



# **Leaving Certificate Subject Options**

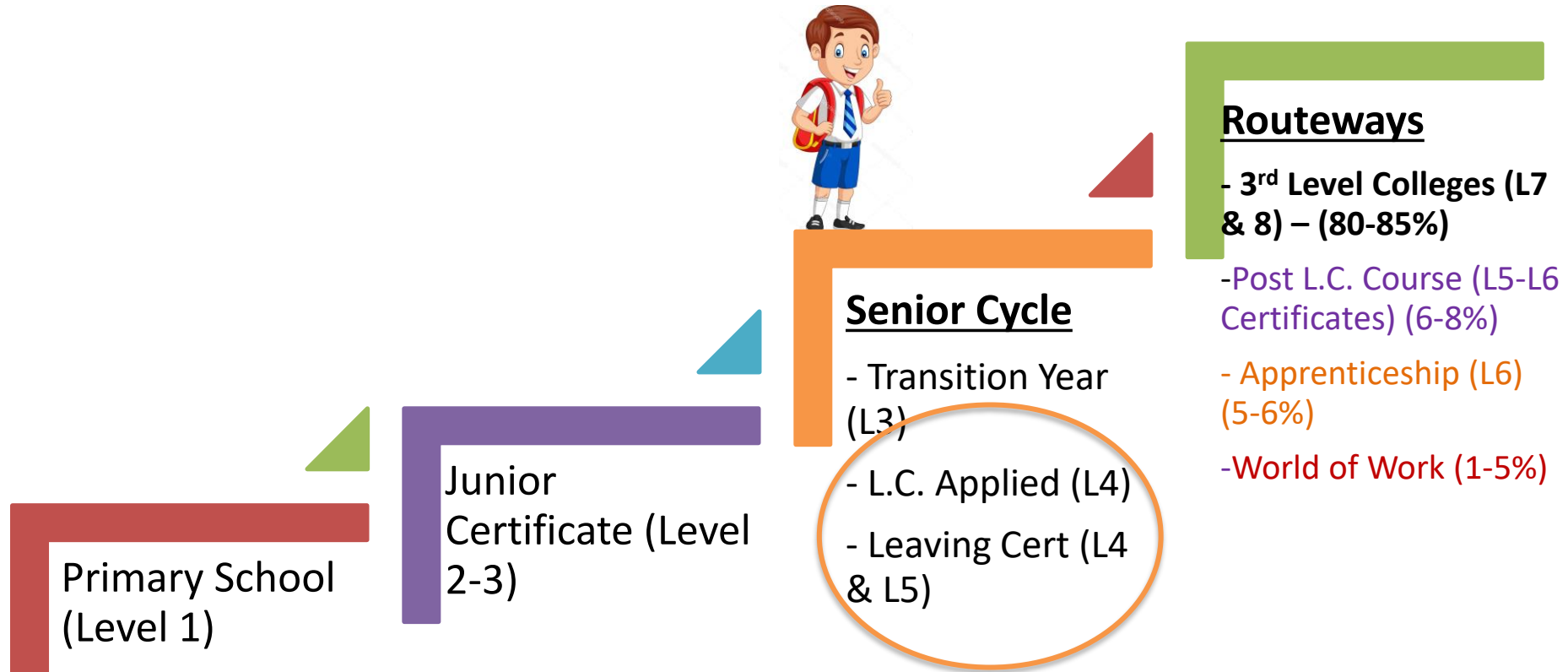
Glanmire Community College

2021\_2022

# Outline

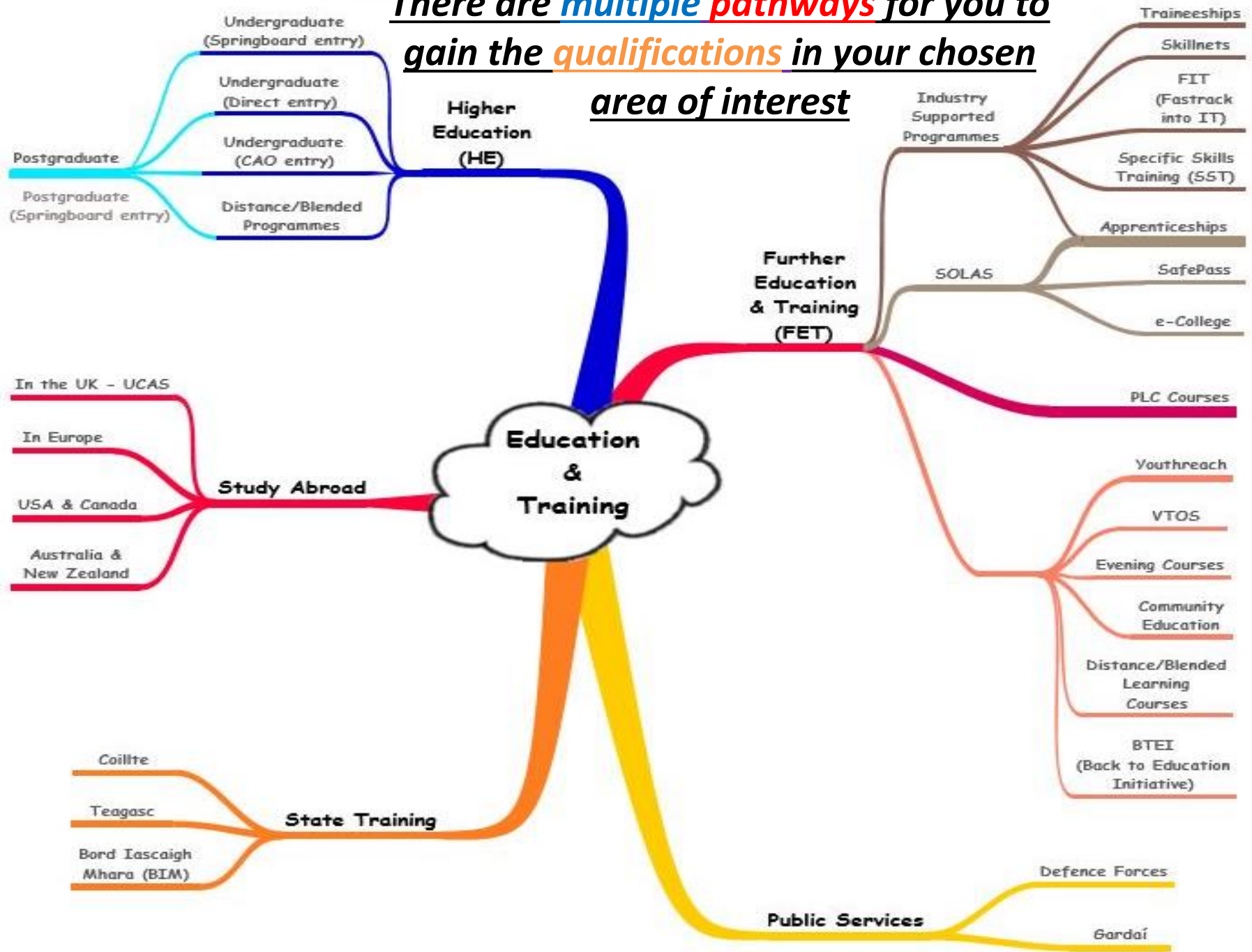
- Progression to Leaving Certificate
- General overview of Curricular Provision at Leaving Cert
- Researching your Option Subject Choices
- Progression from Post-Primary School
- College Access routes

