

## Work Experience as part of Leaving Certificate Applied.

Students will go out on work experience one day a week during the two-year LCA programme. This is an excellent way to sample different careers. Students gain experience and certification with each placement.

## What courses/subjects are offered in Leaving Certificate Applied?

Students sit the following courses/subjects:

- Vocational Preparation and Guidance
- English and Communications
- Mathematical Applications
- Information and Communication Technology
- Social Education
- Gaeilge\*
- Modern Language
- Arts Education (Music and Visual Arts)
- Leisure and Recreation

In addition to the above students complete two *specialist vocational courses*. These Vocational Specialisms develop specific skills and knowledge relevant to certain careers:

- Hair and Beauty
- Childcare/Community Care

In addition to the above students complete one *elective course*:

- Hotel, Catering and Tourism

The above courses/subjects are subject to change due to the availability of resources.



# LCA

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## What are the further education options after Leaving Certificate Applied?

The Leaving Certificate Applied is accepted for a wide range of Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses at FETAC Level 5. It also provides access to most apprenticeships and other vocational training awards.

Graduates of Leaving Certificate Applied having completed an appropriate further education award e.g., FETAC LEVEL 5 may be able to apply to courses in Third Level colleges such as Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT) and IT Carlow.

## A summary of the Leaving Certificate Applied.

- ✓ Practical Leaving Certificate Programme
- ✓ Course: project work, attendance, short exam
- ✓ Work experience 1 day per week
- ✓ Develop skills for workplace
- ✓ Enjoyable course with learning by doing

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## What is the Leaving Certificate Applied Programme?

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a two-year Leaving Certificate for students who wish to follow a practical Leaving Certificate programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life.

## What is different about Leaving Certificate Applied?

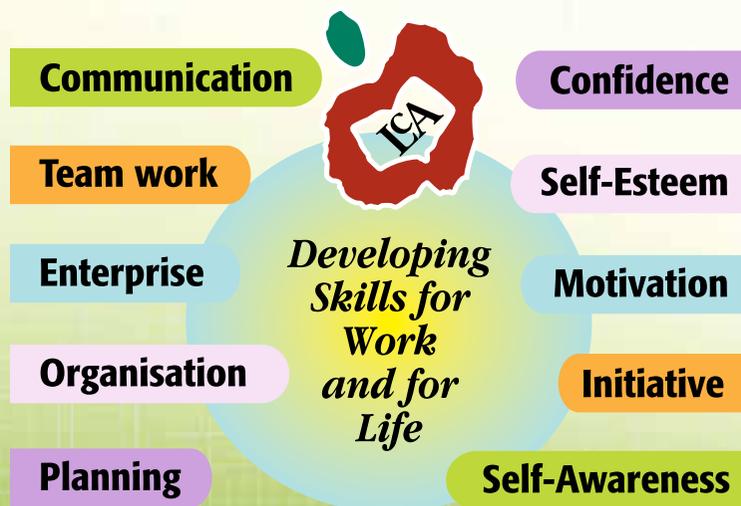
- ✓ It is a practical Leaving Certificate Programme which places particular emphasis on preparation for the world of work and life-long learning.
- ✓ Work experience is a significant component of programme and students get to sample a range of jobs and get first-hand experience of the world of work.
- ✓ The learning experiences are active and practical where students apply their knowledge, skills and experience to real life situations in the school, in the workplace and in the wider community.
- ✓ The programme provides a wealth of opportunities which enhance the self-esteem and confidence of students.
- ✓ There is less emphasis on the final examinations as coursework is assessed throughout the two years and students' gain 'credits' as they go along.
- ✓ Students' work and skill development is assessed in different ways including interview, written, oral and practical components.
- ✓ Four times throughout the school year students get a statement of their results from the State Examinations Commission. In this way they experience regular feedback on their success and achievements.

## Why study Leaving Certificate Applied in Loreto, Wexford?

- ❖ Small Class size
- ❖ Increased individual teacher assistance and pastoral support
- ❖ Practical and Vocational based timetable
- ❖ Varied Teaching methodologies (pair/group work)
- ❖ Continuous assessment
- ❖ More computer-based work
- ❖ Final exams are not as long, or as intensive, as the established Leaving Certificate
- ❖ LCA is a recognised qualification

## Who should consider Leaving Certificate Applied?

- Someone who prefers learning by doing
- Someone who would be motivated by continuous learning
- Someone who wants to get work experience to help them with their career choice
- Someone who wants to develop skills which will help them in their future career



## Leaving Certificate Applied Credits, Assessment and Certification.

### 1. What are credits?

Credits are points or marks. You can achieve up to 200 credits over the two years.

### 2. How do I gain credits?

Credits are gained in three ways:

- ❖ 7 Tasks (projects) x 10 credits = 70 credits
- ❖ Attendance and key assignments (homework) = 62 credits
- ❖ Final exams = 68 credits

### 3. What is a task?

A task is like an Action Project. You will complete 7 tasks over the two-year period.

### 4. What is a key assignment?

A key assignment is an important piece of homework assigned to you by your teacher.

### 5. How do I gain credits for attendance?

You must attend at least 90% of your classes in each subject.

### 6. Do I sit final exams in all subjects?

No. You sit exams in the following subjects: Gaeilge\*, European Language, English and Communications, Hair and Beauty, Childcare/Community Care, Social Education and Mathematical Applications.

\*Some students may be exempt.

### 7. How is the Leaving Certificate Applied awarded?

The Leaving Certificate Applied is awarded at three levels:

- ✓ Pass: 120 – 139 credits (60% - 69%)
- ✓ Merit: 140 – 169 credits (70% - 84%)
- ✓ Distinction: 170 – 200 credits (85% - 100%)

(Students who receive fewer than 120 credits receive a RECORD OF EXPERIENCE)