

# Ardee Community School

Senior Cycle Information Night

# Options

- 1. Transition Year
- 2. Traditional 5<sup>th</sup> Year Leaving Certificate with or without LCVP
- 3. Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA)



# Transition Year



# What are the Benefits of TY?

- Development of lifelong skills – independent self-directed learning.
- Informed subject choice.
- Increased points at senior cycle.
- Students take responsibility for their own learning.
- Increased Maturity

# Curriculum

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Language Studies - French / German
- Social education – non language students
- Business & Enterprise
- Computers
- Guidance
- PE
- Social, Personal and Health Education

# T.Y. Rotating Modules – 5 week blocks.

Block 1	Block 2
Biology Agricultural Science Chemistry Applied Maths Physics Safety at Work Yoga	Art Construction Studies History Home Economics Horticulture Law Life Skills Music
Block 3	Year Long Options
Childcare Computer Studies Geography Politics and Society Philosophy Public Speaking RSE	GAA Future Leaders Junk Kouture Community YSI Podcasting

# Extra Curricular Activities

- Student Enterprise
- Youth for Justice
- Team Building Activities
- Safety at Work Programme
- Road Safety Initiative
- Study Skills
- Green Schools
- Peer Education
- Musical
- Community Projects
- Junior St Vincent De Paul
- Gaisce
- Community Art Project
- Social Awareness Talks
- First Aid
- GAA online course
- Other online courses

# Our Transition Year

- Cost €300 (This can be paid in instalments and the book grant applies)
- Team building trip - €200
- Accessable to all
- New experiences
- Take up new skills & improve existing skills



# Other Opportunities

- Other courses or opportunities which may arise and are suited to either the whole group or individuals.

Eg Computer Science Module in DKIT.,

Work experience outside the two allocated weeks.

Science, law or other courses in RCSI, Trinity and DCU.



# Leaving Certificate and Subject Choice

# The Leaving Certificate: Beginning with the end in mind



# Subject Choice Considerations

- Choosing subjects which students like.
- What subjects they are good at – where are their strengths and abilities?
- Consider aspects of TY and Junior Cycle which they enjoyed
- Choosing subjects which will allow students to continue into an area of interest after school
- Being aware of some essential subject requirements for specific courses and some useful subjects for career interests

# Seven subjects required

Students do 7 subjects

3 Core subjects plus 4 options

LCVP is an extra option (8<sup>th</sup> subject)

# Subjects Offered

Core	Lang	Science	Humanities	Technical	Creative/ Practical	Business
<u>English</u>	French	Biology	Geography	Engineering	Music	Business
<u>Irish*</u>	German	Chemistry	History	Construction	Art	Accounting
<u>Maths</u>		Physics	Politics & Society	DCG (Graphics for Junior Cycle)	Home Economics	
		Agricultural Science		<i>*Applied Maths</i>	LC Physical Education	
				<i>LC Computer Science</i>	LCVP	
				<i>Technology</i>		