# Education Progression

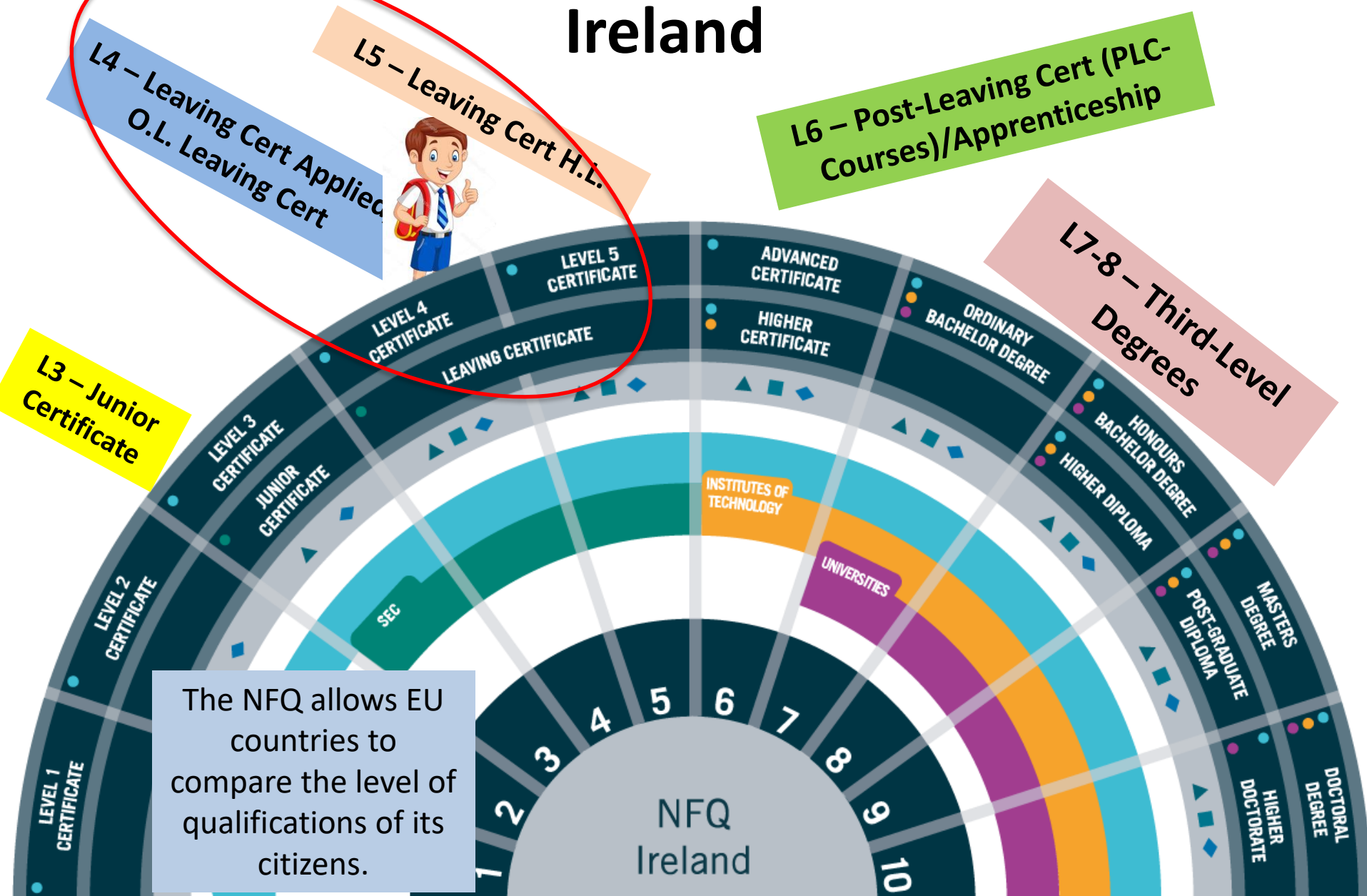


You are now entering the **Leaving Certificate Programme**. This provides you with access to a range of options when you graduate from Post-Primary school. Depending on your interests and academic achievements, you choose which routeway you wish to pursue to further your career and future goals. In G.C.C 80-85% of our graduates pursue 3<sup>rd</sup> level qualifications

There are **multiple pathways** for you to gain the **qualifications** in your chosen area of interest



# National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) Ireland



# Leaving Certificate Examination Subjects

- Students will study SEVEN examination subjects at Leaving Certificate.
- This will be made up of THREE core subjects and FOUR optional subjects.
- The purpose of this presentation is to help you to make informed option subject choices

# Curricular Provision – Leaving Certificate

## 3 X Core (Non-Exam)

- Senior Cycle Physical Education (SCPE)
- Religious Education
- Guidance

## 3 X Core Subjects (Exam)

- Irish
- English
- Maths

## 4 X Option Subjects

- Art, Music, Leaving Certificate Physical Education (LCPE), Home Economics,
- French, History, Geography
- Accounting, Business, Economics
- Biology, Physics, Chemistry
- Technology, Engineering, Construction Studies, Design and Communication Graphics (DCG)

