

St Oliver Post Primary School

Careers Information for Leaving Certificate
Parents/Guardians



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Guidance Counsellor



Overview

- UCAS
- CAO
- PLC
- Other options
- HEAR
- DARE
- Grants
- Fees
- Scholarships
- Useful
resources

UCAS

- System for applying to study in Universities in Northern Ireland, United Kingdom, Scotland and Wales
- Apply through the UCAS system
- Website www.ucas.co.uk

UCAS

- Detailed application
 - Personal Details, Course Choices, Education, Work Experience/Employment, Personal Statement, Reference, Predicated grades
- 5 choices 4 if medicine
- Some courses require students to complete Admission Tests

UCAS

- September 2019 for Music courses
- October 2019 for all Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Science and courses in Oxford & Cambridge
- January 2020 for all other courses except the above and Art and Design courses
- March 2020 Art and Design courses
- March onwards decisions made by Universities

UCAS- Fees

- Fees not set for 2020
- Need to check each university & course individually for fees.
All different
- Can apply for a grant

CAO- Higher Education

- System for applying to study in Universities and Institutes of Technology in the Republic of Ireland
- Apply through the CAO system

<http://www.cao.ie/index.php?page=parents>

CAO

- Every 6th year has received a 2019-2020 CAO Application Pack which includes:
 - Information on CAO and Courses
- Application dates/fees/payment method

Application	Fee	Date	Payment
Online	€30	20 th January 2020	Laser/Credit Card
Change of mind	Free	Between 1 st May and 1 st July 2020	

CAO

- There are 3 types of courses students can apply for
- These are applied for on 2 separate lists on a single form:

Level 6 & 7 courses

Higher Certificate (6)
Ordinary Degree (7)

Up to 10 course choices

Level 8 courses

Honours Degree(8)

Up to 10 course choices

CAO

- All the courses are clearly marked in the CAO handbook
- Care must be taken with courses marked 'RESTRICTED' in CAO booklet
- These courses cannot be applied for after February 1st due to extra assessments required which takes place in March or April

CAO

- Entry requirements
- Subject requirements
- Points

Entry Requirements

Minimum Entry requirements

- For example UCD
- Pass in Irish, English, Maths, some courses a Language and some courses a Science subject
- For example DIT
- Pass in Maths, English or Irish

Specific subject requirements

- For example Engineering in UCD
- Must have H4 Maths
- For example Nursing in all universities/colleges
- Must have a science subject

Points

- Selection system is based on a POINTS SYSTEM
- Points are calculated from one sitting of the Leaving Certificate only
- Points total is calculated from six best subjects
- Students must meet entry requirements, points and subject requirements if required to gain entry to a course

Points Allocation

% Marks	Grades	Points Higher Level	Points Ordinary Level
90-100	H1/O1	100	56
80-89	H2/O2	88	46
70-79	H3/O3	77	37
60-69	H4/O4	66	28
50-59	H5/O5	56	20
40-49	H6/O6	46	12
30-39	H7/O7	37	0
0-29	H8/O8	0	0

Points Allocation

- Bonus points for Maths
 - 25 bonus points awarded for Higher Level, at Grade H6 or above
- LCVP
 - Distinction 66 points
 - Merit 46 points
 - Pass 28 points