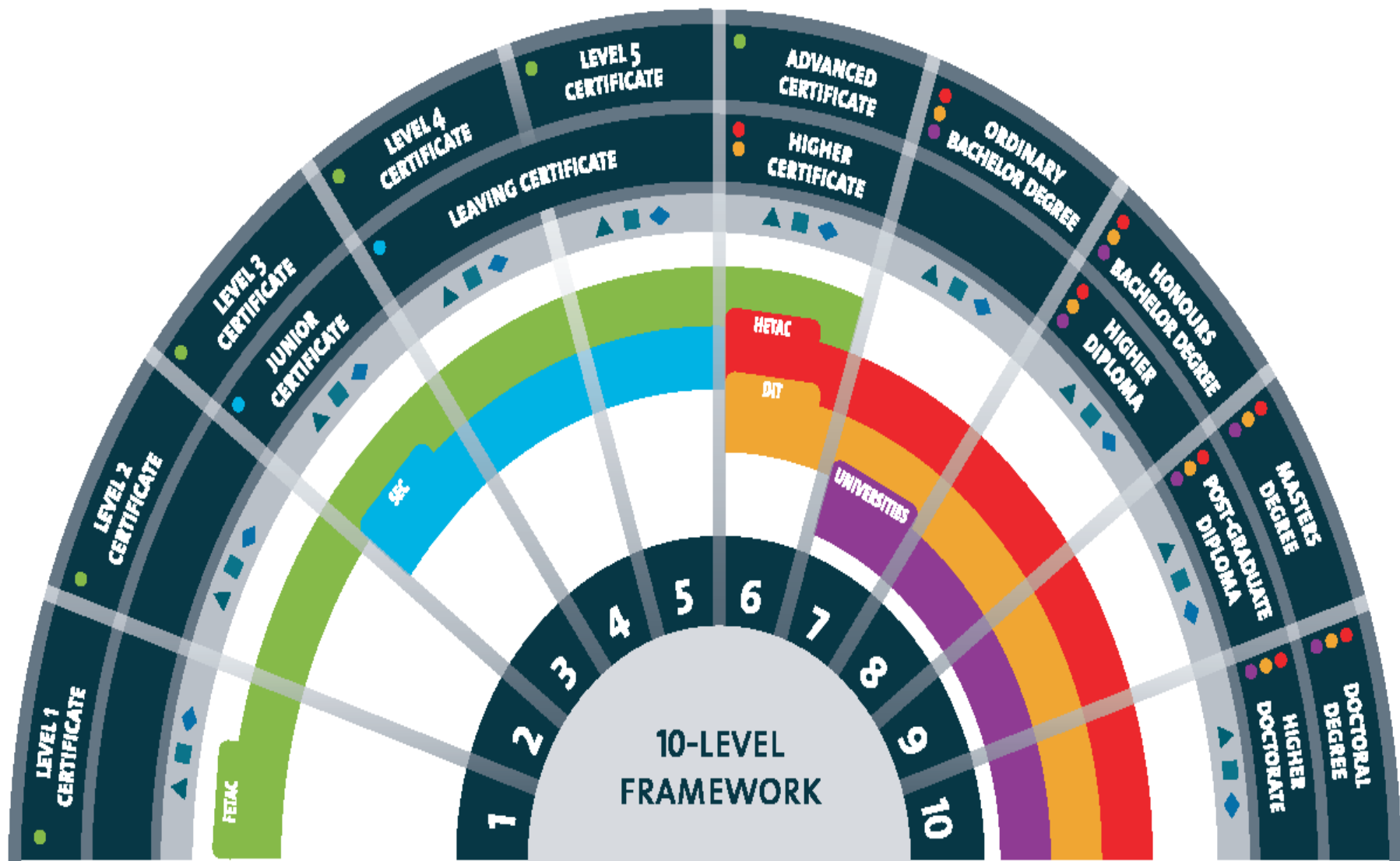
# Compulsory Subjects

- Social, Personal and Health Education (Including RSE)
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Guidance
- Tutorial

# Notes on Subjects

- Politics and Society (introduced 2019)
- Computer Science (introduced 2020)
- Physical Education(introduced 2020)
- Technology (LC subject from Sept 2022)
- Design and Communication Graphics (DCG) is Graphics from Junior Cycle
- Construction is Wood Technology from Junior Cycle
- Engineering is Engineering (Metalwork) from Junior Cycle
- Business Studies splits into two subjects Business and Accounting for LC





# Options After Leaving Certificate

- Many options available to students now.
- University and College courses, Tertiary Degrees  
Apprenticeships, Post Leaving Certificate Courses etc.
- Necessary to begin exploring possible areas of career interest when considering subject choice.

# College Entry Requirements

You need to satisfy 3 criteria in order to secure place on a degree course (Third level)

- 1. Basic Entry Requirements**
- 2. Course Specific entry requirements**
- 3. The required number of points**

# Higher v Ordinary Level

- Big difference in points allocation.
- You may not need high points to get your chosen course.
- If you are aiming at 450+ points it will be difficult to attain without studying at 6 subjects at higher level.
- You will get a bonus of 25 points for higher level Maths under the current points system
- Important to be practical about student's own abilities and potential pressure to meet unrealistic expectations

# Points

- Count six subjects

HL Maths 25 extra points for H6 and above

HL Grade	Points	OL Grade	Points	LCVP Grade	Points
H1 (90-100)	100				
H2 (80-89)	88				
H3 (70-79)	77				
H4 (60-69)	66			Distinction (80-100)	66
H5 (50-59)	56	O1 (90-100)	56		
H6 (40-49)	46	O2 (80-89)	46	Merit (65-79)	46
H7 (30-39)	37	O3 (70-79)	37		
H8 (20-29)	0	O4 (60-69)	28	Pass (less than 64)	28
		O5 (50-59)	20		
		O6 (40-49)	12		
		O7 (30-39)	0		
		O8 (20-29)	0		