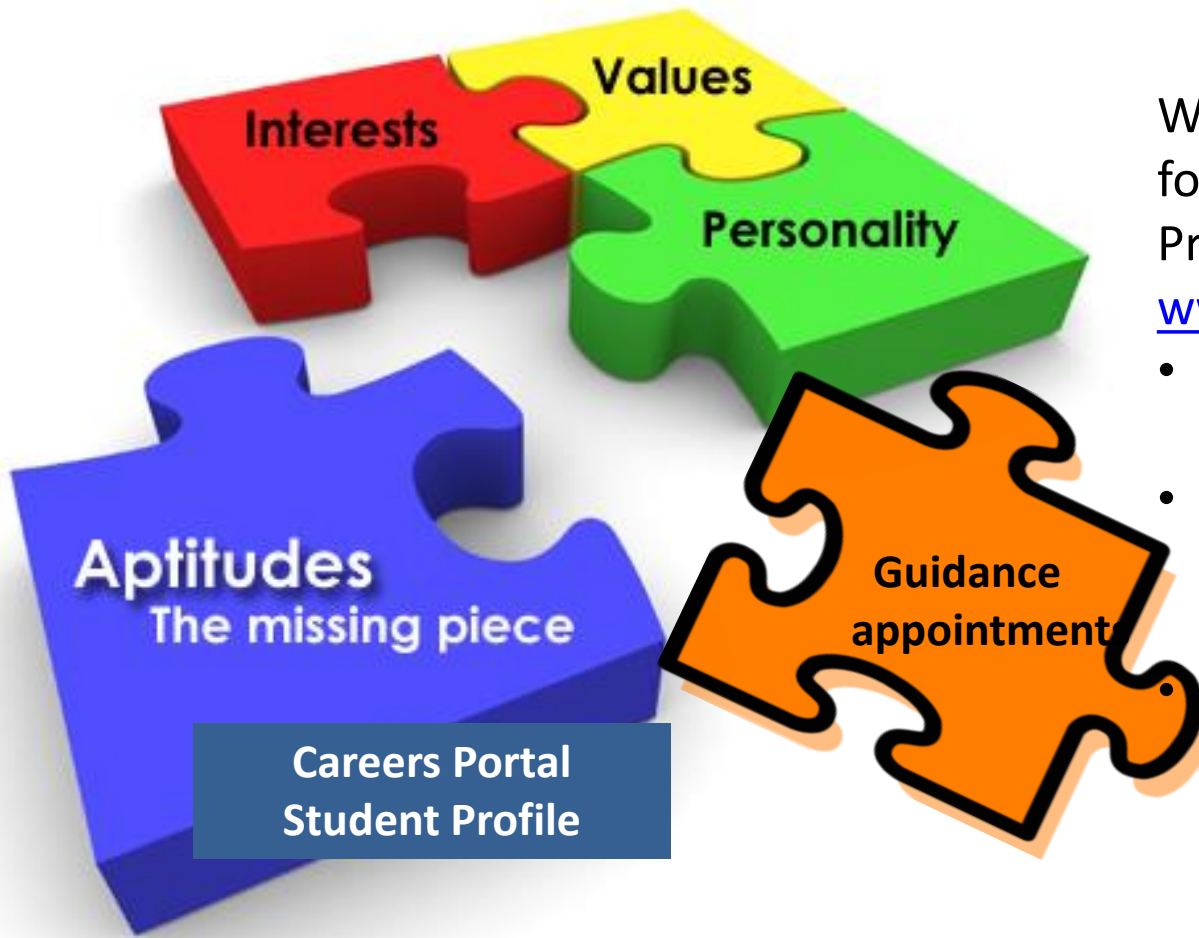
# Subject Selection Process

- Leaving Certificate Students for 2021-2023 are required to select **FOUR** Option Subjects in order of Priority
- Students should also select two additional subjects – 5 & 6, in case its not possible to accommodate one of the first four subjects.
- Students who are passionate about studying Physical Education as an exam subject, should ensure to select this as your first preference subject. Similarly students who require a third language should select French as part of your top four.
- Parents will receive a text message on 1<sup>st</sup> February to log into VSWare account to enter option subject choices. A further guide to entering options subjects on VSWare will issue with this text.

# How to Select Your Subject

1. **Research** your Career and further education interests
2. **Identify the Course and Entry Requirements**(CAO Points etc.) needed to gain qualification.
3. **Identify the Required Subjects** and level of achievement at Leaving Cert.
4. **Review each subject specification** including content and assessment requirements (e.g. projects/practical/oral/written exams) to determine if you will be interested and committed to studying this subject.

# Research – Your Journey to date



Weekly Guidance Lessons have focused on your Personal Profile on

[www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

- Interests, Values, Personality
- Using this information, you have begun to focus on careers that interest you.
- You have also begun to research what courses may help you to achieve the qualifications to pursue your future career interests

***Build on your experience and interests from Junior Cycle and/or Transition Year***

# Research – [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)


CareersPortal.ie

careersportal.ie


Home Join Log in

careersportal.ie COMMUNITIES EXPLORE MEDIA TOOLS SEARCH


## Select School




**School**  
I am a second level student researching my subjects, courses and career options




**Graduates**  
I am an undergraduate/graduate researching career opportunities




**Adult Learners**  
I want to return to education and explore options and supports available



**Job Seekers**  
I am interested in upskilling, changing career or finding a job



**Parents**  
I want to understand my child's educational and career options



**Guidance / Teaching Professionals**  
I want key tools and resources to support my guidance / teaching practice

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More info Accept

14:06 14/01/2021

# Research – [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

The screenshot shows the CareersPortal.ie website. The browser address bar displays 'careersportal.ie/school/index.php'. The page has a blue header with the 'careersportal.ie' logo and navigation links: 'COMMUNITIES', 'EXPLORE', 'MEDIA', and 'TOOLS'. A 'SEARCH' button is on the right. Below the header, a dark teal bar contains the word 'School' and three tabs: 'School', 'Starting your Career Path', and 'What's it like to be a ...'. The main content area is titled 'CareersPortal @ School' and includes a paragraph: 'CareersPortal provides all the tools you need to help you find and develop your career. We believe you deserve the best, and encourage you to spend time discovering what makes you different and unique, so you can build your own future. Here you will find links to our Junior Cycle, Transition Year and Leaving Certificate pages. Select the programme which is relevant to you and make use of the resources we have developed to guide you in exploring your future.' Below this are three columns: 'Junior Cycle' with a circular logo and text 'Start exploring some of the amazing careers that your Junior Cycle prepares you for. Learn how to study better and check out Subject Choices for Leaving Cert.', 'Transition Year' with a circular logo and text 'Get prepared for your Work Experience and discover the World of Work. Explore the skills you need for a successful career.', and 'Leaving Cert' with a harp logo and text 'Explore all your options after school, including CAO and PLC Courses. Improve your Study Skills to maximise your results.' The 'Leaving Cert' column is circled in red. At the bottom left is an 'EVENTS CALENDAR' link, and at the bottom right is a 'View All' button.

