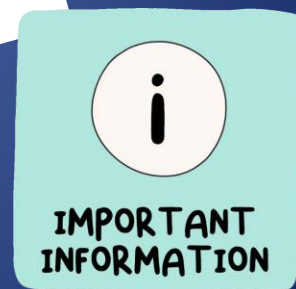




# St. Flannan's College

**6th Year Parents/Guardians  
Information Night**

**Thursday, 13th October 2023  
Assembly Hall @ 7.00pm**





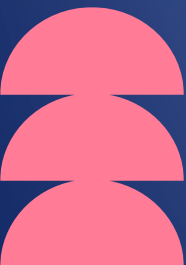
Deputy Principal - Ms. Grainne Lynch

Year Head Classes 6A - 6C

Mr. Michael Donnellan

Year Head Classes 6D-6H

Mr. Garry Shannon

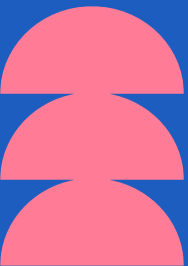




## Career guidance:

[Brenda.mcmenamin@stflannanscollege.ie](mailto:Brenda.mcmenamin@stflannanscollege.ie)

[Eileen.otoole@stflannanscollege.ie](mailto:Eileen.otoole@stflannanscollege.ie)



GRAINNE LYNCH DP

Ext 108

[grainne.lynch@stflannanscollege.ie](mailto:grainne.lynch@stflannanscollege.ie)

Michael Donnellan 6A-6C

Ext 109

[michael.donnellan@stflannanscollege.ie](mailto:michael.donnellan@stflannanscollege.ie)

Garry Shannon 6D-6H

Ext 210

[garry.shannon@stflannanscollege.ie](mailto:garry.shannon@stflannanscollege.ie)

Contact us  
065-6828019





# Important Dates

Midterm	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	School reopens on Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November
Christmas Exams	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	
Parent Teacher Meeting (In house)	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January (16:15-18:45)	
Christmas Holidays	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	School reopens on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January
Mock Exams	Irish and English Paper 1 End of January (TBC) Remaining exams: Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	
Easter Holidays	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> of April	School reopens on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
Orals – Irish, French, German, Japanese etc Music Practical Exams	No date confirmed. Most likely to take place during the first week of Easter holidays (Week of 25 <sup>th</sup> of March)	
Leaving Certificate Exams	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	

# Driving policy



Any student who drives to school must register their vehicle with the Deputy Principal Ms. Grainne Lynch & sign our school policy on student driving.





# vsware app

**Any parents with issues downloading the app or accessing their password please e-mail [info@stflannanscollege.ie](mailto:info@stflannanscollege.ie)**

**Please continue to input absentee notes before 8.30 am each morning if possible**

**Reminder that parents/guardians must sign out their son/daughter at the main office**



# ATTENDANCE RECORD

There has been a decline in student attendance in recent times.

We are asking all parents to arrange appointments, driving lessons etc outside of school hours where possible.

Part time jobs affecting school attendance and performance.



# Uniform



**Full uniform must be worn**  
**Boys must be clean shaven**

**No facial piercings**

**Black shoes**

**Natural hair colouring**

# After school study

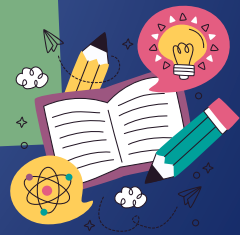


Spaces available

Mon - Tues 4.30 - 6.00 & 6.15 - 7.45

Wed - Fri 3.45 - 5.15 & 5.30 - 7.00

**For more information e-mail  
[michael.kelly@stflannanscollege.ie](mailto:michael.kelly@stflannanscollege.ie)**



# Mobile Phone Usage

- Huge issue at present
- Please speak with your son/daughter regarding the use of their mobile phone
- e.g. taking photos of their teacher in class & uploading to social media
- e.g. when out socialising taking and sending photos of themselves & their classmates to their teachers on Teams



**ANY QUESTIONS OR QUERIES  
PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO  
APPROACH US  
AFTER THIS PRESENTATION**

THANK  
YOU!





