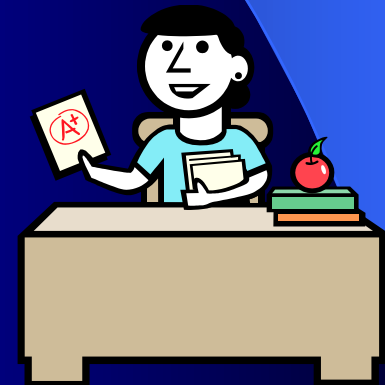


St Columba's College

**Subject Choice
2024**

**Eithne Sproule
Catherine McNulty
Guidance Counsellors**



The Future

- Work
- College
- Apprenticeships
- Post Leaving Cert Courses
- Travel
- Training Courses
- The Future Starts Now

The Traditional Leaving Cert

Students take 7 subjects as follows:

English

Irish 3 core subjects

Maths

+ 4 more subjects of choice

(If you have an Irish exemption from JC, this carries forward)

Subjects on offer at St. Columba's

French

German

Spanish

Business

Accounting

Economics

Biology

Chemistry

Physics

Agricultural Science

Computer Science

Applied Maths

Home Economics

Geography

History

Art

Music

DCG

Construction Studies

Engineering

LC Physical Education

Warning

- Although it is hoped that all subjects will be offered, if there are insufficient numbers or not enough resources from the DES, this could mean that a subject may not run next year.

The Process

- Step 1

Students will select 6 subjects in **order of preference** from 1-6 (1-4 being their preference for September with two back-ups)

It is therefore of vital importance that students do their research and put time and effort into making these choices.

- Step 2

This data is inputted into a computer program which will decide on the subject groupings for next year

Note:

Where a student is not successful in being allocated their top 4 subjects, we will discuss the options on an individual basis



Sample Groupings

Group 1:Sp/Bio/Chem/DCG/Bus/Comp Sc/PE

Group 2:Fr/Geog/Hist/Bio/Acc/Econ/Ag Sci

Group 3:Art/Phy/Bio/Mus/Eng/PE/Geog

Group 4:Ger/Sp/Geog/Chem/HE/Const/Bio

Timetable

- When students return into 5th year they will be doing English, Irish* and Maths as well as the four subjects they chose.
- They will also do:
 - PE
 - GUIDANCE
 - ICT/LCVP
 - SPHE (RSE)
 - RE

Important Considerations

- A 3rd Language?
- A Science Subject? Or 2/3?
- Course specific Entry Requirements?
- My Aptitudes
- My Challenges

A modern continental language



French



German



Spanish

French/ German / Spanish

- ▶ A modern language (French/ German / Spanish) is **essential** to gain entry to a number of courses in the **NUI Colleges** (UCD, UCC, UG, RCSI, Maynooth University) eg: Arts, Commerce, Law, Psychology, Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry, Allied healthcare courses (OT, SLT, Physio etc)
- ▶ This represents approximately 11% of all courses available through the CAO
- ▶ A 3rd language is also a requirement for a Cadetship in the Army, Navy or Air Corps

What can I do without a modern language?

A Modern language is **NOT** required to study:

- ✓ Nursing, Engineering, Agriculture and Science at the NUI Colleges
- ✓ Business & Law courses at Maynooth University
- ✓ In DCU, Trinity College Dublin, University of Limerick (unless it is specifically required for a language course)
- ✓ In the Technological Universities (eg ATU, TUS etc)
- ✓ In the Institutes of Technology (eg DkIT)
- ✓ Non-language courses in the UK including Northern Ireland

NUI Exemption

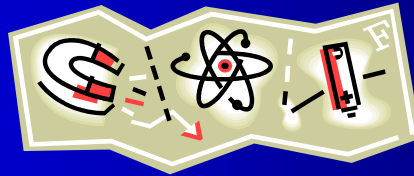
- Any student **born outside of the Republic of Ireland** may apply for an exemption from Irish for entry to any of the NUI colleges (UG, UCD, UCC, Maynooth University, RCSI)
- As they will still be doing Irish for the LC, they may present Irish then as their Modern Language for NUI colleges
- This means that these students could make the decision not to do a language for the L.C., and instead pick a subject that they prefer or could potentially perform better in
- This exemption also applies to students with a Specific Learning Disability(e.g. Dyslexia) who can receive an exemption from Irish and the foreign language

The Science group

Biology



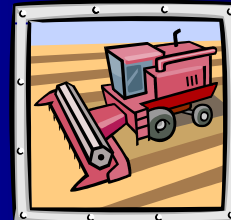
Physics



Chemistry



Agricultural Science



A Science Subject

What 3rd level courses require a Science Subject?

- Science/Science related courses
- Engineering at Universities
- Medicine
- Dentistry/ Dental Nursing
- Veterinary/Vet. Nursing
- Pharmacy/Pharmacy Technician
- Physiotherapy
- Radiography
- Nursing
- Food Science
- Geography & Geoscience (TCD)
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy (not in UU)
- Podiatry
- Sports Science
- Med. Lab. Science
- Dietetics/ Human Nutrition
- Optometry
- Paramedic Studies
- I.T. courses (some)
- Financial Maths & Economics (UG)
- These are all CAO courses, UK courses may differ

Two Science Subjects?:

- Important/Useful for careers in **Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy (but not essential)**
- **ESSENTIAL IN THE FOLLOWING COURSES:**
 - Medicine @TCD and @UCC*
 - Dentistry @TCD and @UCC*
 - Physiotherapy@TCD
 - Human Health & Disease @ TCD
 - Pharmacy@UCC
- UK colleges including UU and QUB require 2 science subjects for some courses eg Medicine, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Optometry and many more....in some cases Higher level Maths is accepted as a science alternative in UK
- Note: Agricultural Science is not always accepted for entry to UK courses
- **RESEARCH IS VERY IMPORTANT**

In Summary:

- **Do I need a Science Subject for College?**
- **Have I an interest in Science?**
- **Which Science subject?**
- **Should I take two Science subjects?**
- **Have I researched Minimum Entry Requirements?**

Useful Websites



www.careersportal.ie



www.qualifax.ie

A few points to remember

- Choose subjects you enjoy, are good at and can do well in.
- Don't choose subjects *'because friends are doing them'*. Be true to your own interests.
- Keep your options open. Consider a language and a science subject.
- Consider the assessment methods eg Project/Practical/Written Exam only
- Work to your own strengths as you will be motivated
- **There are no 'easy' subjects**
- **Do your research**

Subject Choice Module

- All classes will be taken through this information and more by their Guidance Counsellor
- Students will be shown how to research information online
- All information will be uploaded to a new Google Classroom specifically for Subject Choice
- Particular attention will be paid to explaining the implications of choosing/not choosing a 3rd language and science subjects
- A comprehensive Senior Cycle Subject booklet will be uploaded to Google Classroom
- Students may request individual/small group appointments

• Dear •
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Thank
You For **

• ALL THE •

LESSONS
DEAR FUTURE,

I AM READY

= NOW =