



Subject Choice

St. Mary's Diocesan School

Overview of Evening

- Introduction
- School Update, Choosing Subjects,
- College Requirements
- Vsware
- LCVP/ TY

Ms McNicholas (Principal)

Ms Delany (Guidance Counsellor)

Ms Deering (Guidance Counsellor)

Ms Noone (Deputy Principal)

Ms Martin (Deputy Principal)

Ms Curtis (Programme Co-ordinator)

Subject Choice so far...

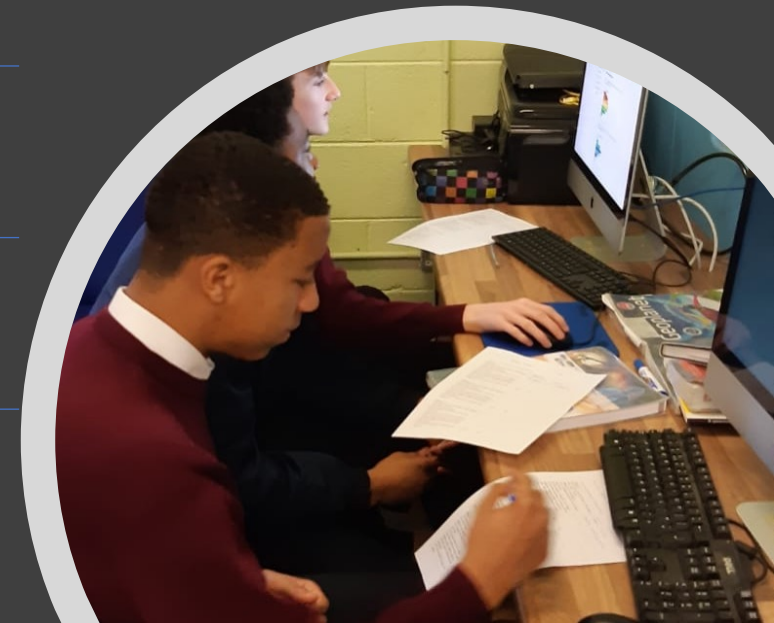
November – CAW, Entry requirements, specific subjects required

Subject Choice Presentation to each 3rd/ TY class.

TY Weekly Career Classes

December - 90 mins Guidance Workshop. Research & Questions

January – 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

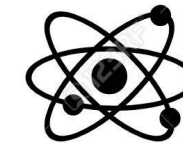
Business Studies Group

Business, Accounting, Economics



Science Group

Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Agricultural Science



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



How many subjects do students do for the Leaving Certificate?

Students choose the remaining

4 subjects



**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.

3 factors

- Interest
- What am I good at?
- Future Options for College/Work

MAKING A WISE CHOICE

QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK YOURSELF

What subjects are you most interested in?

What subject are you likely to be best at?



- Remember that the senior cycle requires a great amount of work over two years.
- It will be easier to work hard if you have chosen, in so far as possible, subjects

SUBJECT CHOICE AND YOUR FUTURE

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



Things not to do when
choosing subjects...




You like the
teacher...

$$(2x+1)(2x+2)^4$$

Make sure you like the subject also.
(Teachers can be switched or leave!!)

Is it Essential for College?

A photograph of a green wooden door, slightly ajar, with a rusty metal chain and a brass padlock securing it. The door has a keyhole and a small metal handle. The background is a solid green color.