6<sup>th</sup> year Progression Options  
Guidance Department

# Outline of Session

- Choosing Careers & Courses
- Points system
- Applying to CAO – key stages
- Allocation & Acceptance of Places
- SUSI, HEAR & DARE
- Other options (PLC, Apprenticeships, Studying Abroad)
- How you can help
- Useful Websites

# Choosing a Career

Research options and make decisions by:

- Assess Aptitudes, Skills & Qualities, Favourite Subjects, Hobbies, Career Interests, Values (eg. security, family, pay).
- Talk to family members, guidance counsellor, teachers, present students, graduates, course co-ordinators.
- Information- Open days, college websites & prospectus.
- Explore options on Career websites
- Consider skills shortages for the future.
- Remain open minded – Be willing to consider courses outside of Limerick if financially possible.
- Have a Plan B!

It is about making smart, informed decisions.



# Choosing a Course

## Compare:

- Career focused vs. broad subject area (which will suit you?)
- Course content : Subjects & electives (know what they are)
- Class sizes
- Opportunities for work placement & studying abroad
- Assessment-Continuous, exams, projects, terminal exams etc.
- College facilities, clubs and societies
- Location/Travel/ Public transport
- Overall Costs

# Entry Requirements

These must be satisfied before “points” are considered.

**Minimum Entry Requirements**

**Specific Subject Requirements**



**If all Entry Requirements are met → applicant is deemed 'Qualified' to apply.**



# “Minimum Entry Requirements”

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS -Must be satisfied before “points” are considered.**

UL: Level 8: 2H5 & 4O6/H7 – English, Maths, 1 other language (**for some, not all**)

TUS (LIT): Level 8: 2H5 & 4O6/H7 Level 6/7: 5O6/H7

LCFE: Pass Leaving Certificate

UoG: Level 8: 2H5 & 4O6/H7 – English, Maths, Irish, 3<sup>rd</sup> lang (for some but not all)

## **Specific Subject Requirements**

Engineering(UL): H4 Maths

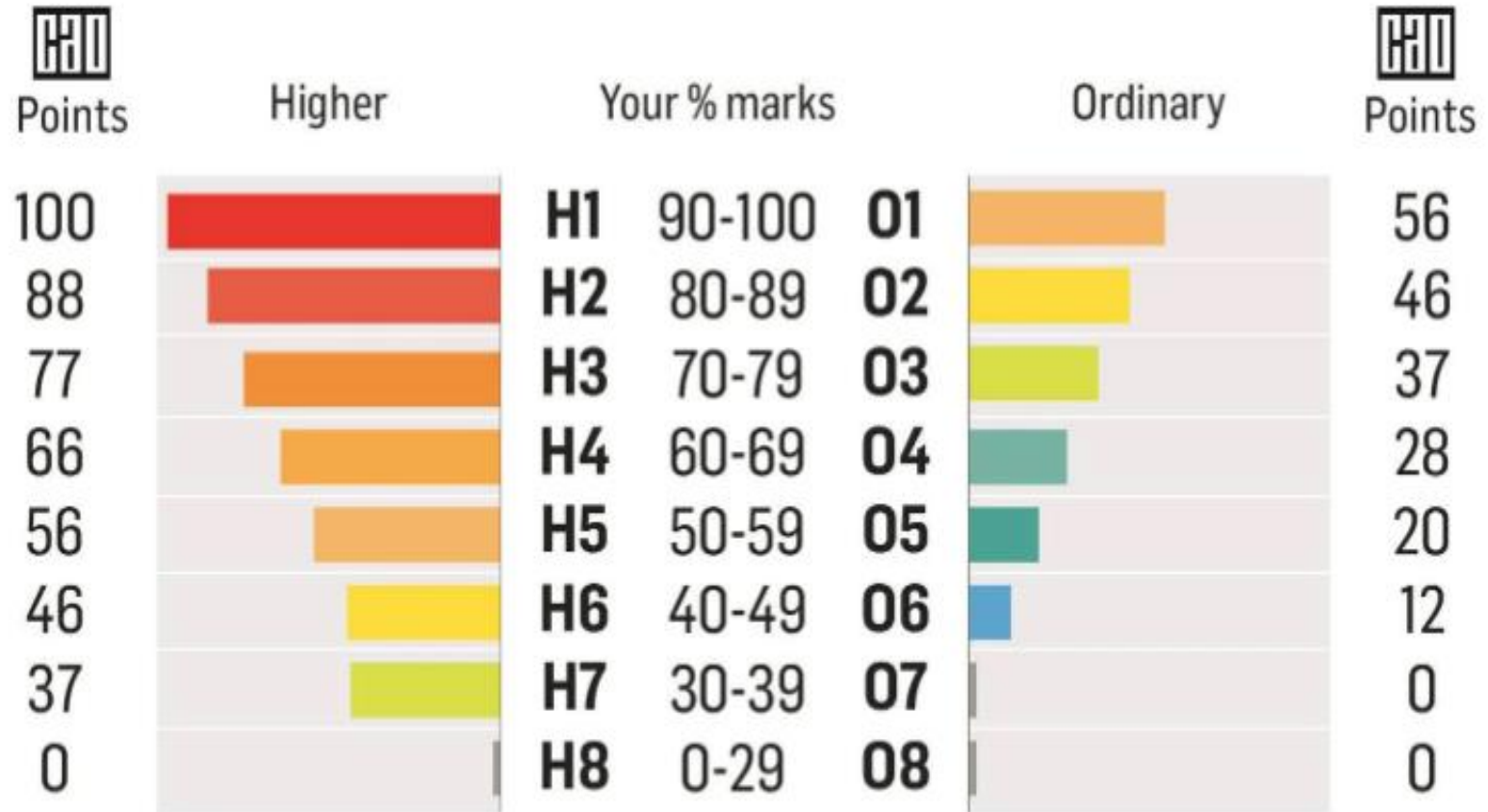
Veterinary Medicine(UCD): H5 Chemistry (plus 15hrs)