# Subject Choices: Things to note

- Some courses require certain subjects and at a specific grade : Third Language/ Science Subject(s)/HL Maths/HL Irish
- Primary Teaching has specific requirements in Irish, English and Maths
- Consider if a subject has practical elements. Is there a practical assessment as part of examination
- What are the learning requirements of the subject
- Does the subject come naturally
- Does your student currently enjoy it or have an interest
- Consider Junior Cycle results
- Consider their groupings of subjects

# Third Language Requirement

- UCC, UCD, University of Galway, Maynooth University and the Royal College of Surgeons require a pass in a third language for some of their courses
- Other courses **no longer require a third language** include Home Economics Teaching and Primary Teaching (this has changed last year)
- Science, Engineering, Computing in NUI s **DO NOT** require a 3rd language (some exceptions –always check)
- Business and Law do not require third language in MAYNOOTH but do in other NUIs
- Other colleges have it as a requirement for certain courses that have a large language component
- Entry to the Cadetships in the Defence Forces require a third language.

# Third Language...

- Is not required for
  - Gardai (Irish is no longer required, a proficiency in either English or Irish or both)
  - Nursing
  - For most courses in Technological Universities
  - Apprenticeships
  - Any PLC college
  - Primary and Home Economics Teaching



# Other Languages

- Worth considering where English is not the spoken language in the home.
- A very good spoken (for some languages with oral and listening exams) and written competency required.
- Curricular languages include, **Spanish, Italian, Polish, Lithuanian, Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, Russian and Portuguese**. These have a written, oral and listening parts.
- Non -Curricular languages include **Czech, Bulgarian, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Latvian, Modern Greek, Romanian, Slovakian, Slovenian, Swedish** (Assessed by written exam in June only)
- It is planned to introduce **Ukrainian** as a non-curricular language for exams from 2025 on. (First exam in June 2025)

# Tips to help make choices

## Do

- Consider overall collective of subjects and the workload requirements
- Speak with subject teachers and Guidance Counsellors
- Ask older friends/family members about subjects
- Pick what you are GOOD at and ENJOY
- Be aware of potential college/subject requirements

## Don't

- Pick subjects because of friends
- Let potential teacher influence choices
- Choose a subject because it is perceived as easy.
- Choose a new subject without finding out more about it.
- Pick a grouping of subjects that will overstretch the student

# Beware..



- Of leaving out a subject that might be required (check do you need a third language or science subject)
- Of taking on a new subject for the first time without finding out what it entails
- Do the necessary research now and have a loose career plan for ahead
- If still unsure, a good plan is to include a language and one science subject in the four options

# Subject Requirements

- Most Leaving Certificate Subjects have Practical Coursework component.
- The remaining Sciences (Physics, Chemistry and Biology) and Business are due to have Coursework Components introduced in the next two years.
- Important to aim for a very high standard in the practical or oral.
- But do not forget the written exam!!!

# Apprenticeships

- ICT
- Arboriculture
- Biopharma
- Construction
- Electrical
- Engineering
- Finance
- Hairdressing
- Healthcare
- Insurance
- Logistics
- Motor
- Property Services
- Recruitment
- Sales and Management

# Tertiary Degrees

- Courses which may have on the job training as well as access to parttime college course.
- No CAO application, applications through [nto.heai.ie](http://nto.heai.ie)
- Applications open from February to September.
- More information and application access through the National Tertiary Office (NTO), [nto.heai.ie](http://nto.heai.ie)
- May involve training through the ETB (Education and Training Board) for first 1-2 years and HEI (Higher Education Institution) to complete degree.
- Up to 20 different courses (Business, Engineering, Manufacturing, Construction, ICT, Arts, Health and Welfare).
- Available through a number of HEI's
- Each course has individual entry requirements

# PLC Courses

- Level 5 and 6 Qualifications
- An alternative route to College

# More Information

- Guidance Counsellors
- Subjects explained in Senior Cycle booklet on the Website
- Internet
  - [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
  - [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
  - [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
  - [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
  - [www.apprenticeships.ie](http://www.apprenticeships.ie)
  - <https://hea.nto.ie>



# Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme



# What is LCVP?

- LCVP is an extra subject for the Leaving cert.
- It helps to develop lifelong skills
- As part of LCVP you –
  - Developing Teamwork skills
  - Report Writing Skills / Interview skills
  - Job Seeking Skills
  - Work Placement / Work Shadowing
  - Running an Enterprise Activity

# Link Modules

## **5<sup>th</sup> Year – Preparation for the World of Work**

- Job seeking skills such as letter writing, CV presentation, interview techniques. As well as teamwork skills.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Year – Enterprise Education**

- Setting up and running an enterprise activity and developing teamwork, communication and computer skills.

