2024

Subject Choice Information Booklet

MARIST COLLEGE ATHLONE

Introduction

The purpose of this booklet is to provide you with information that should prove useful in making decisions regarding Leaving Certificate subjects. The choosing of subjects for Leaving Certificate is one of the most important decisions you will make at this stage of your life. Your choice of subjects will have an impact on the decisions you make post Leaving Certificate. It is important to consider your personal strengths and learning styles when making your decisions. There is no such thing as 'an easy subject' at Leaving Certificate level as each subject requires a considerable amount of **regular study**.

When choosing subjects for your Leaving Certificate programme please consider the following:

1. **Ability and Aptitudes:** All students have different strengths - you might love Maths but not languages or perhaps you prefer more practical subjects. Consider your abilities in the different subjects and choose subjects in which you are likely to get good grades. You are also more likely to want to continue with these subjects when you leave school.

2. **Interests:** Choose subjects that you are genuinely interested in as you are much more likely to study those subjects and do well in them. Examples of this include drawing, writing essays, an interest in current affairs, the economy, travel, working out maths problems and being an avid reader.

3. **Career: I**n addition to the core subjects (Irish, English and Maths) there are other subjects that are essential for some courses and careers. It is important to check out these subject requirements with Ms. Lawless, the Guidance Counsellor, or the course provider **and it is your responsibility to do this.**

4. **The minimum entry requirements** for the courses you may be interested in studying at Third Level These are the minimum academic qualifications that a college demands from applicants for entry.

5. **The specific entry requirements for the courses** you may be interested in studying at Third Level.

6. **The Points System**. This system allocates point values to Leaving Certificate subjects for entry purposes to the HEIs (Higher Education Institutions). **The points are allocated to the best six subjects that an applicant presents**. These grades must be achieved in one sitting of the Leaving Certificate.

Introduction

DO'S AND DON'TS - SOME TIPS FOR SUBJECT CHOICE

- Look at Subject Textbooks.
- Seek the advice of older pupils.
- Talk to Ms. Lawless, the Guidance Counsellor.
- Talk to the Subject Teachers.
- Consult with your Parents/Guardians.
- Be independent! Do not choose subjects based on what your friends are choosing - there is no guarantee you will be in the same classes. Similarly, it is unwise to choose a subject solely because of who teaches it - again there is no guarantee you will have that teacher.
- Avoid choosing a subject solely because your sibling, older relatives or friends studied the subject- everyone has different interests, aptitudes and abilities!
- Don't base your choices on the perceived workload / amount of homework and don't listen to rumours and hearsay - trust yourself, you may be well able for the subject.
- Look up career websites (listed at back of this booklet), do some online interest tests- see careers portal, career directions, qualifax.
- Go to *Qualifax* to find out if a particular subject is required for Third Level courses. This tool is particularly useful when considering science and language subjects.

  Do I Need This Subject?

  - Go to www.qualifax.ie
  - Select: Parents/Family
  - Choose: Useful Tools
  - Select: Minimum Subject Requirements
  - Click: Leaving Certificate Subjects
  - Choose: Any Leaving Certificate Subject (e.g. Physics)
  - Click: Search
  - Select: View Courses (all courses requiring the subject will be listed).
- Complementary Subjects: Consider subjects which might overlap as this could lead to a reduced workload – Agricultural Science, Biology & Geography; LCVP & Business; Physics & Applied Maths; Applied Maths: Physics & Economics.
- Course Work & Projects: DCG, LCVP, Agricultural Science, History, Geography, Religion, PE, Applied Maths, Construction and all involve projects/coursework and the deadlines for completion fall between February and April so keep this in mind when choosing subjects.

Introduction

Subjects Offered by Marist College

a) There are **three subjects** which are compulsory: **Irish, English and Maths**.

b) Students must **then choose a further four subjects** from the following groupings:

Languages	Science	Social Studies
French	Agricultural Science	Geography
German	Physics	History
	Chemistry	Religion
	Biology	
	Applied Maths	

Business	Applied Science
Accounting	Construction Studies
Economics	Design & Communications Graphics
Business	Technology
	Physical Education

Third Language

Third Language:

- UCD, University of Galway, UCC, Maynooth University, Pontifical University St. Patrick's College Maynooth, St. Angela's College Sligo and the Royal College of Surgeons require a pass in a third language for many of their courses.
- Other colleges have it as a requirement for certain courses that have a large language component. Eg: European Studies, Languages & Marketing, Languages through Arts Hotel Management, Languages & International Tourism.
- Entry to the Cadetships in the Defence Forces requires a third language.
- NCAD require a third language
- Many science and engineering courses include the study of Technical French or German ab initio (from scratch).

Third Language is NOT required for:

- Trinity College, University of Limerick, D.C.U., and the Technological Universities, unless it is a specific course requirement (a pass in Irish will suffice).
- Health & Performance Science, Sport & Exercise Management (UCC)
- Business, Law, Accounting, Finance, Quantitative Finance, Engineering, Data Science & Science in Maynooth University.
- Engineering, Science & Ag Science in IJCD (except for DN037- Biomedical, Health & Life Sciences) . Engineering, Science & Food Science UCC
- Engineering & Science in University of Galway (except for GY304 - Biotechnology)
- Gardai, Nursing, Apprenticeships and most PLC Courses
- Primary School Teaching

This information is correct in January 2024 but is subject to change - check with the course provider or with Ms. Lawless.

English

(Compulsory)

SUBJECT CONTENT

CORE ELEMENTS

LANGUAGE

Students are required to study the following five designated areas of language in a wide variety of contexts, functions and styles:

1. The Language of Information.
2. The Language of Argument.
3. The Language of Persuasion.
4. The Language of Narration.
5. The Aesthetic use of Language.

LITERATURE

Students are required to study one literary text from a list of prescribedtexts.

- Students are required to study three other texts in a comparative manner, according to the comparative modes prescribed for that year.
- Students are required to study at least six poets from the eight poets prescribed at Higher Level. At Ordinary Level 36 poems are prescribed.

Compulsory elements: At Higher Level a Shakespearean Play must be one of the texts chosen for study on its own or as an element of the Comparative study.

Optional Elements: At Ordinary Level the study of a Shakespearean play is optional.

EXAM STRUCTURE

PAPER I

Higher and Ordinary Level - 170 mins. - 200 marks.

Section I

Three texts - one which may be visual - are presented to students on a generalTheme. Two sets of questions, an A and a B follow each text. Candidates must answer a question A on one text and a question B on a different text. (100 marks)

Section II

(Composing) Candidates must write an extended composition in a specific genre of language from a list of seven choices. (100 marks)

PAPER II

Higher and Ordinary Level - 200 mins. - 200 marks.

