

De La Salle College

Guidance Newsletter



September 2021

Dear Parent(s) /Guardian(s)

Welcome back to all the lads

All career information relating to all year groups in the school will be on the school website in the dedicated Guidance section. if you go to the De La Salle Website and go to the **GUIDANCE PORTAL** section you will find daily, very up to date information on all guidance related topics. All events are updated daily.

I would really urge all students not to get anxious about college, career information, apprenticeships or the job search. I know there is so much information and it can become a bit overwhelming. I will be working with the boys to give them all the information they need, **at the appropriate time**. They will not miss dates, deadlines etc.

There is quite a lot of information contained in the following pages. Again, just have a read of it, see what might be relevant to your son and we will be dealing with it at the appropriate time. You do not need to be an expert in any of this. It is just a start really, an opportunity for you to get informed about the possibilities for your son.

I will be producing newsletters at key points during the year. Please drop me an email or pick up the phone if you are confused about anything.

Kind regards,

Marie

This aim of the newsletter is to give information to students/parents and guardians regarding:

- **The date for the senior career information evening.**
- **Career events for the year 2021/22**
- **CAO: Central Applications Office**

- Higher Education Access Route to college (HEAR)
- Disability Access Route to college (DARE)
- Studying in the UK
- Studying in Europe

SENIOR CAREERS INFORMATION EVENING

The date for the Senior Careers Information Evening is yet to be decided. It will most likely be conducted by Zoom this year but hopefully we can manage to make it as informative and personal as possible.

OPEN DAYS/CAREER EVENTS

Most of the career events this year will take place virtually and students will have to register online to attend them. Students will normally be able to speak to lecturers online and they will be available to answer any questions about the course structure and content.

The admissions team will also be on hand to answer any questions related to the application process. In some cases, there may be online sample classes.

It is vitally important that all students access **Careers Portal** or the **GUIDANCE PORTAL** section of the school website regularly to check out the dates of the virtual Open Days. They will also be posted on the **notice board** outside the guidance office and information will be shared by me on the **sixth year guidance information classroom**. Students should bookmark the following link to Careers Portal so they can check in regularly.

https://careersportal.ie/colleges/cd_events.php

CAO: Central Application Office

All students in Ireland who apply to a Third Level College will apply through a central office called the CAO. Students who are applying for Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses will do so after Christmas. This is a separate application.

All students will receive a CAO handbook shortly and will be encouraged to bring this home. I would recommend that parents/guardians read this with your son as it contains all information on the following:

- ❖ CAO application process.
- ❖ Change of mind facility.
- ❖ Offer of places.

- ❖ Accepting/declining places.
- ❖ What to do if you do not receive a place.

Parents/guardians will also find all this information on www.cao.ie

Key dates for the CAO are as follows:

- ☐ **5 November 2021 (12 noon)** - CAO online application facility opens.
- ☐ **20 January 2022-5.00pm**-early closing date-€30
- ☐ **1 February 2022-5.00pm**-normal closing date-€45
- ☐ **1 March 2022-5.00pm**-closing date for changing course choices
- ☐ **1 March 2022-5.00pm**-closing date for completion of HEAR/DARE forms.
- ☐ **15 March 2022-5.00pm**-closing date for submitting HEAR/DARE documents to CAO
- ☐ **Most tests and interviews for restricted courses are held in March and April.**
- ☐ **1 May 2022-5.00 pm**-closing date for late applications.
- ☐ **5 May-1 July 2022** –free change of mind facility open.

Please note that all of this information will be communicated to students. I will also be working with students in groups and individually to complete the CAO process.

For all information related to CAO please visit www.cao.ie

HEAR/DARE APPLICATIONS FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION IN 2022

The Higher Education Access Route (HEAR) is an admissions route for school leavers who for social, financial or cultural reasons are under-represented at third level education.

AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR HEAR?

- ❖ Family income below €45 790 (less than 4 children)
- ❖ Family income below €50 325 (4-7 children)
- ❖ Family income below €54 680 (8 or more children)
- ❖ **You can add €4670 or each sibling or parent in a full-time third level course or Post Leaving Certificate course.**
- ❖ Medical/G.P visit card in date on 31 December 2020
- ❖ Means tested social welfare for 26 weeks in 2020
- ❖ Socio-economic group underrepresented at third level.
- ❖ You live in an area of concentrated disadvantage.

All income is based on year 2020

You must meet the income limit and the right combination of two other indicators. Students who think they may be eligible can come and see me.

WHAT SUPPORTS WILL I GET?

- ☐ Reduced points (not guaranteed but usually applied)
- ☐ Extra money.
- ☐ Guidance/support while at college.
- ☐ Pre-college orientation week.

WHAT DOCUMENTS DO I NEED TO SUPPLY TO THE CAO IF I AM APPLYING TO HEAR?

- P21 or notice of assessment if you are a PAYE worker (go to [www.revenue](http://www.revenue.ie) to order this)
- Social welfare form signed and stamped by local Social Welfare Office (download from CAO website).
- RP50 notice of redundancy or retirement lump sum payment.
- Letter from TUSLA for children in care (download from CAO website)

Documents must arrive at CAO office no later than 15 March 2022

I will be working with students closer to the time to discuss documents needed.

HEAR APPLICATION TIMELINE

1 Februar 2022: apply to CAO

1 March 2022: Complete all elements of the HEAR application form. Gather all supporting documents.

1 April 2022: Submit copies of documents to the CAO. Keep original documents and get a certificate of postage from An Post every time you post something.

