

Traditional LC,LCVP and LCA

Choice of Leaving Certificate Programmes

Traditional Leaving Cert

- Students study Irish, (unless they have an Irish exemption) English and Maths plus four other academic subjects from this list:
- French, German, History, Geography, Art, Music, Home Economics, Technology, Business, Accounting, Economics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Politics and Society and PE (as an academic subject)
- Students also have non exam classes in Religion, Guidance and PE.

LCVP, or The Link Modules

- This is an extra subject onto the Traditional LC
- Students study Irish, English, Maths, either French or German and three other subjects.
- If students have an exemption from Irish they can still take LCVP.
- Students must study either French or German in school. The Department of Education doesn't allow them to substitute a language that they do outside school.

Of the three subjects chosen two must be on this list (Department of Ed rule!)

1. Art and any Business subject.
2. Music and any Business subject.
3. Home Economics and any Business subject.
4. Technology and any Business subjects.
5. Any two Business subjects.
6. Any two Science subjects.
7. Home Economics and Biology.
8. Home Economics and Art.
9. Physics and Technology.

What do you learn in LCVP?

- The two main areas are:
- Preparation for Working Life
- And
- Enterprise Education

Preparation for Working Life

- You will learn about:
- CV preparation
- Interview Preparation
- Responsibilities in work
- Skills and Qualities
- Health and Safety Legislation
- Time Management
- Organising and learn from work experience

Enterprise Education

- You will learn about:
- The role of entrepreneurs
- Females as entrepreneurs
- Enterprise in Ireland and the local area
- Types of enterprise
- Funding for enterprise
- Enterprise agencies

Skills you will develop in LCVP

- Organisational skills
- Computer skills
- Report writing skills
- Job seeking skills
- Time management skills
- Communication skills
- The ability to relate learning at Leaving Cert and in the future to enterprise.

How will you be examined in LCVP?

- 60% of the assessment in the form of a portfolio of coursework completed in school over the two years.
- This report includes and CV, an Action Plan, a Summary Report, a Career Investigation and a Diary of Work Experience.
- 40% of the assessment is a written examination which usually takes place in May of Leaving Certificate year.

Can you get points for LCVP?

- Yes
- Rather than H1, H2 etc for LCVP the results could be:
- Distinction (80% and upwards) equals 66 points (H4 and more than O1)
- Merit (65% to 79%) equals 46 points (H6 or O2)
- Pass (50% to 64%) equals 28 points (O4)
- Your LCVP points will be counted if they are in your six highest points.

Leaving Certificate Applied

- This is a two year more practical Leaving Certificate course.

LCA Subjects

- English Communication
- Mathematical Applications
- Social Education
- Irish for one year and a European Language for one year.
- Vocational Preparation and Guidance
- IT
- Practical Subjects such as Office Administration and Hotel and Catering

How will you be assessed in LCA?

- 31% of assessment is continuous assessment which involves submitting class assignments and having a 90% attendance record.
- 35% of assessment is for seven projects done over the two years.
- 34% of assessment is for written examinations at the end of Fifth Year but mostly at the end of Sixth Year.

A Distinction is 85% upwards

A Merit is 70% to 84%

A Pass in LCA is 60% to 69%

Can LCA students go to universities or Institutes of Technology?

- Not directly from secondary school.
- They would have to do a year in a College of Further Education and if they do well then they may go to university or an Institute of Technology.
- Of course many students who complete the traditional Leaving Certificate also do a year in a College of Further Education before they go to university or an Institute of Technology.

Courses available in Colleges of Further Education – some examples

- Office Administration
- Childcare
- Health Care Assistant
- Nail Technician
- Emergency Services
- Horticulture
- Music Management
- Dance

Typical LCA students

- Do better in practical assignments and continuous assessment than once-off examinations.
- Prefer learning by doing.
- Get on well in groups as there is a lot of teamwork involved.
- Have a good attendance record in school.
- Enjoy going on work experience.
- Are interested in careers that they can qualify for in Colleges of Further Education.