

# Leaving Certificate Subject Choice



26th February 2025

## Options after Junior Cycle



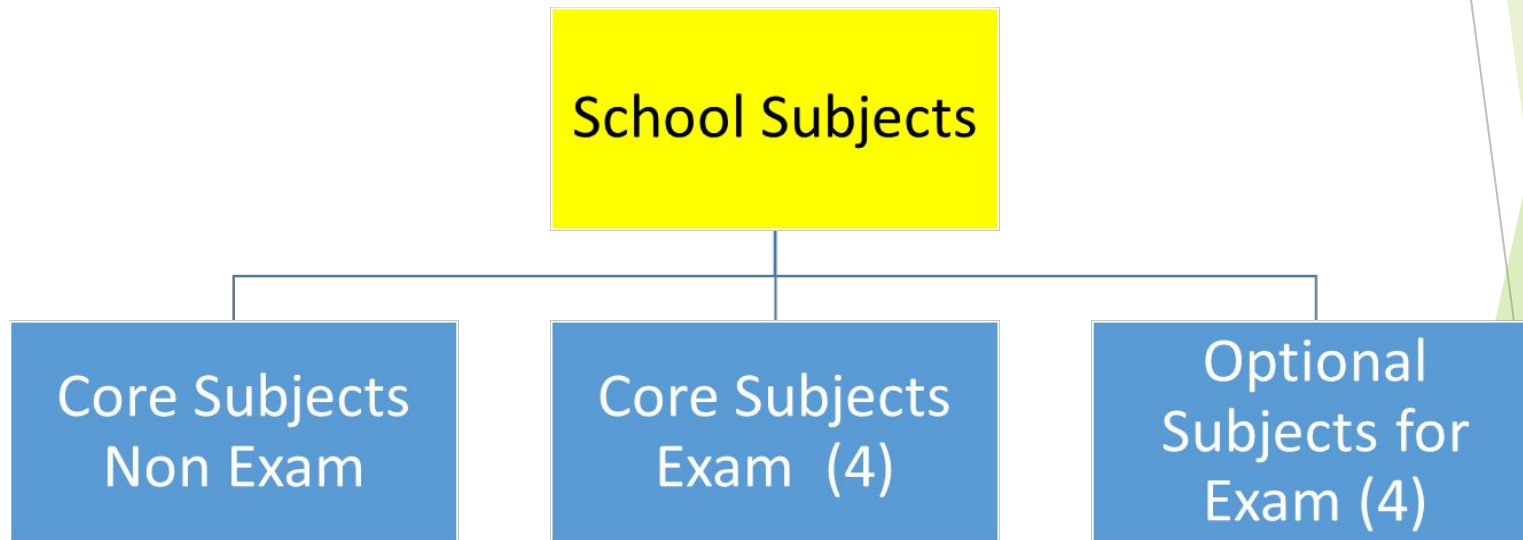
# Sequence of Presentations

1. Leaving Certificate Subject Choice
2. Leaving Certificate Applied Program
3. Transition Year

# Leaving Certificate

Students must consider and decide  
on their options

# What will I study ...?



# Non Exam Core Subjects

- Career Guidance
- PE

# Core Subjects Exam

- English
- Gaeilge
- Maths
- Link Modules ( LCVP)

# Optional Subjects ... for LC Exam

- You must choose 4 out of a possible 21
- Each of these may be studied at Higher or Ordinary Level





# Arts

- Art
- Music



# Business

- Accounting
- Business
- Economics



# Humanities

- Geography
- History
- Religion



# European Language

- French



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Language Requirement

**NUI Colleges-** Maynooth, UCC, UCD, NUIG

-require 3<sup>rd</sup> language for all courses except Science and Engineering

Maynooth and UCD offer other courses also which do not require a 3<sup>rd</sup> language

See exactly which courses require 3<sup>rd</sup> language - pink sheet

Exemption - born outside ROI or already exempt from languages

French Requirement

# Practical/Applied Subjects

- Construction Studies
- Engineering
- Home Economics
- Graphics
- Technology
- PE



# Sciences

- Agricultural Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Phys/Chem
- Applied Maths\*



