

Subject Choice Transition Year

Thank you for attending

Overview of Evening

Welcome	Ms McNicholas(Principal)
Introduction	Ms Byrne (Deputy Principal)
Choosing Subjects	Ms Deering(Guidance Counsellor)
Digital Assessment Requirements, Managed devices	Ms Oglesby (Deputy Principal)
Vsware	Ms Byrne (Deputy Principal)
LCVP (LCW)	Ms Oglesby (Deputy Principal)
TY	Ms Curtis (Programme Co-ordinator)

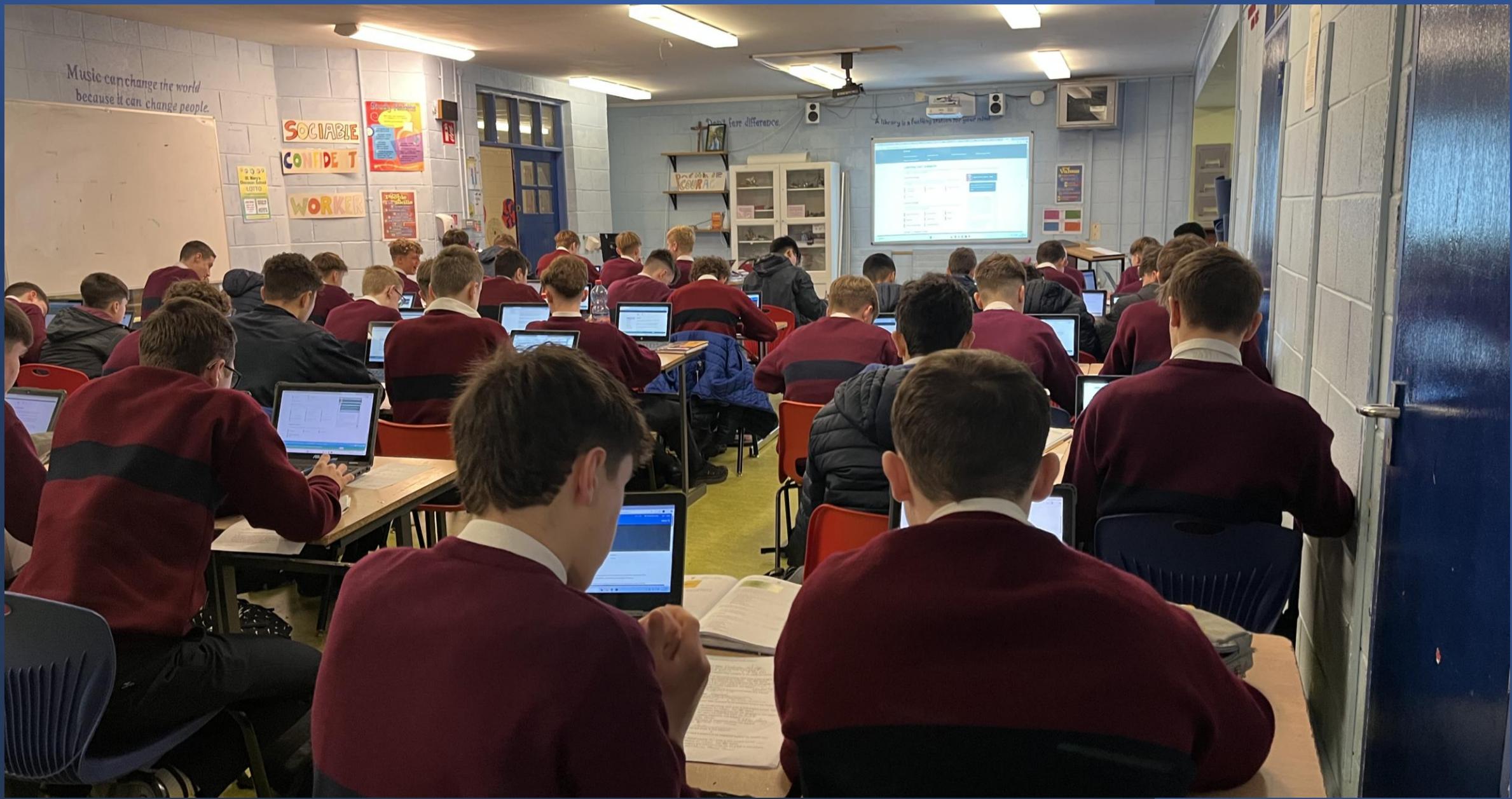
Subject Choice so far...

Subject Choice
Presentation has begun for
TY classes.

December - 2 hour Guidance
Workshop 3rd Years.
Research & Questions

Feb/March – Individual
Subject Talks from LC
teachers







SUBJECT CHOICE

Most students will take seven leaving cert subjects... but, there are many different pathways through senior cycle.

Core subjects for students include:

- English
- Maths
- *Irish

(unless a student has a D.E.S.exemption)

You will then choose additional options.



