

Holy Family Community School

LCA Information 2026/2027



Welcome from Ms Morrin

- ▶ Thank you for attending this information night regarding a very important year for LCA students.
- ▶ At HFCS we will work very hard to ensuring that it is a productive, enjoyable and rewarding experience for everyone.
- ▶ It will involve students working diligently, participating positively and engaging respectfully with their peers and everyone in the HFCS community.
- ▶ Please check the school's website www.hfcs.ie for the updated Code of Behaviour and relevant policies. **All students must adhere to the schools' policies.** Parents/guardians and students are expected to read these policies and students must abide by all school policies.

Pastoral Care Team



- ▶ Teachers, SNAs, Secretaries and Caretakers
- ▶ LCA 2 Tutor Mr G.Stapleton
- ▶ LCA 1 Tutor Ms M.Bates & Mr E.Hipwell

- ▶ LCA2 Year Head Ms. C.Phillips *
- ▶ LCA1 Year Head Mr J.Shannon *

- ▶ LCA Programme Coordinator Ms M Morrin

- ▶ Chaplain Mr. N. McConnell

Pastoral Care Team



- ▶ Guidance Counsellors: Ms. U. Ms Donnell & Ms. C. Perris
- ▶ AEN Coordinator Mr. M Savage
- ▶ Deputy Principals Ms. D. O' Keefe,
Dr. D Maher
Mr. L Ferguson
- ▶ Principal Ms. I. Fallon
- ▶ Student Support Team

Advanced Medical Services (AMS)

Cardiac Screening

Cardiac Screening available -
all details below & sent via
VSWare Mail

AMS is Ireland's leading mobile Cardiac Screening company. They perform cardiac screening in schools & sports clubs nationwide, ultimately aimed at reducing the incidents of Sudden Adult Death Syndrome (SADS). Approx 2 young people (under 35) die each week in Ireland from SADS. Research has shown that cardiac screening can significantly reduce the incidents of SADS. Please see below for further information on cardiac screening

This Cardiac Screening is mainly targeting people aged between 12 & 35 years. However, a significant number of people over this age avail and benefit from the screening as well. The screening can help identify people with risk of underlying cardiac abnormalities / heart disease but like all screening programmes, it cannot guarantee 100% of picking up all cardiac issues including coronary artery disease.

CARDIAC SCREENING

The screening includes:

- Personal & Family History Questionnaire
- Physical examination with a Medical Doctor
- 12 Lead Electrocardiogram (ECG)
- The medical data & ECG are assessed & reported on by a Consultant Cardiologist

FEE

The fee for Cardiac Screening is at a discounted rate of €80. Any person with Laya health insurance can avail of the service for free as part of their membership (current individual membership required). People with other health insurance may be able to claim a portion of the fee back.

Booking closes Monday 7th
September

WHY CARDIAC SCREENING?

Understanding the Risk

While sudden cardiac death in young people is rare, it can occur unexpectedly in individuals who appear completely healthy. Some heart conditions that increase this risk can be present without any symptoms and may only be identified through cardiac assessment. International research has shown that cardiac screening can identify many of these conditions before they cause serious problems, giving young people & their families the opportunity for appropriate monitoring & treatment where needed.

What Can Cardiac Screening Detect?

Some heart conditions can be present without symptoms and may only be identified through cardiac assessment. Cardiac screening is designed to identify structural heart abnormalities & certain electrical disorders that may increase the risk of sudden cardiac events.

Important to understand: Cardiac screening can identify many, but not all, conditions that may lead to sudden cardiac events. Screening cannot detect all potential causes, including some forms of coronary artery disease or conditions that may develop after screening. A normal screening does not eliminate all cardiac risk. Approximately 3-4% of young people screened may need follow-up testing for clarification or reassurance.

Evidence Supporting Cardiac Screening

Research Experience: In the Veneto region of Italy, mandatory cardiac screening for individuals aged 12+ years involved in competitive sport has been associated with significant reductions in sudden cardiac death among screened athletes over the past 30 years. Research from this region showed an 89% reduction in sudden cardiac death rates among the screened population.

