

# Leaving Certificate Applied- 'A Different Way'

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017-Parents Night**

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# What is the Leaving Certificate Applied?

- It is a distinct, self-contained two-year Leaving Certificate programme with a vocational (work based) focus aimed at preparing students for adult and working life
- It emphasises forms of achievement and excellence which the established Leaving Certificate has not recognised in the past

# Who would benefit most?

- Students who are not adequately catered for by other Leaving Certificate programmes
- Students who choose not to opt for those programmes
- Learning experiences are active and practical-less emphasis on final examinations as coursework is continually assessed- Interview, written, oral and practical components. Grades are received constantly
- Students **do however** sit a series of terminal state exams also.

# Rationale?

- Prepares students for adult and working life
- Recognises talents of all pupils
- Promotes communication, research and decision making skills
- Applies knowledge and skills to the solution of real problems
- Each Module has it's own specific rationale also

# CURRICULUM

<p><b>Vocational Preparation</b></p>	<p><b>Vocational Preparation &amp; Guidance</b></p> <p><b>English &amp; Communications</b></p>
<p><b>Vocational Education</b></p>	<p><b>Mathematical Applications</b></p> <p><b>Vocational Specialisms- Agriculture/Horticulture and I.T</b></p> <p><b>Information Communication Technology</b></p>
<p><b>General Education</b></p>	<p><b>Arts Education- <i>Drama/Dance/Music/Art itself</i></b></p> <p><b>Social Education- <i>Focused on community involvement</i></b></p> <p><b>Languages- <i>Irish and French/German</i></b></p> <p><b>Leisure &amp; Recreation- <i>Has a much more practical and scientific focus. It is training for fitness and health</i></b></p> <p><b>Technology</b></p> <p><b>Literacy/Numeracy Tutorial</b></p>

# Assessment

## 3 Modes

Satisfactory Completion of Modules	62 credits	(31%)
7 Student Tasks	70 credits	(35%)
Final Examinations	68 credits	(34%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>200 credits</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

- Remember however, The Course requires 90% level of attendance within each subject area. This does not mean 90% attendance over complete days. Students cannot be assigned credits if their attendance is below this level. A medical certificate is the only thing that will allow for absence.

# Additional benefits?

- **Four times** throughout the program students will receive a statement of results from the State Examinations Commission. In this way they experience regular feedback which acts a controlling factor and guidance in their own development and achievement.
- Student progress and grades submitted electronically online through password based filing system for the D.E.S.and so students must take responsibility for their own work and deadlines.

# Leaving Certificate Applied and the Local Community

**Learning in Leaving Certificate Applied involves students in many out-of-school activities including:**

- Work Experience
- **Enterprise- Opportunities** to create their own Mini-Company, run events and attend a trade fair.
- Investigations in the community- Ambassadors for **‘Clionas Foundation’**
- Working with community groups- Gaisce Presidential Award
- Outings e.g. outdoor education etc. **Cork Prison, St. Mary’s Maritime Project, P.A.A.L.S.**
- Interviews with local businesses- **Bank Of Ireland**
- Courses such as **Manual Handling and Safe Pass, Cardiac and defibrillator training**, Practical demonstration visitors etc.



# Leaving Certificate Applied In-School Learning Experiences

Learning in Leaving Certificate Applied involves students in new and different learning experiences in school including:

- Group work/Discussion
- Organising & Co-ordinating Annual “Fun Run” for charity.
- Training Courses via ‘Alpha training’- **Health and Safety Courses, Emergency services demonstrations**
- Oral Presentations- Video Tasks
- Visitors to the classroom- LCFE
- Role Play
- Questionnaires/Surveys/Displays/Exhibitions
- External Visits

# Subjects Offered?

- Vocational Prep and Guidance - *Tasks Only*
- English and Communication- *Tasks & Terminal Exam*
- Mathematical Applications- *Tasks & Terminal Exam*
- I/C Technology- *Tasks & Terminal Exam*
- Arts Ed- *Tasks Only*
- Social Ed- *Tasks & Terminal Exam*
- Gaielge Chumarsaideach- *(Year 1) Tasks & Terminal Exam*
- Modern Language- *(Year 2 Choice) Tasks & Terminal Exam*
- Leisure and Recreation- *Tasks*
- Religious Ed- *Tasks*

# Subjects offered?

- In addition to the above students complete two Specialist Vocational Courses which develop specific skills and knowledge to cover a range of careers
- Our best options?
- Agriculture/Horticulture
- Information & Communication Technology