St. Mary's
offers
20 subjects

Subject Groupings

Business Studies Group

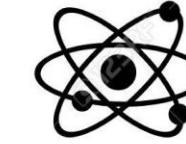
Business, Accounting, Economics

2+2=



Science Group

Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Agricultural Science, Applied Maths



Language Group

French, Spanish



Practical Group

Design and Communication Graphics, Construction Studies



Social Studies/Humanities Group

Geography, History, Art, Religious Education, Classical Studies, Music, P.E., Politics and Society

NB: Subject running depends on numbers who pick it

LCVP

Leaving Cert Vocational Programme



**WHAT DO I NEED
TO CONSIDER
WHEN CHOOSING
SUBJECTS?**

THREE FACTORS TO CONSIDER



1. INTEREST

You should choose subjects that you are genuinely interested in as you are most likely going to enjoy studying those subjects and do well in them.



2. WHAT I AM GOOD AT

Which are the subjects you do best in?



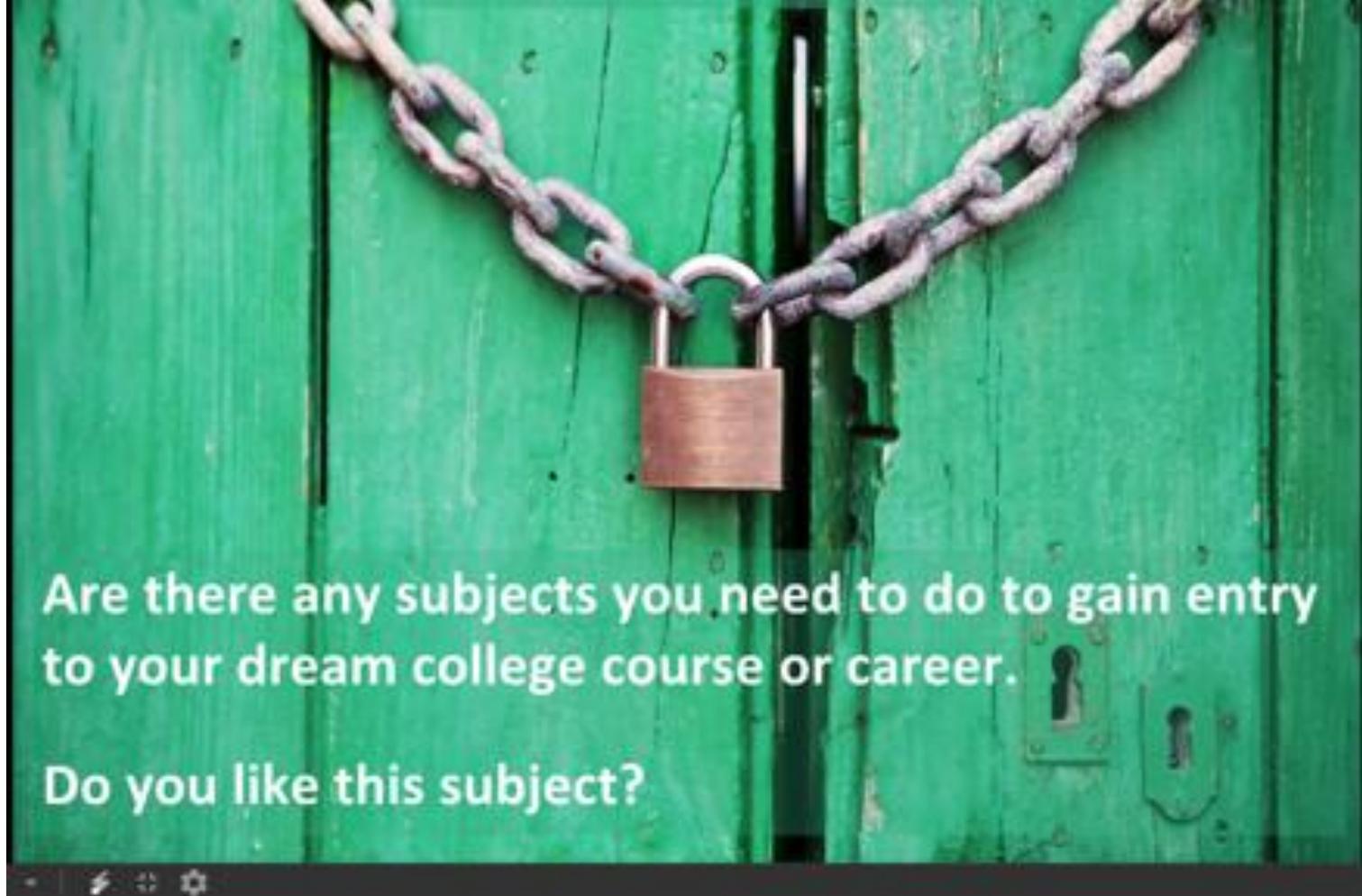
3. FUTURE OPTIONS

In addition to the core subjects (English, Irish and Maths) there are other subjects that are essential for some college courses and the world of work.

If you are applying for opportunities in the future, you might need certain subjects....

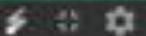


Is it Essential for College?



Are there any subjects you need to do to gain entry
to your dream college course or career.

Do you like this subject?



ENTRY TO FUTURE OPTIONS

College Requirements

3 FACTORS TO CONSIDER



1.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



2.

SPECIFIC COURSE/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

(may involve interviews,
portfolios etc.).



3.