Medical Body Recommendations: The European Society of Cardiology & the International Olympic Committee recommend cardiac screening every 2 years for competitive athletes. World Rugby recommends cardiac screening for rugby players, with repeat screening ideal every 2 years for athletes under 20 years of age. The GAA's Medical, Scientific & Welfare Committee recommend one-time screening for all players over 14 years & again before aged 25 years.

HOW TO BOOK IN FOR THIS SERVICE



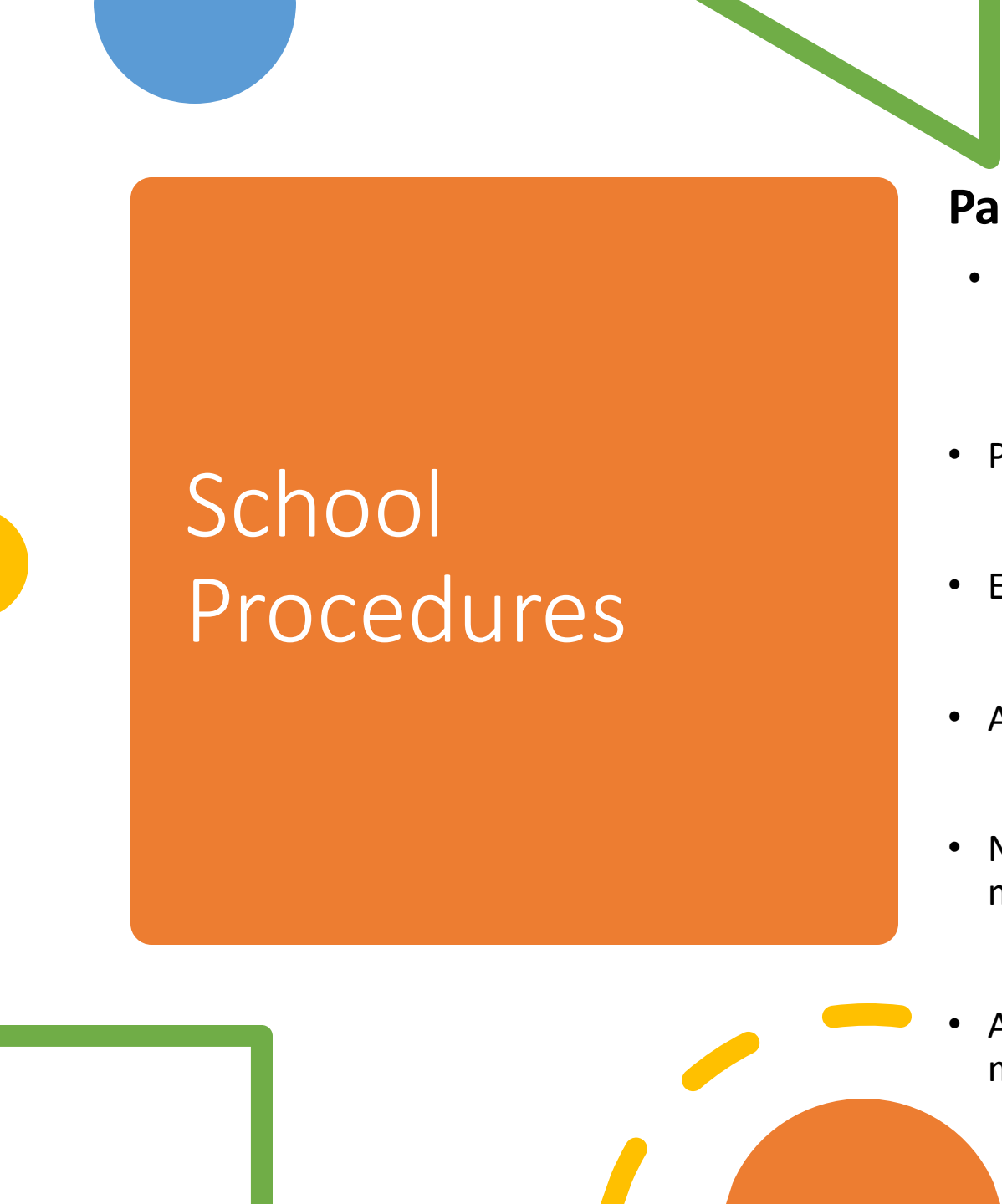
1. Go to www.ameds.ie
2. Click on Online booking Enter clinic code: **HFCS26**
3. Or click <https://bookings.ameds.ie/booking/from-code?code=HFCS26>
4. Complete registration & pay (if required)