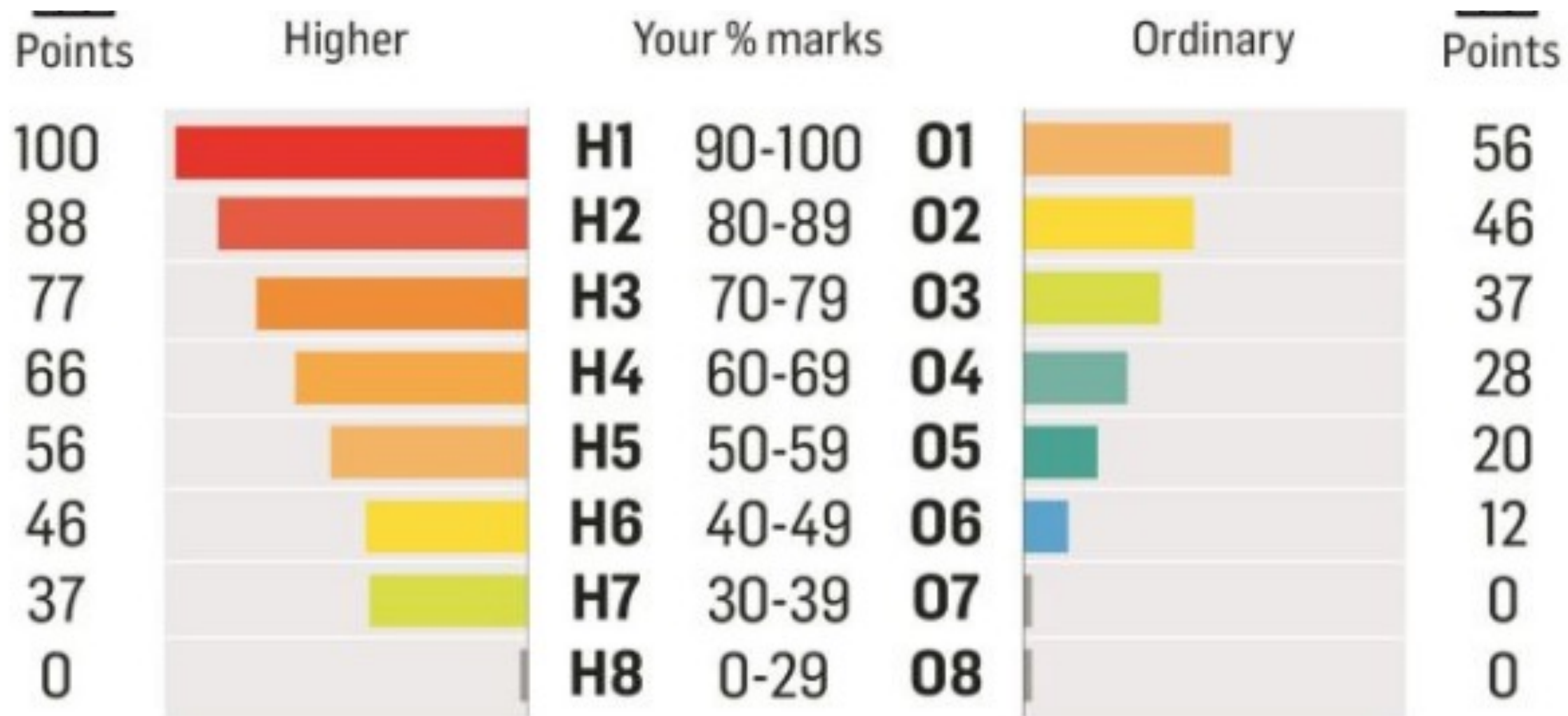
Are there any subjects you need to do to gain entry
to your dream college course or career.

Do you like this subject?

Framework of Qualifications

FOR AWARD-TYPES AND AWARDING BODIES



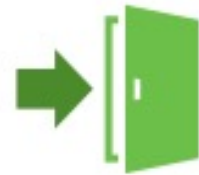


+25 Bonus points for H1-H6 maths

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 (161 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



