

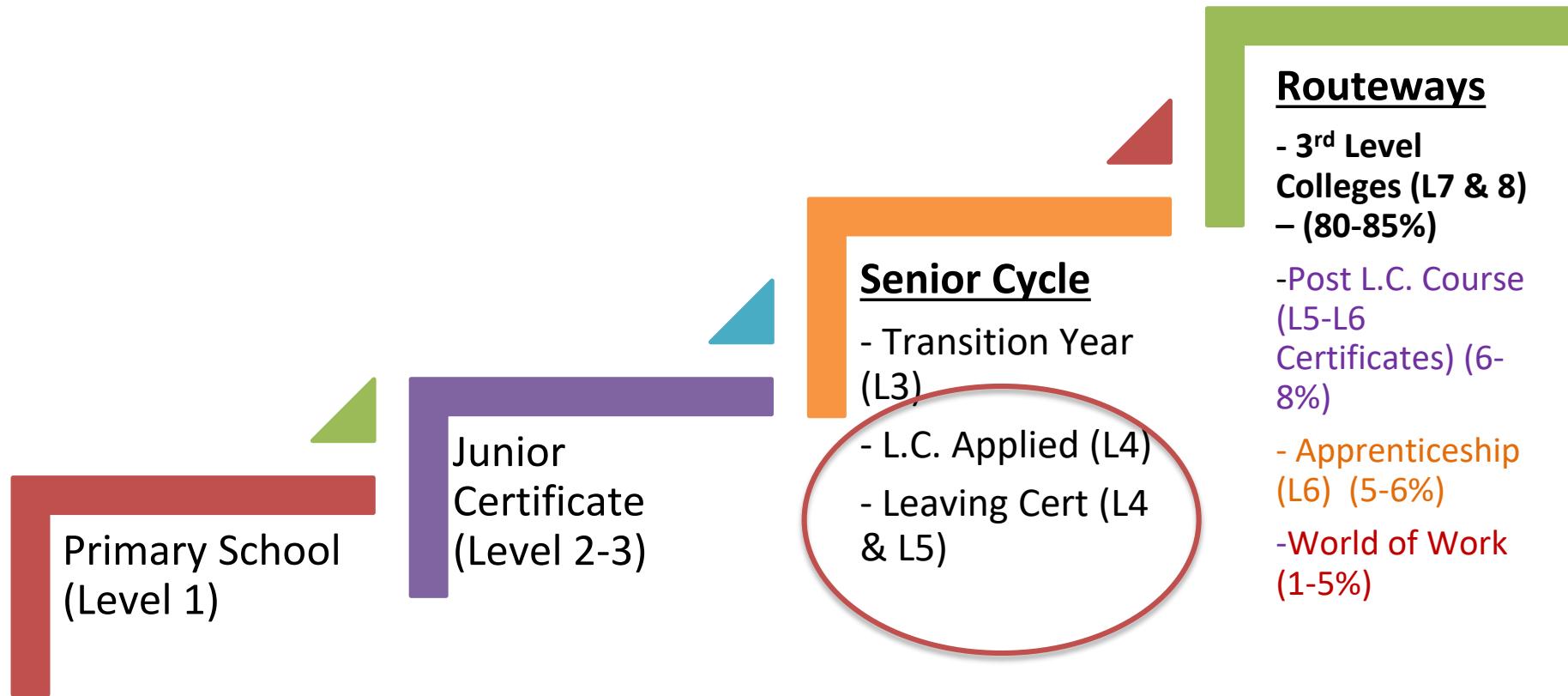


Leaving Certificate Subject Options

Glanmire Community College

2026-2028

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 3rd level qualifications

Leaving Certificate Examination Subjects

- Students will study **7 examination subjects** at Leaving Certificate.
- This will be made up of
 - **3 Core Subjects**
 - **4 Optional Subjects**

The purpose of this presentation is to help you to make informed option subject choices

New Subject offered in GCC since September 2025

Drama, Film and Theatre Studies

Students will explore and experience the world of drama, film and theatre; how it can inform their own work and their creative and critical choices, helping them become more aware of their own place in a wider society.

