



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

LCA

VPG

**Subject Development Day
2022**

Session 1	Welcome and Introductions Learning outcomes An Overview of the LCA Programme and assessment
Tea/Coffee Break	
Session 2	Activity and discussion
Lunch	
Session 3	Practical strategies for teaching, learning and assessment in VPG Evaluations

By the end of this seminar participants will have:

Become familiar with the curriculum and assessment procedures in Leaving Certificate Applied.

Explored the approaches to teaching, learning and assessment in LCA.

Become familiar with your subject specific module descriptor.

PDST - Introduction

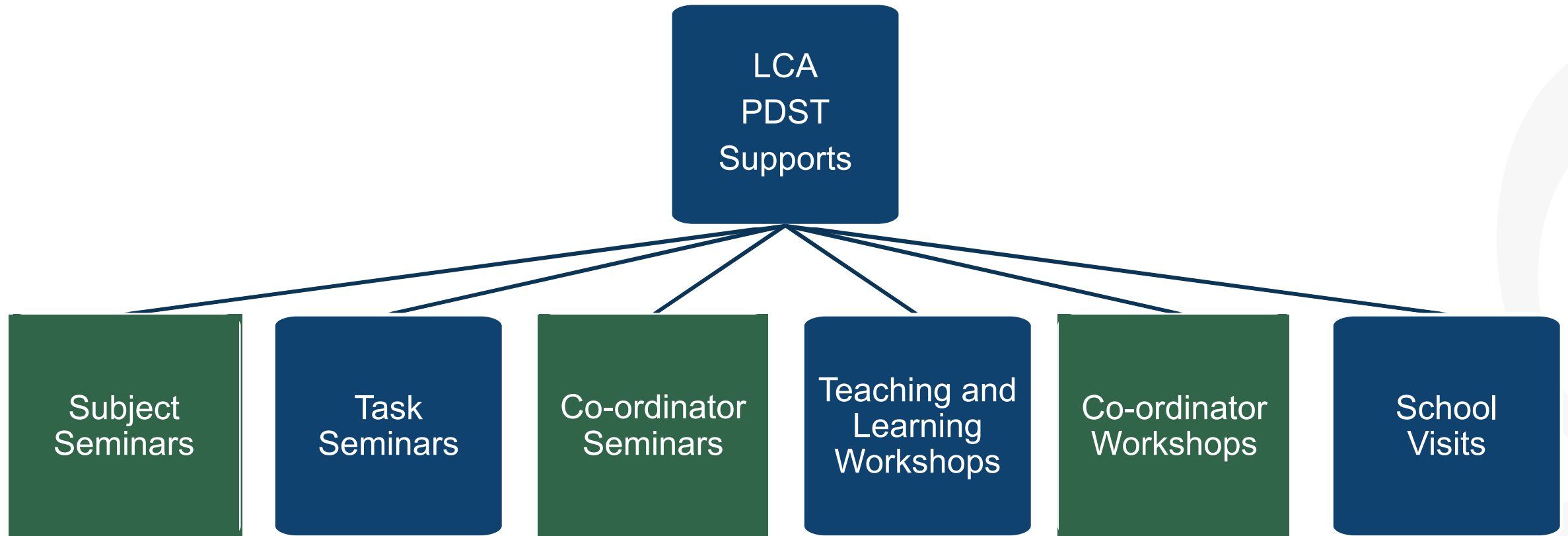
What we are

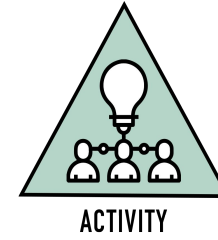
Teachers & School Leaders
Teacher Educators
Facilitators/Enablers
Purveyors of Lifelong Learning

What we are not

Evaluators
Policy Makers
Curriculum Developers

LCA supports provided by PDST





What do you hope to get from today's seminar?



LCA Curriculum framework

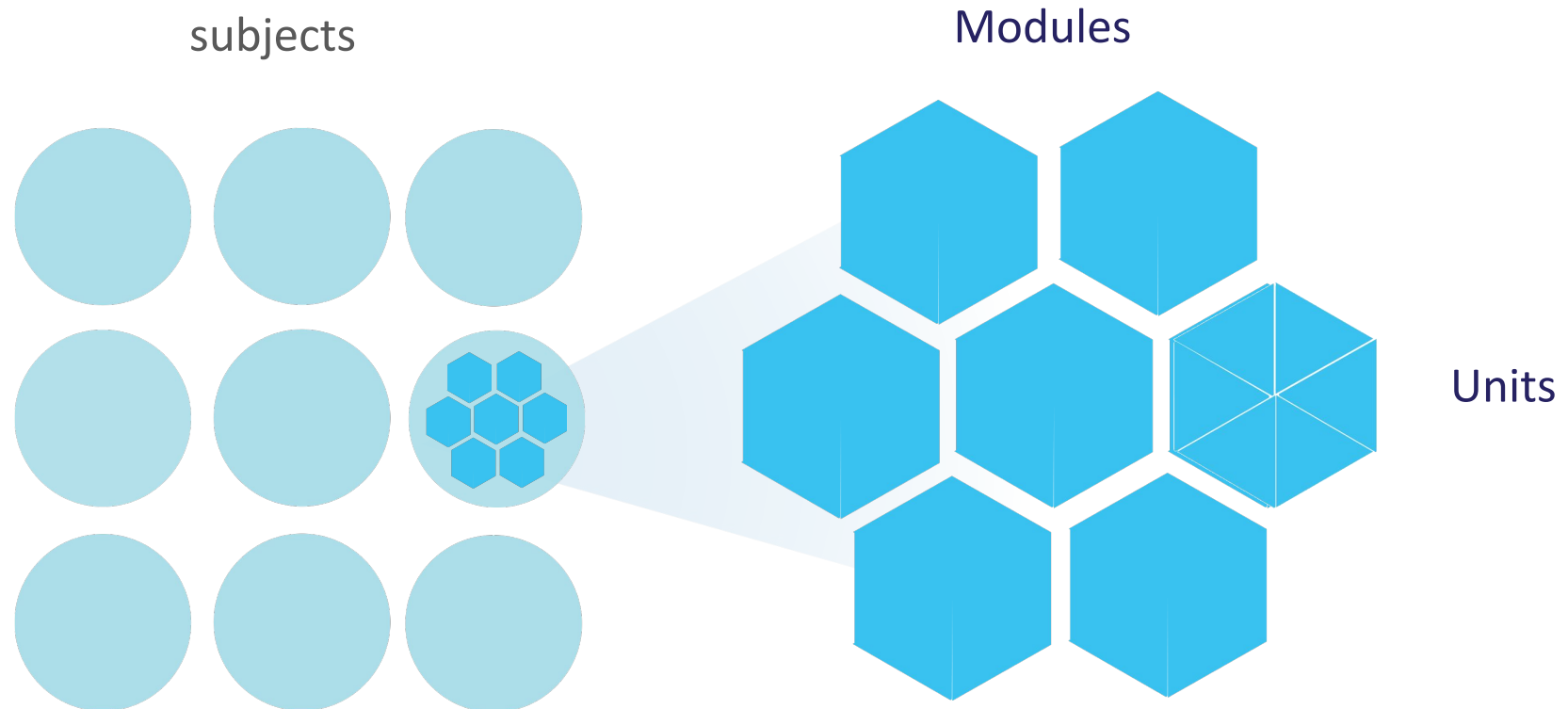
LCA Curriculum Framework & Credits Allocation

