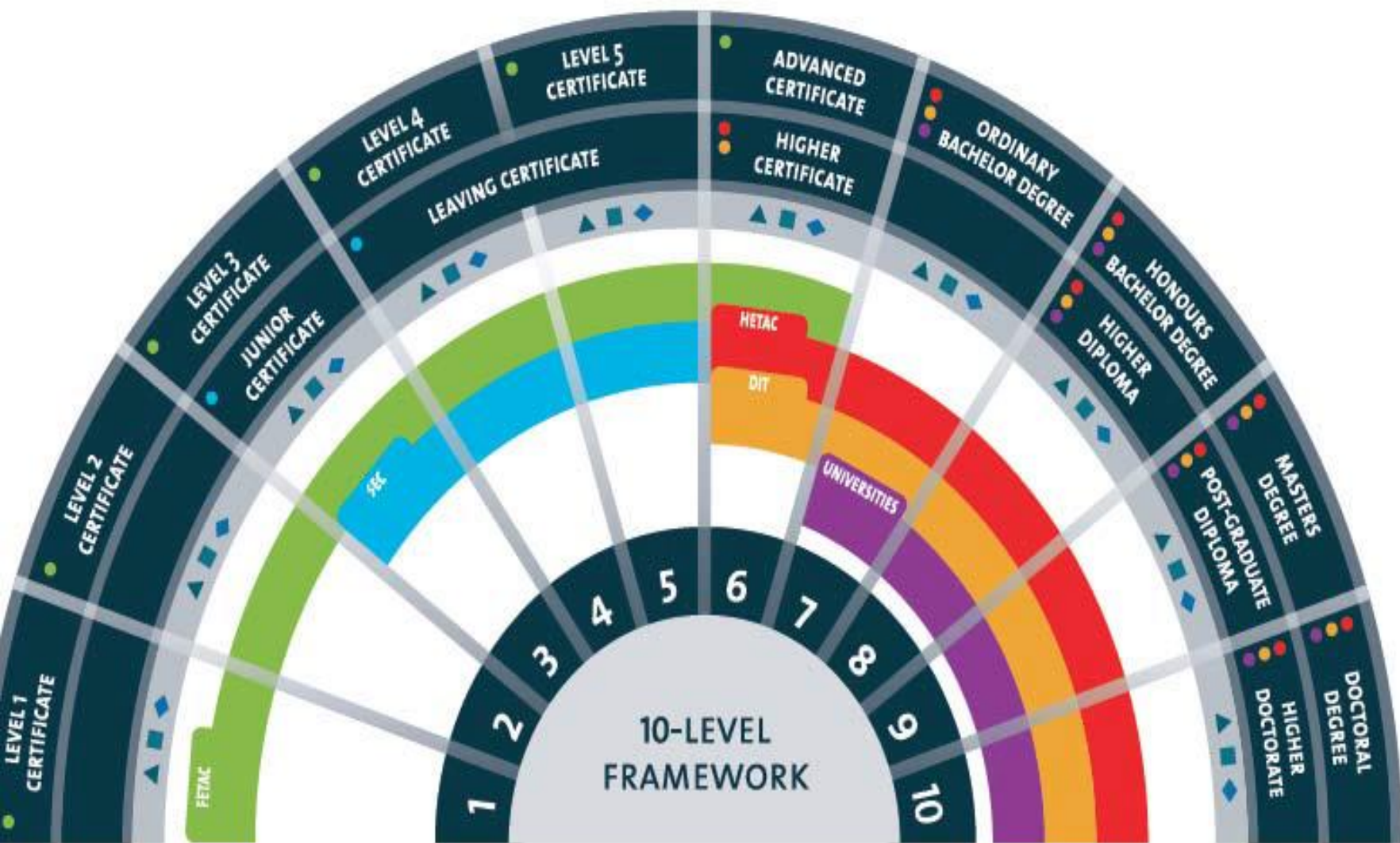




Subject Options Senior Cycle

Luttrellstown Community College

February 24th 2021



Going To College

- There are three hurdles to College entry:
 - *Points*
 - *Matriculation Requirements*
 - *Subject Requirements*

Going to College

- National University of Ireland (NUI) – Level 8 Honours Degree - matriculation requirements – English, Irish, Maths and Third Language
- Technological Universities - Level 6,7 and 8 - matriculation requirements – English and Maths.
- College of Further Education – Post Leaving Certificate Course – Level 5 – Pass in 5 subjects.
- Some courses have specific subject requirements e.g.
 - National School Teaching – Irish (Higher Level) H4
 - Engineering (NUI) – Mathematics (Higher Level) H4
 - Global Business Spain (DCU) – Spanish (Higher Level) H4

Always check the college websites.

Subjects at Senior Level

- Most students will take seven subjects
 - **4 Core Subjects and 3 Option Subjects**
- Core subjects include: English, Irish, Mathematics and a Third Language – French/Spanish/German.
- Points for the Leaving Certificate Examination are allocated to the **six best grades**, these grades must be achieved in **one sitting of the Leaving Certificate Examination**
- **All subjects carry equal points (Maths is the exception)**
- Entry to a college course will be granted to those holding the highest number of points.