Assessment component	Weighting	Level
Drama, Film and Theatre Studies Creativity in Practice Project	50% Project	Common Brief
Written examination	50% Exam	Higher and Ordinary level

Changes to Senior Cycle Subjects

September 2025 and September 2026

September 2025	September 2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Biology● Chemistry● Physics● Business● Drama and Film Studies (New)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Construction Studies● Engineering● Geography● Physical Education (PE)

Subjects now have an AAC
(Additional Assessment Component)
worth a minimum of 40%

Curricular Provision – Leaving Certificate

4 X Core
(Non-
Exam)

- Senior Cycle Physical Education (SCPE)
- Religious Education/Ethics
- Guidance
- SPHE

3 X Core
Subjects
(Exam)

- Irish
- English
- Maths

4 X
Option
Subjects

Choose
Any 4

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

Third/Other Language Requirement

Colleges set **minimum entry requirements** for L8 and L6/7 courses.

National University of Ireland (eg UCC)

L8 requirements:

- Two H5's, plus four O6 or H7's
- Passes in English, Irish, Maths and **Third/Other Language.**

[Exceptions for Third/Other Language: Engineering, Science, Food Science, Nursing]

Requirements

Leaving Certificate entry requirements:

At Least six subjects must be presented. Minimum grade H5 in two subjects and minimum grade O6/H7 in four other subjects. English and Irish are requirements for all programmes [unless the applicant is exempt from Irish](#). Applicants will need to meet the following minimum entry requirements:

English	Irish	Maths	Other Language
O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7

Other Languages Examined

**Note you must register for an alternative language to French in your 6th year.
Before making a decision inform your guidance counsellor.**

You must:

- Be able to speak and write in that language
- Be taking Leaving Certificate English

Can only take one non-curricular EU language

**Languages Examined with Oral,
Aural and Written that follow a
curriculum:**

- **French offered in GCC**
- Spanish
- German
- Italian
- Portuguese
- Polish
- Lithuanian
- Mandarin Chinese
- Arabic
- Japanese
- Russian

**Non-Curricular examined with Written
paper only:**

These are languages do not appear as
part of the normal school curriculum

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- Estonian
- Finnish
- Hungarian
- Latvian
- Maltese

CAO-Specific Entry Requirements

Often there is a **specific subject (or subjects) and grade requirements**.

It is **independent** of the points required for the course

For example:

- A student achieved 625 points. They studied Biology and Physics but **not Chemistry**. Despite their excellent results, they **will not be offered** Pharmacy because Chemistry is a **mandatory subject** for that course.

Some Other Common Examples of mandatory subjects/ grade requirements:

- (UCC) Engineering- **H4 Maths, O6/H7 Lab Science**
- (UCD)Veterinary Medicine- **H5 Chemistry**
- (UCC) Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy- **H4 in Chemistry and Biology/Physics**
- Primary Teaching- **H4 in Irish, 04/H7 in Maths, 04/H7 in English**

Subject Selection Process

- Leaving Certificate Students for September 2026 are required to select **4 Option Subjects** in order of priority.
- Students should **also** select **two additional subjects** – 5 and 6, in case its not possible to accommodate one of the first four subjects.
- It is important to note you could be given your 5 or 6 subject choice.
- Parents will receive a text message 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. **Review each subject specification:**

-content

-assessment requirements

(e.g. projects/practical/oral/written exams)

Ask yourself if you will be interested and committed to studying this subject?

1. **Research** your career and further education interests

1. **Identify the Course and Entry Requirements** (CAO Points etc.) needed to gain qualification.

1. **Identify the Required Subjects** and level of achievement at Leaving Cert (Higher/Ordinary grades)

Research www.careersportal.ie

Career Guidance tools for all



Join
to create a
Career Profile



Discover
your Career
Interests



Match
your Interests to
Careers & Courses

START HERE!

MORE INFO

Courses

Careers

Apprenticeships

Jobs

Career Sectors

Site Search

by Course Title or Code...

by College here...

