

LEAVING CERT. APPLIED

2024-25

OVERVIEW



What is the Leaving Certificate Applied?

- ↯ It is a distinct, self-contained two-year Leaving Certificate programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life
- ↯ It emphasises forms of achievement and excellence which the Established Leaving Certificate has not recognised in the past

Who would benefit most?

- ↑ Students who are not adequately catered for by the Established Leaving Certificate programme
- ↑ Students who feel they would achieve more by choosing an alternative approach to the Established Leaving Certificate
- ↑ Students who may be considering an apprenticeship after school.
- ↑ Students who like practical subjects, project work and a smaller class group.
- ↑ Students who have struggled with the curriculum in Junior Cycle because it failed to cater for their needs.

CURRICULUM

Vocational Preparation

Vocational Preparation & Guidance

English & Communications

Vocational Education

Mathematical Applications

Vocational Specialisms: Graphics & Construction Studies, Hotel Catering & Tourism

Information Communication Technology

General Education

Social Education

Languages: Irish 5th year & French 6th year

Leisure & Recreation: including P.E.

ART

Religious Education

Assessment

3 Modes

- ↯ Continuous Assessment/Key Assignments
- ↯ Tasks (Projects)
- ↯ Final Examinations

Assessment

3 Modes



Satisfactory completion of Modules

62 credits (31%)

7 Student tasks

70 credits (35%)

Final examinations

68 credits (34%)

Total

200 credits (100%)

Certificate awarded at three levels:

Pass

60-69 %

(120 - 139 credits)

Merit

(70-84 %)

140 - 169 credits)

Distinction

(85-100 %)

(170 - 200 credits)

Work Experience

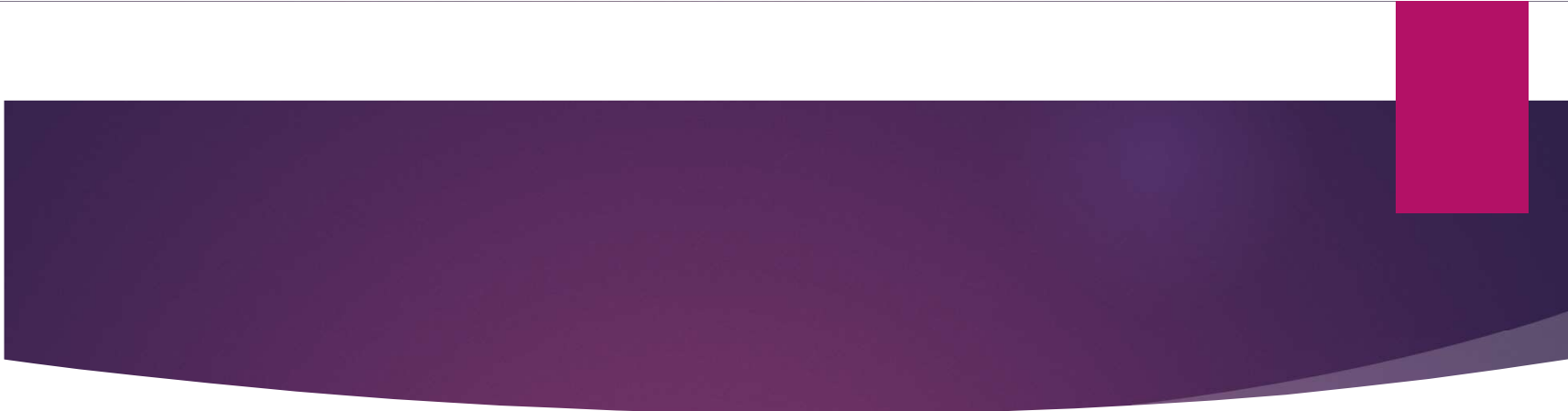
- ↑ Students go out on work placement every Friday in each of the four Sessions
- ↑ The placement gives the students invaluable experience of everyday working life, and the opportunity to try out career options for later.
- ↑ The employer also sends feedback to the school on the students performance.
- ↑ It is recommended that a different work choice be availed of in each Session to gain the widest possible experience.

