

**St Joseph's CBS**

**Leaving Certificate Applied**

**Plan**

# Overview of the LCA Programme

- The Leaving Certificate Applied is a practical two-year programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life. St Joseph's prides itself on utilising and promoting the key principles that underpin the LCA programme. These principles consist of:
  - To ensure students achieve the highest academic standards based on their own individual abilities.
  - To deliver a broad-based curriculum that adequately responds to the needs of our students and society in general.
  - To continue to provide and resource an extensive programme of extra-curricular activity which caters for the wide range of talents and interests amongst our students.

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- To provide a student-centred education which strives to develop the whole person – spiritually, morally, intellectually, physically and socially.
- To foster a spirit of co-operation and respect amongst all of our school community.
- To promote a happy, positive and safe environment where the wellbeing of each person is valued and respected and where healthy relationships are developed.
- To facilitate and embrace a harmonious integration of different cultures, faiths, nationalities, genders, sexual orientations and ethnic diversities.
- To inspire and promote lifelong learning in our students to prepare them to take their place as responsible citizens in a challenging society.

# Rationale for LCA

- 1. Prepares learners for the demanding transition to adult and working life.
- 2. Recognises talents of all learners - programme responsive to aptitudes, abilities, needs and interests.
- 3. Provides opportunity to develop in terms of responsibility, self-esteem and self-knowledge.
- 4. Develops communication and decision making skills.
- 5. Helps learners achieve a more independent and enterprising approach to learning and to life.

# LCA Modes of Assessment

## Modules

- The course is made up of modules. Modules are short programmes of study (30 hours of class time) from various subjects that are offered in the programme.
- Each student shall complete 44 modules over the two-year course Assignments must be completed at the end of each module
- Credits will be awarded for successfully completed assignments
- Each student must have 90% attendance during each session of the course. Credits will not be awarded to students who do not have 90% attendance

## What is a Student Task?

- A student task is a practically orientated activity, which takes the student a minimum of 10 hours to complete. There are seven tasks to be completed over the two- year course. Each student must prepare a written report on each task completed. A maximum of 10 credits can be awarded for each task.

## Work Experience

- Each student will complete work experience every Friday per session. This means that students of LCA will experience four different work locations over two years.

# LCA is a Continuous Assessment Programme

- LCA Students are graded on a continuous assessment/exam format. The overall credits in the LCA programme is 200
- Students do key assignments throughout the 2 years. These completed key assignments along with 90% attendance, make up 31%(62 credits) of the course
- Students also do seven tasks. These completed tasks make up 35%(70 credits) of the course
- Finally students will do final exams outlined in the slide below. These exams make up the final 34%(68 credits) of the course

# Final Examinations

- Area Credits
- English & Communication
- Vocational Specialisms (Graphics & Construction and ICT)
- Languages (x2) Irish and Spanish
- Social Education
- Mathematical Applications

# 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”.