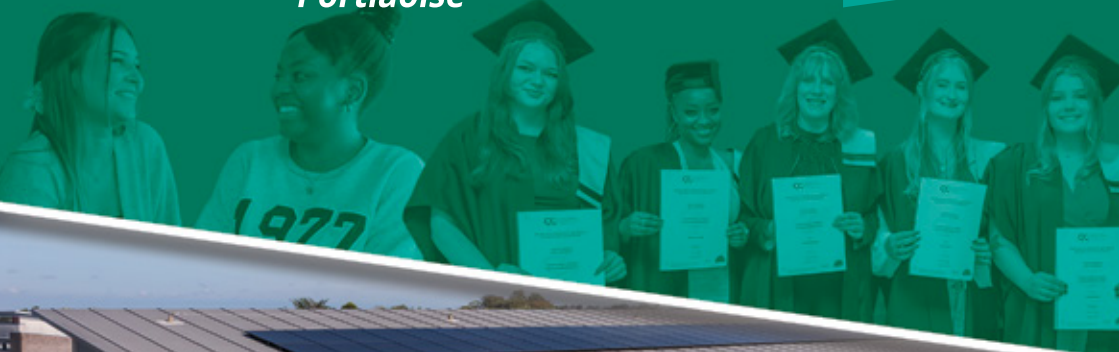




PART-TIME COURSES
FULL-TIME COURSES

PORTLAOISE INSTITUTE

Your Future, Our Focus

portlaoiseinstitute.ie

BUSINESS AND LAW

CHILDCARE

COMPUTER SCIENCE
AND DIGITAL MEDIA

SOCIAL STUDIES

HEALTHCARE

SNA AND
SPEECH THERAPY

SPORTS

BEAUTY AND
HAIRDRESSING

EDUCATION
AND TRAINING

TERTIARY
PROGRAMMES

PART-TIME COURSES

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PART-TIME COURSES



Principal: Dr Keith McClearn

Mountrath Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois • 057 8630157 • portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie



WELCOME

On behalf of the diligent and dedicated team at Portlaoise Institute, I extend a warm welcome as we unveil our new 2026/27 Prospectus. We trust that this comprehensive guide will equip you with the knowledge you need to select Portlaoise Institute as your educational destination. Within this brochure, you will gain insight into life at our institution and explore the wide array of academic options available to you. Portlaoise Institute boasts a diverse range of QQI courses, all of which are meticulously detailed in this publication. Additionally, you will find information about modules, progression pathways, and the contact details of our Course Coordinators, who are readily available to address any questions you may have.

At Portlaoise Institute, we foster a distinctive further education environment that accommodates both recent Leaving Certificate graduates and more mature students seeking to re-enter education. Graduates of our programmes have the opportunity to secure immediate employment or utilise their qualifications as an alternate entryway to third-level courses, meeting the QQI/FET entry criteria. We firmly believe that students who complete our courses, whether as recent school leavers or more mature learners, emerge more resilient, well-informed, and equipped with a deeper understanding of future prospects and career possibilities. Moreover, students approved for the SUSI grant can retain this support if they progress to a higher education programme.

In summary, the advantages of enrolling in a course at Portlaoise Institute are compelling. It serves as an excellent choice for both younger students and their parents, offering the assurance of well-considered higher education

options and a robust return on their investment in their child's future. It is equally the top choice for more mature students who benefit from a nurturing and supportive learning environment, ultimately fostering self-confidence and independent learning. All students at Portlaoise Institute receive dedicated career guidance, ensuring that they make informed decisions about their educational and career paths.

If you choose Portlaoise Institute this year, you will experience an environment that challenges and encourages you. You will not only discover your talents but also have the opportunity to harness and maximise them. Our team of devoted teachers are committed to helping you achieve your aspirations. Thank you for taking the time to engage with our brochure and if you are interested in any of the great courses at Portlaoise Institute, you can apply by clicking on the "Apply Now" button on the homepage of our website www.portlaoiseinstitute.ie. I very much look forward to meeting you in person and being part of your educational journey to success.

