



# Comeragh College

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Dear New Holder of a Leaving Certificate,

The long-awaited day has arrived and now you have your results. Congratulations on reaching this milestone!

For some of you who have achieved grades well above what you were looking for you will more than likely feel great relief. For many others, today signals the beginning of the waiting game to find out what offers you will receive. It is normal for the next couple of days to be an anxious time; do not make any rushed decisions, give yourself time to digest this new information and talk to your friends and family.

There is plenty of help and information available and there are options for everybody. I have included some key information here that may answer a lot of your queries. From Tuesday to Saturday this week The Irish Times will run an online helpdesk to answer your questions. This service is manned by qualified guidance counsellors and can be accessed on [www.theirishtimes.com/results2019](http://www.theirishtimes.com/results2019). The National Parents council will run a helpline on the same days and can be contacted on 1800 265 165.

Should you wish to discuss and think through your Leaving Cert results/possible college courses or next steps, I am available to meet with you in school. If you wish to make an appointment, email me directly at [goneill@tipperaryetb.ie](mailto:goneill@tipperaryetb.ie) including an email and telephone number that I can contact you on.

As always, remember, your future, your responsibility! Double check all dates and deadlines, contact the CAO and colleges if necessary, and make sure to accept offers and submit paperwork well ahead of deadlines.

We wish you a rich and fulfilled life in the times ahead.

Please keep in touch with us and let us know what you are doing. Email me with the course/ training/ job you are doing. We love to hear from our past students.

Best of luck.

Gemma O'Neill  
Guidance Counsellor

### **The Results**

Be aware that whatever your results, it does take time to settle down and accept them as your new reality, so do give yourself time to get used to the news.

If you are pleased with your results – congratulations we are delighted for you. There now may be more options for you than you first realised and you should spend some days thinking these through. If you feel disappointed – it will take time to get used to that but please consider the following:

- If the results are good ones for you, but you are disappointed because 'everyone else' has 'brilliant' results, stay calm. There are many openings and opportunities for you.
- Even if your results are not nearly those you had hoped for, you still have many options. Take time to become aware of what they are and to think them through.
- If you are pleased with your results and someone else feels you could have done better - that is not your problem!

### **Key dates & Information**

Leaving Cert Results: Tuesday 13th August available online at 10 am and can be collected in school. In order to access online, students must register with for the Candidate Self-Service Portal.

CAO Offers Round 1: Thursday 15th August available at 2.00 pm online (may also be issued by email & SMS Text) from 2pm and must be accepted by Friday 23rd August 5.15 pm. You may be offered a course from both Level 8 & Level 6/7. You can only accept one offer (per round).

If you accept an offer in Round 1, it will not prevent you being offered a higher offer in a later round. You should consider your current offer carefully, it may be the only one you receive.

CAO Offers Round 2: Wednesday 28th August from 10.00 am accepted by Friday 30th August 5.15 pm.

CAO Offers Round 3: Friday 6th September from 6.00 am accepted by Wednesday 11th August 5.15 pm.

CAO Vacant Places: CAO operates an Available Places/Vacant Places service where you can apply for courses that have not been filled. These will be published on their website on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August at midday, if you interested in any of these places contact the college.

Deferring a CAO place: If you wish to request to defer your place until next September do not accept your offer and contact the college admissions office immediately for further instruction

CAO contact number: (091) 509 800

'The CAO Offer Process': This is a helpful video on the CAO website which offers clear instructions on how to accept a place and what to do if you have not been offered a place.

### Viewing Scripts & Appeals

**Appeals Process:** If you feel a specific grade in one or more subjects falls short of your expectations you can view your scripts free of charge. Once you have viewed your script you will then have the option to appeal your result.

**To Apply to View a Script:** You must submit an application through the Candidate Self - Service Portal. The application for viewing scripts will open Wednesday 14th at 9:00 am and must be submitted by Friday 16th August 5.00 pm.

**Script Viewings:** This will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st August in school. The school will inform you what time you need to arrive to view your script. You, the student, must come in person and you can bring one person to accompany you. You are permitted to bring a phone, tablet or digital camera to take pictures of your script.

**Scripts Available to View Online:** a number of subjects were marked online, so these scripts must be viewed online - Maths, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Politics & Society, LCVP (written part).

**Appeal Result:** to appeal a result you must make an application online through the Candidate Self - Service Portal and return forms to the school by Thursday 22nd August by 5.00 pm.

**Fee to Appeal Result:** LC Examination per subject is 40 euro and LCA per subject 15.50 euro.

**Appeals Results:** 20th September results of Leaving Certificate appeals.

### Second Chance Maths

Many courses require a pass, or a specific grade, in maths as an entry requirement. If you have not managed to achieve a pass or the specific grade required in maths some colleges offer a second chance maths exam to gain entry on to some courses. W.I.T.'s application for this exam opens on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August and closes on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August at 12 midday. The exam is held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August. U.L.'s run a second chance higher level exam for science and engineering courses only. The application form can be downloaded from their website and must be received with a cheque or postal order for 40 euro by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August at 5pm. The exam takes place on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August. Other institutions offer such exams, please contact admissions offices for details.

### **PLC Applicants**

If you have accepted a PLC course, they will want to see a copy of your Leaving Certificate results. Contact the college about this and also the start date for your course.

If you accepted a PLC course but you are now happy with your CAO offer and will proceed with that, contact the PLC college to let them know that you will not be taking your place. They can then offer your place to another student.

If you did not get the CAO course you hoped for and hadn't applied for a PLC course, it is not too late to apply. Remember that a PLC course can be a stepping stone into CAO courses.

PLC courses also offer direct routes into employment along with an alternative way into third level college. Phone Waterford College of Further Education (051 874053) or Clonmel CTI (052 6126269) and ask what courses are available.

### **SUSI Grant**

Hopefully you have already applied for the grant and have sent them on any requested documentation. Remember that they need confirmation that you are attending college so provide them with any additional forms needed for this as soon as possible. The earliest date you can receive your grant is October and you don't want it to be any later. This applies for both CAO and PLC courses.

If you haven't yet applied, go to the website [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie) to make a late application. If you are making a late application, you may not receive your grant as early so make sure to provide all requested documents quickly.

### **Employment/Training**

Congratulations if you have already secured an apprenticeship. Some employers may now ask for a copy of your results. If you are still looking for work/an apprenticeship, remember to update your CV with your results. You can email me a copy of your CV and I can check it for you.

If you have been looking for full-time work but have not yet found anything, consider doing a PLC course which would help with your employment opportunities and help you secure a higher wage. Phone the colleges detailed above to ask about places. Remember you can receive the SUSI grant while doing a PLC.