

To: Management Authorities of Second-Level Schools

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) in 2009/10

1. The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (**LCVP**) is one of the options within Senior Cycle. The programme has been introduced on a phased basis since September 1994. There are 504 schools providing the LCVP at present.
2. Schools currently approved to offer the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme may cater for a further LCVP student intake in 2009/10 in accordance with the programme requirements outlined in the Appendix. The programme requirements must be met in full in a single school/centre for a student to be deemed an eligible LCVP student.

Schools wishing to offer the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme **for the first time** in September 2009 are requested to complete the attached application form and return it to the Department. The **closing date** for the receipt of the application form is **7 April 2009**.

3. In-service for those schools currently offering the programme and for new applicants will be provided by the Second Level Support Service, which is based in Blackrock Education Centre, Kill Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. The intensive phase of inservice provision, which has operated since the mid 1990's, has now concluded. The support service will therefore concentrate its resources on supporting schools new to the programme. Participation in the necessary inservice is a condition for approval for all new applicants. Details of all inservice arrangements and briefing sessions will be communicated to applicant schools by the Second Level Support Service. A school wishing to make direct contact with the support service should get in touch with:

**The National Co-ordinator,
Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme Support,
Navan Education Centre,
Athlumney,
Navan, Co. Meath.**

Telephone: (046) 907 8382

Fax: (046) 907 8385

e-mail: office@lcvp.ie

4. The outline structure of the LCVP is set out in summary form in the Appendix to this circular.
 - The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme and LCVP Link Modules Assessment Guidelines have been published on the web and may be accessed at www.education.ie (Curriculum, Syllabus and Teaching Guides; LCVP). New schools can obtain copies from the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme Support Service.
 - The portfolio item *My Own Place* requires that students engage in research and analysis of their local neighbourhood. While there is no difficulty with comparisons being made with other locales, the project must focus on current active research in the local neighbourhood in compliance with the published criteria.
5. Staffing for schools selected for the LCVP will be allocated on the basis of 17:1 for non fee paying schools and 18:1 for fee paying school based on the annual October list returns.
6. Please provide a copy of this circular to the appropriate representatives of parents and teachers for transmission to individual parents and teachers.

Brigid McManus
Secretary General

March 2009

Appendix

Summary Outline of Restructured LCVP including revised Vocational Subject Groupings

Each student must take:

- ❖ **Two** Leaving Certificate Subjects **from one** of the Vocational Subject Groupings (see Table below)
- ❖ A Leaving Certificate Modern European Language, or an ab-initio course in a Modern European Language or a Vocational Language Module[#]
In cases where students are not following a Leaving Certificate or Junior Certificate programme in a Modern European Language schools must provide a minimum of one class per week over the two years, or equivalent, to meet the LCVP Modern European Language requirement. They may choose an LCA or FETAC option, or an alternative developed by the school. However, assessment will be at school level for such options, and national certification through the LCA and FETAC options will not be available.
- ❖ **Link Modules (as outlined below)***
 - * Pupils taking the LCVP examination are required to take the two revised Link Modules – ***Preparation for the World of Work*** and ***Enterprise Education***.
- ❖ **Irish[#]** and **at least one other** Leaving Certificate Subject

[#] Pupils opting for an alternative to the Leaving Certificate Modern European Language, or who are exempt from studying Irish must take an additional subject to ensure a minimum of 5 Leaving Certificate subjects.

TABLE

Vocational Subject Groupings 2008/2009			
Specialist Groupings			
1.	Construction Studies 029 Engineering 027 Design & Communication Graphics 562 Technology 065	(any two)	
2.	Physics 021	and	Construction Studies 029 or Engineering 027 or Technology 065 or Design & Communication Graphics 562
3.	Agricultural Science 024	and	Construction Studies 029 or Engineering 027 or Technology 065 or Design & Communication Graphics 562
4.	Agricultural Science 024	and	Chemistry 022 or Physics 021 or Physics & Chemistry 023
5.	Home Economics (New Syllabus – Sci & Soc) 098	(any two)	Agricultural Science 024 or Biology 025
6.	Home Economics (New Syllabus – Sci & Soc) 098	and	Art with Design Option 071 or Art with Craftwork Option 072
7.	Accounting 032 Business 033 Economics 034	(any two)	
8.	Physics 021	and	Chemistry 022
9.	Biology 25	and	Chemistry 022 or Physics 021 or Physics & Chemistry 023
10.	Biology 025	and	Agricultural Science 024
11.	Art with Design Option 071 or Art with Craftwork Option 072	and	Design & Communication Graphics 562
Services Groupings			
12.	Engineering 027 or Technology 065 or Design & Communication Graphics 562 or Construction Studies 029	and	Accounting 032 or Business 033 or Economics 034
13.	Home Economics (New Syllabus – Sci & Soc) 098	and	Accounting 032 or Business 033 or Economics 034
14.	Agricultural Science 024	and	Accounting 032 or Business 033 or Economics 034
15.	Art with Design Option 071 or Art with Craftwork Option 072	and	Accounting 032 or Business 033 or Economics 034
16.	Music 067	and	Accounting 032 or Business 033 or Economics 034

N.B. The programme requirements must be met in full in a single school/centre for a student to be deemed an eligible LCVP student. Changes of mind as to subject choice may be allowed only where they are formally notified to the Department no later than 31 October of Year 1 of the programme. Pupils (apart from repeat students) must be fully programme compliant over the remainder of the 2 year cycle in order to be eligible as LCVP students. In order to ensure the cross curricular components are delivered appropriately, all elements of the programme must be delivered in the school/centre the student is attending on a full-time basis.

It will not be necessary for repeat Leaving Certificate students to comply with all the programmatic requirements of the LCVP in their repeat year, as long as they complied fully with the LCVP programme requirements over a 2 year period in their original Leaving Certificate programme.

**LEAVING CERTIFICATE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMME
APPLICATION FORM 2009/10**

This application form to be completed by schools planning to introduce the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) for the first time in September 2009.

(Schools currently approved to offer the LCVP may cater for a further LCVP student intake in 2009/10 in accordance with the programme requirements outlined in the Appendix. It is not necessary for such schools to complete this form.)

Name of School: _____

School Roll No: _____

Address: _____

_____ **Telephone:** _____

LCVP Enrolment Expected 2009/10

	Year 1 (i.e. completing LCVP course in June 2011)
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Number of LCVP Students: _____

Signed _____ **(Principal) Date** _____

This form should be returned completed to:

Department of Education and Science,
School Governance Section,
Cornamaddy,
Athlone,
Co. Westmeath

Before 7 April 2009 (Late applications cannot be accepted)