

# Galway Community College

Wellpark Road, Galway



**Phone:** +353 (0) 91 755464

**Website:** [www.galwaycc.ie](http://www.galwaycc.ie)

**Type of School:** Co-educational

**Number of Students:** 245 Students

## UNIFORM

<b>Jumper</b>	Maroon crested jumper
<b>Trousers</b>	Grey
<b>Shirt</b>	Grey
<b>Shoes</b>	Dark shoes



## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Galway Community College provides life-long learning in a way that builds on the strengths of the students and encourages them to strive for excellence. Galway Community College recently celebrated 45 years of providing innovative, quality education to adolescents and adults of all ages in the west of Ireland.

The school now offers courses across three separate areas of learning, namely mainstream (from first year to Leaving Cert), post-Leaving Cert (PLC further education), and adult education (part-time evening courses delivering hobby and FETAC Level 5 and 6 certification).

The college has more than 1,000 students passing through its doors every week and some 330 of these are mainstream students attending the school. Given that the college has three different areas of learning it has developed its resources to meet demand. Young learners have access to a fully equipped gymnasium, a staffed library, two engineering rooms, two construction rooms, a home economics room, six computer suites with broadband and WiFi access, a café, media rooms, and many subject based classrooms.

## FACILITIES

- Six Computer Suites with Broadband and Internet Access
- Materials Technology (Wood)
- Architectural Technology
- Technical Drawing Rooms
- 3 Art Rooms
- Language Laboratory
- Metalwork / Engineering Rooms
- 2 Science Laboratories
- 2 Home Economics Rooms
- Canteen
- Auditorium
- Fully equipped Gym and Sports Hall
- 2 Playing Pitches

- 2 Basketball Courts (Indoor and Outdoor)
- Sports wall
- Lockers
- Library with Internet Access and Full Time Librarian

## **CURRICULUM**

GCC offers a full range of Second Level programmes including, Junior Certificate, JCSP, TY, Leaving Certificate Established, LCVP and Leaving Certificate Applied.

### **Junior Cycle**

- Irish / English / Mathematics / French
- History / Geography / Science / Computers
- Business Studies / Technical Graphics / Home Economics
- Art Craft Design / Materials Technology-Wood /
- Woodwork-Metalwork
- Civics Social Political Education (CSPE) / Religious Education
- Social Personal Health Education (SPHE) / Physical Education

### **Junior Certificate Schools Programme**

The Junior Certificate School Programme aims to provide a curriculum framework that assists schools and teachers in making the Junior Certificate more accessible to those young people who may leave school without formal qualifications. It attempts to help young people experience success and develop a positive self-image by providing a curriculum and assessment framework suitable to their needs. On completion of the programme students receive a profile which is an official record of their achievements from the Department of Education and Skills.

Galway Community College offers the JCSP programme. We have a library and a full time librarian that arranges lots of activities and clubs for students at Galway Community College.

The following is a sample of the wide range of activities, which are ongoing in our Project library at Galway Community College:

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| • Student and teacher book clubs;      | • Family Literacy Programme;         |
| • JCSP Paired Reading;                 | • Student designed materials         |
| • Timetabled reading classes;          | • Creative writing                   |
| • Borrowing books for leisure reading; | • Exhibition space;                  |
| • JCSP Readalong;                      | • Lunch time activities              |
| • Storytelling;                        | • After school activities and Clubs; |
| • JCSP Make A Book Exhibition;         | • Literacy Programmes                |

- Numeracy Programmes;
- Display of students work;
- Author visits

## **Leaving Cycle**

- Irish / English / Mathematics
- French / History / Geography
- Physics / Chemistry / Biology
- Art / Engineering / Home Economics / Physical Education
- Design & Communication Graphics / Business /
- Architectural Technology

## **Leaving Cert Applied**

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a distinct, self-contained two-year programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life. The programme puts an emphasis on forms of achievement and excellence, which the established Leaving Certificate has not recognised in the past.

The Leaving Certificate Applied is intended to meet the needs of those students who are not adequately catered for by other Leaving Certificate programmes or who choose not to opt for such programmes.

The advantage of Leaving Certificate Applied is that it focuses on the talents of each individual student and helps students apply what they learn in the real world. The two-year programme consists of four half-year blocks called Sessions and achievements are credited in each of these Sessions.

Students at Galway Community College are offered LCA after Third Year. LCA students study the following modules:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| • English and Communications        | • Information Communications and Technology |
| • Irish                             | • Social and Health Education               |
| • Mathematical Applications         | • Leisure Studies                           |
| • French                            | • Career Guidance                           |
| • Art                               | • Practical Achievement                     |
| • Graphics and Construction Studies | • Vocational Preparation and Guidance       |
| • Hotel ,Catering and Tourism       |   |
| • Religion                          |   |

Students complete one day of work experience each week throughout their two year programme. They also take part in visits to local enterprises and colleges.

## **LCVP**

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) is an intervention designed to enhance the vocational dimension of the Leaving Certificate (established). The programme was introduced in 1994 in response to the challenge placed on Ireland's education system by a changing work and business environment. The LCVP combines the academic strengths of the Leaving Certificate (established) with a new and dynamic focus on self-directed learning, innovation and enterprise. This two-year programme is part of an expanded provision that aims to cater for the diversity of participants' needs at senior cycle.

The primary goal of the LCVP is to prepare young people for adult life by ensuring that they are educated in the broadest sense, with an ability to cope and thrive in an environment of rapid change. Participants in the programme are encouraged to develop skills and competencies fundamental to both academic and vocational success.

Throughout the programme students are encouraged to:

- Be innovative and enterprising
- Take responsibility for their own learning
- Adapt to changing circumstances
- Evaluate data and devise solutions to problems
- Communicate their thoughts and ideas effectively
- Work with others as part of a team
- Investigate and plan career options
- Use information and communications technologies
- Investigate local businesses and community enterprises
- Learn from their experiences

These skills and qualities are equally relevant to the needs of those preparing for further education, seeking employment or planning to start their own business.

## **Transition Year**

The Transition Year Programme is a unique one year programme that promotes the personal, social, vocational and educational development of students and prepares them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society (Transition Year Guidelines, 1994, Department of Education). TY provides a bridge to enable students to make the transition from the more dependent type of learning associated with Junior Cycle to the more independent learning environment associated with Senior Cycle. It encourages the development of a wide range of transferable critical thinking and creative problem solving skills.

Transition Year at Galway Community College is a one year optional programme offered to Third Year Students.

Transition Year students study the core subjects of English, Irish and Maths.

Transition Year students sample many subjects for Leaving Certificate such as: Business, Engineering, Design Communication and Graphics, Art, Construction, History Geography, French and Science.

Other programmes and subjects offered to Transition Year Students are Health and Safety, Road Safety, Company Programme, Budgeting and Finance, Religion, Physical Education and Social Studies.

Students take part in a number of out of class activities supporting local charities, visiting local businesses and two weeks of work experience.

Parents are involved from options night, parent teacher meetings, work experience evaluations through to the TY graduation at the end of the school year.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR**

Extra-Curricular activities form an important part of school life, activities are offered in the areas of sport, music and the creative arts



**Please feel free to refer to the school website for further information on the school.**