



NPC

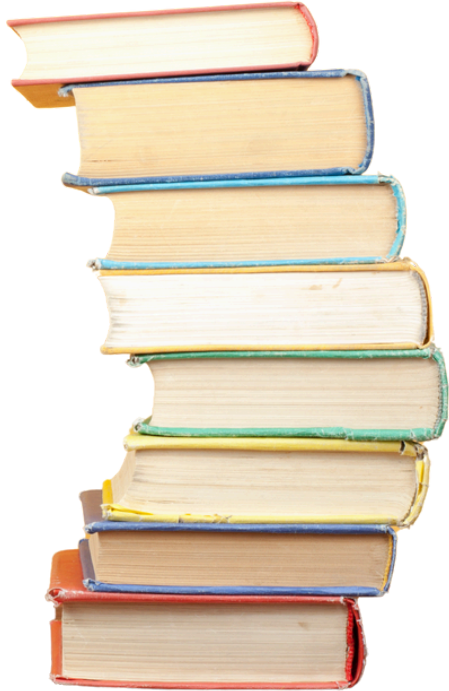
SUPPORTING PARENTS
SUPPORTING CHILDREN

**NATIONAL PARENTS COUNCIL
SUBMISSION**

RE-DEVELOPMENT OF THE SENIOR CYCLE

MAY 2024

ABOUT US



National Parents Council (NPC) is the representative organisation for parents of children in early, primary and post-primary education. NPC was established as a charitable organisation in 1985, under the programme for Government, as the representative organisation for parents of children attending primary school and has been extended to cover parents with children in early years in 2017 and in post-primary in 2022. NPC received statutory recognition in the Education Act 1998.

NPC Vision

NPC want to see an Ireland where every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

NPC Mission

NPC exists to ensure that all parents are supported and empowered to become effective partners in their children's education. NPC will work to increase the capacity and capability of the primary education sector, to achieve true partnership and deliver better outcomes for all children.

NPC's Key Activities are:

- Representing the parents' voice in all aspects of their children's education
- Advocacy
- Building participation
- Service delivery



NPC Service Delivery

NPC services are aimed at empowering parents so that they can support their children in all aspects of their education.

Helpline

The NPC helpline is a national confidential service for parents. Their helpline staff listen, give information and support to parents to help them make the best possible decisions for and with their children.

Training and Development

The NPC Training and Development programme is a national programme of training, development and support for parents. The purpose is to empower parents to play an active part in their child's education at every level.

Website

The NPC's website www.npc.ie aims to provide parents with information regarding Early Years, primary, and post primary education. The site also allows parents an opportunity to give NPC their views regarding education issues.





INTRODUCTION

The National Parents Council (NPC) welcomes the opportunity to share the views of parents with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) in relation to the re-development of senior cycle, specifically the 6 subjects in the second round of consultation and the modules in the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme. To inform this submission, NPC developed a range of surveys to hear the views of parents regarding the seven key competencies underpinning this initiative, their general views on the proposals and their views on assessment.

Our surveys were open from the 3rd of May 2024 to the 13th of May 2024. Parents could choose to respond to as many of the surveys as they wished. In total, the survey received 95 responses. We have promoted all the seven subject surveys prepared by the NCCA and included the links for them at the end of our surveys. The NPC surveys were sent to NPC members and those on the NPC contacts database. Links to the surveys were also displayed on our website (www.npc.ie) and on the NPC social media platforms.

Accounting

Leaving Certificate Accounting

Number of parents who responded to this survey: 18

Competencies:

When asked what they find important about critical thinking and solving problems for their children, 14% of parents said they would learn to analyse information and 13% said they would learn to solve problems in accounting (See figure 1).

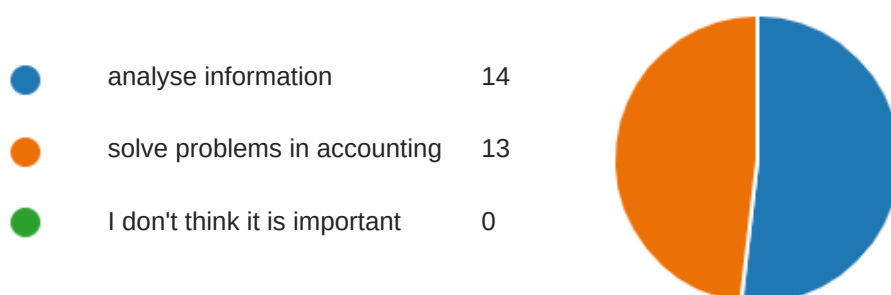


Figure 1: What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about creativity for their children, 12 parents said they will learn to explore their specific interests in accounting, 12 parents said they will learn to be curious, and 9 parents said they will learn to be imaginative (See figure 2).

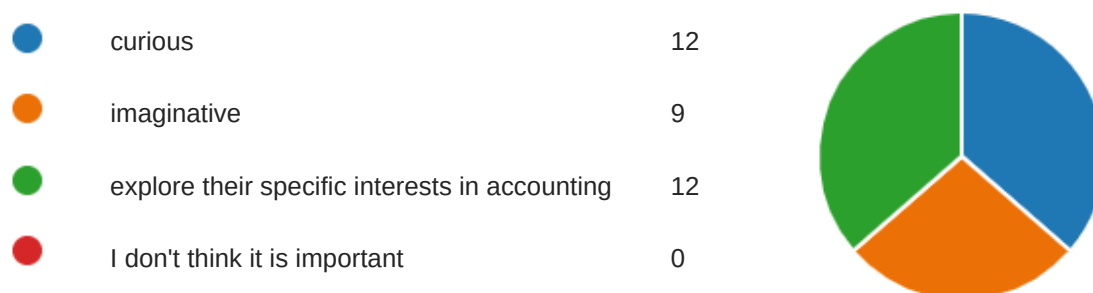


Figure 2: What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be (Please tick all that apply):

Accounting

When asked what they find important about working with others, 14 parents said they will understand tasks from other perspectives, 14 parents said they will practice the skills needed in teamwork, and 13 parents said they will experience working with others (See figure 3).

●	will experience working with others	13
●	will practise the skills needed in team work	14
●	will understand tasks from others' perspectives	14
●	I don't think it is important	0



Figure 3: What I find important about working with others is that my child (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about participating in society for their children, 13 parents said they will learn to engage with social and economic issues, 13 parents said that they will learn to contribute to society through making informed choices, and 12 parents said they will learn to contribute to sustainable futures in their study of accounting (See figure 4).

●	contribute to society through making informed choices	13
●	engage with social and economic issues	13
●	contribute to sustainable futures in their study of accounting	12



Figure 4: What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

Accounting

When asked what they find important about communication, 14 parents said they will learn to share opinions, 12 parents said they will learn to be good listeners, and 12 said they will learn to express ideas through conversation (See figure 5).

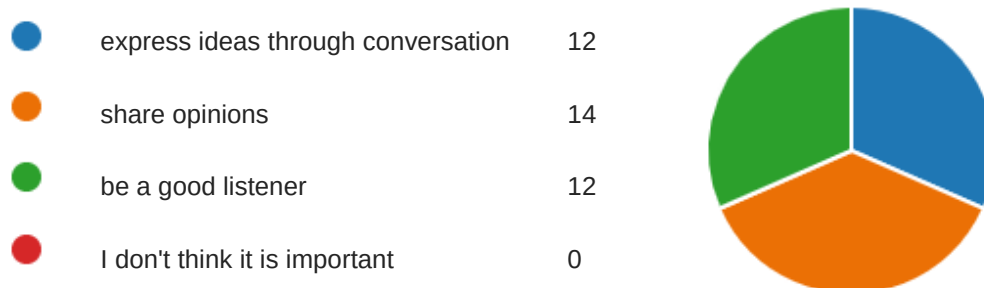


Figure 5: What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about cultivating wellbeing, 14 parents said they will learn to become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in accounting, while 12 parents said that they will learn to connect what they learn about accounting to their own lives (See figure 6).

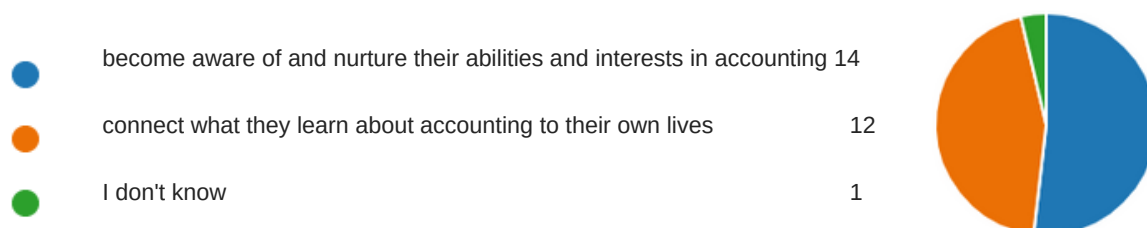


Figure 6: What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to (Please tick all that apply):

Accounting

When asked what they find important about managing learning and self for their children, 16 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on self-awareness, 13 parents said they will learn to manage their learning, and 8 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on understanding other people (See figure 7).

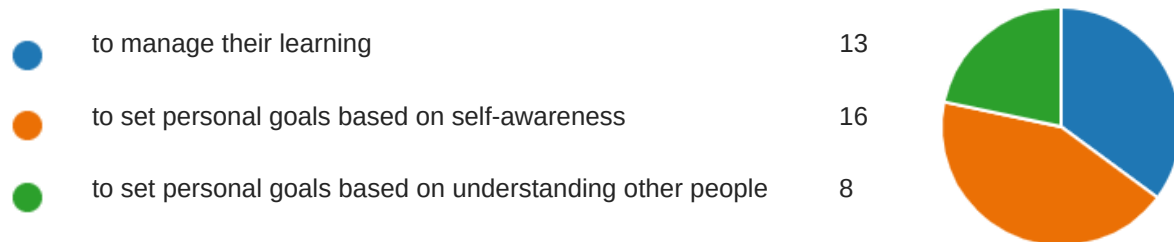


Figure 7: What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn

When asked if 60% should go to written examination, 69% parents said “yes”, while 31% said “no” (See figure 8).

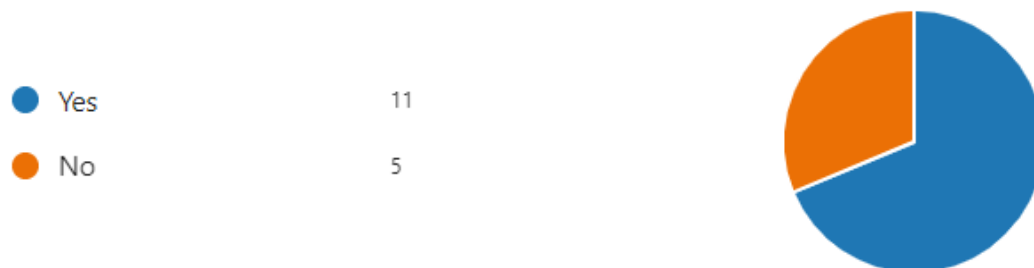


Figure 8: I agree that 60% should go to written examination.

When asked if they agree that 40% should go to additional assessment component, 73% said “yes” and 27% said “no” (See figure 9).

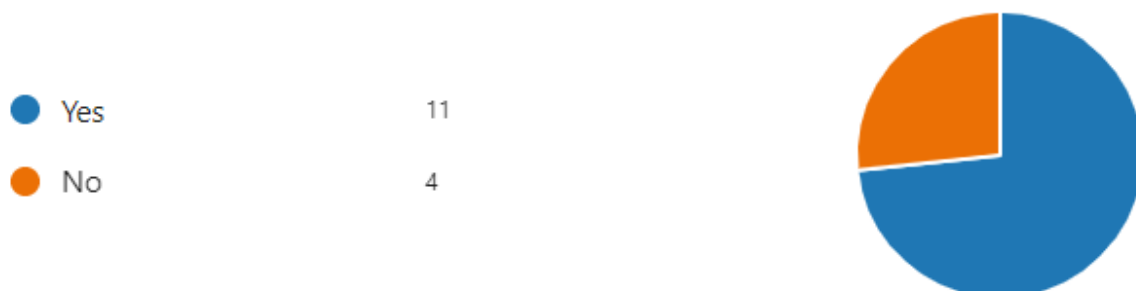


Figure 9: I agree that 40% should go to additional assessment component.

Accounting

When asked if they want their child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle, 12 parents said “yes”, 2 said “no” (See figure 10).

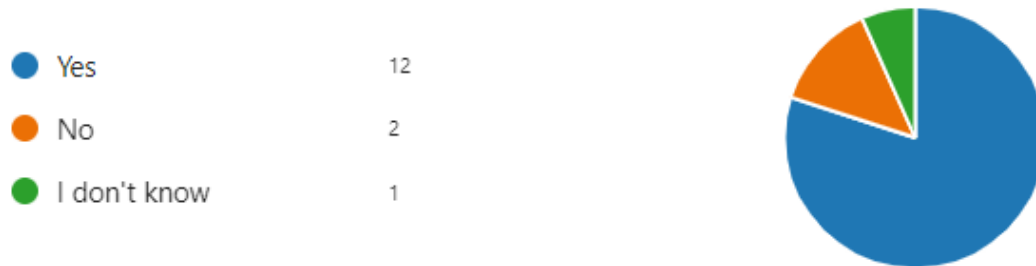


Figure 10: I want my child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle.

When asked what they want their child to be engaged in as part of their study of accounting, 12 parents said written examination, 10 parents said practicals, 9 parents said research, 9 parents said apprenticeship, and 7 parents said portfolio (See figure 11).



Figure 11: As part of their study of Accounting, I want my child to be engaged in

Parents were asked what they think is the purpose of Leaving Certificate Accounting, they emphasised understanding the importance of accounting to society, development of life skills, and preparation for college or future employment.

When asked what they thought was good about Leaving Certificate Accounting, parents said the fundamental basics and concepts of accounting, written examination and practicals.

Leaving Certificate Accounting

When asked what they think should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Accounting, parents felt that theories are too broad and should be taken out of the Leaving Certificate accounting, as should final written exams.

When asked what would improve Leaving Certificate Accounting, parents mentioned the use of case-studies. They asked for more ongoing assessment, more teamwork, and no more than 50% allocated for written examination.

Construction Studies

Construction Studies:

Number of parents who responded to this survey: 7

Competencies:

When asked what they find important about critical thinking and solving problems for their children, 6 parents said they would analyse information and 6 parents said they would solve problems in Construction Studies (See figure 1).

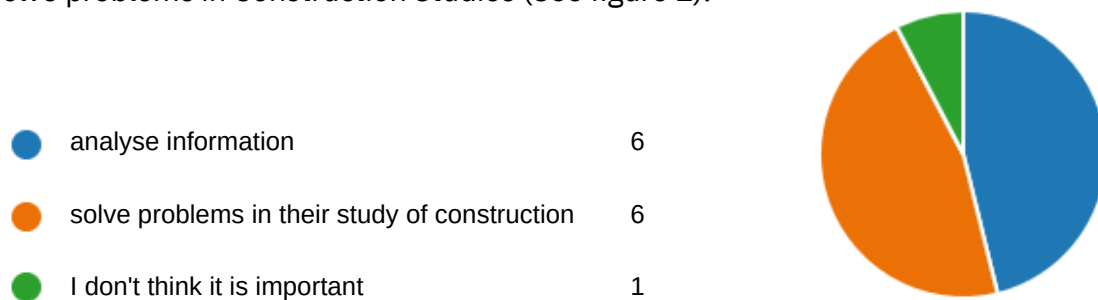


Figure: 1 - What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about creativity for their children, 6 parents said exploring their specific interests in Construction Studies, 4 parents said being curious, 4 parents said being imaginative, and 1 parent said “I don’t think it is important” (See figure 2).