Communication between school and parents

- **VShare** is the management and communication system used by the school.
- Parents/guardians can look at their child's timetable, attendance, assessment results and behaviour record on VShare.
- **Absence notes must be communicated to the school through VShare.**
- VShare is also the system used to communicate messages to parents/guardians.
- In order to receive messages, please ensure that you download the VShare app on your mobile device and allow notifications.
- **Please ensure that you have the APP downloaded on to your phone.**
- Instructions on how to download the VShare app can be found here: <https://support.vshare.ie/en/parent-app-overview>

CHECK VSHARE
REGULARLY!

The image shows a login screen for the VShare system. At the top, there is a large, stylized logo with the letters 'VS' in blue and 'WARE' in a lighter blue, set against a blue background with faint circular patterns. Below the logo, the word 'Login' is written in a small, light blue font. There are two white input fields: the first is for the username and the second is for the password. Below the password field, the word 'Password' is written in a small, light blue font. To the right of the password field, there is a green circular icon with a white checkmark. Below the input fields, there is a 'Reset Password' link in a small, light blue font. At the bottom, there is a blue button with the text 'Sign In' in white.



School Procedures

Parent/Guardian to School Communication

- *The School Secretary, Ms. Lorraine O'Connell, is the main channel to contact teachers, Tutor, Year Head, Deputy Principals and Principal*
- Phone calls (01 4580766 / 01 4580031)
- Emails to info@hfcs.ie
- Absence notes sent via VShare
- Notes in dialann for individual subject teachers or contact made through email/phone call
- All meetings between parents/guardians and staff members must be made by appointment.

School Procedures

Classes begin at 8.45am and finish at 3.40pm (1pm on Wed.). Students must be in school **5 minutes before** first class in the morning and first class in the afternoon

Morning break is from 10.45am - 11.00am (varies slightly on Wednesdays)

Lunch break 1.00pm – 1.40pm

Senior students are allowed to go down to the village for lunch on the condition that they will return **on time** for class. Sanctions will apply if students return late from the village.

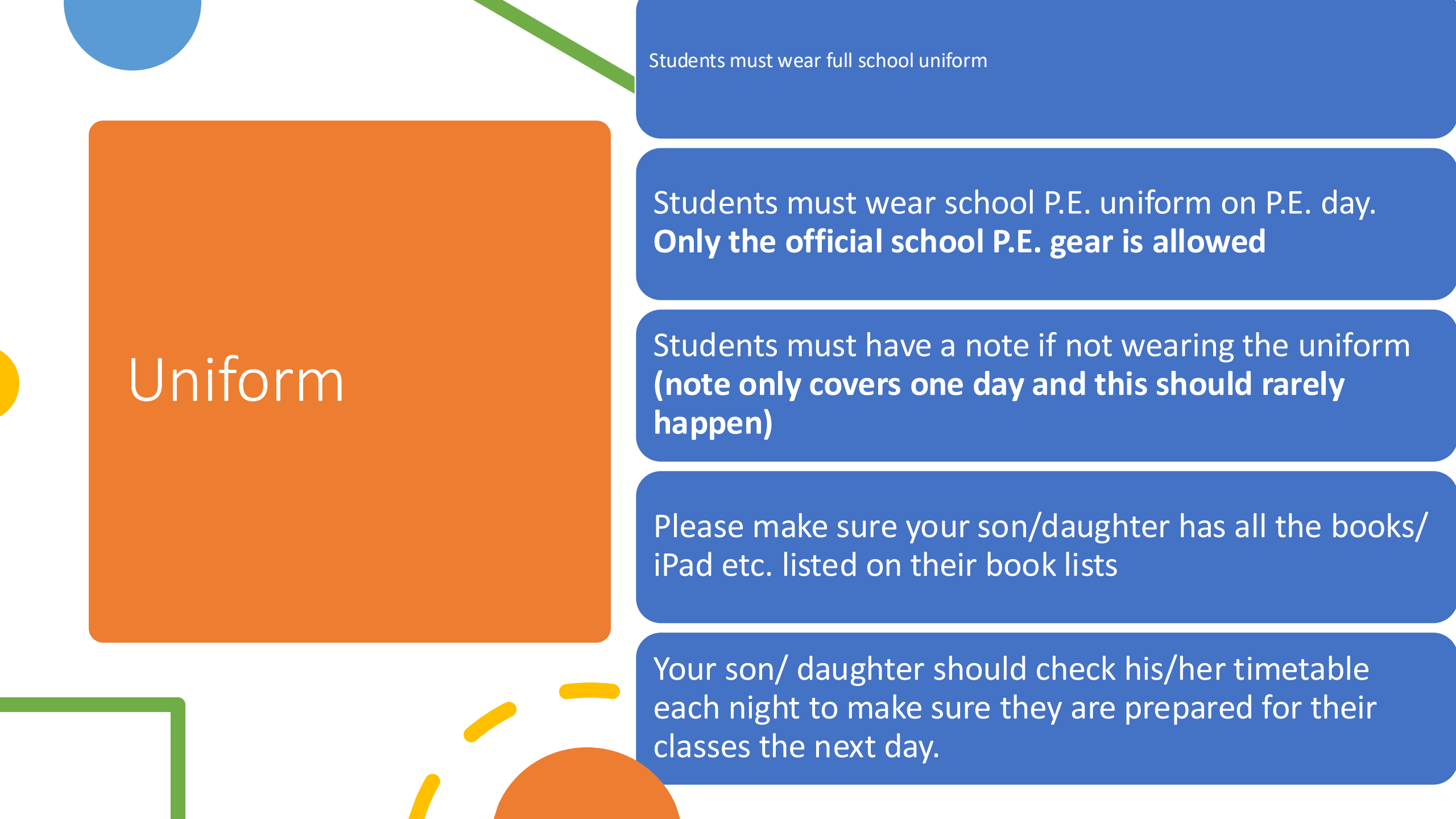
All students are expected to take a turn at the lunch time cleaning roster.