Section I

The single text (60 marks)

English

(Compulsory)

Section II
The Comparative study (70 marks)
Section III
Poetry (70 marks)

(Higher Level)
(i) Unseen poem (20 marks)
(ii) Prescribed poetry (50 marks)

(Ordinary Level)
(i) Unseen poem (20 marks)
(ii) Four poems will be printed on the exam paper and students must answer questions on one of the four. (50 marks)

COMMENT

Parents and students should be aware of the following cautionary points when considering the study of English at Higher Level for the Leaving Certificate exam.

- The study of English at Higher Level places significant demands on the Leaving Certificate student.
- The new syllabus is very broad in its range of prescribed materials and can be quite time consuming.
- The Higher Level (course) exam rewards good writing skills and an independent learner.
- The extended composition features largely on both papers at HigherLevel and students are expected to write between 750-1000 words in the time available, in these compositions.
- There is the assumption at Higher Level that students will read widely and independently over the two years.
- An interest in social, political and current affairs is vital and highly developed writing skills and critical analysis skills are prerequisite at Higher level.
- Conversely at Ordinary Level textual material is printed on the exampaper for students, for example in the poetry sections poems are printed for the students. Less extended pieces of writing are also expected.
- Texts at Ordinary Level are less challenging particularly bearing in mind that students at O.L. do not have to study a Shakespearean play.
- Texts prescribed at O.L. are very student friendly and aimed at encouraging the more reluctant reader.
- There is a vast difference in the study of English at Higher Level for Junior Certificate and the Study of English at Higher Level for the Leaving Certificate.

Recommendation

Bearing the above concerns in mind and not withstanding exceptional circumstances, a student must have achieved at least a Merit at Junior Cycle Higher Level, to be considered for admittance into a Higher Level Leaving Certificate class.

English

(Compulsory)

Irish

(Compulsory)

HIGHER LEVEL/ARDLÉIBHEAL

Any student that sat Junior Cert Higher Level Irish is encouraged to attempt Higher Level for Senior Cycle. Attending the Gaeltacht is also advised.

The course is taught in conjunction with the four main skills of learning a language: **listening, speaking, reading and writing**.

a) Béaltriail: The Oral exam is an important part of the exam. 40%
b) The Aural/listening exam. 10%
c) There are two written papers. 50%

PAPER I (2 hrs. 20 mins. - 160 marks)

a) Aural / listening section (60 marks)
b) Composition Section with a choice from the following: Write either an essay, a story, an article for a newspaper or a debate/speech. (100 marks)

PAPER II (3 hrs. 5mins. - 200 marks)

a) Two reading comprehensions usually connected to cultural affairs, famous people, current affairs, etc. (50 marks x 2)
b) Prose: There are four stories and one film on the prose course which are also on the ordinary level paper. (30 marks)
c) Poetry: There are five poems on the poetry course which are also on the ordinary level paper. (30 marks)
d) Drama: The candidate is required to write about an Irish language drama that they have studied.

'An Triail' is studied by all higher level students in 6th Year and the students attend a production of the drama.
(40 marks)

Irish

(Compulsory)

GNÁTHLEIBHÉAL/ORDINARY LEVEL

a) Béaltriail: The Oral exam is an important part of the exam. (40%)
b) The Aural/listening exam. (10%)
c) There are two written papers. (40%)

PAPER I (1 hr. 50 mins. - 160 marks)

a) Aural / listening section (60 marks)
b) Composition Section with a choice from the following: Write a letter, conversation, story or a paragraph.
c) Usually, the letter and paragraph options are topics that are prepared also for the Oral exam.
d) Students must complete two pieces from this section. (100 marks)

PAPER II (2 hrs. 20 mins. - 200 marks)

a) Two reading comprehensions usually connected to cultural affairs, famous people, current affairs, etc. (50 marks x 2)
b) Prose: There are four stories and one film on the prose course which are also on the higher level paper.
c) Two prose questions appear on the paper and students must answer both. (25 marks x 2).
d) Poetry: There are five poems on the poetry course which are also on the higher level paper.
e) Two poems appear on the paper and students must answer both questions. (25 marks x 2).

BONNLÉIBHEAL FOUNDATION LEVEL

The main part of this course is Listening and speaking. It consists of an oral exam and one written paper including an aural element. This is very similar to Junior Cert Ordinary level consisting mostly of reading comprehension. There are no prescribed prose or poetry sections in this course. However, students may be askedquestions about an unseen poem.

Maths

(Compulsory)

SUBJECT CONTENT

The Mathematics syllabi are presented in the form of five Strands. All five strands are studied in their entirety and there are no optional areas of study. Strands are not studied in isolation. Connections are made within and across the strands and with other areas of learning. All five strands are studied at appropriate levels for Higher, Ordinary and Foundation level. The five strands are as follows:

Strand 1 – Statistics & Probability
Strand 2 – Geometry & Trigonometry
Strand 3 – Number
Strand 4 – Algebra
Strand 5 – Functions

EXAM STRUCTURE

HIGHER AND ORDINARY LEVEL MATHEMATICS

There are two exam papers. There is no choice on the paper, all questions must be attempted.

PAPER 1 (2 hours 30 min)

- Section A (150 marks) - Concepts & Skills – 6 questions
- Section B (150 marks) - Contexts and Applications – 3 questions

PAPER 2 (2 hours 30 min)

- Section A (150 marks) - Concepts & Skills – 6 questions
- Section B (150 marks) - Contexts and Applications – 3 questions

FOUNDATION LEVEL MATHEMATICS

There is only 1 exam paper (2 hours 30 min). There is no choice, all questions must be attempted.

- Section A (200 marks) - 8 questions
- Section B (100 marks) - 3 questions

COMMENT

Parents and students should be aware of the following when considering the study of Mathematics at Higher Level for the Leaving Certificate exam.

- The study of Mathematics at Higher Level is aimed at the more able Leaving Certificate student.
- The Higher Level syllabus is very long and time consuming. It places significant demands on the Leaving Certificate student and requires a huge commitment in terms of time and effort.
- The material covered in Higher Level Mathematics is chosen

Maths

(Compulsory)

- for its intrinsic interest and general applicability, as well as its provision of concepts and techniques appropriate for future specialists in the field. However it may be assumed that some aims regarding the use of Mathematics in everyday life and work have been achieved at the Higher Junior Cert level and so the focus in Leaving Certificate Higher level is on deepening the understanding of Mathematical ideas and an appreciation of powerful concepts and methods.
- There is a vast difference in the study of Mathematics at Higher Level for Junior Certificate and the Study of Mathematics at Higher Level for Leaving Certificate.

