



Coláiste Dún an Rí

Kingscourt, Co.Cavan

Principal: Fergal Boyle
Deputy Principal: Tara Mullan
Tel: 042 969 8294
Email: info@colaistedunanri.ie
Web: www.colaistedunanri.ie

10th March 2023

Dear Parents and Students,

RE Senior Cycle Subjects,

You, along with your son/daughter will have to make the decision on **Senior Subject Options** in the coming days. A link to the subject options form will be sent out on Monday the 13th March, you will complete this form through VSware.

You will be asked to select 6 subjects and rank them in order of preference, 1 being your most favoured and 6 the least favoured. It is very important that you give this due consideration as it could impact your options after school. It is essential that you place your subjects in order of preference.

Please note: It may not be possible to provide all subjects or provide all students with their preferred choices. We will do our best but depending on resources we may not be able to accommodate all requests. This is the case in every school.

All forms need to be completed and sent back by Thursday 30th March. Please see below for more information.

Advice for Students & Parents/Guardians

When choosing the subjects, you are going to take in the Leaving Certificate it is important to consider the implications these choices may have on your future third level and career choices.

It is important to choose subjects which will give you a good balance, or mix, to keep as many options open as possible for your future career choice. Be careful not to over-specialise, e.g., take all three Laboratory Sciences, or all Business, unless you are sure that these really are the areas you want to specialise in when you leave school and that they are course entry requirements.

Very few young people of 15 or 16 years of age are sure of what they want to do after school and may change their minds about possible future careers several times over the next couple of years.

You can help yourself to make the wisest choice if you keep in mind that entry to many courses and careers from the Leaving Certificate depends, very often, on the standard of the results you achieve, rather than the subjects in which you achieve those standards.

It would also help to ask yourself the following questions:

1. What subject am I most interested in?
2. Which subjects am I likely to be best at?
3. What subjects will I need?

The answers to numbers 1 and 2 will probably be quite closely linked. Generally, if you are interested in, and like something, it is easier to do well at it. To see what subject you will need, get a sheet of paper and list any career, third level course and career areas you are even slightly interested in, find out the entry requirements, and list them. This exercise has become increasingly important over the last few years. When you have done all that, remember it is important to make a balanced choice of subjects.

The Safe Range

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- French
- A Science subject
- And two other subjects

This is called the “*Safe Range*” because with this type of choice i.e., which includes a language and a science subject, it leaves all options open when a student comes to choosing a college course in 6th Year.

All third and TY students have received lessons in subject choice and have plenty of time to talk to their teachers about their subject at Senior Cycle. Please note that the PowerPoint presentation and Senior Cycle subject options booklet is up on the website for anyone to complete more research on their options.

Please note that due to resource limitations it may not be possible to give every student their preferred subjects. If such a situation arises then we can discuss options for other subject areas.

If you have any further queries regarding this letter or have a query about Subject Options in Coláiste Dún an Rí please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Cumiskey

Guidance Counsellor/Programme Co-Ordinator