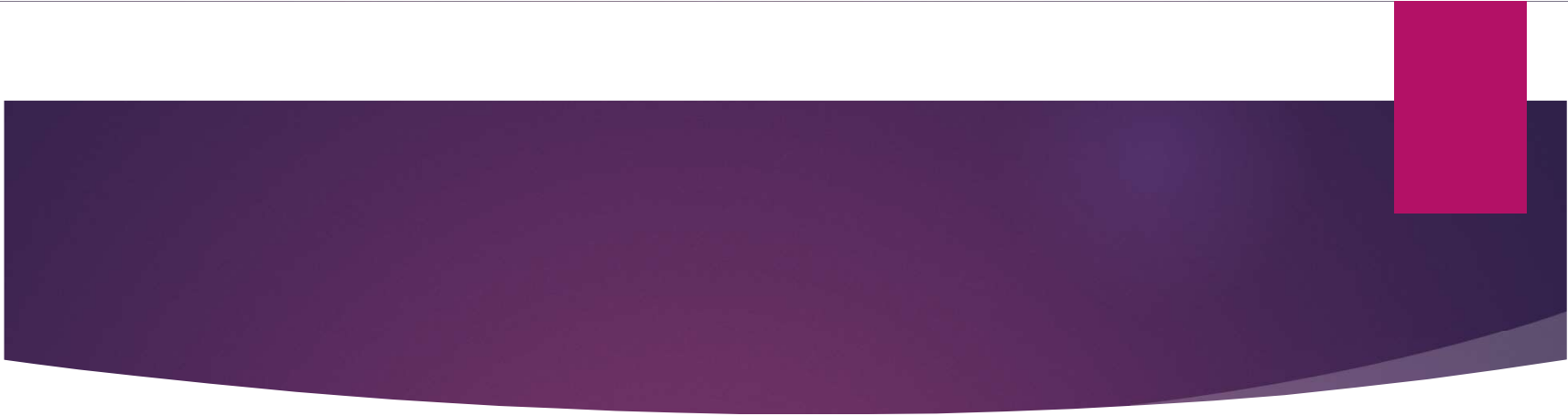
The reasons why a student would apply for LCA:

- ↑ There are smaller class sizes
- ↑ The student gets more individual attention
- ↑ Teaching methodologies are adapted by teachers to suit the students which enhance their learning experience
- ↑ Work Experience is an invaluable module which is completed in both 5th and 6th Yr. LCA
- ↑ Many students find this to be a more suitable programme to help them either move on to third level education, or gain the experience needed to begin an apprenticeship .

APPLICATION PROCESS

- ↑ All students who complete the Junior Certificate or Transition Year are free to apply for a place in the LCA Programme.
- ↑ Application for admission to Leaving Certificate Applied is made via the standard Leaving Certificate Applied Application Form.
- ↑ The closing date for applications is **Monday 19th Feb 2024** and late applications may not be considered.
- ↑ The maximum number of places available in each Leaving Certificate Applied Class in the programme group is **16**.
- ↑ The total number of students that can be accommodated in Leaving Certificate Applied in any school year will be determined by the Board of Management subject to the resources available to the school including physical classroom accommodation, class size, teaching and financial resources and is also subject to the capacity of the school to provide for the educational needs of those who apply for admission.

