## **Introduction to Leaving Certificate Applied for TY students and parents**



Newpark Comprehensive School

## People talking this evening

- Janine Brennan (LCA Coordinator)
- Eoin Norton (Guidance Counsellor)

- Sarah Boate (Past student, 2001)
- Ciara Moffat (Past student, 2012)

## LCA overview



# Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA)

#### \*Curriculum

What will I be learning about?

#### \*Assessment

How will I be graded?

### \*Future opportunities

What can I study and work at later?

### LCA

- Completely different programme to LCE and LCVP
- Designed to facilitate students who are more practically or vocational orientated
- Applied as opposed to theoretical so LCA allows students to apply their learning and experiences to practical educational tasks at school, in the workplace and in the community
- 4 work experiences done over 2 years

### Who takes LCA?

- I'm more practical than academic
- I learn better through doing than studying (Think Jamie Oliver, Richard Branson...)
- Continuous assessment will suit me better than terminal exams
- Higher Education isn't a priority for me right after school. I'd prefer first to do a Further Education course, a traineeship/apprenticeship or go straight on to work

Students sometimes invited *to consider*, but never 'told'...



#### There are 3 sections to the LCA course

- 1. Vocational preparation
- 2. Vocational education (specialisms)
- 3. General education

## 1. Vocational Preparation

English & Communication

Preparing for work (CV, letters etc); language skills for business; media; novel; play; short story; film.

VPG (Vocational Preparation & Guidance)
 Jobsearch; Enterprise; Community work; Careers Education

Work Experience

4 two week placements over both 5th and 6th year

## Curriculum What will I be learning about?

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## 2. Vocational Education

- Mathematical Applications
   Budgeting; Invoices; Household bills; VAT; Payslips; Measurements
- Information & Communication Technology
   Computer skills word processing, spreadsheets, databases; Graphics;
   New technologies
- Hotel, Catering and Tourism (HCT)
   International food; Menus; Special dietary requirements; Preparing and serving a group meal (task); Hotels and restaurants; Tourism
- Active Leisure Studies
   Outdoor education (hill walking, camping, orienteering, climbing), fitness plans; coaching (swimming, football); health & safety in sport
- Engineering (Fabrication, skills/techniques)
- Craft & Design (2D surface design, 3D design)

## Active Leisure Studies outing



## Curriculum What will I be learning about?

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## 3. General Education

#### Gaeilge

Conversation skills; Culture; History of the language; Arts

#### Spanish

Conversation skills; Useful Spanish (travel arrangements, directions, food); Greetings; Culture and the arts

#### Leisure and Recreation

PE within the year group

#### Social Education

Social & health education; Understanding your community; Contemporary issues (Task); Taking Charge (banking, insurance, renting etc)

#### Electives

Four over two years choices to date include Hairdressing & Beauty, Music, Horticulture/Agriculture, Science and Childcare

Electives – four modules any combination ie focus on one or try out any four (non exam)

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## Work Experience Video



## LCA - Assessment

How will I be graded?

- School based work less homework, emphasis on project work, etc
- Approx 30% marks awarded for attendance and key assignments
- 35% marks awarded for 7 student tasks (completed over the 2 years)
- 35% marks awarded for exams at end of the second year
- So 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s of your LC done before June 2020!

