Objective: To create a list of courses available through the CAO system that interest you.
The CAO application system encourages each student to select courses in order of preference from two separate lists - Higher Certificate / Ordinary Degrees (Levels 6 and 7 NFQ - typically two and three years respectively) and Honours Degrees (Level 8 NFQ, typically 4 years, sometimes more).

On the next pages, we encourage you to take time to reflect on what you would like to study or train for immediately on leaving school. Work down through each of the sections on the following pages and carefully select the options that suit you best.

When you have completed each section, you will be ready to visit the CAO Wizard on www.CareersPortal.ie and investigate courses from a list that matches your interests.

Finally, after exploring those courses, make a shortlist of courses you would like in the tables below.

### Level 6 / 7 (Higher Certificate / Ordinary Degree)

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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### Level 8 (Honours Degree)

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</table>
Read down through the study sectors below. Then starting at the top:

a: In the first column (A) place a tick if the area of study holds enough interest for you to warrant further consideration. Place an X if you are sure you have no interest.

b: In the second column (B), number the items you have ticked, giving a 1 to the sector that holds the greatest interest, 2 the second greatest and so on.

### LIVING ENVIRONMENT

**Animals & Veterinary Science**
This study area includes subjects such as genetics, animal physiology, animal nutrition, animal behaviour, animal health and welfare, animal conservation and wildlife.

**Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, & Food**
This study area includes subjects such as animal and crop production, biochemistry, biology and microbiology, environmental protection, food safety, forestry, agribusiness or any other subject related to agriculture or the food industry in Ireland and abroad.

**Maritime, Fishing & Aqua-culture**
This study area includes subjects such as genetics, animal physiology, animal nutrition, animal behaviour, animal health and welfare, animal conservation and wildlife.

### SCIENCE & ENGINEERING (STEM Areas)

**Building, Construction and Property**
This study area includes subjects such as structural engineering, land and building surveying, site management, building technology, mining engineering, roads and transport engineering, architecture.

**Mechanical Engineering & Manufacturing**
This study area includes subjects such as technical drawing / computer aided design (CAD), mechanics, power systems, fluid mechanics, aerospace engineering, materials, stress analysis, thermodynamics, and computerised manufacturing systems.

**Chemical, Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences**
This study area includes subjects such as biological science, pharmaceutical science (creation, development and make-up of drugs and medicines), chemistry and biochemistry. You may also study subjects such as cell biology, microbiology and molecular biology. Laboratory work often forms a substantial part of these courses.

**Computers & Software**
This broad study area includes subjects dealing with computer hardware (e.g. PCs, networking), software (e.g. operating systems, programming languages), computer science (e.g. theory, maths) to complete systems (e.g. process control systems, software / web applications).

**Electronic & Electrical Engineering**
This study area includes subjects such as electronics, control systems, computer skills in both hardware and software, automated systems, robotics, microelectronics, telecommunications and power engineering.

**Physical & Mathematical Sciences**
This study area includes subjects such as physics, mathematics, statistics, computing, chemistry, experimental physics, astronomy, optics and electronics.

**Medical Devices**
This study area includes subjects such as biotechnology, biomedical science, manufacturing engineering, and process engineering.

**Earth Science & Environment**
This study area includes subjects such as oceanography, environmental science, marine biology, environmental management, conservation, geography, bioscience, earth science and energy engineering.
MEDICINE & CARING

Medical & Healthcare
This study area includes subjects such as nursing, physiotherapy, dentistry, nutrition, medicine, radiography, pharmacy etc.

Social Science & Community Care
This study area includes subjects such as psychology, social science, childhood studies, community/youth studies, social care and intellectual disability. Some courses may involve training in professional social work roles.

ARTISTIC & CREATIVE

Art, Craft & Design
This study area includes subjects such as drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, craft design, photography, art appreciation, web design, graphic design, product design and fashion design.