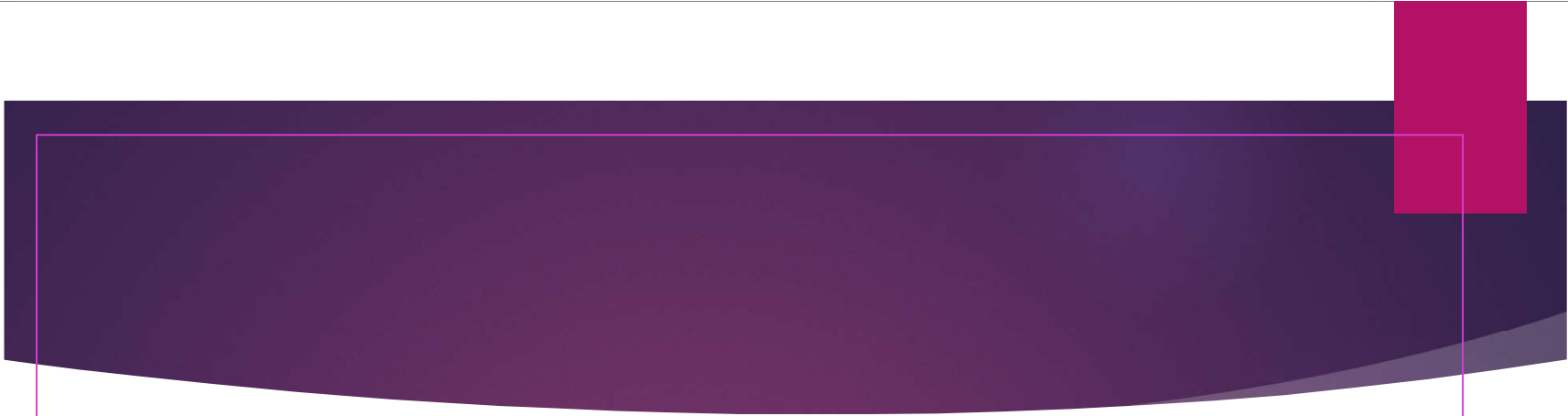
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- The teaching staff will be advised of the list of applicants, and will be invited to offer professional advice and judgements in writing to the L.C.A. Selection Committee within a time schedule specified by the Programme Coordinator.
 - All students who apply for Leaving Certificate Applied are called for **interview**, which are held in the College from **March 6th – March 8th 2024**.
 - The Selection Committee, which includes the Leaving Certificate Applied Coordinator and the Guidance Counsellor, will process all applications received as per the Criteria for Admission and the Marking Scheme outlined below and applicants will be listed in order of merit based on marks received.
 - When there are more applicants than available places, a waiting list based on the order of merit will apply. Once all students have accepted their place in Leaving Certificate Applied and the quota (as set out by the Board of Management) has been reached, the waiting list will cease on the second week of September of that academic year. In this way, students will be enabled to settle into their various programmes / year groups.



All applications are reviewed and all students are invited to present for interview.

A student is assessed as suitable for the programme based on how well he meets the criteria outlined below:

- The student's record of compliance with the School's Code of Behaviour
- A demonstrated ability to meet the 90% attendance requirement for this course.
- The student's performance at interview
- The student's expressed level of interest in the Leaving Certificate Applied programme.
- The recommendations of the student's teachers
- The student's class work record (completion of projects, capacity to meet deadlines, etc.)

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- Where a student is deemed to be unsuitable for Leaving Certificate Applied and fails to meet the most basic aspects of the selection criteria (e.g. failure to meaningfully engage with the Application process, serious breaches of Code of Behaviour), he will be informed in writing of his unsuitability for the programme and advised to consult with the Guidance Counsellor regarding the pursuit of other senior cycle options.
 - The number of students that can be accommodated in Leaving Certificate Applied will be decided by the school's Board of Management on an annual basis.
 - Each applicant will be considered on his own merit. In order to be considered for the programme, the student must complete **the Application Form within the deadline specified and return it to the office by Monday 19th February 2024.**