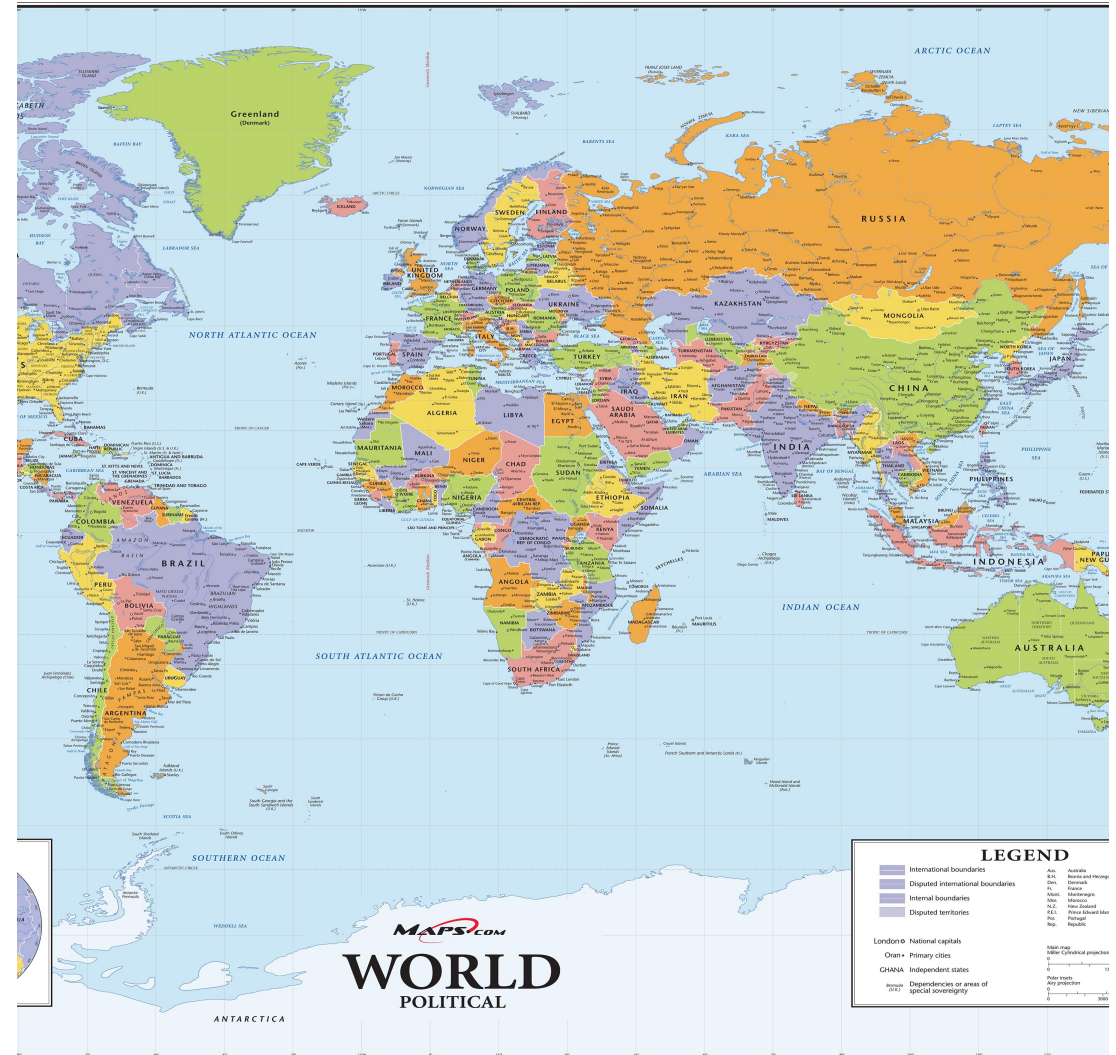
Do you speak a language other than English or Irish at home?

- 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

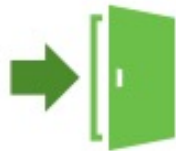


1 language required-
English or Irish



ENTRY TO FUTURE OPTIONS

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).