# Update on LCVP requirements

- On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 it was announced that the students will no longer require specific subject groupings to study LCVP.
- This applies for 5<sup>th</sup> year students from August 2022 on.

# Assessment

- Portfolio – 60% handed up in March of 6<sup>th</sup> year
- Written Exam - 40% taken in May of 6<sup>th</sup> year.

# Certification & Recognition

Distinction	80% - 100%	66 points (H <sub>4</sub> )
Merit	65% - 79%	46 points (H <sub>6</sub> / O <sub>2</sub> )
Pass	50% - 64%	28 points (O <sub>4</sub> )

# LCVP and Higher Level Maths

- Current LCVP runs opposite one period of Higher-Level Maths.
- We have an additional class of LCVP (Subject to demand) after school for those who may wish to take HL Maths and LCVP.

# Leaving Certificate Applied





# What is different about LCA?

- It is a **practical** course
- **Work Experience** once a week.
- Students' work gain their results **in different ways** including interviews, written, oral and practical exams.
- **The exams in June of 6LCA account for a small percentage of the final mark**
- **The students receive the results of their assessment four times over the two years.**

# Who would benefit most?

- Students who struggle with learning
- Students who are considering leaving school.
- Students who prefer learning by doing.
- Students who are struggling with the Junior Cycle.

# What subjects are taken in LCA?

## Exam Subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Hotel, Catering & Tourism
- Graphics & Construction or Hair and Beauty
- Irish\*
- Modern Language\*
- Social Education

## Non – Exam Subjects

- Career Guidance
- Computers
- Art
- PE

## Choice subjects

- Childcare/ Engineering
- Science
- Horticulture

# How students are marked

## Credits for

- Attendance, class work and assignments
- 7 projects called tasks
- 7 final examinations
- *Students are graded on Pass, Merit or Distinction*

# Can a student who does LCA go on to further education?

- Yes. It is accepted for a wide range of Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) course at FETAC level 5.
- If they do well at PLC they can go to 3rd level
- They cannot go directly to 3rd level
- It also provides access to most apprenticeships and trades.

# CHOICES, CHOICES

- Spend time over the next few weeks discussing options
- Meet the deadlines
- We are flexible and will facilitate change if we can
- We need an accurate idea to plan resources.
- Contact us if you need clarification

# Information for Students

- All third-year classes have had and will continue to have information sessions with the Guidance Counsellors.
- All TY classes have a timetabled Guidance class each week
- All third-year classes will have information sessions on TY, LCVP and LCA
- An information form will be completed by all students (this is not the application form)
- Individual and Small Group Guidance sessions will be organized.
- Each class group has been assigned a Guidance Counsellor..
- The guidance Counsellors will work with individual students who are moving directly from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> year

# What Happens Next

- Class groups will have TY, LCVP ,LCA and subject choice for 5<sup>th</sup> year explained to them.
- Students will seek appointments with the Guidance Counsellor
- Application forms will be made available through the school APP
- Deadlines will be set for receipt of forms
- The Presentation and the comprehensive information booklet will be available on the school Website
- An online form will establish which programme students are opting for
- Subject Choice for 5<sup>th</sup> year will be done through Vsware
- Option Lines will be generated by Vsware by random selection. Most will get all their choices.



# TY parent teacher meeting & subject information night

- 8<sup>th</sup> February 3:55pm- 6:25pm in school gym.
- New format including senior cycle subject information for parents & their **students** who are completing TY.
- Opportunity to speak to teachers about course content, Leaving Cert assessment etc.

# Subject Options - Vsware

- All subject choice will be done on VSWare
- This link will be available on the school app or sent to you by text
- <https://vsware.wistia.com/medias/kr62eqho2z>

# DEADLINES

Choice of 5<sup>th</sup> year, TY or LCA (via online form) will be

**1. Friday 1st March.**

Subject choice for 5<sup>th</sup> year and LCVP will take place after that.

Subject Choice will be Vsware

**Deadline: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm**

Requests for change will be considered following Guidance Consultation and if we have a place (A waiting list will be established)

Up to you!

