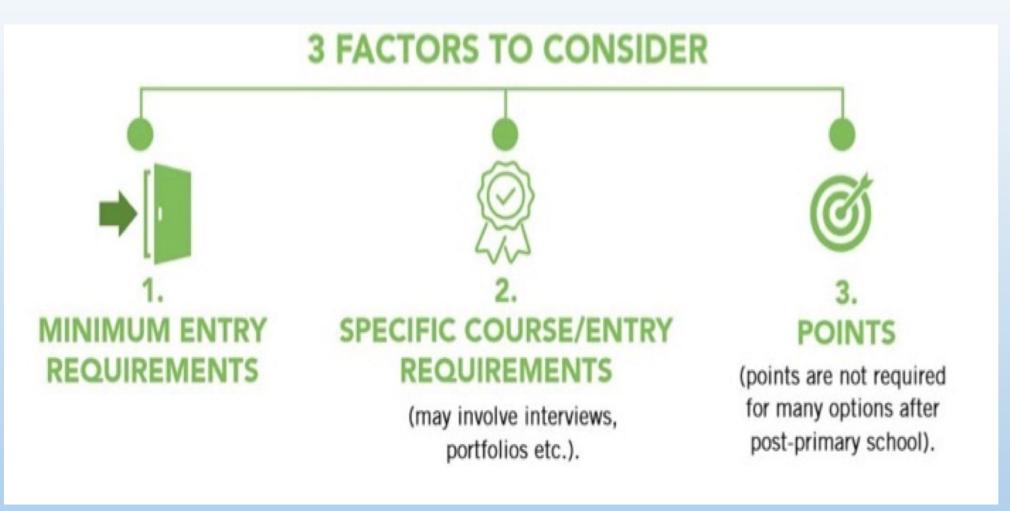




Bring these 4 together and you should find the right option for you.



Third Level / College





1) Matriculation/Minimum Entry Requirements

Minimum Academic Requirements for entry that students must meet for HEI's

HEI	Minimum Grades	Required Subjects
NUI- UCD, Maynooth, UCC, Uni of Galway, RCSI, NCAD.	2 H5 & 4 O6/H7	O6/ H7 in English, Irish & A Modern Language* Maths*
Trinity	3 H5 & 3 O6/H7	O6/ H7 in Maths, English, & Irish or Another Language
UL	2 H5 & 4 O6/H7	O6/H7 Maths, English & Irish or another language
DCU	2 H5 & 4 O6/H7	O6/ H7 Maths, English or Irish
Technological Universities	2 H5 & 4 O6/H7	O6/H7 Maths, English or Irish

Third Language Requirement

Requirement for many courses in NUI Colleges (UCD, Maynooth University, University of Galway, UCC, RCSI, NCAD

*NUI Exemption can be sought





Third Language Requirement

NUI - Yes

- ✓ Arts
- ✓ Human Sciences
- ✓ Social Science
- ✓ Commerce/Business*
- ✓ Law*
- ✓ Medicine
- ✓ Health Sciences

*Not required for courses at Maynooth

NUI - No

- Engineering
- Science
- Nursing
- Computer Science*
- Agricultural programmes (UCD)



Third Language Requirement

• Trinity College and UL – English and Another Language (Irish will suffice)

• DCU – English or Irish

- Technological Universities do not require a Third Language
- Defence Forces Cadets requires a Third Language
- * Be careful specific courses require a language other than Irish
- e.g Law and French, Business and German, Modern Languages



2) Specific Subject Requirements

Some courses require students to have a specific subject with a specific grade for entry.

Examples of specific subject requirements include:

- H4 Irish for Primary Teaching (all colleges)
- H4 Maths for most Level 8 Engineering degrees
- H5 Chemistry for Veterinary (UCD)
- H3 French for Law and French (TCD)



Science Subject Requirements

The majority of Science or Health related degrees will require at least 1 laboratory science subject.