Students will be notified in advance of the week they will be on the lunch time cleaning roster.



Personal
Electronic
Devices – Please
read the
school's AUP
policy on hfcs.ie

- Must be off and out of sight at all times during school day
- Students must not take photographs or recordings of any member of the school community
- Students must not use their personal electronic devices to abuse, threaten, harass or bully other students or staff or use these devices to invade the privacy of any member of the school community. Infringement of these rules is taken very seriously by the school.
- **Parents/Guardians must not phone students during the school day**
- Please read www.cybersafeireland.org and www.webwise.ie



Uniform

Students must wear full school uniform

Students must wear school P.E. uniform on P.E. day.
Only the official school P.E. gear is allowed

Students must have a note if not wearing the uniform
(note only covers one day and this should rarely happen)

Please make sure your son/daughter has all the books/
iPad etc. listed on their book lists

Your son/ daughter should check his/her timetable
each night to make sure they are prepared for their
classes the next day.



Detention

- Is on Wednesdays from 1.15p.m. to 2.15p.m.
- Parents/ Guardians will be informed by the school when detention is given and the reason for detention
- Parents must organise transport home for their son/daughter
- Failure to attend detention may result in suspension
- If a student is unable to attend detention, a note must be presented to the Behaviour Management Co-ordinator, Mr B Weldon.

Students in HFCS

We want our students to be happy in HFCS.

Bullying will not be tolerated and should be reported to the school.

In the school, we promote and encourage restorative practice amongst the school community. This involves building positive relationships and caring cultures.

Students are expected to show manners towards all staff and students.

Students are expected to show respect for each other and to watch out for one another.

Students are asked to treat others as they would like to be treated.

LCA: LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a two-year programme to prepare students for adult and working life.