Figure: 2 - What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be (Please tick all that apply):

Construction Studies

When asked what they find important about working with others, 6 parents said they will understand tasks from other perspectives, and 6 parents said they will practise the skills needed in teamwork, and 6 parents said they will experience working with others (See figure 3).

●	will experience working with others	6
●	will practise the skills needed in team work	6
●	will understand tasks from others' perspectives	6
●	I don't think it is important	0



Figure 3: - What I find important about working with others is that my child (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about participating in society for their children, 7 parents said they will learn to contribute to sustainable futures in their study of Construction Studies, 4 parents said that they will learn to contribute to society through making informed choices, and 4 parents said they will learn to engage with social and economic issues (See figure 4).

●	contribute to society through making informed choices	4
●	engage with social and economic issues	4
●	contribute to sustainable futures in their study of construction	7



Figure 4: - What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

Construction Studies

When asked what they find important about communication, 5 said they will express ideas through conversation, 5 parents said they will be good listeners, and 4 parents said they will share opinions (See figure 5).

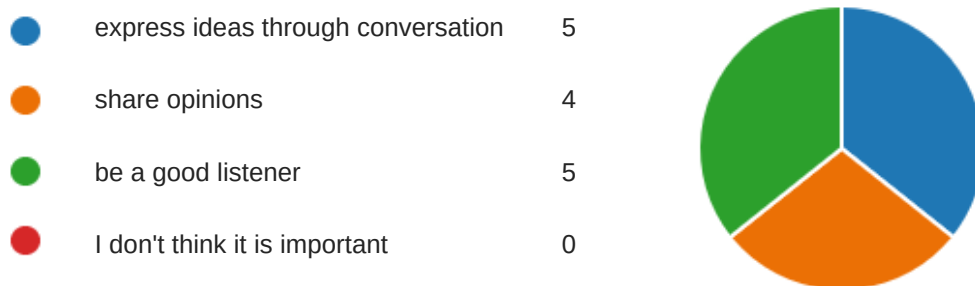


Figure 5: - What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply)

When asked what they find important about cultivating wellbeing, 6 parents said that they will connect what they learn in Construction Studies to their own lives, while 5 parents said they will become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in Construction Studies (See figure 6).

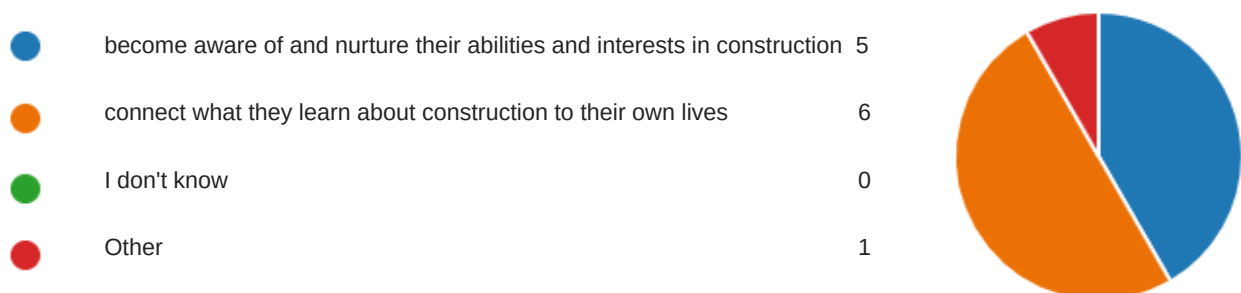


Figure 6: - What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to (Please tick all that apply):

Construction Studies

When asked what they find important about managing learning and self for their children, 7 parents said they will learn to manage their learning, 4 parents said they will set personal goals based on self-awareness, and 1 parent said they will learn to set personal goals based on understanding other people (See figure 7).

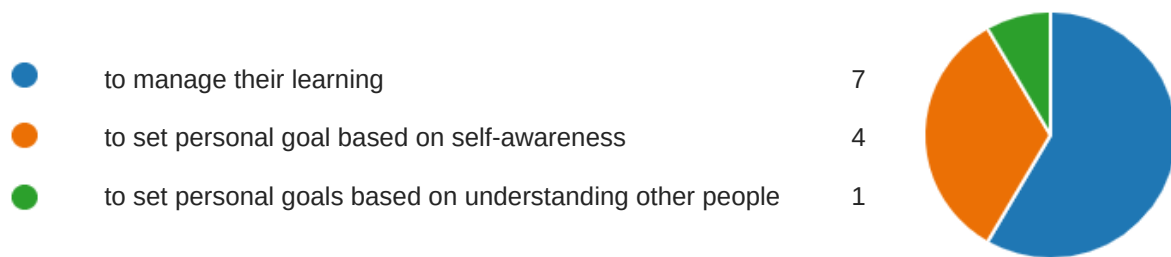


Figure 7: - What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn (Please tick all that apply):

When asked if 50% should go to written examination, 4 parents said “yes”, while 3 said “no” (See figure 8).



Figure 8: - I agree that 50% should go to written examination.

When asked if they agree that 50% should go to additional assessment component, 5 parents said yes and 2 parents said no (See figure 9).

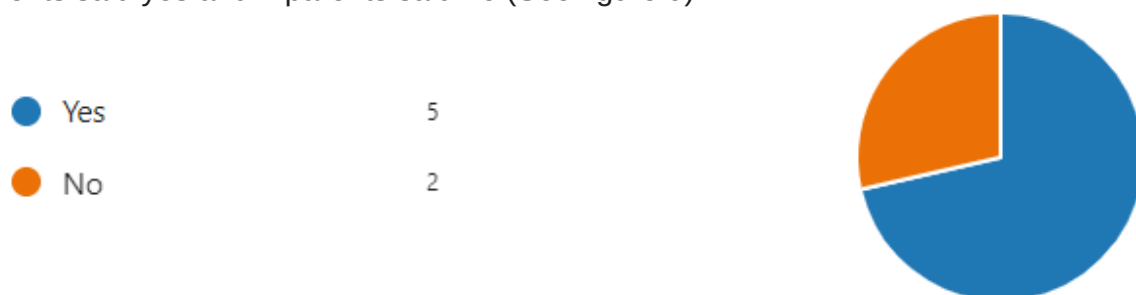


Figure 9: - I agree that the 50% should go to additional assessment component.

Construction Studies

When asked if they want their child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle, 5 parents said “yes” while 2 parents said “No” (See figure 10).

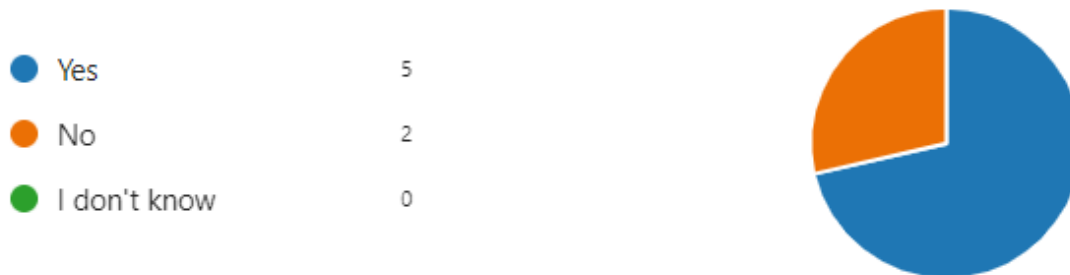


Figure 10: - I want my child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle.

When asked what they want their child to be engaged in as part of their study of Construction Studies, 7 parents said practicals, 5 parents said portfolio, 5 parents said apprenticeship, 4 parents said field study, 4 parents said creation of artefact, 4 parents said written examination, 3 parents said research, and 3 parents said experiment (Figure 11).

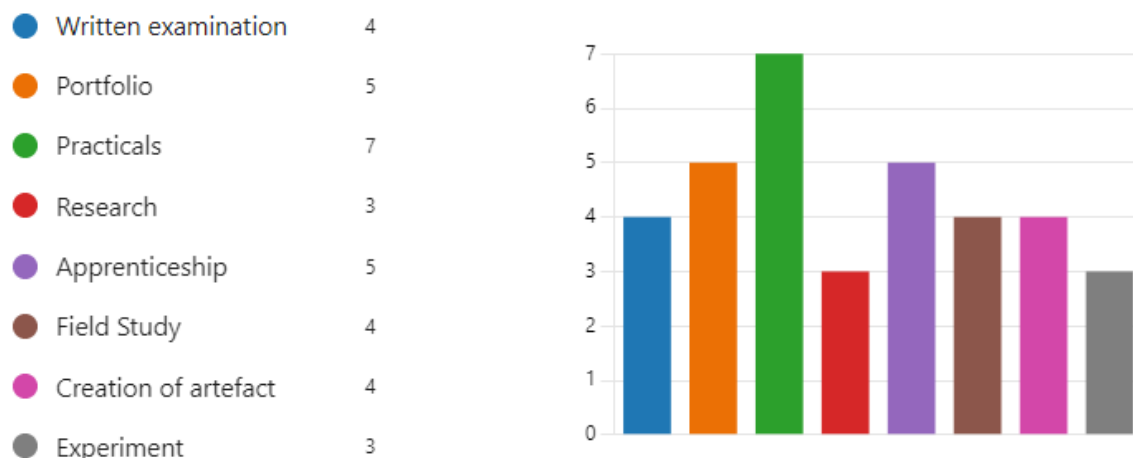


Figure 11: - As part of their study of Construction Studies, I want my child to be engaged in



Construction Studies

When asked what the purpose of Construction studies should be, parents focused on the practical elements.

When asked what is good about the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies that they want to keep, Parents wanted to keep the practical elements of the subject and look at environmental aspects of construction.

When asked what should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies, Parents did not select anything that should be taken out of construction studies.

When asked what they would like to improve in the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies, Parents felt that emphasis on written exams and continuous assessment would improve construction studies. They also felt it would be useful for team building.

Engineering

Leaving Certificate Engineering

Number of parents who responded to this survey: 14

Competencies:

When asked what they find important about critical thinking and solving problems for their children, 12 parents said they would learn to analyse information and 11 parents said they would learn to solve problems in Engineering (See figure 1).

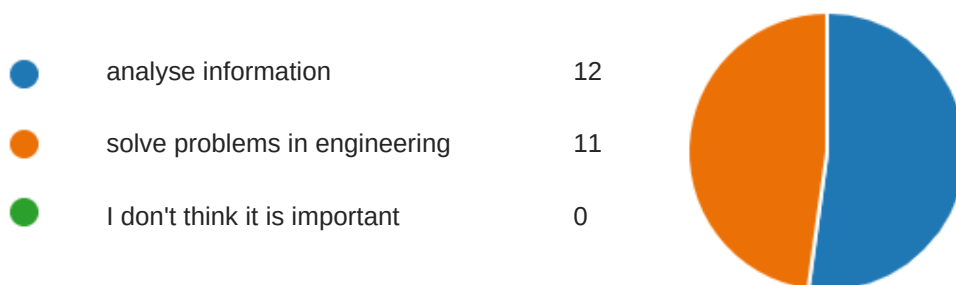


Figure 1: What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about creativity for their children, 10 parents said they will learn to explore their specific interests in Engineering, 10 parents said they will learn to be curious, and 7 parents said they will learn to be imaginative (See figure 2).

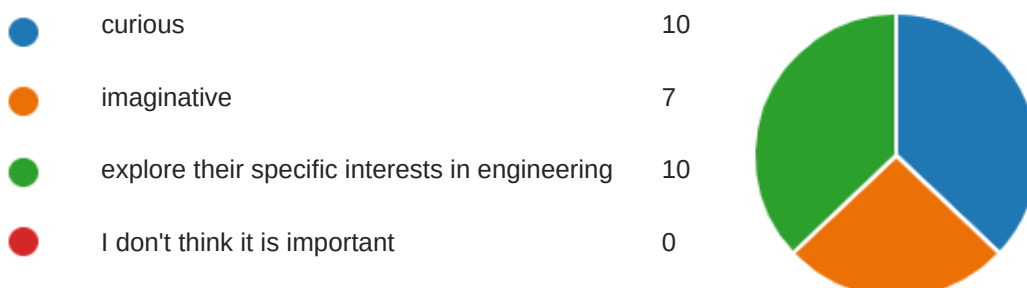


Figure 2: What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be (Please tick all that apply):

Engineering

When asked what they find important about working with others, 12 parents said they will understand tasks from other perspectives, and 12 parents said they will practice the skills needed in teamwork and 11 parents said they will experience working with others (See figure 3).

●	will experience working with others	11
●	will practise the skills needed in team work	12
●	will understand tasks from others' perspectives	12
●	I don't think it is important	0



Figure 3: What I find important about working with others is that my child (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about participating in society for their children, 12 parents said that they will learn to contribute to society through making informed choices, and 10 parents said they will learn to contribute to sustainable futures in their study of Engineering, and 8 parents said they will learn to engage with social and economic issues (See figure 4).

●	contribute to society through making informed choices	12
●	engage with social and economic issues	8
●	contribute to sustainable futures in their study of engineering	10



Figure 4: What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

Engineering

When asked what they find important about communication, 13 said they will learn to express ideas through conversation, 9 parents said they will learn to share opinions, and 9 parents said they will learn to be good listeners (See figure 5).

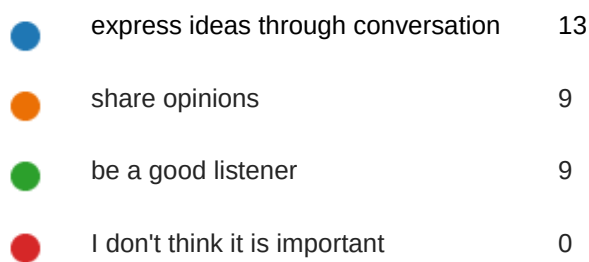


Figure 5: What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about cultivating wellbeing , 11 parents said that they will learn to connect what they learn in Engineering to their own lives, while 10 parents said they will learn to become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in Engineering. (See figure 6).

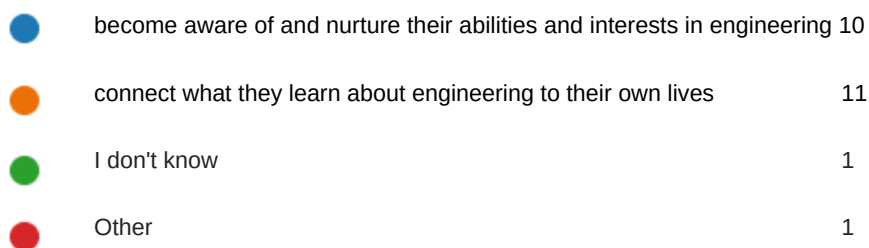


Figure 6: What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to (Please tick all that apply):

Engineering

When asked what they find important about managing learning and self for their children, 12 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on self-awareness, 10 parents said they will learn to manage their learning, and 4 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on understanding other people (See figure 7).