The Ordinary Level Mathematics course was designed to provide students with knowledge and techniques that they may need in the future. As well as equipping students with these important tools it offers students opportunities to deepen their understanding and appreciation of Mathematics.

Foundation Level Mathematics is available to any student who struggles with the Ordinary Level Mathematics syllabus. All students are expected to do Higher or Ordinary Level Mathematics in fifth year. If a student is experiencing considerable difficulty with the Ordinary level course, the teacher will discuss with the student and their parents the option of Foundation level Mathematics.

Bearing the above concerns in mind and not withstanding exceptional circumstances, a student must have achieved at least a merit grade at Junior Certificate Higher Level, to be considered for admittance into a Higher Level Leaving Certificate class.

Biology

(Optional

SUBJECT CONTENT

The course is divided into three units

- **Unit 1: The study of life**(ecology and food science)
- **Unit 2: The Cell** (Genetics, photosynthesis, respiration and enzymes)
- **Unit 3: The organism** (a study of body systems, plant biology andmicrobiology)

There are 22 mandatory practical activities. Three of these are examined each year, two of which have to be answered. A laboratory record of these activities has to be kept and available for inspection by The Department of Education and Science. An ecology portfolio has also to be completed.This is usually done in fifth year. As of yet no marks are awarded for the laboratory notebook or the portfolio.

This new course in Biology is to be examined for the fourth time this year (June 07) and there is a strong emphasis on social and applied aspects e.g. when studying the breathing system a breathing disorder is studied.

EXAM STRUCTURE

The examination at higher and ordinary level is three hours duration. The exam paper is divided into three units.

- **Section A**: Six short questions (answer five) 100 marks.
- **Section B**: Three questions on practical activities (answer two) 60marks.
- **Section C**: Six long questions (answer four) 240 marks.

COMMENT

- It is recommended that a student taking Leaving Certificate Biologyhas a good understanding of Junior Science at higher level.
- Each student must have an aptitude and interest for laboratory work.
- A considerable amount of learning and study is necessary to do well inthis subject.
- Students should be good attendees as there is only one opportunity to do these practicals
- Students should have an interest in living things, the environment and its conservation, fieldwork, biological issues and these modern applications.
- There is extensive vocabulary for students to become familiar with and learn accurately.
- Recording information and drawing diagrams is important.
- Biology should not be seen as the easiest of the Sciences at senior level. There is quite an amount of knowledge to learn and process.
- Careers in the area include: medicine, dentistry, nursing, agriculture, education, genetics, biotechnology, botony, ecology, environmental science, marine science, microbiology, zoology, psychology, astronomy, research.

Chemistry

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

The chemistry syllabus aims to give students both an understanding of the fundamental principles of chemistry and their application to everyday life. The chemistry course encourages the development of manipulative, procedural, cognitive and communication skills through practical activities that foster investigation, imagination and creativity. The course enables students to acquire a body of chemistry knowledge appropriate to their age, and an understanding of the relevance and applications of chemistry in the world around them as well as the opportunities for careers in Chemistry.

The major topics involved include the following:

1. Atomic structure.
2. Periodic Table.
3. Chemical Bonding.
4. Radioactivity.
5. Stoichiometry .
6. Volumetric analysis Acid/Base, Oxidation/Reduction.
7. Organic chemistry.
8. Environmental Chemistry – Water.
9. Ph and indicators.
10. Chemical Equilibrium.
11. Rate of Reaction.
12. Reaction mechanisms.

There also is an option to be taken as part of the course

1. **Option 1** - This option involves the study of atmospheric Chemistry and industrial chemistry, one industry is studied in detail.
2. **Option 2** - This involves the study of materials, crystals, metals, addition polymersand electrochemistry the extraction of metals

Experimental investigations are an essential part of the leaving certificate course. Each student must complete at least 28 mandatory experiments over the duration of the course.

Experimental work is examined as part of the leaving cert exam and forms the basis for a minimum of three questions on the exam paper.

Chemistry

(Optional)

EXAM STRUCTURE

The leaving cert chemistry exam is three hours in duration.
There are 11 questions on the exam paper, which is broken down into two sections. Eight questions must be answered in total. Each question is worth fifty marks. The paper is 400 marks in total.

Section A
Three mandatory experiments will be examined here students must answer two questions but they may answer three.

Section B
There are eight questions in this section, students will answer five or six questions in this section.
There is no element of continuous assessment but experimental copies must be available for inspection by the State Examinations Commission.

COMMENT

- It is recommended that a student undertaking the course has a good understanding of Junior Cycle Science and attain a minimum of a merit in their examination.
- Each student should have an aptitude and interest for laboratorywork.
- While there is an element of Maths in the chemistry course, higher level Maths is not a requirement to do higher level chemistry. Students should not avoid chemistry on the basis of not having honours maths. It is possible to get on well in higher level chemistry without higher level maths.
- Ordinary level chemistry course and higher-level chemistry course are taught in tandem throughout the two years. The structure for the ordinary level paper is the same for higher level.

History

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

Marist College follows the later Modern History field of study, 1815 – 1993.There are six topics from Irish History and six from the History of Europeand the wider world, from which students study two topics from each section.

The six Irish topics are:

1. **Topic 1: Ireland and the Union, 1815 – 1870**
2. **Topic 2: Movement for politicaland social reform 1870 - 1914.**
3. **Topic 3: The pursuit of sovereignty and the impact of partition, 1912 – 1949**
4. **Topic 4: The Irish Diaspora, 1840 – 1966**
5. **Topic 5: Politics and society in Northern Ireland, 1949 – 1993**
6. **Topic 6: Government, economy and society in the Republic of Ireland, 1949 – 1993**

The six European and wider world topics are:

1. **Topic 1: Nationalism and state formation in Europe, 1815 – 1871**
2. **Topic 2:Nation states and international tensions, 1871 – 1920**
3. **Topic 3: Dictatorship and democracy, 1920 – 1945**
4. **Topic 4: Divisions and realignment in Europe, 1945 – 1992**
5. **Topic 5: European retreat from empire and the aftermath, 1945 – 1990**
6. **Topic 6: The United States and the world, 1945 – 1989.**

One section, the document-based study, is prescribed by the Department of Education; it is changed every two years.
The prescribed topic for 2021 – 2023 is Politics and Society in Northern Ireland, 1949-1993.

