

EUREKA



Senior Cycle Options

2025







Senior Cycle Options



Transition
Year



Leaving
Certificate
Applied



Leaving
Certificate
Established

Schedule

Transition Year – Ms. Mary Wright (Programmes Co-Ordinator)

Leaving Certificate Applied – Ms. Mary Wright (Programmes Co-Ordinator)

Leaving Certificate Established – Ms. Grainne Reilly (Guidance Department)

Summary – Ms. Carmel Briody O’Keeffe (Guidance Department)

Process of Choosing on Vsware – Mr. David Wright (Deputy Principal)

Q&A

EUREKA



Transition Year Programme 2025/2026

New Transition Year Programme 2025....

New Transition Year Programme for 2025 encourages schools to create a programme to allow students develop over 4 key areas:

Personal Growth

Being a Learner

Civic and Community Engagement

Career Exploration

Department of Education & Skills



EUREKA



What is Transition Year ?

Transition Year is an optional one year, school-based programme between Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle.

It is designed to act a bridge between the two by facilitating the smooth transition from the more dependent learning of Junior Cycle to the more independent, self directed learning required for Senior Cycle.

It also allows students **TIME** to acquire and develop skills and competencies.

In Eureka

EUREKA



- Transition Year provides students with an opportunity to...
- Engage in **independent, self directed learning...**
- Which focuses on the **development of the individual student...**
- While at the same time **building self confidence, self esteem, social awareness and maturity**



Why choose TY?

Age can be a factor.

Academic Advantages.

The advantage of Work Experience & Career Investigations.

The advantage of subject choice for Senior Level.

Self confidence and Leadership.

Time to explore areas of interest and hobbies.

Personal Development.

Self discovery? – what am I good at?

Experiential education.

Social Contribution.

Transition Year in Eureka.

THE TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME IS SCHOOL BASED AND CONSIDERS ETHOS, RESOURCES AND THE AIMS OF THE SCHOOL.



STUDENT FOCUSED









VARIED METHODOLOGIES



SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION

What is expected of our Transition Year Students.

-  Commitment & Motivation – to the year, to work, deadlines, assignments, to each other!
-  Enthusiasm – Get involved – break the boundaries and reach for your goals, try everything!
-  Ambition – to go that one step further!
-  Co-operation – with TY teaching team, employers, guest speakers...
-  Be open – to new ideas, to forging new links and experiencing all that TY has to offer
-  Initiative – put forward ideas, learn a new skill, take an interest!

Transition Year is made up of 4 main layers

Core Layer

Irish	English
Mathematics	Religion
Modern Foreign Language	MOS/PORTFOLIO
Physical Education	Career Guidance

Leaving Cert Subject Sampling Layer

- +Accounting +Agricultural Science
- +Art + Applied Mathematics
- +Biology +Business
- +Chemistry + DCG
- +Geography
- +History +Home Economics
- +Music +Politics and Society
- +Physics + LCPE

Transition Year is made up of 4 main layers

Module or Subject Layer

Interior Design. Craft. Cookery
Film Studies - Environmental Science
- Community Care - Health and Fitness
Mini Company - Peer Education - LAW
- Public Speaking - Horticulture
Sociology - Technology
Young Social Innovators (YSI)
Business Enterprise - Calligraphy
LIFT - GAA Future Leaders

Calendar 'Once-Off' Layer

Work Experience Guest Speakers
Charity Fundraisers
School Musical Gaisce Awards
Road Safety Awareness
Meath Sports Partnership Peer Training
Day Trips (Bonding, Cultural, Historical,)
Fashion Show Portfolio Interviews
TY School Tour (May)

Competitions: Art, Debating, Public Speaking, Poetry, Writing, BT Young Scientist, SciFest, Graduate.ie, Rotary Club Competition, Sports Teams and assisting with extra-

TY Musical –

This year the Musical
takes place on Wed 5th,
Thurs 6th, Fri 7th and Sat
8th of March in Kells
Theatre