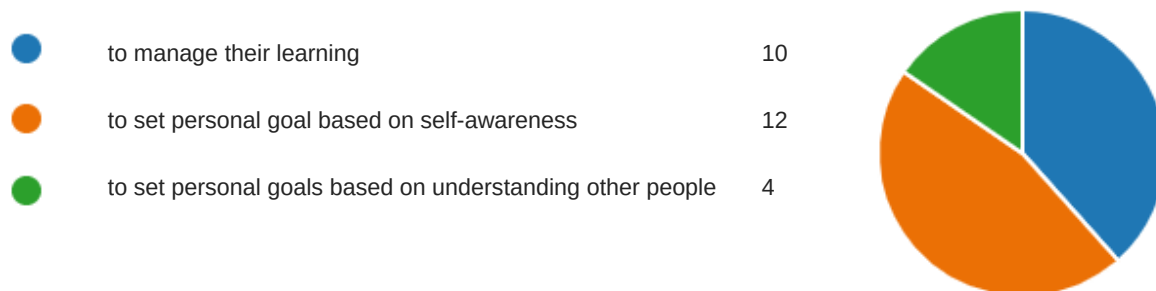


Figure 7: What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn (Please tick all that apply):

When asked if 50% should go to written examination, 10 parents said “yes”, while 2 said “no” (See figure 8).

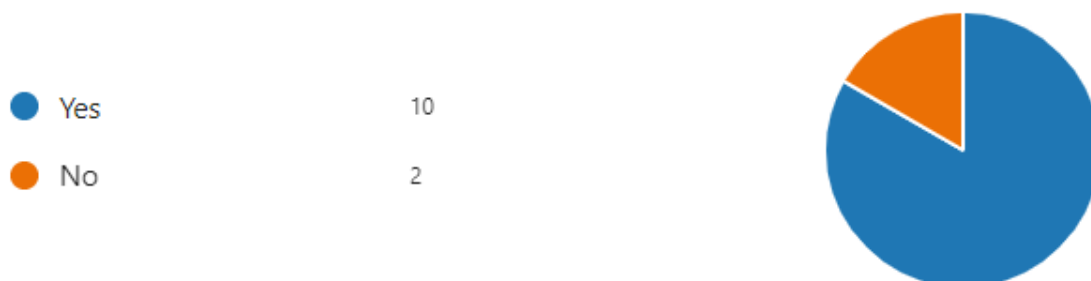


Figure 8: I agree that 50% should go to written examination.

When asked if they agree that 50% should go to additional assessment component, 11 parents said “yes” and 1 parent said “no” (See figure 9).

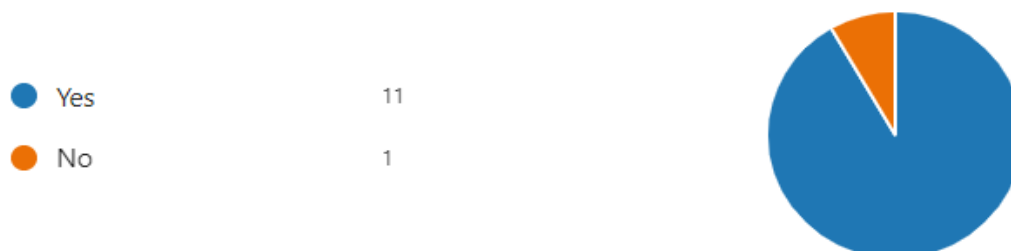


Figure 9: I agree that 50% should go to additional assessment component.

Engineering

When asked if they want their child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle, 11 parents said “yes” (See figure 10).

● Yes	11
● No	0
● I don't know	1



Figure 10: I want my child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle.

When asked what they want their child to be engaged in as part of their study of engineering, 11 parents said practicals, 9 parents said experiments, 8 parents said portfolio, 8 parents said written examination, 7 parents said apprenticeship, 6 parents said research, and 3 parents said artefact (Figure 11).

● Written examination	8
● Portfolio	8
● Practicals	11
● Experiments	9
● Artefact	3
● Research	6
● Apprenticeship	7

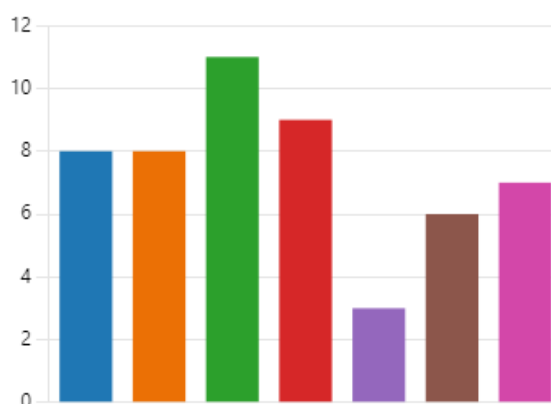
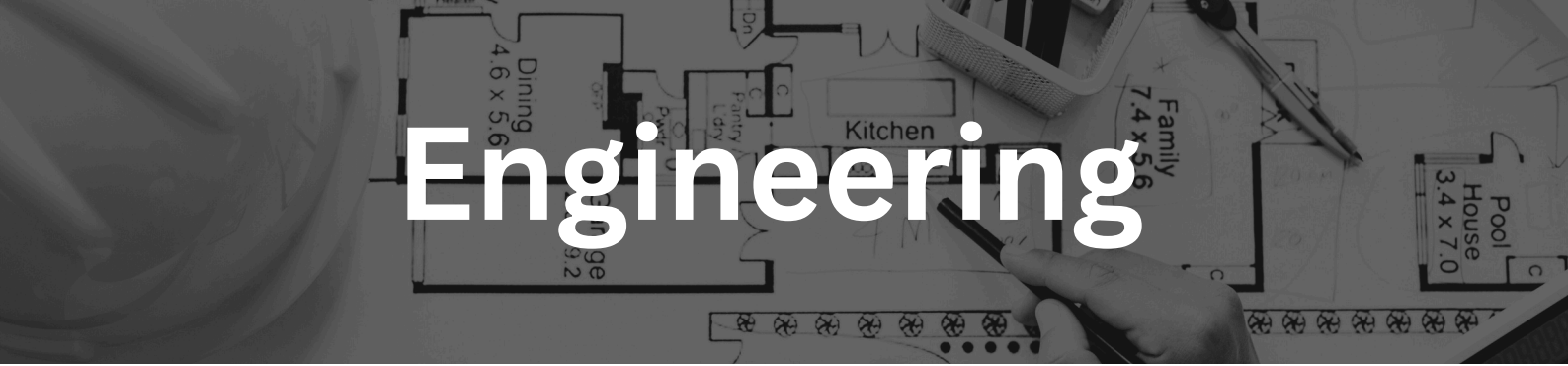


Figure 11: As part of their study of Engineering, I want my child to be engaged in

When asked about the purpose of Engineering, parents mostly emphasised the practical element and the hope that the study of engineering would lead to a career or a college place in this subject area. They also see the study of this subject as a means to develop critical thinking skills.

When asked what is good about the current Leaving Certificate Engineering that they want to keep, parents felt that the project and exams should be continued in this subject area. They also valued the foundation skills they felt could be learned through the study of this subject.



Engineering

When asked what should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Engineering, Parents felt that 100% assessments through examination should be taken out of this programme.

When asked what could improve in the current Leaving Certificate Engineering, parents said they would like to see a greater understanding of the basics and fundamentals of engineering. They also suggested continuous assessment could lead to improvement

English

Leaving Certificate English

Number of parents who responded to this survey: 33

Competencies:

When asked what they find important about critical thinking and solving problems for their children, 29 parents said they would analyse information and 20 parents said they would solve problems in English (See figure 1).

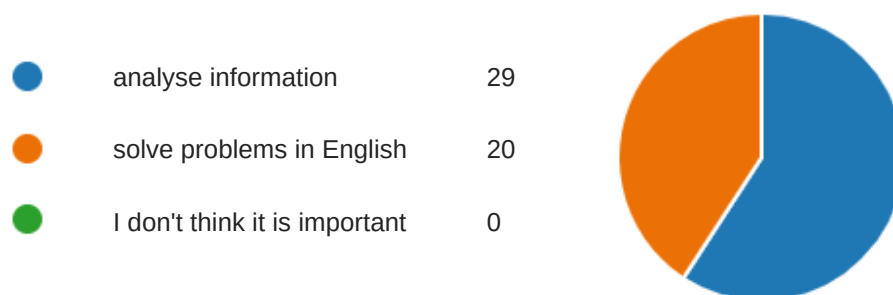


Figure 1: What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about creativity for their children, 24 parents said being imaginative, 22 parents said being curious, and 15 parents said exploring their specific interests in English (See figure 2).

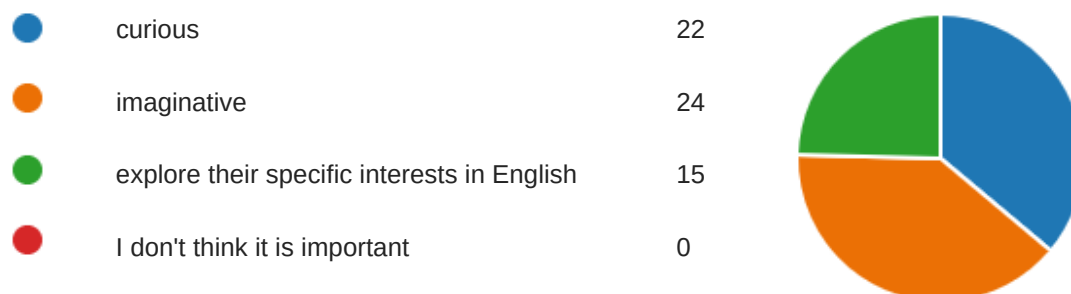


Figure 2: What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be (Please tick all that apply):

English

When asked what they find important about working with others, 28 parents said they will practice the skills needed in teamwork, 20 parents said they will understand tasks from other perspectives, 17 parents said they will experience working with others, and 1 parent did not think it is important. (See figure 3).

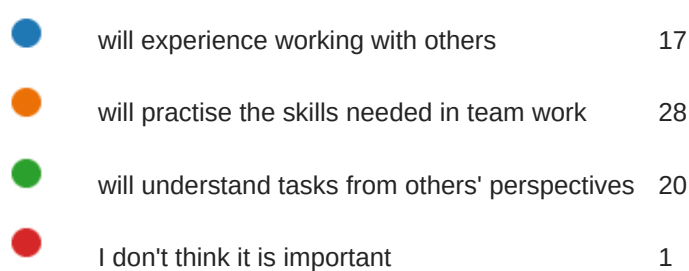


Figure 3: What I find important about working with others is that my child (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about participating in society for their children, 26 parents said that they will learn to contribute to society through making informed choices, and 25 parents said they will learn to engage with social and economic issues, and 13 parents said they will learn to contribute to sustainable futures in their study of English (See figure 4).

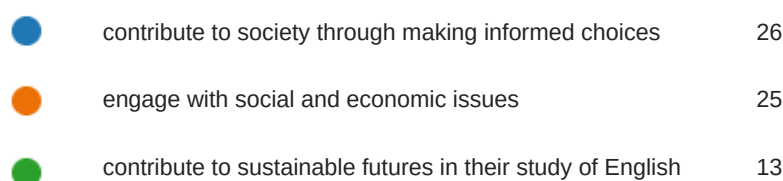


Figure 4: What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

English

When asked what they find important about communication, 28 said they will express ideas through conversation, 28 parents said they will be good listeners, and 24 parents said they will share opinions, (See figure 5).

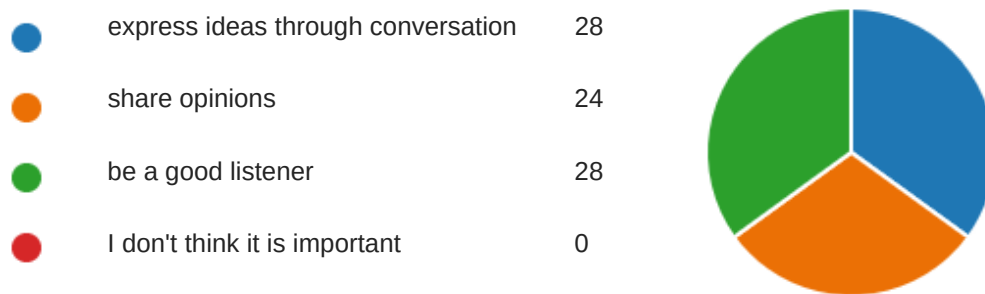


Figure 5: What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about cultivating wellbeing, 22 parents said that they will connect what they learn in English to their own lives, 21 parents said they will become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in English, and 1 parent said I don't know. (See figure 6).

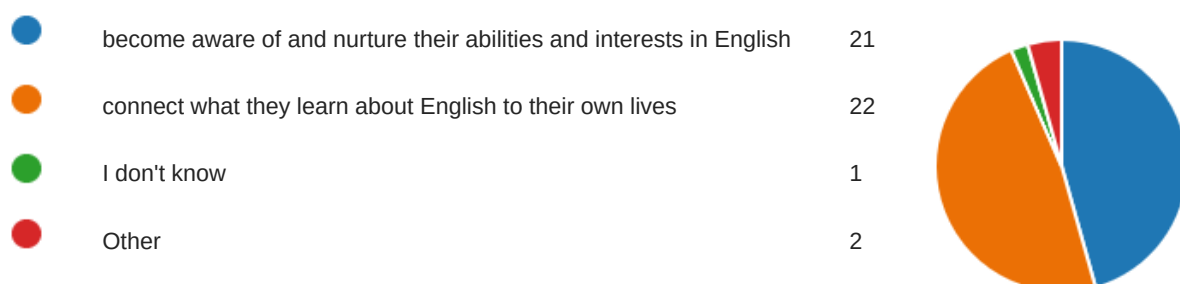


Figure 6: What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to (Please tick all that apply):

English

When asked what they find important about managing learning and self for their children, 26 parents said they will learn to manage their learning, 22 parents said they will set personal goals based on self-awareness, and 11 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on understanding other people (See figure 7).

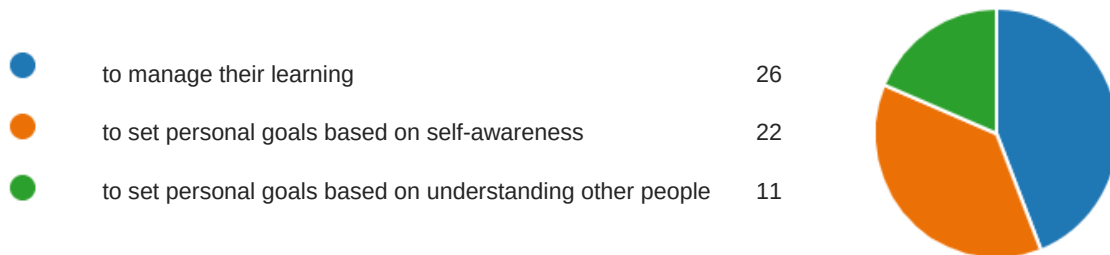


Figure 7: What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn (Please tick all that apply):

When asked if 60% should go to written examination, 22 parents said “yes”, while 11 said “no” (See figure 8).