# Science Consideration

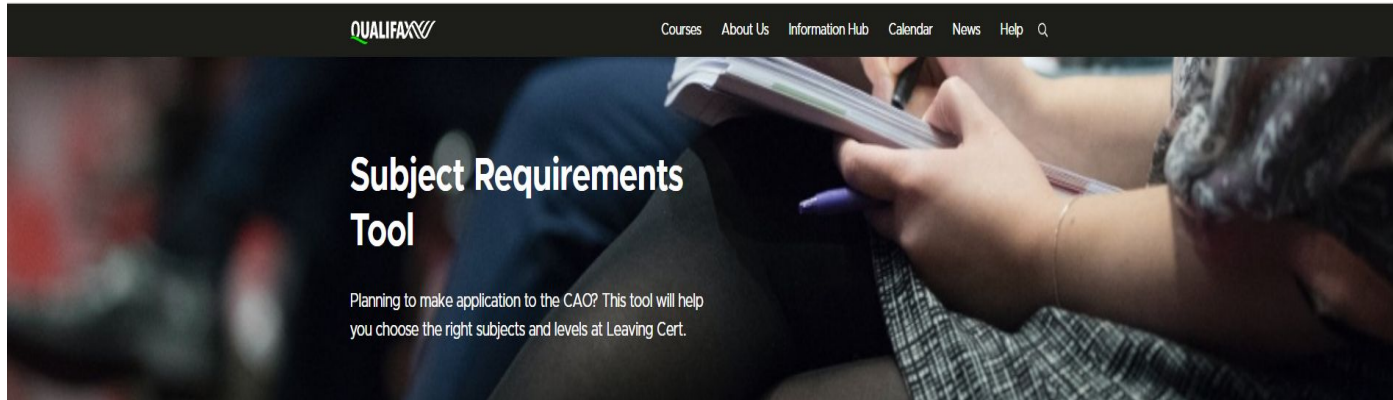
- In order to keep all options open students are strongly advised to keep one Science
- Science, Medical, Engineering and Healthcare require one science
- Medicine, Pharmacy and Dentistry require two sciences
- Qualifax minimum subject requirement tool



# Science Requirement

- Dentistry
- Engineering
- Nursing
- Medicine
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Dietetics
- Optometry
- Podiatry
- Occupational Therapy
- Pharmacy
- Radiography
- Biomedical Science
- Dental Nursing
- Nutrition
- All Science Degrees
- Sport and Exercise Sciences
- Veterinary Nursing

# Subject Requirements Tool - Qualifax



Subject

- Select -

- Select -
- A Science Subject
- A Second Language
- A Third Language
- Accounting
- Agricultural Science
- Ancient Greek
- Applied Mathematics
- Arabic
- Art
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Classical Studies
- Computer Science
- Construction Studies
- Design and Communication Graphics
- Economics
- Engineering

Please select a subject from the subject dropdown on the left.

All courses referred to in this section are Third Level CAO entry. The Course Data in this section is for the CAO entry in 2024

"A Science Subject" includes the following subjects:  
Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics and Chemistry.


"A Second Language" includes the following subjects:  
Ancient Greek, Arabic, French, German, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Lithuanian, Mandarin Chinese, Polish,

## Subject Requirements Tool

# Show Courses....

Planning to make application to the CAO? This tool will help you choose the right subjects and levels at Leaving Cert.