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## Future Opportunities

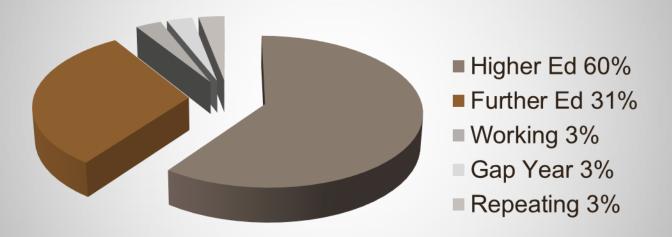
1. Further Education

PLC courses in Blackrock, Dun Laoghaire, Bray etc

- 2. Apprenticeship/traineeship
- 3. Employment

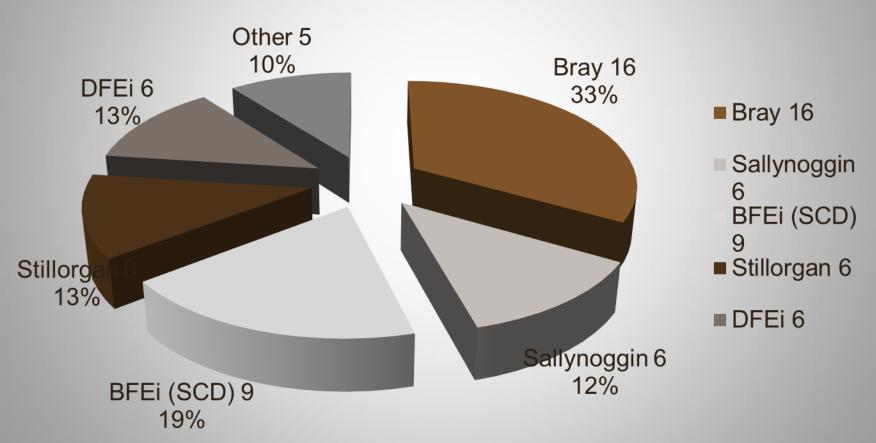
Higher Education Universities, Institutes of Technology

#### Where do Newpark students go?



#### Further Education students by institution, 2017

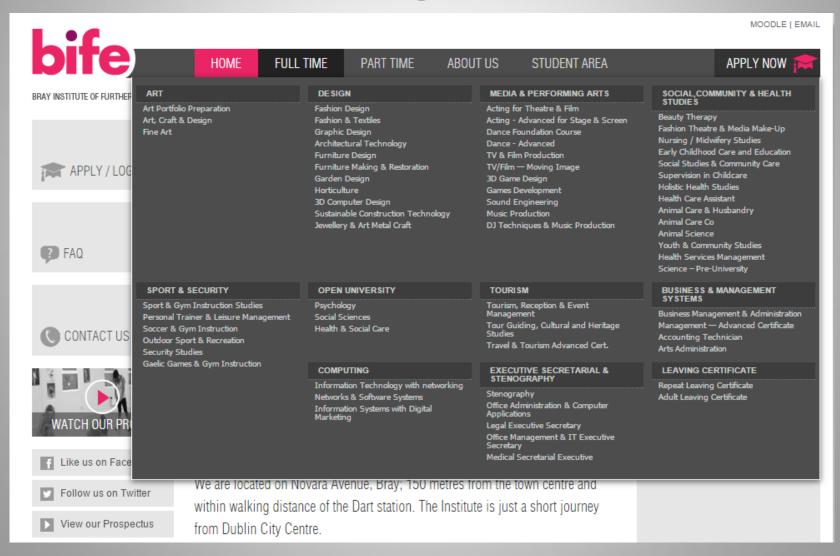




### **Further Education**

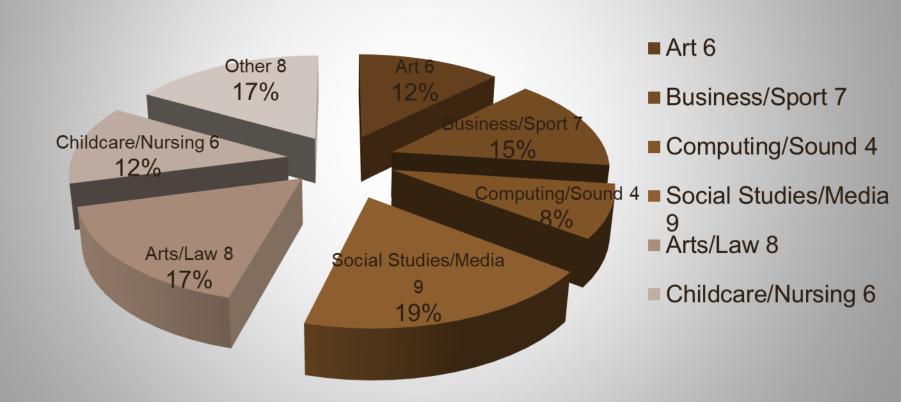
- Vocationally orientated courses
- Fantastic variation of courses available
- Traditionally geared towards employment
- Can be used as a route to enter institutes of technology & universities (although progression not guaranteed)
- Shorter term commitment (1 or 2 years)
- Can be used for art portfolio preparation

