



Leaving Certificate Applied Update - February 2026

In this update, the Oide LCA Team would like to acknowledge the tremendous work and the strong commitment of schools and teachers to developing high-quality learner experiences in LCA. This academic year, there have been over 90 Professional Learning Experiences (PLEs), with more than 1,300 teacher interactions across our subject, task and coordinator PLEs. The team is also providing in-school support to over 30 schools as they develop or introduce LCA in 2025/26 and 2026/27, ensuring strong, sustained guidance as uptake of LCA continues to grow. Additional LCA experiences are now open for registration at <https://oide.ie/teachers/> or via the QR code here:



Spreagadh 2026

Oide is delighted to announce a week-long series of Professional Learning called 'Spreagadh'. This national event will take place from the 23rd – 28th of February. There will be two LCA related events taking place that week:

- **Tuesday 24th February - Supporting LCA Teachers in Digital Citizenship Education**
Oide and Webwise will explore relevant supports and resources for teachers of English and Communications, Social Education, Senior Cycle SPHE and Introduction to ICT.
- **Thursday 26th February - Task Talks: Making LCA Student Tasks Meaningful**
A practical panel discussion with three experienced teachers exploring key stages of Leaving Certificate Applied student tasks, sharing real classroom strategies to engage and support students.

LCANA Conference 2026

The LCANA Conference, “LCA Classroom to Careers – Flexible Pathways”, held on Saturday 24th January 2026, was once again an inspiring and uplifting event. Among those in attendance were the Minister for Education and Youth, Hildegard Naughton; Amy Dignam, LCA teacher and AIB Future Sparks winner for her Hair & Beauty – Community Links project; John Donnelly from the State Examinations Commission; and Gráinne Conachy, Senior Inspector at the Department of Education and Youth (DEY).

The conference was followed by the Fergal Quinn National Awards 2025, celebrating the outstanding achievements of students who earned the highest LCA grades nationwide. Ava Thompson, a 2022 award recipient from Scoil Mhuire, Clane, returned as a guest speaker. Having achieved a distinction in LCA, she is now completing her PME in Religious Education and History at DCU. Ava spoke about how the LCA Programme shaped her path and shared her ambitions to pursue a Masters in Autism Education or Guidance Counselling. She credits LCA with opening doors and creating opportunities she might never have imagined.



From left to right: Katriona Dowling (Oide Wellbeing Team), former LCA Student Ava Thompson and Seán Mulholland and Sallie Ennis (Oide LCA Team)



Minister for Education & Youth, Hildegard Naughton



Katriona Dowling, Seán Mulholland, Gráinne Conachy, Senior Inspector (DEY), Minister Naughton & Sallie Ennis

Wishing you all a very relaxing and well-earned mid-term break!