High School Musical

+

A poster for a school production of Disney's High School Musical. The background is a red curtain. At the top, it says 'EUREKA SECONDARY SCHOOL PRESENTS' in blue, followed by the Disney logo in yellow. The title 'HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL' is written in large, glowing yellow marquee letters. Below that, 'ON STAGE!' is written in red on a yellow marquee sign. The dates and times are listed: '5th, 6th & 7th March @ 7.30pm' and 'Matinee Saturday 8th March @ 2pm'. The venue is 'Kells Theatre'. A yellow ticket stub graphic shows 'Adult: €12' and 'Child: €10'. At the bottom, it lists the book by David Simpatico, songs by Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil, Ray Cham, Greg Cham and Andrew Seeley, Randy Petersen and Kevin Quinn, Andy Dodd and Adam Watts, Bryan Louiselle, David N. Lawrence and Faye Greenberg, Jamie Houston, music adapted, arranged and produced by Bryan Louiselle, and based on a Disney Channel Original Movie written by Peter Barsocchini.

EUREKA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRESENTS
Disney
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL
ON STAGE!
5th, 6th & 7th March @ 7.30pm
Matinee Saturday 8th March @ 2pm
Kells Theatre
TICKET
Adult: €12
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Book by David Simpatico
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Lawrence and Faye Greenberg; Jamie Houston
Music Adapted, Arranged and Produced by Bryan Louiselle
Based on a Disney Channel Original Movie Written by Peter Barsocchini

Sample Layer & Extra-curricular Activities





GAISCE THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Gaisce is focused on, and driven by, the following **core values**:

- Empowerment
- Inclusion & Equality
- Respect
- Excellence



						Challenge Areas				
Bronze Award*	1.	2.	3.							
	Personal Skill	Community Involvement	Physical Recreation	Personal Skill or Community Involvement or Physical Recreation		Adventure Journey				
	13 weeks	13 weeks	13 weeks	+ 13 weeks in one area		2. days, 1 night				



GAISCE Adventure Journey



AILO

All Ireland Linguistics Olympiad
The Problem Solvers' Challenge

webwise.ie



Sponsored by



ARUP



intel



RCSI Transition Year Programme

All sections of the programme are carried out by leading professionals in their respective areas with a wide variety of topics – including general practice, heart surgery, pathology, paediatrics, forensic medicine, transplants, obstetrics and gynaecology being covered during the programme.

- RCSI TY Mini Med
- RCSI TY Mini Pharmacy
- RCSI TY Mini Physiotherapy



RCSI

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

COLÁISTE RÍOGA NA MÁINLEÁ IN ÉIRINN

TY Community Care



TY Tour: Italy 2024 (Pisa, Lucca, Florence, Lake Garda, Venice, Verona & Sirmione)



What are the Benefits of Completing TY

Academic Advantages: Students get the opportunity to sample a wide range of subject areas and can therefore make more informed choices about the kind of Leaving Certificate subjects and programme they chose.

Studies show that TY students score 50 CAO points more on average and a higher percentage go on to study in 3rd Level

The year enables students to take greater responsibility for their own learning and decision making.

Benefits...



Career & Work Experience



Time allocation to explore different career options and then pursue work experience in these areas.



Students will get interview experience, learn to write CV's, complete Career investigations and sample 3rd level courses (Mini Med)



Benefits...

Self Confidence & Leadership.

Public speaking and Debating

Leadership Courses

Community Care





Benefits...

Personal Development.

Time Management

Team Work

Independence



Certification

1

Over the course of the year students take part in various certified competitions and courses such as Young Social Innovators & GAISCE.

2

Students will receive a certificate of completion once all credits and assessments have been completed.