Business with French (UL): H4 French

Journalism & Digital Communications(UL): H4 English

- **If all Entry Requirements are met applicant is deemed ‘Qualified’ to apply and only then are points looked at.**

# Points System



**+25** Bonus points for H1-H6 maths

LCVP link modules

Distinction 66

Merit 46

Pass 28

# CAO – When?



- **20<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 5pm (€30 fee)**
  - Closing date for receipt of early online application on [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
- **1<sup>st</sup> February, 2024 5pm (€45 fee)**
  - Closing date for receipt of normal application (**Restricted entry**)
- **1<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 5pm**
  - Closing date for receipt of late applications
- **7<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 12 noon**
  - Change of mind facility becomes available
- **1<sup>st</sup> July, 2024 5pm**
  - Latest date for receipt of change of mind form in CAO
- **Late August/Early Sept 2024**
  - First round of offers will commence

## **DARE & HEAR**

Online forms completed by **1<sup>st</sup> March 5pm, 2024**

Supporting documents to arrive with CAO before **15<sup>th</sup> March 5pm, 2024**

[Contact a HEI](#)[Downloads](#)[Mature Applicants](#)[QQI FET Applicants](#)[Advanced Entry](#)[Entry to Medicine](#)[Media and Statistics](#)

The 2024 CAO Application form will open on the 6th of November at 12:00.

The Central Applications Office processes applications for undergraduate courses in Irish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Decisions on admissions to undergraduate courses are made by the HEIs who instruct CAO to make offers to successful candidates.



The 2024 CAO Application Form opens on 6th November at 12:00.

[Applicants](#)[Parents / Guardians](#)[Guidance / Schools](#)[Access Routes  
DARE / HEAR](#)[Further Education and  
Training  
& Apprenticeship](#)[CAO Offers](#)[Have a question?](#)[Important Dates](#)



# You can now find out information about Further Education and Apprenticeships on the CAO Website

**CAO**

Home

★ My Application

Apply

Courses

Handbook

Contact

Thursday, 12 October 2023 10:32

As Gaeilge | Print Page

The mission of the CAO is to be the leading provider of centralised application processing services for Irish post-secondary education providers. CAO currently operates the centralised application system for Irish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

If you click on the links below, you can view a host of full-time higher education, further education and training and apprenticeship options available to post-second level applicants.