**IT IS THE 3 OPTION SUBJECTS THAT WILL BE PRESENTED
TONIGHT.**

18 Subject Options

1. Accounting
2. Art
3. Biology
4. Business Studies
5. Chemistry
6. Computer Science
7. Construction Studies
8. Design & Communication Graphics
9. Engineering
10. Geography
11. History
12. Home Economics
13. Music
14. Physics
15. Technology
16. PE
17. Politics and Society
18. Applied Mathematics

New Subjects 2021 -2022

- **Computer Science** was introduced in 2018
 - Students first sat this exam in for the first time in Leaving Cert 2020
- **Leaving Certificate PE** was introduced in 2020
 - Students will take this exam for the first time in Leaving Cert 2022
- **Politics and Society** was introduced in 2020
 - Students will take this exam for the first time in Leaving Cert 2022
- Please note that the introduction on these new subjects may have a knock on effect on numbers in other minority subjects which could potentially effect this provision.

-

Choosing Subjects for Positive Reasons

- What are my interests and aptitudes?
- What subjects am I most interested in?
- **What subjects do I most enjoy?**
- What subjects am I likely to do best at?
- **What subject will I need?**
 - Make a list of potential career areas and Third Level Courses you are interested in – www.qualifax.ie
 - Keep a balanced choice – keep options open
 - Do not overspecialise – you may change your mind about possible careers many times in the next two years.

Choosing Subjects for Negative Reasons:

- What teacher may be teaching it
- If your friend is taking the subjects
- If an older sibling disliked the subject
- The perceived difficulty of the subject
- “Just because it’s hard does not mean it’s not worth doing”
- The amount of work that may be required
- Unsure of future relevance in career

The Points System

- Points are allocated to the six best grades of an applicant
- These grades must be achieved in **one sitting of the Leaving Certificate** Examination
- **All subjects carry equal points (Maths is the exception)**
- Entry to a course which is competitive will be granted to those holding the highest number of points.
- The number of points required for any course in any year is not pre-set by any college.
- Entry requirements for Third Level courses vary from course to course, so you must refer now to the relevant literature of to the university website.

Changes to the Leaving Certificate Grading System

- Reducing the number of grade bands from 14 to 8
- Candidates receiving Leaving Certificate results in August 2017 will have their results expressed in the following new Leaving Certificate grades

Higher Level Grade	Ordinary Level Grade
H1 (90-100)	O1 (90-100)
H2 (80 < 90)	O2 (80 < 90)
H3 (70 < 80)	O3 (70 < 80)
H4 (60 < 70)	O4 (60 < 70)
H5 (50 < 60)	O5 (50 < 60)
H6 (40 < 50)	O6 (40 < 50)
H7 (30 < 40)	O7 (30 < 40)
H8 (0 < 30)	O8 (0 < 30)

Changes to the Common Points Scale

The HEIs developed a new common points scale, aiming to minimise the need for random selection.

Higher Level Grade	Points	Ordinary Level Grade	Points
H1	100		
H2	88		
H3	77		
H4	66		
H5	56	O1	56
H6	46	O2	46
H7	37	O3	37
H8	0	O4	28
		O5	20
		O6	12
		O7	0
		O8	0

Role of Parents

- Be informed, assist with the research process, become familiar with college websites and qualifax.
- Support their dreams and passions with realistic planning.
- Discuss ambitions and encourage them to look to the future – stay involved
- 72% of students cite parents as their most significant influence for future career and CAO choices
- Be aware of various grant and support schemes (SUSI, DARE, HEAR... www.accesscollege.ie)
- Some useful websites
 - www.qualifax.ie
 - www.cao.ie
 - www.careersportal.ie

Options Form VS Ware

Student Name: _____

Class Group: _____

List from 1 to 6 the **OPTION SUBJECTS** you would most like to study for Leaving Certificate:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Subject Bands

- Once all forms are completed we will then proceed to create the subject bands.
- Each year we have different subject bands as they are determined by the students' preferences.
- An example of subject bands is as follows:

History, Biology, Music, Engineering, Geography, Home Ec, Tech
Biology, Chemistry, Art, Construction, Pol/Soc, Business, Geog
Physics, Tech, Biology, History, PE, Computer Sc, DCG, App Maths

- Students can only have one subject from each band as these classes take place at the same time.
- Unfortunately if a student's first two choices are on the same band they may not be able to study both unless one of these subjects appears on another band.

Link to VS Ware

- **This year Option Forms will be available on VS Ware.**
- **From February 25th parents/guardians can access this form and should assist your son/daughter in completing it.**
- **Six subjects in all must be listed in order of preference 1-6.**
- **All forms must be filled in on VS Ware by Thursday March 4th**
- **Every effort will be made to give students their top choices but this cannot be guaranteed.**
- **Students who are unhappy with their offer will be put on a waiting lists if their preference classes are full.**

Additional Programmes

- Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme
 - Vocational
 - Curriculum Vitae, Career Investigation, College Presentations, Work Experience.
 - Enterprise
 - Visit out to local enterprise, Study of local area (business and enterprise). Study of the world of work (trade unions, government agencies and start up businesses).
 - Students take this programme in addition to their 7 LC subjects, qualification to study this programme is based on options combinations.
 - Those who do not qualify will study Microsoft Offices Systems.
- Leaving Certificate Plus
 - Established Leaving Certificate minus Irish and Foreign Language.
 - Students study additional English/Maths/Cultural Studies and Business .