



Leaving Certificate Applied

or

Leaving Certificate established

Leaving Certificate Applied

Key points

- **The Leaving Certificate Applied is a two-year Leaving Certificate.**
- **Available to students who wish to follow a practical programme with a strong vocational emphasis.**
- **It is designed for those students who do not wish to proceed directly to third level education**
- **or for those whose needs, aspirations and aptitudes are not adequately catered for by the traditional Leaving Certificate.**

What is LCA?

- **The fundamental goal of the L.C.A. is to prepare students for transition from the world of school to that of adult and working life.**

- ***Work Experience***
- ***Active and practical learning experiences***
- ***Continuous assessment***
- ***Regular reporting from the SEC***
- ***Less emphasis on final examinations***



**A range of courses
are provided
within each of
these subjects**

- **The subjects that can be studied for LCA can be divided into three main areas:**
- **General Education subjects**
- **Vocational Preparation subjects**
- **Vocational Education subjects**

These are inter-related and interdependent.

General Education subjects

(All students study the following subjects)

- **Social Education**
- **Arts Education**
- **Gaeilge Chumarsáideach**
- **Modern language**
- **Leisure and Recreation**

Students are required to take courses in each of the following areas:

- **Vocational Preparation subjects**
- **Vocational Preparation & Guidance**
- **English and Communication**

Vocational Education subjects

Mathematical Applications

Introduction to Information & Communication Technology

Vocational Specialism – 2 courses

Students must complete 2 full courses, from the list below.

- **With regard to the vocational specialism, the list of options is as follows**
- **Childcare/Community Care**
- **Graphics and Construction Studies**
- **Craft and Design**
- **Engineering**
- **Information and Communication Technology**
- **Hair and Beauty**
- **Horticulture/ Agriculture**



Assessment and Certification in LCA

How is LCA assessed?

The Leaving Certificate Applied is assessed in a variety of ways including interviews, orals, written and practical work.

Students can gain up to a maximum of 200 credits over the course of the two years.

Students are also required to have 90% attendance.

Students earn credits for:

- Completing coursework for their modules or *Key Assignments*
- Seven projects or *Student Tasks*
- Seven *Final Exams*

1. 90% attendance *and* all key assignments complete

➤ Divided into **4** different blocks called **Sessions**:

- *Session 1:* September 5th Year – January 5th Year
- *Session 2:* February 5th Year – June 5th year
- *Session 3:* September 6th Year – January 6th Year
- *Session 4:* February 6th Year – May 6th Year

62 Credits



➤ **Key Assignments** must be completed in all subjects across each Session

➤ **90% attendance** in each subject

Module Completion

- **At the end of each Session (term) the student will be credited on satisfactory completion of the appropriate modules.**
- **In order to be awarded credit students must:**
- **(a) attend the classes and out-of-school activities related to the modules and**
- **(b) complete the key assignments related to the module.**

Student Tasks

As part of the Leaving Certificate Applied students undertake a number of **tasks**.

These are set and examined over the two years of the programme.

These tasks, are;

practical activities, which allow students, individually or in teams, to apply classroom experience to real-life situations.

External Examinations

At the end of Year 2 students will take written examinations in the following areas:

- **English and Communication**
- **Vocational Specialisms (2)**
- **Mathematical Applications**
- **Gaeilge**
- **Modern European Language**
- **Social Education**

LCA Modes of Assessment

Satisfactory completion of modules + 90% attendance

- Evidence of completion of 4 key assignments for each module
- One credit per course module in which there is a final exam
- Two credits per course module in which there is NO final exam

62

credits

31%

7 Student Tasks @ 10 credits each

Vocational Preparation

Vocational Education (x2)

General Education

Contemporary Issue

Personal Reflection

Practical Achievement

70

credits

35%

Final Examinations

English & Communication

Vocational Specialisms (x2)

Languages (x2)

Social Education

Mathematical Applications

12 credits

12 credits each

6 credits each

10 credits

10 credits

68

credits

34%

Total

200

credits

100%

LCA Certification

Certification awarded at 3 levels

PASS	120 - 139 credits	60-69%
MERIT	140 - 169 credits	70-84%
DISTINCTION	170 - 200 credits	85-100%