Medicine

Dentistry

Pharmacy

Physiotherapy

Occupational Therapy

Speech and Language Therapy

Nursing

Veterinary

Human Nutrition/Dietetics

Radiography

Radiation Therapy

Optometry

Paramedic Studies

Podiatric Medicine

Science - general and specific - most courses

Sports Science/Athletic Therapy - in some

Agricultural Science

Equine Science

Environmental Science

Science Education

Engineering (UCD)



Courses requiring Two Science Subjects

- Medicine (UCC, Trinity)
- Dentistry (UCC, Trinity)
- Pharmacy (UCC, Trinity)
- Human Health and Disease (Trinity)
- Any Science course in Trinity



Science Subjects

Biology is required to study:

- Genetics in UCC
- Human Health & Disease in Trinity
- Health Science with Dietetics/OT/Physiotherapy ATU Letterkenny

Physics is required to study:

Theoretical Physics in Trinity



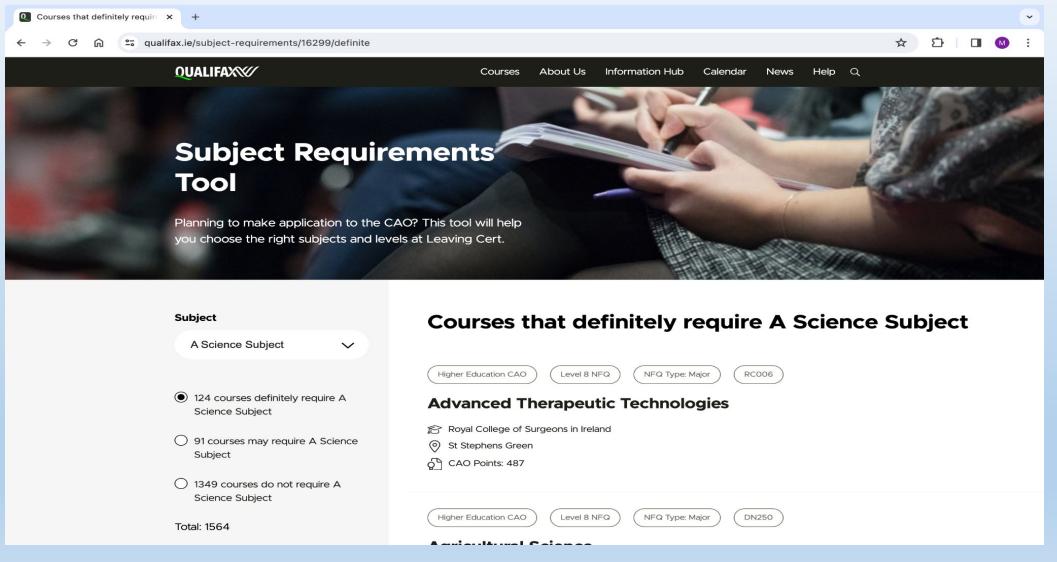
Science Subjects

Chemistry is required to study:

- Human Nutrition and Dietetics (TU Dublin)
- Veterinary Medicine (UCD)
- Dentistry (UCC)
- Medicine (UCC)
- Medical & Health Science (UCC)
- Pharmacy (UCC and RCSI)



You can check course/subject requirements here:





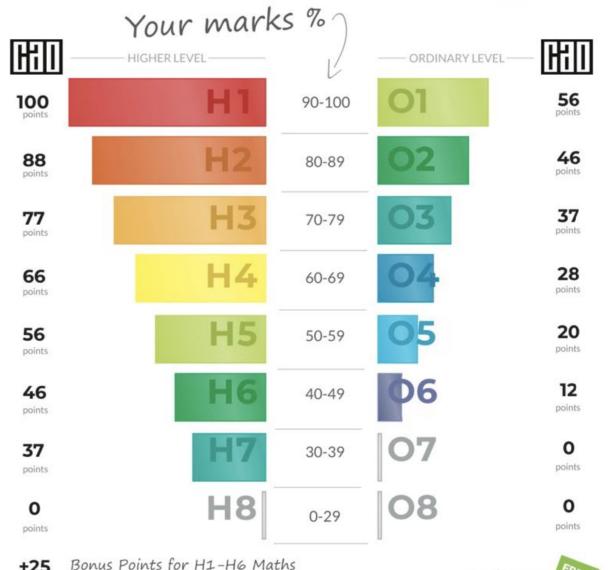
3) Points Requirement

Points are calculated from the student's six best subject results in one sitting of the LC.