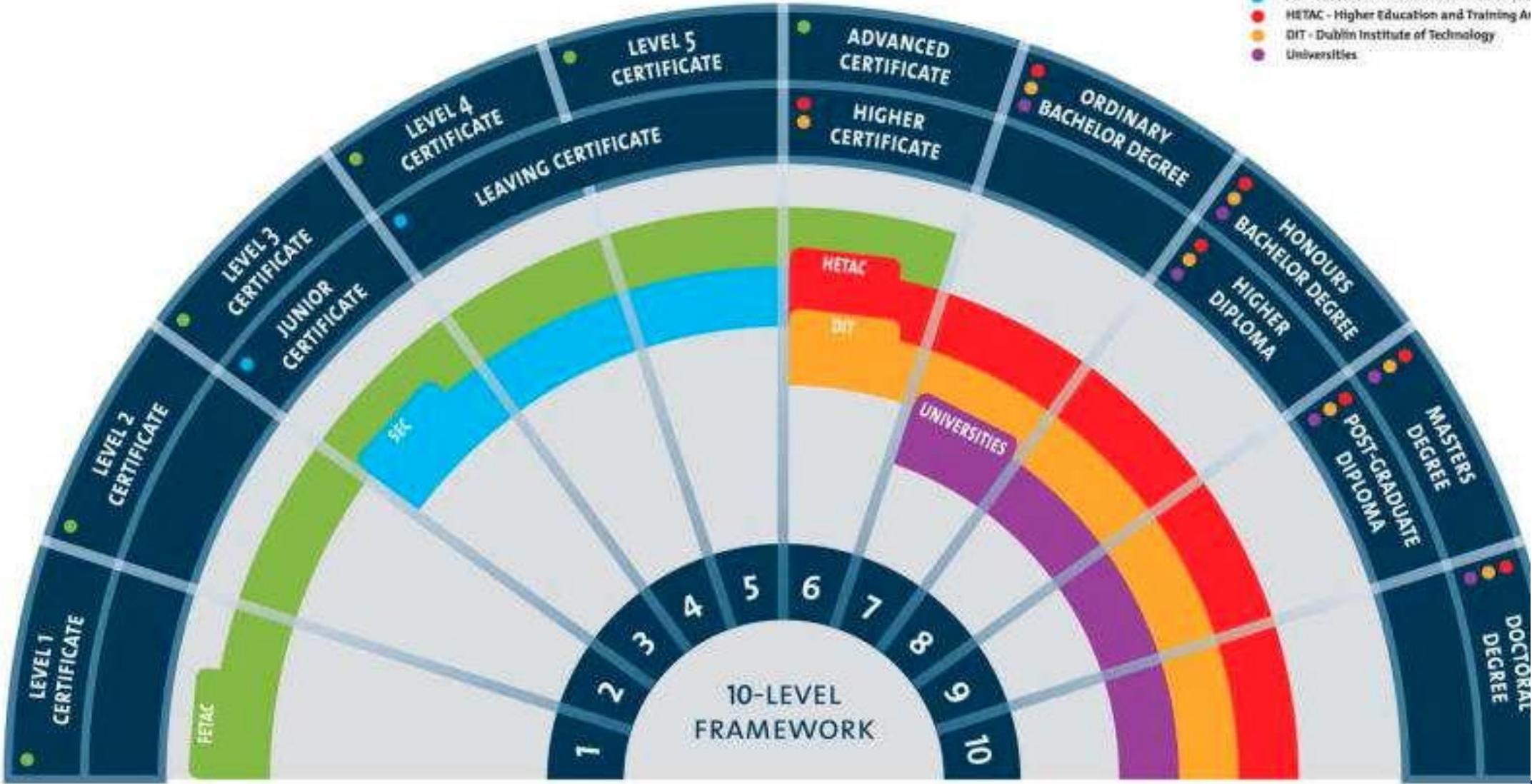
POINTS

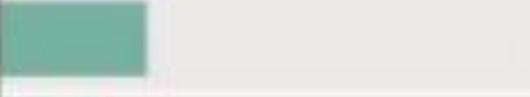
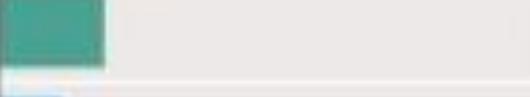
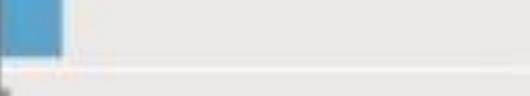
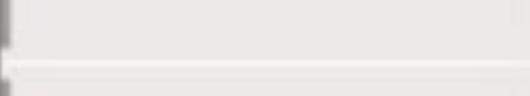
(points are not required
for many options after
post-primary school).

1 Framework of Qualifications

1.1 Framework of Qualifications

1.1.1 Framework of Qualifications



Points	Higher	Your % marks			Ordinary	Points
100		H1	90-100	01		56
88		H2	80-89	02		46
77		H3	70-79	03		37
66		H4	60-69	04		28
56		H5	50-59	05		20
46		H6	40-49	06		12
37		H7	30-39	07		0
0		H8	0-29	08		0

+25 Bonus points for H1-H6 maths

ENTRY TO FUTURE OPTIONS

3 FACTORS TO CONSIDER

College Requirements



1.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



2.