SEARCH COURSES



School

I am a second level student re-searching my subjects, courses and career options



Graduates

I am an undergraduate / gradu-ate researching career opportunities



Adult Learners

I want to return to education and explore options and sup-ports available



Interested in the
Reach programme
for Junior and/or
Senior Cycle?



Select School

Research www.careersportal.ie

Home Join Log in

CAREERS PORTAL COMMUNITIES EXPLORE MEDIA TOOLS SEARCH

School

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.

Select Leaving Cert

Research www.careersportal.ie

Home Join Log in

 CAREERS PORTAL IE COMMUNITIES EXPLORE MEDIA TOOLS SEARCH C

Courses Careers Apprenticeships Career Sector

by Course Title or Code... by College here... SEARCH NOW

QUICK LINKS

 Interest Profiler  Career Events  Higher Education Links  Going to College  Scholarships  Leaving Cert Subjects  Video Library  Languages Connect  Work Experience  EU Careers

BECOME A MEMBER! SELF-ASSESSMENT CAREER RESEARCH COVID-19 CALCULATE YOUR POINTS

Click on Leaving Cert Subjects

Research www.careersportal.ie

Please ensure you read this guide first

School

Guide to Choosing Subjects

Subject Grades Explorer

Useful Tips

FAQs

Leaving Cert Subjects

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

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 www.careersportal.ie

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

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

Research www.careersportal.ie

Choose a subject

Example:

Subject Choice
Leaving Certificate
French

Career Zone

1 2 3 4 5



NFQ Level



Duration

2 Years

Summary

Grades Awarded

Course Overview

Course Content

Exam Structure

Career Possibilities

3rd Level Requirements

Course Content

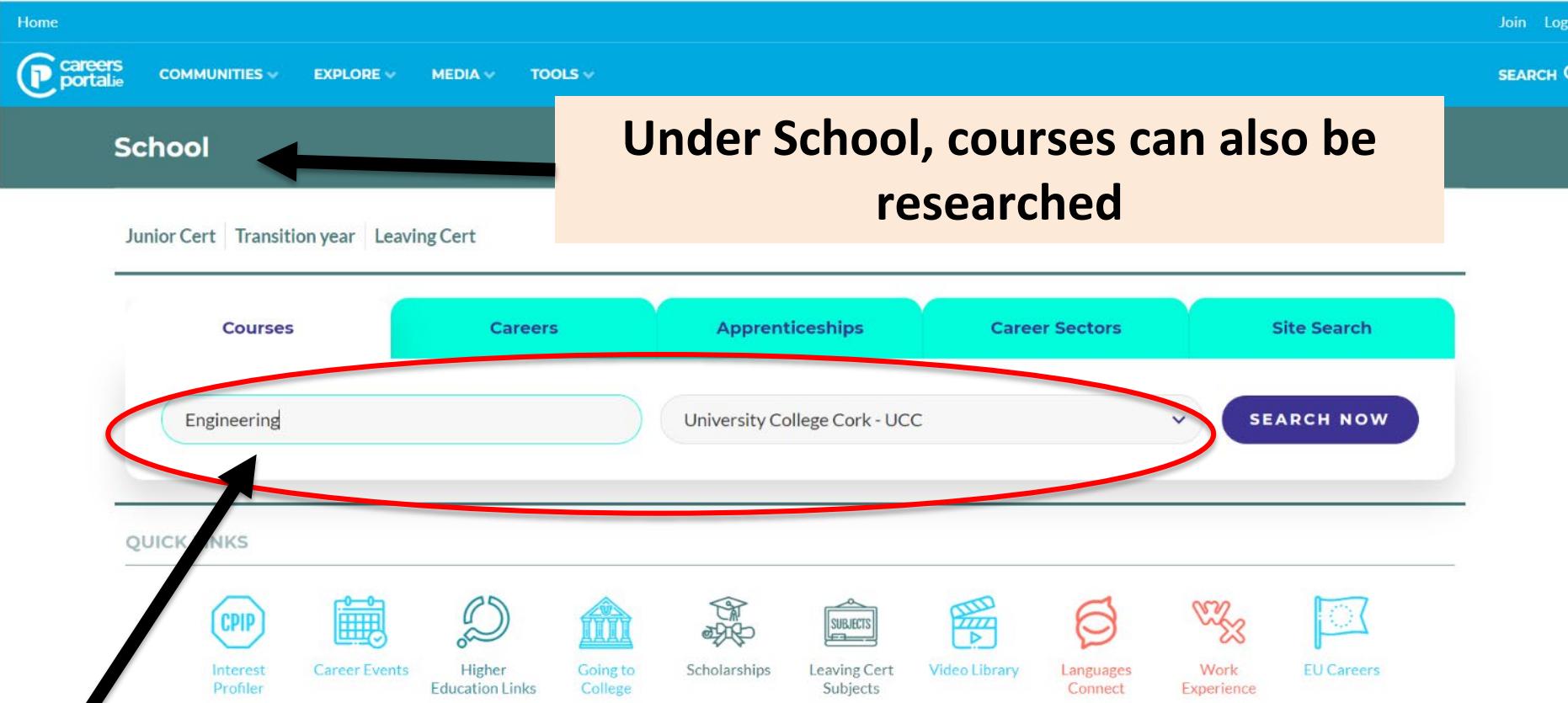
Course content for higher and ordinary levels is similar. However, oral and written skills are particularly important at higher level. A grade 'C' at higher level in the Junior Certificate is usually a minimum requirement for higher level French at Leaving Certificate.