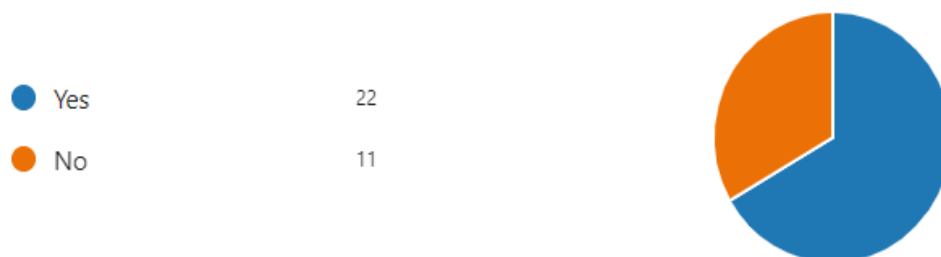


Figure 8: I agree that 60% should go to written examination.

When asked if they agree that 40% should go to additional assessment component, 18 parents said “yes” and 14 parent said “no” (See figure 9).

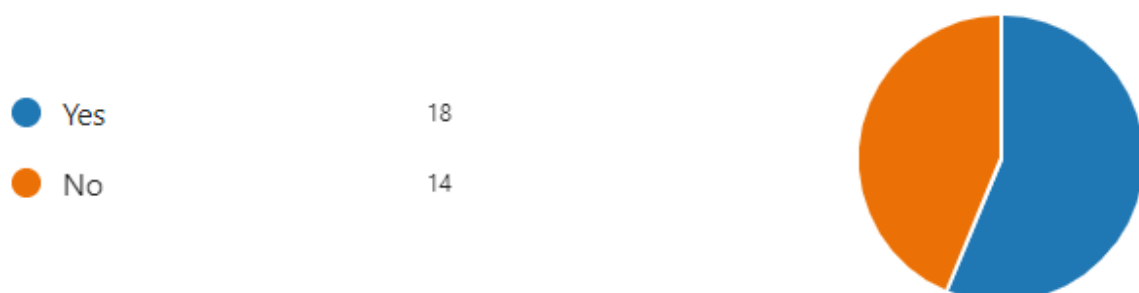


Figure 9: I agree that the 40% should go to additional assessment component.

English

When asked if they want their child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle, 20 parents said “yes”, 10 parents said “no”, and 2 parents said “I don’t know” (See figure 10).

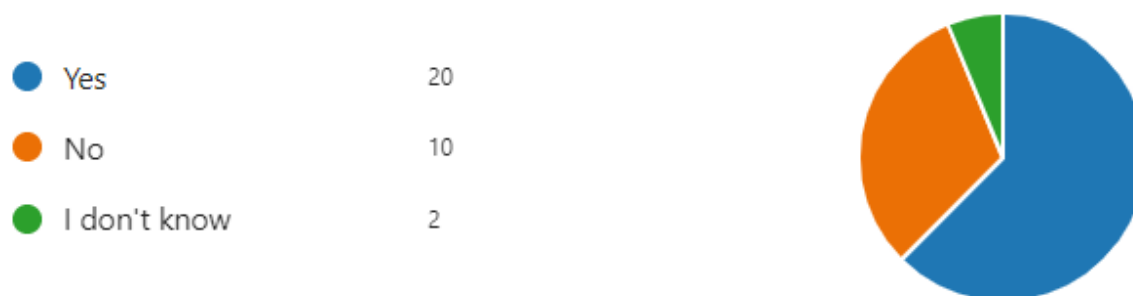


Figure 10: I want my child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle

When asked what they want their child to be engaged in as part of their study of English, 28 parents said written examination, 20 parents said oral exam, 15 said portfolio, 13 parents said aural exam, and 18 parents said research (Figure 11).

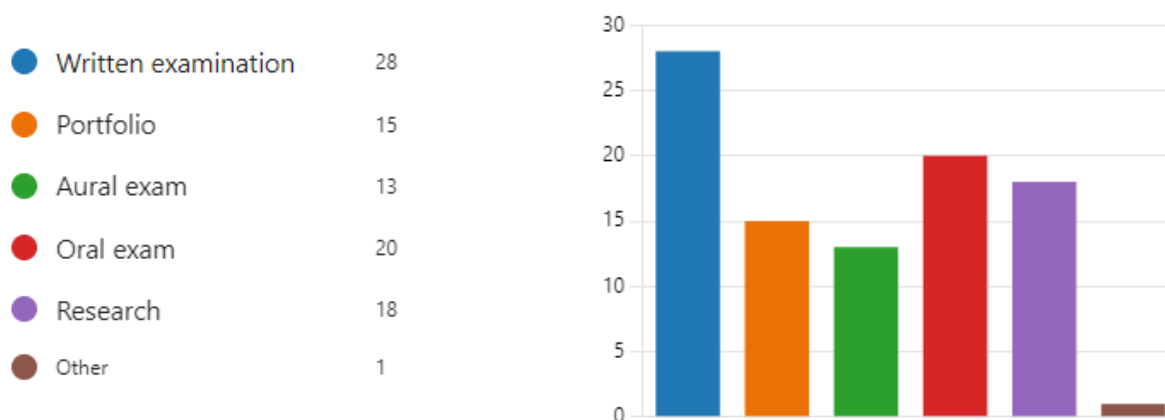


Figure 11: As part of their study of English, I want my child to be engaged in

When asked about the purpose of English in the Leaving Certificate there was a value put on learning about language and literature, with one parent stating they should be taught separately as two distinct subjects. Parents said they believe there is a need to teach children to critically assess information, analyse it and formulate and express their own



English

ideas clearly. There was also a view that we need to teach children about Literature (contemporary and classic) and how to be creative.

When asked what is good about the current Leaving Certificate, there was an appreciation of the wide range of literature studied at Leaving Certificate, and many parents felt this should be continued. There was also a view that the exams should be continued as continuous assessment puts too much pressure on students, although parents expressed support for continuous assessment in other questions.

Parents were asked what should be taken out of the English curriculum at Leaving Certificate. There was a view expressed again here that English should be split into two separate subjects, Language and Literature. There were some concerns about the inclusion of excessive poetry and topics in novels which were too depressing. There were concerns also about the length of the written exams.

When asked what could improve the current Leaving Certificate English there was a view that more media-based learning should be included. Parents asked for more opportunities for students to be creative and be allowed to follow their own preferences when it comes to Literature. There was also a concern that changing the content each year leads to a need for new books which is costly.

Geography

Leaving Certificate Geography

Number of parents who responded to this survey: 11

Competencies:

When asked what they find important about critical thinking and solving problems for their children, 11% said they would learn to solve problems in Geography, while 10% of parents said they would learn to analyse information (See figure 1).

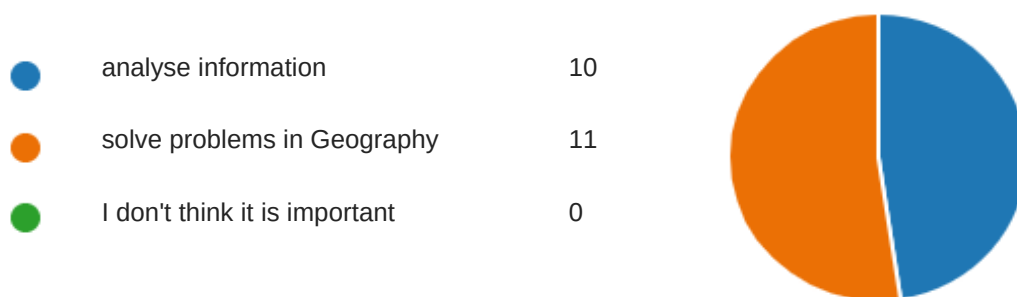


Figure 1: What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about creativity for their children, 11 parents said they will learn to explore their specific interests in Geography, 8 parents said they will learn to be curious, and 7 parents said they will learn to be imaginative (See figure 2).

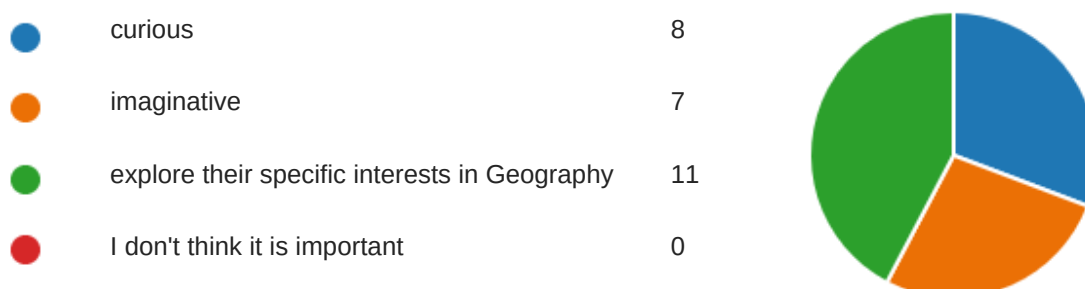


Figure 2: What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be (Please tick all that apply):

Geography

When asked what they find important about working with others, 9 parents said they will practice the skills needed in teamwork, 8 parents said they will experience working with others, 7 parents said they will understand tasks from other perspectives, and 1 person said they don't think it is important (See figure 3).

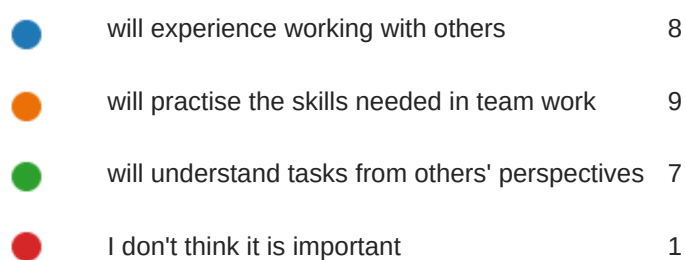


Figure 3: What I find important about working with others is that my child (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about participating in society for their children, 9 parents said that they will learn to contribute to society through making informed choices, 9 parents said they will learn to contribute to sustainable futures in their study of Geography, and 8 parents said they will learn to engage with social and economic issues (See figure 4).

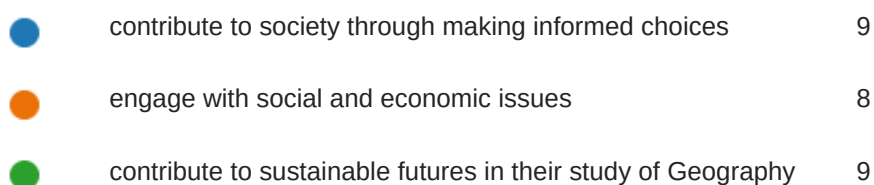


Figure 4: What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

Geography

When asked what they find important about communication, 10 said they will learn to express ideas through conversation, 9 parents said they will learn to be good listeners, and 8 parents said they will learn to share opinions, (See figure 5).

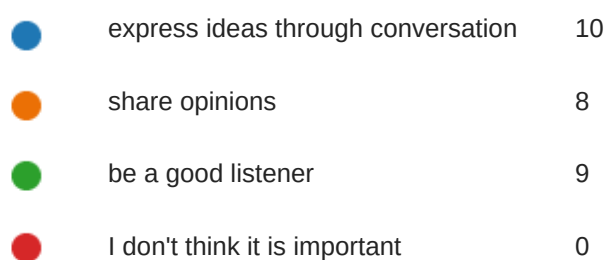


Figure 5: What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about cultivating wellbeing , 9 parents said that they will learn to connect what they learn about Geography to their own lives, while 8 parents said they will learn to become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in geography (See figure 6).

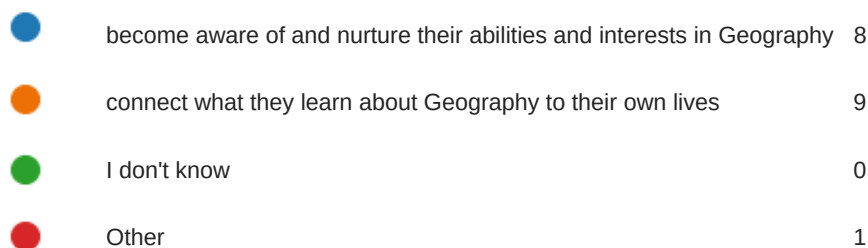


Figure 6: What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to (Please tick all that apply):

Geography

When asked what they find important about managing learning and self for their children, 10 parents said they will learn to manage their learning, 6 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on self-awareness, and 5 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on understanding other people (See figure 7).

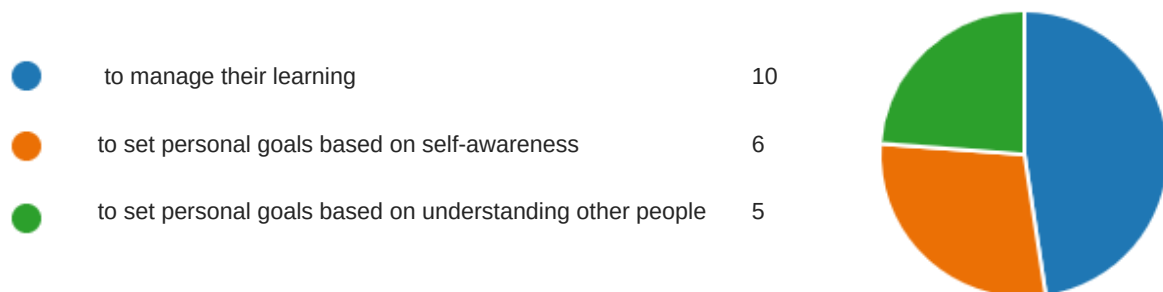


Figure 7: What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn (Please tick all that apply):

When asked if 60% should go to written examination, 8 parents said “yes”, while 3 parents said “no” (See figure 8).

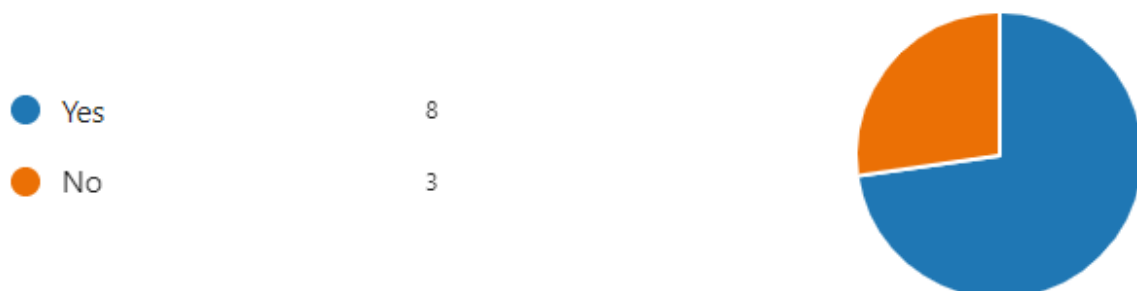


Figure 8: I agree that 60% should go to written examination.

