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Supporting the Professional  
Learning of School Leaders  
and Teachers

# Leaving Certificate Applied

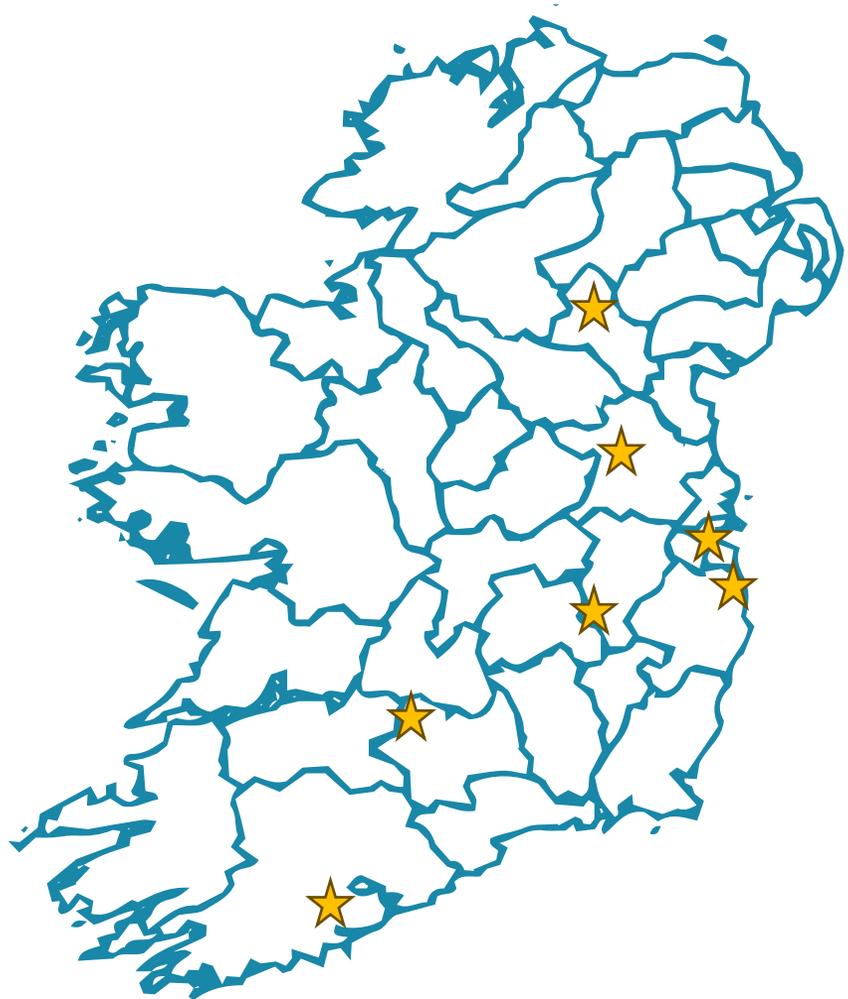
Task Talk: Making LCA Student Tasks Meaningful

Thematic Panel Discussion

26.02.26



# Meet the 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

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# Session Intentions

This session is designed to:



Build a shared understanding of Student Tasks as learning experiences



Explore ways to support students at different stages of the task process



Share practical approaches that have worked in LCA classrooms



# Mapping our Journey



Student Task Overview

Panel Introductions

Thematic Discussion One:

Supporting students in deciding on, and planning for their task

Thematic Discussion Two:

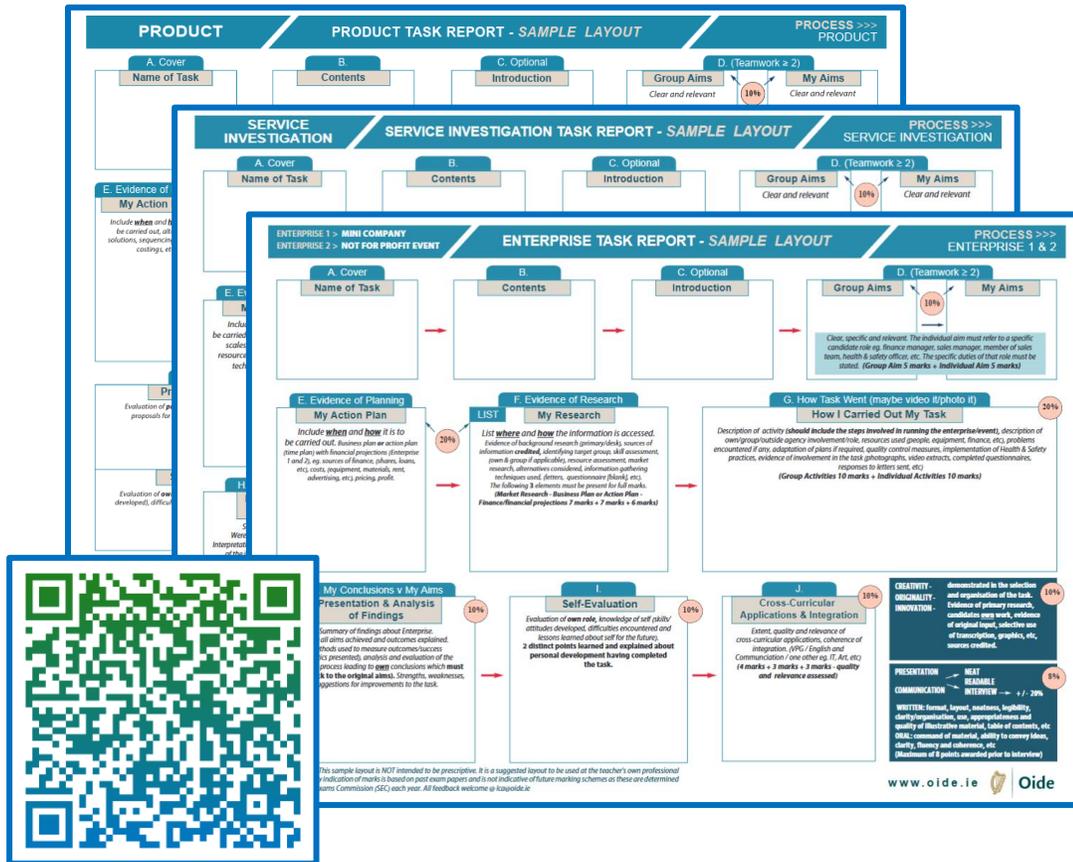
Supporting students in carrying out the task

Thematic Discussion Three:

Supporting students to reflect, review and report on their task



# Tools for our Journey



Outline of Student Tasks  
Frequently Asked Questions  
pp. 15-21





# Overview of Student Tasks

The Student Task is a practical activity and/or process of reflection through which the student integrates and applies learning experiences gained from undertaking the Leaving Certificate Applied programme to some or all of the following:

The development of a **product**

The provision of a **service**

The investigation of an **issue**

The staging of an **event**

The performance of an **action**

Personal **reflection**

*Leaving Certificate Applied Programme Statement, 2024, pp. 15-16*



# Sample Ideas for Student Tasks

The development of a **product**

Furniture piece; sweet treats; charity calendar; early years learning books; information leaflets etc.

The investigation of an **issue**

Fast food; wellbeing; homelessness; climate change; safety in the workplace etc.

The performance of an **action**

Presenting to peers; information stand; fitness sessions; community clean up etc.

The provision of a **service**

Peer support; community support; assistance service at parent teacher meetings etc.

The staging of an **event**

Coffee mornings; sports day; organising a celebration (sporting / school event)

Personal reflection

Reflection on experiences throughout LCA (units of learning; guest speakers; trips etc.)



# Student Tasks and Key Skills

development of a **product**

investigation of an **issue**

performance of an **action**

provision of a **service**

staging of an **event**

Personal reflection



Furniture piece; sweet treats; charity cards; learning books; information leaflets etc.

Fast food; wellbeing; homelessness; child safety in the workplace etc.

Presenting to peers; information stand; community clean up etc.

Peer support; community support; assisting parent teacher meetings etc.

Coffee mornings; sports day; organising (sporting / school event)

Reflection on experiences throughout learning; guest speakers; trips etc.