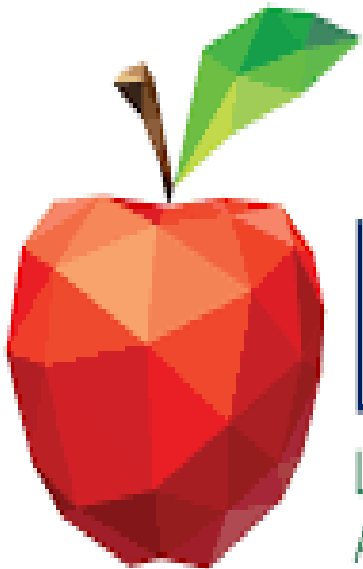


Assessment

- + We will use a credit-based system for each subject and module completed throughout the year. Grades are awarded in the Leaving Certificate Sample subjects.
- + The Credit system will be negotiated between the Teacher and the students at the commencement of each module.
- + A Portfolio interview is held at the end the school year (May 2025) to assess the programme and student learning.



Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA)



LCA

Leaving Certificate Applied
Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach

2025/2026

Introduction..



Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA) is a practical Leaving Certificate Programme.



It places particular emphasis on preparation for the world of work and life-long learning.



The learning experiences of students are **active** and **practical**. This means that students apply their knowledge, skills and experience to real life situations in the school, in the workplace and in the wider community.



Rationale

- + Prepares students for adult and working life
- + Recognises talents of all pupils
- + Promotes communication and decision-making skills
- + Applies knowledge and skills to the solution of real problems

LCA

Leaving Certificate Applied
Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach

What does LCA Provide?

Provides students with a wealth of opportunities which enhance the self esteem and confidence of students.

Provides an opportunity for work experience which is a significant component of the programme. Students get to sample a range of jobs and get first hand experience of the world of work.

Provides regular feedback from SEC which can shape their future successes and achievements.

Who should consider LCA

Students who are not adequately catered for by traditional Leaving Cert programme.

Students who prefer continuous and varied forms assessment

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 career choice.

Someone who wants to develop skills which help them in their future career.



LCA Curriculum (2 Years, 4 Sessions)

- + Vocational Preparation & Guidance
- + English & Communications
- + Mathematical Applications
- + Information Technology

- + Vocational Specialisms
- + Arts Education
- + Languages
- + Leisure & Recreation
- + Social Education
- + Elective Modules



Specialisms here in Eureka





Assessment of Modules

Requirement:

- + 90% Attendance across all modules.
- + Evidence of completion of 4 key assignments for each module
- + Modules of non-examination courses have a value of two credits (Religious Ed, Drama etc)
- + Modules of courses which have a final examination have a value of one credit (Mathematical Applications, English, Languages etc)

Assessment Tasks

Requirements:

- +Evidence of task completion
- +Individual task report
- +Individual presentation of task at interview with external examiner (except Personal Reflection task)



LCA

Leaving Certificate Applied
Ardeistiméireacht Fheidhmeach

Certificate awarded at three levels:

<u>Award</u>	<u>Mark (%)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Pass	60 – 69	120 – 139
Merit	70 – 84	140 – 169
Distinction	85 - 100	170 - 200

EUREKA



Thank you.

- + Thank you for your time and attention.
- + If you have any further questions for either Transition Year Programme or LCA programme please feel free to contact me:
- + Email: mwright@eurekaschool.ie
- + Telephone: (046) 924 0132.



Established Leaving Certificate

WWW.EUREKASCHOOL.IE

Introduction

The purpose of this evening's talk is to help you and your young person to decide about what programme is best suited for them.

Outline what the established Leaving Certificate looks like and the process of Subject Choice

Outline MyAptitude and Eirquest which students recently completed

Provide you as the parent with resources and support to help making an informed decision.

Programme and Subject Choice in Eureka



Interest and Psychometric Testing in December



Feedback from Guidance Department on testing in December



Senior Cycle Programmes Webinar in early February



Subject Choice Talk from each subject department in March



Subject Choice Booklet given to all students



Subject Choice talk to all TY students and to 3rd years progressing to 5th year in class groups.



Guidance Clinic in Room 107 at Lunchtime every Wednesday.



