



GRIFFITH COLLEGE

Our Guide to Choosing the Right Course

* This guide was supplied by a qualified Guidance Counsellor on behalf of Griffith College.

- ❖ **Research, research, and more research** – creative and meaningful research is so important, not just a blind read-through of a college website.
- ❖ **Planning and preparation are key** - Would you just pull on a pair of runners, and immediately take on the Dublin marathon? No, plan your desired future.
- ❖ **Self-assessment** – interests / personality / aptitude inventories can help to figure out what course would be a good fit for you / Speak to your school Guidance Counsellor about the suite of self-assessment inventories that are available.
- ❖ **“To thine own self be true”** – reflect on your favourite subjects, hobbies, and interests. It is so important that the motivation comes from you, not necessarily just because someone tells you what they think you should do.
- ❖ Remember, you can choose a course that relates to a **broad career area**, not necessarily one specific job.
- ❖ **Create a plan B** - Apply for QQI Level 7 options as well.
- ❖ **Genuine order of preference** – points can go up and down depending on the supply and demand of a course. Put your main choice as number 1.
- ❖ **Genuine order of preference** – this one is so important, that it is worth mentioning twice! If it is your number one choice, then put it first choice on your CAO application.
- ❖ **Open Day** visits to the college are a great way to get to know more beyond the title of a course, meet the lecturers or some current students in the college to find out more on the environment where you plan to study next. In 2020, Griffith College is offering a number of virtual open days; visit griffith.ie/opendays to learn more.

- ❖ Watch for **specific course entry requirements** e.g. portfolio and / or specific subject requirements. It is important to know the specific requirements of a course, to give you the best shot of getting on to that course.
- ❖ Remember the **change of mind option** is available. While Change of Mind is open, you may change course choices (without fee) as often as you wish.
- ❖ Think of this as your next step out of second level into third level, and there are always Colleges of Further Education options available as well for a year if you only want to commit to one year and a level 5 or level 6 qualification.
- ❖ Find people to talk to that you **want** to listen to and who already have experience with the course / career that you are interested in.

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