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Agricultural Science (cannot be presented with Biology as a separate science subject)



Tools to help you pick your subject



www.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

Chemistry

Career Zone

1 2 3 4 5



NFQ Level

4

Duration

2 Years

Summary

Grades Awarded

Course Overview

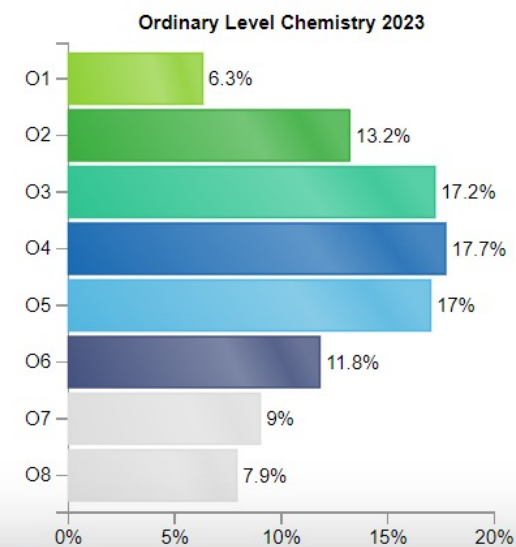
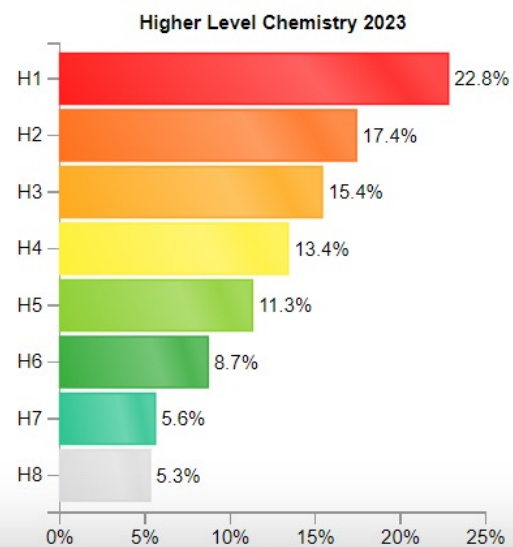
Course Content

Exam Structure

Career Possibilities

3rd Level Requirements

Grades Awarded



Leaving Certificate Chemistry

Career Zone

1 2 3 4 5



NFQ Level



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

Subject Requirements Tool

Planning to make application to the CAO? This tool will help you choose the right subjects and levels at Leaving Cert.

Subject

Chemistry



- ☐ 6 courses definitely require Chemistry
- ☐ 204 courses may require Chemistry
- ☐ 1355 courses do not require Chemistry

Total: 1565

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 2024

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

Courses that definitely require Chemistry

Dentistry

University College Cork

CAO Points: 625

Human Nutrition & Dietetics - Grangegorman

TU Dublin - Technological University Dublin

CAO Points: 556

Medical & Health Sciences

University College Cork

CAO Points: 544

Medicine - Undergraduate Entry

University College Cork

CAO Points: 732

Pharmacy

University College Cork & Trinity College, Dublin

CAO Points: 613 & 613

Veterinary Medicine - Undergraduate Entry

University College Dublin

CAO Points: 589

LEAVING CERT SUBJECT CHOICE



classroomguidance.ie

Picking Subject Options on Vsware & Dates

Enter Username and Password.

If you have forgotten your password please click reset password

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://stmarysds.app.vsware.ie>. The page is titled "Welcome to VSware" and features the VSware logo. Below the logo, the school name "St Mary's Diocesan School" is displayed. The login form includes a "Username" field with the placeholder "Your username" and a "Password" field with masked characters "*****". A link labeled "Create or reset your password" is positioned below the password field, and an orange arrow points from the text "click reset password" to this link. A blue "Login" button is located below the password field. At the bottom of the form, there is a link "Don't have an account? Learn more". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system clock indicating 12:21 on 08/02/2022.



Parent Dashboard

Your Children ▾



Parent Dashboard



Welcome to the Dashboard

This page is your one-stop-shop to view live notifications on your child's attendance, behaviour, reports and more. If you want to explore further, click into your child's profile.