Geography

When asked if they agree that 40% should go to additional assessment component, 8 said “yes” and 3 said “no” (See figure 9).

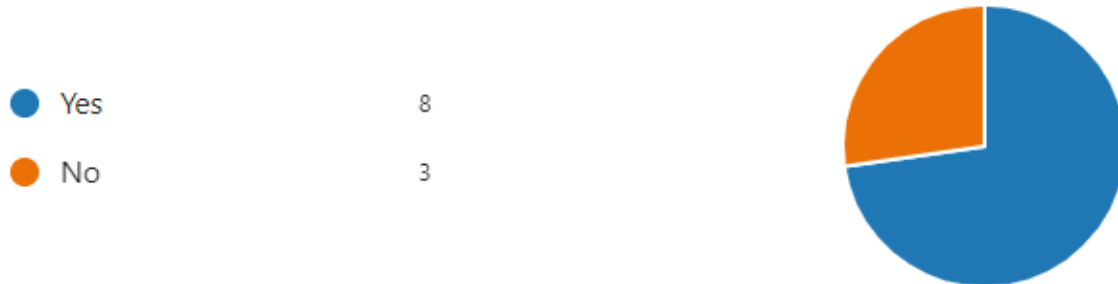


Figure 9: I agree that the 40% should go to additional assessment component

When asked if they want their child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle, 8 parents said “yes”, 2 said “no” (See figure 10).

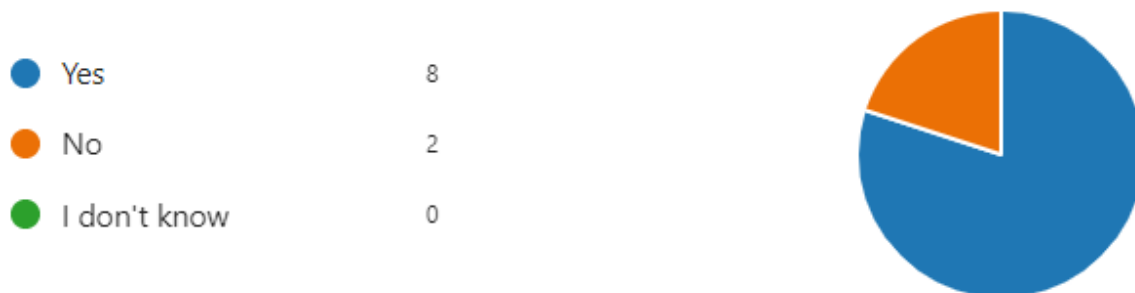
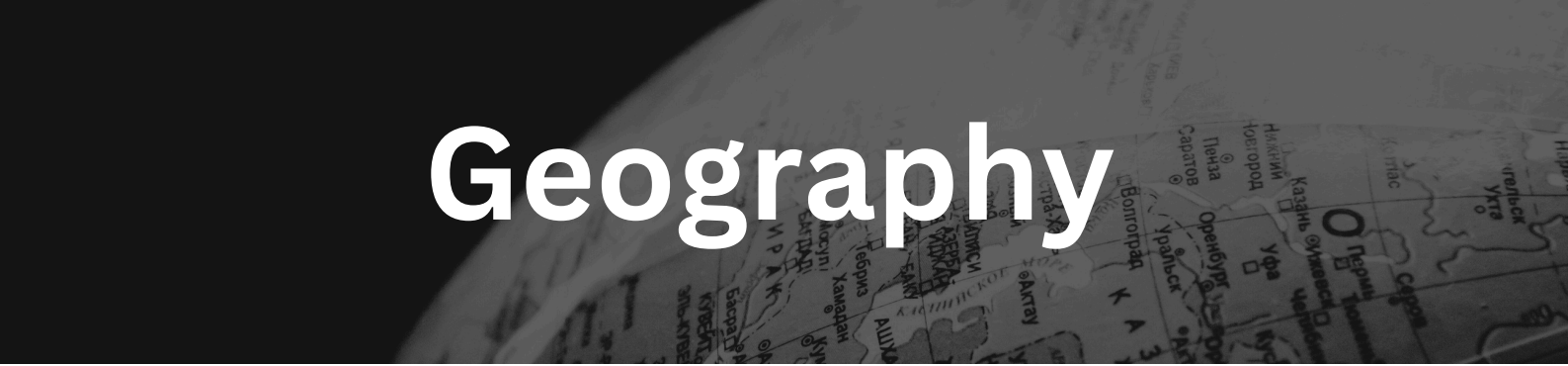


Figure 10: I want my child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle.

When asked what they want their child to be engaged in as part of their study of Geography, 9 parents said practicals, 9 parents said research, 8 parents said portfolio, 7 parents said written examination, and 7 parents said experiments (See figure 11).



Figure 11: As part of their study of Geography, I want my child to be engaged in



Geography

When asked about the purpose of Leaving Certificate Geography, parents saw learning about sustainability and problem solving as the main purpose of Geography.

When asked what is good about the current Leaving Certificate Geography that they want to keep, there was uncertainty about what was good in the current Geography curriculum, but mapping was particularly mentioned.

When asked what should be taken out of the current curriculum there was mention of too many numbers and terms.

When asked what could be improved in Leaving Certificate Geography, mapping was again mentioned along with a request to include countries, capitals and a world map.

Vocational Programme

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)

Number of parents who responded to this survey: 5

Competencies:

When asked what they find important about critical thinking and solving problems for their children, 4 parents said they would analyse information and 4 parents said they would solve problems as part of their vocational studies (See figure 1).

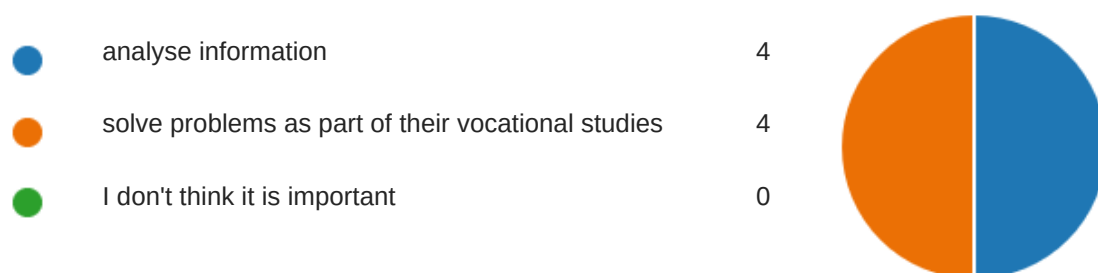


Figure 1: What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about creativity for their children, 3 parents said exploring their specific interests in vocational studies, 2 parents said being curious, and 2 parents said being imaginative (See figure 2).

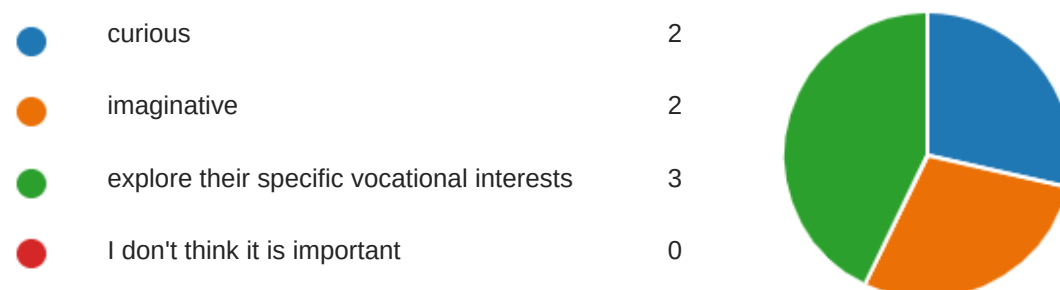


Figure 2: What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be (Please tick all that apply):

Vocational Programme

When asked what they find important about working with others, 4 parents said they will practice the skills needed in teamwork, 3 parents said they will understand tasks from other perspectives, and 2 parents said they will experience working with others (See figure 3).

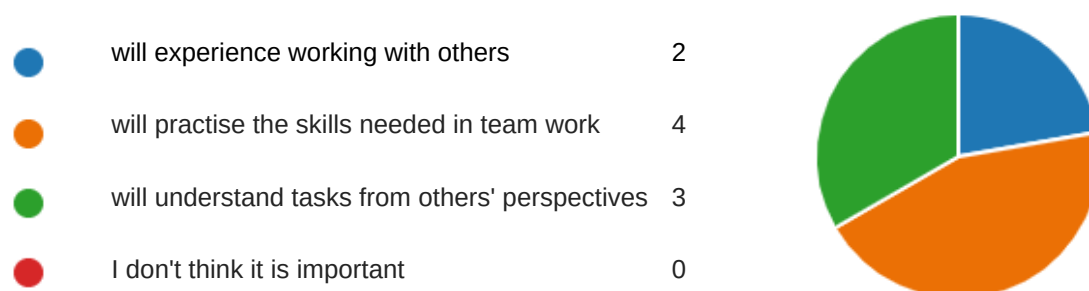


Figure 3: What I find important about working with others is that my child (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about participating in society for their children, 4 parents said that they will learn to contribute to society through making informed choices, 2 parents said they will learn to contribute to sustainable futures in their study of vocational studies, and 1 parent said they will learn to engage with social and economic issues (See figure 4).

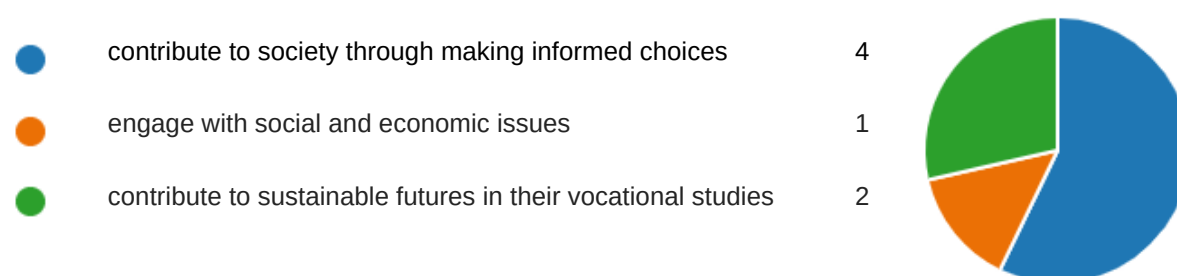


Figure 4: What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

Vocational Programme

When asked what they find important about communication, 3 said they will learn to express ideas through conversation, 1 parent said they will learn to be good listeners, 1 parent said they will learn to share opinions, and parent did not think it is important (See figure 5).

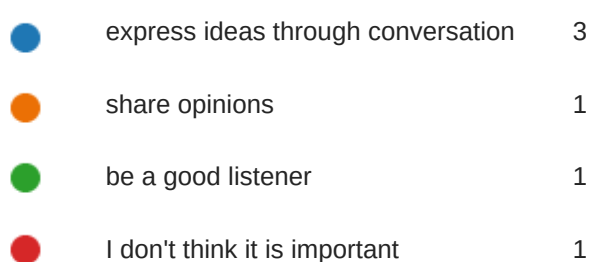


Figure 5: What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about cultivating wellbeing, 3 parents said that they will connect what they learn in vocational studies to their own lives, while 1 parent said they will become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in vocational studies (See figure 6).

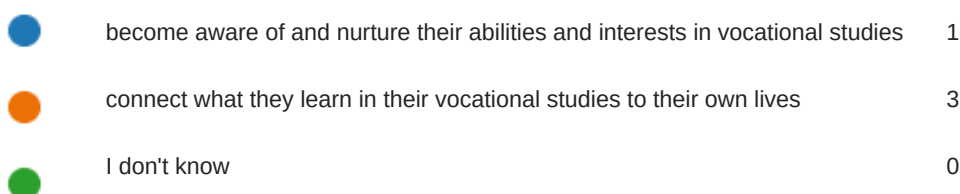


Figure 6: What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to (Please tick all that apply):

Vocational Programme

When asked what they find important about managing learning and self for their children, 4 parents said they will set personal goals based on self-awareness, while 3 parents said they will learn to manage their learning. (See figure 7).

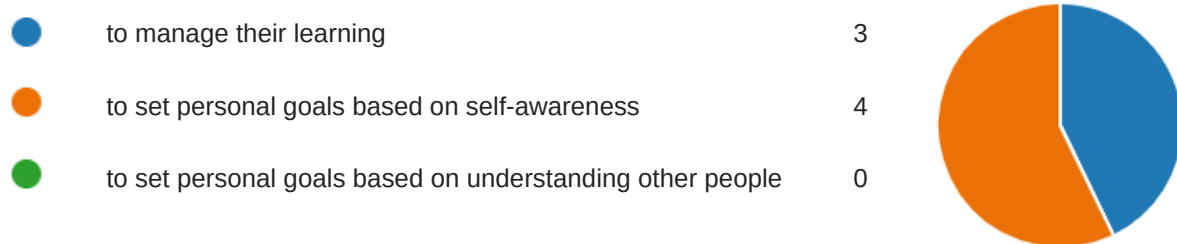


Figure 7: What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn (Please tick all that apply):

When asked if 60% should go to written examination, 4 parents said “yes”, while 1 said “no” (See figure 8).

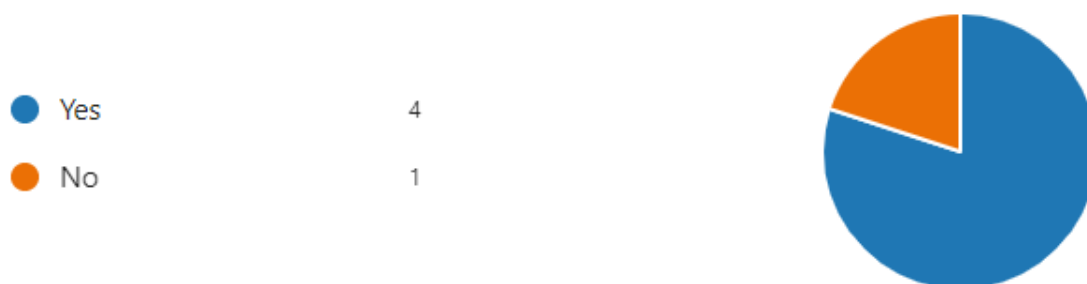


Figure 8: I agree that 60% should go to the portfolio.

When asked if they agree that 40% should go to additional assessment component, 3 parents said “yes” and 2 parents said “no” (See figure 9).

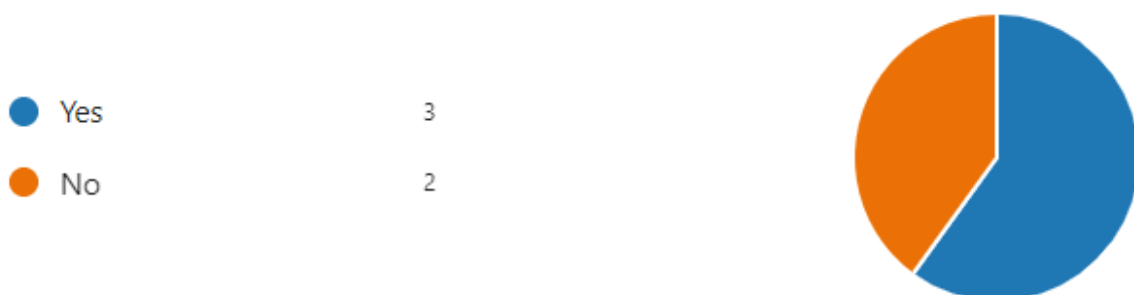


Figure 9: I agree that 40% should go to the additional assessment component.