Leaving Certificate Points



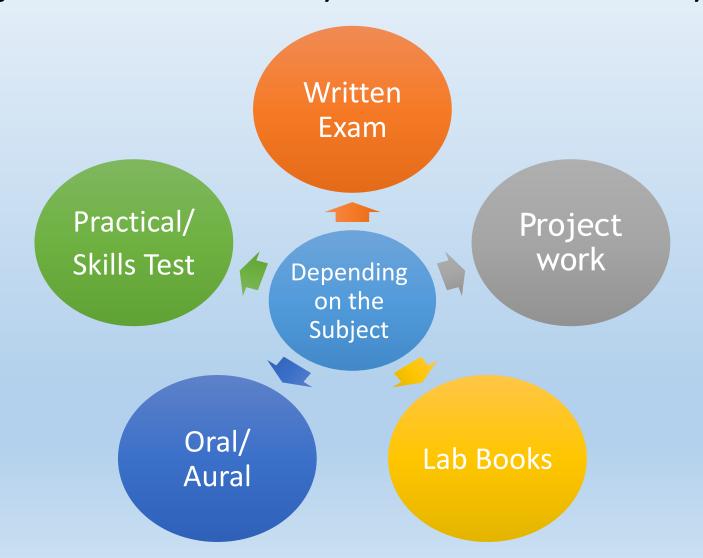
Leaving Cert





How do the exams work:

Different subjects assess the skills you learn in different ways





Subject Research - www.careersportal.ie





FRENCH & GERMAN

Content:

- Communication through target language
- Speaking /Listening / Reading /Writing
- Variety of themes (family,school,hobbies,sport & current affairs)
- Grammar & Cultural awareness

Assessment:

- Final Exam= Written paper 55%(Reading comprehension & writing tasks)
- ❖ Oral 25% (HL) 20% (OL) March/April
- Aural 20% (HL) 25% (OL)

Student Suitability:

- Anyone with an interest in Fre/Ger culture, history and language
- Students considering working abroad or in the area of international relations
- Students who can already speak French/German
- Interest Test Creative, Linguistic
- DATS Verbal, Spelling, Language Usage

<u>Careers:</u> Language teaching, Translators, International Business, Tourism, Irish & EU Public Service, Media & Information industry.....



BIOLOGY

Content:

New Specification being introduced in Sept 2025

- 4 Strands
- Nature of Science
- 2. Organisation of Life
- 3. Structures and Processes of Life
- 4. Interactions of Life

Student Suitability:

- Enjoyed and did well in JC Science
- Aptitude & interest in lab work
- Interest Test Investigative
- DATS Numerical, Verbal, Language Usage

Assessment:

- Final exam = Written paper 60%
- Biology in Practice Investigation 40% (HL& OL)

<u>Careers</u>: Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Science, Veterinary, Agriculture, Biotechnology, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Teacher, Genetics, Ecology.....



CHEMISTRY

Content:

New Specification being introduced in Sept 2025

- ❖ 5 Strands
- 1. Nature of Science
- The Nature of Matter
- Behaviour of Matter
- 4. Interactions of Matter
- Matter in our World

Assessment:

- Final exam = Written paper 60%
- Chemistry in Practice Investigation 40% (HL& OL)

Student Suitability:

- Enjoyed and did well in JC Science and Maths
- Aptitude and interest in lab work
- Good attention to detail
- Ability to describe the procedures of experiments and understand vocab
- Interest Test Investigative
- DATS Numerical, Abstract

<u>Careers:</u> Medicine, Veterinary, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Forensics, Pharmaceuticals, Engineering, Dietetics, Nursing, Food Science.....



PHYSICS

Content:

New Specification being introduced in Sept 2025

- ❖ 5 Strands
- 1. Nature of Science
- Forces and Motion
- 3. Waves and Energy Transfer
- 4. Electricity & Magnetism
- 5. Modern Physics

Student Suitability:

- Students who wonder why and ask how
- Enjoyed and did well in JC Science
- Aptitude and interest in lab work
- Enjoy learning about how things work
- HL Maths is not a requirement to do physics.
- Interest test Investigative
- DATS Numerical, Mechanical

Assessment:

- Final exam= Written paper 60%
- Physics in Practice Investigation 40% (HL & OL)

Careers:

Engineering, Data Analyst,
Teacher, Researcher, Medical
Physicist, Meteorologist, Software
Developer, Astronomer....



AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

Content:

- Study of the science and technology underlying the principles and practices of agriculture
- 4 Main Strands
- Scientific Practices
- 2. Soils
- 3. Grass & Other Crops
- 4. Animals

Assessment:

- Final exam= Written paper 75% (HL & OL)
- Project Investigative study 25%
- Portfolio of activities and investigations (lab & field investigations, farm visits)

Student Suitability:

- Some experience of farming is desirable
- Enjoyed and did well in JC Science
- Interest test Investigative
- DATS Numerical, Verbal, Language Usage

Careers:

Agriculture, Farming, Horticulture, Forestry, Food Science, Greenkeeping, Sportsturf Management, Teaching, Renewable Energy...