Home Join Login


careersportal.ie COMMUNITIES EXPLORE MEDIA TOOLS SEARCH

School Starting your Career Path What's it like to be a ...

### CareersPortal @ School


CareersPortal provides all the tools you need to help you find and develop your career. We believe you deserve the best, and encourage you to spend time discovering what makes you different and unique, so you can build your own future.

Here you will find links to our Junior Cycle, Transition Year and Leaving Certificate pages. Select the programme which is relevant to you and make use of the resources we have developed to guide you in exploring your future.




#### Junior Cycle

Start exploring some of the amazing careers that your Junior Cycle prepares you for. Learn how to study better and check out Subject Choices for Leaving Cert.



#### Transition Year

Get prepared for your Work Experience and discover the World of Work. Explore the skills you need for a successful career.



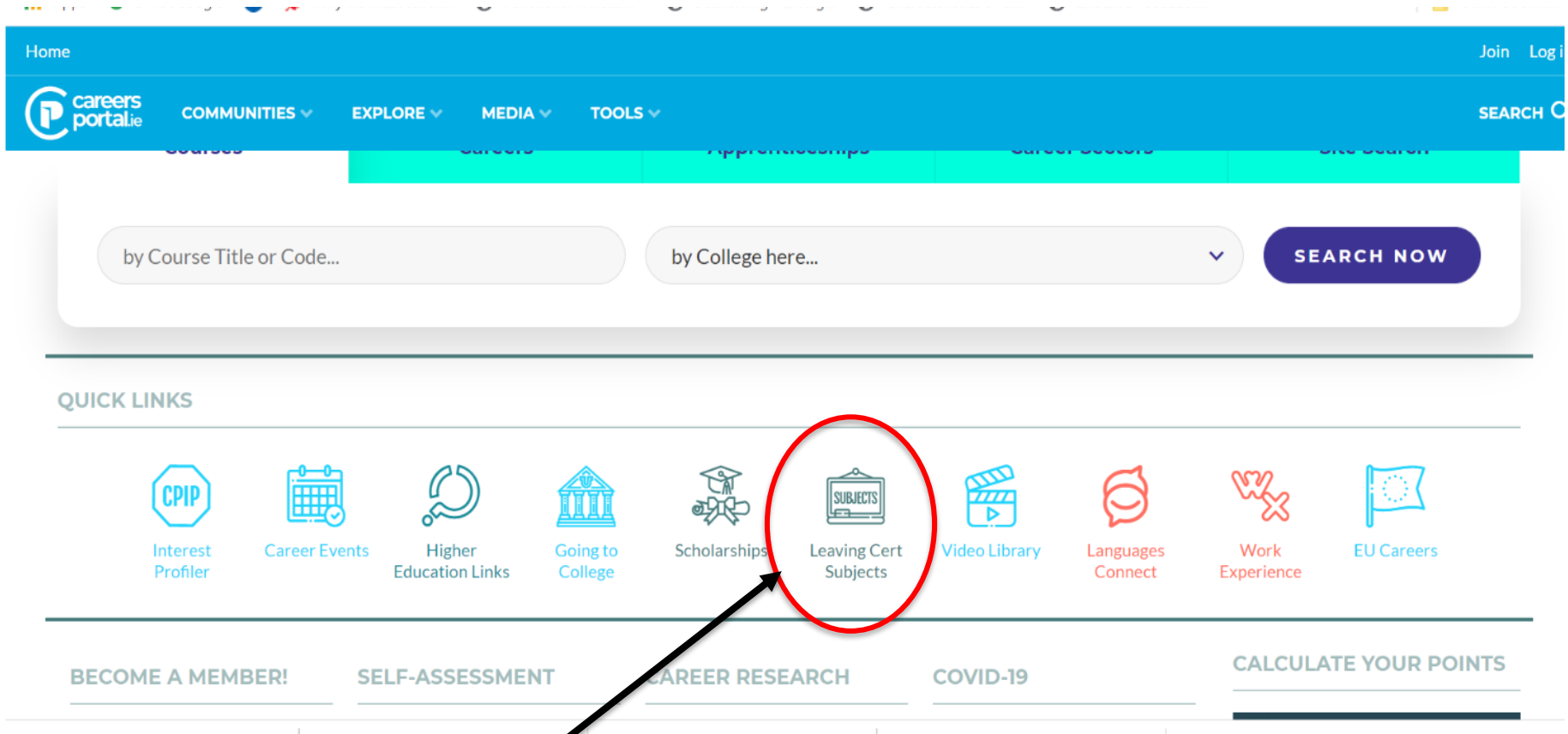
#### Leaving Cert

Explore all your options after school, including CAO and PLC Courses. Improve your Study Skills to maximise your results.