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

Oral/Speaking
Written
Aural/Listening
Reading

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

Research www.careersportal.ie



The screenshot shows the homepage of careersportal.ie. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, JOIN, and LOGIN. The main menu includes CAREERS PORTAL, COMMUNITIES, EXPLORE, MEDIA, and TOOLS. Below the menu, a large banner on the right side of the header area contains the text "Under School, courses can also be researched". The main content area features a search bar with a red oval highlighting the search input field, which contains the text "Engineering". To the right of the input field is a dropdown menu showing "University College Cork - UCC" and a "SEARCH NOW" button. Below the search bar, there is a "QUICK LINKS" section with ten icons and their corresponding 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 www.careersportal.ie

Home Join Log in

careers portal.ie COMMUNITIES EXPLORE MEDIA TOOLS SEARCH C

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.

Engineering & Architecture

University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

University College Cork

Visit College Profile

View Prospectus

View Scholarships

View Courses

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

Research www.careersportal.ie

careers portal.ie

COMMUNITIES ▾ EXPLORE ▾ MEDIA ▾ TOOLS ▾

SEARCH ▾

Course Summary

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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 ORA ✓ H6 IN Maths

ANDA ✓ 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.

Summary: Factors to consider

If you're unsure where your interests lie, select a broad range of subjects.

For Example:

1 Language, 1 Finance Subject, 1 Science

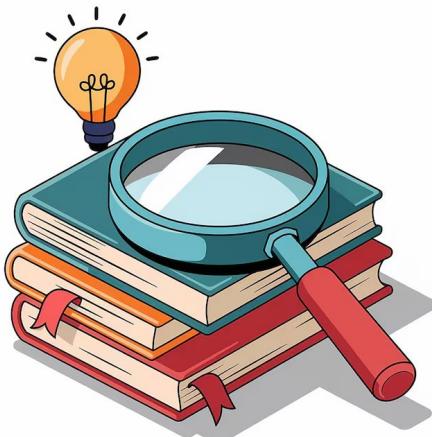
and

1 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
- Try and pick a subject you **enjoy**
- Try to think **long-term** for third level options/career

To do....

- Complete your Research
- Guidance Classes for TY Groups and
3rd Years Progressing directly to 5th Year



Google Classroom

Next Steps

- Text will be sent to Parents to complete the Options Selection process on your VSWare account.
- **Friday 19th December**- Final date for inputting Option Subject Preferences

				
Attendance Monitor your student's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson. Learn More →	Assessment View your student's full academic record, track progress over time and download term assessments. Learn More →	Behaviour Keep track of your student's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback. Learn More →	Timetable View your student's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time. Learn More →	Personal Info Overview of your student's key info. Ensure that this is up to date. Learn More →
		Student Options Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the school. Learn More →		
Fees Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card online. Learn More →				