SPECIFIC COURSE/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

(may involve interviews, portfolios etc.).



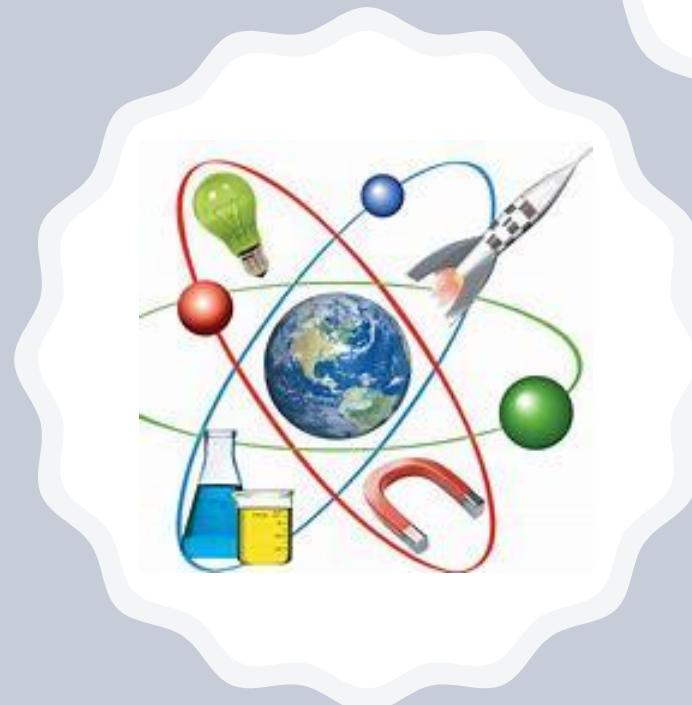
3.

POINTS

(points are not required for many options after post-primary school).

Entry Requirements and Specific Subject Requirements

- The 2 main subject areas to be aware of are:
- The **3rd language** – French/Spanish
- **A Science Subject**





- 3 languages (189 courses)

NUI- National University of Ireland

- UCD
- Maynooth Uni
- Royal College of Surgeons
- University of Galway
- UCC

3 languages



- Exceptions:
Science
and Engineering
French/Spanish
NOT
a requirement



Do you speak a language other than English or Irish at home?

- Arabic
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Lithuanian
- Mandarin Chinese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- (Latin & Ancient Greek also included)



If you speak one of these languages at home..

- Any of these languages can be used in place of French or Spanish once the student sits the Leaving Cert in this subject
- We don't offer them as subjects in school so lessons outside school would need to be arranged by each family
- Curriculum/Specification and past papers are available online



WHAT IS AN ARMY OFFICER CADET



3 languages
required for the
Cadets



institiúid teicneolaiochta dhún dealgan

DUNDALK
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

1 language required-
English or Irish



T
DUBLIN
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY DUBLIN

ENTRY TO FUTURE OPTIONS

3 FACTORS TO CONSIDER



The Sciences

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Agricultural Science

Needed for **Science courses, Medicine, Allied Health Professions**

Needed for **Engineering in the NUI colleges- UCD, UCC, UG, Maynooth**



Tools to help you pick your subject



[Leaving Cert Subjects |](#)
[CareersPortal.ie](#)



- With this tool you can search each subject to see if it is **essential** for your chosen **college** and **course**
- **interest assessment**
- This is a great site for watching **career videos**
- **interest assessment**
- **Read about subjects**

Leaving Cert Subjects

Practical Group

Construction Studies

Engineering

Design & Comm
Graphics

Technology

Science Group

Agricultural Science

Applied Maths

Biology

Chemistry

Mathematics

Physics

Physics and Chemistry

Computer Science

Artistic & Creative Group

Leaving Certificate Chemistry

Career Zone

1 2 3 4 5



NFQ Level

4

Duration

2 Years

Summary

Grades Awarded

Course Overview

Course Content

Exam Structure

Career Possibilities

3rd Level Requirements

3rd Level Requirements

Required for 3rd Level?

This subject may be essential for entry into some Third Level courses. Click on the link below to view courses that may require this subject for entry:



[Chemistry](#)

