

Presentation Secondary School

Milltown, Co. Kerry

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Welcome to

Subject Choices

for

Second Year

2020-21

Compulsory Subjects

English
Maths
Irish
Religious Education
Science
P.E.
S.P.H.E.
C.S.P.E
Wellbeing

Option Subjects

Business
History
Geography
Home Economics
Technical Graphics
Art
Music
Woodwork
French
German
Spanish

*Students choose 4 subjects
from those they are
currently studying*

Option Subjects – Choose

4

First years have already made choices within the option subjects:

1. They have chosen 1 of the 3 languages

2. They have chosen 2 from

Home Economics

Technical Graphics

Art

Music

Woodwork

3. All first years continue to study

Business

History

Geography

4. So now they must choose 4 from 6 subjects: language, 2 practical's, History, Geography and Business – in other words, they are simply dropping 2 subjects.

French

German

Spanish

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Home Economics

Technical Graphics

Art

Music

Woodwork

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Business

History

Geography

Theory Versus Practical



- In the presentation we carefully distinguish between the practical element of a subject and the theory or learning or examination paper:

The reason we do this is because we believe the balance of theory and practical subjects suit most students as it balances the brain, it allows movement in class during the day and it reduces the learning load during the week and before exams.

- In Leaving Certificate students often choose a practical subject to relieve the learning pressure and allow them gain maximum CAO points.
- However, some students love memorising and they do not like practical and they may choose more theory based subjects.

Business

Assessment

Junior Cycle: 10% Assessment Task + (2 CBA's)

90% Examination Paper

Leaving Certificate: 100% Examination Paper

- Business divides into 3 subjects at Leaving Certificate
 1. Accounting
 2. Business
 3. Economics
- Book keeping is part of Junior Cycle Business and this leads on to Leaving Certificate Accounting. It's more difficult, albeit allowable, to choose Accounting without prior study of Business.
- Business is not required for entry to all but one course at third level, including Business, Accounting or Economic courses. Higher Maths is more likely to be required for entry.

*Students can study Accounting, Business and Economics at Leaving Certificate without studying Business for Junior Cycle.
Economics is a new subject in Leaving Certificate*

History

Assessment

Junior Cycle:	10 %	Assessment Task + (2 CBA's)
	90%	Examination Paper
Leaving Certificate:	20%	Research Study
		<i>~ Topic of Students' Choice (submitted before exam)</i>
	80%	Examination Paper

Students can study History at Leaving Certificate without studying it for Junior Cycle

Geography

Assessment

Junior Cycle: 10 % Assessment Task + (2 CBA's)

90% Examination Paper

Leaving Certificate: 20% Geographical Investigation Report
~ *Field Trip*

80% Examination Paper

Students can study Geography at Leaving Certificate without studying it for Junior Cycle

Home Economics

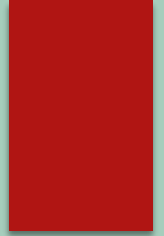
Assessment

Junior Cycle	50% practical/CBA 50% theory
Leaving Certificate	20% practical 80% theory

- Home Economics Teaching @ St. Angelas' College, Sligo (*Science will also be accepted*)

Students can study Home Economics at Leaving Certificate without studying it for Junior Cycle

Art



Assessment

Junior Cycle: 100% Practical/CBA
Leaving Certificate: 60% practical
40% theory – History of Art

An **Art Portfolio** but **NOT** the subject **Art** is required for particular courses at Third Level. They include:

- Art & Design Courses
- Computer Graphic Design Courses
- Architecture in two colleges (UL & Technological University Dublin TU)
- Interior Design @Technological University Dublin (TU)
- Photography @TU and Dun Laoghaire(DLIADT)

Music

Assessment

Junior Cycle

30% Practical + 10 % Assessment Task
60% Examination Paper

Leaving Certificate

Practical 50%
Theory 50%

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For entrance to music based courses at Third level both a written entrance examination and a performance may apply but NOT the study of Music as a subject.

WoodWork (Construction St.)

Assessment

Junior Cycle: 50% Practical

Leaving Certificate: 40% Practical

Required for

- Furniture Design Courses at Letterfrack Galway-Mayo IT.
- Construction Teaching @ GMIT

(Only 1 of Construction Studies or DCG required)

Technical Graphics

(Design Communication Graphics)

Assessment

Junior Certificate	100% Drawings (Exam)
Leaving Certificate	40% Practical 60% Drawings (Exam)

Students should be mathematical/logical.

Required for entry to Furniture making @ GMIT
Construction Teaching @ GMIT

(Only 1 of Construction Studies or DCG required)

Some Common Myths

The following are unhelpful myths and, therefore, they are not true:

✚ I need Technical Graphics/Construction to be an Engineer or Architect

Art Portfolio is required for some Architecture course
Higher Maths + Science is more likely to be required for Engineering

✚ I need Home Economics to study Childcare or Nursing

A science subject is required for entry to Nursing

✚ I can't do Business at college if I don't have a Business subject.

Higher Maths is required for entry to some Finance Courses

The above are NOT TRUE

How do I choose?

- ▶ There are 2 key factors in choosing subjects:
 1. Choose your 4 favourite subjects: these are not your parent's or sibling's or friend's choice – a student's favourite can only be chosen by the student.

The only recommendation we suggest is to think carefully about the continental language as it is required for entry to 4 Universities in Ireland (University College Cork, University College Dublin, Galway University, Maynooth University) for some courses.

2. Examine your results? However, beware that First year results are not standardised so fluctuations do occur in results.

The DO NOTS of Choosing

- ▶ Do not follow a friend - they may be in a different option class next year and you won't be with them anyway.
- ▶ Listen to what siblings, cousins or parents say but they are NOT you so walk away and think about you in the class: do you like it? Is it one of your best results?
- ▶ Sometimes students choose subjects because it is important in their family: for example, "my father loves History and we watch documentaries and I think History is important" but if it is not your interest you should not choose the subject.
- ▶ No subject is more important than the other – Yes, Business is important in life but you can do Start Your Own Business Course or do Business in Leaving Cert or you may not be a "Business type". Yes, Home Economics is probably the most relevant subject in our lives but, like Business, we can learn it at other times in our life or in different ways.

Option Subjects – Choose

4

- ▶ Business
- ▶ History
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ Home Economics
- ▶ Technical Graphics
- ▶ Art
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Woodwork
- ▶ French
- ▶ German
- ▶ Spanish



Thank You

If you have any questions you are welcome to contact me, Kathleen Stack, through email.