Offer & Acceptance of Places

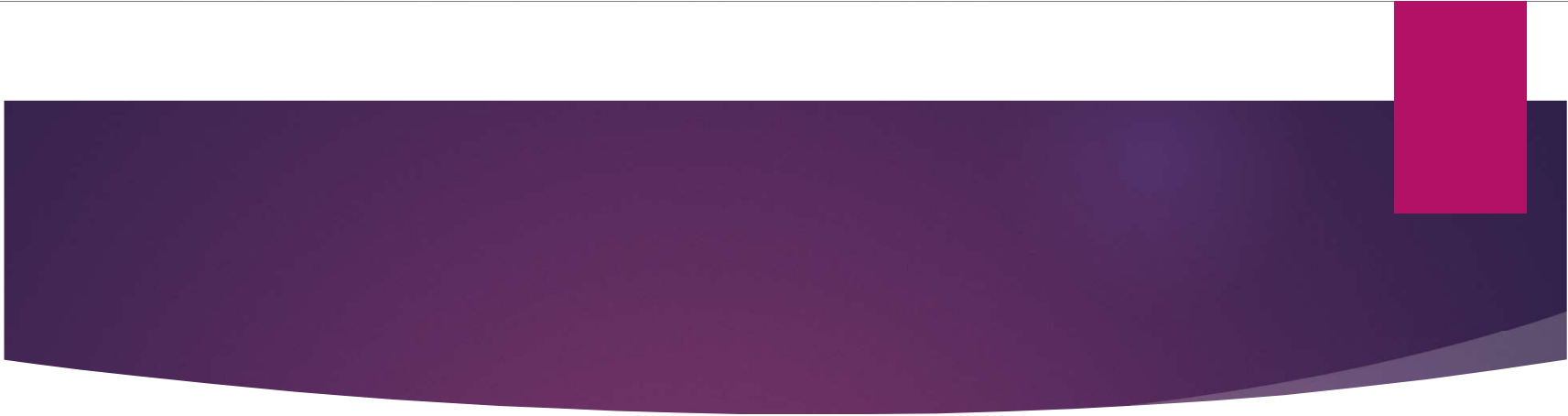
After the interview, all students will be informed by letter of the outcome of their application within 10 school days of completion of the application process. Unsuccessful applicants will be informed in writing within the same time frame and will be advised of their right to appeal the decision to the Board of Management. See Appeals Process below.

The student will receive **one** of the following responses regarding his application:

1. He will be informed that he has secured his place in the Leaving Certificate Applied programme for the following academic year. Within the date specified, he must then submit the following to the School Office:

- Completed Acceptance Form
- Completed LCA Contract

These forms must be signed by the applicant and witnessed by a parent/guardian. **Failure to return these forms to the School Office within the specified time frame (the deadline for the academic year 2024/2025 is Friday March 22nd) will result in the student's offer of a place being forfeited** and the place will be offered to the next student on the waiting list.



2. The student is informed that the number of successful applicants has exceeded the available places and he has been put on a Waiting List **in order of merit**. He is advised to meet with the Guidance Counsellor to discuss alternative senior cycle options. He will be notified immediately if a place becomes available. Should that student not accept the place offered, it will be offered to the next person on the waiting list; this process will continue until all places have been accepted and filled.

3. The student is informed that he has been deemed unsuitable for the programme and is advised to meet with the school Guidance Counsellor to discuss alternative senior cycle options.

Any serious breach of the schools code of behaviour prior to the commencement of Leaving Certificate Applied may result in the withdrawal of the offer of a place in Leaving Certificate Applied.

A student who accepts a place in Leaving Certificate Applied and subsequently withdraws from the programme is advised that his application for subject options in 5th year will be placed after the students who have already applied.

Appeals

- ↑ Parents/Guardians of a student who is not offered a place in Leaving Certificate Applied may appeal the decision to the College Principal or Deputy Principal.
- ↑ They can also appeal the decision to the Board of Management within **10 working days of receiving notification of** the decision. Parents/Guardians should outline in writing the grounds for their appeal. Please be advised that the decision of the Board in this regard is final.