Career Zone
1 2 3 4 5



NFQ Level
4

Duration
2 Years

Summary

Grades Awarded

Course Overview

Course Content

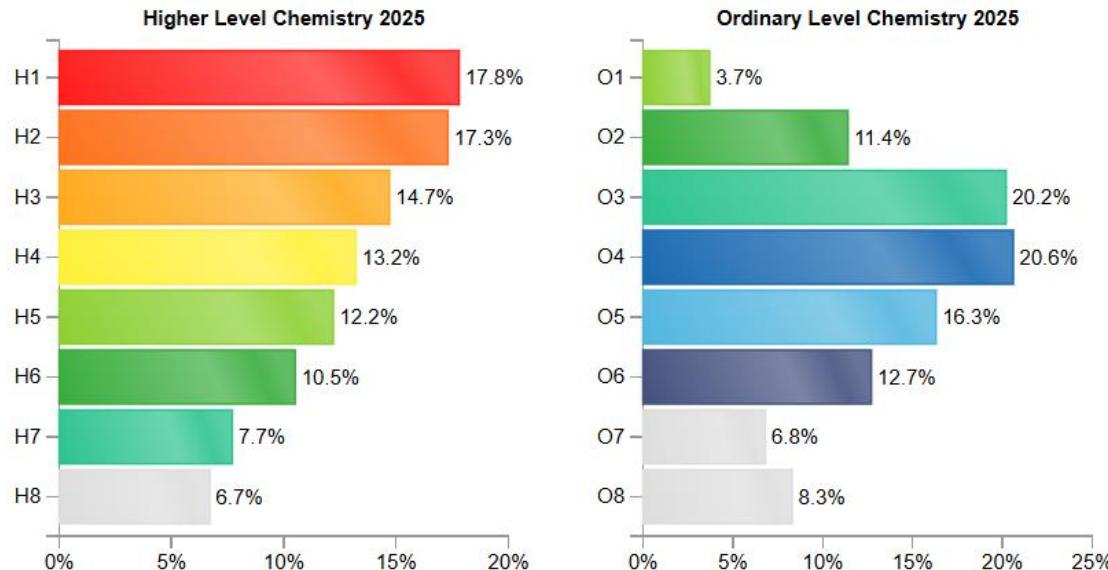
Exam Structure

Career Possibilities

3rd Level Requirements

Grades Awarded

Marks Distribution 2025:



SubjectChemistry 

- 7 courses definitely require Chemistry
- 204 courses may require Chemistry
- 1340 courses do not require Chemistry

Total: 1551

Advanced filters 

Please select one of the 3 categories on the left.

All courses referred to in this section are Third Level CAO entry. The Course Data in this section is for the CAO entry in 2025

"A Science Subject" includes the following subjects: Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics and Chemistry.

"A Second Language" includes the following subjects: Ancient Greek, Arabic, French, German, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Lithuanian, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish.

"A Third Language" includes the following subjects: Ancient Greek, Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese,

Courses that definitely require Chemistry

Dentistry

University College Cork & RCSI (new)

Human Nutrition & Dietetics - Grangegorman

TU Dublin - Technological University Dublin

Medical & Health Sciences

University College Cork

Medicine - Undergraduate Entry

University College Cork

Pharmacy

University College Cork & Trinity College, Dublin

Veterinary Medicine - Undergraduate Entry

University College Dublin & ATU

SETU – Bio/Chem

LEAVING CERT SUBJECT CHOICE



Book Grant

- As far as we are aware, the book grant will continue to be issued.
- That will cover all textbooks, workbooks and some stationery.



Digital Assessment Requirements

01

have a weighting of at least 40%

02

be set and marked by the SEC

03

be subject to the SEC arrangements for the completion, authentication and submission of coursework

What Subjects have Projects? AACs?

Currently have Coursework

Art	Classical Studies	History
Geography	Religion	Economics
PE	Ag Sci	Design and Communication Graphics
Politics and Society	LCVP	Construction

Part of new Senior Cycle

Tranche 1 – 2025

Business, Biology, Chemistry & Physics

Tranche 2 – 2026

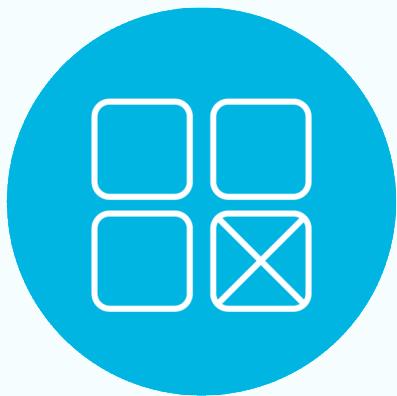
Construction Studies, Engineering, Geography, Physical Education (PE), and the new Leaving Certificate Life, Community and Work (LCW) (replacing LCVP Link Modules)

Tranche 3 – 2027

Agricultural Science, Accounting, English, Design & Communication Graphics, History, Mathematics and Music



Device Management



No Inappropriate Applications

+



MDM

+



Locking Down Service

Wriggle

Private & Confidential

What does it include for parents?



Supported throughout entire time in school

Technical support via phone and email for parents and students.



DEVICE CONFIGURATION

Bespoke setup and management for each student.



TRAINING

Complimentary access to 1000's of training videos on Wriggle Connect Family.



DEVICE SECURITY

Secure device configuration using MDM to ensure device is for educational use only.



REPAIRS & LOANERS

Management of warranty repairs alongside logistics support. Also, the provision of a device loaner programme for quick swap-out.



Interest Free Payment Plans

Pay off your bundle with 12 interest free payments

Private & Confidential

Customer Service



Managed Device – Wriggle - €627 Total inc case

Asus BR12 8GB RAM / 128GB SSD incl 3YR Warranty	€529
2 YR Service & Support	€40
SENSO – 2 Year Subscription	€18
	€40
Protective Case	

Devices

That means they need to be managed by Wriggle and SENSO

The devices used in school must be used exclusively as an educational tool (separate to any device they may use for gaming at home), with them all using the same spec device

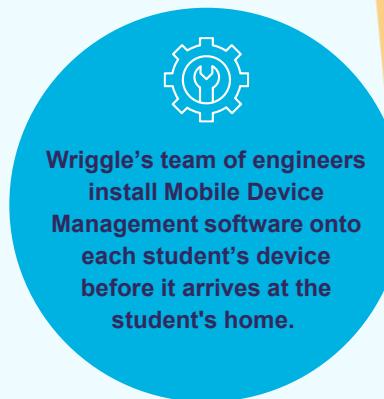
The management system will be removed after 6th year, so the device can be used at Third level if he minds it.

