



**Loreto Secondary School,
Pembroke Hill,
Ballynagee,
Wexford.**

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Office hours: 7.45 a.m. to 4.15 p.m., Monday to Friday

Thursday, 29 November 2018

Re: Leaving Certificate/Applied Leaving Certificate

Dear parents/guardians of 4th year students,

As our school continues to grow and develop, it is important to ensure that the curriculum on offer meets the needs of all students. We are satisfied that the established Leaving Certificate programme continues to do this for the vast majority of students.

However, we are currently examining the possibility of introducing the Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA) programme, as an alternative option to the established Leaving Certificate, for those students and their parents/guardians who may be interested.

The LCA programme is a distinct, two-year programme which has a more practical, vocational focus than the established Leaving Certificate. Regular work experience is a significant element of the programme. In terms of assessment, students are awarded 'credits' throughout 5th and 6th year. This means that there is less of an emphasis on final examinations at the end of 6th year. Upon completion of the LCA programme, students will be able to apply for a range of Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses and apprenticeships.

This pathway may be of interest to some students and their parents/guardians. It is for this reason that we are now seeking to gauge the level of interest among 4th year students and their parents/guardians.

Accordingly, if you feel this option may be worth exploring further, please contact John Mc Ginnity, Deputy Principal, by phoning the school (053-9146162) at any stage before the close of business on Friday, 7 December 2018. He will be happy to discuss the programme in greater detail.

The school will only provide the LCA programme if it is satisfied that a sufficient number of students will commit to it and if staffing and timetabling requirements allow its provision.

Yours faithfully,

Billy O' Shea,
Principal.