The syllabus breaks down into three distinct parts:

1. Students undertake a document-based study of the prescribed topic. There are three case studies in the prescribed topic and one of these will be examined in the Leaving Certificate. There is no choice of question. Worth 20% of the overall grade.
2. Students will study one other Irish topic and two European and the wider world topics. Students must answer one question from each topic studied. There is a choice of questions. Each topic is worth 20% of the overall grade.

History

(Optional)

A Research Project - students research a topic of their choice within the prescribed period and complete a written report, evaluating relevant historical sources. The research topic will be completed by April, prior to the Leaving Certificate Examination. Worth 20% of the overall grade.

EXAM STRUCTURE

Leaving Certificate History is assessed at two levels - Ordinary level and Higher level. There are two assessment components:

A research project (submitted prior to the examination) 20%
An examination paper 80%
At both levels, the examination paper features a documents-based question (linked to the documents-based study) and three general questions. All four questions are of equal value.

COMMENT

When considering history as a Leaving Certificate subject students shouldnote the following:

- An interest in a wide range of History topics is recommended.
- An ability to analyse and interpret facts/opinions and use them to support your views is important.
- Self-discipline is an essential ingredient as students must show initiative in researching material.
- The skills that are learned through the study of History are useful in all areas of life but some suggestions students could pursue are: the legal professions, politics, conflict resolution and international relations, archaeology, journalism and media, research, communications media, advertising, marketing, commerce, banking and finance, translator, TV production, publishing, policy planner etc. The list is almost endless.

Physics

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

The physics syllabus aims to give students bothan understanding of the fundamental principles of physics and their application to everyday life. It offers a general education in physics for all students, enabling them to develop an understanding of the scientific method and their ability to observe, to think logically, and to communicate effectively. Science, Technology and Society (STS) is an integral partof the syllabus so that students can be aware of the principles of the applications of physics in the everyday world. The physics studied is broken into eight topics;

(a) six compulsory

(b) two option sections (one to be done)

Compulsory sections are:

1. **Optics / Waves: the study of light and sound and real life applicationsof the theory.**
2. **Mechanics: time, space, distance, gravity, circular motion, simple harmonic motion, momentum, speed and acceleration.**
3. **Heat: changes of state, energy conversions and mathematicalproblems.**
4. **Electricity: develops on from simple circuits to more detailed concepts.**
5. **Electricity and Magnetism: relationship between electricity and magnetism, study of how a motor works, ac. and dc. circuits and phenomena with real world applications.**
6. **Atomic Physics: cathode rays, x-rays, radioactive decay, fission and fusion, nuclear reactors and real world applications.**

Two option sections are:

1. **Particle Physics: recent type of physics, delving into the new discoveries leading to a better understanding of the formation of the universe and where we came from.**
2. **Applied Electricity: detailed study of electricity and the working of a motor developing from electricity already studied.**

At Higher level, there is a deeper, more quantitative treatment of physics. The two option sections are omitted from the ordinary level course. The course also consists of 24 core mandatory experiments complementing each section in an aim to develop students' technical skills and enhance understanding and reinforce key concepts.

EXAM STRUCTURE

Leaving Certificate Physics is assessed by means of one terminal examination paper at each level. Students are required to keep a recordof their practical work over the two years of the course. The Leaving Certphysics exam is three hours in duration.

Physics

(Optional)

Section A:

- Answer 3 out of 4 questions
- 120 marks: 40 marks per question
- Questions are based on experimental procedures and use of results

Section B:

- Answer 5 out of 8 questions
- 280 marks: 56 marks per question
- Questions are more broad and theory based

COMMENT

- While there is an element of maths in the physics course, higher level maths is not a requirement to do higher level physics. Students should not avoid physics on the basis of not having higher level maths. It is possible to get onwell in higher level physics without higher level maths.

- Pupils should become able to draw and read graphs and be competent in using a calculator throughout the course. The physics syllabus has strong links with the other science subjects especially chemistry. There are strands of physics which overlap with woodwork and construction especially the electricity and heat sections.

- Pupils who will gain the most from studying physics are those who have an interest in science at Junior Cert level and those who enjoy learning about how things work. The science, technology and society section allows students the chance to see where the physics they are learning applies as in TVs, car motors and electricity in the home and also, to seesome of the industrial applications of certain topics.

- Ordinary level physics course and higher-level physics course are taught in tandem throughout the two years. The structure for the ordinary level paper is the same for higher level.

Agricultural Science

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

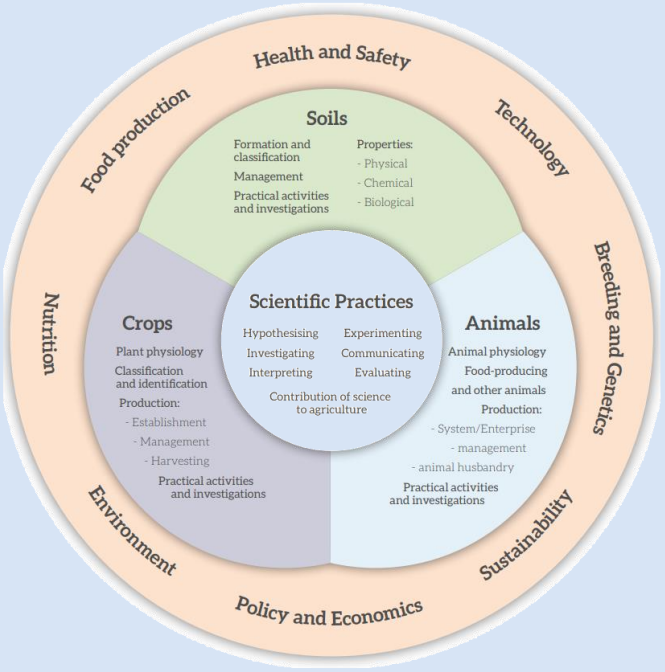

Figure 4: Structure of the specification

Students will study 4 Strands: **Soils, Crops, Animals and Scientific Practices** which builds upon prior knowledge from the nature of science strand in junior cycle Science.

There are also 8 cross-cutting themes (illustrated in orange surrounding the strands) that are linked in with each strand.

Students will complete 22 Specified Practical Activities in both the field and lab.

25% project – Individual Investigative Study
Students will complete this project with the advice and guidance of their teacher and chosen farmer. They will complete a scientific investigation on that farm or in the school laboratory. The theme of the project is released by the SEC in Autumn of 5th year, allowing the students ample time in 5th year to collect results and complete the investigation. To give the students a better idea of the project, I like to compare it to a CBA 1 and CBA 2 combined from the junior cycle science course. It is of course more advanced and requires more in-depth detail but it has the same principles: investigation and research. In this sense, students are well equipped with the necessary skills to complete the project to a very high standard.