# Schedule of Student Tasks

LCA Curriculum Framework & Credits Allocation

Course (Subject)	LCA Year 1		LCA Year 2	
	Session 1 Sept-Jan	Session 2 Feb-June	Session 3 Sept-Jan	Session 4 Feb-June
Vocational Preparation & Guidance	2 Credits Module Choice	2 Credits Enterprise	2 Credits Module Choice	2 Credits Module Choice
	2 Credits Module Choice	2 Credits Module Choice	2 Credits Module Choice	2 Credits Guidance
	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
ENGLISH & COMMUNICATIONS + 12 credit exam	1 Credit Personal & Social Communication	1 Credit Communication & The Digital World	1 Credit Communication in Media	1 Credit Express Yourself
Mathematical Applications + 10 credit exams	1 Credit Mathematics & Planning	1 Credit Mathematics & the World Around Us	1 Credit Mathematics & Life Skills	1 Credit Mathematics & Work
	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice
	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice
INTRODUCTION TO ICT	Ongoing	2 Credits Intro to Computer & Word Processing	Ongoing	2 Credits Intro to Other Software & Apps
Arts Education Drama, Dance, Visual Arts, Music	Ongoing	2 Credits Choice	Ongoing	2 Credits Choice
	10 Credits Generic Education Task			
LANGUAGES One 6 credit exam per language	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice	1 Credit Choice
	1 Credit My Community	1 Credit Contemporary Issues 1	1 Credit Contemporary Issues 2	1 Credit Taking Charge
SOCIAL EDUCATION + 10 credit exam	Ongoing	1 Credit Social & Health Education 1	10 Credits Contemporary Issues Task	1 Credit Social & Health Education 2
LEISURE & RECREATION Including PE	Ongoing	2 Credits Choice	Ongoing	2 Credits Choice
ELECTIVES	2 Credits Choice	2 Credits Choice	2 Credits Choice	2 Credits Choice
			10 Credits Practical Advancement Task	
	4 Credits Personal Reflection Task Part 1		6 Credits Personal Reflection Task Part 2	

**Vocational Specialisms**  
The two vocational specialisms: Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Active Leisure Studies are follow-on courses and may only commence once the introductory courses: Introduction to ICT, and Leisure & Recreation, have been completed.

**NCCA Addendum**  
LCA students may access Leaving Certificate Established (LCE) Mathematics and Modern Foreign Languages  
More details: [curriculum@ncca.ie](mailto:curriculum@ncca.ie) / Senior-Cycle/LCA

Module is of 30 hours duration

Framework Video

LCA Curriculum Framework

Includes Interactive Clickable Links





# Schedule of Student Tasks

Session One	Session Two	Session Three	Session Four
Sept-Jan	Feb - June	Sept-Jan	Feb - June
General Education Task	Vocational Preparation Task	Vocational Education Task (Specialism 2)	
	Vocational Education Task (Specialism 1)	Contemporary Issue Task	
		Practical Achievement Task	
Personal Reflection Task (Part One)		Personal Reflection Task (Part Two)	





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# Thematic Panel Discussion





# Meet the Panelists



Yvonne Lulias  
School of the  
Holy Spirit,  
Co. Kilkenny



Caroline Mathews  
Ashbourne C.S,  
Co Meath



Julie-Anne Behan  
St. Pauls S.S,  
Monasterevin,  
Co Kildare

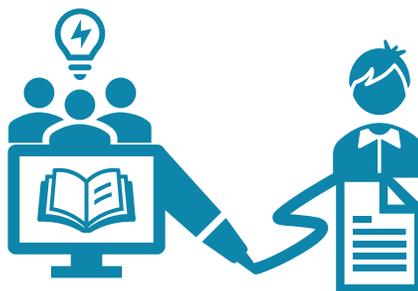


# Why do Student Tasks Matter?

Actively Apply Learning

Develop Communication Skills

Use Creative and Critical Thinking



Strengthen Literacies and Numeracies

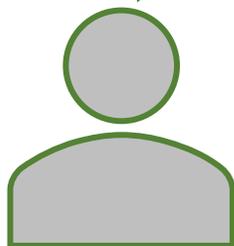
Build Student Self - Confidence

Work Collaboratively and Independently



# Thematic Discussion One

How do you support your students in deciding on, and planning for their task?



Yvonne Lulias  
School of the  
Holy Spirit,  
Co. Kilkenny



Caroline Mathews  
Ashbourne C.S,  
Co Meath



Julie-Anne Behan  
St. Pauls S.S,  
Monasterevin,  
Co Kildare



# Pause, Consider, Share...



Take a moment to consider what you have heard during our panellist discussion.



What ideas or insights has this discussion prompted that will support your current practice?



Share your thoughts or further ideas using the Q & A function.