**CAO is not currently accepting applications for further education courses or apprenticeships. For all queries and information about Further Education and Training or Apprenticeship options, click on the tabs below.**

## Higher Education

Levels 6/7 and 8

Honours degrees, ordinary degrees, diplomas and higher certificates

## Further Education and Training

Levels 5 and 6

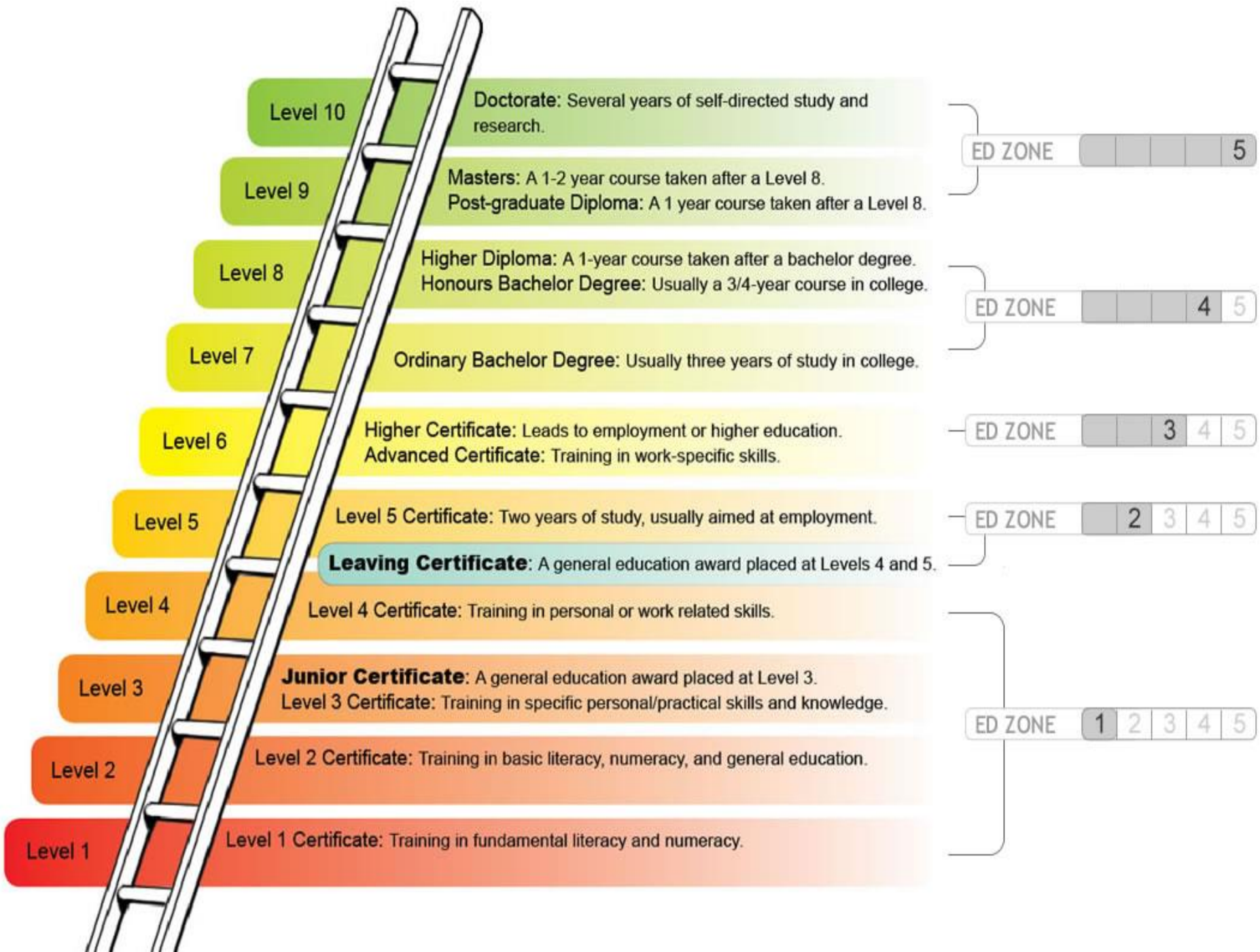
Full-time accredited programmes, including Post Leaving Certificate courses (PLCs), that include a substantial work experience component. Many of which offer an access route to further third-level studies.

## Apprenticeships

Levels 5-10

Apprenticeship is an accredited programme of structured education and training which formally combines and alternates learning in the workplace with learning in an education or training centre.