COMPUTER SCIENCE

Content:

Study of computers and algorithmic processes. Includes how programming and computational thinking can be applied to the solution of problems, and how computing technology impacts the world around us.

- 3 Strands
- 1. Practices and Principles
- 2. Core Concepts
- 3. Computer Science in practice

Student Suitability:

- Enjoying puzzling out
- Do well in maths and science
- Strong interest in how computers work, solving problems in a logical way and the effect technology has on society
- Interest Test Investigative
- DATS Abstract

Assessment:

- Final Exam = Computer based assessment 70%
- Project (March) 30% (HL & OL)
- Languages used Python, JavaScript, HTML

<u>Careers</u> - Big Data, Software, Apps, Cloud, Web Developer, Cyber Security, Programming, Games Design.



APPLIED MATHS*

Content:

Covers the mathematics behind the behaviour of objects when placed in various situations, such as being thrown as projectiles, bounced off walls or other objects, immersed in fluids, or swung around on a rope.

- 1. Units and Vectors
- 2. Uniform acceleration
- 3. Projectiles
- 4. Connected particles
- 5. Work, power, energy & momentum
- 6. Impacts & collisions
- 7. Circular Motion
- 8. Difference Equation
- 9. Differentiation & Integration
- 10. Networks & Graphs
- 11. Optimal Paths

Assessment:

- Final exam= Written paper 80%
- Modelling project 20% (HL & OL)
- *Offered as an additional 8th in the CBS.

Student Suitability:

- Desirable to be studying Maths HL & Physics HL
- Enjoy and do well in maths
- Intertest Test Investigative
- DATS Numerical

Careers:

Engineering, Physics, Construction, IT, Insurance, Architecture....



ACCOUNTING

Content:

- 1. Financial Statements preparation
- 2. Farm accounts
- 3. Club Accounts
- 4. Company Accounts
- 5. Manufacturing Accounts
- 6. Financial statement analysis & Interpretation
- 7. Budgeting
- 8. Break even analysis
- 9. Cost classification
- 10. Accounting theory & Principles

Assessment:

- Final exam= Written paper 100% (HL & OL)
- * Not essential for entry into any business course (except Commerce in Uni of Galway H4 Acc req)

Student Suitability:

- Comfortable with numbers
- Does not have to be doing HL Maths
- DATS Numerical
- Interest Test Administrative, Enterprising

Careers:

Accountancy, Actuarial Studies, Marketing, Business, Finance....



BUSINESS

Content:

New Specification being introduced in Sept 2025

- **5 Strands**
- **Investigating Business**
- **Exploring the Business** Environment
- Understanding Enterprise Leading in Business
- Being Informed & Making Informed Decisions

Student Suitability:

- Interest in current affairs and listens to the news
- Organised mind and likes to answer in bullet points
- JC Business helpful
- Consistent attitude to homework and study
- DATS Verbal, Language Usage
- * Interest Test - Enterprising, Administrative

Assessment:

- Final exam= Written paper 60% Business Alive Investigative Study 40% (HL& OL)
- *Not a requirement for any CAO courses

Careers:

Banking, Finance, Administration, Law, Insurance, Management, Marketing....



ECONOMICS

Content:

- Economics is regarded as the most practical business subject and is the study of how people manage limited resources such as money to meet their goals.
- Two Broad Categories
 - 1. Microeconomics
 - 2. Macroeconomics
- Subject Content
 - 1. Demand, supply, equilibrium, utility & elasticity
 - 2. Costs & market structures
 - 3. Factors of production
 - 4. National income & the multiplier
 - 5. Inflation, money, banking & monetary policy
 - 6. International trade, balance of payments and the euro
 - 7. Fiscal policy and taxation
 - 8. The Government in the economy

Assessment:

- Final exam= Written paper 80%
- Project Research Study 20% (HL & OL)

Student Suitability:

- Enjoyed JC Business
- Interest in politics, current affairs, or psychology
- DATS Verbal, Language Usage
- Interest Test Investigative, Administrative, Enterprising

<u>Careers:</u> Banking, Insurance, Finance, Marketing, Politics.....