Course Name	Year One		Year Two	
	Session 1 Sept-Jan	Session 2 Feb-June	Session 3 Sept-Jan	Session 4 Feb-June
Vocational Preparation	Vocational Preparation & Guidance	→ 2 2	→ 2 Enterprise 2	→ 2 Guidance 2
	English & Communications (Exam = 12 credits)	Personal & Social Communications	Communication & the Digital World	Communication in Media Express Yourself
	VOC. PREP. TASK		PERSONAL REFLECTION TASK PART 1	
	PERSONAL REFLECTION TASK PART 2		PERSONAL REFLECTION TASK PART 2	
Vocational Education	Mathematical Applications (Exam = 10 credits)	Mathematics & Planning	Mathematics & the World Around Me	Mathematics & Life Skills Mathematics & Work
	Vocational Specialisms (Choose 2 from 11 options (Exams = 12 credits each))	1 1	1 1	1 1
	Introduction to Information and Communication Technology	→	2	→ 2
	VOC. ED. TASK		VOC. ED. TASK	
General Education	Arts Education (Drama, Dance, Visual Arts, Music)	→	2	→ 2
	Social Education (Exam = 10 credits)	1 My/Com →	1 Ctp/tes1 1 Soc/Health	1 Ctp/tes 2 1 Tkl/Change 1 Soc/Health
	Languages (2 exams = 6 credits each)	1	1	1 1
	Leisure & Recreation (including PE.)	→	2	→ 2
	GENERAL ED. TASK		CONT. ISSUES TASK	
Elective Courses	2	2	2	2
30 Hour Modules (3 to 4 class periods per week)			PRACTICAL ACHIEVEMENT TASK	
<p>→ Indicates that the module credits may be taught in this session but <u>cannot</u> be claimed until May of that year.</p> <p>□ Indicates that the module credits can be claimed at the end of this session.</p> <p><i>All tasks have a value of 10 credits each</i></p>				

LCA Curriculum Framework

Vocational Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational Preparation & Guidance • English & Communications
Vocational Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematical Applications • Vocational Specialisms* (<i>Choose 2 from 11 options</i>) • Introduction to Information Communication Technology
General Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts Education (<i>Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts</i>) • Social Education • Languages (<i>Gaeilge and French/Italian/German/Spanish</i>) • Leisure & Recreation (<i>including Physical Education</i>)
Elective courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious Education (for example) • Science (for example)

LCA Programme Structure

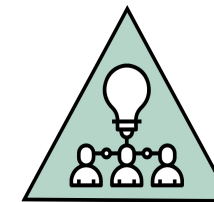


LCA Curriculum Framework

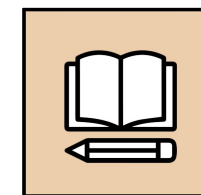
Please fill in:
Two specialisms
Your own subject (if different)
Any elective

LCA Curriculum Framework & Credits Allocation

Course Name	Year One		Year Two	
	Session 1 Sept-Jan	Session 2 Feb-June	Session 3 Sept-Jan	Session 4 Feb-June
Vocational Preparation	Vocational Preparation & Guidance	→	→	→
	English & Communications (Exam = 12 credits)	Personal & Social Communications	Communication & the Digital World	Communication in Media
				Express Yourself
		VOC. PREP. TASK		
Vocational Education	Mathematical Applications (Exam = 10 credits)	Mathematics & Planning	Mathematics & the World Around Me	Mathematics & Life Skills
	Vocational Specialisms (Choose 2 from 11 options (Exams = 12 credits each))			
	Introduction to Information and Communication Technology	→		→
		VOC. ED. TASK		VOC. ED. TASK
General Education	Arts Education (Drama, Dance, Visual Arts, Music)	→		→
	Social Education (Exam = 10 credits)	My/Com	Ctp/Iss1 Soc/Health	Ctp/Iss 2 Tk/Charge Soc/Health
	Languages (2 exams = 6 credits each)			
	Leisure & Recreation (including P.E.)	→		→
		GENERAL ED. TASK		CONT. ISSUES TASK
Elective Courses				
30 Hour Modules (3 to 4 class periods per week)				
			PRACTICAL ACHIEVEMENT TASK	
<p>→ Indicates that the module credits may be taught in this session but cannot be claimed until May of that year.</p> <p>□ Indicates that the module credits can be claimed at the end of this session.</p>				
<i>All tasks have a value of 10 credits each</i>				



