

Subject Choice



O'CAROLAN COLLEGE 2023

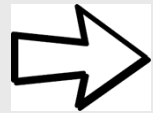
LEAVING CERTIFICATE ESTABLISHED

- 2 Year Programme.
- Students take 7 examination subjects
 - for the
- Leaving Certificate.



Leaving Certificate Established

COMPULSORY



1. English
2. Maths
3. Irish
4. French
5. SPHE
6. PE
7. RE
8. LCVP

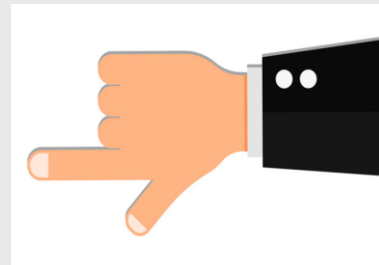


OPTIONAL



1. Applied Maths
2. Biology
3. Chemistry
4. Physics
5. Art
6. History
7. Home Economics
8. Geography
9. Music
10. Politics & Society

11. Agricultural Science
12. Construction Studies
13. Design & Communications Graphics
14. Engineering
15. Computer Science
16. Business
17. Accounting
18. Economics



On your subject choice form

You pick



You will study



Choice Subjects: In addition, each student will choose 5 subjects, **IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE**, and will study 3 of these subjects for Leaving Certificate. **NOTE:** Choices 4 and 5 are important and should be subjects you would take if you do not get all of your first 3 choices.

Subject	Preference (1-5)
Accountancy	
Agricultural Science	
Applied Maths	
Art	
Biology	
Business	
Chemistry	
Computer Science	
Construction Studies	
Design and Communication Graphics	
Economics	
Engineering	
Geography	
History	
Home Economics	
Music	
Physics	
Physical Education	
Politics and Society	

Filling in the subject choice form

- Deadline: Thursday Feb 23rd
- Choose options in 'Genuine Order or Preference'.
 - Must want to study those chosen!
- https://careersportal.ie/courses/simple_search.php



Be advised

1. All choices 1 - 5 are very important as not everyone gets their top 3 choices.
2. You may not be able to change classes easily, especially when classes are full, so be very careful to choose wisely now so you are not disappointed later!



Higher level maths

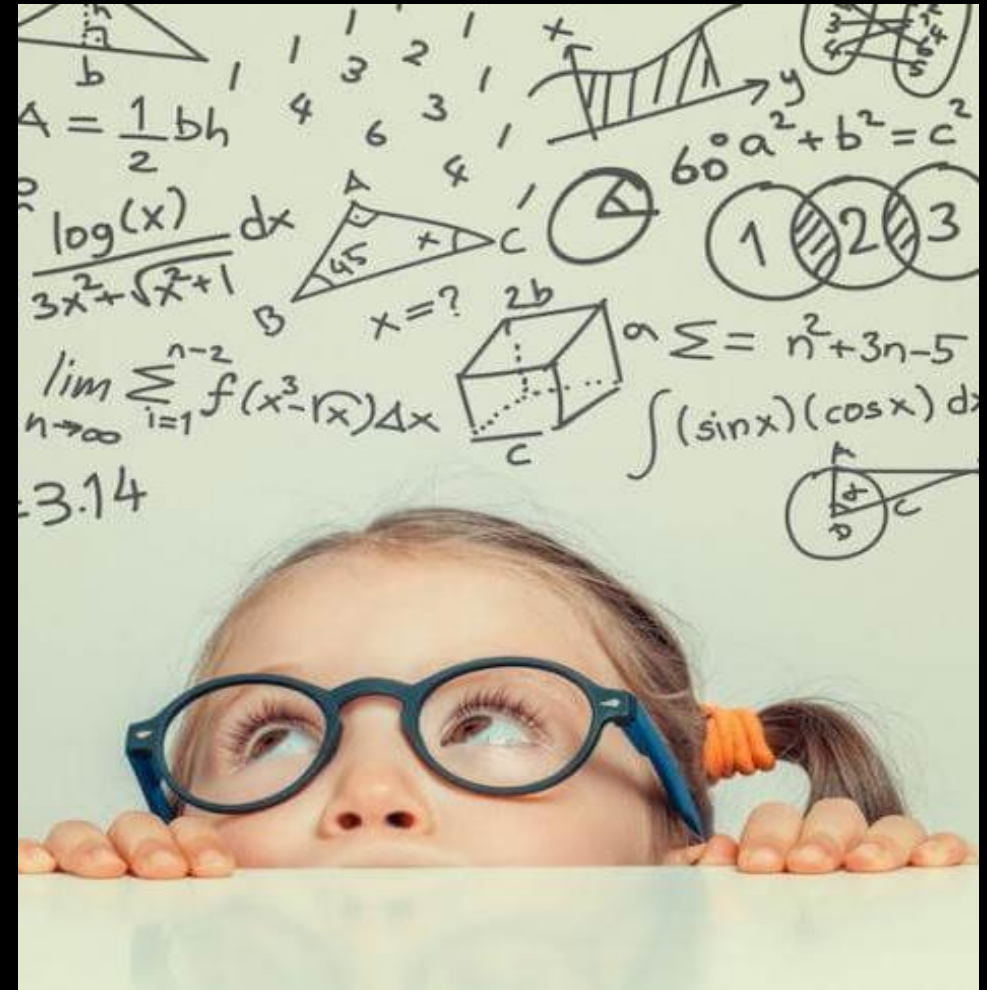


25 points are awarded to students who achieve a **H6** or above in Higher Level Maths.