One to one support available from Guidance if required.

Established Leaving Certificate

Student typically study 7 subjects over a 2 year period

Core Subjects

- Irish (Exemption)
- English
- Maths

Compulsory

- Physical Education
- Religion
- SPHE/RSE
- Guidance
- Wellbeing/Tutor

Choice of 4 Subjects

Subject Choice- Choose 4

Science

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Agricultural Science
- Applied Maths

Languages

- French
- German
- Spanish

Humanities and Social

- History
- Geography
- Home Economics
- Religious Education
- Physical Education
- Politics and Society

Business Administration

- Business
- Accounting
- LCVP Link Modules

Artistic and Creative

- Music
- Art
- Design and Communications
Graphics

Parent and Student Resources

https://careersportal.ie/school/subject_explorer.php

The screenshot shows a web page titled "Leaving Cert Subjects" with a navigation bar containing "Subjects by Grade Explored" and "FAQs". The page is divided into two main sections: "Practical Group" and "Science Group".

Practical Group

These subjects are 'hands-on' and involve working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals and plastic. They may involve designing, planning and building things.

Construction Studies Engineering Technology

Science Group

These subjects demonstrate how to explore nature using carefully planned methods, and teach the basic methods and findings of scientific investigation.

Agricultural Science Applied Maths Biology
Chemistry Mathematics Physics

Profile Card: Ian McKinley, Rugby Player

What subjects did you take in school and how have these influenced your career path?

I studied Biology, French, Classical Studies, Geography, Irish, Maths, English. If I am to be honest none of them have influenced my career path.

Ask me another question!

https://careersportal.ie/school/lc_marks_distribution.php?parent=2034&ed_sub_cat_id=394&menu_parent_id=

Parent and Student
resources

Overview of Subject Choice Booklet



Name of Subject



Aims and Objectives



Subject Structure/Assessment



Recommended Skills and
Interests



Course Content



Career Options

What is Eirquest?

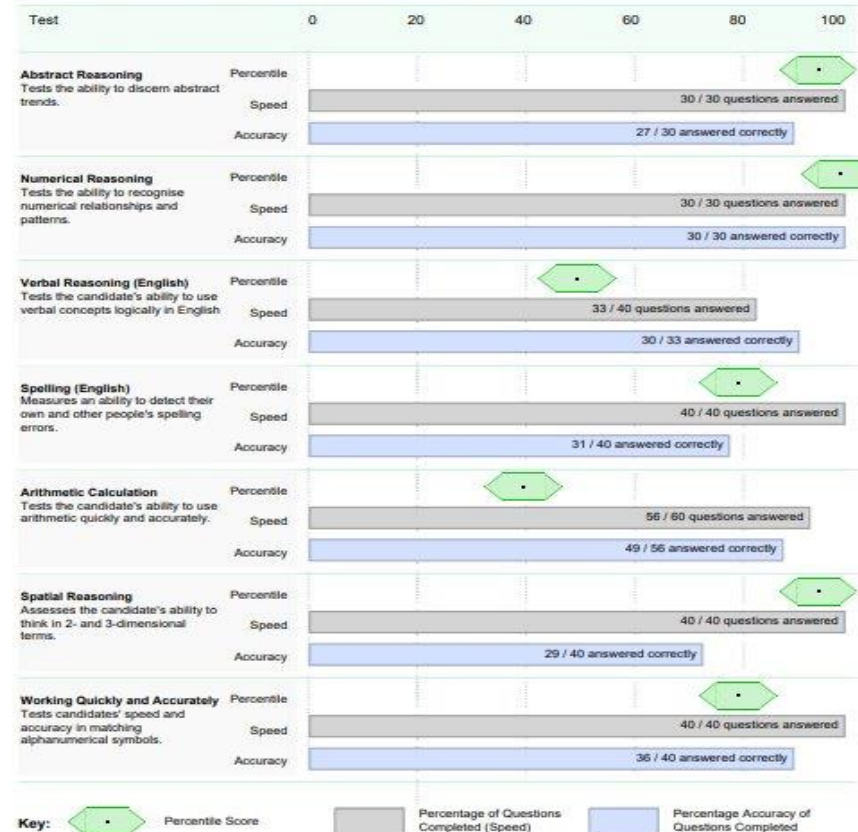
- A careers selection programme matching a student's interests and academic abilities with suitable and worthwhile careers
- **EirQuest** helps students navigate their options after secondary school, offering tools to explore potential career paths and make informed decisions about their future education.
- Confirms careers that are appropriate and challenges those which are not
- Helps students to select Leaving Certificate subjects- Eureka's subjects are recommended
- Kickstarts the process of careers research
- Encourages personal reflection and action planning