This is so they do not access inappropriate content, and teachers can be confident that they are on task in class.



Problem

Access to Distracting or
Inappropriate Content



Wriggle Solution

Parents
Peace of mind knowing their children are safe to browse online.

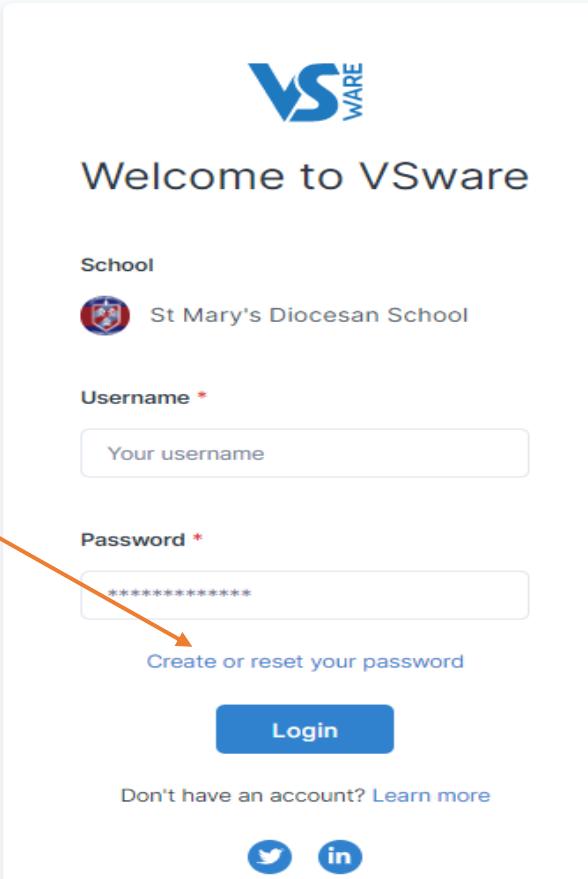
Teachers
Keep on top of student behaviour with classroom management tools.

senso. 
Remote Monitoring and Management

Picking Subject Options on Vshare & Dates

Enter Username and Password.

If you have forgotten your password please click reset password



VSWARE

Welcome to Vshare

School

St Mary's Diocesan School

Username *

Your username

Password *

Create or reset your password

Login

Don't have an account? [Learn more](#)

[Twitter](#) [LinkedIn](#)

10°C 12:21 08/02/2022

Nicholas's Profile | VSware X Timetable X Microsoft Office Home X My Files - OneDrive X IT Problem Template - 0702 X + V - X

Nicholas's Profile | VSware X Timetable X Microsoft Office Home X My Files - OneDrive X IT Problem Template - 0702 X + V - X

← → C stmarysds.app.vshare.ie/9952412

Pick an area to explore

				
Attendance Monitor your child's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson. Learn More	Assessment View your child's full academic record, track progress over time and download term assessments. Learn More	Behaviour Keep track of your child's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback. Learn More	Timetable View your child's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time. Learn More	Personal Info Overview of your child's key info. Ensure that this is up to date. Learn More
		Scroll down to click 'Learn more under Student Options'		
Fees Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card Learn More	Student Options Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the school. Learn More	Fees Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card online. Learn More	Student Options Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the school. Learn More	

[Child profile](#)

Student Options

Please select options 1-7 otherwise they will be chosen at random

On the table(s) below choose subjects in order of the highest priority of preference (1, 2, etc).

Closing date: 18/02/2022

Subject Set 1

Preference	Subject Choice
1	Select a subject ▼
2	Select a subject ▼
3	Select a subject ▼

Click on each number from 1-7



Type here to search



10°C



ENG

12:04
08/02/2022

1 French

2 Construction Studies

3 Physics

4 Physical Education
LC Exam

5 Economics

6 Music

7 Classical Studies

 Your preferences have been saved

Confirm

- Subject options will open Fri 27th Feb
- You can change the subjects as often as you need to until the closing date Wed 11th March
- If the green tick is there you do not have to click confirm
- If you have any problems please email cerrie.byrne@stmarysds.ie
- If you are having difficulty you can write the subject in order of preference and **sign it** and ask your son to go to Ms. Byrne and I will enter them with him onto the system

L C V P



**Renamed Leaving
Certificate Life,
Community and Work
(LCW)**

**It is an optional
extra subject**

What is this subject?

- ▶ The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) enhanced the vocational focus of the traditional Leaving Certificate and was introduced in 1994 to respond to Ireland's changing work and business environment.
- ▶ It provided an extra subject where students develop interpersonal, organisational and technological skills. LCVP prepared students for further education, employment, or even starting their own business.

