

# St. Oliver Post Primary School

## Subject Choice Presentation



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# Overview of the presentation

- Options available
- Subjects on offer
- Importance of a Language
- Importance of Science subjects
- Subjects with a practical element
- Third level education systems
- Minimum entry requirements
- Subject requirements
- General Advice
- Summary

# Two Options

- Transition Year
- Traditional Leaving Certificate

# Traditional Leaving Certificate

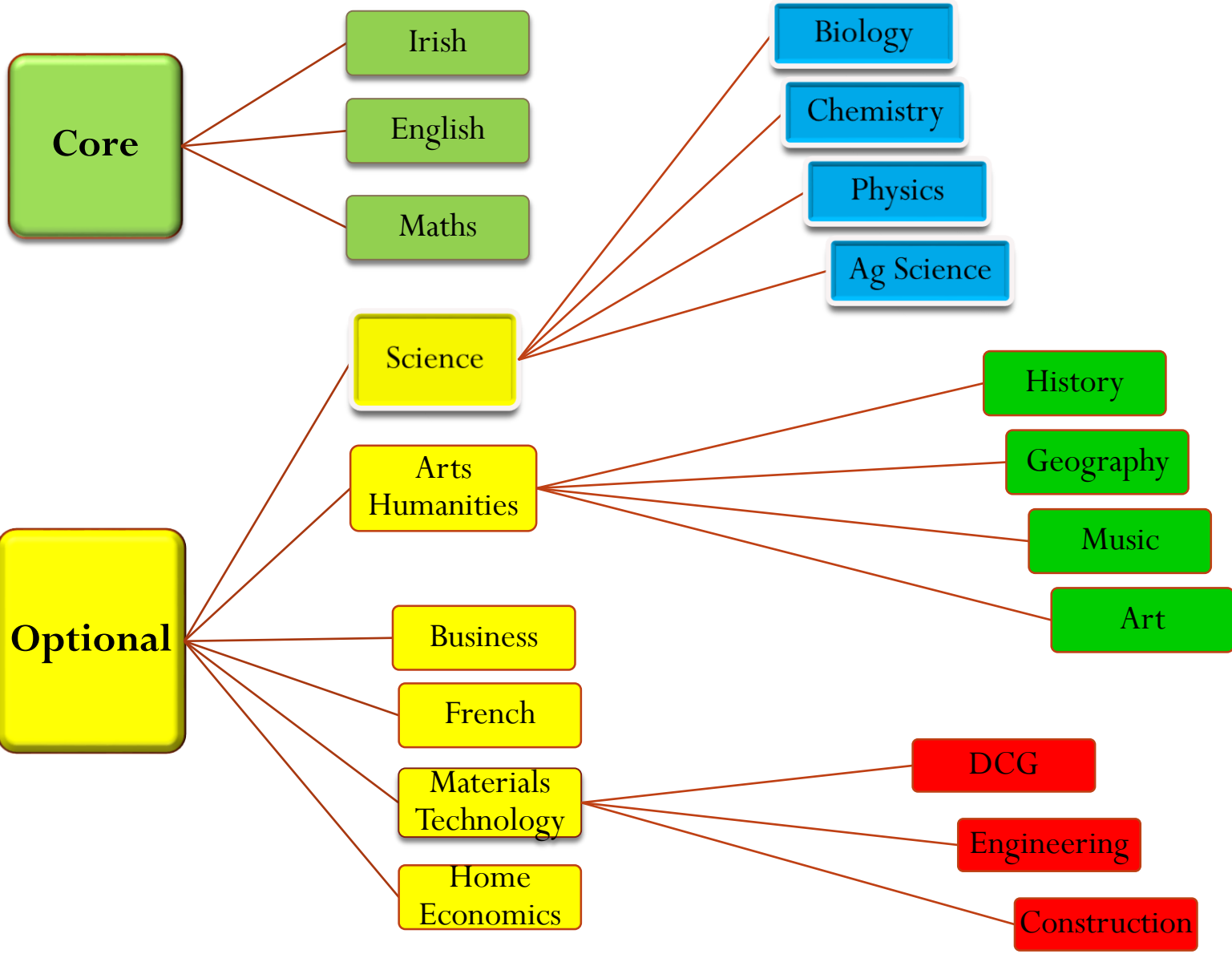
- Maths/English/Irish (Compulsory)
- Pick four other subjects (Optional)
- LCVP as an extra subject
- Leaving Certificate points calculated from the best six subjects.
- Higher and Ordinary level

# Traditional Leaving Certificate

- LCVP is accepted by the majority of universities/colleges for points purposes
- Points can be calculated from any subject

# Subject Choice

- Four subjects to choose
- Subject choice is **VERY IMPORTANT** and has far reaching implications for your son/daughters future



# Third Language -French

- Necessary for some courses but not all in the NUI Universities (UCD, NUIM, NUIG, UCC & partner colleges)
- Necessary for courses that have a large language component (Language with Marketing)
- Not necessary for UL, DCU, Trinity and all of the Institutes of Technology



# A Science Subject

- Necessary for courses in the Medical, Veterinary Medicine or any Science related areas
- Certain courses require a specific Science subject e.g. Chemistry is needed for Dietetics

# Subjects with a practical element

- Art
- Construction
- Engineering
- DCG
- History
- Geography
- Home Economics
- Music
- Agricultural Science

# Three Systems of Third Level Education in Ireland

- 1. Universities
- 2. Institutes of Technology
- 3. Local Colleges

# Universities requirements

- NUI universities require Maths, English, Irish and another language for some courses but not for all
- Trinity require Maths, English and another language
- UL require Maths, English, Irish or another language
- DCU require Maths, English or Irish