ACTIVITY



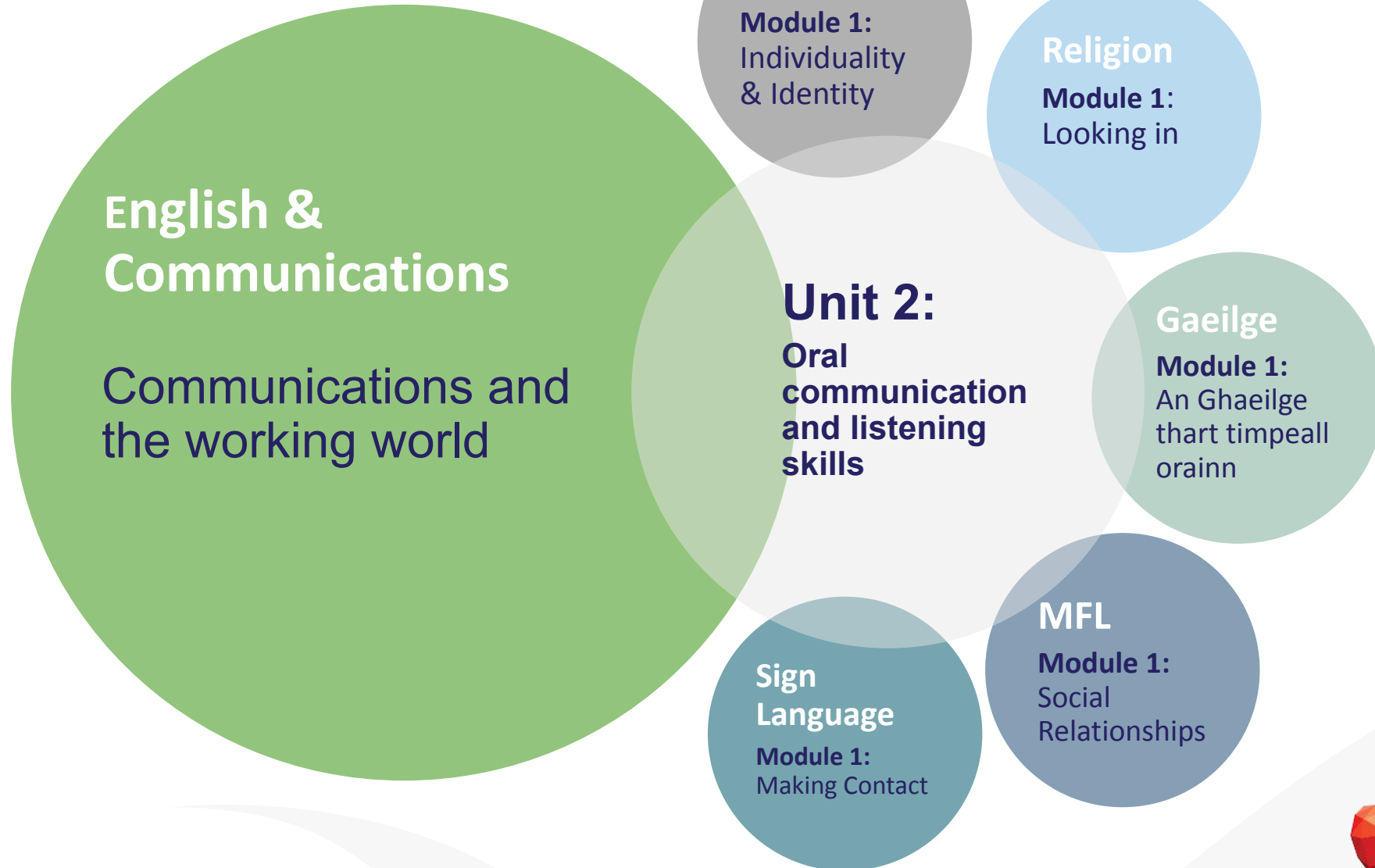
WORKBOOK

Layout of Module Descriptors

Transdisciplinary Links
Rationale
Number and sequence of modules
Description of Modules
General Recommendations
Modules
Purpose
Prerequisites
Aims
Units
Learning Outcomes
Teacher Guidelines
Key Assignments

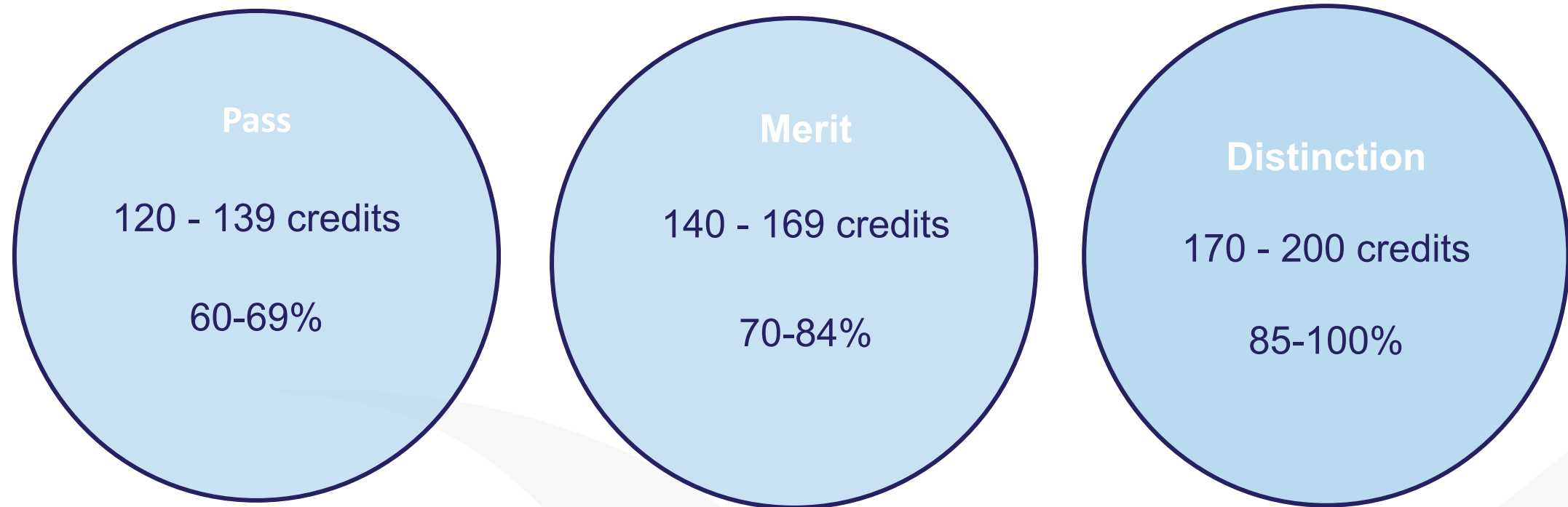
<https://www.curriculumonline.ie/Senior-cycle/LCA/>

Transdisciplinary Nature of the LCA Course



LCA Certification

Awarded at three levels



Students who acquire less than 120 credits or who leave the programme early will receive a **'Record of Experience'**

LCA Modes of Assessment

Satisfactory completion of modules + 90% attendance					62 credits	31%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of completion of key assignments for each module One credit per course module in which there is a final exam Two credits per course module in which there is NO final exam 						
7 Student tasks @ 10 credits each					70 credits	35%
<i>Vocational Preparation</i>		<i>Vocational Education (x2)</i>		<i>General Education</i>		
<i>Contemporary Issue</i>		<i>Personal Reflection</i>		<i>Practical Achievement</i>		
Final examinations					68 credits	34%
English & Communication	Vocational Specialisms (x2)	Languages (x2)	Social Education	Mathematical Applications		
12 credits	12 credits each	6 credits each	10 credits	10 credits		
Total					200 credits	100%

LCA Modes of Assessment

Satisfactory completion of modules + 90% attendance

Evidence of completion of **key assignments** for each module

One credit per course module in which there is a final exam

Two credits per course module in which there is NO final exam

62
credits

31%

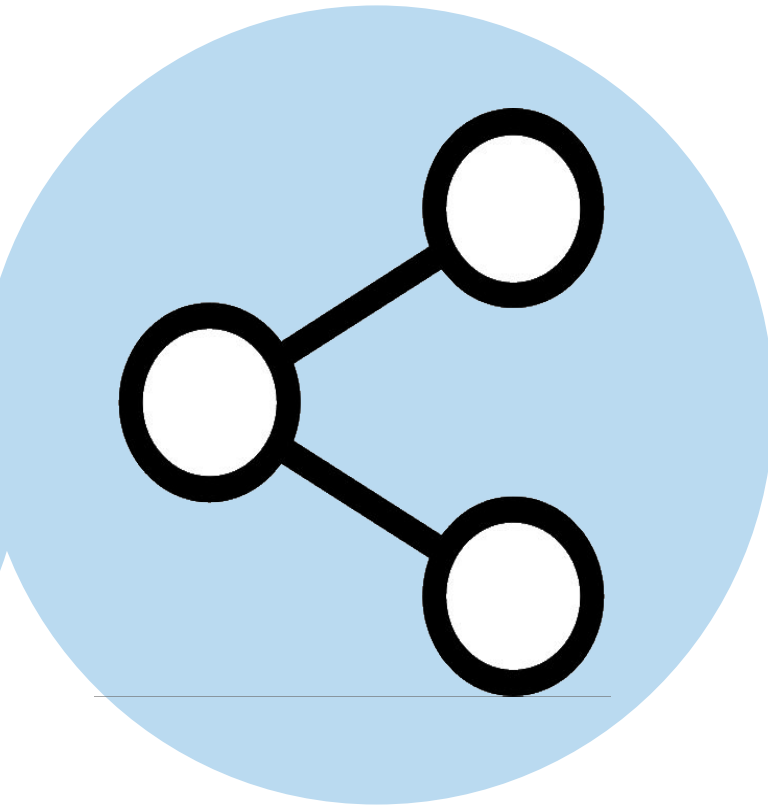
What is a key assignment?