LCW - Leaving Certificate Life, Community and Work specification

- ▶ A new Leaving Certificate Life, Community and Work specification will be introduced for fifth year students in September 2026. This will replace the current Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme Statement.
- ▶ Link to specification [SC-LCW-Spec-ENG-INT.pdf](#)
- ▶ Link to information on the AAC [Guidelines-to-complete-the-Portfolio-in-Action-AAC-EN.pdf](#)

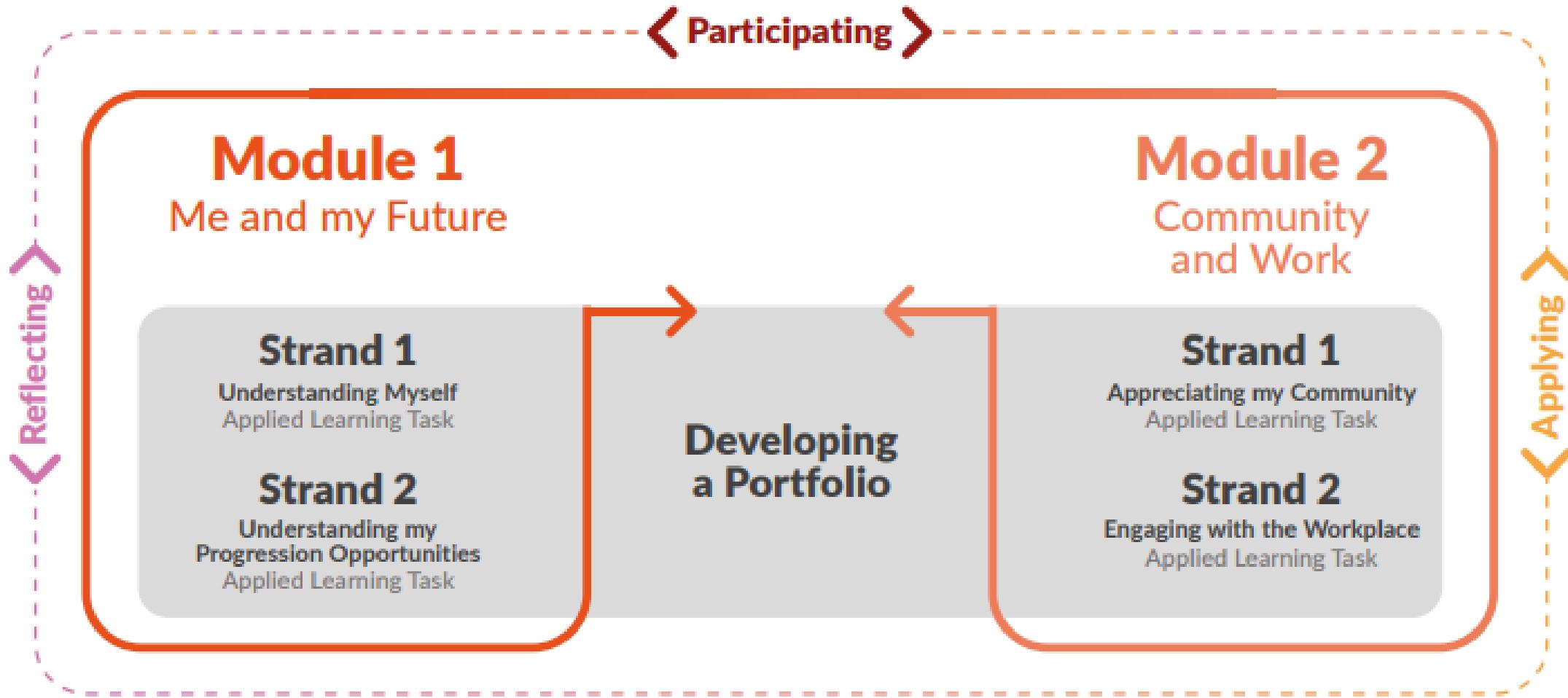


Figure 3: Overview of the specification

Digital technology in LCW

- ▶ Digital technology can play a role to further enhance teaching, learning and assessment of Life, Community and Work. Digital technology can support students as they engage with the learning identified in the specification, while also providing additional opportunities for students to engage with a variety of learning experiences, through the use of virtual and blended approaches. As students engage with Life, Community and Work, they may have opportunities to use digital technology to:
 - ▶ • communicate effectively with others
 - ▶ • engage in virtual and/or blended learning experiences
 - ▶ • create and develop good quality documents that are multimodal in nature
 - ▶ • effectively research using online tools
 - ▶ • understand the strengths, limitations and ethical considerations of AI tools
 - ▶ • develop a digital portfolio*, which is a collation of digital artefacts.

PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ To qualify for LCW, students must take the following:
- ▶ must take a minimum of five Leaving Certificate subjects (at Higher, Ordinary or Foundation Level) including Irish. Students who are exempt from studying Irish, must take additional subject(s) to ensure that they present a minimum of five Leaving Certificate subjects in their Leaving Certificate examination.
- ▶ must engage with the four strands of study.

CAO POINTS FOR LEAVING CERTIFICATE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMME (LCVP)

LCVP AWARD	UNIVERSITIES & INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY
Distinction (80 - 100%)	66 points (equivalent to grade H4 in Higher Level) Note: grade O1 in Ordinary Level = 56 points.
Merit (65 - 79%)	46 points (equivalent to grade H6 in Higher Level / grade O2 in Ordinary Level).
Pass (50 - 64%)	28 points (equivalent to grade O4 in Ordinary Level).
Not achieved (0-49%)	

Advantages of taking LCVP



For CAO purposes, fall back subject. 80% of students end up using it in their CAO.



