



NEWSLETTER MAY 2026

LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED

Dear colleagues,

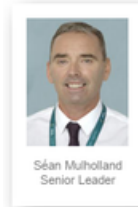
As another year draws to a close, we take a moment to recognise the commitment, care and creativity you bring to your work in supporting learning, teaching, assessment and reporting within and across the Leaving Certificate Applied programme nationwide.

This has truly been a year of growth and new pathways, shaped by the meaningful learning experiences you create and the support you provide to students as they develop confidence and a sense of direction for the future.

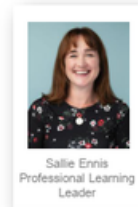
It has been a privilege for the Oide LCA team to support this work throughout the year. We hope the summer offers a well-deserved opportunity to rest and recharge, and we look forward to continuing this work together in the 26/27 academic year ahead.

Wishing you a restful and well-deserved break.

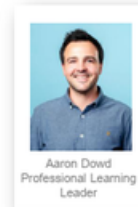
OIDE LCA TEAM



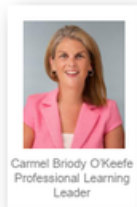
Séan Mulholland
Senior Leader



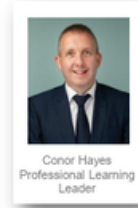
Sallie Ennis
Professional Learning
Leader



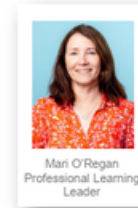
Aaron Dowd
Professional Learning
Leader



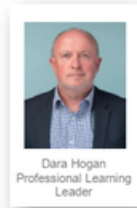
Carmel Briody O'Keefe
Professional Learning
Leader



Conor Hayes
Professional Learning
Leader



Mari O'Regan
Professional Learning
Leader



Dara Hogan
Professional Learning
Leader

School support for Leaving Certificate Applied can be requested by your Principal through the DMS, <https://dms.oide.ie/event/public>.

This support can include a visit to your school and/or email or phone support. Please note that our Oide LCA website has a growing repository of resources and supports.

Please visit our Oide LCA website: <https://oide.ie/post-primary/home/programmes-support/lca/>





Leaving Certificate Applied: A Year of Growth and Pathways

Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA) 2025/26 has been a very busy space for coordinators, teachers and students alike. This year 461 schools offered the LCA Programme with 4,838 students due to complete LCA in June 2026 and 5,924 students completing their fifth year LCA journey. Oide are currently working with a number of schools in 2026/27 and have published a short step by step [school implementation pathway](#) (or click image to the right) guide to support schools considering the introduction or reintroduction of LCA.

As can be seen from the graphic below the number of schools offering LCA is increasing each year. Oide has supported LCA coordinators and teachers in 118 Professional Learning Experiences and strong relationships have been built through In-School Support, school visits and PLEs. After such a busy and productive year, the summer break is a very welcome prospect for everyone. Best wishes to the students completing LCA and heading off on their new pathways.

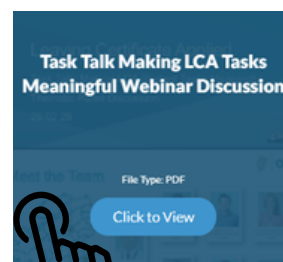


[School Implementation Pathways](#)



Spreagadh - Task Talk and Webwise Webinars

As part of Oide's Spring Learning series 'Spreagadh', the Leaving Certificate Applied team hosted two webinars in February. A huge thank you to Julie Anne Behan, St. Paul's Secondary School, Monasterevin, Caroline Matthews, Ashbourne Community School and Yvonne Lulias, Holy Spirit Secondary School, Kilkenny, for sharing their experience and expertise in the webinar 'Task Talk: Making LCA Tasks Meaningful.' A sincere thank you also to Tracy Hogan, Digital Citizenship and Education and Youth Participation Officer, who shared Webwise resources and good practice in the area of Digital Citizenship. Links for both webinars can be accessed below while other digital citizenship resources can be found at <https://www.webwise.ie/>





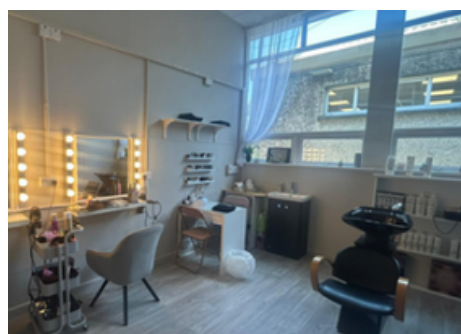
LCA Associate Day - 18th April 2026



From left to right: Sean Mulholland, Conor Hayes, Fionnuala Morgan, Keith Murphy, Ava Thompson, Vicky O'Reilly, Caroline McNamara, Yvonne Lulias, Julie Anne Behan, Carmel Briody O'Keefe, Nikki Lee, Marilyn O' Riordan, Jerome Chambers and Maureen Casey.

A highly engaging Associate Day took place on Saturday 18th April, focusing on “Connecting and Reflecting through LCA Pathways.” In attendance on the day were some of our Oide LCA Associates, Professional Learning Leaders, representatives from TUD and DCU and our colleagues from the Leaving Certificate Applied National Association (LCANA) to share practice and explore student pathways. Valuable contributions were made by guest speakers, Vicki O'Reilly (PhD Research Student, TU Dublin) and Ava Thompson (DCU and past LCA student), who provided real-world insight into the opportunities that arise from engagement with the LCA programme.

Good News Story



Thank you to Olivia Farrelly from the Sacred Heart Secondary School, Drogheda for sharing how creative use of space can enhance student engagement in LCA. Since 2022 a former tuck-shop has been thoughtfully transformed into a dedicated Hair and Beauty specialism studio. The new space reflects the ethos of LCA; practical, student-centred and connected to real-world learning. Designed to mirror a professional salon, it supports students in developing skills across haircare, beautycare, bodycare and customer care in an authentic and engaging environment, all the while building students' confidence, communication skills and awareness of future pathways. Just one of the many examples of creativity across the LCA space nationwide.



Wishing you a lovely summer break,
from the Oide LCA team.