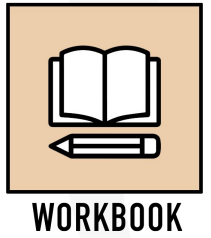
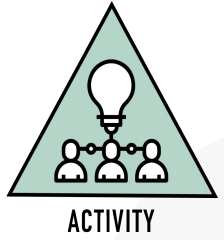
Think



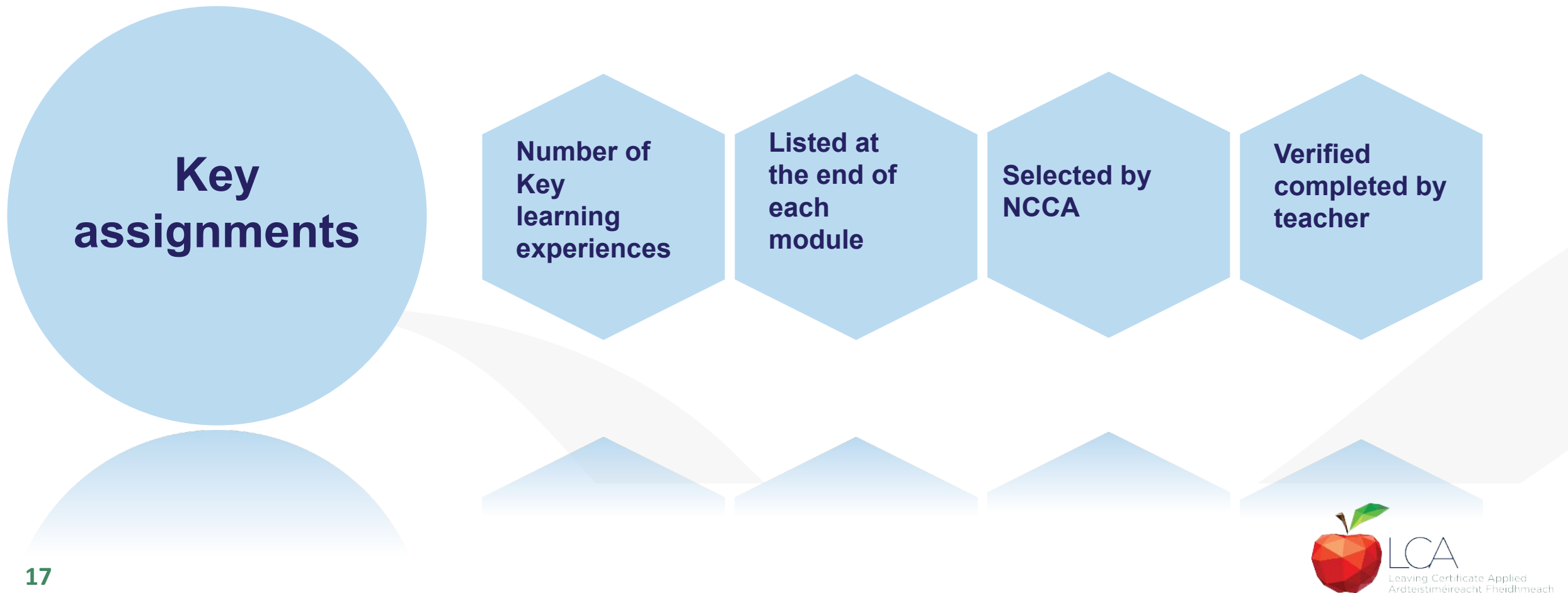
Pair



Share



What is a key assignment?



Credit Records

It is essential to keep a record of attendance for EACH MODULE

CREDIT RECORDS SHEET

Class Name: _____ Session: _____ Course: _____

Module Title: _____ Module Code: _____

Surname	Firstname	Key Assignments Completed	90% Attendance Achieved	Credit	Comment if credit not awarded

Signed _____ Date _____



LCA Modes of Assessment

Satisfactory completion of modules + 90% attendance

Evidence of completion of **4 key assignments** for each module

One credit per course module in which there is a final exam

Two credits per course module in which there is NO final exam

62
credits

31%

7 Student tasks @ 10 credits each

<i>Vocational Preparation</i>	<i>Vocational Education (x2)</i>	<i>General Education</i>
<i>Contemporary Issue</i>	<i>Personal Reflection</i>	<i>Practical Achievement</i>

70
credits

35%

Summary of Tasks

Task	Credit	%	Completed in session	Assessed
1. General Education <i>Originating in Arts Education, Leisure & Rec., Language or Social Education</i>	10	5	1	Jan/Yr 1
2. Vocational Preparation <i>Originating in either Vocational Preparation & Guidance or English & Communication</i>	10	5	2	May/Yr 1
3. Vocational Education - 1st specialism <i>Originating in one Vocational Specialism</i>	10	5	2	May/Yr 1
4. Vocational Education - 2nd specialism <i>Originating in the second Vocational Specialism</i>	10	5	3	Jan/Yr 2
5. Contemporary Issues <i>Anchored in Social Education</i>	10	5	3	Jan/Yr 2
6. Practical Achievement <i>Generally out of school/centre</i>	10	5	3	Jan/Yr 2
7. Personal Reflection <i>Statement 1 from year one will be stored and returned to SEC when statement two is complete</i>	10	5	on-going	May/Yr 2

LCA Modes of Assessment

Satisfactory completion of modules + 90% attendance					62 credits	31%
Evidence of completion of 4 key assignments for each module						
One credit per course module in which there is a final exam						
Two credits per course module in which there is NO final exam						
7 Student tasks @ 10 credits each					70 credits	35%
<i>Vocational Preparation</i>		<i>Vocational Education (x2)</i>		<i>General Education</i>		
<i>Contemporary Issue</i>		<i>Personal Reflection</i>		<i>Practical Achievement</i>		
Final examinations					68 credits	34%
English & Communication	Vocational Specialisms (x2)	Languages (x2)	Social Education	Mathematical Applications		
12 credits	12 credits each	6 credits each	10 credits	10 credits		
Total					200 credits	100%

