



Provision of Education in Ireland
 Pre-school, primary, second level, special needs,
 3rd level, adult & 2nd chance

Second Level Education

- Age 12-18 years
- Compulsory until 16 years or 3 years of study

Voluntary/ Gaelscoileanna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owned by trusteeship of religious organisations, board of governors or individuals • Managed by B.O.M. • Mainly denominational- 1 religion • Single sex or co-educational • Financed by DES
Community & comprehensive schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed by B.O.M. • NON-DENOMINATIONAL • Co-educational • Financed by DES
Vocational & community college	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owned by ETB • Managed by B.O.M. • Non-denominational • Co-educational • Largely funded by DES • Main provider of adult education & community education courses i.e PLC /Cavan Institute
Educate Together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed by B.O.M. • Multi- DENOMINATIONAL • Co-educational • Financed by DES
Private Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed by B.O.M. • DENOMINATIONAL • Co-educational or single sex • Not eligible to be Financed by DES (no assistance for running costs)

Educational Programmes offered in secondary schools.

Junior Cycle	TY	Leaving Cert	LCVP	LCA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Yr with compulsory assessment • Aims to extend & deepen the quality of students knowledge, develop personal/social confidence & prepare for future study or employment. • Study range of subjects Irish, English, Maths • NEW JC • The six key skills of junior cycle are Managing Myself, Staying Well, Communicating, Being Creative, Working with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional/mandatory offered between Junior & Senior Cycle • Provides students with an education that encourages personal development, promote skill development with an emphasis on independent & incorporates adult & working life experiences • Each school designs its own TY programme with set guidelines to suit the needs & interests of students i.e. work experience or organising a musical. • No state exam. • Assessment is usually continuous with projects, oral, practical & written. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 year with compulsory set exams at the end • Aims to equip kids with skills & knowledge necessary for further study or the world of work. • Study 5+ subjects i.e. compulsory: Irish, English, Maths. • Caters for various abilities -H.L., O.L. or Foundation for Irish & maths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 year compulsory set of exams at the end. • Students study at least 5 subjects, 2 of which must be Accounting, Ag.Science, Business. Construction studies, HEC or Tech • Foreign language must be studied. • Students must study 3 compulsory link modules i.e. enterprise, preparation for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 year modular based programme, divided into 4 ½ year modules • Aims to prepare students for the requirements of further education or training i.e. PLC or for the world of work. • Students must participate in: General education: English, modern languages, maths. Vocational Ed: work experience Vocational Prep: Information & communication technology., Hotel Catering & Tourism • Continuous assessment with practical, oral &

<p>Others, and Managing Information and Thinking. Working with digital technology also forms part of each of the skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers are encouraged to build them into their class planning, their teaching approaches and into assessment. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some subjects give marks for practical/project work i.e. Each grade received in the final exams carries CAO points that are added together to obtain entry to 3rd level. 	<p>work & work experience.- aim of introducing students to the world of work & business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link modules are assessed by 40% written exam & 60% coursework portfolio. Pass/merit/distinction cert can be given & used for 3rd level entry 	<p>written exams at the end of 2nd year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass/merit/distinction cert can be given
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Special Needs Education

- Educating children in a special way that addresses their **unique needs & individual differences**
- **EPSEN (Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs) Act 2004** states that children with SEN are to be educated in an inclusive classroom setting in a mainstream primary or secondary school, unless this wouldn't be in the best interests of the child or would affect the education of other children in the class.
- Example of EN: **visual & hearing impairments, Down Syndrome, Autistic Spectrum Disorders, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, dyslexia and dyspraxia.**



Educational Supports/Resources provided in mainstream primary & secondary schools for students with SEN

- Learning support/resource teachers provide additional support for kids with SEN on an individual/group basis
- SNA's provide non-teaching care to kids with SEN i.e.
- Visiting teacher service provides support for children with visual or hearing impairments
- Assistive technology enables student with SEN to maintain their independence i.e. laptops with zoom text software for visual impairments.
- Second level schools provide reasonable accommodations in exams to limit the impact of student's disability on their exam performance i.e. reader, use of word processor, tape recorder, scribe or spelling & grammar waiver.
- Some primary schools provide special classes with low pupil-teacher ratio, so children with SEN receive more 1 on 1 attention

Special Schools

- Over 140 special school in Ireland for students between 5-18 years with particular learning disabilities & special needs
- Many provide education to L.C. but offer programmes such as life skill courses for students who won't benefit from exams.
- Some kids with SEN may attend mainstream school for part of the week & attend special school on other days.
- Children who live far away from a special school, the DES provides transport services from certain areas.