



St. Clement's College

**Leaving
Certificate Applied
(LCA)**

School Mission Statement

St. Clement's College seeks to facilitate the development of each student to his full academic, personal, spiritual and social potential in a Catholic, caring, respectful and safe environment.

Three programmes are offered to students in St. Clement's College at Senior Cycle. The Established Leaving Certificate, The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme and The Leaving Certificate Applied Programme. This document outlines our **Leaving Certificate Applied** Programme.

Programme Overview

The leaving Certificate Applied Programme is a distinct, self contained Leaving Certificate programme. It is designed for those students who do not want to proceed directly to third level education or for those whose needs, aspirations and aptitudes are not adequately catered for by the other two Leaving Certificate programmes. The Leaving Certificate Applied is structured around three main elements.

1. Vocational Preparation,
2. Vocational Educational
3. General Education

All the above three are interrelated and interdependent. This programme is characterised by educational experiences of an active, practical and student centered nature.

The fundamental goal of the LCA programme is to prepare Leaving Certificate students for transition from the world of school to that of adult and working life. It is important to recognise that this transition may be difficult and demanding because in addition to the challenges in relation to education, training and jobs, participants are also faced with related social, personal and cultural issues.

The LCA Programme focuses on the needs and interests of the students using a variety of methodologies and makes optimum use of the resources of the local community. There is a need to recognise that individuals differ considerably in the way they process, assimilate and recall information.

The use of active teaching and learning methodologies across the curriculum promotes those qualities that are fundamental to the development of a student with an enterprising outlook:

- Self confidence
- Responsibility
- Cooperation
- Team work
- Problem solving
- Independence
- Decision making
- Initiative.

Work experience provides an important opportunity to apply and further develop these qualities.

Objectives of the LCA Programme

- To prepare the students for adults and working life
- To develop the numeracy and Literacy skills of each student
- To meet the needs of those students who are not catered for by other Leaving Certificate programmes or who choose not to opt for such programmes
- To focus on the personal and social development of each student
- To provide opportunities for students to develop processes of Self evaluation and reflection

Elements of the Programme

The LCA Programme will be taught over 2 years and has three main elements:

- Vocational Preparation
- Vocational Education
- General Education

A range of courses will be provided within each of these elements.



Allocation of Credits in LCA

A student may accumulate a maximum of 200 credits over two years

These credits are allocated on the following basis

| | Credits | Percentages |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Satisfactory Completion of Modules | 62 | 31% |
| 7 Student Tasks | 70 (10 per task) | 35% |
| Final Examinations | 68 | 34% |
| Total | 200 | 100% |

Credits awarded for Final Examinations

| Subjects | Credits |
|---|-----------|
| English and Communications | 12 |
| V.Specialism: Active Leisure Studies | 12 |
| V. Specialism: Information and Communication Technology | 12 |
| Irish | 6 |
| Modern European Language | 6 |
| Social Education | 10 |
| Mathematical Education | 10 |
| Total | 68 |

The leaving Certificate Applied will be awarded at three levels

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Pass | 120-139 Credits | 60-69% |
| Merit | 140-169 Credits | 70-84% |
| Distinction | 170-200 Credits | 85-100% |

Attendance: Credits will be awarded for attendance. A minimum attendance rate of **90%** is required for all classes. Students who fail to satisfy this requirement will lose credits.



LCA 7 STUDENT TASKS

| STUDENT TASKS | JANUARY/ FEBRUARY | APRIL/MAY |
|---|--|--|
| General Education Task (Leisure and Recreation) | 5 th Years 10 Credits | |
| Vocational Preparation Task | | 5 th Years 10 Credits |
| Vocational Education Task (Hotel Catering & Tourism) | | 5 th Years 10 Credits |
| Contemporary Issues Task | 6 th Years 10 Credits | |
| Vocational Education Task (Active Leisure Studies) | 6 th Years 10 Credits | |
| Practical Achievement Task | 6 th Years 10 Credits | |
| Personal Reflection Task | 5 th Years (Statement 1) | 6 th Years (Statement 2) 10 Credits |

Total Credits for Tasks = 70

Note: In 2025, LCA students will only have to complete 2 Tasks.
(Practical Achievement Task & Contemporary Issues Task) in Session 3.

Timing of 7 Student Tasks

Year 1, Session One (September to January)

1 Task

- **General Education Task**

(Originating in Arts Education, Leisure and Recreation, Languages or Social Education)

Assessment date: **End of January/ early February.**

Year 1, Session Two (February to June)

2 Tasks

- **Vocational Preparation Task**

(Originating in either Vocational Preparation and Guidance or English and Communications)

- **Vocational Education (Specialism) Task**

(Originating in one Vocational specialism)

Assessment date: **Early May**

Year 2, Session 3 (September – January)

3 Tasks (Two Tasks only required in 2023)

- **Vocational Education (specialism) Task**

(Originating in second Vocational Specialism)

- **Contemporary Issue Task**

(Originating in Social Education)

- **Practical Achievement Task**

Assessment date: **End of January/Early February**

Year 2, Session 4 (February to June)

1 Task

- **Personal Reflection Task**

Year one statement is prepared for the SEC at the end of Year 1, and another at the end of year 2. These statements are sent to SEC (State Examinations Commission) in May of year 2

LCA Electives in our LCA programme

1. Religion
2. Craft and Design

LCA Student Tasks

Students must complete 7 tasks over the two-year period.

3. General Education Task
4. Vocational Preparation Task
5. Vocational Education (specialism 1) Task
6. Vocational Education (specialism 2) Task
7. Contemporary Issues Task
8. Practical Achievement Task
9. Personal Reflection Task

At the end of year 1, students will take a final examination in a Modern Language

- Modern Language French or Spanish

At the end of year 2, students will take final examinations in the following areas:

- English and communication
- Vocational Specialism by (2)
- Mathematical Applications
- Social education
- Irish

LCA Programme Time Allocation

- All LCA students attend school from Monday to Thursday (34 class periods per week). Students attend Work Experience on Friday
- Work experience on Fridays takes place during all 4 sessions of the LCA programme.

Teaching Methodologies

The programme is characterised by:

- A variety of teaching and learning processes including group work, project work and the use of individualised learning assignments.
- The promotion of communication, literacy, numeracy and other generic skills across the curriculum using a range of media.
- A teaching approach designed to address and meet the needs of the students.

LCA Programme Admissions Policy (under review)