EVENTS CALENDAR View All

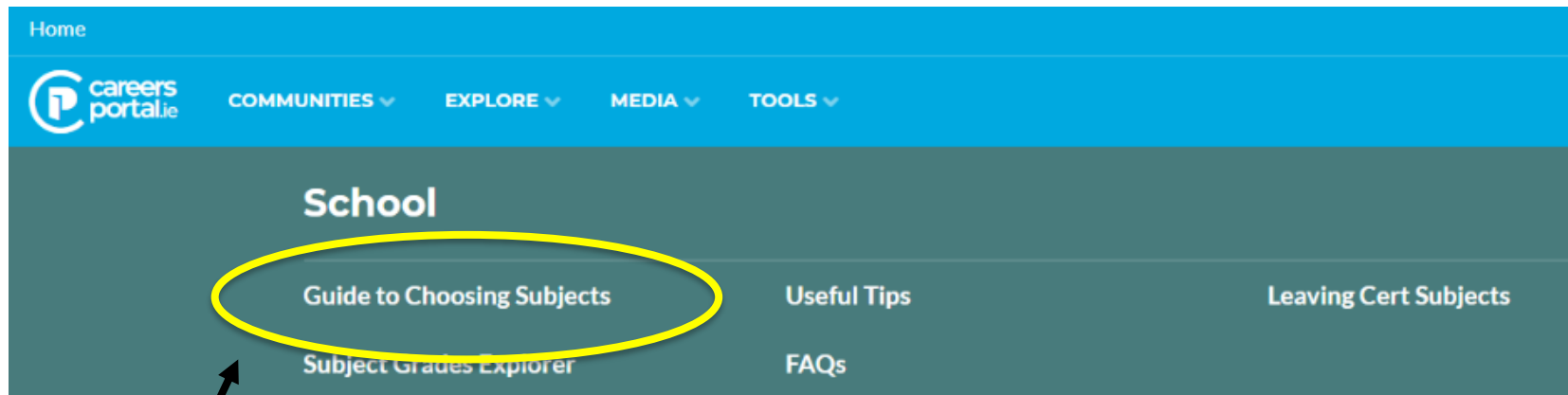
Select Leaving Cert

# Research – [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)



**Click on Leaving Cert Subjects**

# Research – [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)



Please ensure you read this Guide first.

## Leaving Cert Subjects

### Practical Group

These subjects are 'hands-on' and involve working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals and plastic. They may involve designing, planning and building things.

Construction Studies

Engineering

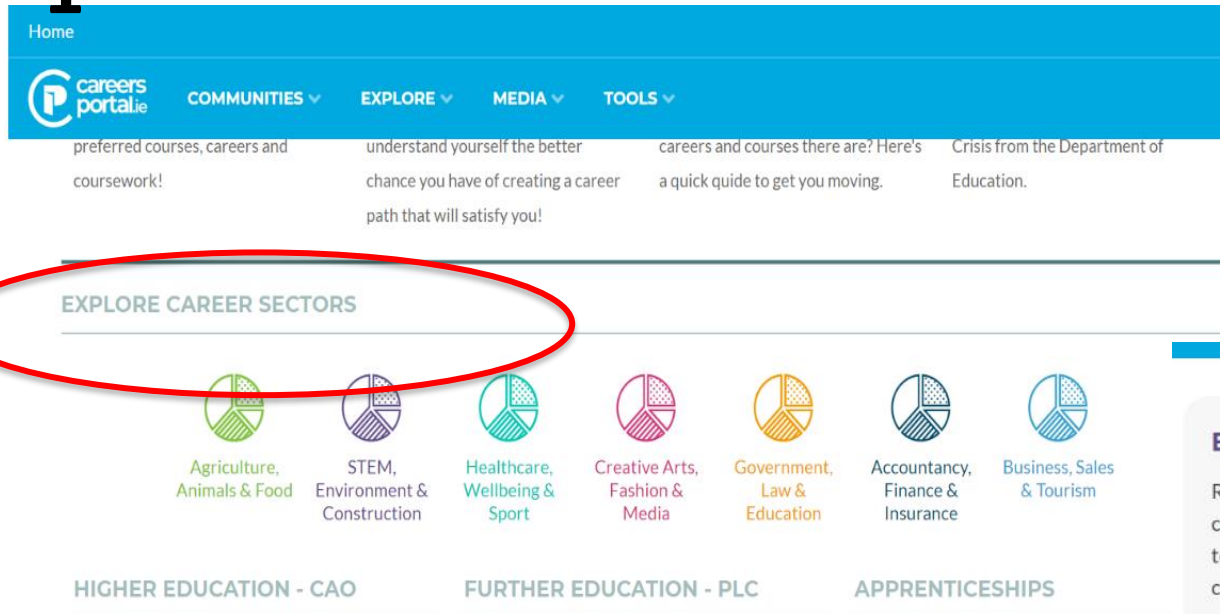
Design & Comm  
Graphics

Technology

Click on Guide to Choosing Subjects. This will give you good advice, particularly about courses that require a Third Language, Science subjects and HL Maths etc.

# Research Courses – [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

1



2



1. Explore a specific or general area of interest. Click on the Sector, scroll down and 2. read about each type of career in that sector and earning potential

# Research Courses – [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

The screenshot shows the CareersPortal.ie website. The main navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Join', 'Log in', and a search icon. Below this is a blue header with the 'careersportal.ie' logo and tabs for 'COMMUNITIES', 'EXPLORE', 'MEDIA', and 'TOOLS'. A dark green banner reads 'School'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Junior Cert', 'Transition year', and 'Leaving Cert'. The main content area features a search bar with 'Engineering' entered and a dropdown menu showing 'University College Cork - UCC'. A red oval highlights the search bar and the dropdown menu, with an arrow pointing to the 'Engineering' text. To the right of the search bar is a 'SEARCH NOW' button. Below the search bar is a 'QUICK LINKS' section with various icons and labels: CPiP Interest Profiler, Career Events, Higher Education Links, Going to College, Scholarships, Leaving Cert Subjects, Video Library, Languages Connect, Work Experience, and EU Careers.

Insert a specific or general area of interest – Select the college if you already know of an institution that offers a course in this area. If not, leave the college blank and search all of the institutions.

# Research Courses – [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

Home

careers portal.ie COMMUNITIES EXPLORE MEDIA TOOLS

Filter by: [Clear All](#)

**Course Name or Code** [clear](#)

Example: "ani" will find animal and mechanical.

