



Leaving Certificate Life, Community and Work (LCW)

Preparing for the World Beyond School

A new specification designed to bridge the gap
between the classroom and adult life.

Educating the Whole Person



Personal Growth



Practical Readiness

- **Rationale:** Moving beyond the textbook to engage with the local community and the wider world.
- **Aim:** To foster Human Flourishing—developing self-awareness, personal effectiveness, and resilience.
- **The Goal:** Students emerge more enriched, engaged, and competent.

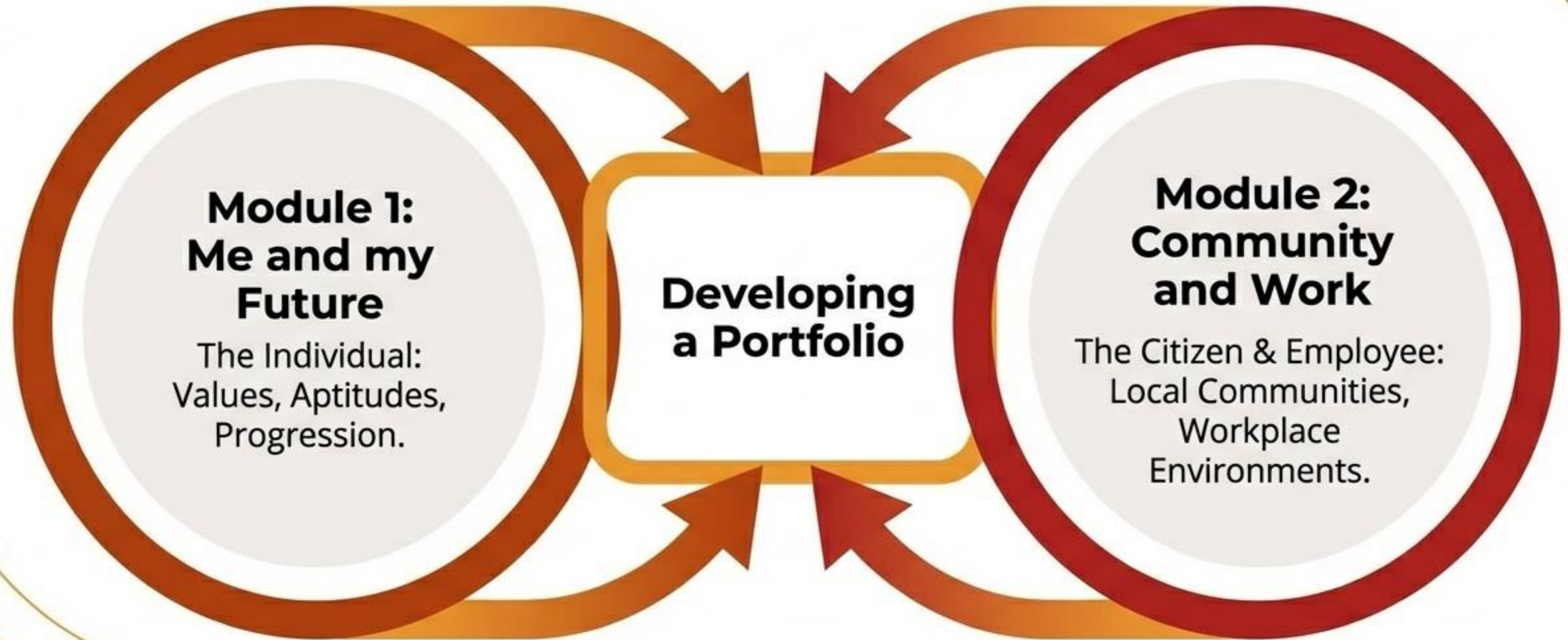
"Developing an appreciation of their unique contribution to a modern and sustainable society."

The Key Competencies



LCW develops transferable skills essential for lifelong learning and employment.

Course Structure Overview



Modules are studied over two years in a non-linear, interwoven manner.

Module 1: Me and my Future



Strand 1: Understanding Myself

- Identifying personal values, strengths, and aptitudes.
- Setting personal development goals.



Strand 2: Understanding Progression Opportunities

- Investigating diverse pathways: Apprenticeships, Higher Education, Entrepreneurship.
- Researching specific career fields and job roles.

Module 2: Community and Work



Strand 1: Appreciating my Community

- Understanding local, national, and global communities.
- The role of volunteering and social enterprise.
- Using Design Thinking to solve real community issues.



Strand 2: Engaging with the Workplace

- Employment rights and responsibilities.
- Workplace trends: The Gig Economy, Remote Working, and AI.
- Preparing for recruitment: CVs, interviews, and shortlisting.