Vocational Programme

When asked if they want their child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle, 4 parents said “yes”, while 1 parent said “no” (See figure 10).

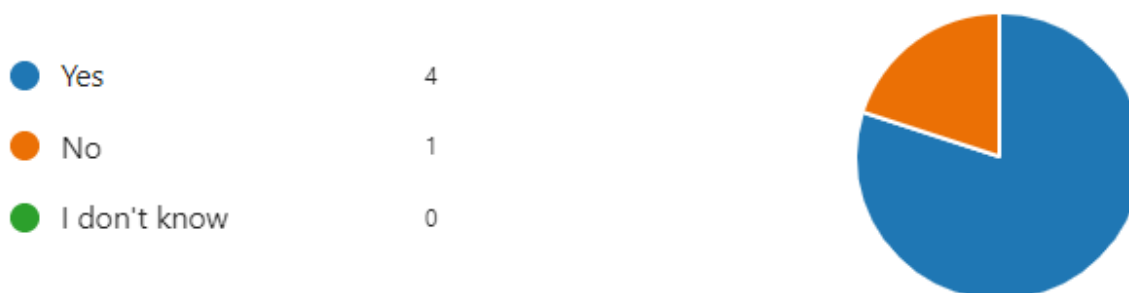


Figure 10: I want my child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle.

When asked how they want their child to be assessed as part of their studies in the LCVP link modules, 4 parents said practicals, 3 parents said portfolio, 2 parents said apprenticeship, 1 parent said written examination, and 1 parent said research (Figure 11).



Figure 11: As part of their studies in the LCVP link modules I would like my child to be assessed by

When asked about the purpose of the LCVP, parents emphasised the importance of practical skills. They also saw the importance of communication skills and building a student’s confidence.

When asked what they would like to keep, parents saw the value of the portfolio and the preparation for work element of this programme.



Vocational Programme

Parents were unsure as to what should be taken out of the modules.

Parents asked for more ICT training particularly in relation to social media for business and also more choice for students in the programmes.

Physical Education

Physical Education:

Number of parents who responded to this survey: 11

Competencies:

When asked what they find important about critical thinking and solving problems for their children, 9 parents said they would learn to analyse information, 7 parents said they would learn to solve problems in Physical Education, and 2 parents said they do not think it is important (See figure 1).

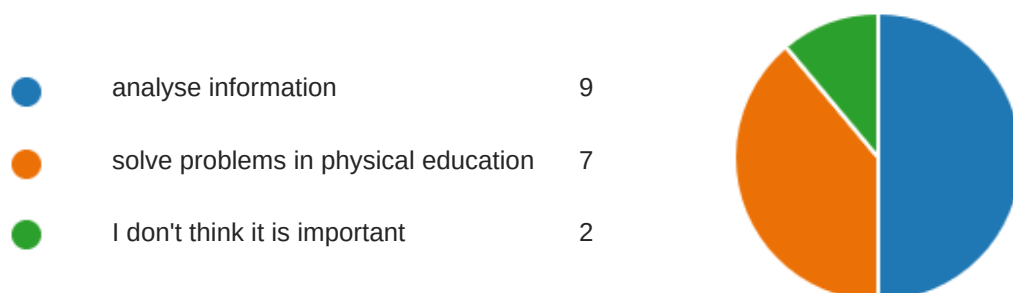


Figure 1: What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about creativity for their children, 8 parents said they will learn to explore their specific interests in Physical Education, 6 parents said they will learn to be curious, 5 parents said they will learn to be imaginative, and 1 parent said they don't think it is important (See figure 2).

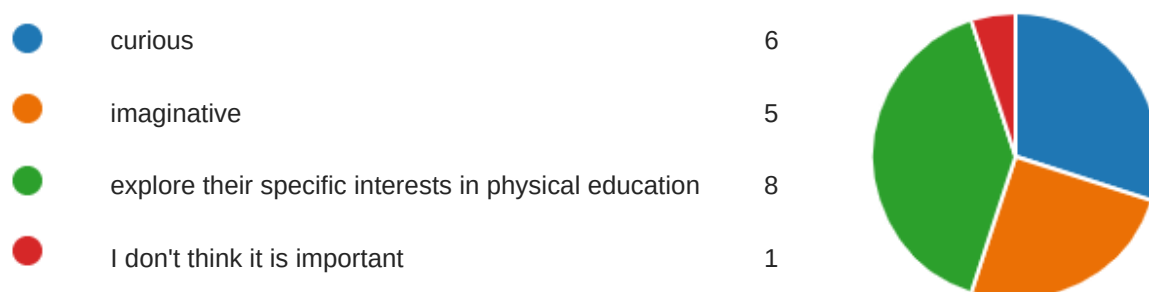


Figure 2: What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be (Please tick all that apply):

Physical Education

When asked what they find important about working with others, 11 parents said they will practice the skills needed in teamwork, 9 parents said they will experience working with others, 7 parents said they will understand tasks from other perspectives (See figure 3).

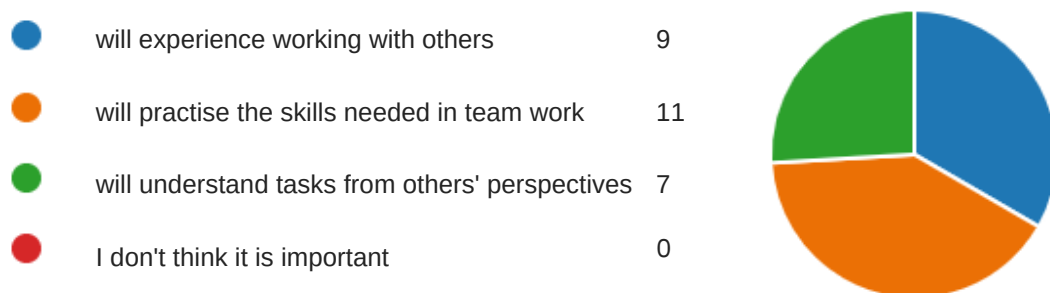


Figure 3: What I find important about working with others is that my child (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about participating in society for their children, 10 parents said that they will learn to contribute to society through making informed choices, and 7 parents said they will learn to engage with social and economic issues, and 7 parents said they will learn to contribute to sustainable futures in their study of Physical Education (See figure 4).

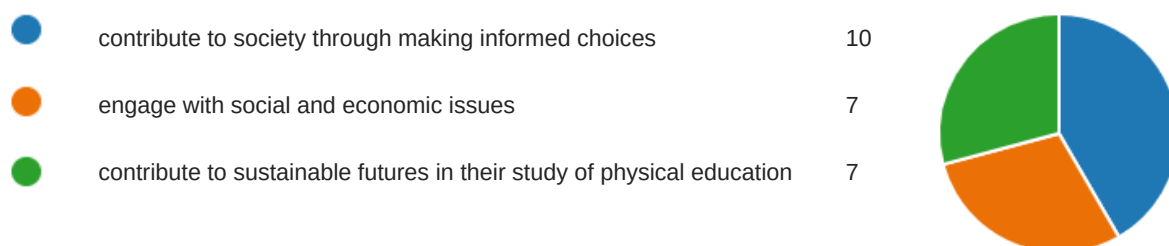


Figure 4: What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

Physical Education

When asked what they find important about communication, 9 parents said they will learn to express ideas through conversation, 8 parents said they will learn to be good listeners, 8 parents said they will learn to share opinions, and one parent did not think it is important (See figure 5).

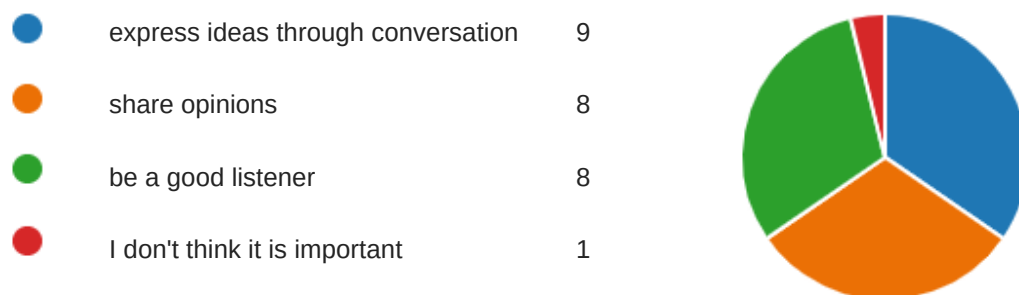


Figure 5: What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about cultivating wellbeing , 11parents said they will learn to become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in Physical Education, while 10 parents said that they will learn to connect what they learn in Physical Education to their own lives. (See figure 6).

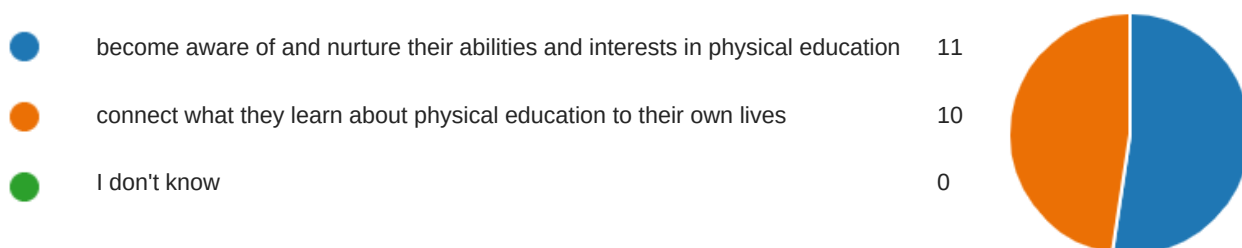


Figure 6: What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to (Please tick all that apply):

When asked what they find important about managing learning and self for their children, 11 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on self-awareness, 7 parents said they will learn to manage their learning, and 6 parents said they will learn to set personal goals based on understanding other people (See figure 7).

Physical Education

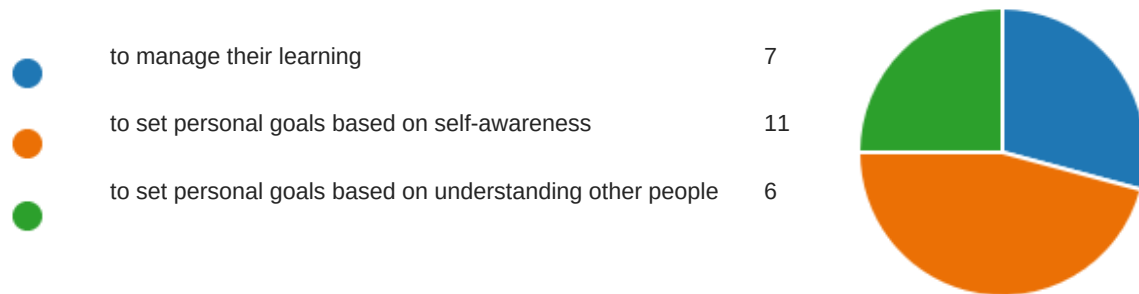


Figure 7: What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn (Please tick all that apply)

When asked if 50% should go to written examination, 7 parents said “yes”, while 4 said “no” (See figure 8).

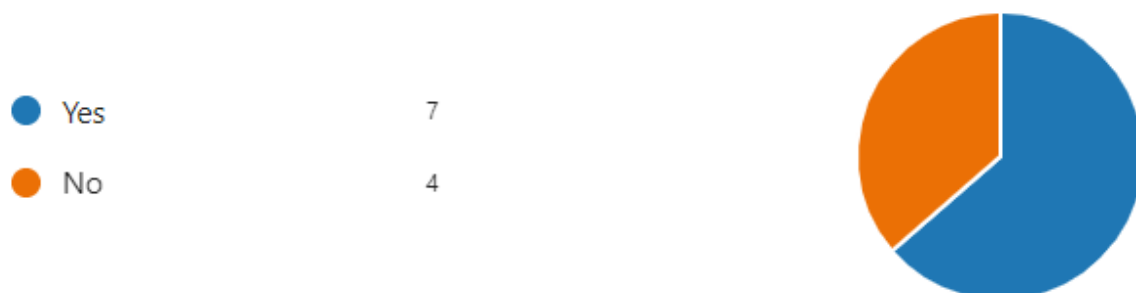


Figure 8: I agree that 50% should go to written examination.

When asked if they agree that 50% should go to additional assessment component, 8 parents said “yes” and 3 parents said “no” (See figure 9).



Figure 9: I agree that the 50% should go to additional assessment component.

Physical Education

When asked if they want their child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle, 11 parents said “yes” (See figure 10).

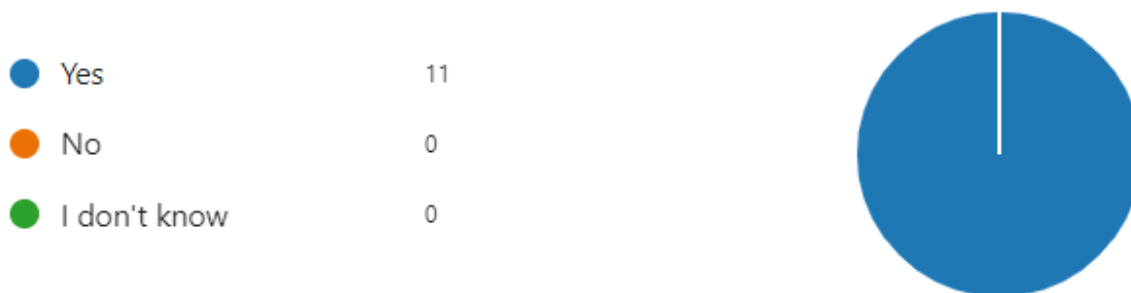


Figure 10: I want my child to be assessed at regular intervals throughout the 2-year cycle.

When asked what they want their child to be engaged in as part of their study of Physical Education, 11 parents said practicals, 9 parents said research, 8 parents said portfolio, and 6 parents said written examination (Figure 11).

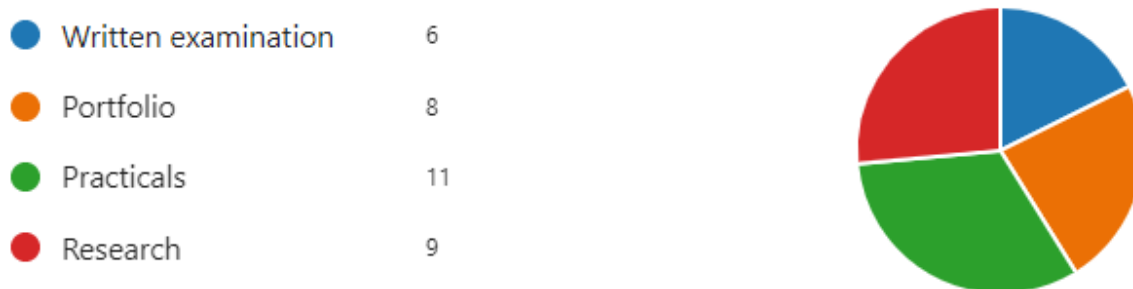


Figure 11: As part of their study of Physical Education, I want my child to be engaged in

When asked about the purpose of PE, parents said that understanding that physical education is for everyone is important. They saw value in learning about nutrition, the benefits of exercise, teamwork, and trying different activities. They believed that this subject could encourage lifelong behaviours which would have positive impacts on overall health.