HISTORY

Content:

- Fields of study
- Early Modern 1492-1815
- Late Modern History 1815-1993
- 4 topics studied from the selected field of study
 - two from Irish History
- two from the history of Europe
- Two topics prescribed for documents based study one from each field of study

Assessment:

Final exam= Written paper 80%

Special Research Project 20%

Student Suitability:

- Enjoys and appreciates History and would like to improve their knowledge
- Willing to commit a lot of time
- Strong English skills, good writer
- DATS Verbal, Language Usage
- Interest Test Investigative

Careers:

Current Affairs, Journalism, Law, Politics, Economics, Management, Business, Teaching, Government...



GEOGRAPHY

Content:

- Study of people, their environment, and the interaction between the two.
- Follows on from JC course. Covers similar topics in a lot more detail.

 3 x Core Units + 1 Elective Unit
- - 1. Patterns & Processes in the physical environment
 - 2. Regional Geography
 - 3. Geographical Investigation & skills
 - 4. Patterns & Processes in the economic environment

<u>Assessment :</u>

Final exam= Written paper 80%

Special Research Project 20%

Student Suitability:

- Enjoyed and did well in JC Geog
- DATS Verbal, Abstract, Space Relations, Language Usage
- Interest Test Investigative

Careers:

Cartography, Geographical Information Systems, Town planning, Environmental Science, Engineering, Travel, Tourism, Meteorology, Global/ Development work



DESIGN & COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS

Content:

- Necessary to have done JC Graphics
- Great emphasis in the LC course on comprehension, analysis and problem solving. You must be able to understand what has to be done, analyse how you are going to approach it and then proceed to solve the problem.
- CORE
 - 1. Plane & Descriptive Geometry
 - 2. Communication of Design and Computer Graphics
- Applied Graphics Optional Areas of study - (2 from 5 to choose)

Assessment:

- ❖ Final exam= Written paper 60%
- Student Assignment 40% Design Brief Involves freehand sketching + Board/T Square + CAD/ICT

Student Suitability:

- JC Graphics
- Basic knowledge of IT skills
- DATS Abstract, Mechanical, Space Relations
- Interest Test Investigative, Realist

Careers:

Engineering, Product Design, Construction, Architecture,



CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

Content:

The course is essentially about the study of buildings and the built environment. The theoretical part of the course examines all parts of building from the planning stages to the completed building.

The course is studied under the following main headings:

Planning & Design; Drawings & Documents;

Site preliminaries & Foundations; Walls, Partitions;

Floors, Roofs; Fireplaces; Windows and Doors, Stairs;

Plastering & Painting; Plumbing & Heating; Services Drainage

Assessment:

- Final exam= Written paper 50% (HL) 40% (OL)
- Project & Portfolio 25% (HL) 30% (OL) Practical exam 25% (HL) 30% (OL) - 4hrs (May)

Student Suitability:

- General interest in buildings/built environment
- interest/Aptitude for design/practical work
- DATS Abstract, Mechanical, Space Relations
- Interest Test Realist, Creative, Investigative

<u>Careers:</u> Building Management, Carpentry, Electrician, Town Planning, Heating & Ventilation, Housing Management...



MUSIC

Content:

- LC course provides continuity and progression from JC course Course consists of 3 Main Components:
- - 1. Composing
 - 2. Listening
 - 3. Performance
- Additional Elective for HL students

Assessment:

- Performance 25% (April 6th Year)
- Compositions 25%
- Listening 25%
- Elective (HL) 25%
- OL students choose musical activity that best suits from 3 above

Student Suitability:

- Enjoyed and did well in JC Music
- Min grade 2 if haven't studied JC Music
- Must play an instrument
- Must ideally be able to READ Music
- DATS Abstract
- **Interest Test Creative**

Careers:

Media work or studies, Primary teaching, Sound Engineering, Public Relations, Library Work, Speech Therapy, Film, Communications, Production, Performance and Music at third level



ART

Content:

- All students, OL and HL, follow a common course.
- The practical work can include Life Sketching, Still Life, Imaginative Composition, Design and Craftwork.
- The History of Art and Appreciation is a broad course covering Irish and European Art, and also Art Appreciation. It requires looking at artworks through the use of reproductions, slides and art galleries, reading books and writing essays on different subjects.
- 4 Units
 - 1. Create 2. Research
 - 3. Respond4. Emphasis on the Artistic process

Assessment:

- ❖ Written Exam 30% (HL & OL)
- Practical Exam 20% (HL & OL)
- Practical Coursework 50% SEC brief 6th Yr

Student Suitability:

- Enjoyed and did well in JC Art
- Enjoy expressing themselves through Art and like to sketch and doodle
- DATS Abstract, Space Relations
- Interest Test Creative

Careers:

Art, Art Therapy, Design, Animation, Graphics, Artist, Architecture, Teaching



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Content:

- Course features inter-linking theoretical and practical sections.
- Theoretical section separated into 2 strands 1. Towards Optimal Performance
 - 2. Contemporary issues in physical activity.
 - Students study the factors that impact on physical performance, the relationship between sport and society and examine the benefits of of participation in physical activity.
- Practical section students will be assessed on their skills level in three different activities from a wide range of physical activities.

