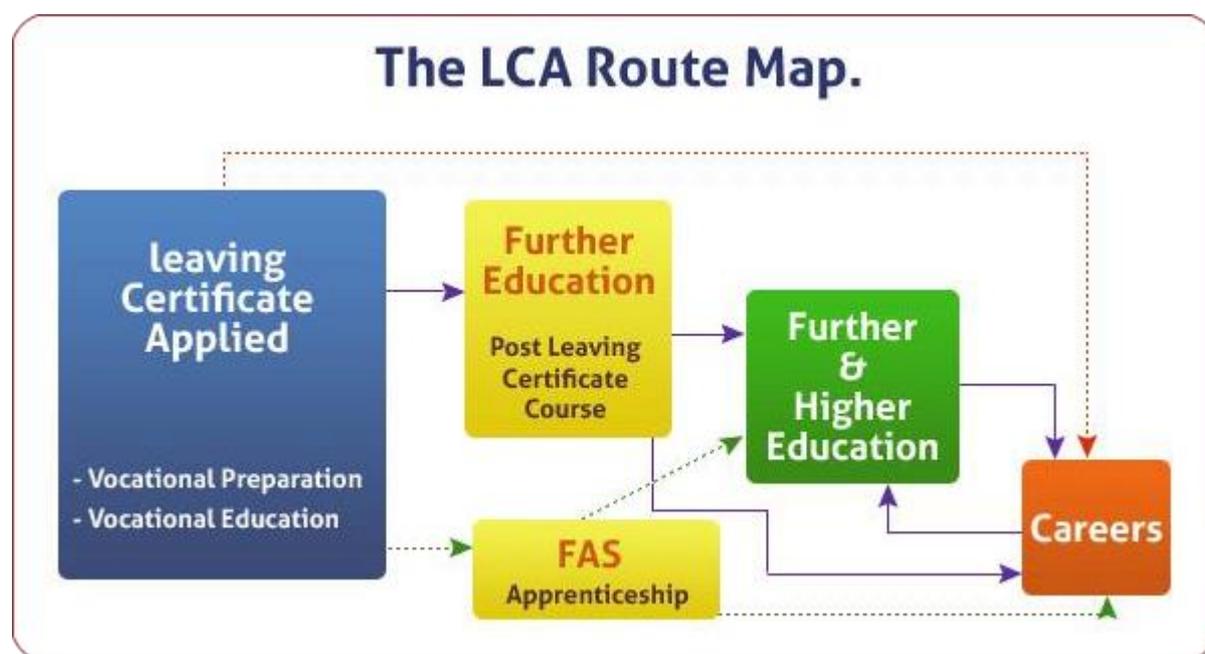


The Leaving Certificate Applied is a two year Leaving Certificate available to students who wish to follow a practical programme with a strong vocational emphasis. With a certificate in Leaving Cert Applied students may do a Post Leaving Cert course and if they choose may take a longer route into higher education.



One of the biggest differences between the established Leaving Cert and the LCA is the system of continuous assessment. Students are assessed on the basis of project work completed over the two years and the final examination accounts for approximately one third of the overall marks.

WHO WOULD BENEFIT MOST FROM THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED?

The Leaving Certificate Applied is intended to meet the needs of those students who are not adequately catered for by other Leaving Certificate programmes or who choose not to opt for such programmes.

LCA offers a student centred approach to learning with an emphasis on Work Experience, IT, Personal Development and Social Skills. The two-year programme consists of four half-year blocks called Sessions and achievements are credited in each of these Sessions. In Clonakilty Community College the Leaving Certificate Applied programme is broken-down into four subject groups:

1.VOCATIONAL PREPARATION

- Vocational preparation guidance
- English and communications

2.VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

- Mathematical applications
- Technology
- ICT

3.GENERAL EDUCATION

- Art
- Leisure and recreation
- Social education
- Irish
- Spanish

4.ELECTIVES & SPECIALISMS

- Music
- Hotel Catering and Tourism
- Graphic & Construction studies
- Engineering

The following is a detailed breakdown of what each year entails:

5th Year/ LCA 1

Session 1 (Sept-Jan)

- Four key assignments in each subjects
- Mandatory work experience every Friday
- A task in General Education

Session 2 (Feb-May)

- Four key assignments in each subjects
- A task in Vocational Preparation and in General Education
- A Personal Reflective Statement

6th Year

Session 3 (Sept-Jan)

- Four key assignments in each subjects
- Mandatory work experience every Friday
- A Contemporary Issue task
- A Practical Achievement task
- A task in Vocational Education

Session 4 (Feb-May)

- Four key assignments in each subjects
- Mandatory work experience every Friday
- A Personal Reflective Statement
- Pre Leaving Certificate exams

To obtain credits for all of the above, each candidate must have a 90% attendance record.

How the credits are scored:

At the end of the two years, all the credits are added up and a result is then given.

See below for the breakdown:

Key Assignments = 62 credits (60 credits if exempted from Irish)

Tasks = 70 credits

Final Exams = 68 credits (62 if exempted from Irish)

TOTAL = 200 credits

Final Results

120 credits (116 if exempted from Irish) - 60% - Pass

140 credits (135 if exempted from Irish) - 70% - Merit

170 credits (166 if exempted from Irish) - 85% - Distinction