This means that the maximum leaving Cert points is **625**.
6H1's and 25 'Bonus Points' for Higher Level Maths.

Higher Level Maths

- We advise only to take Maths at Higher Level if you achieve a **Merit** or above in Maths at Higher Level in the Junior Certificate.
- Q. If I do Maths at Ordinary Level in the Junior Certificate, are there subjects I should avoid?
- A. **Applied Maths, Physics** and **Chemistry**. They require a high level of mathematical aptitude!

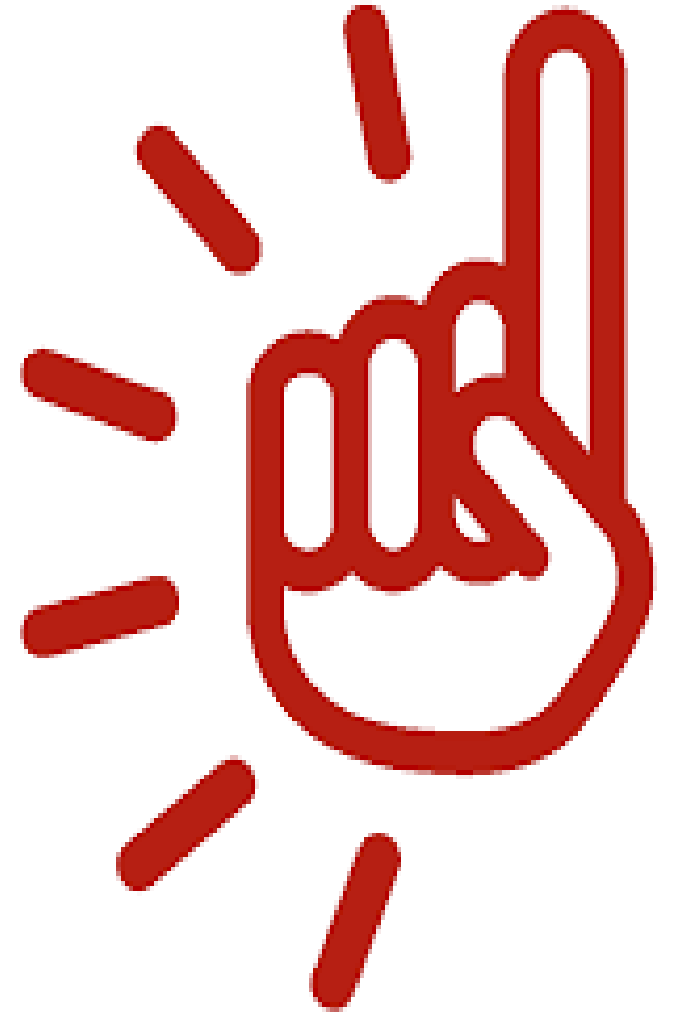


Subjects with a practical element

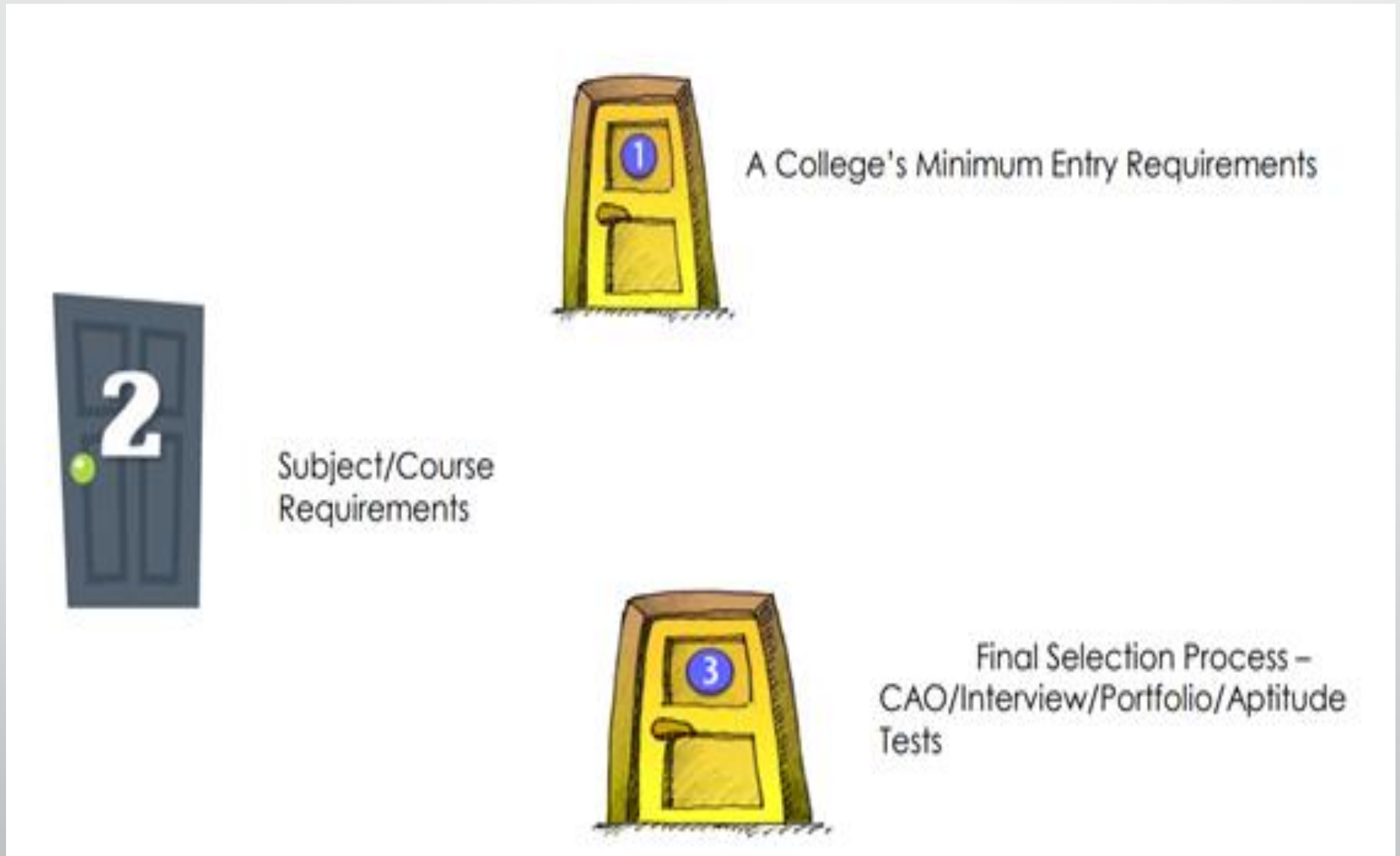
SUBJECT	PRACTICAL (%)	PROJECT (%)	FINAL EXAM (%)
Agricultural Science		25 (Investigative Study)	75
Politics & Society		20	80
Art	62		28
History		20	80
Geography		20 (Investigative Study)	80
Music	50		50
Construction Studies	25 (Day Practical)	25	50
Design and Communication Graphics		40 (Portfolio)	60
Engineering	25 (Day Practical)	25	50
Home Economics		20 (Journal)	80

To Note!

- Subject Choice is very important and has reaching implications!
- Leaving Certificate points are calculated your **6 BEST** subjects.



Subject choice impacts on college options



1. Minimum entry requirements

- Admission to the College!
- NOTE: These vary from college to college. Students **MUST** check individual college websites!



2. Course requirements

Admission to the Course!

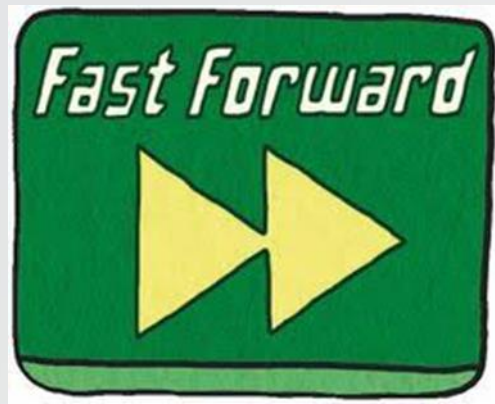
- Examples:
 - **Nursing** requires a **Science** subject (Grade varies from college to college).
 - **Primary teaching** requires a **H4** in **Irish**
 - **Veterinary Medicine** in **UCD** requires **H5** in **Chemistry**