Your Children



Your Contact Details

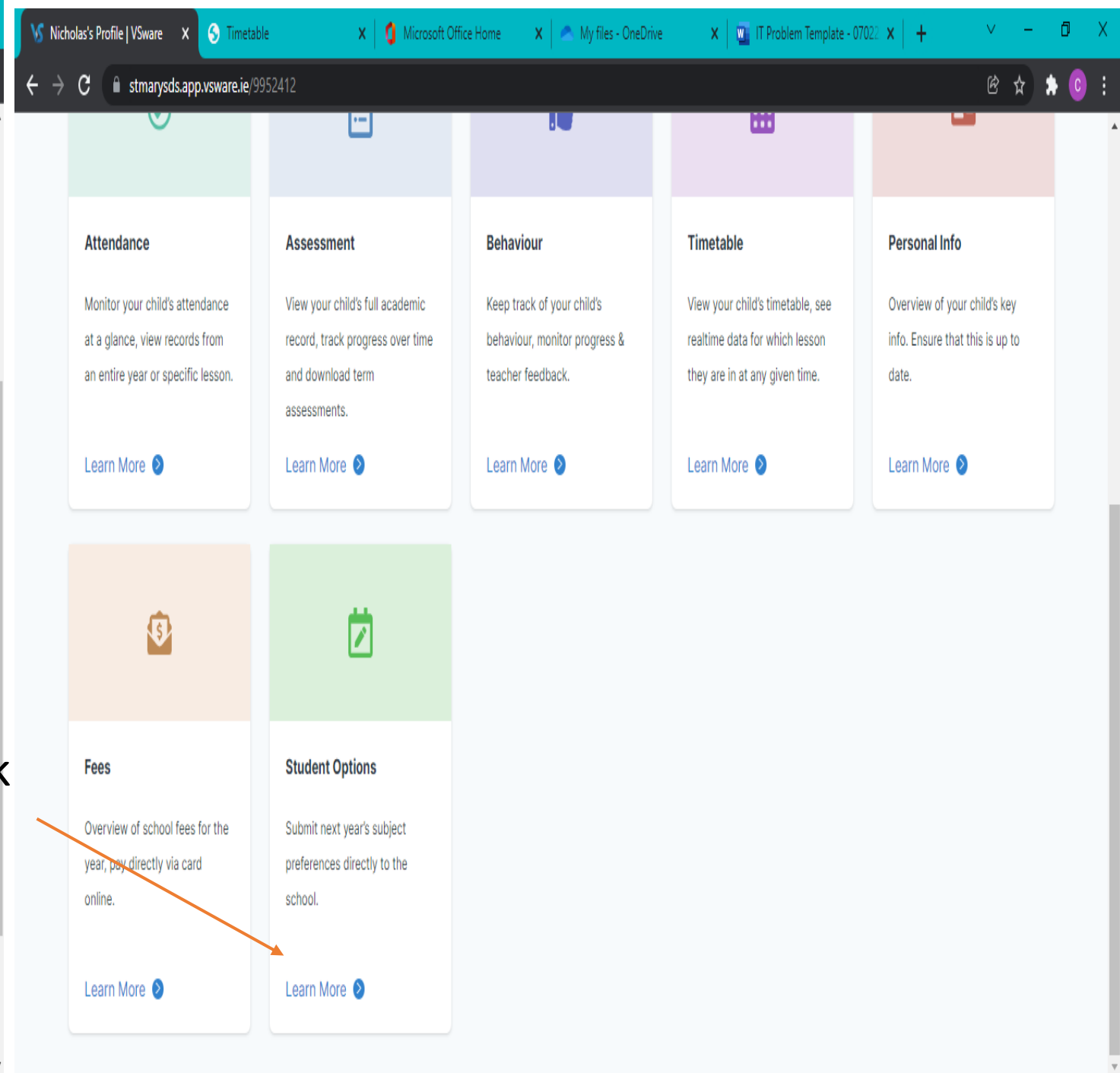