My Aptitude

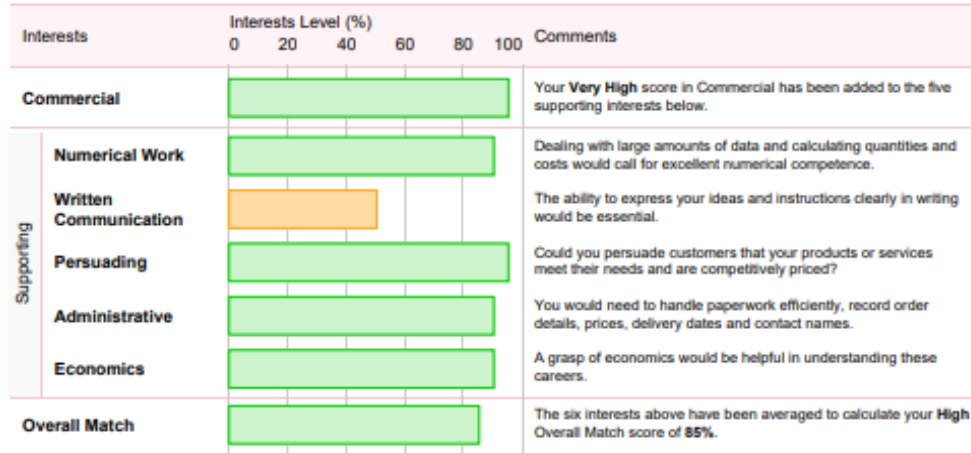
- ▶ Aptitude tests
 - ▶ verbal, numerical, abstract and spatial reasoning
 - ▶ arithmetic calculation
 - ▶ spelling
 - ▶ working quickly and accurately
- ▶ Fully normed for Ireland
- ▶ Online account with all results and PDFs to print

B MYAPTITUDE RESULTS

Your **MyAptitude** test results are shown as percentile scores, where your performance in each test is compared with other people of your own age group and background - this is indicated by the 'boat shaped' symbols. The middle 'Speed' bar graph indicates the questions you attempted and is therefore a measure of your speed in completing the questions. The lower 'Accuracy' bar graph in each section shows the percentage of correct answers you achieved in the questions you attempted. In the case of the bar graphs, the actual questions answered and those answered correctly are shown on them.



- 4 Overall Match - These bar graphs show the Interest Level of this career area, plus relevant supporting interests for careers in this field. These percentages have been averaged to produce your **High** Overall Match score of **85%**.

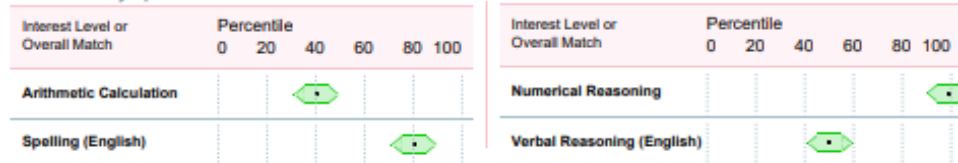


- 5 Cautionary Notes - Your answers suggest that the following points should be considered when looking at this area:

Officework (Q50) Much of your time would be spent working in an office, in clerical or administrative tasks. Many people think this would be boring or too confining, yet it is from offices that many of the most exciting international companies and industries are controlled. The office is merely a place where things get done in a convenient way.