# Thematic Discussion Two



Yvonne Lulias  
School of the  
Holy Spirit,  
Co. Kilkenny

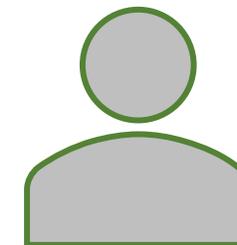


Caroline Mathews  
Ashbourne C.S.,  
Co Meath



Julie-Anne Behan  
St. Pauls S.S,  
Monasterevin,  
Co Kildare

What supports help  
students stay engaged  
and confident while  
carrying out a Student  
Task?





# Pause, Consider, Share...



Take a moment to consider what you have heard during our panellist discussion.



What ideas or insights has this discussion prompted that will support your current practice?

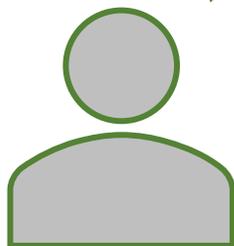


Share your thoughts or further ideas using the Q & A function.



# Thematic Discussion Three

How do you help students reflect on, review and report their Student Task?



Yvonne Lulias  
School of the Holy Spirit,  
Co. Kilkenny



Caroline Mathews  
Ashbourne C.S,  
Co Meath



Julie-Anne Behan  
St. Pauls S.S,  
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# Pause, Consider, Share...



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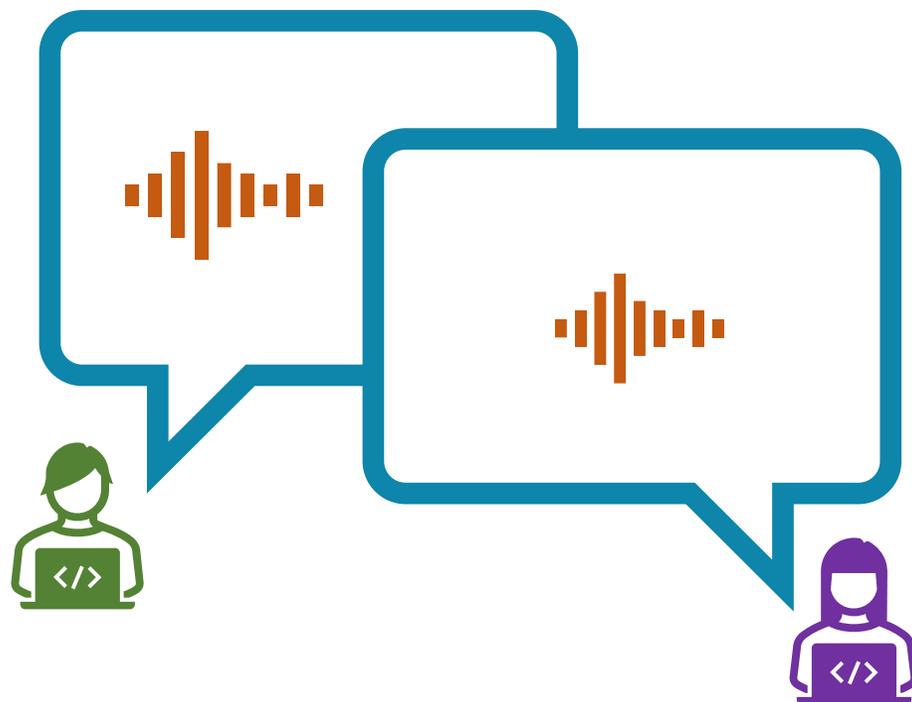
What ideas or insights has this discussion prompted that will support your current practice?



Share your thoughts or further ideas using the Q & A function.



# Insights Shared by You





# Recap, Reflect, Action

## Overview of Student Tasks

The Student Task is a practical activity and/or process of reflection through which the student integrates and applies learning experiences gained from undertaking the Leaving Certificate Applied programme to some or all of the following:

- The development of a **product**
- The investigation of an **issue**
- The performance of an **action**
- The provision of a **service**
- The staging of an **event**
- Personal reflection

Leaving Certificate Applied Programme Statement, 2024, pp. 15-16

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## Student Tasks and Key Competencies

development of a **product**

investigation of an **issue**

performance of an **action**

provision of a **service**

the staging of an **event**

Personal reflection

Furniture piece; sweet treats; charity learning books; information leaflets etc.

Fast food; wellbeing; homelessness; climate change; safety in the workplace etc.

Presenting to peers; information stand; community clean up etc.

Peer support; community support; as parent teacher meetings etc.

Coffee mornings; sports day; organis (sporting / school event)

Reflection on experiences throughou learning; guest speakers; trips etc.

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## Thematic Discussion One

How do you support your students in deciding on, and planning for their task?