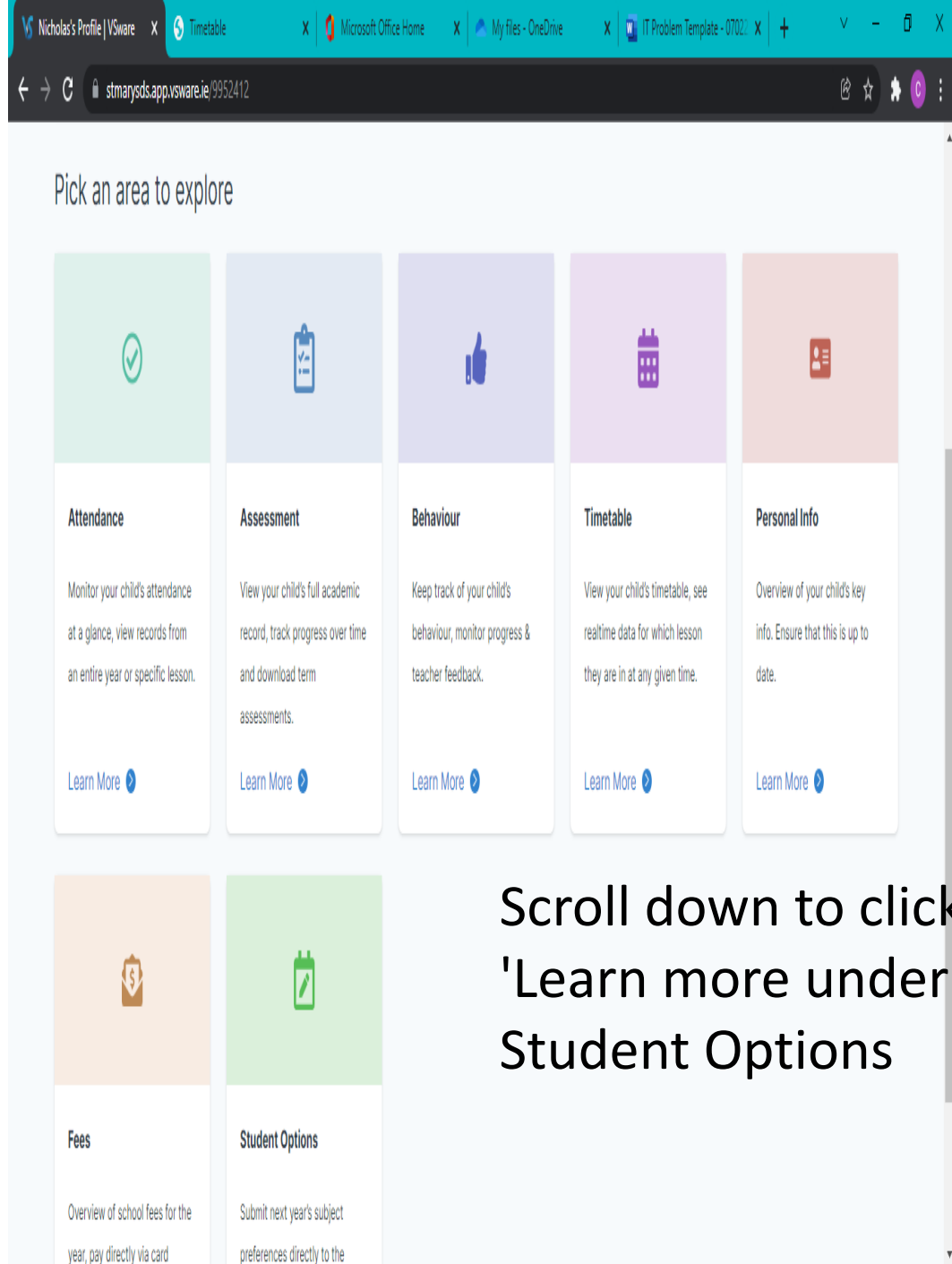