Physical Education

When asked what they like about the current Leaving Certificate Physical Education, parents said it is the opportunity for individuality and variety in the programme.

When parents were asked what they would like to take out of current Leaving Certificate Physical Education, parents said that they would like to see less pressure and more focus on enjoyment. They would also like to see less focus on the exam.

When parents were asked what they would like to change about the current Leaving Certificate Physical Education, parents said that more continuous assessments and more choice for all would improve this subject.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Responses to Leaving Certificate Accounting survey

Appendix 2: Responses to Leaving Certificate Construction Studies survey

Appendix 3: Responses to Leaving Certificate Engineering survey

Appendix 4: Responses to Leaving Certificate English survey

Appendix 5: Responses to Leaving Certificate Geography survey

Appendix 6: Responses to Leaving Certificate LCVP survey

Appendix 7: Responses to Leaving Certificate PE survey

Appendix 1: Leaving Certificate Accounting

First competency: Critical Thinking and Solving Problems

What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to – options given were: analyse information; solve problems in accounting; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Solve day today problem arouses in working life

It is important that students at least try - and not thinking, no, I can't do that. Encouragement to try with out fear of failure as failure is part of learning.

N/A

Perhaps subject content could include 'everyday' accounting concepts or challenges, in addition to the Business orientated aspects of Accounting.

Second competency: Being Creative

What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be – options given were: ons given were: curious; imaginative; explore their specific interests in accounting; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

I don't think it will help develop creativity

Scientific method of solving problems

I feel it is important to know when to be creative and when you need to stick to guidelines.

Third competency: Working with Others

What I find important about working with others is that my child – options given were: will experience working with others; will practise the skills needed in team work; will understand tasks from others' perspectives; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Projects related and solved in society

Every student interaction is teachable moment to deter bullying and promote listening and caring towards others.

Fourth competency: Participating in Society

What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to cipating in society is that my child will learn to – options given were: contribute to society through making informed choices; engage with social and economic issues; contribute to sustainable futures in their study of accounting

Would you like to add other comments?

More problems solving issues related to Society

Please don't bring UN agenda 2030 goals into the schools. The UN is an unelectable and unaccountable body.

As students progress to 6th year - it is essential that they are aware of real situations in society and how they can effect them as an individual

Fifth competency: Communicating

What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to – options given were: express ideas through conversation; share opinions; be a good listener; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Express good citizen responsibilities

It is important to realise that others may not have the ability to communicate well and that doesn't mean either student is wrong

Sixth competency: Cultivating wellbeing

What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to – options given were: become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in accounting; connect what they learn about accounting to their own lives; I don't know

Would you like to add other comments?

none of those options but how to deal with negative emotions and stress

Wellbeing with society too

It is important that the student doesn't become disheartened by the incorrect answer, but to realise understanding the method is most important.

Seventh competency: Managing Learning and Self:

What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn - options given were: to manage their learning; to set personal goals based on self-awareness; to set personal goals based on understanding other people

Would you like to add other comments?

Learning is a life long process

Time-management is essential in all walks of life and I believe by teaching students how to manage their time on exam questions and the science behind time management would be very beneficial.

I agree that 60% should go to written examination.

If you answered No, please comment further.

It depends what the additional assessment component comprises of. It's all very well to conduct surveys but we can't see what the proposals entail.

I think 60% should go to AAC and 40% to the final written exam

High % for a one off examination

It's not enough considering the likelihood that the syllabus will still be extensive

The written exam should be worth more

I agree that the 40% should go to additional assessment component.

If you answered No, please comment further.

As above

Should be fairer split

It's too much considering the lack of protocols in place re AI and the ability for some students to get extra help that others wouldn't have access to

The AAC shouldn't count for 40%. It's too high

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Accounting should be?

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Accounting should be?

to build attention to detail and accuracy

To allow students to understand the importance of accounting to the functioning of all aspects of society.society

Life skills and education. Prep for the workplace and or third level

Solve Account related problems and use well it in working or social life

A display of what they have learned throughout the two year cycle

Preparation for college or apprenticeship

Life skills

Develop accounting skills

To teach skills for real life scenarios that will benefit personal and professional aspects

Good Understanding of Budget & Financial management. Team building

Give my child a general understanding of the books that are used in a Business

To help challenge and develop the student as a person, while also preparing them for future employment through practical learning, collaboration, teamwork and effective communication

To cover the fundamentals of accounting so that students choosing to continue accounting at third level have a strong basis. However, I ultimately feel, with most subjects, the main purpose is to teach students how to research, analyse and apply data. And I think any mechanism that supports class based assesement or project work should be encouraged. I did my leaving in 1987! And the test system has changed little since then. Not all students will perform well in a written test and to have the efforts of two years culminate in a stress test of a couple of hours seems very unfair.

That they understand all aspects of accounting and how relates in real life and society and business

Get the child ready for future life.

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Accounting that you want to keep?

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Accounting that you want to keep?

not sure

Exam syllabus, each exam is an opportunity to learn

Na

I do feel they need to be able to show their ability to complete accounts

All of it

Not Sure

It is all relevant to be honest. Final accounts, how to work out costing, etc

The fundamental basics and concepts of Accounting (Accounts, P&L, Balance Sheets etc)

My son's teacher. He stays late to do corrections/extra classes with his students. A teacher who really cares about their students and goes the extra mile to support them is priceless.

Written assessment

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Accounting, if anything?

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Accounting, if any?

not sure

Na

Excessive long written questions

The theory element is too broad

Not sure

I don't think it should change

The heavy emphasis on a final paper. Two years of work. A few hours of intense pressure. If you have a student that is unwell, or doesn't perform well under pressure, this is a very unfair system. A teacher's assessment of a student's work ethic, enthusiasm, application, is incredibly important.

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Accounting?

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Accounting?

More interesting. Case studies e.g. accounting for an aid project in Africa, accounting in the context of sustainability.

CA

More advance problems

More continuous assessments

More ongoing assessment

Less theory

More Team work & continuous assessments

More class time with their teacher

Give no more than 50% of the points for the written paper. Or maybe more guidance about what you'll be tested on. Pulling obtuse examples from papers of 20 years ago is not a fair way to test students.

I'm ok with the current selection

Appendix 2: Leaving Certificate Construction Studies

First competency: Critical thinking and Solving Problems

What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to – options given were: Analyse information; Solve problems in their study of construction; I don't think it is important.

Would you like to add other comments?

Cognitive science studies on education and teaching "problem solving" has shown that someone can't solve a problem unless they have a good knowledge base in the subject matter. I think that it's far more important that students have a handle on the basics. They will then be better problem solvers in the work place or further education.

Second competency: Being Creative

What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be – options given were: Curious; Imaginative; Explore their specific interests in construction; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Creativity requires time and space to think, explore and make mistakes. Again a good knowledge of the basics and allowance for plenty of practice. I don't think taking time away from practice of basics should be sacrificed for teaching creativity.

Third competency: Working with Others

What I find important about working with others is that my child – options given were: Will experience working with others; Will practice the skills needed in team work; Will understand tasks from others' perspectives; I don't think it is important.

Would you like to add other comments?

My experience of group projects at 3rd level is that while important it is v problematic in terms of assessment

Fourth competency: Participating in Society

What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to – options given were: Contribute to society through making informed choices; Engage with social and economic issues; Contribute to sustainable futures in their study of construction.

Would you like to add other comments?

Understanding how actions in construction impact the environment and society.

Fifth competency: Communicating

What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to – options given were: Express ideas through conversation; Share opinions; Be a good listener; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Express ideas through formal presentations and critique

Seventh competency: Managing Learning and Self:

What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn – options given were: To manage their learning; To set personal goal based on self-awareness; To set personal goals based on understanding other people

Would you like to add other comments?

Working to deadlines.

Some of the above are lifelong targets e.g. set a goal based on self awareness

I agree that 50% should go to written examination.

If you answered No, please comment further.

A greater percentage should be allocated to practical.

I don't think written examination is helpful, or even proves anything. I believe in continuous assessment

I agree that the 50% should go to additional assessment component.

If you answered No, please comment further.

Why is it that only the written part of the examine is assessed at higher and lower level? Will the additional component be assessed at a common level? Will this therefore put ordinary level candidates at a considerable disadvantage?

Additional assessment should contribute 100%

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Construction Studies should be?

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Construction Studies should be?

To learn how to be professional and build to a high standard

To have hands on experience of construction and its components.

Develop Design Ideas & Team Collaboration

Give candidates skills to work in the field of construction, to be more self sufficient in terms of DIY or to enjoy creating woodwork pieces

Inspiring into the professions associated with sustainable construction industry

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies that you want to keep?

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies that you want to keep?

Not sure

Looking at environmental aspects of construction. Practical elements.

Not Sure

Practical..less written work.

I don't know

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies, if anything?

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies, if anything?

No

Nil

I dont know the current studies

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies ?

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Construction Studies ?

Emphasis on both written exam & continuous assessment. Team building

I dont know

Appendix 3: Leaving Certificate Engineering

First competency: Critical Thinking and Solving Problems

What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to –

options given were: analyse information; solve problems in engineering; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

solve problems in general too

It would also be a useful transferable skill my kids could apply to other subjects

Critical thinking is crucial beyond practical applications in Engineering, and a must-have skill for any person.

Second competency: Being Creative

What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be – options given

were: curious; imaginative; explore their specific interests in engineering; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Curiosity leads everything else, as it's a basis for growth mindset

Third competency: Working with Others

What I find important about working with others is that my child – options given were: will experience working with others; will practise the skills needed in team work; will understand tasks from others' perspectives; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

will learn to listen and work as part of a team

Fourth competency: Participating in Society

What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to – options given were: contribute to society through making informed choices; engage with social and economic issues; contribute to sustainable futures in their study of engineering

Would you like to add other comments?

I would choose all three answers (there is no I don't know option)

Fifth competency: Communicating

What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to – options given were: express ideas through conversation; share opinions; be a good listener; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

I can only expand when choosing this answer but not the option be a good listener

Seventh competency: Managing Learning and Self:

What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn – options given were: to manage their learning; to set personal goal based on self-awareness; to set personal goals based on understanding other people

Would you like to add other comments?

learn about how to deal with stress

I agree that 50% should go to written examination.

If you answered No, please comment further.

30%

I agree that the 50% should go to additional assessment component.

If you answered No, please comment further.

70% - Engineering is a highly practical discipline and should focus on applying the knowledge - not talking about it

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Engineering should be?

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Engineering should be?

to get a job

Awareness of engineering, career awareness, teaching logical practical thinking

To help set a basis for a college course in eng.

Expose them to wide variety of fields and learn the skills to solve engineering problems. Learn the whole process from identifying problems to testing solutions and presenting solutions.

Preparing for a real-life engineering job :)

Opening up their minds to a new way of thinking and perhaps what to study in third level

Develop critical thinking skills, understand the impact on society and team work

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Engineering that you want to keep?

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Engineering that you want to keep?

everything

Not familiar with it

The project and exam components

Foundation skills

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Engineering, if anything?

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Engineering, if anything?

not sure

Not familiar with it

100% based on one written exam

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Engineering?

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Engineering?

nothing

Greater understanding of the basics and fundamentals of engineering

Continuous assessment

Appendix 4: Leaving Certificate English

First competency: Critical Thinking and Solving Problems

What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to – options given were: analyse information; solve problems in English; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

But what does this mean? What are they proposing?

Not relevant if it follows the pop quiz style of JC English

Express own ideas clearly. More important than the above

understanding complex text, recognising bias and communicating unambiguously are key skills

Second competency: Being Creative

What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be – options given were: Curious; imaginative; explore their specific interests in English; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

How?

Must be assessed as an exam not a classroom based assessment

Imagination is the fuel for creativity, which is what innovation depends on and innovation is needed for economic growth. Take a broader view of the value of studying English.

Value their own ideas

Encouraging a love of reading through wide ranging and engaging texts, both modern and classic and from a variety of genres is important

Third competency: Working with Others

What I find important about working with others is that my child – options given were: will experience working with others; will practise the skills needed in team work; will understand tasks from others' perspectives; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Teamwork one word

Soft skills are what employers really want. If you can't work in a team, doesn't matter how good you are at IT or anything else.

Learn empathy, turn-taking, listening skills, patience, tolerance and inclusivity

I do not think group grades work though especially for leaving cert as there are always children who may not put as much effort in as another.

recognising literary strengths and weaknesses in themselves and others is important

Fourth competency: Participating in Society

What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to – options given were: contribute to society through making informed choices; engage with social and economic issues; contribute to sustainable futures in their study of English

Would you like to add other comments?

Again, what does this mean and what does it look like in the curriculum?

Must learn to communicate in real life situations

Engagement is vital, because disengagement leads to apathy, which leaves a vacuum into which those with intolerant right wing views flourish

Become more socially aware and develop a sense of social justice

recognising how language can be loaded and offensive, even unintentionally, but equally inclusive and supportive

Fifth competency: Communicating

What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to – options given were: express ideas through conversation; share opinions; be a good listener; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Quality of written communication must still be assessed

Explicitly learn social skills for use in real life

public speaking, being able to create and deliver thoughts in a structured and engaging way, even if spontaneous is a great life skill

Sixth competency: Cultivating Wellbeing

What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to – options given were: become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in English; connect what they learn about English to their own lives; I don't know

Would you like to add other comments?

Poems I struggled with as a teenager have become old friends in later life' - wrote the author Joseph O'Connor. I feel the same.

Understand wellbeing for themselves

Learn to express their ideas clearly

great to build life long readers and theatre goers

Seventh competency: Managing Learning and Self:

What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn – options given were: to manage their learning; to set personal goals based on self-awareness; to set personal goals based on understanding other people

Would you like to add other comments?

I don't see the need for out of date literature and poetry and more social media studies should replace these as this is what can contribute to their future!

Learn how to learn, how to study, how to self regulate, nourish and sleep well so that all of the above is successful

I don't think too much emphasis should be put on self goals at this age. Of course an awareness of self direction is required to succeed but at this age I'd rather not see my child anxious over tasks she doesn't have to be. Teacher guided class work and student self directed homework would suffice in this competency

resilience and independence spring from an ability to manage oneself

I agree that 60% should go to written examination.

If you answered No, please comment further.

80 to 90%

Again what does mean in practical terms?

I would answer yes if the English curriculum is going to be shortened. Same goes for all subjects. Teachers and students cannot be expected to complete the same curriculum if 40% is going to be project

Too high a percentage for examination

Puts extra pressure on students

It should be 40%

Should be a higher percentage at least 80

Depending on what the AAC is I think it should be 70% for written.