 **Leaving Certificate Applied**
Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach
- A Different Way

**2 Year Practical
Leaving Certificate**



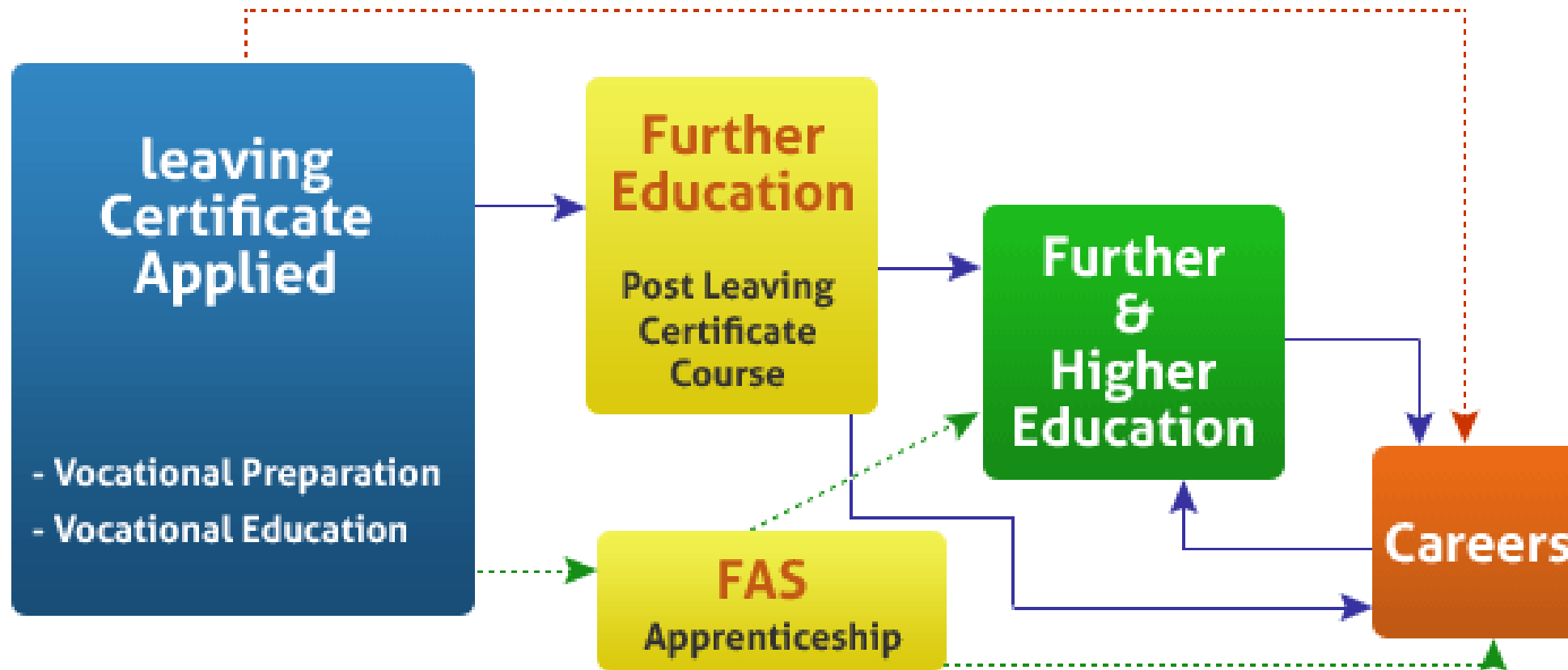
- continuous assessment
- work & career focus
- success & achievement
- different ways of learning
- pathway to further education & training
- community as classroom
- individual talents recognised