# 2 applications in 1

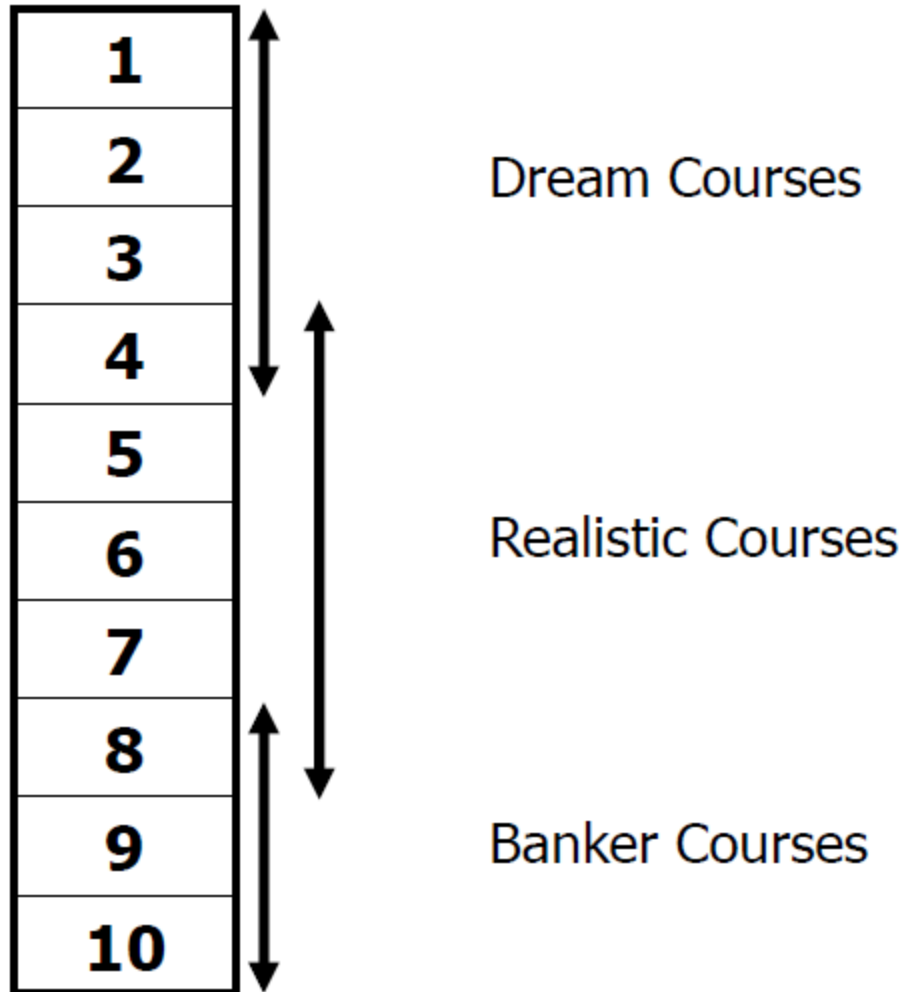


- There are 2 course choice lists (L8 and L7/6) and each applicant may make up to 10 choices on each list.
- Your choices on one list do not in any way affect your choices on the other list. They are considered two separate applications on one form.
- It is possible to receive an offer on both lists. You may then decide to accept either your L8 or L7/6 offer.
- Alternatively, you might not wish to accept either offer.



# Filling out my courses - Genuine Order of Preference

**So – what is the best way to fill in the courses?**



# Genuine Order of Preference



You do not need to guess what the points are going to be for the courses you are interested in

Simply list your courses in genuine order of preference from the highest preference 1, to the lowest preference 10.

If you are entitled to an offer, you will be offered the highest preference that you are entitled to.

