

Accredited grades and associated choices:

Information sheet for parents and students of the Leaving Certificate class of 2021

This information sheet collates and summarises key information for students and parents of the Leaving Certificate class of 2021. This sheet contains information on:

- Written Exams and Accredited Grades
- Appealing Written Exams and Accredited Grades
- Key CAO information
- Sources of further information and support

All information is correct at the time of publication (23/08/2021). Additional information **will** become available **after** the publication of this resource. Students and parents are therefore advised to continue to check <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/d3ea2-leaving-certificate-2021/> for the latest information and updates.

Practical information to begin and focus action	My Examination Number is: My CAO Number is: My PPS Number is: My first choice for this year is: My second choice for this year is: Additional back-ups / options are:
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Written Exams and Accredited Grades

- Available from **10am, Friday, 3rd September 2021** at the **Candidate Self Service Portal** on www.examinations.ie. The homepage will have a link to allow you to access the portal (by that date). *Schools will also receive a report by post.*
- Students will need their examination number and account password.
- Students will be credited with the better of the two results where they have taken the written exam **and** opted to receive the Accredited Grade for a subject.
- Results will be transferred to the CAO to facilitate progression to higher education.
- A short time following the issue of results (**from 5pm Tuesday, 7th September**), students will have access to more detailed information about both sets of results.
- Students will be able to see the marks awarded in the written examination and the marks awarded in any components (e.g., orals, practical's, projects, coursework) for each of the subjects taken.
- The estimated percentage marks submitted by the school, the accredited mark following the process of standardisation, and the Accredited Grades will be available for those subjects in which students have opted for Accredited Grades.
- This information will help decide whether to appeal a result in a subject.
- Teachers may have given different grades than what is finally offered to students. Teachers are not permitted to discuss the accredited grades with students. Any questions or queries in this regard should be directed to the SEC: accreditedgrades@examinations.ie / **0906 442702**
- These grades are provided in time for students who have applied through the CAO and the UK's UCAS for college entry for the 2021/2022 academic year.
- We do not know on the day of the results what the CAO points will be for courses.
- If students are not happy with grades, they have **several options/choices** (see next section).

Appealing written exams and Accredited Grades

- Students can apply to appeal the result in the Leaving Certificate Examination and/or Accredited Grade **between 9am, Saturday 11th of September and 12pm Monday 13th of September.**

There will be no charge for an appeal.

- Students follow the appeals process to appeal the result of a **written examination**. This will include an opportunity to view the scripts marked by examiners.

The Viewing of Scripts service (**available from 9am, Saturday 11th September**) allows students to make copies of scripts during the viewing sessions using their own digital device and is the only opportunity to access scripts in advance of the **appeals closing date**

- The **Accredited Grades** appeal process will include three stages:

Stage 1: Checks will be undertaken to ensure that the intended information was recorded correctly by the school and that the information was transferred correctly into the data collection system.

Stage 2: There will also be a review to ensure that the data was correctly received and processed in the national standardisation process conducted by the department

Stage 3: Students unhappy with the outcome of this process can seek a review by Independent Appeal Scrutineers

All aspects of data processing of accredited grades will be checked (It does not involve a review of the actual data/marks given to students)

- Appeals will be made via the **Candidate Self Service Portal** on www.examinations.ie
*Information will be added to the **Candidate Self Service Portal** over the coming days and weeks.*
- Information on what the application involves will be available soon. Check key websites such as www.education.ie, www.gov.ie, , www.examinations.ie [AND SCHOOL WEBSITE?]
- Students will be notified of the result of the appeal on [INSERT DATE once available]
- If a student is upgraded, in line with CAO requirements, they will receive an **updated offer** from the CAO
- Students **may** be able to take up the new offer for the year 2021/2022 or start in 2022/2023

Key CAO information

- Offers will be made available by email/text only, i.e., no posted offers
- If you need to contact the CAO, the best way is to send a message using the [2021 My Application Log-in](#). You will need your CAO application number, DOB and password.
- CAO Dates to be aware of:

Round 1:	Offer Date:	7th September 2021 from 14:00
	Reply Date:	13th September 2021 by 15:00

The [Available Places](#) application system will re-open on 8th September at 12:00.

- 'Available Places' are places that remain unfilled in particular courses after all offers have been made and waiting lists have been exhausted.
- The 'Available Places' facility is open to new and existing CAO applicants.
- Applicants must meet the minimum entry requirements for the course(s) and can ignore CAO points from earlier rounds.