The full list of cautionary notes for this student is available within MyHQ for staff and within MyCareerChoice for the student

- 6 Relevant MyAptitude Test Scores -



- 7 Career Check - Self Test Questionnaire - Please check this list of important qualities which are likely to be required in these careers. Tick to see how well you match these.

For Commercial Careers	
Enjoy selling and bargaining over prices	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to speak convincingly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wish to meet the needs of clients	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wish to establish good relationships with clients	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to accept criticism or rebuffs without stress	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skill at writing reports regularly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having a good memory for names	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interest in estimating costs of products or services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enthusiasm for your product or services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to think clearly in mental arithmetic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Possess an analytical, problem-solving mind	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to explain your products or services clearly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Willingness to travel and be away from home	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having a good memory for prices	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being tolerant and tactful with difficult people	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interest in modern IT systems	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interest in international trade and export	<input type="checkbox"/>
Desire to find new outlets for your products/services	<input type="checkbox"/>

Career Selection Worksheet

Considerations

What are your young persons future college/career goals?
(insights from recent testing and Careersportal research)

Does your young person enjoy school/education?

Would your young person be better of going straight
through to Senior Cycle?

Aptitude and Interest Tests- study these in detail with your
young person. Myfuturechoice.com- login

Guidance Clinic in Room 107 on Wednesday at lunchtime
for extra support for any 3rd year

Please contact the Guidance Counsellors for extra support

Summary – Make an Informed Decision

Developing	My Personal Self
Developing	My Educational Self
Developing	My Career Self

Transition Year

Developing Myself:

- ▶ Builds confidence and independence
- ▶ Develops teamwork and leadership skills
- ▶ Provides new experiences through activities, trips, and work experience

Developing My Education:

- ▶ A chance to explore different subjects before choosing Leaving Cert subjects or making the decision to do LCA
- ▶ Learn through project-based and hands-on activities
- ▶ Opportunities to gain additional qualifications (First Aid, Gaisce, etc.)

Developing My Career Self:

- ▶ Gain valuable work experience in different fields
- ▶ Exposure to career development such as career talks, college visits, and enterprise projects
- ▶ Develop key skills for the workplace and future studies

Transition Year

Should I Choose it ?

✔ Why You Should Consider TY:

- ▶ If you want a break from exams and time to explore different subjects
- ▶ If you enjoy learning in a hands-on way through projects, trips, and workshops
- ▶ If you want work experience opportunities to help with career decisions
- ▶ If you are too young
- ▶ If you want to build confidence, independence, and life skills

✘ Why TY Might Not Be for You:

- ▶ If you prefer structured, academic learning without as much flexibility
- ▶ If you are highly motivated and want to go straight into senior cycle subjects
- ▶ If you feel an extra year in school would not benefit your personal goals

Leaving Cert Applied (LCA)

Developing Myself:

- ▶ Focus on personal and social development
- ▶ Learn in a hands-on and practical way
- ▶ Build confidence through continuous assessment

Developing My Education:

- ▶ Study practical subjects linked to real-life situations
- ▶ No final 100% exams – continuous assessment instead
- ▶ Gain recognised certification and skills

Developing My Career Self:

- ▶ Strong links with the working world through work experience
- ▶ Prepares students for apprenticeships, further education PLC onto CAO, or direct employment
- ▶ Helps students develop essential work and life skills

Leaving Cert Applied

Should I Choose it ?