 - **Engineering** in **TU Dublin** requires minimum **H4** in **Maths**



3. Final selection - Points

- CAO points – Calculated from your best 6 subjects.
- Individual interview, portfolio or aptitude tests required for some courses.





August 2025

- A student will be offered their preferred CAO course if they meet the (1) **Minimum Entry Requirements**, the (2) **Subject Requirements** and completes the (3) **Final Selection Process**.



- All of which will be impacted by **Subject Choice!**

REASONS FOR CHOOSING A SUBJECT



Interest in the subject



Good the subject



Getting maximum points



Course requirements



Career aspirations



Subjects that will allow broad options

What should students do to make informed choices?

- Read the Subject Choice Booklet
- Chat to 5th & 6th Year students.
- Speak to subject teachers.
- Review results of previous tests in the subject.
- Review CAT₄ results.
- Research possible college course/ career interests.
- Contact the Guidance Counsellors with any questions.
- Give it time and attention!



Where students can go wrong

- Picking subjects based on teachers and/or friends.
- Not reflecting on experiences and/or achievements to date.
- Choose subjects to keep options open even though they don't like/have struggled with it.
- Not doing the research!



A wise choice of subjects requires...



- Research



- Discussion



- Reflection

- Decision

Remember!

- Interest
&
• Ability
- If you enjoy the subject the points will come!





Any questions

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*Thank
you*