Round 2:	Offer Date:	20th September 2021 from 10:00
	Reply Date:	22nd September 2021 by 15:00
Round 3:	Offer Date:	28th September 2021 from 10:00
	Reply Date:	30th September 2021 by 15:00
Round 4:	Offer Date:	5th October 2021 from 10:00
	Reply Date:	7th October 2021 by 15:00
Round 5:	Offer Date:	12th October 2021 from 10:00
	Reply Date:	14th October 2021 by 15:00

- HEAR / DARE information available at <http://accesscollege.ie/> or contact the individual institution.
- Deferral procedures remain the same (consult CAO handbook)

<p>KEY Sources of further information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gov.ie (Leaving Certificate 2021) https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/d3ea2-leaving-certificate-2021/ ➤ A Short Guide to the Accredited Grades Data Collection, National Standardisation and Quality Assurance Processes https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ed7d4-a-short-guide-to-the-accredited-grades-data-collection-national-standardisation-and-quality-assurance-processes/ ➤ examination.ie <i>Leaving Certification 2021 Candidate Information Guide</i> https://www.examinations.ie/misc-doc/EN-CA-9809541.pdf ➤ CAO.ie http://www.cao.ie/ ➤ Colleges / University / Institute websites <i>Various</i> ➤ SOLAS <i>For information on apprenticeships</i> http://www.apprenticeship.ie/ ➤ SUSI <i>For information on student grants</i> https://susi.ie/ ➤ National Parent Council Leaving Certificate Helpline 1800 265 165 https://www.npcpp.ie/leaving-cert-helpline/ <i>IGC provide qualified guidance counsellors to give advice and support to both students and their parents. See link above for hours.</i> ➤ Adult Educational Guidance Services https://www.ncge.ie/ncge/aegi-contact-details
<p>Other Information</p>	<p>e.g., who in the school may be contacted if there are queries by the Class of 2021 – when and how may they be contacted?</p> <p>e.g., what information will be available on the school website?</p> <p>e.g., any other information for parents/students</p>

Sources of support

Childline (ISPCC)

- Ireland's 24-hour national listening service for young people up to the age of 18
- freephone **1800 666 666** (any time, day or night)
- text **50101** (from 10am to 4pm every day)
- chat online at www.childline.ie (from 10am to 4pm every day)

BeLonG To Youth Services

BeLonG To provide support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI+) young people in Ireland.

- text LGBTI+ to **086 1800 280** to chat in confidence with a trained crisis volunteer (anytime day or night, standard SMS rates may apply)
- visit www.belongto.org for more information

Jigsaw

The Jigsaw Support Line is available for free mental health support and advice to young people aged 12 to 25 years old, and parents or concerned adults in Ireland.

- freephone **1800 544729** (from 1pm to 5pm Monday to Friday)
- text CALL ME to **086 180 3880**, giving your preferred day and time for a call (from 9am to 5pm Monday - Friday)
- email help@jigsaw.ie (for responses from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday)
- visit www.jigsaw.ie or www.jigsawonline.ie for more information.

Barnardos

Barnardos provide a national [telephone support service for parents](#), in response to the challenges they are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Freephone **1800 910 123** from 10am to 2pm, Monday to Friday.

Barnardos also provide a [children's bereavement helpline service](#), for members of the public seeking information and support in relation to bereavement. Telephone **01 473 2110** from 10am to 12pm, Monday to Thursday.

SpunOut.ie

SpunOut.ie provides a wide range of articles and information for young people, on many different topics, including mental health.

- text SPUNOUT to **086 1800 280** to chat to a trained volunteer (standard message rates may apply)
- visit www.spunout.ie for more information

More online supports

The [YourMentalHealth](#) website provides information and signposting on all mental health supports and services that are available nationally and locally provided by the HSE and its funded partners. You can also call the freephone YourMentalHealth Information Line to find supports and services any time, day or night: **1800 111 888**.

Turn2Me & MyMind

Turn2Me provides a 3-tiered approach to supporting mental well-being, self-help, support groups and professional support. Online services include counselling and support groups.

www.turn2me.ie www.mymind.org

The support offered by various agencies listed above are for individuals who are feeling worried or anxious about various issues.

Source:

[Supporting the Wellbeing of Students: Guidance for Post-Primary Schools and Student Support Teams during School Closures and Public Health Restrictions arising from COVID-19](#)