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## Thematic Discussion Two

What supports help students stay engaged and confident while carrying out a Student Task?

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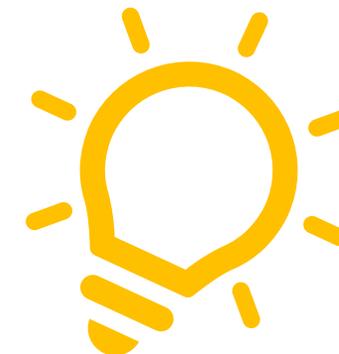
## Thematic Discussion Three

How do you help students reflect on, review and report their Student Task?

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# Recap, Reflect, Action



**Thematic Discussion One**

How do you support your students in deciding on, and planning for their task?

**Theresa Lohan**  
School of the Holy Spirit,  
Clonsilla

**Caroline Matthews**  
Belvedere,  
Clonsilla

**Jane Anne Bolan**  
St. Paul's S.S.,  
St. Paul's,  
Clonsilla

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How can you support your students in deciding on, and planning for their task?

**Thematic Discussion Two**

What supports help students stay engaged and confident while carrying out a Student Task?

**Theresa Lohan**  
School of the Holy Spirit,  
Clonsilla

**Caroline Matthews**  
Belvedere,  
Clonsilla

**Jane Anne Bolan**  
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St. Paul's,  
Clonsilla

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What supports can help students stay engaged and confident while carrying out a Student Task?

**Thematic Discussion Three**

How do you help students reflect on, review and report their Student Task?

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St. Paul's,  
Clonsilla

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How can you help students reflect on, review and report their Student Task?

What is one idea or action from tonight will you bring back to your LCA team or try with your next Student Task?



# Session Intentions Revisited

Throughout this session we have:



Built a shared understanding of Student Tasks as learning experiences



Explored ways to support students at different stages of the task process



Shared practical approaches that have worked in LCA classrooms



# Upcoming PLE March 2026

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**Leaving Certificate Applied Online PLEs**

**Modern Foreign Languages**  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Online**

**Music**  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Online**

The focus of these Professional Learning Experiences (PLEs) will be to provide participants with opportunities to explore:

- Curriculum and assessment procedures in LCA modules
- Approaches to learning, teaching and assessment in LCA
- Subject specific module descriptor content and focus on learning outcomes



**These workshops will take place:**  
 Online from 10.00am - 3.30pm and will comprise three sessions throughout the day. Full details of these PLEs are available at <https://oide.ie> or via the QR code above.

**Full substitution cover will be provided by the Department of Education and Youth.**

Places are limited to allow participants to derive the most from the session and facilitate discussion. Book early to avoid disappointment.  
 To register for a place on a PLE, please log on to <https://oide.ie/apply-book-now/teachers/>  
 For further details contact Oide LCA Administration Base by email [lca@oide.ie](mailto:lca@oide.ie)

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**Leaving Certificate Applied**  
 For teachers of  
**Graphics & Construction**  
**Engineering**  
**Technology**  
 Professional Learning Experience  
**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**  
**Online**

The focus of this Professional Learning Experience (PLE) will be to provide participants with opportunities to explore:

- Curriculum and assessment procedures in the above LCA modules.
- Approaches to learning, teaching and assessment in LCA,
- Subject specific module descriptor content and focus on learning outcomes.



**This professional learning experience will take place:**  
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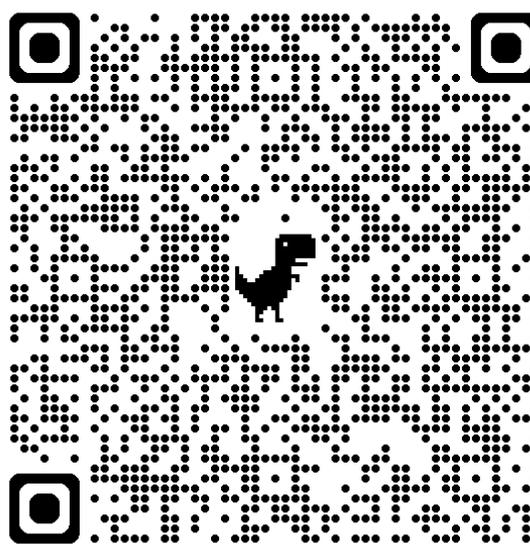


# Further Information and Feedback

Feedback  
Matters



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# Míle buíochas