<http://lca.slss.ie>

 **SLSS**
Scoil Linn
Scoil Shinn

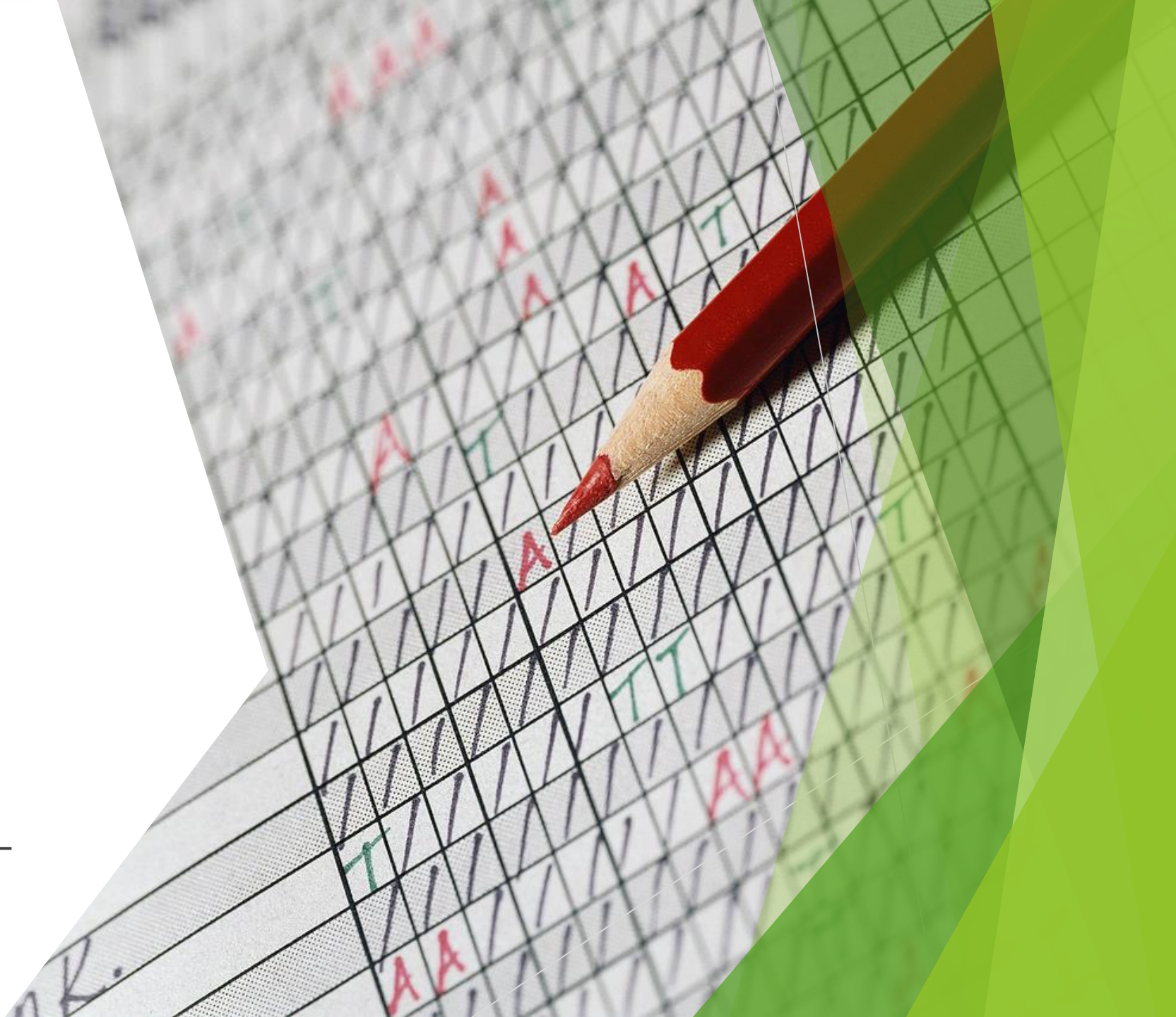
Scoil Linn
Scoil Shinn

The LCA Route Map.



Course Structure

- ▶ 2 Year Programme
- ▶ Divided into 4 half-year blocks called 'Sessions'
- ▶ **Key assignments** must be completed during each session
- ▶ Based on continuous assessment- marked over the two years
- ▶ 90% attendance is a major part of this course, if absent Doctor Certificate is required



HFCS' LCA Curriculum

Vocational Preparation

1. Vocational Preparation & Guidance
2. English & Communications

Vocational Education

1. Mathematical Applications
2. Vocational Specialisms* (Hotel, Catering and Tourism & Office Administration and Customer Care for LCA1, Hotel, Catering and Tourism & Agriculture and Horticulture for LCA2)
3. Information Communication Technology

General Education

1. Arts Education (Visual Arts)
2. Social Education (Social Health)
3. Languages (Gaeilge (LCA1) and Spanish (LCA2))
4. Leisure & Recreation (including Physical Education)