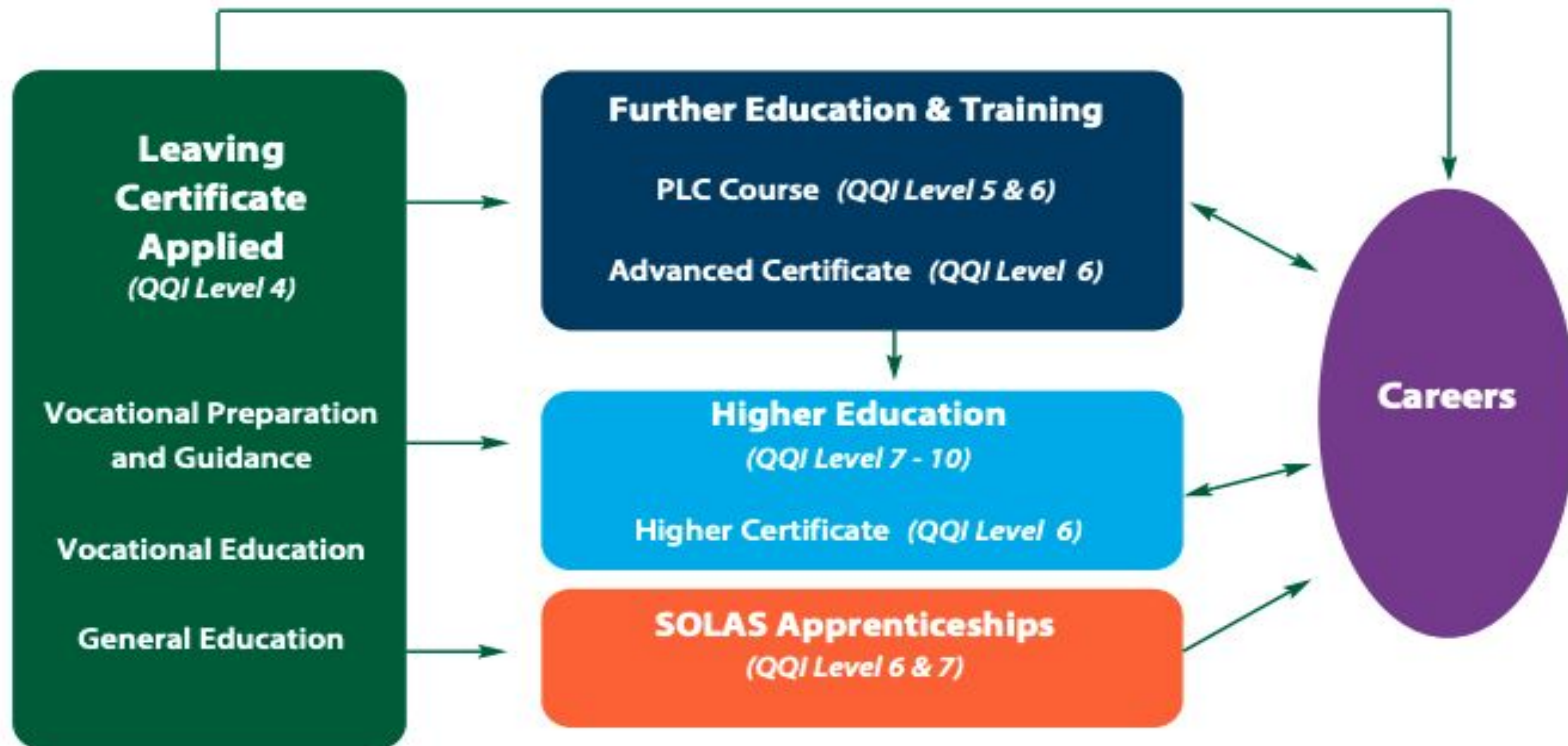
Final Examinations

Area	Credits
English & Communication Oral and written incorporating audio visual	12
Vocational Specialisms (x2) Practical and written – practical briefs issued in advance <i>(see next slide for details)</i>	12 each
Languages (x2) Oral and written incorporating aural	6 each
Social Education Written incorporating audio	10
Mathematical Applications Written – research topic (Q. 2. issued in advance)	10
Total	68

The Leaving Certificate Applied Route Map

Leaving Certificate Applied Pathways

Route Map Options



Recommended Reading

LCA Chief Examiners Report 2014

For full details go to examinations.ie

DES Inspectorate Report

<https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Inspection-Reports-Publications/>

By the end of this seminar participants will have:

Become familiar with the curriculum and assessment procedures in Leaving Certificate Applied.

Explored the approaches to teaching, learning and assessment in LCA.

Become familiar with your subject specific module descriptor



End of Session 1



Session 2

By the end of this session you will explore;

An overview of the each module in Vocational Preparation

Assessment & Planning

Key assignments

Work Experience



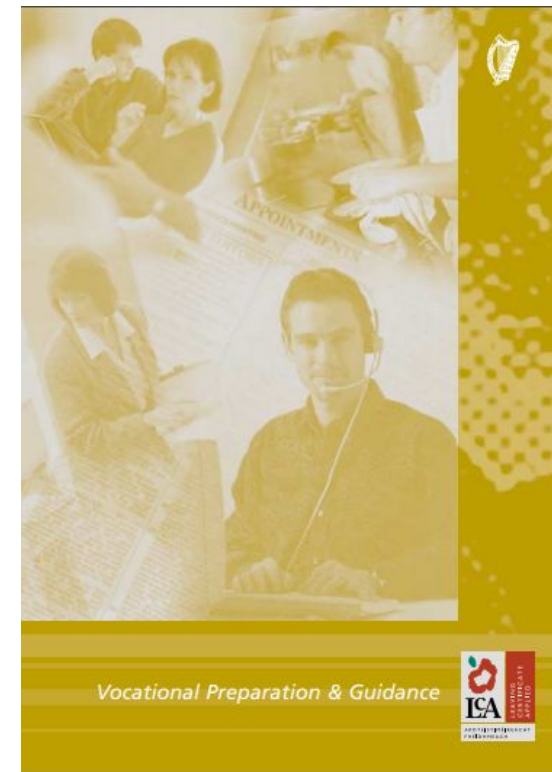
Getting Started - Key Documents and Resources

- VPG Module Descriptor
- LCA Teacher Handbook
- VPG Module Codes (*p.68 LCA handbook*)
- LCA Curriculum Framework (*p.10 LCA handbook*)
- PDST Active Learning Toolkit
- NCCA Assessment Toolkit
- Scoilnet.ie
- Curriculumonline.ie
- All above available at www.pdst.ie/lca

