

Manor House School

Leaving Certificate
Subject Choice Advisory meeting

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Importance of Careful Subject Choice

- Subjects chosen for Leaving Certificate should be ones that students like, match their interests/abilities and need for their future career direction.
- They must take college entry requirements and specific subject requirements for some courses into account when making choices

Application to Third Level Colleges

- CAO – Central Application Office
(CAO Application to Universities/ Institutes of Technology/ some Private Colleges)
- ONE application form – 48 Colleges
1200 courses
- Best six subjects in any sitting of one Leaving Cert examination

www.cao.ie

College Entry Requirements

- Minimum 2 honours and 4 passes to do an Honours degree (TCD requires three honours and three passes)
- Min 5 passes for an Ordinary Level Degree
- Specific Subject Requirements
- Points
- Min 5 passes(including Foundation level) to enter most PLC courses

Language Entry Requirements for Third Level

- English ,Irish and a European language are requirements for entry to the National University of Ireland (NUI) (UCD, UCC, NUI Galway and Maynooth) .
- For most courses in these colleges you must have Leaving Cert Irish – not foundation level

The main exceptions are

- (a) NCAD which will accept Art instead of a language
- (b) Engineering and some Science courses in NUI Maynooth and UCD
- (c) Nursing in UCD which will accept English and one other language

Language Entry Requirements for Third Level

- A Higher C in Irish is required to train as a Primary School Teacher in Ireland
(Other routes available)
- Almost all Universities, Colleges and Employers specify a pass in Ordinary Level English. Individual courses may have higher requirements

Language Entry Requirements for Third Level

- Irish or English plus a European Language is required for Cadetships in the Army, Air Corps and Naval Service
- For the Gardai - English and one other language
- A pass in one language is required for entry to the Institutes of Technology

Language Entry Requirements for Third Level

- Any Two languages from English, Irish, European language- are required for entry to Trinity College and Dublin City University
- Specific courses in these colleges may have additional language requirements

Science Entry Requirements for Third Level courses

- Students aspiring to any third level course of study in Engineering/Medical/Paramedical/Science/Technical areas at University need to have at least one of Biology/Physics/Chemistry/Ag. Science

Science Entry Requirements for

Third Level courses

Some courses specify a particular Science subject or two Science subjects, so check college and course requirements carefully

- the following are examples of Science requirements

Science Entry Requirements for Third Level courses

- A Science subject is required for Nursing – preferably Biology
- A pass in one Science subject is required to study Science in UCC, UCD, NUIG, NUI Maynooth, DIT and DCU
- A Higher C in Chemistry is required for entry to Veterinary Medicine in UCD , Pharmacy in Trinity and Human Nutrition and Dietetics in DIT
- Geography – ONLY accepted as a Science subject for SCIENCE degree in TCD and UCD
- ****NB** – unwise to study Science with ONLY Geography & NO Science subjects

Science Entry Requirements for Third Level courses

- Two Science subjects are required for entry to most science based courses in Trinity e.g. Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Medicine, Science. Some courses require higher B's and C's so check carefully
- ****BEWARE**** TCD does NOT accept combination on BIOLOGY and AG. Science as two separate Science subjects.

Maths Entry Requirements

- Maths is a basic entry requirement for many courses
- A pass in Foundation Maths is accepted by many colleges *if there is no Maths content in the course of Study*
- Some courses do not require any Maths(Law/ Arts/ Social Science/ Art)

Subjects for Senior Cycle

Compulsory

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- European Language

Subject Choice for Senior Cycle

Students choose three additional subjects
from the following options

Subject Choice for Senior Cycle

Optional subjects

French, Spanish, German,
Economics, Accounting, Business,
Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Ag. Science,
Art
Music
Home Economics,
Geography, History

All subjects carry equal points

EXCEPT

Honours Maths- Bonus 25 points

Restrictions on Subject Choice for Senior cycle

- If students have not done Science for Junior Cert they should not choose Chemistry or Physics
- Students must have done Biology and Chemistry in Transition year if they wish to take these subjects for Leaving Certificate.