*FREEDOM* ←

**LEAVING  
CERTIFICATE  
APPLIED  
STUDENTS**

→ *RESPONSIBILITY*

To engage in a different and new range of learning experiences both in and out of school

To take personal responsibility for their learning and to approach all activities in a mature, responsible fashion

# Leaving Certificate Applied Qualification

## Certificate awarded at three levels:

Pass                      60-69 %      (120 - 139 credits)

Merit                      70-84 %      (140 - 169 credits)

Distinction              85-100 %      (170 - 200 credits)

Record of Experience      Less than 120 Credits

# What are Credits?

- As students submit completed work they are awarded appropriate credits- 200 available in total.
- 62- 31% for on-going Attendance
- **Students must have at least 90% Attendance within each Module to pass.**
- 70- 35% for 7 Project Tasks (Modules)
- 68- 34% for 7 final(Terminal) Examinations
  - 100% in total.

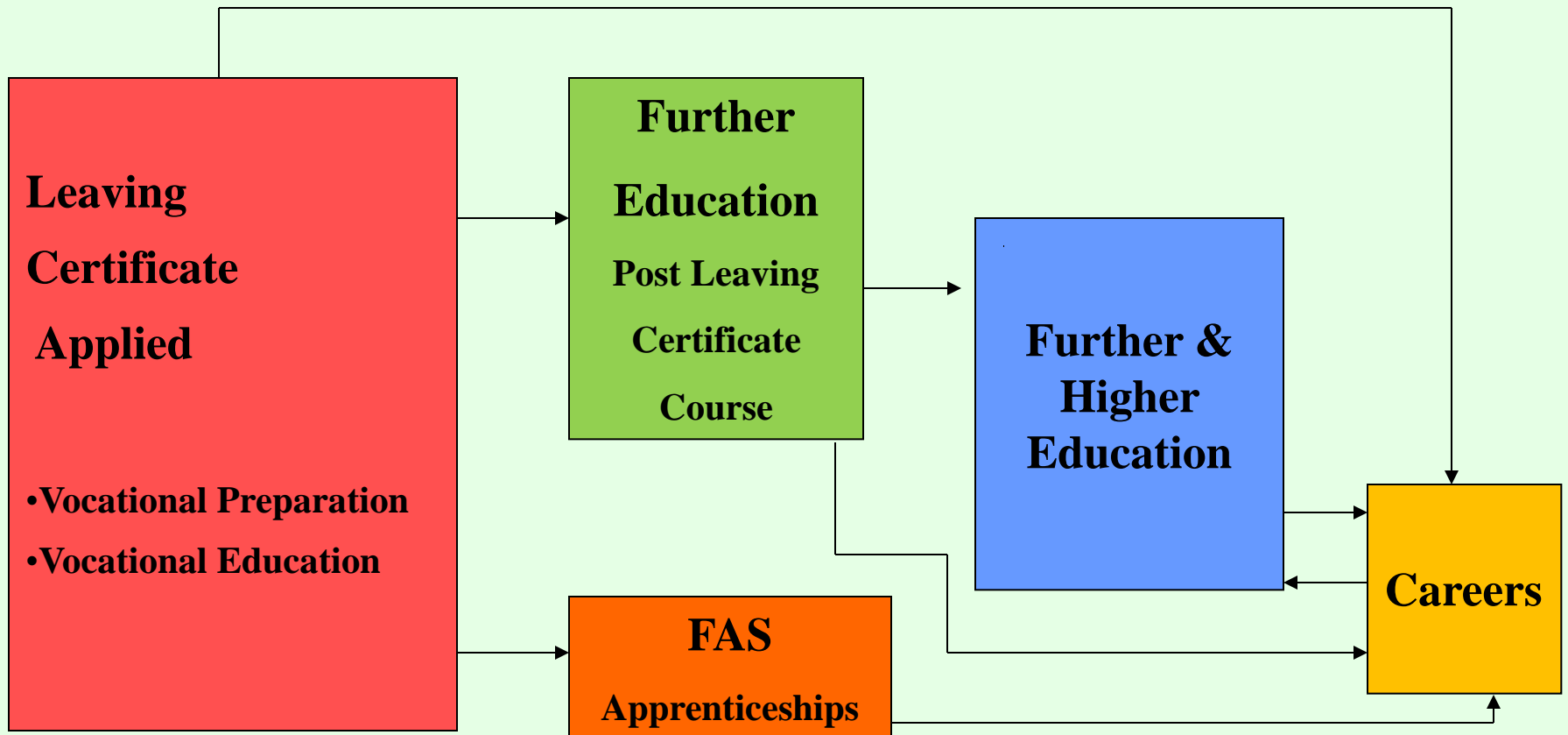
# Can a student go to further training and education?