April-June 2022: HEAR screening.

Late June 2022: Applicants notified of outcome of HEAR applications.

End June 2022: HEAR rechecks.

August 2022: Leaving Certificate Results

CAO offers

HEAR offers

Late August/Early September-Mandatory HEAR orientation programme.

Please note: I will be working individually with students who are eligible for HEAR. No need to worry about this at the moment. Just have a think about whether you may be eligible.

You can get more information about HEAR by clicking on the following link.

<http://accesscollege.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/HEAR-Handbook-2018-Web.pdf>

DARE: Disability Access Route to Education

This is a supplementary admissions scheme, which offers college places to students with disabilities.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Anyone whose disability has had a **significant impact** on educational performance in school.

WHAT SUPPORTS WILL I GET

- ☐ Reduced points (not guaranteed but usually applied)
- ☐ Orientation programme.
- ☐ Learning support.
- ☐ Assistive technology.
- ☐ Library support.
- ☐ Exam support.
- ☐ Academic tuition.

DARE TIMELINE

- ☐ Apply to the CAO by 1 February 2022
- ☐ Fill out DARE application form by 1 March 2022
- ☐ Submit completed **Educational Impact Statement** to CAO by 15 March (the school will work on this with the student).
- ☐ Submit your **Evidence of Disability** documentation to the CAO by 15 March 2022

You can get more information about DARE by clicking on the following link.

<https://accesscollege.ie/dare/making-an-application/application-timeline/>

STUDYING IN THE UK

UCAS is the name given to the organisation which deals with the admissions to Higher Education in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Deadlines for applying to UCAS

- ❖ 15 October 2021: Applying to Oxford or Cambridge and for most of the Medical, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry courses.
 - ❖ 15 January 2022: general deadline for applying for the majority of UK courses.
 - ❖ **24 March 2022:** Application closing date for some Art courses.
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Applying to UCAS is a lengthy process. Any student intending to apply must make an appointment to see me.

Useful websites: www.ucas.com, Gov.UK, EducationUK

STUDYING IN EUROPE

There are now 1000 undergraduate degree programmes in a full range of subjects in universities across Europe that are delivered through English.

SOME FACTS ABOUT STUDYING IN EUROPE

- Some of the European Universities are ranked higher than any of the Irish universities.
- Entry requirements in many European universities are generally lower than those of Irish and UK universities.
- Many programmes-but not all- have no selection procedure and for entry only look for NUI matriculation requirements (six passes at Leaving Certificate with at least grade H5 in two subjects and 06 in four subjects)
- There are no third level fees in many European countries. Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland are free of fees.
- In the Netherlands tuition fees of €2083 apply with a supplement of about €1000-1500 for some Liberal Arts and Science Courses.
- Students can apply for interest free loans in some countries, including Denmark and the Netherlands. Students working part-time can get loans or grants of over €800 per month.
- There are no fees in Malta, Germany and Austria. Tuition fees in Italy (including for Medicine) are fixed with reference to family income. They are between €400-4000 per year.

KEY DATES FOR APPLYING TO EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

- ✓ 15 January 2022: Application deadline for a limited number of programmes in the Netherlands.
- ✓ 15 March 2022: Application deadline in Denmark.
- ✓ 18 April 2022: Second round application deadline for most programmes in Sweden.
- ✓ April-May 2022: Entrance tests in Dublin for leading Polish and Hungarian Vet and Medical schools.
- ✓ 1 May 2022: Application deadline for many programmes in Dutch Research Universities (though some have application deadlines as late as 1 July.)

- ✓ June-August 2022: Different application deadlines for most programmes in Dutch universities of Applied Sciences.
- ✓ 31 July 2022: second round offers in Denmark.
- ✓ July 2022: (exact date to be decided) application deadline for entry 2021, for entrance test for Medical schools at public Italian universities.

Anyone who is interested in studying in Europe needs to come and speak to me.

- **All information relevant to senior students will be posted on the guidance noticeboard.**
 - **All information will also be communicated directly to all senior students.**
 - **I will go through the individual application for all students who are applying to HEAR and DARE.**
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TRANSITION YEAR INITIATIVES

Transition year Engineering Programme

This is a weeklong programme, which will take place in May next year.

It is a great opportunity for students who may be interested in studying Engineering at Third Level to find out what is involved in an Engineering degree.

It will be hosted in TUD, TU Tallaght, Maynooth University and a number of institutions outside Dublin **(This may be hosted virtually this year or with reduced numbers)**

Anyone interested should see me and we can go through the application process.

Look into Law Programme.

This is a weeklong programme, which will take place in February 2022.

This is a unique opportunity for Transition Year students to find out what it is really like to work as a barrister and involves trial viewings, a visit to the Four Courts of Justice, meeting a sitting judge and court garda and participating in a mock trial.

One place is offered per school.

Applications normally open in October and close in November.

Students interested need to see me and put this in their journal.

Transition Year Mini-Med programme.

This is a virtual programme run by the Royal College of Surgeons for students who may be interested in studying Medicine.

Please click on the link to get more information about the programme.

<https://www.rcsi.com/dublin/undergraduate/meet-rcsi/transition-year-minimed-programme>

Please note that a parent/guardian must register on behalf of the child.

All information relating to the above events will be communicated directly to students.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries relating to any of the above information.

Contact me on guidance@delasallecollege.com or phone: 298 1067