✓ Why You Should Consider TY:

- ▶ If you prefer practical, hands-on learning instead of traditional exams
- ▶ If you want continuous assessment rather than a final set of exams
- ▶ If you are interested in entering the workforce, apprenticeships, or further training after school
- ▶ If you learn best through real-world experiences like work placement

✗ Why LCA Might Not Be for You:

- ▶ If you want to go directly to university and not do a PLC first
- ▶ If you enjoy academic subjects and exams as a way of learning
- ▶ If you want a wider range of subject choices and career options after school

Est. Leaving Cert

Developing Myself:

- ▶ Enhances independent learning and study skills
- ▶ Encourages self-discipline and time management
- ▶ Develops resilience and problem-solving skills

□

Developing My Education:

- ▶ A broad range of subjects to choose from
- ▶ Prepares students for higher education and training
- ▶ Offers flexibility in career and study choices

Developing My Career Self:

- ▶ Direct pathway to university, college, apprenticeships, or employment
- ▶ Option to take additional courses like Leaving Cert Vocational Programme (LCVP)
- ▶ Prepares students for professional career paths

Est Leaving Cert

Should I Choose it ?

✓ Why You Should Consider the Est LC:

- ▶ If you want to keep your options open for college, apprenticeships, or careers
- ▶ If you enjoy academic subjects and structured study
- ▶ If you are aiming for a specific university course or career pathway
- ▶ If you work well with independent study and exam-based learning

✗ Why Est. LC Might Not Be for You:

- ▶ If you prefer practical, hands-on learning rather than exams
- ▶ If you struggle with independent study and managing multiple subjects
- ▶ If you feel a different pathway (e.g., LCA or TY first) would suit your learning style better

What can you do to support your daughter to make this decision

1. Open Communication

- Discuss their interests, strengths, and future goals
- Examine and discuss Eirquest and Cambridge Report
- ▶ Encourage them to express concerns and aspirations.

2. Research Together

- ▶ Explore the structure and benefits of **LCA (Leaving Cert Applied), TY (Transition Year), and Established LC.**
- ▶ Attend school information sessions and talk to teachers/guidance counsellors.
- Research their preferred third level courses for entry requirements on www.careersportal.ie and www.qualifax.ie.

3. Consider Learning Styles & Career Paths

- ▶ **LCA:** Practical, work-based learning – ideal for hands-on learners.
- ▶ **TY:** A chance to explore different subjects, develop skills, and gain experiences.
- ▶ **Established LC:** Traditional academic route leading to third-level education.

4. Encourage Work Experience & Skills Development

- ▶ TY and LCA offer opportunities to explore careers through placements.
- ▶ Help her identify strengths and career options through work experience.

5. Support Decision-Making

- ▶ Guide them but allow her to take ownership of her choice.
- ▶ Reassure her that there are multiple pathways to success.

If you need further support the Guidance Team is available at the Guidance Clinic in Room 107 on Wednesday at lunchtime.

Guidance Team

- cbriodyokeefe@eurekaschool.ie
- greilly@eurekaschool.ie

Thank you

Process of Choosing

(Vsware)



