



Subject Choice for
Leaving Certificate
St. Flannan's College

Maria Campion– Guidance Counsellor

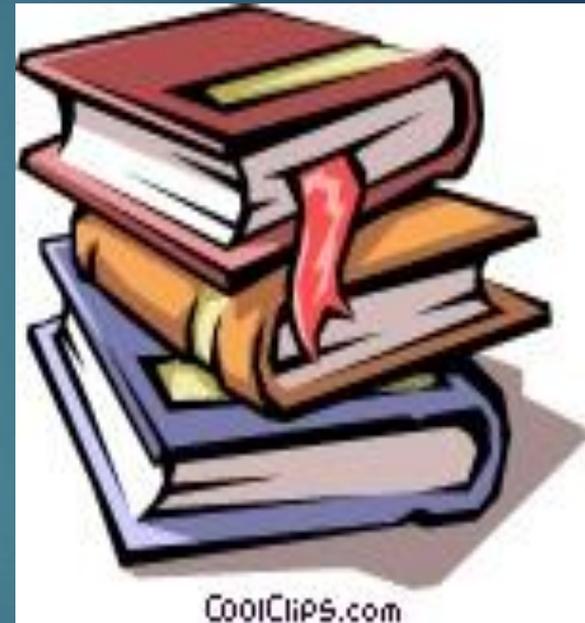
Purpose of Presentation



- ▶ Raise awareness of the importance of picking the correct subjects
- ▶ Subject requirements for further study in college
- ▶ How to decide which subjects to choose
- ▶ Leaving Certificate/ Senior Cycle Reform

Factors influencing subject choice

- **WHAT SUBJECTS DO STUDENTS ENJOY**
(THEY WILL WORK BEST AT THESE SUBJECTS)
- **ABILITY AND APTITUDE IN THE SUBJECT**
- **IS THE SUBJECT NECESSARY FOR THIRD LEVEL?**
- **FRIENDS/ PARENTS/SIBLINGS, ETC**
- **PERCEIVED AS 'EASY' OR 'HARD'**



THEIR CHOICE SHOULD BE BOTH MEANINGFUL AND MANAGEABLE

Subjects in Senior Cycle



Our method for students picking their subjects moving into senior cycle - student centred, flexible.

Students rate their top 6 subjects, of which they will get 3.

All students will continue with the core subjects which are Maths, English and Irish (unless exempt), we also recommend keeping their language.

Why study a Modern Language?



- ▶ Students have already acquired language skills and knowledge at Junior Cycle. They will further develop their existing proficiency.
- ▶ A Foreign Language is compulsory to access many 3rd level courses, not just those which have a language incorporated.
- ▶ Languages are an asset to those working in the areas of STEM and business, not only in teaching.
- ▶ It improves communication skills and the ability to use resourcefulness and creativity.
- ▶ Ireland is the only EU country, beside Malta, with English as one of its official languages.
- ▶ The globalisation of the world economy and the emergence of new non-English speaking markets, multi-lingual Irish graduates will be in high demand.

Will also be asked to choose between

- ▶ Computer Studies (with option to complete Excel, Powerpoint, Word - Microsoft Office Specialist Qualification)
- ▶ Japanese
- ▶ Physical Education (Non Exam)
- ▶ L.C.V.P.

Subjects available

Business
Economics
Accounting

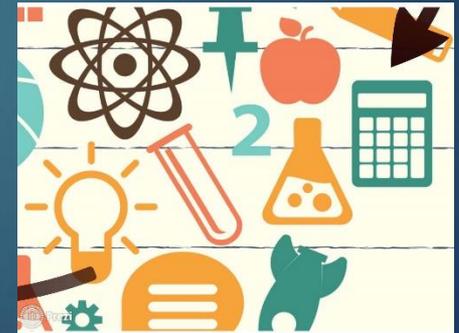
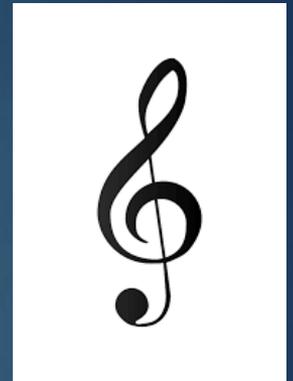
Physical Education
Home Economics
Construction Studies

Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Agricultural Science
Computer Science *NEW*

Music
Art
Design & Comm. Graphics

History
Geography
Classical Studies

LCVP
Japanese



Compulsory Subjects

- ▶ Maths Exam 100%
- ▶ English Exam 100%

- ▶ Irish Exam 50%
(Exemption will do Geography) Oral 40%
Aural 10%



Recommended Subjects

- ▶ French or German Exam 55%
(Exemption/choice to do Business) Oral 20-25%
Aural 20-25%



Optional Subjects

Artistic

Art Exam 37.5% Practical 62.5%

Music Listening 25%
Composition 25%
Performance 50%

Design & Communication Graphics (DCG)

Exam 60%
Project 40%



Optional Subjects

affected by reform 2025 & 2026

Humanities

History

Exam 80% Project 20%

Geography

Exam 60% Project 40%

Classical Studies

Exam 80% Project 20%



Practical

Construction Technology

Written Exam 50%

Project & Practical 50%

Physical Education

Written Exam 50%

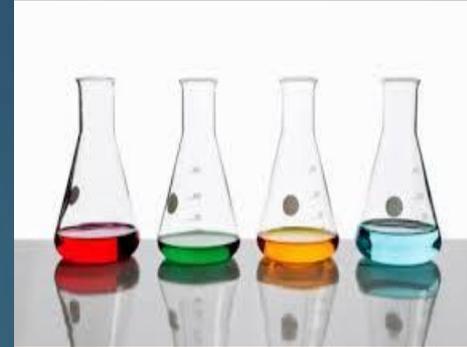
Practical 50%%

Optional Subjects

affected by reform 2025 & 2026

Science Subjects

Biology	Exam 60% & Project 40%
Chemistry	Exam 60% & Project 40%
Physics	Exam 60% & Project 40%
Agricultural Science	Exam 75% & Project 25%
*Computer Science	Exam 70% & Project 30%



Business Subjects

Business	Exam 60% & Project 40%
Economics	Exam 80% & Project 20%
Accounting	Exam 100%



Why study Computer Science?

Develop Critical Thinking Computer Science builds critical thinking and problem-solving skills through computational thinking methods.

Foster Creativity and Innovation Students design apps, games, and simulations, encouraging creativity and iterative solution development.

Build Transferable Skills Teamwork, communication, and project management skills gained are valuable in many academic and professional fields.

Career and Ethical Foundations Provides pathways into tech roles and emphasizes ethical, sustainable, and inclusive technology development.

- ▶ Note: For the majority of courses that require a Science subject, Computer Science **does not** meet this requirement.

Why study Japanese?

- ▶ A gateway to an incomparable cultural universe-

Culture, Love of Languages, Travel to Japan, Work in Japan

- ▶ An industry of opportunities –

Life science research pioneer -Japan excels in the life science industry and food science.

High tech leader -Japanese is one of the most important languages in the world of gaming development with companies Nintendo, Miyamoto, Sega and Sony.

- ▶ Japanese for Leaving Cert

Two-year programme based on same syllabus framework as other languages, Written paper, Listening and Oral exam.

- ▶ Japanese can be studied at Third Level

In UL, DCU and UCC and as an optional modules at UCD and TCD. Eg: Law Plus at UL, Journalism and Digital Communication at UL, Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering at DCU, Computer Science at Trinity

Why study L.C. Vocational Programme?

Designed to enhance the vocational dimension of the Leaving Certificate (established).

The LCVP combines the academic strengths of the Leaving Certificate (established) with a new and dynamic focus on self-directed learning, innovation and enterprise.



What results can students achieve?