Entertainment & Performing Arts
This study area includes subjects such as music, drama, theatre or some other aspect of the entertainment industry.

ARTS / SOCIAL SCIENCES

Classic Arts, Languages & Culture
This broad study area includes subjects such as anthropology, European or Asian languages and culture, geography, history, archaeology, philosophy, classical studies, Celtic studies etc.

Politics / Law
This study area includes subjects such as legal research/writing, property law, European community law, human rights, politics, economics, public policy, constitutional law, labour law, commercial law and company law.

Media & Publishing
This study area includes subjects covering the techniques and theories of traditional media (newspaper, print, radio, TV) and/or new digital media (CD, Internet), writing and editing, researching and information management.

Education
This study area includes subjects that will lead to a qualification to teach or carry out other work in a school, college or other educational setting.

Leisure, Sport & Fitness
This study area includes subjects such as sports psychology, recreation management, technology & sports, coaching, aquatics, business (sports and recreation focused), sports & leisure administration, physiology and health.

Tourism & Hospitality
This study area includes a range of subjects relating to the tourism sector, such as tourism studies, hotel management, business law, management accounting, marketing research, and often a foreign language.

BUSINESS / ADMINISTRATION

Business General
This broad study area includes subjects such as economics, human resource management, business administration, information technology in business, accounting, marketing, company law.

Marketing / Sales
This broad study area includes a range of business subjects with a special focus on topics such as company culture, market research, new business/product development, advertising and promotion, PR (public or press relations) and sales.

Accountancy / Financial Services
This study area includes subjects such as accountancy, economics, financial management, risk management, banking and financial markets, insurance studies and international finance. Some of these courses prepare for the Professional Accountancy Bodies exams.
The CAO application system will allow you choose up to 10 courses from it’s Level 6/7 list (Higher Cert. and Ordinary Degree courses) and 10 courses form it’s Level 8 list (Honours Degree).

Select one or both course levels you would like to study.

Level 6 / 7 Courses: ☐
Level 8 Courses: ☐

You may wish to seek the advice from your Guidance Counsellor before selecting.

What kind of results are you aiming for in your Leaving Cert? Your results will be converted into Points using a common scale \( \text{once online you can calculate your points using the Points Calculator} \). Your top six scores only will be used to calculate points.

Your previous examination results should influence the kind of results you are aiming for but do allow for an improvement. You will gain more experience as you approach the Leaving Cert.

Enter your expected points score here: __________
(and add at least 50 to allow for improvement and yearly fluctuations)

Some courses have specific subject entry requirements. Tick the boxes that apply to you:

- Maths Level: Foundation ☐ Ordinary ☐ Higher ☐
- Lab Science: Yes ☐ No ☐
- Modern Language: Yes ☐ No ☐

What part of the country would you consider studying in? Studying away from home has significant extra cost implications. However, being prepared to study beyond your location may open up many more study opportunities. It costs nothing to look!

Connacht ☐  Leinster (excl Dublin) ☐  Dublin ☐  Munster ☐  Ulster ☐

OR

What college would you like to study in: ___________________________

Tip: Avoid confining your course search to one college unless you have a very good reason - it restricts your choices!

What next? When you have completed this worksheet, you can use this information to generate a list of courses for exploration.

1. Go to www.careersportal.ie, select the Toolbox link (top left) and select CAO Course Search from the Career Exploration Toolbox.

2. Fill in the details you have selected on this worksheet into the CAO Wizard page and click the Search Now button: Search Now

3. A list of courses will be displayed. Move the mouse over the Course Title, College, Points and Qualifications for each course to get a brief summary of each course.

   a. Click on the Course Title of the course that you wish to investigate further.
   b. Browse the information and links on the Course Page
   c. Click on the Qualifax and/or the College website links provided to access full course details.

4. Make a shortlist of courses that interest you based on your exploration. Fill these in on the front of this worksheet. Review your suggestions with your Guidance Counsellor / Parents.