# When we said fantastic range...



#### Further Education students by discipline, 2017

#### 48 students in total



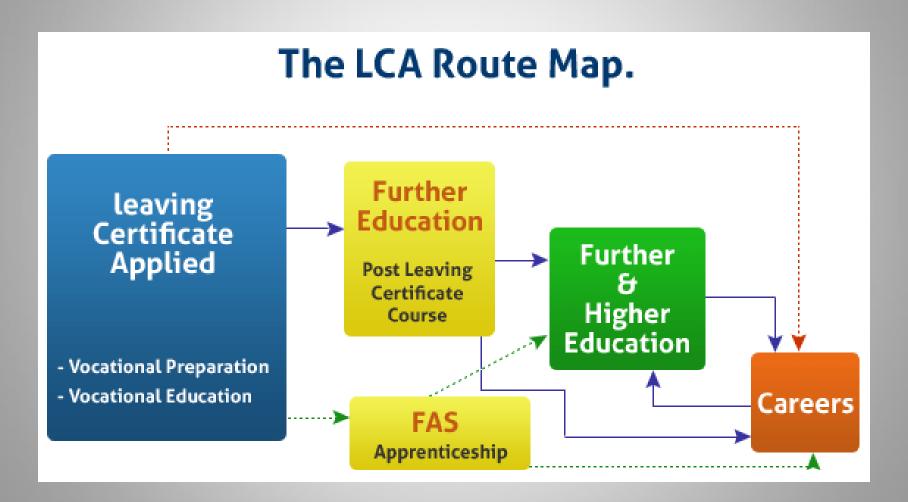
# Options after an FE/PLC course?

1. Seek employment

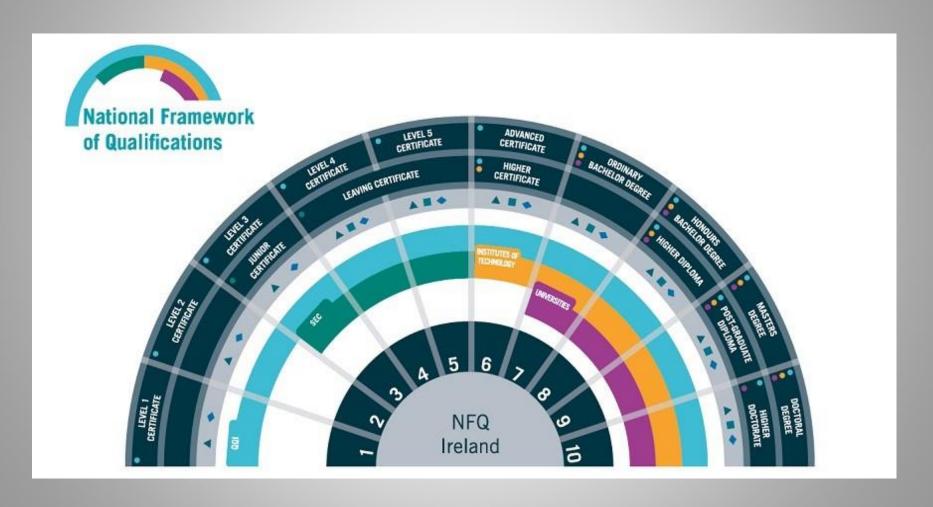
2. Continue in FE to a Level 6 'Advanced Certificate'

3. Apply to Higher Education

## LCA progression



## Apply to Level 5 first, with opportunities to progress to levels 6, 7 or 8 later



#### **Apprenticeships/Traineeships**

- SOLAS Standards Based Apprenticeships Construction, Electrical, Engineering, Motor. <u>Four year training</u> with seven phases (4 'on the job', 3 'off the job'). Awarded a QQI Level 6 Advanced Certificate Craft.
- Hospitality apprenticeship Commis Chef. Two year training, three to four days 'on the job' and one to two days 'off the job'. Awarded a Level 6 Advanced Certificate Culinary Arts.
- SOLAS Traineeship an occupational skills development programme which combines formal training with the ETBs and workplace coaching with an employer. These programmes are targeted at occupations which are not designated as apprenticeships but entail significant skill requirements which are best acquired through an 'on and off-the-job' training. Example traineeships are security alarm installation, jockey, hospital care skills.

#### Two apprenticeships, one traineeship

'While Ireland has one of the highest proportions of young people in the world going to third level education... Some educationalists have claimed there is a misplaced "snobbery" among parents and school-leavers who are focused on third-level at all costs.

This is in contrast to countries such as Germany, where a majority of school-leavers progress into highly rated apprenticeships.'

# Examples of other training & employment opportunities

- An Garda Siochána
- The Defence Forces
- Fire & Ambulance
- Civil Service
- Banks
- Dublin Bus

- Teagasc (Forestry, Horticulture, Agriculture, Horses)
- Failte Ireland (Chef, Bartending, Tourism, Hospitality)
- Bord lascaigh Mhara (Fishing, Aquaculture, Seafood)
- Hairdressing & Beauty Therapy (All major hair and beauty salons, private training etc)

## Guest speakers, Past LCA students

Class of 2012

Sarah Boate Class of 2001

## Thanks for your attention.

Questions?

More information available at pdst/lca