☐ My favourites ★

**Course Type**

- ☐ PLC (Further Education)
- ☐ CAO (Higher Education)
- ☐ Direct Entry (Higher Education)
- ☐ Apprenticeship Courses
- ☐ Employment Courses
- ☐ Intellectual Disability Programmes

**Course Level**

- ☐ Level 9
- ☐ Level 8
- ☐ Level 7

Found 5 courses

Sort by **Course Title** [Print](#)

[Engineering](#) [University College Cork - UCC](#)

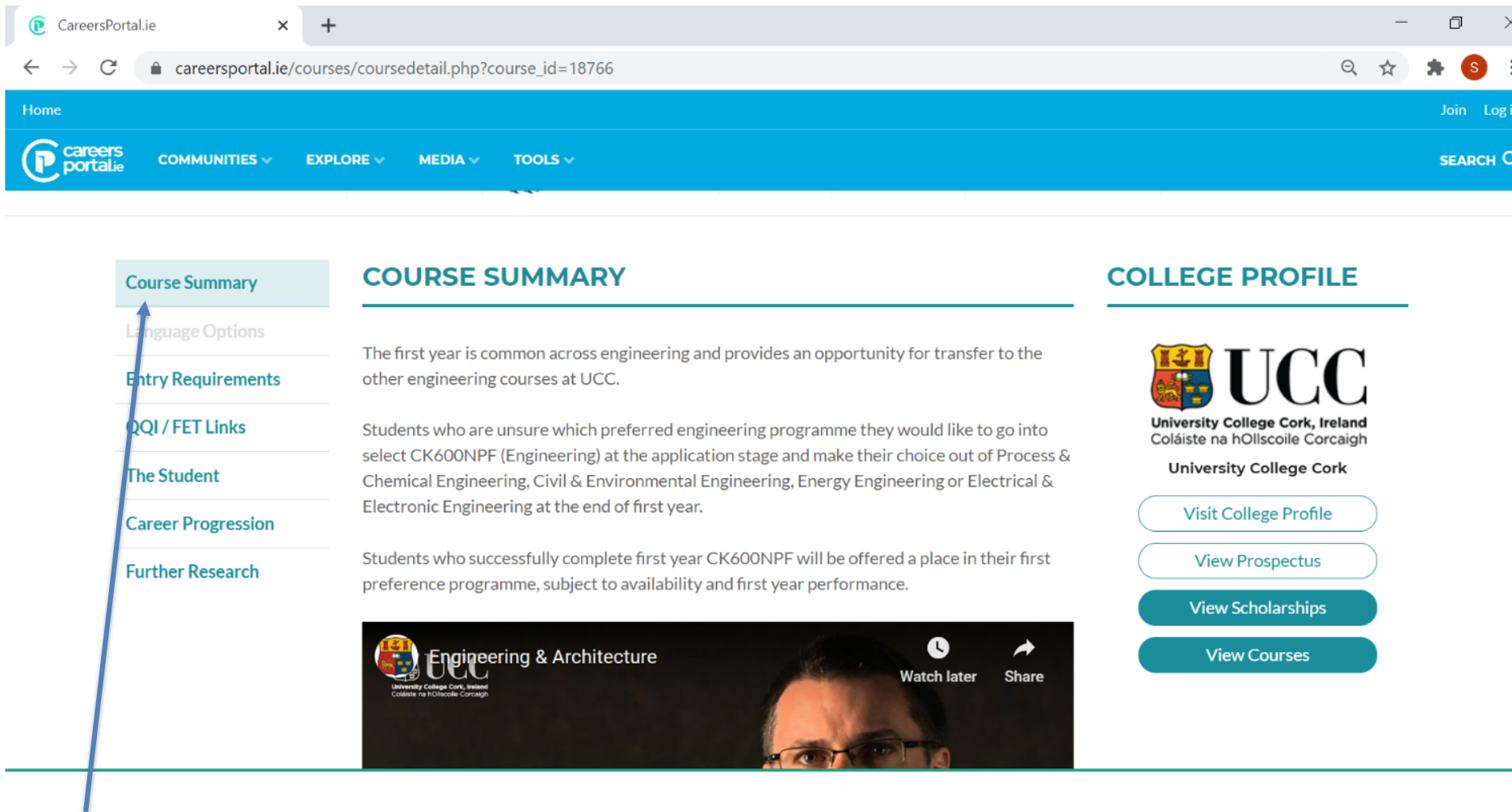
Code	Course Title	College	Level	Points 2020	QQI Link?	Years
★ CAO CK600 NPF	Engineering	University College Cork - UCC	8	487 ▲		4 Years ▼
★ CAO CK600 CSE	Engineering (Civil Structural & Environmental Engineering)	University College Cork - UCC	8	487 ▲		4 Years ▼
★ CAO CK600 EEE	Engineering (Electrical & Electronic Engineering)	University College Cork - UCC	8	487 ▲		4 Years ▼
★ CAO CK600 NRG	Engineering (Energy Engineering)	University College Cork - UCC	8	487 ▲		4 Years ▼
★ CAO CK600 PCP	Engineering (Process and Chemical Engineering)	University College Cork - UCC	8	487 ▲		4 Years ▼

These courses also have content that matches your search...

★ CAO CK401	Computer Science	University College Cork - UCC	8	468 ▲	<a href="#">Link</a>	4 Years ▼
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Courses are listed by Title, College, Qualification level, Entry CAO points etc.

# Research Courses – [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)



The screenshot shows the careersportal.ie website. The browser address bar displays the URL [careersportal.ie/courses/coursedetail.php?course\\_id=18766](http://careersportal.ie/courses/coursedetail.php?course_id=18766). The page features a blue header with the 'careersportal.ie' logo and navigation links: COMMUNITIES, EXPLORE, MEDIA, and TOOLS. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a sidebar with a list of tabs: Course Summary (highlighted with a blue arrow), Language Options, Entry Requirements, QQI / FET Links, The Student, Career Progression, and Further Research. The middle column, titled 'COURSE SUMMARY', contains text describing the first year of the engineering program and the transfer opportunities. The right column, titled 'COLLEGE PROFILE', features the UCC logo and name, followed by four buttons: Visit College Profile, View Prospectus, View Scholarships, and View Courses. At the bottom of the middle column is a video player for 'Engineering & Architecture' with 'Watch later' and 'Share' options.

Home

careersportal.ie

COMMUNITIES EXPLORE MEDIA TOOLS

SEARCH

Course Summary

Language Options

Entry Requirements

QQI / FET Links

The Student

Career Progression

Further Research


## COURSE SUMMARY

The first year is common across engineering and provides an opportunity for transfer to the other engineering courses at UCC.