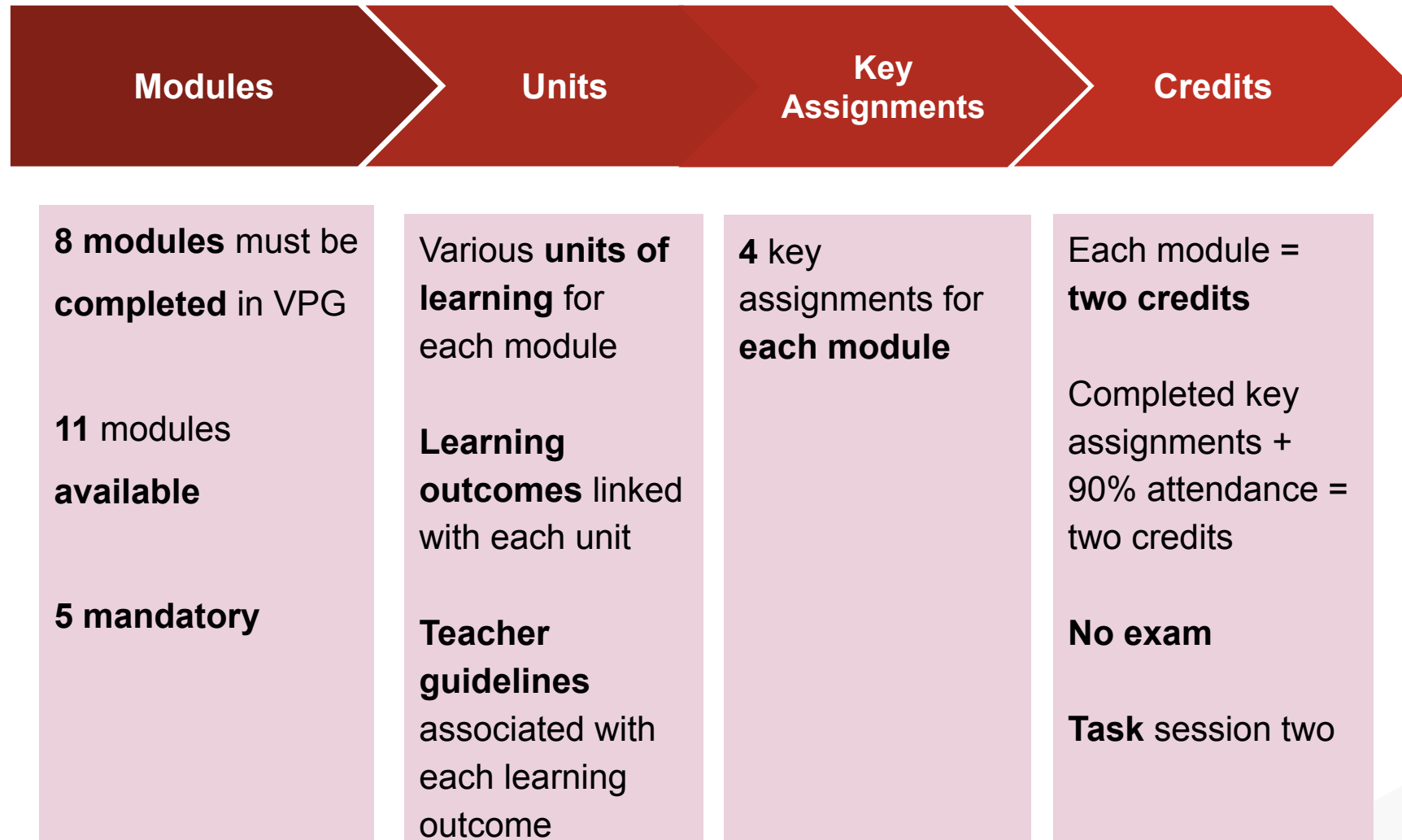
Getting Started - VPG Module Descriptor

- <https://www.curriculumonline.ie/Senior-Cycle/LCA/Vocational-Preparation-and-Guidance/>

The screenshot shows the PDST website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About us', 'Event Booking', 'Recruitment', 'Publications', 'Links', and 'Contact us'. Below this is a search bar. A secondary menu contains categories: 'HOME', 'JC SUBJECTS', 'SC SUBJECTS', 'JCSP-TY-LCA-LCVP' (highlighted), 'LITERACY', 'NUMERACY', 'SSE', and 'LEADERSHIP'. Below that, there are links for 'HEALTH & WELLBEING' and 'TEAM TEACHING'. The main content area features a banner for 'LCA - LEAVING CERT APPLIED' and a 'WELCOME' section. A sidebar menu on the right lists: 'JCSP-TY-LCA-LCVP', '> JCSP', '> Transition Year', '> LCVP - Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme', '> LCA - Leaving Cert Applied', '> Module Descriptors (Syllabi)', '> LCA Curriculum Resources', '> Contact Details', '> LCA Student tasks', '> SEC Materials', and '> Upcoming In-Service Courses'. A large green arrow points downwards from the URL above to the 'Module Descriptors (Syllabi)' link in the sidebar.



Getting Started - Module Descriptor



VPG Modules	
Available (11)	Mandatory (5)
Guidance	Guidance
Jobsearch	Jobsearch
Work Experience 1	Work Experience 1
Work Experience 2, 3, 4	Work Experience 2
Enterprise 1, 2, 3	Enterprise 1 or 2
Community Work	
Work and Living	



Sample Scheme

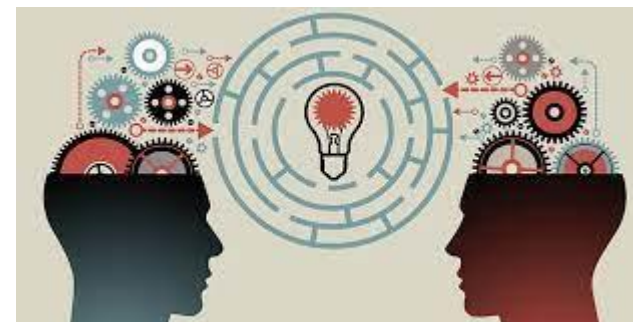
Year One		Year Two	
Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
1. Jobsearch	3. Enterprise	5. Work and Living	7. Work Experience Four
2. Work Experience One	4. Work Experience Two	6. Work Experience Three	
Guidance	➔	➔	8. Guidance

Planning in Vocational preparation

Think-pair-share activity

Discuss with the person beside you how you will plan

Any questions you may have?



Modules

- 1. Guidance**
- 2. Jobsearch**
- 3. work Experience 1**
- 4. Work Experience 2,3,4**
- 5. Enterprise 1, 2, 3**
- 6. Community Work**
- 7. Work & Living**



Jobsearch - Session 1 (Sept. - Jan.)

- Job advertisements
- Advantages and disadvantages of certain jobs
- Skills and qualifications
- Working in unsatisfying or unrewarding jobs
- Recruitment procedures used by employers
- CVs and application forms
- Interviews
- Pay and conditions
- Self employment



UNITS



Unit 1: Sourcing Information

Unit 2: Investigation of a sample of jobs

Unit 3: Jobsearch Practice

Unit 4: Interview Skills

Unit 5: Pay and Conditions

Unit 6: Self-Employment

KEY ASSIGNMENTS

I prepared a display (e.g. posters/collage etc) as part of a group, which showed our individual skills and how these related to particular job vacancies.

I prepared a personal jobsearch folder that included items such as my C.V., letters to and from potential employers, photographs, sample advertisements.

I participated in a mock interview and reported on my performance at same.

I reported on an interview carried out with either a self employed person or a person who has had experience of being in a job that he/she was dissatisfied with.