Assessment:

- Written paper 50%
- Physical Activity Project 20%
- Performance Assessment 30%

Student Suitability:

- Physically active students individual/team sports
- DATS Investigative
- Interest Social, Investigative, Realist

Entry Reqs: Counted as a Science for entry into Physio (UL), Sports & Exercise Science (UL)

<u>Careers:</u> First step towards careers in Health and Fitness, Nutrition, Athlete, Sport Sciences, Physiotherapy....



*Leaving Certificate Vocational Preparation - LCVP

Content:

- Practical World of Work Focus
- Two Modules
 - 1. Preparation for the World of Work
 - 2. Enterprise Education
- Course Content Includes:

 Curriculum Vitae
 Interview Techniques
 Career Investigation
 Summary Report
 Enterprise/ Product Design/ Action
 Plan

Diary of Work Experience Recorded Interview / Presentation Enterprise Report

Assessment:

- Written Exam 40% (May 6th Year)
- Portfolio 60% (5 pieces of work submitted in March of 6th Year)

Student Suitability:

- An optional 7th subject for Irish Exempt students
- Practical students
- Interested in the world of work
- Interest Test Enterprising

CAO Points: Distinction - 66; Merit - 46; Pass - 28

<u>Careers:</u> Starting one's own business and/or taking an active role in an established business



Common Pitfalls

Choosing a subject because your friends are doing it

Choosing a subject because a sibling did well in it

Choosing a subject because you like the teacher

Not doing enough research

Making a decision at the last minute



Your Next Steps

Research the subjects/course you are considering before choosing

Think of what you will need for 3rd level/career

Review your Exam Results

Talk to your teachers/read info-careersportal.ie

Choose subjects based on your own interests and aptitudes



Final Piece of advice

- The subject and level choices made now will influence the options available on completion of second level.
- Serious thought and consideration, good research and consultation will help avoid limitation in choice later
- Get active and choose wisely!!!
- Soogle Form Open from Wed 15th Jan → Wed 12th March



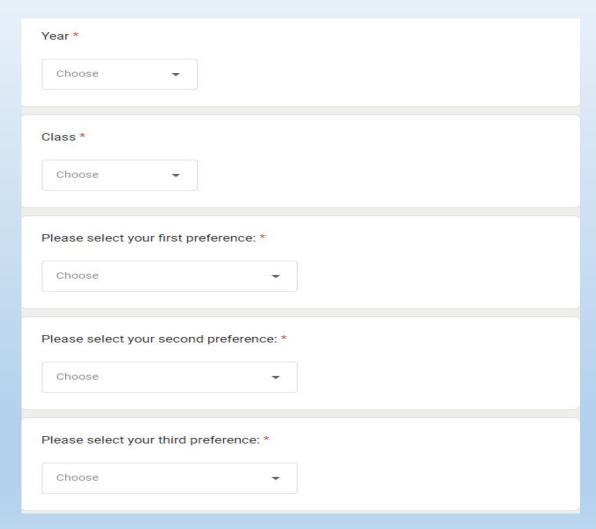
Google Form - Open from 15th January→ March 12th



5th Year Subject Choice 2025

Please use the following form to provide us with your subject choices for 5th year. Please ensure that you put your subject choice in order of preference.

Please rank option subjects in order of preference from 1 - 6. You will study 4 for LC.



https://forms.gle/Z3YfFQrmondNwU6j7

Resources

Visit relevant websites

www.ncca.ie
www.curriculumonline.ie
www.careersportal.ie
www.qualifax.ie

- Guidance Counsellor make appointment
- Review subject textbook, test papers
- Talk to Subject Teachers, LC students, Parents, Older Siblings
- TY Subject Choice Cafe Tues 4th and Wed 5th March



PowerPoint Presentation available in Guidance Section of www.naascbs.ie



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