



Subject Choice for Second Year

Plus overview of good study practise

LORETO SECONDARY SCHOOL, FERMOY, CO. CORK

Preparation in School



- All First Year students have had a class about making their subject choice.

In First Year Students “taste” all 17 Subjects:



- Irish, English, Mathematics, Religion,
- CSPE (Civic Social and Political Education)
- SPHE (Social Personal and Health Education)
- PE (Physical Education)
- History, Geography,
- French, German,
- Art, Business, Home Economics, Music,
- Science
- Technology.

In Second and Third Year certain subjects are core:



- Everyone studies these subjects
- They are core to the curriculum as laid out by the Department of Education

In Second and Third Year the Core Subjects are:

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- Religion
- History
- Geography
- P.E.
- C.S.P.E.
- S.P.H.E.



There is a choice about other subjects

- Students may choose four other subjects according to their interests.



Students may pick any four from:



- Art
- Business
- French
- German
- Home Economics
- Science
- Technology
- Music

The Form



- SUBJECT CHOICE FOR SECOND YEAR
- All students take the core subjects in Junior Cycle: Irish, English, Mathematics, Religion, History, Geography, P.E., C.S.P.E. and S.P.H.E.
- Please pick any four subjects from the following list: Art, Business, French, German, Home Economics, Music, Science and Technology.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Date to return the form

- Thursday 9th February 2017
- To Ms. Begley's Office



Guidelines for Choosing cont.

- A student will do better at a subject she finds interesting.
- Choose the subjects the student is good at - look at the student's record in the subject e.g. homework and class tests.
- Speak to subject teachers at the Parent Teacher Meeting on Wednesday 18th January in the Sports Hall



Necessary subjects for courses

- Apart from the core subjects the main subject which might be necessary for particular courses is science.
- Unless a student finds this subject too difficult it is a good idea to keep it on until Junior Certificate level at least.
- If a student finds this subject very difficult in First Year it is likely to be very difficult for her in Second and Third Years also.
- More information to follow about courses where science is necessary.



Third /European Language (French and German)

- Passing a European language at Leaving Cert level is necessary as an entry requirement for many courses.
- For this reason unless a student finds languages very difficult I
- in First Year, it is important to keep on one European language.
- Apart from this it is a real advantage in the workplace to be able to communicate in another language.



A European Language



- **Necessary for all courses except Nursing and some Science/Engineering courses in the following:**
- University College Cork
- University College Dublin
- NUI Galway
- NUI Maynooth
- Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
- St. Angela's College of Education, Sligo
- National College of Art and Design
- Shannon College of Hotel Management

Link Modules/LCVP



- Extra subject in Fifth Year
- Practical subject relating to the workplace and enterprise.
- Cannot be taken unless student is studying either French or German in school.

Some Careers where Science is necessary:



Beauty Therapy (most courses),

Dental Hygienist, Dental Nurse (some courses), Dentist,
Dietician,

Engineer

Food Scientist,

Doctor,

Nurse, Paramedic

Occupational Therapist,

Optometrist,

Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Radiographer, Speech Therapist,
Vet, Veterinary Nurse.

Some Useful Subjects for Various Careers



- **Art** – Graphic Design, Architect, Architectural Technician, Interior Designer, Art Therapist, Primary Teacher.
- **Music** – Music Technologist, Performer, Primary Teacher, Music Therapist.
- **Business** – Accounting, Management, Economist, Marketing, Human Resources.
- **Home Economics** – Hotel Management, Chef, Food Science, Social Work/Sociology
- **Technology** –Engineering, Science, Apprenticeships.

Languages spoken at home



- It is possible to sit the Leaving Certificate in certain languages if students speak them at home and prepare for the exam at home.

These languages are:

- Arabic
- Bulgarian
- Croatian,
- Czech
- Danish, Dutch
- Estonian
- Finnish
- Hebrew Studies
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Japanese



continued

- Latvian,
- Lithuanian
- Modern Greek
- Polish, Portuguese
- Romanian,
- Russian
- Slovakian,
- Spanish,
- Swedish



Study Skills



- Students learn about study skills in SPHE class

Important Study Rules!



- Quiet Place
- No distractions – TV, Phone, Internet
- Organisation - desk, shelf or cupboard
- Good lighting
- Temperature, not too cold or too warm

It is vital to be organised



- Use the school journal to write homework and decide which books to take home.
- Use the school journal as reminder for PE clothes, Home Economics ingredients etc.
- Good idea to have a copy of the timetable at home as well.

Read more!

- Reading improves general knowledge.
- It improves vocabulary and spelling.
- It develops concentration.



Make sure to have a Healthy Balanced Lifestyle

- Healthy food
- Enough sleep (8 hours)
- Fresh Air and exercise
- Recreation and breaks
- Moderation in extracurricular activities



A Suggested Study Method



- **S** Scan
- **Q** Question
- **R** Read
- **R** Remember
- **R** Read Again

Scan



- **Scan** – the headings, bold print and parts underlined from class.
- This is a reminder about the material that is to be studied.
- This gets the brain focused on the task.

Question



- **Question** – ask as many questions as you can think of about the main headings.
- Your mind engages and is more active when it is trying to answer questions.
- This promotes interest rather than an attempt to “learn off” material.

Read – making notes



- **Read** – Read the text trying **to learn** the material and answer the questions you have come up with.
- It is better to read small sections and go back over them than to read through the whole text.
- Read a number of times until you feel **you have a good knowledge of the piece.**
- Make notes as you learn. These notes can be kept for revision.
- Notes can be bullet point, spider diagrams, mind-maps or flash cards.

Remember – test how much you remember

- **Remember** – Test how much you can recall.
- One can test oneself by writing out brief notes or orally.



Read again

- **Read again** – are there gaps in your knowledge? Go back and fill them in!
- Most people will not remember all the information and will have to go over particular points again.



Mistakes to avoid

- Rewriting large sections of information - This takes too much time and is not feasible at Senior Cycle
- Just “looking over” material without making any notes or testing yourself
- Trying to “learn off” without understanding or engaging with the material.



Recap



- Try to study in a suitable room with a desk etc.
- Eat healthy food and take enough rest
- Plan time for interests as well as study.
- Rest and take full breaks during the holidays.
- Become independent and responsible.
- Use a good study method and make notes.
- Be accepting of your own efforts and results. Every girl is different and if you are doing your best then that is good enough. It is not possible for every student to achieve an A and it is not necessary in order to do well in life.

Thank you for your time and
attention!