Restrictions on Subject Choice for Senior Cycle

- Students may not start a new European language in fifth year – they continue with the language they did for Junior Cert and TY

Restrictions on subject Choice

- If students have not done Business Studies for Junior Cert they should not choose Economics or Accounting without consulting Mr. Forrestal/ Mr. Whelan

Restrictions on Subject Choice for Senior Cycle

- If students did not sample a subject in Transition Year and did not do the subject for Junior Cert they will not be able to take it up for Leaving Certificate

What careers/courses are you interested in pursuing?

Fields of Study

- Business
- Law
- Engineering/Science/
Technology

Useful choices

- Accounting/Business/
Economics
- History
- Science –Physics,
Chemistry, Biology,
Applied Maths

What careers/courses are you interested in pursuing?

Fields of Study

- Leisure/Entertainment
- Medical/Para
- Travel/Tourism
- Social Science

Useful choices

- Biology/Geography
- Science subjects
- Languages/Business/
- Home Ec / Geography

How to choose subjects

- All students are familiar with the range of subjects available
- They have been advised to check DAT results (Differential Aptitude Tests)
- Look up previous reports and tests from various subjects to confirm what students are good at
- Have a look at the senior cycle textbooks in various subjects.

Subject Choice for Senior Cycle

Students should choose subjects which they

- Achieved well in so far (Junior Cert)
- Are interested in subject content
- Match their interests and abilities
- Are prepared to work at
- Need for their future – for college ,for work, for life

How to choose subjects

- Link talents to subjects

- Talk to teachers

- Unsure?

Choose a good mix of subjects to keep your college and career options open

- One business subject, one Science subject and one other will cover most options

Subject Choice for Senior Cycle

- You DO NOT choose based on the belief that it is an easy subject, that your friends are doing it or that it will be a 'doss'.

Further Research

- www.qualifax.ie .
-From the student home page click on link Students/Support and Advice/Subject Choice.
- www.careersportal.ie – advice on subject choice
- www.cao.ie
- www.examinations.ie
- College Websites. (www.ucd.ie)(www.tcd.ie) (www.dcu.ie).....

Additional optional subject

- Depending on the academic subjects chosen, students will also have the option to apply to participate in the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme - LCVP
- Students who choose this programme do the standard 7 Leaving Certificate subjects PLUS two link modules – **Preparation for the World of Work** and **Enterprise Education**

LCVP

Further details available on

www.pdst.ie

LCVP Subject Groupings

- Home Economics and Ag Science or Biology
- Home Economics and Art
- Accounting or Business or Economics (any two)
- Physics and Chemistry
- Biology and Chemistry or Physics or Physics/Chemistry
- Engineering and Business or Accounting or Economics
- Construction Studies and Business or Accounting or Economics
- Home Economics and Business or Accounting or Economics
- Agricultural Science and Business or Accounting or Economics
- Agricultural Science and Chemistry or Physics
- Art and Business or Accounting or Economics
- Music and Business or Accounting or Economics
- Construction Studies or Engineering or Technical Drawing(any two)
- Physics and Construction Studies or Engineering
- Agricultural Science and Construction Studies or Engineering

LCVP Points

Distinction 70 (equivalent to C1 Hons Paper)

Merit 50

Pass 30

Procedure for choosing Subjects

- Students will be asked to list the subjects they would like in order of preference numbered 1 to 6
(Their language will be No. 1)
- 4 subject bands will be formed based on Resources and Students preferences
- Students may be asked to choose one subject from each band

Procedure for choosing Subjects

- Limited resources and numbers applying for subjects may mean some students will be disappointed with the subjects available to them
- Every effort is made to make sure as many students as possible get their top choices

Demonstration of websites

- www.qualifax.ie
- www.careersportal.ie
- (SUBJECT CHOICE INFORMATION) – V.G**
- www.cao.ie
- College websites—
 - (www.ucd.ie /www.tcd.ie /www.dcu.ie/ www.dit.ie etc)

GOOD LUCK !