



14.01.20

## RE: Senior Cycle Subject Choice

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Your son/daughter will be moving forward to Senior Cycle in the coming academic year starting in August 2020. All Third Year and TY students will shortly be required to fill in their Senior Cycle Options form. **All students intending to enter senior cycle at Ratoath College must complete this form**, including those who have already applied to do TY next year and those who intend to apply for the Leaving Cert Applied Programme.

The form requires students to select 8 subjects (in order of preference) that they wish to study for the established Leaving Cert. These will be their options subjects which they study alongside Irish (unless exempt), English and Maths. The options subjects available are:

Accounting, Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Classics, Construction Studies, Design & Communications Graphics, Economics, Engineering, French, Geography, History, Home Economics, Italian, Music, Physical Education, Physics and Religious Education.

The form includes space for those who intend to apply for the Leaving Cert Applied Programme to do so.

To help them, and you, to make these choices, your son/daughter has been provided with a digital [Subject Choice Handbook](#) as well as taking part in Eirquest testing and a session on Senior Cycle Subject Choice with a Guidance Counsellor. Students received their Eirquest reports in school over the past two weeks. We also had our annual Senior Cycle Options evening for parents on Tuesday 12.11.19. If you were unable to attend that evening, the information presented is [available online](#). If you would like hard copies of the [Subject Choice Handbook](#) or the [information evening information](#), please contact the school.

This year, we are moving to an online application system for senior cycle subject choice.

Please note the following important information about the application process:


- Students will receive a link to the online application form in their school email inbox tomorrow at approx. 16.00 (Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020). The link will also be posted on Schoology. We will send you a text at the same time to remind you that we have sent the form to your son/daughter.
- Students will require their school email address and password to log in to the application form.
- Students are aware that they are required to complete the application form in consultation with you and we strongly recommend that you are present with your son/daughter when they fill in their form.
- Students who have already applied for TY are also required to fill in the subject choice form.
- Forms received after the deadline will only be dealt with once subject choices have been allotted to all on-time applications. This means that late applicants are extremely unlikely to receive their highest preferences.
- Once all forms have been submitted, you will receive an email with a summary of the choices made by your son/daughter.
- Students will be informed of the options subjects assigned to them after the conclusion of this year's state exams.
- The deadline for completing the form is Friday 31.01.20. Note that this is one week later than previously advised.


**A hard copy of this letter is being sent home with your child on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Please sign the note in the comments section of your son/daughter's Dialann to confirm receipt of this letter.**


We have strongly encourage all students to take advantage of all the supports available to them prior to making a decision on their Senior Cycle options, including as they feel necessary, speaking with their Caomhnóir, their Moltóir, a Guidance counsellor and their subject teachers.

Yours faithfully,

  
Seamus Meehan  
Principal

  
Colm Connolly  
Deputy Principal

  
Donna Kelly  
Deputy Principal

  
John McCarthy  
Deputy Principal

*Mol an Óige agus Tiocfaidh sí*