Agricultural Science

(Optional)

EXAM STRUCTURE

2.5 hour exam for both HL and OL worth 300 marks which is 75% of the overall grade.

Section A – 100 marks

10 short questions worth 10 marks each

Section B – 200 marks

5 long Questions and students are required to answer 4 worth 50 marks each

COMMENT

- This is a good subject to study with Biology and / or Geography due to the overlap in course content.
- Some experience of Farming/Gardening is desirable,
- Students who apply themselves and are willing to work hard can do extremely well at this subject at Higher Level.
- Agricultural Science is recognised as a laboratory science subject for many 3rd level courses including nursing- students should check science requirements on Qualifax.
- Careers in this area include: Greenkeeping, Horticulture, Food Science, Agricultural Advisers, Sports Turf Management, Environmental Science, Forestry, Farming, Marine Science, Teaching, Careers in Renewable Energy.

Geography
(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

THREE CORE UNITS

- Unit 1. Patterns and processes in the physical environment.
- Unit 2. Regional geography.
- Unit 3. Geographical investigation.

TWO ELECTIVE UNITS

- Elective unit 4 Patterns and processes in economic activities or
- Elective unit 5 Patterns and processes in the human environment.

FOUR OPTIONAL UNITS

(Higher level students only)

- Optional unit 6 Global interdependence or
- Optional unit 7 Geoecology or
- Optional unit 8 Culture and identity or
- Optional unit 9 The Atmosphere-Ocean environment

As part of this new syllabus, the teaching of geographical skills will be integrated into each of the units of core, elective and optional units whereappropriate. The core geographical skills will also be used and applied inthe preparation of the Geographical Investigation which is to be completedin year 2 of the programme and is worth 20 % of the final grade.

It is within this structure that students will be expected to demonstrate their proficiency in the widest range of skills appropriate to their chosen investigation. The learning of and the use and application of geographical skills is central to a student's experience of Leaving Certificate Geography.

EXAM STRUCTURE

Leaving Certificate Geography is assessed at Ordinary and Higher level in ascending order of difficulty. There are two assessment components:

1. **Examination paper 80%.** This is a two and a half hour paper with an optional 20 mins.
2. **Report on a Geographical Investigation 20%**

Written Paper

- Part One - 80 mks. Answer 10 questions from 12.
- Part Two – 320 mks You must attempt 4 questions, as follows:
- Two questions from Section 1 (Core), One question from Section 2(Electives), One question from Section 3 (Options)

Ordinary level students study all core units and one of the elective units.Higher level students study all core units, one of the elective units and one of the optional units.

COMMENT

- The new revised Leaving Certificate geography syllabus has a core, elective and option structure and is an extension of the Junior Certificate geography programme. Consequently, potential students should ideally score a merit or higher at Junior Certificate higher level to have any realistic hope of attempting this new revised programme.

Accounting

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

Accounting is a business studies option within the Leaving Certificate programme. It covers aspects of business and social life which are not dealt with in any other subject in that programme. It is concerned with the preparation, recording, extraction, presentation and analysis of financial information for the purpose of making economic decisions. The course also involves a Management Accounting section where the student will learn how to analyse business costs and how to prepare budgets.
Topics covered include: Financial Statements Preparation, Farm Accounts, Club Accounts, Company Accounts, Manufacturing Accounts, Financial Statements Analysis and Interpretation, Budgeting, Break-even Analysis, Cost Classification, Accounting Theory and Principles.

EXAM STRUCTURE

The subject is examined at higher and ordinary level. Both levels involve one exam of three hours duration. The exam paper is made up of three sections, the first two are based on the Financial Accounting section of the course and the third covers the Management Accounting section.

Exam (100%)

- **Section 1:** Financial Accounting (120 marks) comprises of 4 questions. Students must answer either Question 1 or two questions from Q2, Q3, and Q4. Question 1 is worth 120 marks, or two questions worth 60 marks each. This section makes up 30% of the total examination.
- **Section 2:** Financial Accounting (100 marks) comprises of three questions and students are required to answer two out of three questions. All questions carry equal marks. This section makes up 50% of the total examination.
- **Section 3:** Management Accounting (80 marks) comprises of two questions and students are required to answer two out of three questions. All questions carry equal marks. This section makes up 20% of the total examination.

COMMENTS

- The course is numerically based but theory and procedures must be learned also. While the student needs to be comfortable with numbers, he does not need to be at higher Maths level.
- The Junior Certificate Business Studies Course provides a foundation for this course and the absence of this foundation will make it more difficult to succeed.
- This course offers a hard working student the real possibility of high grades because of the unambiguous nature of the questions.
- An organized student with a likeness for structure will be particularly suited to this course.

Economics

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

The subject is concerned with understanding the workings of amodern economy from both Macro and Micro level. The main topics covered are Demand, Supply, Consumer, Cost of Production, Elasticity, Market Structures, Perfect Competition, Monopoly, Price Discrimination, Imperfect Competition and Oligopoly and Factors of Production – Land, Labour, Capital and Enterprise. Macro consists of Money & Banking, National Income, Government & Economy, International Trade, Economic Growth & Development and History of Economic Thought.

There is a Leaving Certificate Project worth 20% of the overall mark. This project takes place during the first term of 6th year and is based on a current economic topic.
There is a common syllabus covering Higher and Ordinary level, which will fulfill the aims and objectives.
It helps students to develop a clear understanding of the role of economics, to encourage the development of appropriate learning skills, and to generate in students a positive and ethical attitude to economics in personal, business and public life.

EXAM STRUCTURE

HIGHER LEVEL & ORDINARY LEVEL

- **Project** – 6 weeks in 6th year (20%)
- **One Paper** – 2.5 hour paper. (80%)
    a) **Section A** – 8 Qs (100 marks)
    b) **Section B** – 6Qs do 4 (75 each. 300 in total). Large element of choice here.

COMMENT

- This subject is suited to students who are willing to work hard andcaters for all abilities.
- It is not necessary for students to have studied Junior CertificateBusiness Studies, but this would be a help.
- Ideally, students should have a general interest in Current affairs and how the economyworks
- Very useful Subject for students who intend pursuing a Business or Commerce course at 3rd Level

Modern Languages French German

(Optional)

Competency in a foreign language is a life skill, not just another subject. There is a severe shortage of qualified and skilled people available to work in a foreign language in Ireland. Proficiency in French/German will open up career opportunities both here and abroad.