Jobsearch - Resources



Work and Living - Session 3 (Sept - Jan)

Lifestyles

Industrial relations

Health and Safety

Equality in the workplace

The environment



Work and Living

KEY ASSIGNMENTS

I prepared a report on an interview with a Trade Union/Workers Council representative.

I prepared a report/presentation/display on Health and Safety issues.

I have listed ways in which greater equality in the workplace is being achieved.

I participated in a group activity to improve the environment.

Work and Living



Guide to Employment, Labour and Equality Law

Workplace Relations Commission
Information and Customer Services
O'Brien Road, Carlow
Lo-call: 1890 808090
www.workplacerelations.ie

https://www.workplacerelations.ie/en/publications_forms/guide-to-employment-equality-and-labour-law-final-june-2016-.pdf

Work and Living - Resources



**Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta
an Duine agus Comhionannas**
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission



Work Experience Session 1,2,3,4

Preparing for work experience, being aware of skills & qualities

Sourcing work experience and making contact with employers

Workplace - type of work, supervisors, co-workers, hours of work, etc

Regular attendance

Complete reflections on a daily/weekly basis

Review of the placement

Work Experience 1

UNITS

Unit 1: Pre Placement Planning Unit

Unit 2: Placement Unit

Unit 3: Operational Unit

Unit 4: Review of Experience



Work Experience 1

KEY ASSIGNMENTS

I listed what I personally wanted to learn from my work experience placement.

I made specific arrangements for my first day on work experience.

I completed a report on my work placement and recorded my reflections on a daily basis.

As part of a group I explained what I learned from my work placement and I developed ideas and strategies for future placements.

ACTIVITY

Group Activity

Discuss the different areas students could find work experience in and how they could source this work experience.





End of Session 2



Session 3

Work Experience 2, 3, 4

UNITS



Unit 1: Pre Placement Planning Unit

Unit 2: Placement Unit

Unit 3: Operational Unit

Unit 4: Review of Experience

Work Experience 2, 3, 4

KEY ASSIGNMENTS

I reviewed my previous experiences of work and prepared an action plan identifying the personal, social and vocational skills and knowledge I want to develop through this specific work placement.

I completed a report on this particular work placement. In this report I included new knowledge and understanding gained. I also recorded, on a daily basis, reflections of my experiences while on work placement.

I discussed my workplace performance with my teacher and prepared a personal career path chart.

As part of a group I prepared a visual presentation of what I have learned about the world of work.

Group Activity

Questions?

Discuss how work experience looks in your school?

What questions do you have about work experience?

Work Experience

A successful work experience programme will:

1. Articulate **purpose** of work experience
2. **Integrate** work experience into school life
3. **Allocate responsibility**
4. Stakeholders remain **informed**
5. Contain clear, consistent **documentation**

Work Experience

Students will benefit from:

- 1. Preparation** prior to placement
- 2. Debrief** after placement
- 3. Shared assessment of work experience**
- 4. Self evaluation**

Work Experience

Before	During	After
<p>Student</p> <p>Complete the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CV ● Cover letter 	<p>Student</p> <p>Complete daily account in diary</p> <p>Discuss CV with employer</p>	<p>Student</p> <p>Send letter of thanks to employer</p> <p>Complete diary</p> <p>Complete key assignments</p>
<p>Teacher</p> <p>Prepare Work Experience pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Insurance ● Letter from school ● Evaluation form ● Work Experience Diary 	<p>Teacher</p> <p>Check diaries</p> <p>Contact employers</p>	<p>Teacher</p> <p>Collect diaries and evaluation forms</p> <p>Letter of thanks to employers</p>

Enterprise 1 - Session 2 (Feb - May)

Planning for the enterprise - idea - product or service

Market research/Managerial positions/Business plan/raising finance

Carrying out the enterprise

Prepare accounts (profit or loss) and review the experience



Enterprise 1

UNITS

Unit 1: Planning for Enterprise

Unit 2: Operational unit

Unit 3: Culminating unit

Unit 4: Review of experience

I have listed the main steps involved in establishing an enterprise and identified my personal involvement in the decision making process.

I conducted a market research survey and undertook an analysis of my findings using ICT.

I kept a diary of my personal involvement.

I produced a report of my experience under the following headings:

- working as part of a team
- decision-making
- solving problems
- selling our product/service outside of the school or organisation
- personal learning from the enterprise experience.

Enterprise 2 - Session 2 (Feb - May)

Similar to Enterprise 1 with the focus being more on charity than business.

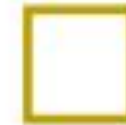
I undertook an assessment of my own skills and qualities and the group's skills and qualities.



I set specific goals and presented a detailed work plan.



I kept a personal diary of the experience.



I helped to prepare a display of the event/activity e.g. video, photographs, charts etc. (This can be the stand prepared for the Trade Fair where each student describes his/her contribution to same.)



KEY ASSIGNMENTS

I have prepared a report (written or taped) of an interview with a self-employed person.

I have prepared a report on a visit to one enterprise support agency to include information on sources of finances available to people starting their own business

I have prepared a business plan on a proposed business idea (using ICT e.g. word processing, spreadsheets, or questionnaires)

I have prepared a set of guidelines for people considering self employment as a career option.

I have listed four reasons why community involvement is important.



I have prepared for and either hosted a visit by a speaker from a voluntary/community agency to the class or visited a voluntary/community agency, and evaluated my learning.



I have investigated a local community development project.



I have taken part in planning, carrying out and evaluating a community project as part of a group.



Guidance (4 key assignments over 2 years)

Career interests (Interest tests)