60% portfolio work, which is completed mainly in 5th year and the AAC due in early 6th year. The remaining 40% is examined in a written exam held in May of 6th year.



Develops skills involving IT, report writing, case studies, interview techniques and teamwork, all of which are very useful for third level and in employment. The LCVP qualification provides an opportunity for students to be become better informed regarding career choices.

What's next for 3rd Year??

- 10 full weeks left in school
- State Exams Timetable: [EN-EX-90634608.pdf](#)
- 10 subjects, 2 hours
- Mock Results- Academic monitoring with Ms Coleman and Mr Spain
- Study Skills- Inspire Education
- StudyClix subscription
- Study Timetables, Past Papers, Effective use of his time
- Rewards, Awards & Trip

:

St. Mary's D.S. Transition Year 2026-27

Coordinator & Yearhead

- ▶ Coordinator - R Curtis
- ▶ Yearhead - B Healy

What is Transition Year for your son?

To promote the personal, social, educational and vocational development of the students, and to prepare them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society.

STUDENT DIMENSIONS

Personal Growth- Students mature socially and emotionally.

Being a Learner – Building on previous experiences begin to develop as senior cycle students.

Civic & Community Engagement – Make a positive difference in their schools, communities and society.

Career Exploration – Explore diverse future pathways. First hand work experience and developing career competencies.

The Year to ACHIEVE:

- Time-Management
- Responsibility
- Charity Work
- Community Involvement
- Self Regulation

A golden opportunity to think about options for Leaving Cert Subjects and get ahead in the core subjects!!!

TY is about TIME MANAGEMENT

TIMETABLE

Core Subjects

- ▶ English
- ▶ Irish
- ▶ Maths
- ▶ Modern Foreign Language *

Coursework

- ▶ Enterprise
- ▶ P.E.
- ▶ Pastoral Care
- ▶ Portfolio

- ▶ **Careers**
- ▶ **SPHE**
- ▶ **Wellbeing**
- ▶ **Community Care**
- ▶ **Digital Literacy**

Accounting/Biology/Geography/Law/
Physics

Ag Science/Business/Classics/Music/
Religion

Art/Economics/History/Politics/Statistics

Sustainability/Chemistry/Construction/DIY
/Podcasting

Chess/DCG/Journalism/French/Spanish

Tuesday Modules (5/6 weeks)

- ▶ Cookery (Canteen)
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Yoga
- ▶ Film Making
- ▶ Home Economics (Sacred Heart)

TY is about TIME MANAGEMENT

ASSESSMENT

► Your son will have exams/presentations at Christmas and summer in the following subjects:

- English
- Irish
- Maths

► He will have coursework in all other areas

ATTAINMENT

► *Based on Attendance, Behaviour, Subject Effort & Work Experience.*

1. Distinction
2. Merit
3. Pass

Credits for TY Certificate

There are a total of 300
Credits available

- ▶ Distinction above 260 Credits
- ▶ Merit above 240 Credits
- ▶ Pass above 180 Credits

TY is about TIME MANAGEMENT

WORK EXPERIENCE

3 weeks (Nov & April)

- Vetting
- Variety
- Evaluation
- Insurance
- Community Placement at Christmas

TY is about TIME MANAGEMENT

ACTIVITIES & TALKS (Cost €530)

ACTIVITIES & TALKS

SEPTEMBER – Reptile Haven, Causey farm, Barista Workshop, Jui Jitsu, Stephen Kiernan Motivational Workshop, DAR Collection.

OCTOBER – SFX Workshop, DCU Climate Change, School of Life, Wolftones match.

NOVEMBER – Work Experience, Cinema.

DECEMBER – SVDP Collection, Poetry Slam Workshop, TY Craft Fair, Sacred Heart Bake Sale, Xmas Party.

JANUARY – Skincare Workshop, Barber Workshop, Law Online, Cyber Security Talk.

FEBRUARY – Alan Devine Public Speaking Workshop, TY English Play, RNLI Water Safety Talk, Self Defence, Dare to Believe Olympics Talk.

MARCH – Work Experience, Trip to Balbriggan Play, Louth Enterprise, Fencing Workshop, Belfast trip, Big Legal, Self Defence.

APRIL – Belfast, Hilton Hotel, Danish Visitors, Movie Magic, Bodhran Workshop.

MAY – Special Olympics Collection, Cupcake Competition, DCU Flynn Park, Oscars, Movie Magic, Cavan Adventure Centre, Emerald Park, TY Grad

Transition Year Motto

*“You will get back from T.Y.
what you put into it.”*

Be Active! Be Involved!

CONS

- ▶ 1. **Extra year in school**
- ▶ 2. **The cost**
- ▶ 3. **Fear of getting ‘lazy’**
- ▶ In conclusion, TY is a great year offering new opportunities for personal development. But it does not suit all young people.

How to Apply/Deadline

- ▶ A link to the online application will be posted in Microsoft teams by end of day Friday, **February 13th 2026**.
- ▶ Application must be submitted by **3pm Friday 20th February**.
- ▶ Late applications will not be accepted.

ANY QUESTIONS ?