Applied Learning Tasks: The 'Self' Tasks



Task 1: Personal Statement

- A reflective profile of values, skills, and interests.
- Foundational for CVs, college applications, and interviews.
- Regularly revisited and refined over the two years.



Task 2: Career Progression Plan

- Creating a roadmap from 'current position' to 'future position'.
- Utilises SMARTER goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Timebound, Evaluated, Revised).

Applied Learning Tasks: The 'Action' Tasks



Task 3: Collaborative Problem-Solving

- Working in a team to address a real-life community issue.
- Using a Design Thinking approach (Clarifying, Ideating, Developing, Implementing).



Task 4: Work Experience Plan

- Based on real engagement (Work Experience, Shadowing, or Interviewing).
- Responding to feedback to improve professional competencies.

How Learning Happens: The Experiential Cycle

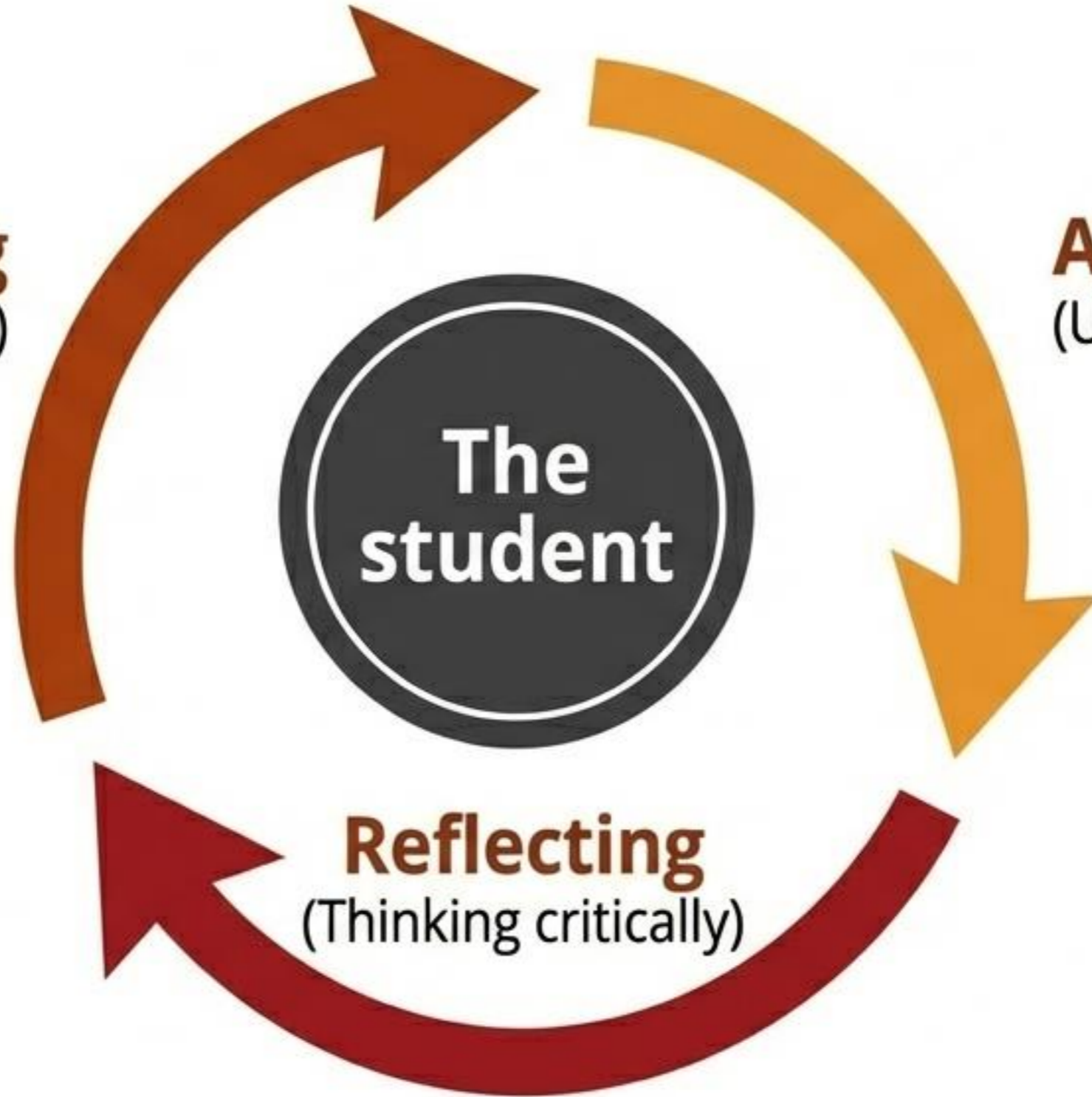
A continuous cycle of doing, thinking, and improving.