Dr Keith McClearn

Principal



Business and Taxation

Our Business and Taxation course is designed for those preparing for a career in the fast-paced and ever-evolving business world. Students gain a strong foundation in taxation principles and their implications for decision-making in today's shifting economic and regulatory landscape. Alongside taxation, the course develops essential skills in business strategy and marketing, integrating both traditional and digital approaches. Graduates can pursue diverse employment opportunities or progress to higher education, equipped to navigate and adapt in a constantly changing business environment.



What will I study?

- Taxation
- Digital Marketing
- Applied Economics
- Bookkeeping Manual and Computerised (Sage)
- Business Administration
- Retail Selling
- Spreadsheet Methods
- Word Processing
- Customer Service
- Work Experience

Contact: **Fintan Walsh** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May 5M2102 - Business Studies (QQI Level 5)

Certificate in Business Studies with IT Skills

The Certificate in Business with IT Skills at Portlaoise Institute combines key business disciplines with practical technology training. Students develop knowledge in economics, retail operations, bookkeeping (manual and Sage), and business administration, while building strong IT skills in word processing and spreadsheets. The course also emphasises customer service excellence and includes a work placement to gain valuable real-world experience.

What will I study?

- Applied Economics
- Retail Selling
- Bookkeeping Manual and Computerised (Sage)
- Business Administration
- Word Processing
- Spreadsheet Methods
- Customer Service
- Work Experience
- Statistics

Progression Options

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education, including, but not limited, to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

University College Dublin (UCD)

- DN240 Sustainability (Level 8)

South East Technological University (SETU) Carlow

- SE420 Business (Level 6)
- SE606 Cyber Crime and IT Security (Level 8)
- SE601 Information Technology Management (Level 8)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)

- US720 Business (Level 7)

Contact: **William Flanagan** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May 5M2102 - Business Studies (QQI Level 5)

Business and Economics

This is an intensive full-time QQI Level 5 certificate course, which provides learners with the knowledge and skills required for a career in a business environment.

This course provides a strong foundation for

those students wishing to study Business and/or Economics or combination degree. This course is designed to give students an in-depth knowledge of concepts relevant to the business/legal world with an emphasis on Economics and Accounting.

What will I study?

- Applied Economics
- Business Administration
- Bookkeeping Manual and Computerised (Sage)
- Retail Selling
- Spreadsheet Methods
- Word Processing
- Customer Service
- Work Experience
- Maths (Optional)

Progression Options

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education, including, but not limited, to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

Technological University Dublin (TUD)

- TU731 Auctioneering, Valuation and Estate Agency (Level 7)
- TU836 Property Economics (Valuation Surveying) (Level 8)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) Athlone

- US840 Business (Level 8)
- US793 Business Studies with Event Management (Level 7)

Contact: **William Flanagan** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May 5M2102 - Business Studies (QQI Level 5)

Certificate in Payroll Manual & Computerised

This Level 6 module aims to provide you with the relevant knowledge, skills and competence to understand the complexities of the Irish tax system in relation to PAYE income and to be able to calculate complex payroll data manually and through a computerised payroll system.

Learners will be able to:

- Interpret the main provisions of a range of legislation and regulations relating to working time
- Analyse a range of documentation an employee may receive from the Revenue Commissioners
- Analyse the effectiveness of online services, offered by the Revenue Commissioners, for both employee and employer

- Complete all appropriate employer tax return forms manually
- Illustrate how an overpayment and underpayment of tax and Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) can occur as a result of changes in tax credits and various thresholds
- Demonstrate how to deal with mid-year scenarios to include; employee starting work for the first time, employee changing employment and leaving employment
- Enter employee data and the organisation payroll parameters from data supplied on a computerised payroll system
- Analyse management reports generated electronically.

Contact: **Fergal Lalor** on **0578630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

PART-TIME Every Thursday for 13 weeks Certificate in Payroll Manual & Computerised (6N4005)

Pre-University Law and Criminology

Pre-University Law and Criminology is an excellent foundation programme designed for students interested in pursuing further studies or careers in law, criminology, or related fields such as policing, social work, or forensic science. This course offers an introduction to the fundamental concepts of legal systems, criminal behaviour, and justice practices, equipping learners with theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary for academic progression or entry-level roles in these disciplines.