## Subject



A Science Subject 

125 courses definitely require A Science Subject

91 courses may require A Science Subject

1349 courses do not require A Science Subject


Total: 1565

 Advanced filters 

## Courses that definitely require A Science Subject

Higher Education CAO Level 8 NFG NFG Type: Major RC006

### Advanced Therapeutic Technologies

 Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

 St Stephens Green

 CAO Points: 487



Higher Education CAO Level 8 NFG NFG Type: Major DN250

### Agricultural Science

 University College Dublin

 Belfield

 CAO Points: 400

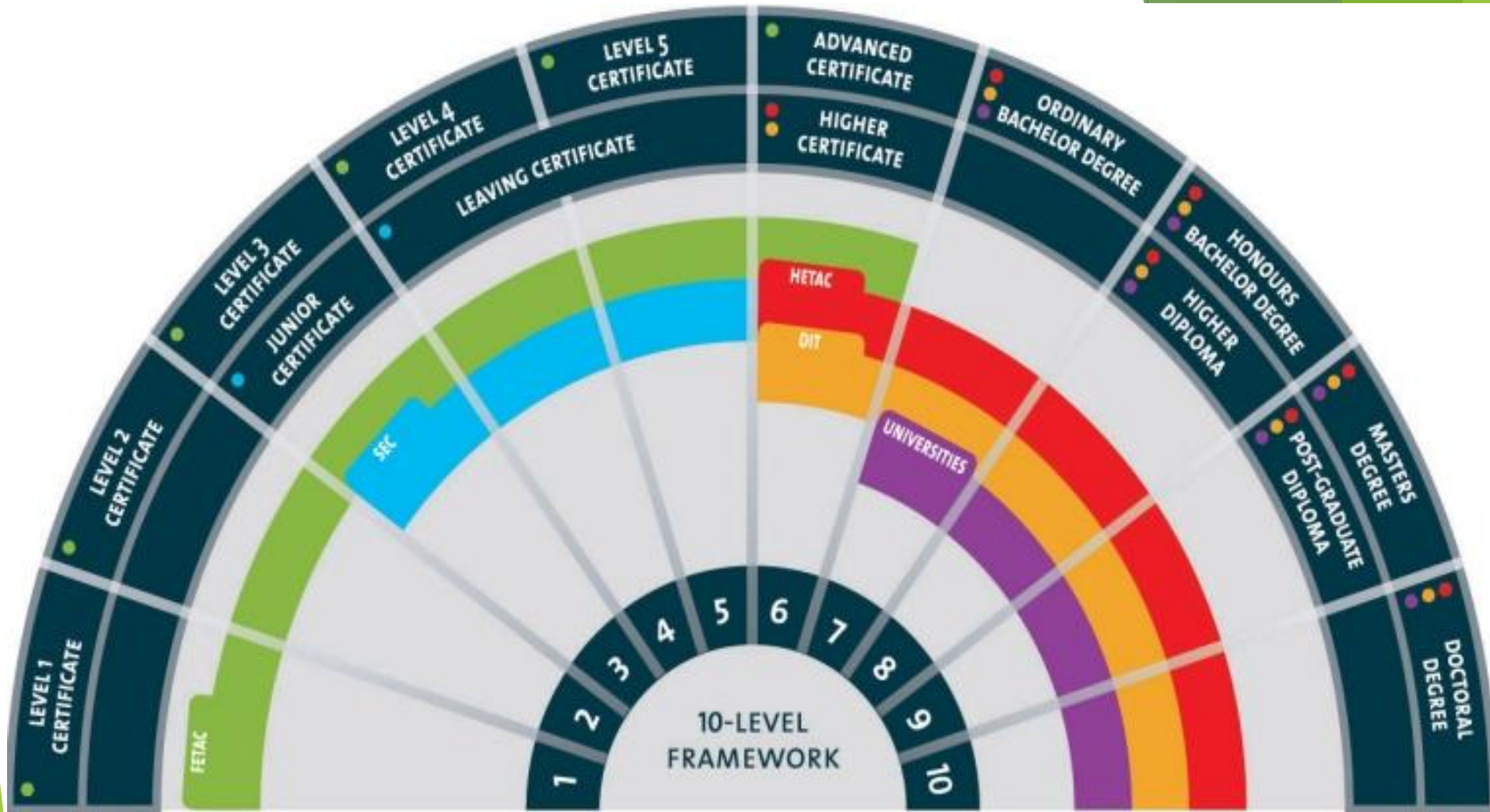


Higher Education CAO Level 8 NFG NFG Type: Major CK412

### Agricultural Science

 University College Cork





# National Qualifications Framework

# College Requirements

- NUI Colleges – Pass in Ordinary Level European Language
- Most Level 8 Degrees – 2 H5 + 4 O6/H7 grades
- Most Level 7 Degrees – 5 O6/H7 grades

# Course Requirements

- Any Level 8 Engineering course—  
H4 in Maths
- Nursing Degrees – O6/H7 in a Lab  
Science Subject
- Primary School Teaching Degrees –  
H4 in Irish