Elective Courses

1. Religious Education

LCA Assessment Breakdown over the course of 2 years

Satisfactory completion of modules and 90% attendance				68 credits	34%
- Evidence of completion of key assignments for each module - One credit per course module in which there is a final exam - Two credits per course module in which there is <u>NO</u> final exam					
<u>7 Student Tasks</u>				74 credits	37%
Vocational Preparation		Vocational Education (x2)			
General Education		Contemporary Issue (14 credits)			
Personal Reflection		Practical Achievement			
<u>Final Exams</u>				58 credits	29%
English & Communication	Vocational Specialisms (x2)	Languages (x2)	Mathematical Applications		
12 credits	12 credits <u>each</u>	6 credits <u>each</u>	10 credits		
<u>Total:</u>				200 credits	100%

Student Tasks

There are 7 Student Tasks (projects) to complete over the 2 years.
Student tasks are worth **10 credits each.**

Tasks	Credit	%	Completed in session	Assessed
1.General Education Originating in Arts Education, Leisure & Rec. , Language or Social Education	10	5	1	Jan/Year 1
2. Vocational Preparation Originating in either Vocational Preparation & Guidance or English & Communication	10	5	2	May/Year 1
3. Vocational Education - 1st specialism Originating in one Vocational Specialism	10	5	2	May/Year 1
4. Vocational Education - 2nd specialism Originating in the second Vocational Specialism	10	5	3	Jan/Year 2
5. Contemporary Issues Anchored in Social Education	10	5	3	Jan/Year 2
6. Practical Achievement Generally out of school/centre	10	5	3	Jan/Year 2
7. Personal Reflection Statement 1 from year one will be stored and returned to SEC when statement two is complete	10	5	on-going	May/Year 2

Subjects

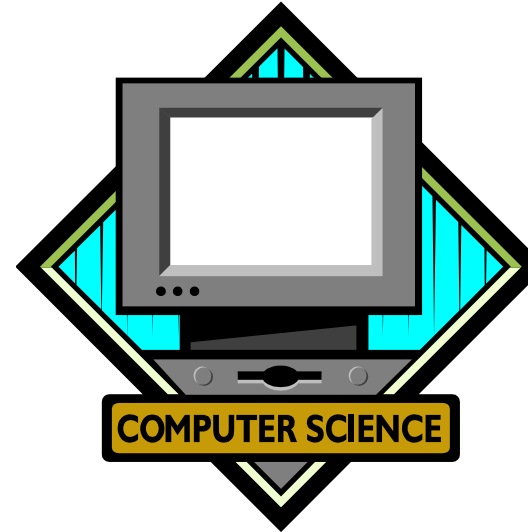
Students must complete all of the following subjects in LCA:

- ❑ English and Communications
- ❑ Mathematical Applications
- ❑ Gaeilge (Irish) is covered in 5th year
- ❑ Spanish is covered in 6th year
- ❑ Vocational Preparation: Guidance, Jobsearch, Enterprise 1& 2, Work Experience 1, 2&3 , Community Work, Work and Living



Subjects

- ❑ Hotel Catering and Tourism (Specialism for both LCA1 and LCA2)
- ❑ Arts- Visual Art
- ❑ Introduction to Communication and Technology (ICT) in 5th & 6th Year
- ❑ Religious Education (Elective)
- ❑ Office Administration and Customer Care (Specialism for LCA2 ONLY)
- ❑ Engineering (Specialism for LCA1 ONLY)
- ❑ Social Education
- ❑ Leisure and Recreation



Credit Breakdown- Year 1

▶ Students can obtain a total of 200 credits over 4 sessions in two years:

▶ Year 1

▶ Session 1: September to January

▶ 12 credits for completing modules

▶ 10 credits for completing a student task

▶ **22 credits in total**

▶ Session 2: January to May

▶ 19 credits for completing modules

▶ 20 credits for completing 2 student tasks

▶ 6 credits for an Irish examination (in June)

▶ 4 credits for Personal Reflection Task

▶ **49 credits in total**

Credit Breakdown- Year 2

- ▶ Year 2
- ▶ Session 3: September to January
- ▶ 12 credits for completing modules
- ▶ 30 credits for completing 3 student tasks.
- ▶ **42 credits in total.**
- ▶ Session 4: January to May
- ▶ 19 credits for completing modules
- ▶ 6 credits for Personal Reflection Task
- ▶ 62 credits for examinations
- ▶ **87 credits in total.**

LCA Certification

- Students who acquire less than 120 credits or who leave the programme early will receive a **“Record of Experience”**.