Students who are unsure which preferred engineering programme they would like to go into select CK600NPF (Engineering) at the application stage and make their choice out of Process & Chemical Engineering, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Energy Engineering or Electrical & Electronic Engineering at the end of first year.

Students who successfully complete first year CK600NPF will be offered a place in their first preference programme, subject to availability and first year performance.

## COLLEGE PROFILE

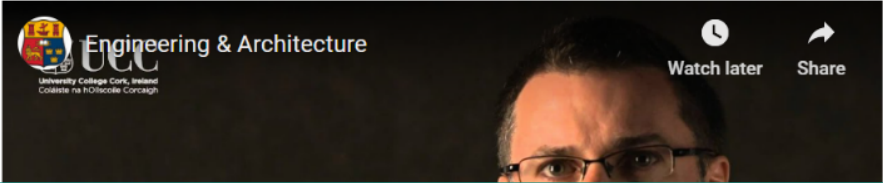
 **UCC**  
University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh  
University College Cork

Visit College Profile

View Prospectus

View Scholarships

View Courses

 Engineering & Architecture  
University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh  
Watch later Share

By clicking on the course, you can review a series of options such as a brief summary of the course.

# Research Entry Requirements

[www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

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Course Summary

Language Options

Entry Requirements

QQI / FET Links

The Student

Career Progression

Further Research

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Points History

487

Minimum Subjects

2 H5 & 4 O6/H7

✓ O6/H7 IN English


✓ O6/H7 IN Irish

✓ H4 IN Maths OR A ✓ H6 IN Maths

AND A ✓ H4 IN Applied Maths

✓ H4 IN Agricultural Science OR Biology OR Chemistry OR Physics  
OR Physics/Chemistry OR Technology

## COLLEGE PROFILE

 **UCC**  
University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh  
University College Cork

Visit College Profile

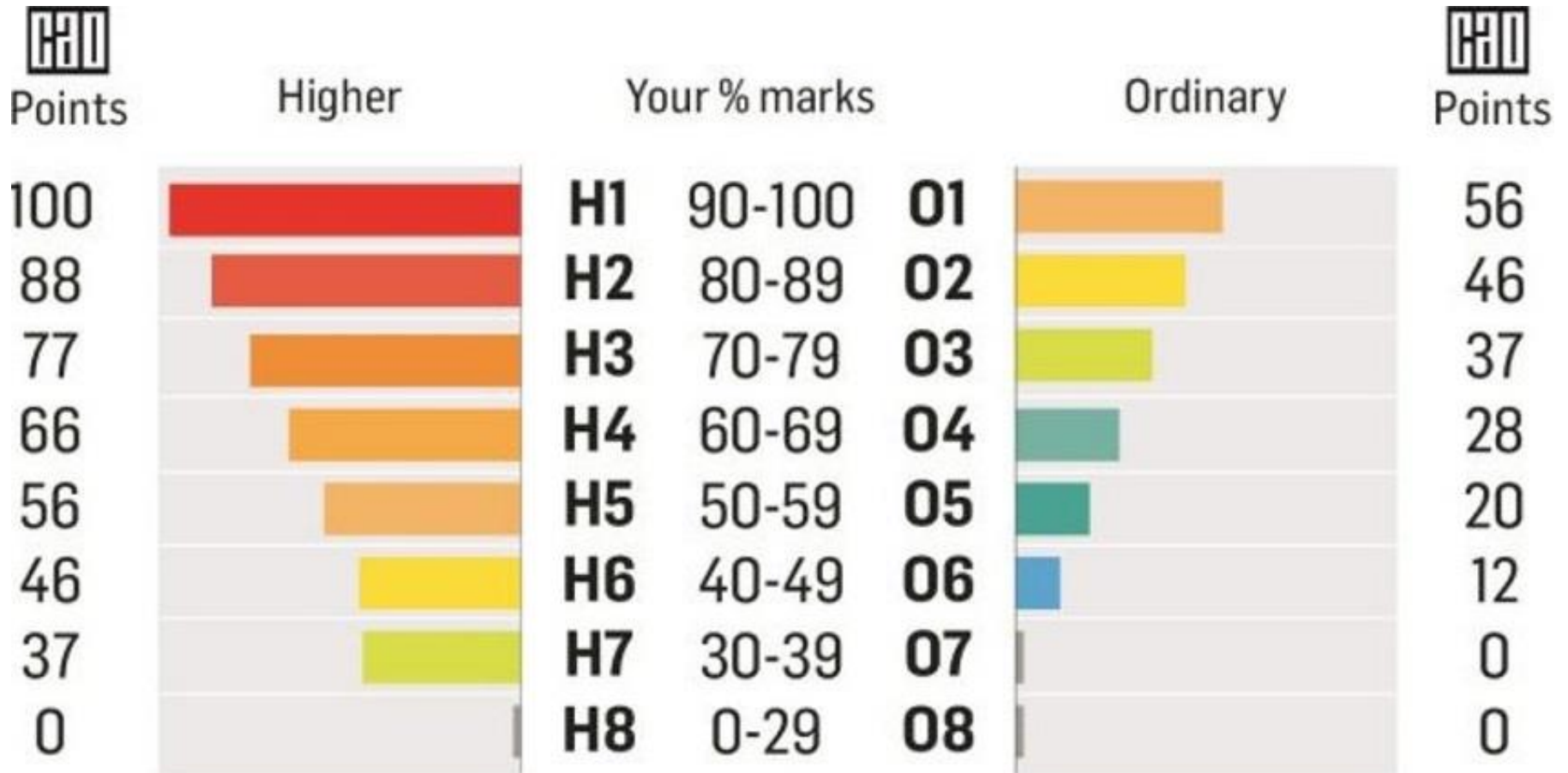
View Prospectus

View Scholarships

View Courses

The Entry Requirements will **identify the CAO points required and specific subjects required** for entry to the course. You should make a note of these subjects and the achievement required – **particularly for Option Subjects.**