Step 1:
Log into
VSware

Welcome to VSware

School



Eureka Secondary School

Username *

Davidwright

Password *

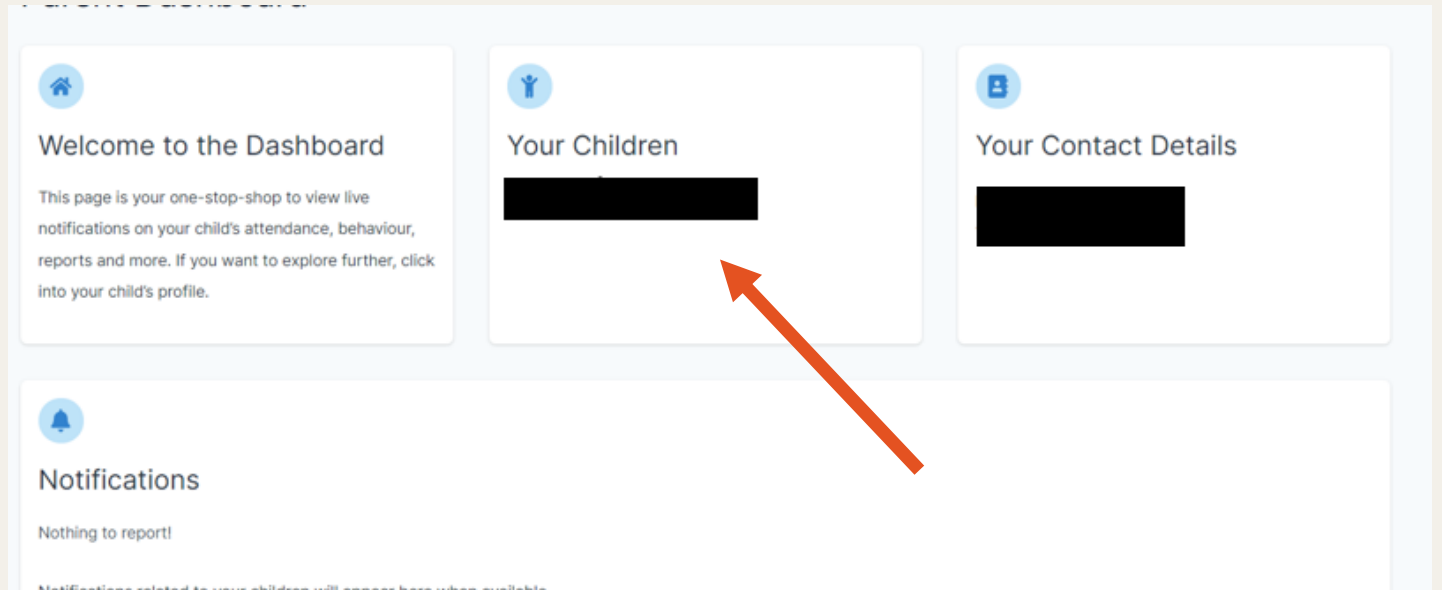
.....

[Create or reset your password](#)

Login

Don't have an account? [Learn more](#)








Step 2:
Click on
your
daughter's
name



The screenshot shows a dashboard interface with three main sections in a top row and one section in a bottom row. Each section has a blue icon in the top-left corner.


- Welcome to the Dashboard:** Contains a home icon, a title, and a paragraph of text explaining the dashboard's purpose.
- Your Children:** Contains a person icon, a title, and a redacted name. An orange arrow points to this redacted name.
- Your Contact Details:** Contains a person icon, a title, and a redacted area.
- Notifications:** Contains a bell icon, a title, and text indicating no notifications are currently present.

Step 3: Select the “Student Options” tab

 Attendance Monitor your child's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson. Learn More >	 Assessment View your child's full academic record, track progress over time and download term assessments. Learn More >	 Behaviour Keep track of your child's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback. Learn More >	 Timetable View your child's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time. Learn More >	 Personal Info Overview of your child's key info. Ensure that this is up to date. Learn More >
 Fees Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card	 Student Options Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the			

Step 4:
Choose
Programm
e

Subject Set 1

Preference	Subject Choice
1	Select a subject 

Confirm



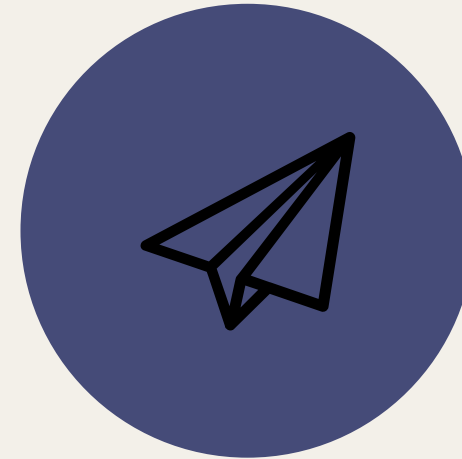
Deadline

Monday 3rd March at 9:00am

Any issues....



PHONE THE SCHOOL OFFICE:
046 9240132



EMAIL:
DWRIGHT@EUREKASCHOOL.IE

Any
Questions?