# How Places are Allocated



- ▶ The admissions officers of the colleges tell CAO how many places are to be offered on each course. e.g. 100 places
- ▶ CAO then makes offers to the required number of applicants on each course starting with the applicant with the highest points and working down until all 100 places have been offered.
- ▶ Should some applicants decline to accept their offers these places become available in the next round of offers. They will be offered to the next applicants on the order of merit list.
- ▶ This process continues until all the places on the course are filled or until all the eligible applicants on the order of merit list have been offered places. The points of the last person offered a place on a course is the minimum points needed for that course in a given year. **It is an indication but not a guarantee of what the points might be the following year.**



# Course preference/Offer Process

1	2	3
LM000	LM000	LM000
600	560	560
595	555	555
591	551	551
587	547	547
585	543	543
**	**	**
**	**	**
**	**	**
**	**	**
**	**	**
<b>470</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>445</b>
468	457	444
465	450	443
460	<b>445</b>	441
458	439	439
454	435	435
450	431	431
448	427	427
<b>445</b>	423	423
441	419	<b>419</b>
**	**	**
**	**	**
**	**	**
**	**	**
363	363	363
357	357	357

**NO**

**NO**

**YES**

All Lower Preference Courses Disappear From Students Preferences

Students Points Total= 445

Cut off Points for course

# The Offer Process



**There can be no delays at the offer/acceptance stage**

- Any offer not accepted by the closing date for receipt of acceptance of offers in CAO may be offered to another applicant in the next round of offers
- You will receive an email acknowledging your acceptance



# The Change of Mind Facility

- You may use this facility to change the order of your courses or add new courses (restrictions may apply, always consult CAO handbook)
- The change of mind opens in early May and closes on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 at 5pm



# Statement of Application Record

- Before the end of May you will be sent a Statement of Application Record.
- You will need to log into your account and check/verify information, you need to follow the instructions carefully or it could result in your application becoming null and void
- Check the following

**Are your exam numbers correct? (do not assume that they are)**

**Are all exams mentioned?**

**Are all exemptions listed?**

**Are all the courses shown and in the correct order?**

**If you do not  
receive a  
Statement by**



**contact CAO  
immediately.**

# Common Errors

- Not enough research into courses AND career
- Listing courses in order of points instead of genuine preference
- Underestimating / overestimating Leaving Certificate results
- Targeting low point courses in hope of getting college place
- Targeting Level 8 courses only and ignoring Level 7 & 6 courses thereby Ladder of Opportunity
- Not considering courses outside certain geographic areas





# Additional Supports: HEAR

The Higher Education Access Route (HEAR) is a college and university scheme that offers places on reduced points and extra college support to school leavers from low income families who are resident in Ireland.

[www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie)

Information Sessions for HEAR & DARE will be held live in early Jan.



# Additional Support: DARE

College admissions scheme which offers some places at reduced points and extra college supports to school leavers who, as a result of having a disability or specific learning difficulty, have experienced additional educational challenges in second level education.

[www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie)

ALL students applying for DARE need to contact their guidance counsellor



## Additional Supports: SUSI

- SUSI is the central application system for grants for full time Higher Education. Not all colleges are included eg. Private Colleges
- For reckonable income levels, all other info. regarding eligibility and to register for the grant for 2024 go to [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie)
- Apply from April - August. Earlier you apply, earlier you get it.
- Can prepare accounts from 2023
- Self employed: Full set of Accounts, Self Assessment Statement
  - PAYE Worker: P20 or P60
  - Unemployed: SUSI have direct link to Revenue
- Monthly instalments Sept- May.