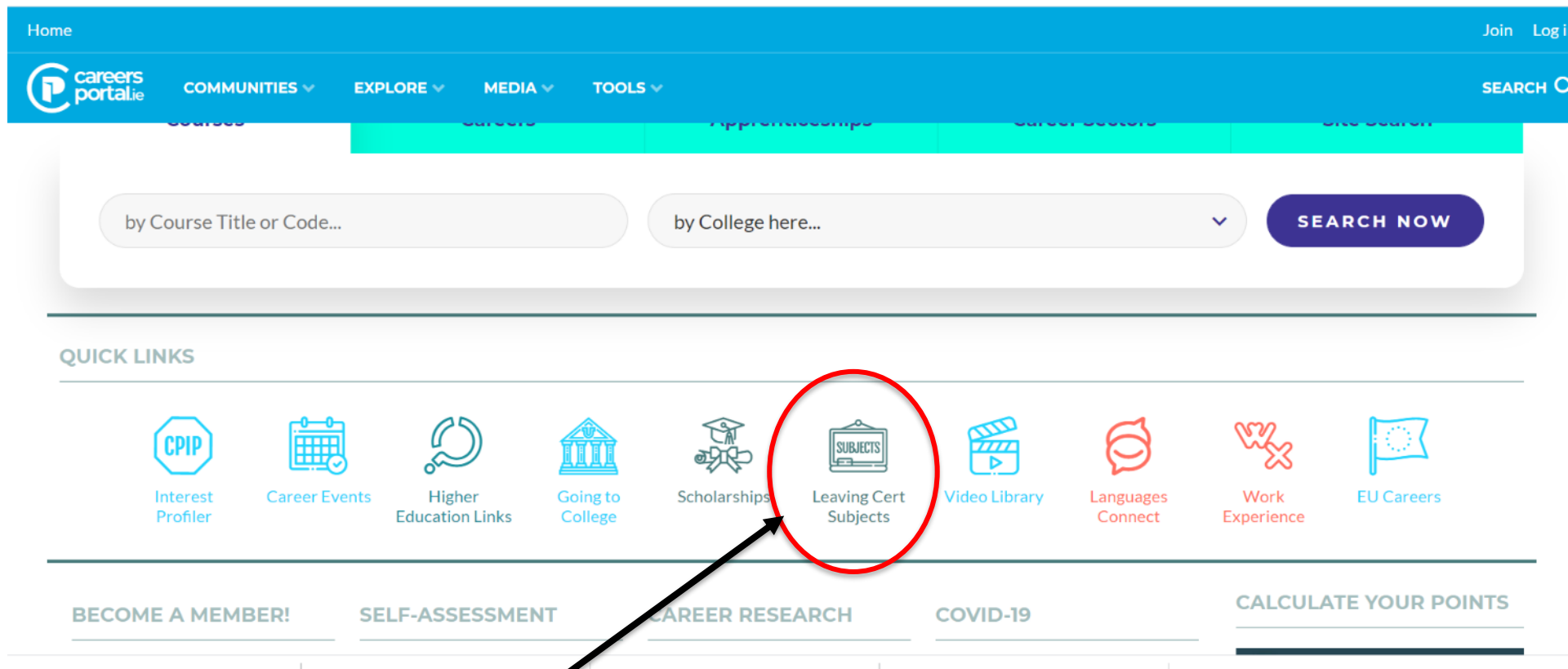
# CAO Points System



**+25** Bonus points for H1-H6 maths

# Review Subjects Specifications

[www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)



**Click on Leaving Cert Subjects**

# Review Subjects Specifications

[www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

## Leaving Cert Subjects

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### Practical Group

These subjects are 'hands-on' and involve working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals and plastic. They may involve designing, planning and building things.

Construction Studies

Engineering

Design & Comm  
Graphics

Technology

Scroll down and review each of the Option Subjects that Interest You.

### Science Group

These subjects demonstrate how to explore nature using carefully planned methods, and teach the basic methods and findings of scientific investigation.

Agricultural Science

Applied Maths

Biology

Chemistry

Mathematics

Physics

Physics and Chemistry

Computer Science

# Review Subjects Specifications

[www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)

Subject Choice  
Leaving Certificate  
**French**

Career Zone

1 2 3 4 5



NFQ Level

4

Duration

2 Years

Summary

Grades Awarded

Course Overview

Course Content

Exam Structure

Career Possibilities

3rd Level Requirements

## Course Content

Course content for higher and ordinary levels is similar. However, oral and written skills are particularly important at higher level. A grade 'C' at higher level in the Junior Certificate is usually a minimum requirement for higher level French at Leaving Certificate.

Modern languages require students to be proficient in the following skills:

Oral/Speaking  
Written  
Aural/Listening  
Reading

**Use the Navigation Pane on the left hand side to review the course content, exam structure, career possibilities etc.**

# Factors to consider

- If you're unsure where your interests lie, select a broad range of subjects. For Example
  - One **Language**, One **Finance** Subject, One **Science**  
and
  - One from **Art/Music**, **Humanities & Social Science** or **Practical** subject.
- All option subjects carry the **SAME CAO POINTS**
- Try to **BUILD ON SKILLS** learned at Junior Certificate
- **LIKING** a subject, and being **GOOD** at it
- Long-term – for Third Level / Career

# Progression from Post-Primary School

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Level College
- Post-Leaving Certificate College
- Solas – Skill-based training/Apprenticeship
- Specific Job-Related Training – e.g. An Garda Siochana, Teagasc.
- World of Work



## **The Higher Education Access Route**

(HEAR) is a college and university admissions scheme which offers places at reduced points and extra college supports to school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds who are resident in the Republic of Ireland.



## **The Disability Access Route to Education**

(DARE) is a college and university admissions scheme which offers places at reduced points to school leavers who as a result of having a disability have experienced additional educational challenges in second level education.

**You can apply to both the HEAR and the DARE schemes if they are relevant to you.**

[\*\*www.accesscollege.ie\*\*](http://www.accesscollege.ie)

# Finally...Please Remember

The importance of picking subjects you **ENJOY**,  
**ARE GOOD AT**, and **WILL SPEND TIME** getting  
better at.

65% of today's  
school **kids** will end  
up doing **jobs** that  
haven't even been  
invented yet.

Alexis Ringwald  
Co-founder and CEO  
LearnUp



# Next Steps

- **18 – 31 January**
  - Complete your Research
  - Online Guidance Classes for TY Groups & 3<sup>rd</sup> Years Progressing directly to 5<sup>th</sup> Year.
- **1 February** - Text sent to Parents to complete Options Selection process
- **5 February** - Final date for inputting Option Subject Preferences