Distinction 66 (H4 in higher level paper)

Merit 46 (H6 in higher level)

Pass 28 (O4 in ordinary level)



LC Grading Scheme	Marks	Points Higher Level	Points Ordinary Level
H1 / O1	90-100	100	56
H2 / O2	80 < 90	88	46
H3 / O3	70 < 80	77	37
H4 / O4	60 < 70	66	28
H5 / O5	50 < 60	56	20
H6 / O6	40 < 50	46	12
H7 / O7	30 < 40	37	0
H8 / O8	0 < 30	0	0

Do 7(or 8) subjects, Count 6

NB the “7th subject” can be the Modern Language. i.e. You can pass it for minimum entry requirement purposes, but you do not have to “count” it.

Add 25 points to HL Maths result as long as its H6 or above. But only get 25 points if you’re going to USE the points for Maths in your top 6.

Maths	O2	46	Maths	H5	81 *
English	O3	37	English	H4	66
Irish	O3	37	Irish	H5	56
French	O5	20	French	H5	56
Business	H5	56	Physics	H4	66
Home Ec	H3	77	Chemistry	H3	77
Ag Science	H6	46	Economics	H4	66
LCVP	Dis	66			
Total		328	Total		412

Leaving Cert Reform 25-29

Subject Tranches 2025-2029

September
2025

Tranche 1

- Ancient Greek
- Arabic
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Climate Action and Sustainable Development
- Drama, Film and Theatre Studies
- Latin
- Physics

September
2026

Tranche 2

- Accounting
- Construction Studies
- Engineering
- English
- Geography
- LCVP Link Modules
- Physical Education

September
2027

Tranche 3

- Agricultural Science
- Computer Science
- Design and Communications Graphics
- History
- Home Economics
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physics and Chemistry

September
2028

Tranche 4

- Art
- Economics
- French
- Gaelge
- German
- Italian
- Politics and Society
- Spanish
- Technology

September
2029

Tranche 5

- Applied Mathematics
- Classical Studies
- Japanese
- Lithuanian
- Mandarin Chinese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Religious Education
- Russian

Additional Assessment Component

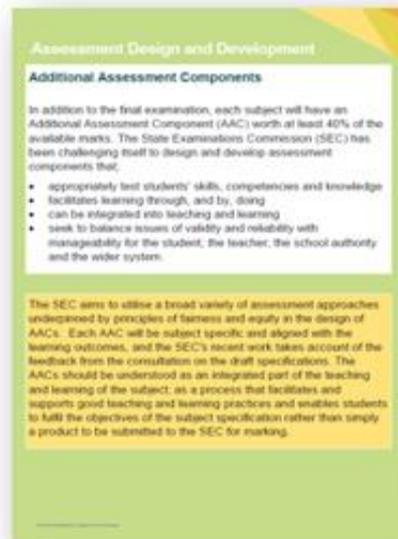
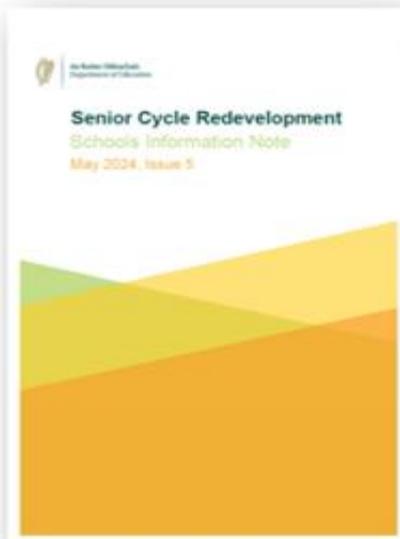
Additional Assessment Components



- **Each** of the new and revised subject specifications will incorporate additional assessment components (called **AACs**).
- These components will **not** be a traditional written examination.
- AACs **will be assessed by the State Examinations Commission (S.E.C).**

Minimum
40%
marks for
additional
assessment
components

More Information:



<https://www.curriculumonline.ie/senior-cycle/senior-cycle-subjects/>

“Alike” Short film



Specific Entry Requirements (Example: Science)



Nursing

1 Science

Science/Healthcare based degrees

1 Science

Medical degrees

2 Sciences*

Veterinary (UCD)

H5 Chem

Pharmacy(UCC)

H4 Chem & H4 in Phy or Bio

Dentistry(UCC)

H4 Chem & H4 in Phy or Bio



Some PLC courses & apprenticeship employers like or
require a Science

**THIS IS NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST; PLEASE
CONSULT COLLEGE WEBSITE OR
QUALIFAX TO CHECK COURSES OF
INTEREST**

Relevant Websites

- ▶ www.studyclix.ie (details about each L.C. subject)
 - ▶ Press “pick a subject” and choose from menu
- ▶ www.qualifax.ie (courses, subject requirements)
 - ▶ Pick “Subject Requirement tool” at bottom of page and choose a subject from drop down menu
- ▶ www.careersportal.ie (careers)
 - ▶ a comprehensive, one-stop resource for education and career information (Transition Year)



Pick a subject

Leaving Certificate

Junior Cycle

Ardteistiméireacht

Sraith Sóisearach



Accounting

→ Higher

→ Ordinary



Agricultural Science

→ Higher

→ Ordinary



Applied Maths

→ Higher

→ Ordinary



Art

→ Higher

→ Ordinary



Biology

→ Higher

→ Ordinary



Business

→ Higher

→ Ordinary



Chemistry

→ Higher



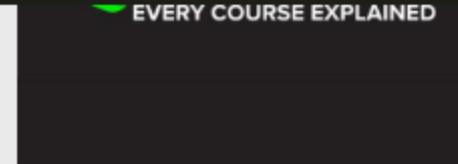
Classical Studies

→ Higher



Computer Science

→ Higher



17 Jan 2025

Meet us at the School Summit Munster this April!

17 Jan 2025

IGC National Conference 2025 - 21st & 22nd March

17 Jan 2025

CAO Application Dates and Fees

16 Jan 2025

Qualifax Course Search Improvements

[See all news](#)

Career Guidance tools for

Join
to create a
Career Profile



Discover
your Career
Interests



Match
your Interests to
Careers & Courses

GET HERE!

[MORE INFO](#)

Careers

Apprenticeships

Jobs

Career Sectors

Code...

by College here... ▾

SEARCH CO

ol

second level student re-
g my subjects, courses
options



Graduates

I am an undergraduate / gradu-
ate researching career
opportunities



Adult Learners

I want to return to education
and explore options and sup-
ports available

General Advice

If, like most, a student is undecided about their path

pick a **broad range of subjects** in order to keep options open

one language

one science

one business

**one other subject they feel comfortable
with**

This combination would allow access into
a broad range of courses/careers and
allows for them to change their mind
which often happens

Subject Choice Submission

- ▶ All 3rd Years and TY's have been given a presentation in class.
- ▶ If your 3rd year child was absent for the Subject choice talk, I will do the talk again next Monday (message re: time will be sent on Teams)
- ▶ A message will be sent via text when VS Ware is ready for you to choose subjects in order of preference.

Deadline for receiving completed subject choice forms is Friday 20th March 2026

Guidance & Counselling Dept. St Flannan's College

2 Guidance Counselling jobs (shared by 4 guidance counsellors)
Almost 1300 students

Senior Cycle

- ▶ **TY/5th/6th** College Open Days, Taster Days, Careers Events
Career Guidance Classes

2025/2026

- ▶ **TY** - Ms Mc Menamin/Ms O Toole All year
- ▶ **5th** - Ms Campion/Ms Egan 8 wks Careers & RSE
- ▶ **6th** - 4 Guidance Counsellors 12 wks Careers & RSE

One to one Career Guidance appointments in 6th year

One - to - One Counselling remains a large part of our job



Thank You!