Qualities/Skills/Values

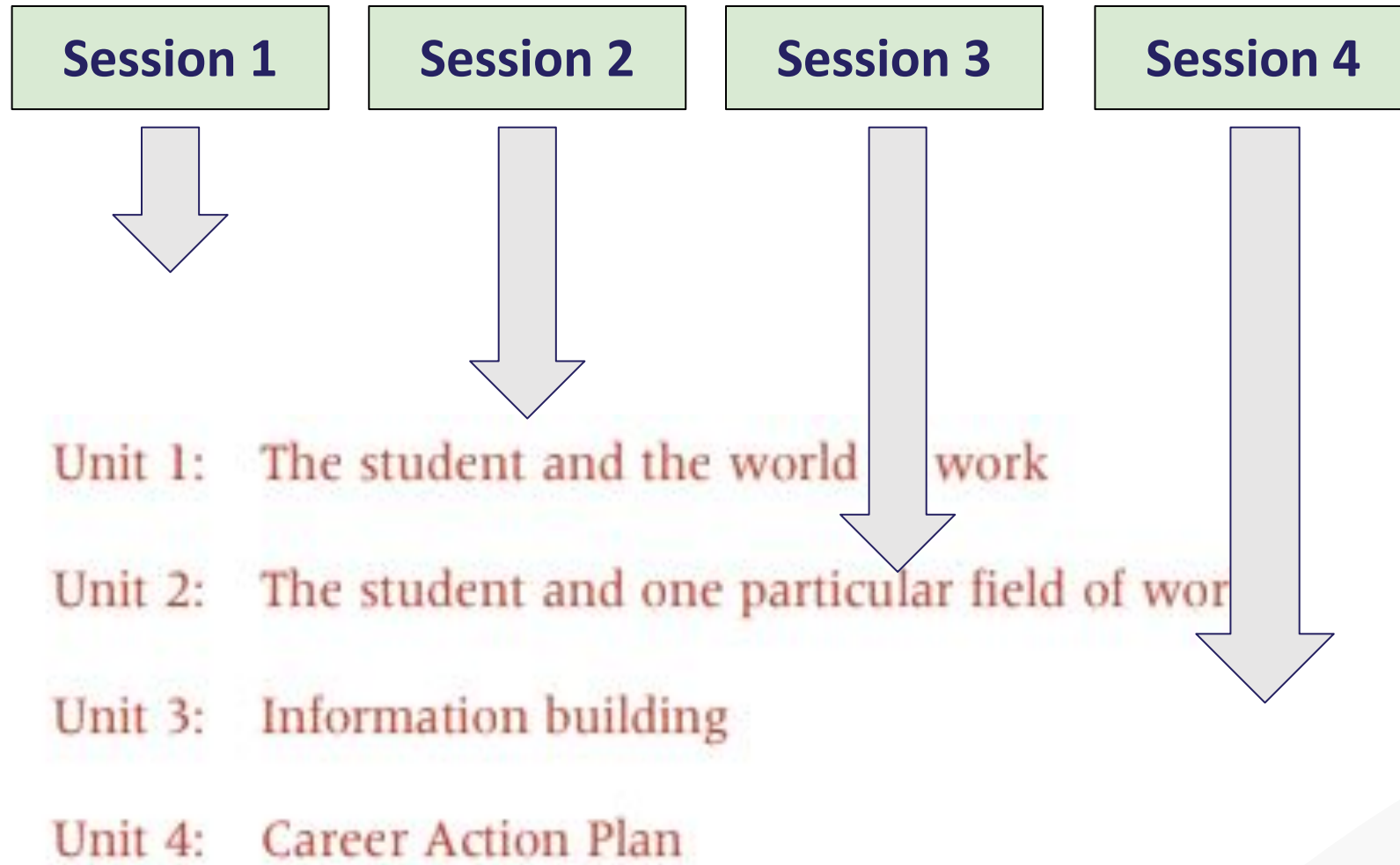
Career investigation

Career exhibitions and visits

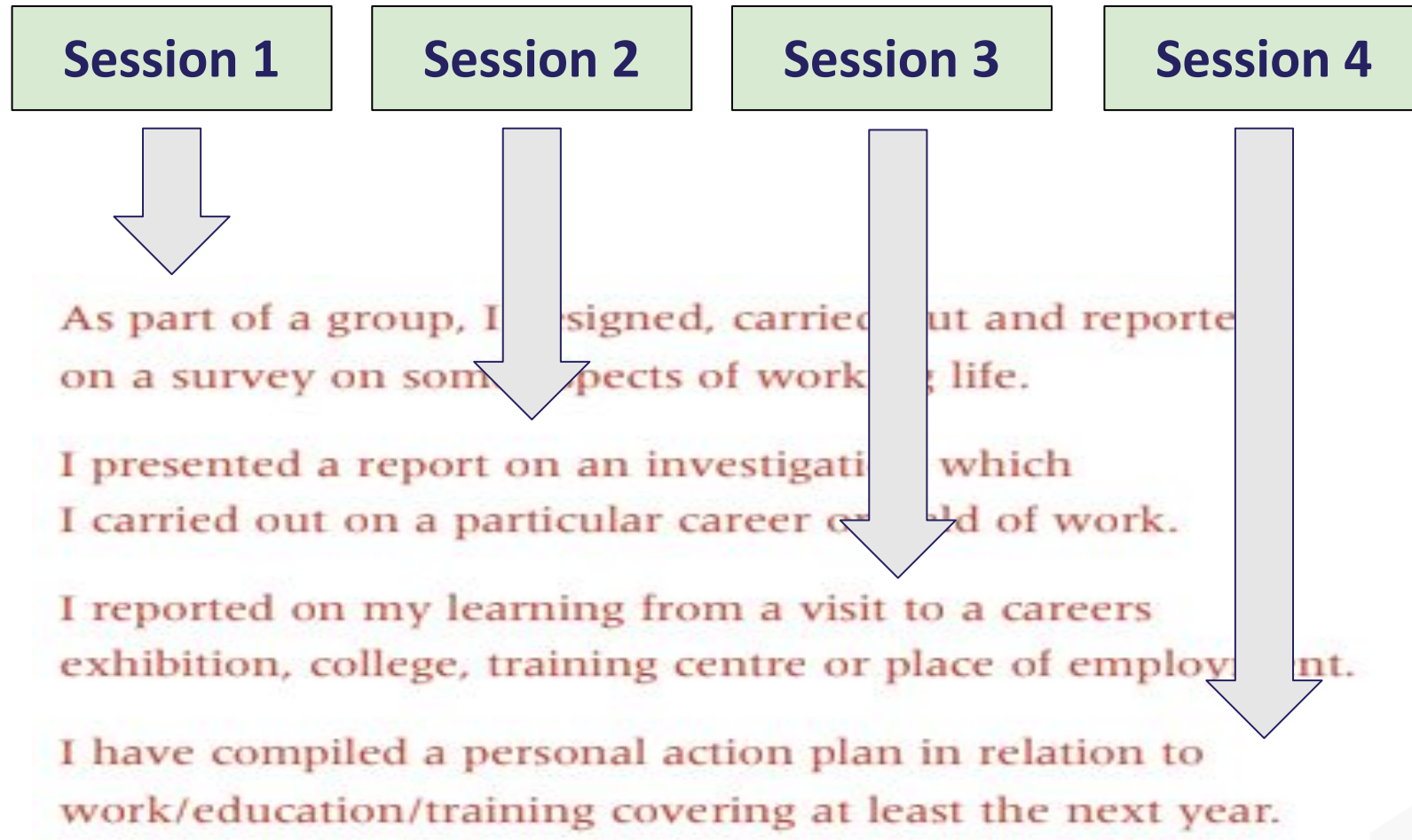
Career action plans



Guidance Module



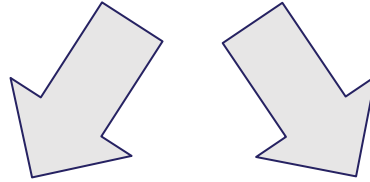
Guidance Module



Vocational Preparation Task



Vocational Preparation Student Task



Task Options
Enterprise 1: <i>Mini Company</i> <i>(For profit)</i>
Enterprise 2: <i>Service/Event</i> <i>(Not for profit)</i>
Career Investigation

Cross-curricular links
English
Maths
ICT

By the end of this session you will explore

An overview of the each module in Vocational Preparation

Assessment & Planning

Key assignments

Work Experience





End of Session 3