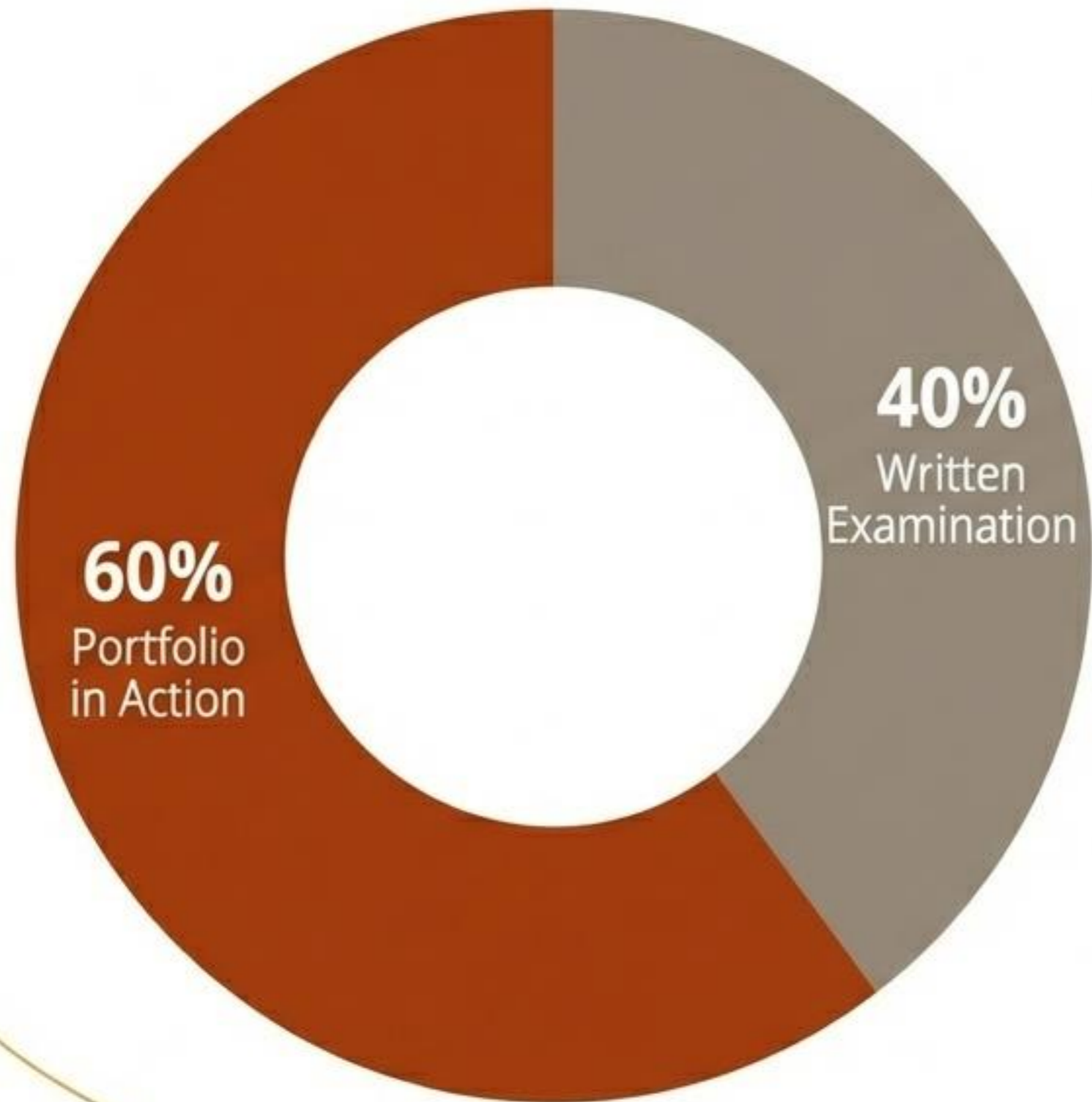
Participating
(Active engagement)

Applying
(Using new skills)

**The
student**

Reflecting
(Thinking critically)





Assessment Structure

Portfolio in Action

- Multi-modal report based on a brief issued by the SEC. Rewards consistent effort over two years.

Written Examination

- Assesses knowledge of strands, application of skills, and critical thinking.

Reduces terminal exam pressure by spreading assessment load.

Understanding the “Portfolio in Action”



The Portfolio

Develop a digital portfolio of evidence over two years



The Brief

The Brief

SEC issues a specific brief



The Report

Students select specific evidence to create a multi-modal report

Note: Students do not submit their entire portfolio,
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only the specific report answering the brief.