- Yes. The Programme is accepted for a wide range of PLC (Post Leaving Certificate Courses at FETAC Level 5. Also provides access to most apprenticeships.
- What about Higher Education?

Do not have direct access to Higher Education through CAO. FETAC Level 5 may provide access for those who wish to apply to I.T's and some Universities.

# Opening up New Options

## The Leaving Certificate Applied Route Map





# National Survey of Leaving Certificate Applied Graduates 2010

**What did these graduates do when they finished the programme?**

Education/Training	62.2%
PLC's	36.9%
FAS Apprenticeships	4.5%
Employment	27.5%
Seeking/unavailable etc.	8.7%

## This year to date...

- One of our students in 6<sup>th</sup> year has already been offered and accepted a full apprenticeship & paid employment in gents hairdressing salon.
- Another has been offered a full time position as a jockey/stablehand apprenticeship with a horse trainer when he has completed his L.C.A course in June.
- The course is in its 4th year and already students are seeing the opportunities to be had. It is only going to gain further momentum and it will be life changing for some of our boys.

## Types of Placements already undertaken?

- St. Munchin's Primary School
- Super Value Grove Island
- Craughan's Butchers
- Grove Island Leisure Centre
- Dermot McCormack Mechanics
- Thomond Tyres
- FAI Coaches
- Treaty Windows Limerick
- St. Munchin's Community Action Centre etc.
- **All placements were targeted towards the desires and needs of each student in terms of their career path**

# Employment and Training Opportunities for L.C.A Students?

- The Bank Of Ireland
- An Garda Siochana
- Bord Failte
- Bord Iascaigh Mhara
- Clerical Officers in Civil Service
- Dublin Bus
- Equine Studies Degree in NUI Maynooth
- **Depending on how far a student wishes to go with their qualification, training is endless...**

# How LCA helped me...

"I just feel with LCA you get better one on one teaching"

"It taught me about hidden skills and talents I had and it set me on The right career path"

"I think it matures you a bit more and it really prepares you for when you leave school"

*"You also get to learn more about your self and what you're capable of doing."*

*"I really loved the 4 sessions of work experience"*

# The Student Contract

- The student contract is central to acceptance on this course
- Signing it suggests without question you abide by key criteria required for the course
- *90% attendance minimum in each subject area*
- *Organisation of all work placement and attendance every Friday for the required period and completion of all documentation required to avail of insurance cover*
- *When absent, full medical certification is all that is accepted by the Department of Education. If this is not provided, credit returns are not recognised by the LCA body.*
- *Full application to class and completion of all key projects and assignments.*

## **Leaving Certificate Applied Contract 2016/17**

The Leaving Certificate Applied teaching team within (School name) believes there are certain attitudes and actions that are essential to the successful completion of the Leaving Certificate Applied programme. We have set these down in this document.

We want every prospective candidate, and their parents or guardians, to read this document and if they are willing to accept the requirements set out to sign.

### **Attendance**

A minimum 90% attendance is a basic requirement of the Leaving Certificate Applied. Lengthy or repeated absence must be covered by a doctor's cert. Any holidays taken during the course of the two year programme will not be accepted as a legitimate absence and may result in participants losing out on credits.

### **Application to class work**

We require that every student do his or her best in relation to class work. Credit will not be given for work that is not considered to be the best that a student can do, regardless of quality.

### **Work Experience**

# Places are limited...

## So, if accepted?

- If accepted, you will receive a letter of notification from school management.
- However, this will **only be verified when you attend a subsequent meeting with your son in the school.**
- Here, Mr. Quilter and Mr. Quinlan will meet with all candidates with their parents where they will be interviewed over the course of one morning. **This will involve justifying why you should gain entry and what you can offer subsequently to the course and should reflect guarantees given in your written application.**
- Where **interviews are not deemed to be suitable for the needs of the course, places will be refused.**
- Also, on this morning, **contracts will be signed in the presence of parents and management as witnesses** which can then be drawn on for any future breaches.
- Serious breaches of contract will subsequently result in the removal from the course.



# LCA Personnel

- National Co-Ordinator- Michael O' Leary

Web: <http://lca.slss.ie>