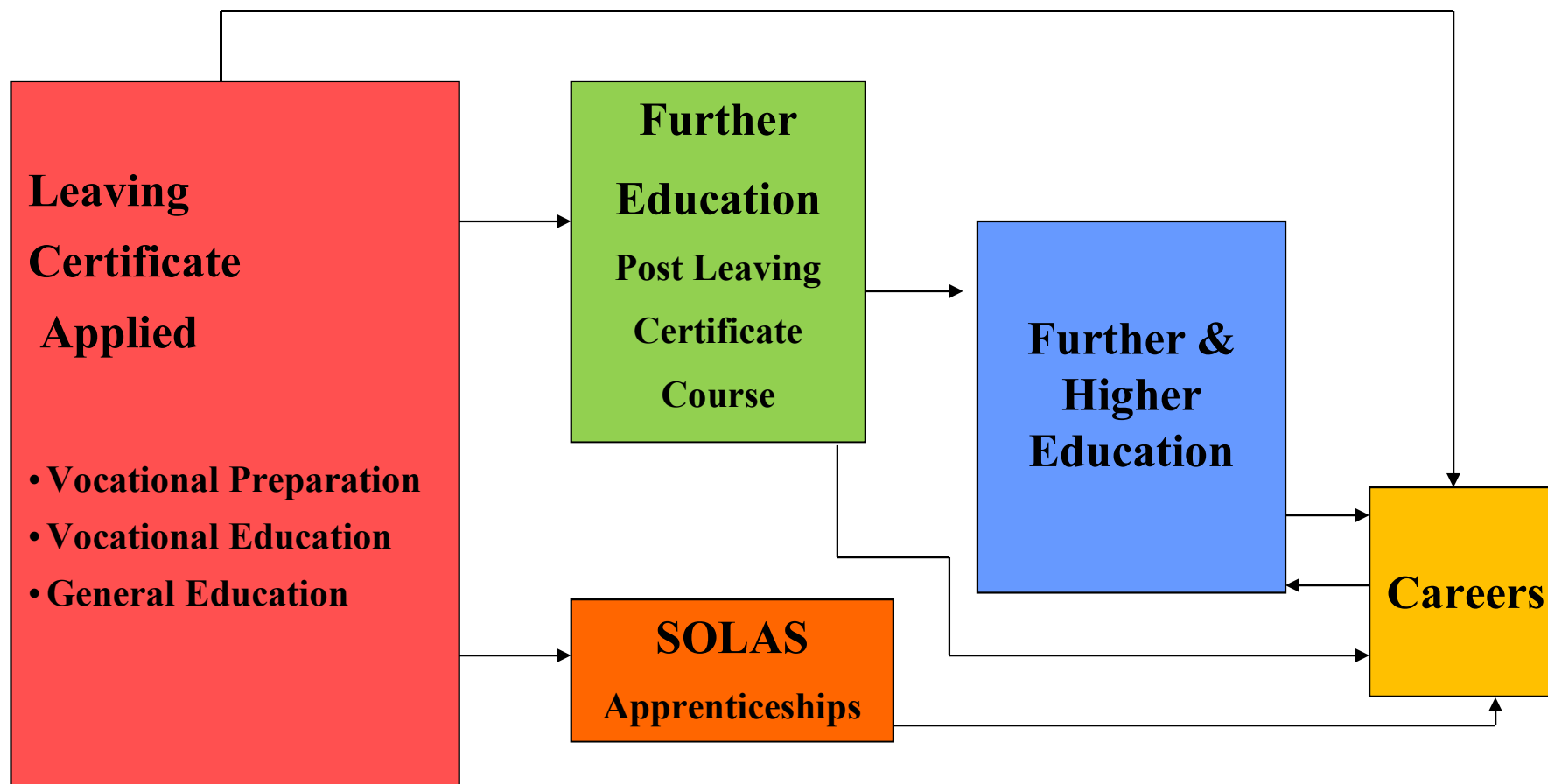
Opening up New Options



LEAVING
CERTIFICATE
APPLIED

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The Leaving Certificate Applied Route Map



IMPORTANT DATES

- ↑ Complete and submit the Application Form to the College Office **within the deadline specified.**
- ↑ (The deadline for the academic year **2024/2025 is Monday Feb 19th.**
- ↑ **Interviews** take place in the College Parlour. The date agreed for **2024/2025 is Wed March 6th – Friday March 9th.**
- ↑ If offered a place then submit the following to the School Office:
 - Completed Acceptance Form
 - Completed LCA Contract
 - Signed by the applicant and witnessed by a parent/guardian by **Friday 22nd March 2024.**