This course is ideal for school leavers or mature students interested in the legal and criminal justice systems. It requires no prior knowledge of law or criminology, making it accessible to those looking to explore these areas for the first time.

Contact: **Fintan Walsh** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

What will I study?

- Legal Practice and Procedures
- Business Law
- Teamworking
- Work Experience
- Word Processing
- Safety and Health at Work
- Criminology
- Criminal Law

 **FULL-TIME**  1 Year, September to May  QQI Level 5 Certificate in Legal Studies (5M3789)

CHILDCARE

Certificate in Early Learning and Care (Stage 1)

The Certificate in Early Learning and Care is the new standard for childcare education in Ireland. This one-year, full-time course prepares learners to work with young children aged 0-6 years. It is ideal for both school-leavers and experienced mature persons seeking a formal qualification.

The course content is a balance of theory and hands-on, practical skills, providing the learner with the knowledge and skills needed for the care, wellbeing, safety and health of children aged 0 - 6 in the Early Learning and Care setting. Learners will be equipped to work successfully in a variety of childcare environments and will have a thorough understanding of their role as an Early Learning and Care professional.

What will I study?

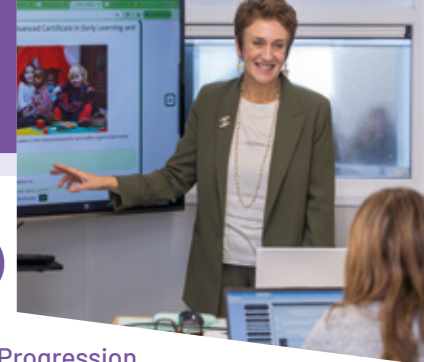
- Professional Practice Placements in Early Learning and Care
- Children's Rights, Legislation and Regulation
- Early Childhood Growth and Development
- Curriculum, Play and Creative Studies
- Understanding and Assisting Children with Additional Needs
- Holistic Care of Children (birth to six yrs)

Entry Requirements

Apart from the entry requirements specified on page 33, where English is not their first language, applicants for this course must also meet the minimum English language and literacy competency. The minimum standard of English required for this programme is the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, Level B2 in writing, reading, listening and speaking. Evidence of achievement of this standard is necessary for entry to the programme.

Contact: **Fiona Horan** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

 **FULL-TIME**  1 Year, September to May  5M21473 - Early Learning and Care (QQI Level 5)



Progression Options

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to, the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

South East Technological University (SETU) Carlow

- SE913 Early Childhood Education and Practice (Level 8)
- SE918 Social Care Practice (Level 8)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) Athlone

- US780 Early Years Care and Education (Level 7)
- US782 Applied Social Studies in Social Care (Level 7)

Maynooth University

- MH107 Social Science (Level 8)
- MH003 Early Childhood - Teaching and Learning (Level 8)

Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Letterkenny

- AU310 Law (Level 8)

Dublin City University (DCU)

- DC235 Education and Training (Level 8)

Careers

Successful learners will have the skills and qualifications to work in a variety of childcare settings including:

- Crèches
- Nurseries
- Playgroups
- Play Assistants in hospitals



Advanced Certificate in Early Learning and Care (Stage 2)

The Advanced Certificate Early Learning and Care, Stage 2 professional programme enables learners to further develop the knowledge, skills and competence to work as autonomous practitioners able to promote and support the holistic needs of children aged 0-6 years.

The content of this course is both practical and theoretical and prepares the learner to meet the requirements of a supervisory role in a childcare setting. Additionally, the programme provides a comprehensive grounding in the area of legislation and regulation of the childcare sector in Ireland.

What will I study?

- Advanced Professional Practice Placement in Early Learning and Care (6C21517)
- Supervision & Administration in Early Learning and Care (6C21522)
- Inclusive Early Learning and Care (6C21521)
- Curriculum & Pedagogy (6C21520)
- The Developing Child (6C21519)
- Sociology & Social Policy in Early Learning and Care (6C21518)

Entry Requirements

Applicants should have successfully completed the Certificate in Early Learning and Care, (Stage 1) or be able to provide evidence of successfully achieving the knowledge, skill and competence associated with the Certificate in Early Learning and Care (Stage 1).