FRENCH

French is the third-most widely spoken mother tongue in the European Union, just behind English. It is highly recommended today to be proficient in at least one foreign language.

Opportunities ahead when you study French:

- Will have the option to study French at college as part of a business or law degree, or to study Applied Languages (Translation and Interpreting) or in the field of education.
- Can avail of the opportunity to do an Erasmus year or term during your university studies in a French-speaking country including Quebec, Canada.
- Can avail of scholarships to study in French-speaking universities.
- Can do an internship or work as a volunteer in a French-speaking country.

SUBJECT CONTENT

leaving certificate course builds on the firm language base acquired in the first three years of studying French. The focus will continue to be on the everyday life of a teenager in Ireland and in the francophone world equipping the student with the vocabulary and grammar structures to understand, speak and write about herself and these realities. A wide variety of teaching methodologies are used including resources such as newspapers, television, the internet, films, literature and authentic texts. Independent learning is encouraged with wide access to audio and print resources on-line and in the library.

The syllabus aims to lead every student to:

- A communicative competence in the target language
- Awareness about language and communication
- An understanding about how to go about learning a foreign language
- A level of cultural awareness

EXAM STRUCTURE

The four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking are assessed in the following manner:

1. **Oral examination**. This is a 12-minute conversation with an examiner. Topics range from their family, their area, their school, their friends, past-times, sports, hopes, ambitions and teenage problems. Students have an option to prepare a topic in advance of special interest and discuss it in the exam. The oral exam takes place in spring of sixth year.

Modern Languages

French

German

(Optional)

2. **Aural examination**. This is a listening test, which tests comprehension. The student answers 5 sections in English.

Topics range from interviews, conversations, telephone calls, news announcements, weather forecasts and miscellaneous items. A wide vocabulary is required.

3. **Written examination**. It consists of two sections:
   a) **Section 1**: Reading comprehensions are answered in French at higher level and a mixture of English and French at ordinary level.
   b) **Section 2**: Students have to complete a series of written tasks. These include opinion pieces, letters (formal and informal), emails, messages, diary entries, (form filling and cloze tests feature on the ordinary level paper)

The oral exam takes place in spring of sixth year.

GERMAN

SUBJECT CONTENT

Leaving Certificate German is available at higher and ordinary Level. The syllabus is communicative in its approach and is designed to enable students with:

- Basic communicative proficiency
- Language awareness
- Cultural awareness

EXAM STRUCTURE

The four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking are assessed in the following manner:

1. **The Oral Examination**. The oral examination is completed by students of both levels. Topics for discussion include family, school, friends, pastimes, sports, hopes, ambitions and teenage problems. Students must also prepare a number of 'picture stories' and 'role plays' for discussion. The oral examination is worth 25% at Higher Level and 20% at Ordinary Level. It normally takes place in spring of 6th Year.
2. **The Aural Examination**. The content of the Aural is common to both levels but the questions posed distinguish themselves in terms of difficulty between levels. The Aural Examination is worth 20% at higher level and 25% at ordinary level.

Modern Languages French German

(Optional)

3. **The Written Component**. The remaining 55% of the Leaving Certificate German examination is awarded for the written examination. This paper is made up of reading comprehensions, a grammar section and a written section

COMMENTS

- We welcome and encourage students to study a foreign language for its own value, to increase cultural awareness and as a life skill, not just as a requirement for college entry.
- It is the aim of the Modern Language Departments to promote the use of the target language in class because the desire of the student to communicate motivates learning.
- We advise that here is a considerable gap in the standard required between Junior and Senior Cycle
- It is highly advisable that students spend some time in a country where the target language is spoken.
- Students who have shown an aptitude in languages at Junior Certificate Level are encouraged to continue at leaving cert.

While it is our policy to teach each student with regard to his/her unique set of needs, we would advise students who have experienced serious difficulty with a modern language in Junior Cycle to give strong consideration to the far-reaching and demanding nature of the courses when opting for a modern language at Senior Cycle.

Construction Studies

(Optional)

SUBJECT 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 and Design Drawings and Documents
- Site Preliminaries and Foundations Walls, Partitions
- Floors, Roofs Fireplaces Windows and DoorsStairs
- Plastering and Painting
- Plumbing and Heating Services
- Drainage

EXAM STRUCTURE

The examination at higher and ordinary levels has three separate components.

a) **Section A** Three hour written paper worth 300 marks. The exam consistsof 10 questions out of which five have to be attempted. Question 1 is a compulsory drawing question of a building detail.

b) **Section B** 4 hour practical woodwork exam where the student makes asmall item out of timber under exam conditions. The exam normally takesplace in May. This accounts for 150 marks.

c) **Section C** Building Project where the student makes a building detail, a scale model of a building or a craft piece. The student also producesa portfolio to accompany the project that they make. Ideally this project must be completed by Christmas. This accounts for 150 marks

COMMENT

- It is recommended that a student taking Leaving Certificate Construction Studies has a general interest in buildings and the builtenvironment.
- Each student should have an aptitude and interest for design and practical work.
- Junior Certificate Woodwork and/or Technical Graphics would be desirable subjects to have taken at Junior Certificate though not compulsory.

Design & Communication Graphics

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

The class takes place in a designated DCG room. All course work is drawn by the student using drawing instruments and freehand sketching.
Over the 2 years the student will compile a portfolio of drawings covering a broad variety of topics from solids in contact to roof geometry.
Neatness and attention to detail are desirable attributes for any student wishing to succeed at this subject

Consists of a core section comprised of

a) **Plane and solid geometry**
b) **Building Applications,**
c) **Engineering Applications**
d) **Communication computer graphics**

There is also an options section of applied graphics, two options are to be taken.

EXAM STRUCTURE

a) **One Terminal Exam Paper 60%**
b) **Student Assignment 40%**

Terminal Exam: 3 hours duration.

COMMENT

- Students should have good technical drawing skills and competent‘ spacial relations’ ability.
- Any student with a flair for mathematics and problem solving, likes freehand sketching and computers including Computer Graphics and CAD (Computer Aided Design) will find this subject challenging and rewarding.
- DCG is a core element of many 3rd level options i.e. Engineering, Construction, Industrial Design and Architecture. Knowledge of DCG will greatly enhance a student's ability to succeed in any 3rd level engineering based programme.
- The subject requires good levels of concentration and commitment.
- Careers: Useful for careers in engineering, construction, product design, graphic design, interior design, animation and architecture.