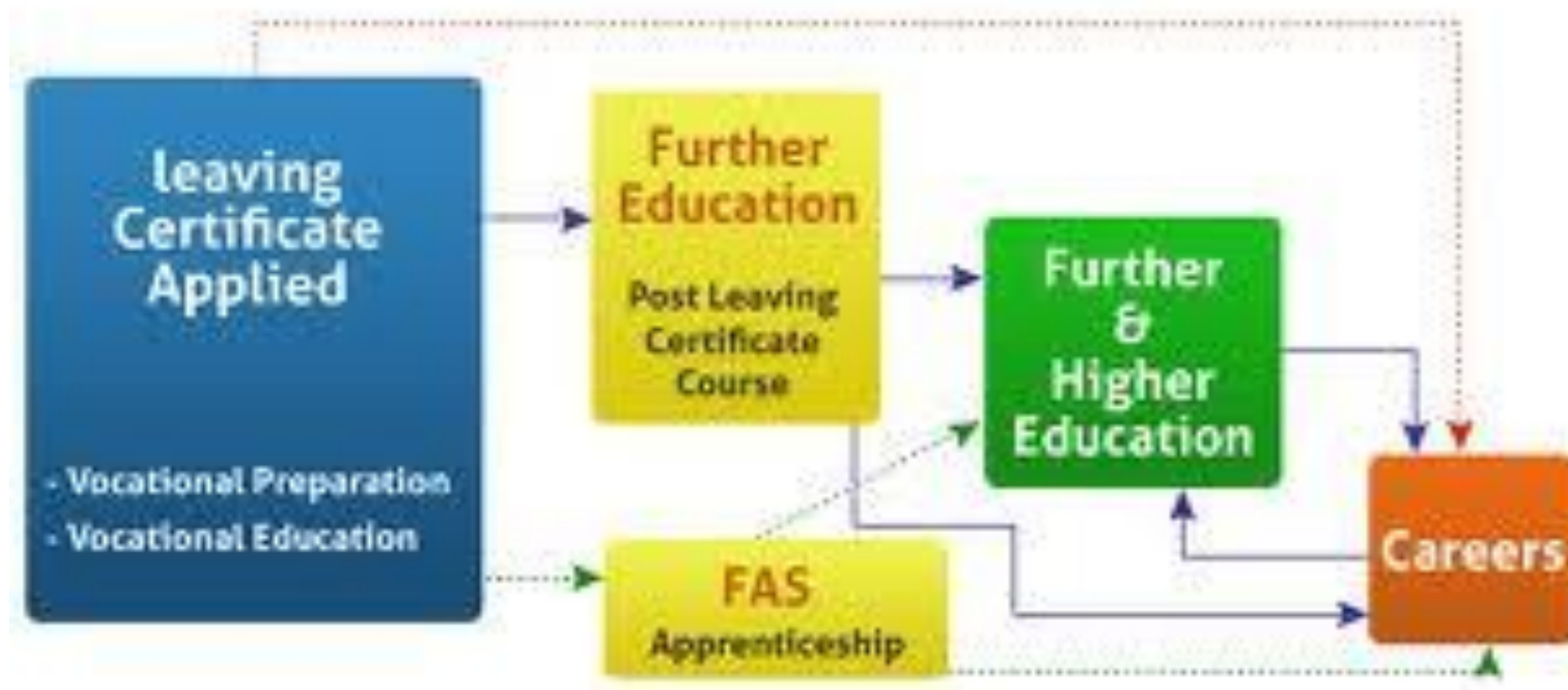
Students who acquire less than 120 credits or who leave the programme early will receive a **“Record of Experience”**.

Work experience in LCA:

- **4 unique Work Placements across the 2 years – 1 day per week**
- **Students find these themselves**
- **Students attend *Preparation for the World of Work* class once a week**
- **Spot visits occur each week**
- **Students must contact their employer and the LCA Coordinator if they cannot attend Work Experience (it is still a school day!)**

What can you do after school with LCA?

The LCA Route Map.



Who should consider Leaving Cert Applied

- **Someone who prefers learning by doing**
- **Someone who would be motivated by continuous assessment**
- **Someone who wants to get work-experience to help them with a career choice**
- **Someone who wants to develop skills that will benefit them in a future career**
- **Someone who are not really interested in the traditional leaving cert but who wants to stay in school and get a Leaving Certificate**

What Next

➤ **Speak with Guidance – Year Head**

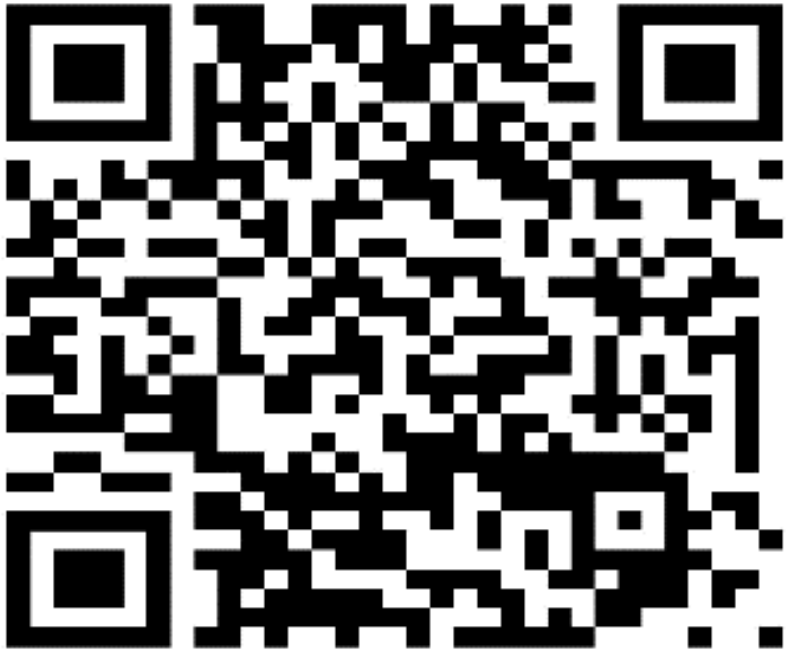
➤ **Discuss with Parents**

➤ **Choose LCA in options**

➤ **Still choose subject options**

Key Terms

- **Sessions** – The two years of the Leaving Certificate Applied are broken down into FOUR sessions. September – January and February – June in both years.
- **Credits** – Students accumulate credits throughout the two years with up to two-thirds being ‘banked’ before the final exams at the end of 6th year. The maximum number of credits that a student can gain is 200.
- **Work Experience** – This is integral to the LCA programme. Students are given the skills and confidence to access up to four different work experiences throughout the two years of the programme.
- **Tasks** – These are significant pieces of work that the students take part in throughout the two years, there are seven in all accounting for just over one third of the total credits.
- **Specialisms** – These are vocational areas of study that help the students develop specific skills and knowledge relevant to a range of careers. Students choose two of these to study from a choice of eleven.



If you wish to access the module descriptors you can scan the Qr code or click on the link to bring you to Module descriptors

**[LCA \(curriculumonline.ie\)](https://curriculumonline.ie)
Scroll down to Module Descriptors.**



Thank you