# Scholarships

- Sport



- Discipline of study

- Low family income



- Academic

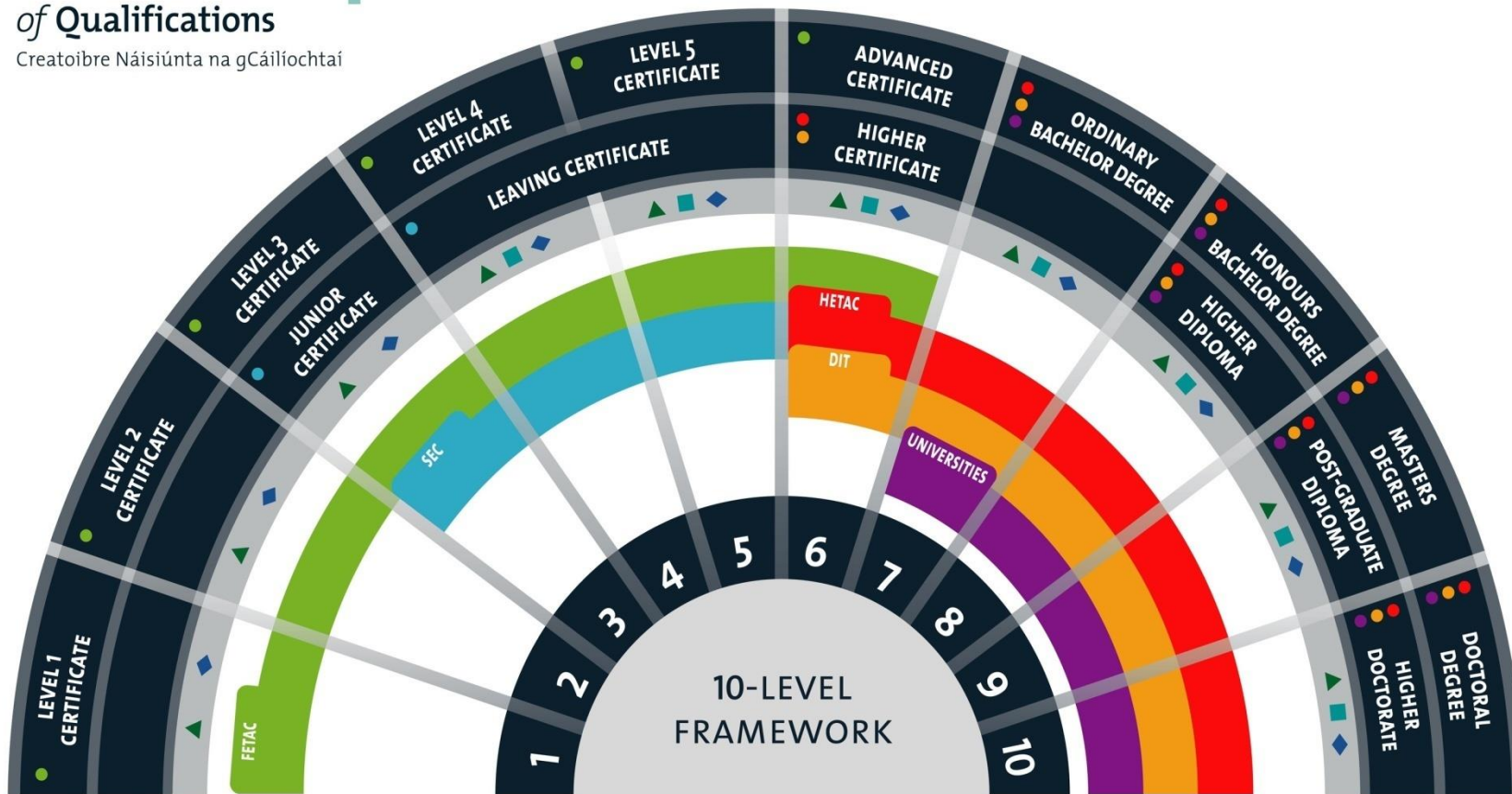




## Options other than CAO

- PLC (Post Leaving Cert. course)
- Apprenticeships ([www.apprenticeship.ie](http://www.apprenticeship.ie))
- Studying Abroad
- On the job training (Army, Gardaí, Marines)
- Year out/ Travel/ Volunteering/ Work to earn & PLC combined





## KEY

- FETAC - Further Education and Training Awards Council
- SEC - State Examinations Commission (*Department of Education & Science*)
- HETAC - Higher Education and Training Awards Council
- DIT - Dublin Institute of Technology
- Universities

## AWARDS IN THE FRAMEWORK

There are four types of award in the National Framework of Qualifications:

- ◐ **Major Awards:** are the principal class of awards made at a level
- ▲ **Minor Awards:** are for partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award
- **Supplemental Awards:** are for learning that is additional to a Major Award
- ◆ **Special Purpose Awards:** are for relatively narrow or purpose-specific achievement

# 1 year Post Leaving Cert. (PLC) Route

- Apply from February, Eligible for Maintenance Grant
- Leaving Cert + Interview, maybe specific subject required
- Progression possible to many Level 6, 7 and 8 courses
- Some colleges require specific PLC courses, others don't mind which you do. Some require minimum number of distinctions. All are competitive.
- Chosen by those who a) maybe young, b) perhaps didn't get the points for course they wanted, c) financial reasons, d) confirm interest in specific area, e) hope of recognised qualification and employment after 1 year, f) alternative route to college





# Local PLC providers

## Ennis College of Further Education

Choose from Nursing Studies, Medical Secretary, Childcare w/ Special Needs, Community Health, Business Studies, Accounting Technician, Music, Food Science, Laboratory Techniques, Social Studies.