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Religion

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

Religious Education for the Leaving Certificate is a relatively new subject, examined for the first time in 2005. It is fully recognised by CAO, I-JCAS and other entry bodies into third level education and merits the same points as other Leaving Certificate subjects.
The Course is divided into three units:

Unit One - Compulsory

- Section A: The search for meaning and values

Unit Two - Any two of:

- Section B: Christianity: origins and contemporary expressions
- Section C: World religions
- Section D: Moral decision-making

Unit Three - Do any one of the following (excluding the two sections designated for coursework).

- Section E: Religion and gender
- Section F: Issues of justice and peace
- Section G: Worship, prayer, and ritual
- Section H: The Bible: literature and sacred text
- Section I: Religion: the Irish experience
- Section J: Religion and science

EXAM STRUCTURE

Leaving Certificate Religion is assessed at Higher and Ordinary levels. Leaving Certificate is assessed using two elements:

1. **Coursework** – two sections from unit three of the syllabus will be designated for coursework. The same units are designated for both higher and ordinary levels. A list of coursework titles related to these unitsis issued each year and students must choose one. Coursework makes up 20% of the overall mark.
2. **Terminal written paper**

Marks for coursework and written examination will be combined to constitute the final grade awarded. 400 marks shall be awarded in total. At Ordinary and Higher levels, all sections of the course, apart from the sections designated for coursework, will appear on the examination paper.

COMMENT

- When considering Religion as a Leaving Certificate subject, students should have a keen interest in the subject and have an interest in religious,social and current affairs.

Religion

(Optional)

- Belief in God is not essential to study Religion but a strong personal faith will help a student in reaching a deeper understanding of the course material. Students who enjoy English and History should excel in Religion.
- Choosing it on the basis that it was an easy subject for the Junior Certificate has absolutely no basis of truth, they are two completely separate courses.
- Leaving Certificate Religion is a demanding subject and requires a lot of hard work.
- If you have studied Classics, enjoy English and History, if you have an enquiring mind and are curious about your world and its cultures then this could be the subject for you.
- It is recommendedthat a student undertaking the course has a good understanding of Junior Cert Religion at the higher level and have obtained a good grade.

Business

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

The syllabus is broken down into three sections: A, B, and C.

SECTION A

People in Business

(Unit 1) Introduction to people in business

SECTION B

Enterprise

(Unit 2) Enterprise
(Unit 3) Managing 1
(Unit 4) Managing 2
(Unit 5) Business in action

SECTION C

Environment

(Unit 6) Domestic environment
(Unit 7) International environment

EXAM STRUCTURE

The subject is examined at higher and ordinary level. The higher level exam is three hours long and the ordinary level exam is two and a half hours in duration.

The exam paper is made up of three sections:

- **Section 1: Eight short questions (80m)**
- **Section 2: Applied Business Question (HL only) (80m)**
- **Section 3: Four long questions taken from units 1-7 (240m)**
- **Total marks: 400m**

COMMENT

- 'Business' is a business studies option within the established Leaving Certificate.
- It is concerned with the understanding of the environment in which business operates in Ireland and in the wider world.
- It also involves equipping the students with a positive view of enterprise and its applications in the business environment, in both the public and private sectors.
- It provides students with a learning foundation for a wide range of careers in business, marketing, law, enterprise & management.
- The learning experience in business develops students critical thinking, creative and organisational skills which enhances literacy and numeracy skills using real-life examples.

Applied Maths

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

Applied Maths is best described as a mix between Maths and Physics, and focuses on the applications of mathematics in real world situations. It is a subject that tests students' problem solving nature and shows how the maths that they have studied can be utilised in different scenarios. There is considerable overlap between the Applied Maths, Physics and Project Maths courses, and so this combination of subjects is often chosen by students with a flair for mathematics.

The Applied Maths course has had a complete overhaul, for the first time since the 1970's. The old course could have been called Mathematical Physics as it was all about solving real life problems involving kinematics and dynamics. The new course retains some of these elements in Strand 3.

Historically the number of Al's and now HI's achieved by students in Applied Maths has been one of the highest in any subject (only Russian, Latin and Italian have better results). There is no reason to suggest why this will change in the new course.

Leaving Certificate Applied Mathematics introduces modelling through the exploration of real problems in the physical, natural, and economic worlds. Modelling requires students to turn authentic situations into mathematical structures. They then operate on those mathematical structures and generate a solution or a strategy to address the situation. The cycle of defining the problem, translating it to mathematics, calculating and evaluating the solution provides some of the most challenging, exhilarating, democratic work students will ever do in mathematics, requiring the best from all of them, even the ones who dislike mathematics. It is anticipated that digital technology will be used as a learning tool in some aspects of this course.

Strand I: Mathematical modelling

Formulating Problems, Translating into Maths, Computing Solutions, Evaluating Solutions.

Strand 2: Mathematical modelling with networks and graphs

Networks, Optimising Networks, Dynamic Programming (Stock Control, Routing Problems), Project Scheduling

Strand 3: Mathematically modelling the physical world; kinematics and dynamics

Particle motion is one direction, Particle motion in 2-D, Forces acting on a particle, Work/Energy, Circular motion, Dimensional Analysis

Applied Maths

(Optional)

Strand 4: Mathematically modelling a changing world

Interest/Loans, Disease Spread, Supply & Demand, Real World Problems with continuous change.

ASSESSMENT

- **Modelling project 20%**
- **Written examination 80%**

The modelling project requires students to demonstrate that they can: define a problem, translate the problem to mathematics, compute a solution, analyse the solution and iterate the process.

COMMENTS

- Students considering studying Applied Maths for Leaving Cert should ideally have achieved or should be hoping to achieve an Merit or higher in Higher Level Junior Cert Mathematics. Students should also enjoy Maths and problem solving
- It would suit students considering a career in any mathematical or scientific discipline, such as Engineering, Finance, Physics, or Computer Science.