Certificate awarded at 3 levels

Pass	120 - 139 credits	60-69%
Merit	140 - 169 credits	70-84%
Distinction	170 - 200 credits	85-100%

Do Leaving Certificate Applied students receive a Leaving Certificate?

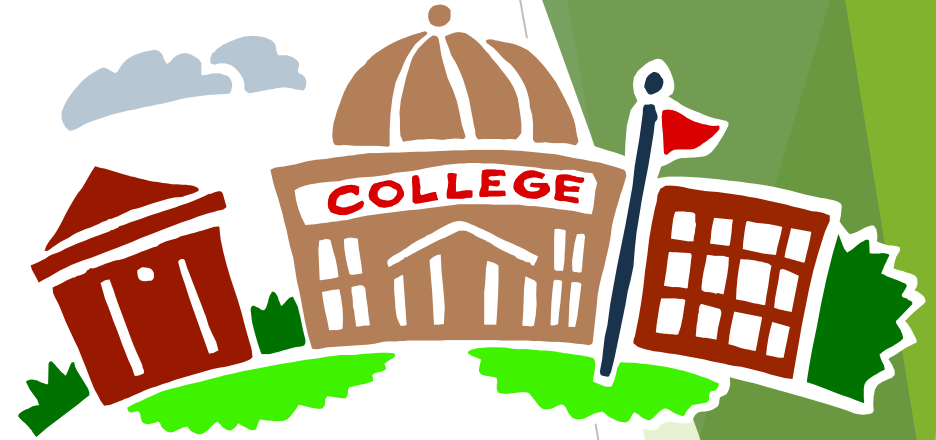


- Yes. Students who successfully complete the programme receive a Leaving Certificate from the State Examinations Commission.

WHAT CAN STUDENTS DO WHEN THEY FINISH LCA?

- ▶ Look for a job
- ▶ Get an Apprenticeship
- ▶ Apply to do a Post Leaving Certificate Course (PLC)
- ▶ Complete PLC course and continue onto college or get a job.
- ▶ Apply to become a guard, army officer, cadet, hotel employee, FAS, and as a bank clerk.

YOU CANNOT GO DIRECTLY INTO THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES



Work Experience

- ▶ One day a week - **COMPULSORY** (Work experience is worth credits over the 2 years).

LCA 1 every Monday

LCA 2 every Friday

- ▶ Students are responsible for finding their own placements.
- ▶ Book placements early as there is a demand for places with the increasing number of LCA students.
- ▶ It is recommended that students should get a different workplace **per session (4 over 2 years)**.
- ▶ Students have been given a hardcopy of work experience documentation including a copy of their insurance.
- ▶ All relevant work experience paperwork must be completed. (Vocational Preparation Teacher-G. Deasy (LCA2) A. Watson (LCA1), has all documentation required).





LCA Fund

- ▶ LCA Activity Fee of €40 and the Stationery & Photocopying Fee of €50 is now due.)
- ▶ Spontaneous & Ad-hoc trips/opportunities which companies/venues offer will incur extra small costs such as bus fees & admission fees throughout the year.
- ▶ HFCS commits to being flexible and as forewarned & transparent as possible regarding costs. We will strive to achieve a balance between a richly rewarding programme & value for money.

Parents Association

AGM - Tuesday October 13th at 6:30pm in the school

Get involved in the HFCS Parents Council

**Follow us
on
Facebook**



HFCS Parents Council Group

**Follow us
on
Instagram**



@hfcs_parents council

**To join the
Parents Council
email**



parentscouncil@hfcs.ie

Fundraiser Weekly Draw

JACKPOT UP TO €3,000



Please contribute to the Holy Family Community School Fundraiser -
Run by the Parents Council.

1 line €2.50 | 2 lines €4 | 3 lines €5

Jackpot increases weekly (up to €3,000!)

Guaranteed €20 prize every week!

Your contribution will make a big difference for our students.

Easy to Enter!

Scan the QR code or visit
ourfundraiser.ie/org/hfcs



Terms & Conditions: Must be over 18 years of age to participate. Maximum of 3 recurring lines per supporter.

See website for more T&Cs. Powered by: Our Fundraiser | info@ourfundraiser.ie

Thank you for your attendance
tonight, we are delighted to
have you all as part of our
school community