## Others providers in Co. Clare

Ennistymon, Lisdoonvarna, Kilrush

## Limerick College of Further Education

Extensive range from I.T., Beauty, Culinary Skills, Emergency Care Personnel, Event Management, Fashion Design, Music Technology, Art Portfolio, Laboratory Techniques, and many more.

# Practical Example

- ▶ Year 1

Computer Systems & Networks, Level 5 in LCFE

- ▶ Year 2

Advanced Computer Systems & Networks, Level 6 in LCFE

- ▶ Year 3

Bachelors Degree in Computer Networks & Systems Mgt at TUS Level 8, 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

- Note: For some third Level courses, the Level 5 course is specific. For others, any will do.





# Studying Abroad

- Europe (EUNICAS)

- UK (UCAS)

Degree Programmes taught through English in European & UK Universities

Especially popular for high pointed courses in Ireland

Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Physiotherapy, Radiography,  
Dentistry, Pharmacy etc.

Things to consider:

Entry requirements (specific and general), Application process & deadlines,  
Travel, Fees, Cost of living.



## Apprenticeships

7 Phases- 4 years

- Phase 1 – With Employer
- Phase 2 – In SOLAS Centre
- Phase 3 – With Employer
  - Phase 4 – TUS
- Phase 5 – With Employer
  - Phase 6 – TUS
- Phase 7 – With Employer



An tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna  
Further Education and Training Authority

## Apprenticeships

- Must find employer (personal contacts, SOLAS, advertisements) to take you on who must register with SOLAS within 2 weeks.
- Potential apprentices join Employers on a regular basis. (Often after exam results) Employer must be approved by SOLAS, Employer registers apprentice (Phase 1) who then goes on a waiting list for Phase 2.
- Rates vary from trade to trade  
Average Phase 2 Rate is €200.00 p.w.  
Average Phase 4<sup>th</sup> Year Rate is €475.00 p.w.
- Big demand for Tool Makers, Jobs also for Refrigeration & Air Conditioning, Instrumentation, Electronic Security Systems.  
[www.solas.ie](http://www.solas.ie)   [www.apprenticeship.ie](http://www.apprenticeship.ie)   [www.apprenticeshipjobs.ie](http://www.apprenticeshipjobs.ie)
- Other Apprenticeships through ESB, Eir, Shannon Aerospace etc.





**Accounting Technician**



**Advanced Craft Welder**



**Baker**



**Butchery & Fresh Food Retail**



**Chef de Partie**



**Commis chef**



**Craft Welder**



**Engineering Technician**



**Executive Chef**



**HGV Driver**



**IFS Advanced Specialist**



**IFS Generalist**



**IFS Specialist**



**Industrial/Electrical Engineer**



**Insurance Practitioner**



**Manufacturing Engineer**



**Manufacturing Technician**



**Network Engineer**



**Polymer Processing Technician**



**Software Developer**



**Sous Chef**



**Telecoms Field Technician**



**Travel professional**



**Warehouse Distribution Operative**



# How you can help your son or daughter

- (1) Encourage to attend school & participate
- (2) Encourage to do homework to best of ability
- (3) Take an interest in their school work
- (4) Encourage to Revise, daily and at weekend
- (5) Quiet place to study
- (6) Exercise, eat well, sleep well
- (7) Discuss their plans for next year & career





# Important Websites

- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie) (Courses)
- [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie) (Careers)
- [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie) (CAO Application)
- [www.eunicas.ie](http://www.eunicas.ie) (Studying in Europe)
- [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) (Studying in UK)
- [www.apprenticeship.ie](http://www.apprenticeship.ie) (Apprenticeships)
- [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie) (Maintenance Grant)
- [www.studentfinance.ie](http://www.studentfinance.ie) (Other finance options)
- [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie) (HEAR & DARE)