Leaving Certificate Physical Education

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

Strand One: Towards Optimum Performance:

1. Learning and Improving Skill & Technique
2. Physical & Psychological Demands of Performance
3. Structures, Strategies, Roles & Conventions
4. Planning for Optimum Performance

Strand Two: Contemporary Issues in Physical Activity:

1. Promoting Physical Activity
2. Ethics & Fair Play

In addition, two of the following topics will be prescribed each year:

1. Physical Activity & Inclusion
2. Technology, Media & Sport
3. Gender & Physical Activity
4. Business & Enterprise in Physical Activity & Sport

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component	Weighting	Level	Timeline
Physical Activity Project	**20%**	Higher & Ordinary	Oct – Dec of 6th Year
Performance Assessment	**30%**	Common	Jan – March of 6th Year
Written Examination	**50%**	Higher & Ordinary	June of 6th Year

EXAM STRUCTURE

Higher & Ordinary Level – 2hr 30mins – 250 Marks

- **Section A:** Short Answer Questions (80 Marks)
- **Section B:** Case Study (50 Marks)
- **Section C:** Long Answer Questions (120 Marks)

Leaving Certificate Physical Education

(Optional)

COMMENTS

- Parents and students should be aware of the following cautionary points when considering the study of Physical Education for the Leaving Certificate examination.
- Leaving Certificate Physical Education (LCPE) is a relatively new subject. It was introduced on a phased basis in September 2018 and it was examined for the first time in 2020. Therefore, the structure of the assessment or written examination may be adapted based on feedback. In addition, past exam papers and sample papers are limited.
- Students require a level of sporting ability and IT and analytical skills in order to successfully complete the Physical Activity Project and Performance Assessment.
- Physical activity, or practical classes, are central to the teaching and learning of this subject. However, the students learn about **theoretical perspectives** through their participation in physical activities.
- This subject would be beneficial for a student who wishes to engage in further study in the following areas: sports science, sports psychology, nutrition, physiotherapy and physical education teaching.

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

LCVP

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

LCVP is a Senior Cycle Programme designed to give a strong vocational dimension to the Leaving Certificate (established). The programme combines the virtues of academic study with a new and dynamic focus on self-directed learning, enterprise, work and the community. Young people taking the LCVP have a unique opportunity to develop their interpersonal, vocational and technological skills. These skills are equally relevant to the needs of those preparing for further education, seeking employment or planning to commence their own business sometime in the future

It is an extra subject and students may select it on the subject choice form. As it can be used for CAO points, **it is particularly useful for students who are studying 5 or less subjects at higher level and for students who do not study Irish**.

PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS

Programme Requirements for Students:

- At least **five** Leaving Certificate subjects, one of which must be Irish (unless you have an exemption) **plus** the Link Modules

- The LCVP consists of Link Modules. These link modules are Enterprise and Preparation for the World of Work.

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

LCVP

(Optional)

EXAM STRUCTURE

LCVP students follow the same subject syllabi and are assessed in the same way as their peers in the Leaving Certificate. For the Link Modules they are assessed by Written Examination (40%) and by Portfolio of Coursework (60%).
The Portfolio of coursework must be submitted on the first Wednesday in March. The written examination takes place the first Wednesday in May of the Leaving Certificate Year. The examination is of two and a half hours duration and consists of three sections which are outline below.

The structure of the Written Examination is as follows:

- **Section A Audio Visual Presentation**
- **Section B Case Study (received in advance by students)**
- **Section C General Questions (4 out of 6)**

The Portfolio of Coursework accounts for 60% of total marks.
Students assemble the portfolio over the two years of the programme and it is assessed at the end of the final year of the Leaving Certificate. The Portfolio and Written Examination are externally assessed by the Department of Education & Skills.

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

LCVP

(Optional)

CERTIFICATION

LCVP students receive the same certificate as other Leaving Certificate students but their Certificate includes an additional statement of the results of the Link Modules.
The Link Modules are recognised for **points** purposes by the Technological Universities and the Universities. The points are allocated as follows:

Grade	Universities & Institutes of Techno
Distinction	**66 Points**
Merit	**46 Points**
Pass	**28 Points**

Technology

(Optional)

SUBJECT CONTENT

Within the Leaving Certificate, technology education is provided through the subjects of Engineering, Construction Studies, Design and Communication Graphics and Technology, thereby providing progression from junior cycle.

These subjects contribute to a broad, balanced and general education for students, with particular reference to their vocational, further education and training aspirations, on completion of the Leaving Certificate.

At a practical level, the technology subjects at senior cycle share a number of common features. The syllabuses:

- Are constructed on the basis of core areas of study and optional areas of study, reflecting the different topics and sections within the subject area and are offered at two levels - Ordinary and Higher.
- Have been designed for completion in 180 hours of class contact time.
- Place a strong emphasis on practical learning activity.
- Include a range of assessment components aimed at measuring student achievement in both practical and theoretical aspects of the subjects.

The core of the programme is a broad general introduction to the nature of technology that provides students with a consolidation, extension and refinement of the knowledge, skills and techniques acquired in the Junior Certificate. It is intended that all elements in the core are learned in an integrative manner by means of a 'design and make' approach in the context of safety and the impact of technology on society.

- A Process of Design
- Project & Quality Management
- Materials and Production
- Communication and Graphic Media
- Information & Communications Technology
- Structures and Mechanisms
- Energy, Electricity and Electronics

Optional Modules

The optional modules allow students to undertake a more in-depth study of specific elements within the core. Each student will study **two options** in addition to the core. Reference should be made to the syllabus document for more detailed information.

Technology

(Optional)

Electronics and Control

- Electrical Measurement
- Components and Circuit Design
- Power Supplies and Safety
- Electric Motors
- Assembly of Pre-designed Circuits
- Logic Circuits
- Counters and Sensors

Applied Control Systems

- Robotics
- Robotic Control
- Control
- Programmable Devices
- Pneumatics

Information & Communication Technology

- Computer Architecture
- Data Communications
- Computer Networks
- Internet
- Multimedia Design

Manufacturing Systems

- Context of Manufacturing
- Quality Management
- Project Management
- Concurrent Engineering
- Manufacturing Systems Design & Control

Materials Technology

- Classification of Materials
- Properties/Structure of Materials
- Materials Processing
- Skills Development
- Quality Assurance
- Production Techniques

Technology

(Optional)

EXAM STRUCTURE

Technology	Higher	Ordinary
Written Paper	**1 Paper - 50% of Marks**	**1 Paper - 50% of Marks**
Project	**1 Paper - 50% of Marks**	**1 Paper - 50% of Marks**

Technology is assessed by means of a terminal exam and a project – both are equally weighted, 50% each.

Terminal Exam – 50% marks

At both Higher and Ordinary levels, the terminal exam is made of two sections:

Section A: Core

Section B: Options.

Project – 50% marks

Students will be required to undertake a project, based on a specified thematic brief and within stated parameters. The project involves the design and production of an artefact and an accompanying folder. The project should integrate the various elements of the study of technology and should represent the highest standard of knowledge and skills attained by the student. The folder should reflect all stages of the student's work from design to realisation, and should include an overall evaluation.

COMMENTS

Technology gives students a basic understanding of the principles of engineering, design and project management. If you enjoyed the technology programme at Junior Cert level, and like hands-on activity, this subject may develop an interest in a career in engineering or technology.

Useful Websites

USEFUL WEBSITES

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