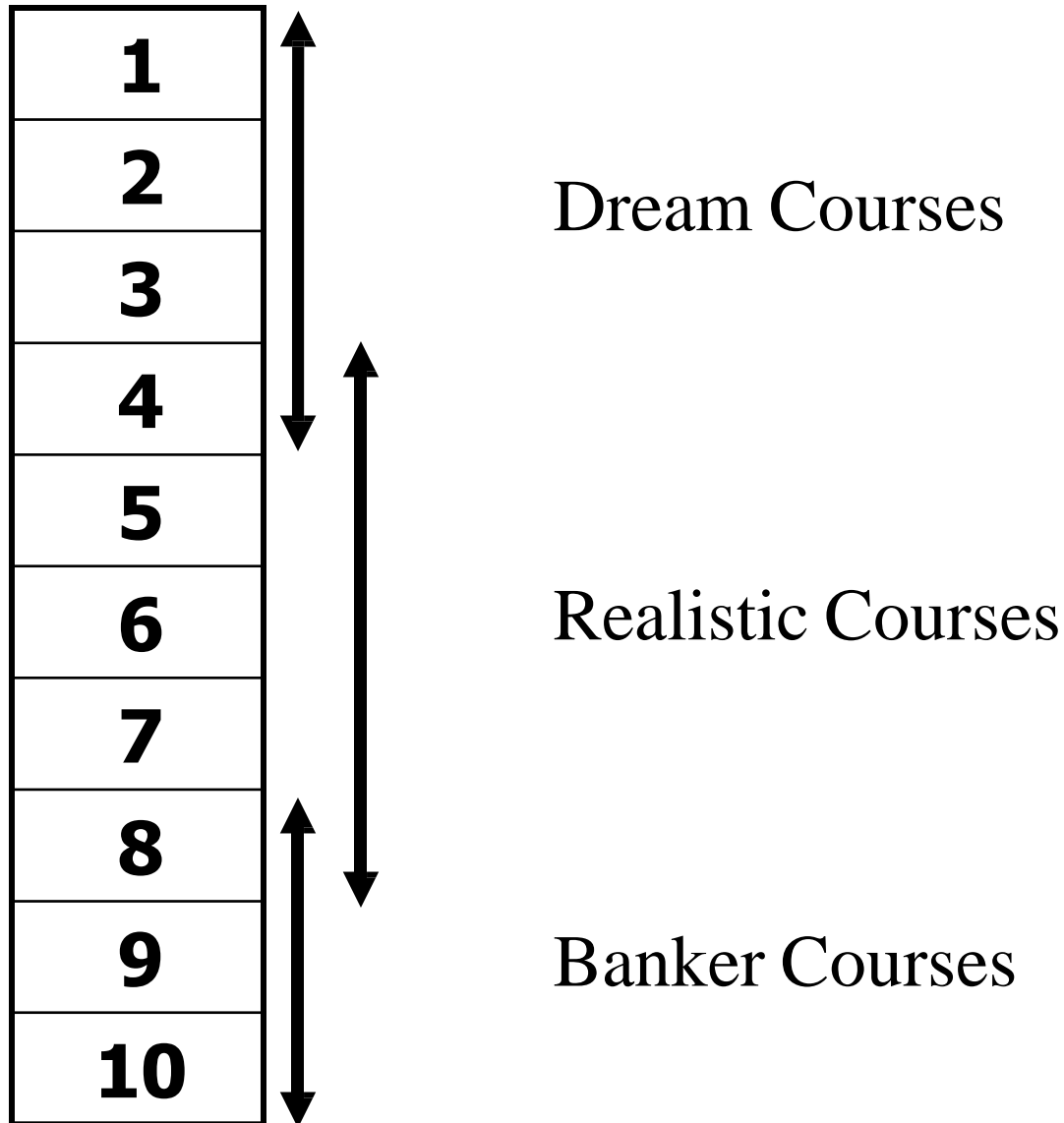
Making an application

- Applications can be made online (20th January 2020)
- Application form is straight forward to fill out
- Complete Part A only
- Student must fill out both course list in

GENUINE ORDER OF PREFERENCE

- They should not put down courses on the basis of 2019 points

So – what is the best way to fill in the courses?



Making an application

- Complete application online
- Be sure to enter restricted courses by 1st February students will be called for extra assessments March/April
- Be sure to enter all other courses by 1st July
- Complete HEAR/DARE if applicable

Statement of record

- Each student will be sent a letter from CAO in May 2020. They must check to ensure that all information is correct. Very important to check examination number
- This is the students responsibility

The Offer Process- Round 1

- In the week following the release of the Leaving Certificate results, students will receive an offer from CAO
- A student can view and accept this offer online
- For example, if a student is offered No. 3 on its level 8/7/6, they will never get offered a course underneath this, they might get offered No. 1 or No. 2

The offer Process- Round 2

- After round 1 offers, CAO sometimes can offer students a course in Round 2
- This can happen if there are vacancies on courses or points drop
- All students should accept their Round 1 because they might get an offer in Round 2
- If a student gets an offer in Round 1 & later in Round 2, they can decide which one they want

Defer a course

- If a student wishes to defer, student must contact university/college & not CAO to ask for deferral
- The university/college makes that decision
- Student then has the place for the following year irrespective if points change

PLC- Further Education

- System for applying to study in local colleges
- Apply directly to the college
- Example Cavan Institute

PLC- Further Education

- Specialised areas of study such as Childcare, Hair & Beauty, Nursing Studies, Travel & Tourism
- Involves work experience/practical
- Students can progress to further study or gain employment. No guarantee to get into further study

Other options

- Teagasc- Agriculture Ballyhaise
- Specialist training- Guards, Army
- Apprenticeship- ESB, local companies
- Private- Hair/Beauty
- Year out & defer course
- Direct employment

HEAR

- Higher Education Access Route- social/financial difficulties
- If eligible places are offered on reduced points and extra support
- Established by a number of universities and colleges (not all)
- HEAR is not the maintenance grant

Should I apply

Must meet Income and right combinations
(in booklet) of two other indicators

1. Is your family income below the HEAR income limit for year 2018	4. Is your parents/guardians employment status under-represented in Higher Education?
2. Has your family got a Medical Card that will be in date on 31 st December 2019	5. Have you attended a DEIS school? (Not applicable to us)
3. Did your family receive means-tested social welfare payments for at least 26 weeks in 2018	6. Do you live in an area with high unemployment, poverty and few community facilities

DARE

- Disability Access Route to Education- disabilities
- If eligible places are offered on reduced points & extra support
- Established by a number of universities & colleges (not all)

Disabilities eligible for consideration

- Autism
- ADD/ADHD
- Blind/Vision Impaired
- Deaf/Hearing Impaired
- Dyspraxia
- Mental Health condition
- Significant ongoing illness
- Neurological conditions
- Physical disability
- Specific learning disability Dyslexia

Applying for HEAR/DARE

- Apply and tick on the CAO application form by 1st February
- Fill in the HEAR/DARE application online with parents/guardians by 1st March
- Submit copies of all supporting documents requested by 15th March
- Students responsibility to complete application & submit these documents
- www.accesscollege.ie

Other Schemes

- Other HEIs that don't participate in the HEAR/DARE offer other entry access routes
- List given on pages 9 & 10 in CAO booklet

Grants

- All grants for Universities/ITs/Local colleges are dealt by SUSI (student universal support Ireland)
- Website: www.studentfinance.ie and www.susi.ie

Fees

- Fees not set for 2020 yet
- Based on September 2019
 - Registration fees were €3500

Scholarships

- Students need to check each university/college website about scholarships

Career Choices based on

- Aptitude
- Interest
- Personality
- Employment

Useful Resources

- Internet [_www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
www.careersportal.ie
www.cao.ie www.ucas.co.uk
www.accesscollege.ie
www.studentfinance.ie
www.stoliverpps.ie

- People
Family Past
pupils
G. Counsellor/Teachers