

What is Leaving Certificate Applied?

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a two year Leaving Certificate available to students who wish to follow a practical Leaving Certificate programme with a vocational focus.

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 the programme and students get to sample a range of jobs and get firsthand 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 interviews, written, oral and practical components.

Four times throughout the two years students get a statement of their results from the State Examinations Commission. In this way they experience regular feedback on their success and achievement.

Who should consider Leaving Certificate Applied?

- *Someone who wants to stay in school and get a Leaving Certificate*
- *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 their career choice*
- *Someone who wants to develop skills which will help them in their future career*

What courses (subjects) are offered in Leaving Certificate Applied?

In Coláiste Muire, Leaving Certificate Applied students take the following subjects:

- Vocational Preparation and Guidance
- English and Communication
- Mathematical Applications
- Office Administration and Customer Care
- Information and Communication Technology
- Visual Art
- Social Education
- Gaeilge Chumarsáideach
- Spanish
- Leisure and Recreation
- Hair and Beauty
- Science
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Do Leaving Certificate Applied students receive a Leaving Certificate?

Students who successfully complete the programme will receive a Leaving Certificate from the Department of Education and Science. All credits awarded will be recorded on the Leaving Certificate Applied parchment.

What are 'credits'?

As students complete and submit their Leaving Certificate Applied coursework they are awarded what are called 'credits'. There are 200 credits available in total which are awarded as follows:

Ongoing attendance, class work and assignments	62 credits	31%
7 Student Tasks (project work)	70 credits	35%
7 Final Examinations	68 credits	34%
TOTAL	200 Credits	100%

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%)

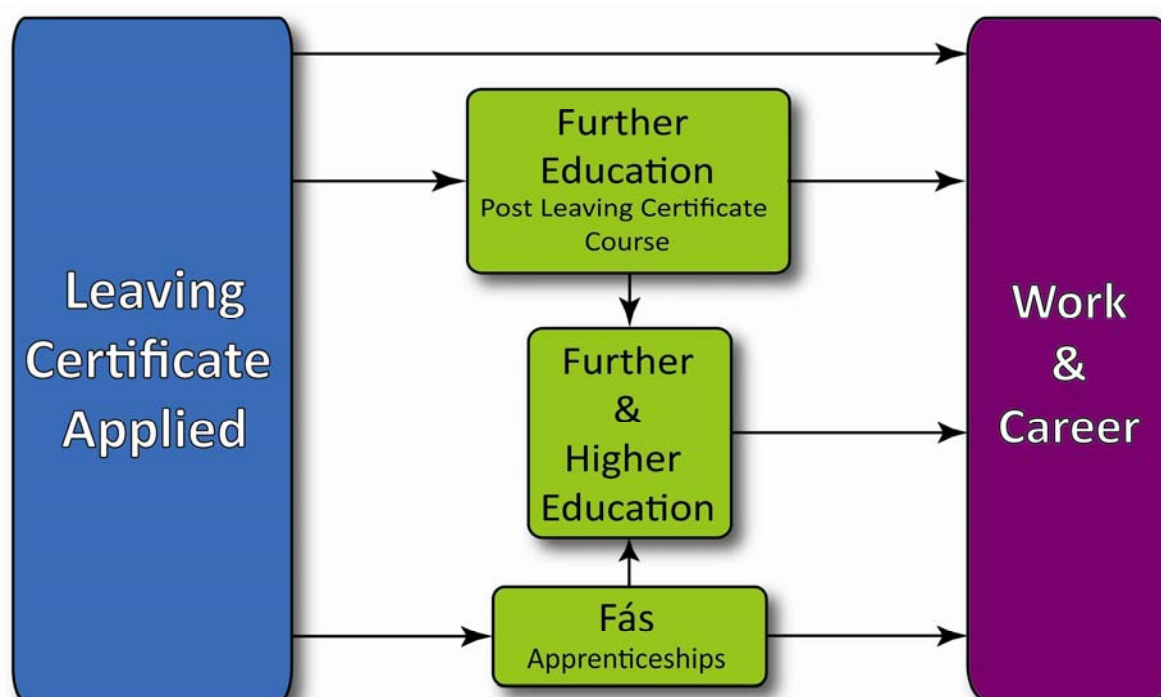
(Students who accumulate fewer than 120 credits receive a RECORD OF EXPERIENCE)

Can a student go to further education and training?

Yes. 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.

Can a student go to Higher Education?

Graduates of Leaving Certificate Applied do not have direct access to Higher Education through the Central Applications Office (CAO). However, achieving an appropriate further education award e.g. FETAC Level 5 may provide access for those who wish to apply to courses in Third Level colleges.



Further information

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

LCA website: *(Follow topics in menu bar on left, or click icons on right)*