A Unique Grading Scale

Distinction (80 - 100%)

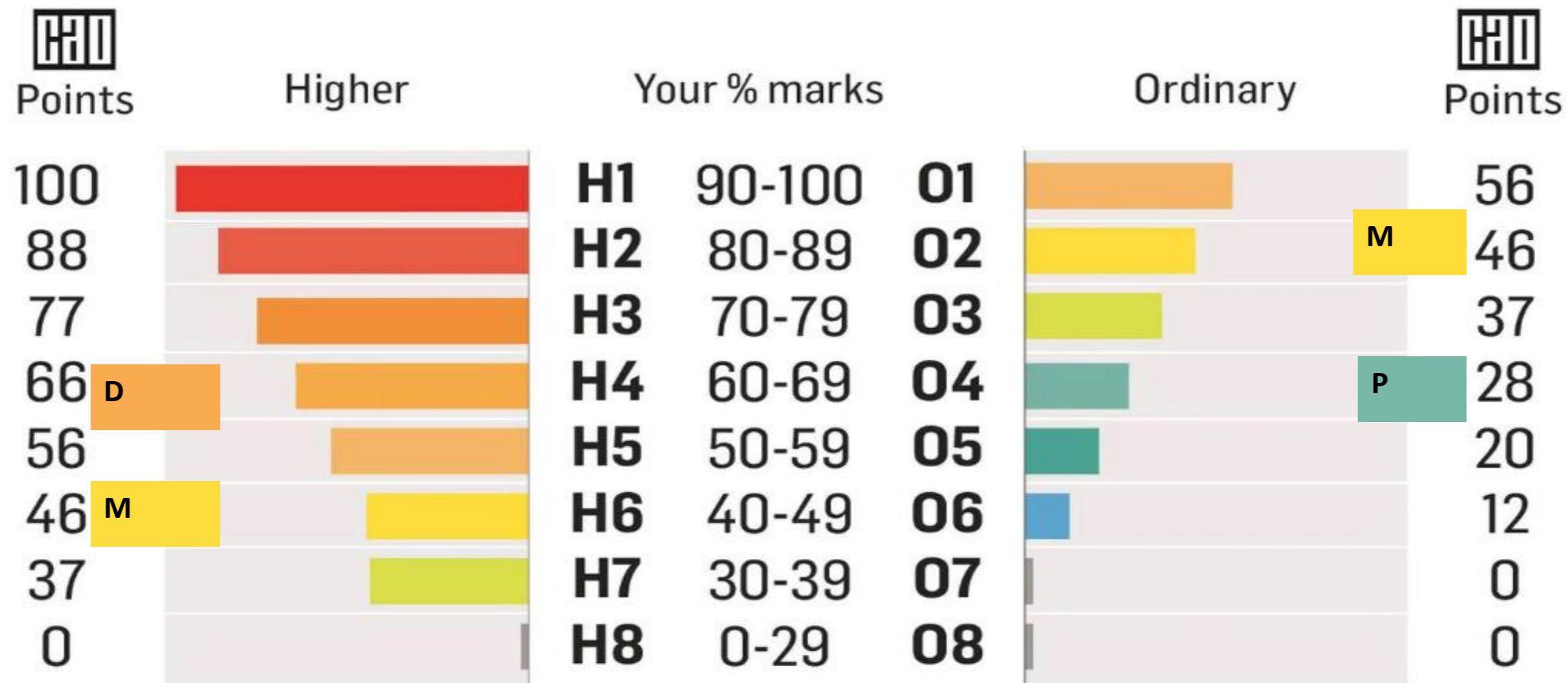
Merit (65 - 79%)

Pass (50 - 64%)

Not Achieved (0 - 49%)

Designed to clearly communicate competence and readiness to future employers and educators.

CAO Points



+25 Bonus points for H1-H6 maths

LCVP link modules

Distinction 66

Merit 46

Pass 28

Distinction H4

Merit H6 or O4

Pass O4

The Student Advantage

- ✓ **Confidence & Resilience:** Built through self-reflection and feedback.
- ✓ **Real-World Experience:** Direct engagement with work and community.
- ✓ **Digital Literacy:** Embedded throughout the portfolio process.
- ✓ **Exam Balance:** 60% coursework component reduces stress.
- ✓ **Clear Direction:** Students leave with a tangible plan for their future.

Implementation & Next Steps



- ✓ Timetabling and Subject Choice.
- ✓ Logistics of Work Experience and Community Tasks.
- ✓ How parents can support the 'Reflecting' phase.

We invite your questions and discussion.

The background features a silhouette of a person's head and shoulders in profile, facing right. The person is looking out over a bright, hazy horizon, likely a sunset or sunrise, with warm orange and yellow tones. The overall composition is framed by abstract, flowing shapes in shades of orange and white.

The overarching goal is for each student to emerge from senior cycle more enriched, more engaged, and more competent as a human being.

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