I would like to see 60% assessment & 40% exam component. The assessment should be the majority of marks, a gradual process & then cap it with the exam.

Should be 50/ 50

I agree that the 40% should go to additional assessment component.

If you answered No, please comment further.

20% max

How would the remaining 40%be assessed??

See above

Increased pressure throughout cycle

It should be 60%

Too high and no real way to standardise as English is so subjective

40% too much for such a new project.

I think project work is open to abuse. The wealthy will pay for it to be done. My son's LChistory teacher did project for students

I do not like assessment it is torture for everyone as we have seen from the jc cab's they didn't do much time doing nothing in class as they supposedly do cbas. I believe much less should go on assessment.

I would like to see 60% assessment & 40% exam component. The assessment should be the majority of marks, a gradual process & then cap it with the exam.

I would be concerned about the impact of a common level AAC (if that is what is proposed) on the performance of Ordinary Level candidates. They may be compared to higher level students at this common level which seems quite unfair and could have a negative impact on their overall result..

Should be 50/ 50

Not possible to vote on something that's not clear

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate English should be?

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate English should be?

to be able to speak a proficient level of English

Is there a purpose to the LC?

Proper grammar, punctuation etc. Being able to write with a wide range of vocabulary, know the difference between formal and informal writing etc

Structure of language and written skills. Literature and poetry should be separate subject .

To show what they have learned and their ability to use the language over the two year course

To prepare children for life's challenges

Good spelling and vocabulary

Critical thinking, literacy, analysis, love of literature

To teach children to critically assess information coming to them, analyse it and formulate and express their own ideas clearly.

To both prepare for future practical needs and to introduce and/or further deepen students' experiences of literature which benefit their lives and help develop empathy.

Assessment of learning after 2 year cycle it's a standard of learning.

To learn how to write well. To have an excellent grasp of vocabulary .

A space to be creative. Learn about poetry and literature. Learn to discuss and apply knowledge of learning. We want children to be set up for university and learning how they learn at this age sets them up for a good transition.

To develop a love and competence in the language, including an appreciation of Ireland's and the language's great legacy of peerless work.

To be become a competent reader, writer & speaker of English. The subject should be split into 2 subjects - Language & Literature. The system is currently overloading students with elements of both & therefore is limiting to students & reaching far too wide to be manageable in 1 subject for both teaching & learning.

To improve their knowledge of the English language essential literacy skills: spelling, handwriting, punctuation, grammar, reading, writing composition, vocabulary and comprehension.

To have a level of literacy that gives them the confidence to complete literacy tasks required for employment. To be critical of what they read and hear on social media.

To be able to reflect on good writing from the Classics and contemporary writing. To be able to structure - with good grammar, punctuation, expression - a clear, coherent written or verbal analysis.

Prepare the student for third level education and future career

Enhance an individual's ability to analyse & communicate

improve communication skills and English literature

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate English that you want to keep?

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate English that you want to keep?

everything

Culture. wide range of subjects / authors & poets studied

I don't know

A grounding in the basics of literacy, numeracy, European language, the arts & sciences

Nothing . It's still similar to my LC 30 years ago .

Not a lot

Fair exam

Exams. Avoid anything that allows the system to be gamed.

The highly trained teachers who are flexible and adaptable with multiple texts and student needs

Personal essay, reading comprehensions, poetry, different genres of writing, film and theatre studies

It's fair in that everyone sits the same exam on same day.

The final exam . Assessment puts huge pressure on kids all the way through .

Poetry

Teachers. When teachers say positive feedback it impacts massively.

Some classic texts

Shakespeare! An understanding and appreciation of classical writing. A love of reading and discussion topics. And a good working understanding of grammar, spelling and punctuation because with predictive text and mobile phones, this is being lost.

Literature and reading

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate English, if anything?

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate English, if anything?

nothing

Poetry

Poetry and literature should be separate subject as in UK

Out of date irrelevant literature and poetry

CAO points dictating everything

Maybe a bit too much Seamus Heaney?

Plays

Excessive content (eg. Poetry)

To focus on literature for non language-strong children

Current methods used for examining novel, play and film through very general yet prescriptive techniques (the comparative)

English paper is too long. 3 hrs max. Review idea to include project work with every subject especially academic subjects. Those with means will pay others to do it. Very unfair.

Poems .

Split into 2 subjects - language & literature

I wouldn't recommend aural exams as part of the English test because the quality of audio recordings is often poor, depending on equipment, acoustics et.

Some of the cours novels are too depressing and graphic

No

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate English?

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate English?

I

The level of teaching. Some teachers are brilliant, some shouldn't allowed to teach

Make it current and split the subject into.2 . English language and literature studies

Much more social media based studies. That is the main form of communication for this generation so why not teach it

Annual texts and poets changing, huge waste of money buying books every year and not sustainable environmentally

More women writers and poets covered

As with all of the subjects - there is too much pressure on students to perform to a high standard in an exam that will determine their future college places - it needs to be more continuous assessment based.

More freedom for research projects to facilitate individual exploration and development. Book clubs and active reviewing to be part of same.

Less cramming of quotes and thematic essays and more exam time to allow students' individuality to shine.

Reduce exam time. Change poetry section. Too many poems from one poet at higher level. Much better to give students a broad taste of many different poets from different eras. More weighting on paper one

Teachers salaries

more focus on portfolio, non exam-based assessment (as planned) with greater focus on public speaking

Split into 2 subjects - language & literature

Improvement on adaptation of the English language to every day lives, whether through business, communications or employment means

Make it more relevant. Students don't see the relevance of some of the poetry and Shakespeare. They can't all relate to it.

The standard of grammar, spelling, punctuation. To first and foremost, develop a love of reading or books (could a book club be incorporated, rather than always following prescribed texts?).

Happier more classical novels

More grammar

Appendix 5: Leaving Certificate Geography

First competency: Critical Thinking and Solving Problems

What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to – options given were: analyse information; solve problems in Geography; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

This is bogus as it presupposes honest critical thinking is being taught without ideological bias
Oceanography

Second competency: Being Creative

What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be – options given were: curious; imaginative; explore their specific interests in Geography; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Again, we might approve of creativity in principle only to find teachers are suppressing creativity in reality in the course.

Mapping

Third competency: Working with Others

What I find important about working with others is that my child – options given were: will experience working with others; will practise the skills needed in team work; will understand tasks from others' perspectives; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Group projects are typically so badly managed by the teaching staff as to be self-defeating.
Hear from other countries

Fourth competency: Participating in Society

What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to – options given were: contribute to society through making informed choices; engage with social and economic issues; contribute to sustainable futures in their study of Geography

Would you like to add other comments?

The question remains as to what is approved as contributing to society - is this more ideological bias?

Demographics and mapping to identify gaps for problem solving.

Fifth competency: Communicating

What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to – options given were: express ideas through conversation; share opinions; be a good listener; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Again, the questions do not address what is approved forms of communication. Will this be ideological in nature and prevent honest debate?

express ideas and share information through presentations (posters, speeches)

Presentation skills.

Sixth competency: Cultivating wellbeing

What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to – options given

were: become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in Geography; connect what they learn about Geography to their own lives; I don't know

Would you like to add other comments?

But teachers are not able to foster wellbeing. On the contrary they usually convey stress and anger with a view to achieving conformity as a goal.

Problem, eg to help Third World and Developing Countries to avoid famine and conflicts. Better Infrastructure and public transportation eg invest for West Cork railways as potential for multinational companies employment investment and housing creation to solve Homelessness. Dublin is not only city in Ireland.

Seventh competency: Managing learning and Self:

What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn – options given
were: to manage their learning; to set personal goals based on self-awareness; to set personal goals based on understanding other people

Would you like to add other comments?

If not for self-learning, nothing would be learned in Irish schools. But the teachers are the last people on earth able to teach this skill.

Empowerment and self-satisfaction to be able to finish projects.

I agree that 60% should go to written examination.

If you answered No, please comment further.

The education system uses exams to teach stupidity and regurgitation. Exams are fine but when that is all they learn it's hopeless and inculcates narrow thinking and kills their interest.

A higher percentage should be allocated to the AAC

I feel AAC should get 60%. Work done throughout the 2yrs to Leaving Cert should account for the bulk of result. Some students find the written exam very daunting and these result may not actually reflect the work or knowledge a student has

I agree that the 40% should go to additional assessment component.

If you answered No, please comment further.

AI will the work be the child's genuine work or will they be able to get help from relative who is an expert in the area, unfair on others in the class.

1. The AAC should be assessed at higher and ordinary level. Otherwise ordinary level students could be at a significant disadvantage. 2. How will the SEC ensure that candidates do not receive help with the AAC.

See above answer.

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Geography should be?

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Geography should be?

to learn about sustainability

intelligence

Sustainability

ability to critique information

Problem solving, finding new energies and sustainability

To assess learning and knowledge achieved during school terms.

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Geography that you want to keep?

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Geography that you want to keep?
not sure
very little
don't know
Mapping
N/A

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Geography, if anything?

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Geography, if anything?
no
The content is not the issue directly but rather how it is taught. Although, a focus on reality couldn't hurt.
don't know
Too much numbers and terms can be difficult to remember in exam.
N/A

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Geography?

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Geography?
Better teachers.
don't know
There is no countries, capitals, World map covered
Mapping
More CBA than final 2.5 - 3 hr long exam.

Appendix 6: Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)

First competency: Critical Thinking and Solving Problems

What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to – options given were: analyse information; solve problems as part of their vocational studies; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

better make decisions and judgments

Second competency: Being Creative

What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be – options given were: curious; imaginative; explore their specific vocational interests; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

sociable

Third competency: Working with Others

What I find important about working with others is that my child – options given were: will experience working with others; will practise the skills needed in team work; will understand tasks from others' perspectives; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

teamwork is one word :)

Fourth competency: Participating in Society

What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to – options given were: contribute to society through making informed choices; engage with social and economic issues; contribute to sustainable futures in their vocational studies

Would you like to add other comments?

I can only choose one option in this question

Fifth competency: Communicating

What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to – options given were: express ideas through conversation; share opinions; be a good listener; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

valuable social skills - also listening (but I could only choose one option)

Sixth competency: Cultivating Wellbeing

What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to – options given were: become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in vocational studies; connect what they learn in their vocational studies to their own lives; I don't know

Would you like to add other comments?

those two options are not really wellbeing related. help them deal with stress and negative emotions

Seventh competency: Managing Learning and Self:

What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn – options given were: to manage their learning; to set personal goals based on self-awareness ; to set personal goals based on understanding other people

Would you like to add other comments?

time management and discipline

I agree that 60% should go to the portfolio.

If you answered No, please comment further.

Full assessment through portfolio and work experience

I agree that the 40% should go to the final examination.

If you answered No, please comment further.

In vocational studies, I believe traditional examinations have less of a role to play. Maybe 20% could go to the final examination.

Full assessment through portfolio and work experience

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of the LCVP modules should be?

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of the LCVP modules should be?

to build children's reflective and practical skills

To prepare more practical students to the world of work.

Improve communication skills and build confidence

What is good about the current LCVP modules that you want to keep?

What is good about the current LCVP modules that you want to keep?

I'm not sure what they are

The portfolio being completed across the two years being submitted in March of 6th yr

Preparation for work

What should be taken out of the current LCVP modules, if anything?

What should be taken out of the current LCVP modules, if anything?

not sure

Not sure

What would you like to improve about the current LCVP modules?

What would you like to improve about the current LCVP modules?

have more choice

More ict training including social media for business

Appendix 7: Leaving Certificate Physical Education

First competency: Critical Thinking and Solving Problems

What I find important about critical thinking and solving problems is that my child will learn to – options given were: analyse information; solve problems in physical education; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

critical thinking about health and diet information in popular media

Enjoy physical education for healthy living with their own ability.

Second competency: Being Creative

What I find important about being creative is that my child will learn to be – options given were: curious; imaginative; explore their specific interests in physical education; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

comfort in trying new activities

To find their own sport or team to enjoy.

Third competency: Working with Others

What I find important about working with others is that my child – options given were: will experience working with others; will practise the skills needed in team work; will understand tasks from others' perspectives; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Single or team PE.

Fourth competency: Participating in Society

What I find important about participating in society is that my child will learn to – options given were: contribute to society through making informed choices; engage with social and economic issues; contribute to sustainable futures in their study of physical education

Would you like to add other comments?

critiquing and responding to health/diet/wellness information in media

Sport is more healthy than vaping and hanging around in street gangs.

Fifth competency: Communicating

What I find important about communicating is that my child will learn to – options given were: express ideas through conversation; share opinions; be a good listener; I don't think it is important

Would you like to add other comments?

Discuss sport and teams performance as a fan and spectator.

Sixth competency: Cultivating Wellbeing

What I find important about cultivating wellbeing is that my child will learn how to – options given

were: become aware of and nurture their abilities and interests in physical education; connect what they learn about physical education to their own lives; I don't know

Would you like to add other comments?

be able to critique health information in media

Participatory and gentle movement is good with your own ability.

Seventh competency: Managing Learning and Self:

What I find important about managing learning and self is that my child will learn – options given were: to manage their learning; to set personal goals based on self-awareness; to set personal goals based on understanding other people

Would you like to add other comments?

Improve and build up by practicing sport with your own space.

I agree that 50% should go to written examination.

If you answered No, please comment further.

I think that more of the marks should go to ongoing projects etc rather than a final written exam.

Much less formal examination required for PE, in my opinion

60% should go to AAC

It should depend on the child abilities and graded with different styles of learning.

I agree that the 50% should go to additional assessment component.

If you answered No, please comment further.

Assessment should focus more on practical matters in PE.

See above answer

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Physical Education should be?

As a parent, what do you think the purpose of Leaving Certificate Physical Education should be?

Giving a broad understanding of the vital contribution PE has on everybody, not just the 'sporty' ones or successful ones

Understanding sport, teamwork, finding and cultivating a preferred physical activity.

Learning about nutrition, benefits of exercise, teamwork, try different activities

Learning the science and psychology of fitness, physical activity and sport. Preparing kids for a career / hobby in physical activity for health and wellbeing.

Lifelong health behaviours

Enjoy sport and movement - helps with old age, healthy weight and less stiff.

Assess knowledge gained during school term.

Educating young people on the importance of healthy lifestyle

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Physical Education that you want to keep?

What is good about the current Leaving Certificate Physical Education that you want to keep?

The project has been really interesting

Coaching, performance, nutrition, physiology

Opportunity do it with own ability, not everybody can walk 10km without practice.

N/A

It's a subject on the leaving cert

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Physical Education, if anything?

What should be taken out of the current Leaving Certificate Physical Education, if anything?

The % on the final exam

Pressure, more sport enjoyment.

N/A

Not sure

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Physical Education?

What would you like to improve about the current Leaving Certificate Physical Education?

Wider participation by all

More continuous assessment

Enjoyment and choose your own sport, eg tennis, golf, soccer, etc.

Get rid of 3hr exam at the end of 2yrs learning. CBA should be main examinations

Not sure



NPC

SUPPORTING PARENTS
SUPPORTING CHILDREN

*Prepared by the National Parents Council
Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20027032*

Tel: +353 1 887 4034

Email: info@npc.ie