Notifications

Nothing to report!

Notifications related to your children will appear here when available.

Click here
for your son



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



Confirm

- You can change the subjects as often as you need to until the closing date Wednesday 21st February
- If the green tick is there you do not have to click confirm
- If you have any problems please email Inoone@stmarysds.ie
- If you are having difficulty you can write the subject in order of preference and **sign it** and ask you son to go to Ms. Noone and I will enter them with him onto the system

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern, layered effect. The shapes are concentrated on the left and right sides, leaving a large white central area.

LCVP

What does LCVP mean?

- ▶ Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme
- ▶ The **Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)** is an intervention designed to enhance the vocational dimension of the Leaving Certificate (established). The programme was introduced in 1994 in response to the challenge placed on Ireland's education system by a changing work and business environment.

PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ To qualify for LCVP, 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 study the two Link Modules, namely Preparation for the World of Work and Enterprise Education.

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).

LCVP Course Content

- ▶ 60% of LCVP course is made up of portfolio work, which is completed mainly in 5th year. The remaining 40% is examined in a written exam held in May of 6th year, so all of the LCVP work is completed in advance of the June exams.
- ▶ In 5th year, there is one timetabled class for LCVP.
- ▶ In 6th year, there is one timetabled class for LCVP

Advantages of taking LCVP

- ▶ For CAO purposes, the points achieved in six subjects can be used. If a student wishes, they can use the points achieved in LCVP as one of these six subjects. If a student performs poorly on one of their regular Leaving Certificate subjects on the day of the exam, they can swap this disappointing result for the result achieved in the LCVP exam.
- ▶ As mentioned earlier, 60% of LCVP course is made up of portfolio work, which is completed mainly in 5th year. The remaining 40% is examined in a written exam held in May of 6th year, so all of the LCVP work is completed in advance of the June exam.
- ▶ Apart from its value in contributing to the overall points achieved by a student, the LCVP course 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 become better informed regarding career choices.
- ▶ Overall, LCVP provides a valuable educational experience - do it, if you qualify for it.

:

St. Mary's D.S. Transition Year 2024-25

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.

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

EXPECTATIONS

What is Expected of him?

- Attendance
- Punctuality
- Uniform
- Give it a go!
- 100% Effort

TY is about TIME MANAGEMENT

TIMETABLE

Core Subjects

- ▶ English
- ▶ Irish
- ▶ Maths
- ▶ Modern Foreign Language
- ▶ Pastoral Care
- ▶ Careers

Coursework

- ▶ Enterprise
- ▶ P.E.
- ▶ Woodwork

Modules (5 weeks)

- ▶ History/Geography/Classics/
Accounting/Politics
- ▶ Business/Economics/Religion
- ▶ Biology/Chemistry/Physics/
Ag Science/Art

Monday Modules (5weeks)

- ▶ Cookery
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Law
- ▶ Driver Theory
- ▶ Yoga
- ▶ Sports Science

TY is about TIME MANAGEMENT

ASSESSMENT

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

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Modern Foreign Language

► **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

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern, layered effect on the right side of the slide.

3 weeks (Nov & March)

- Vetting
- Variety
- Evaluation
- Insurance

TY is about TIME MANAGEMENT

ACTIVITIES & TALKS (Fee €530)

ACTIVITIES & TALKS

SEPTEMBER – Reptile Haven, Celtic Adventures, Stephen Kiernan Motivational Talk, Peer Education, Causey Farm.

OCTOBER – DAR Collection, Guest Speaker, Droichead Arts Centre, SFX Workshop, Autism Collection, Barista Workshop, Cinema, Musical Rehearsals.

NOVEMBER – School of Life Workshop, 2 weeks Work Experience, ABACAS Peer Education, Louth Enterprise Board Talk.

DECEMBER – Dare to Believe Programme, CPR, Drama, Craft Fair, Movie Magic Workshop, Musical Rehearsals, Christmas Party, Cinema.

JANUARY – Skincare and Grooming Workshop, CSI Experience, Cupcake Competition, Alan Devine Public Speaking Workshop.

FEBRUARY – Barber Workshop, Dementia Peer Education, Enterprise Competition.

MARCH – Bodhran Making Workshop, Driving School, Work Experience, Premier League Trip.

APRIL – TY Musical, DCU Trip, Grandparents Day.

MAY – Tayto Park, Paintball, Hydro Water Sports, Sports Day, TY End of Year Awards.

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 tomorrow.
- ▶ Application must be submitted by 3pm Wednesday 21st February.
- ▶ Late applications will not be accepted.

ANY QUESTIONS ?