Points

Higher

Your % marks

Ordinary



Points

100



**H1**

90-100

**01**



56

88



**H2**

80-89

**02**



46

77



**H3**

70-79

**03**



37

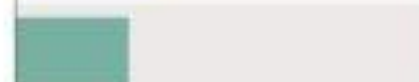
66



**H4**

60-69

**04**



28

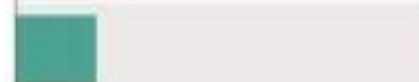
56



**H5**

50-59

**05**



20

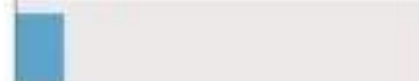
46



**H6**

40-49

**06**



12

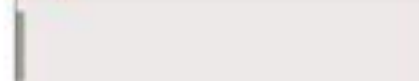
37



**H7**

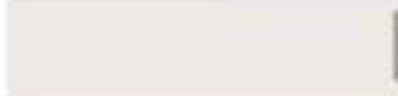
30-39

**07**



0

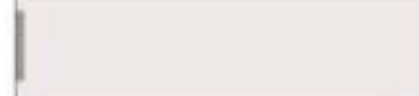
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**H8**

0-29

**08**



0

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

LCVP link modules

Distinction 66

Merit 46

Pass 28

# Entry to many courses depends on “Points” total

- ..... Important to maximise your points.
- Points are calculated on your Best 6 subjects.
- Examples:
  - Higher 1 = 100 points
  - Higher 3 = 77 points
  - Ordinary 1 = 56 points
  - Ordinary 3 = 37 points

(More complete details given in Bookle



# Link Modules

- Preparation for the World of Work
- Enterprise Education

# Assessment

- Portfolio - 60% (March of 6th Year)
- Exam - 40% (May of 6th Year)

# Portfolio

- Career Investigation
- CV
- Diary of Work Experience
- Summary Report
- Action Plan
- Recorded Interview

# Points Awarded for Link Modules

Distinction - 66 (H4)

Merit - 46 (H6)

Pass - 28

# Senior Cycle Developments

The first tranche of changes to the Leaving Certificate - September 2025

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Business

Updated specifications and additional assessment components (AACs), worth at least 40% of marks, assessed externally by the State Examinations Commission

# Subject Choice General Guidelines

## DO:

- Choose subjects you enjoy
- Choose subjects you are good at
- Choose subjects you need for their chosen career
- Keep your options open for the future by making a balanced choice

# Subject Choice

## General Guidelines

### DON'T:

- Choose a subject because your friend is taking it
- Choose a subject just because you like the teacher
- Choose a subject because you think it will be easy
- Choose a new subject without finding out more about it
- Make a decision at the last minute without thinking about it
- Choose a subject you have not studied before

# Researching Course Entry Requirements

[www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie) - ROI courses

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) -UK courses





# I really have no idea what I want to do after the Leaving Cert .....

## choose 4 subjects that reflect balance

- French
- 1 Business
- History or Geography
- 1 Science
- Art or Music
- 1 Practical/Applied
- 1 Science
- French

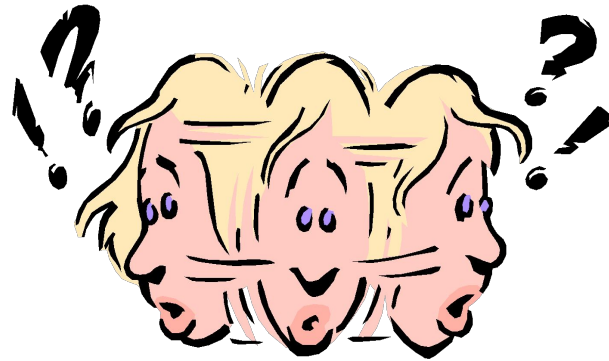
# The Process

- Research
- Discussion
- Reflection
- Decision



# I think that I need more information ...

- Look at school website - subject info
- [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
- Members of your family
- Guidance Counsellor
- Subject teachers



# Subject Choice Information School Website - Curriculum

Each subject on our website will have the following information:

- Content
- Assessment Procedure
- Career Possibilities

# Subject Choice Advice - School Website

## Useful Resources - For Subject Choice

Topic	Website		
Guide to Choosing Subjects	<a href="#">Top tips for subject choice</a>	<a href="#">Careers Portal - Subject</a>	
Subject Requirement Tool	<a href="#">Qualifax - Subject requirement</a>	<a href="#">NUI Entry requirements</a>	
Qualifications Explained	<a href="#">National Framework of Qualifications</a>	<a href="#">CAO/UCAS Tariff Table</a>	<a href="#">Comparing UK and Ireland Qualifications</a>
Information on Courses	<a href="#">CAO (Ireland)</a>	<a href="#">Qualifax (Course Search)</a>	<a href="#">UCAS (UK)</a>
Information for Parents	<a href="#">Careers Portal - Parents</a>	<a href="#">CAO - Parents Guide</a>	
Apprenticeship Information	<a href="#">Generation Apprenticeship</a>	<a href="#">Careers Portal - Apprenticeship</a>	<a href="#">North West Regional College</a>
Studying Abroad	<a href="#">EUNICAS (Application Support)</a>	<a href="#">Medical Poland</a>	<a href="#">USA</a>
Further Education	<a href="#">PLC</a>	<a href="#">North West Regional College</a>	<a href="#">Fetch Courses</a>
Finance	<a href="#">SUSI (Grant)</a>	<a href="#">Student Finance Ireland</a>	<a href="#">Student Finance NI (Student Loans)</a>

# Labour Market Information

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



# Resources for Parents/ Guardians

The right side of the slide features a decorative graphic composed of several overlapping, semi-transparent green triangles and polygons. The colors range from a light, pale green to a darker, forest green. The shapes are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some shapes appearing to be layered behind others. The overall effect is a modern, abstract design that complements the green text.

# CAREERSPORTAL.ie




**Search**

Careers Information for  
 Second Level Students

**@ School**

@ school

Careers Information for  
 Third Level Students

**@ College**

@ college

Careers Information for  
 Working People

**JobSeeker**

jobseeker

**Parents & Guardians**

**Guidance Professionals**

*Explore yourself...*

- Self-Assessment →
- Career Interests →
- Career Skills →
- Learning Skills →

*...the World of Work...*

- Government Employment Initiatives →
- Government Training Initiatives →
- Labour Market Information →
- Job Hunting →
- Industry Sectors →
- Company Profiles →
- Occupations A-Z →
- Career Videos →

*the World of Learning*

- Junior Cert. Subject Choices →
- Leaving Cert. Subject Choices →
- PLC Course Search →
- FETAC Progression Routes →
- CAO Course Search →
- CAO New Courses 2013 →
- CAO Points Calculator →

**Career Exploration Toolbox**

**MEMBERS LOGIN** [SIGNUP...](#)

Email

Password

**Login** → [Forgot password?](#)

**CAREER NEWS**

21/03/2013  
[Positive outlook for Irish Seafood sector](#)

21/03/2013  
[260 new jobs for Dublin and Cork with Yahoo and McAfee](#)

20/03/2013  
[30 jobs in cloud based customer services data centre](#)

20/03/2013  
[US digital media company brings HQ and 40 jobs to Dublin](#)

20/03/2013  
[So you want to work in Computer Science](#)



# The Next Step

Decide on programme choice-  
Google Form



Google Classroom

# 5th Year Subject Choice

- Read Subject Choice information on school website
- Refer to this presentation on Parents Area of website
- Further information - contact Ms Mc Carron/Mr Curran via email and we can arrange a meeting
- Instructions on completing Subject Choice will be sent to parents via Vsware - **choices submitted on Vsware**

# Subject Choices - VSware

- When making their subject choices students will be asked to list their preferences **1 - 7** with 1 being their first choice subject and so on
- Every effort is made to accommodate students with their highest preference subjects

# Contact

## Guidance Counsellors

[barrycurran@donegaletb.ie](mailto:barrycurran@donegaletb.ie)

3A, 3B, TYA and TYB

[sineadmccarron@donegaletb.ie](mailto:sineadmccarron@donegaletb.ie)

3C, 3D, 3E and TYC