# Institutes of Technology requirements

- All Institutes of Technology require Maths, English or Irish
- No other language required

# Local Colleges requirements

- Local colleges require at least five grade D's at Ordinary level
- No language required

# Very Important

- When choosing Leaving Certificate subjects great care must be taken as the choices of subjects made now may determine 3<sup>rd</sup> level courses and career options available to students in 2 years time
- Regardless of how many points you get in your Leaving Certificate you will be ineligible to even apply for a course if you have not met the **‘Minimum entry requirements’** and/or the **‘specific subject requirements’**

# Entry/subject requirements

- **Minimum entry requirements**

Particular subjects and minimum no. of honours/ordinary in the Leaving Certificate required to apply to a University/College

- **Specific subject requirements**

Particular subjects and/or levels required to gain entry to some courses



# CAO Points System

Grade	%	Points	Grade	%	Points
H1	(90-100)	100			
H2	(80<90)	88			
H3	(70<80)	77			
H4	(60<70)	66			
H5	(50<60)	56	O1	(90-100)	56
H6	(40<50)	46	O2	(80<90)	46
H7	(30<40)	37	O3	(70<80)	37
H8	(0<30)	0	O4	(60<70)	28
			O5	(50<60)	20
			O6	(40<50)	12
			O7	(30<40)	0
			O8	(0<30)	0

## LCVP points

Distinction	66
Merit	46
Pass	28

\*25 Bonus points awarded for a H6 in Maths.

# Make choices based on

- Aptitudes & Ability
- Interests
- Career aspirations
- Getting maximum points

# General Advice

If a student is not really sure what he/she wants to do in the future:

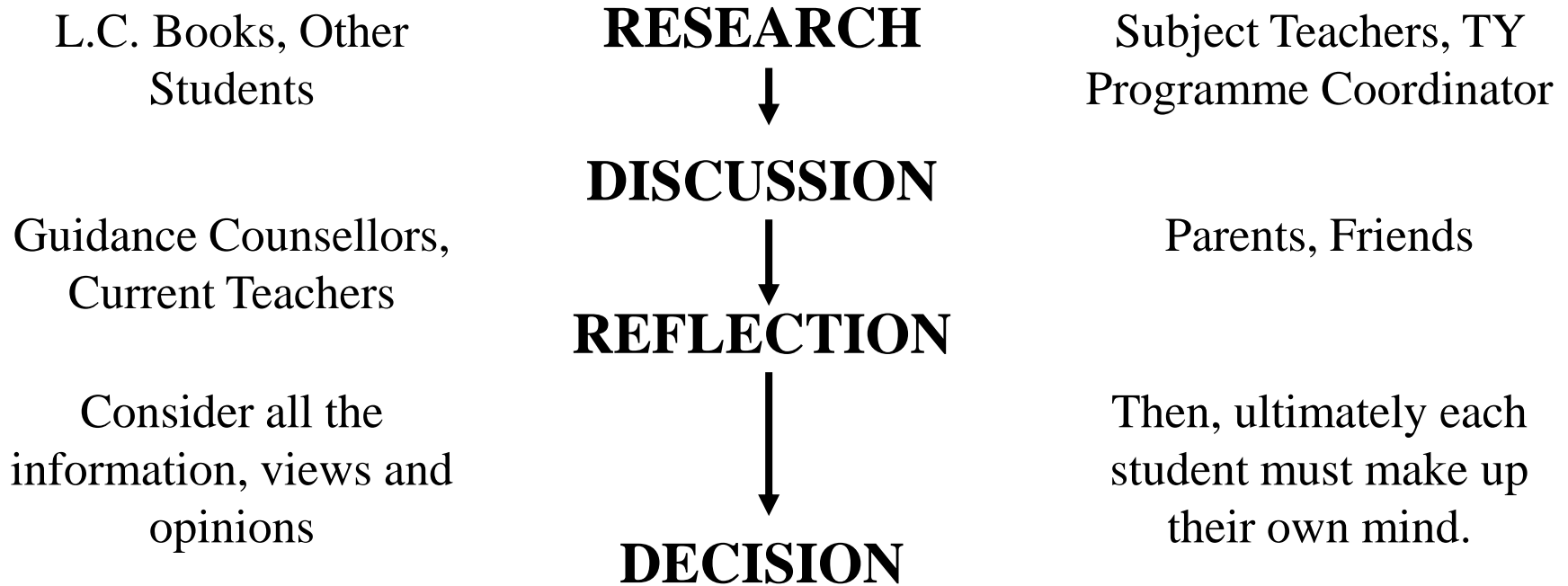
**Pick a broad range of subjects in order to keep options open**

Many students will change their minds about their future a number of times in the next 2 years

- E.g.
  - one language
  - one science
  - two subjects from the other options
  - This combination would allow access into a broad range of courses/careers

# Before choosing subjects

A wise choice of subjects requires:



# Avoid these ideas

- None of my friends are doing that subject so I'm not doing it
- Only boys do that subject
- It's an easy 'A'
- Never leave out a subject because you believe it is only for high achievers
- I'm already good at it so I will not need to do much work

# Consult

- Guidance Counsellor
- Subject teachers
- Older friends/family relatives
- Parents/Guardians
- Internet research [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)  
[www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
- Information booklet

# Summary

- French: required as an entry for some courses within some universities. Ordinary level is accepted.
- Science: required for science and medical related courses. Specific science subject required for some courses.
- Plus two other subjects you will enjoy and do well in