Applicants should be able to demonstrate:

- A desire to work in the early learning and care industry
- An ability to act with responsibility and autonomy
- An ability to take responsibility for their own learning

Applicants must successfully complete an assessment and interview to be placed on a course in Portlaoise Institute.

English language Entry Requirements – Where English is not their first language, applicants

for this course must also meet the minimum English language and literacy competency. The minimum standard of English required for this programme is the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, Level B2 in writing, reading, listening and speaking. Evidence of achievement of this standard is necessary for entry to the programme.

Students will complete work placement in a variety of childcare settings. Due to the nature of the work, Garda Vetting is a prerequisite for the mandatory work placements on this course.

Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to, the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirement.

South East Technological University (SETU) Carlow

- SE935 Early Childhood Education and Practice (Level 7)
- SE918 Social Care Practice (Level 8)

Dundalk Institute of Technology

- DK767 Community Youthwork (Level 7) (Applicants will be interviewed)

Galway University

- GY101 Arts - Joint Honours (Level 8)

Mary Immaculate College

- MI003 Psychology (Level 8)

Dublin City University (DCU)

- DC238 Social Sciences and Cultural Innovation (Level 8)

Careers

- The ELC Stage 2 Advanced Certificate equips you to work in Early Learning and Care and Montessori settings as a Supervisor/Manager.
- Graduates can seek employment in crèches, pre-school/after school facilities or may open their own childcare service.

Contact: **Sandra Duggan** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



QQI Level 6, Advanced Certificate in Early Learning and Care (6M21471)

COMPUTERS and DIGITAL MEDIA



Certificate in Computer Science

The overall aim of this one-year programme is to introduce the learner to the areas of software, database and web development.

This course serves as an excellent springboard to a qualification and a career in the IT sector.

Learners will gain a recognised professional qualification, and practical training in software development, software testing, web design, problem solving, teamworking and database design. This Level 5 course gives learners an excellent grounding in computer programming.

What will I study?

- Computer Programming
- Mathematics for IT
- Software Architecture
- Teamworking
- Programming Design Principles
- Work Experience
- Web Authoring

Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

South East Technological University

- SE600 Computer Science -Common Entry (Waterford)(Level 8)
- SE614 Information Technology Management (Carlow)(Level 7)
- SE615 Computing in Interactive Digital Art & Design (Carlow)(Level 7)

Technological University Dublin

- TU850 Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (Level 8)

University College Cork (UCC)

- CK118 Digital Humanities and Information Technology (Level 8)

Atlantic Technological University (ATU)

- AU362 Cyberpsychology (Level 8)

Careers

Although many graduates of this programme progress onto further study, there are some entry level roles that graduates may be considered for. These include entry level positions in QA games testing, IT assembly and print sales and service roles.

Contact: **Darren Stones** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



QQI Level 5 Certificate in Software Development (5M0529)



Creative Media with Animation Level 5 (Portfolio Preparation)

In this 1 year course students will create a portfolio of both digital and non-digital artwork suitable for art and design courses in Higher Education. This is a full-time programme that enables learners to develop their observational skills, to explore creativity and personal expression through a broad range of creative digital processes including animation drawing, computer illustrated graphics, digital photography, graphic design, image editing, video processing, computer animation, website design and digital marketing. Learners will gain a recognised professional qualification and a practical introduction to a variety of Digital Media Software including Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Premier Pro, After Effects, Animate and Audition.

What will I study?

- Animation Drawing Studies
- Computer Illustrated Graphics
- Digital Photography
- Drawing
- Illustration
- Customer Service
- Work Experience
- Word Processing

Entry Requirements

It is desirable that students enrolling on this course have a suitable pc/ laptop to run the Adobe Suite of Applications (the software applications will be provided by Portlaoise Institute). Please follow the link below for information on system requirements:

<https://helpx.adobe.com/ie/creative-cloud/system-requirements.html>

Contact: **Niamh Whelan** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May **QOI Level 5 Certificate in Creative Media (5M5048)**

Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

Maynooth University

- MH109 Media Studies (Level 8) *

South East Technological University (SETU) Carlow

- SE608 Computing in Interactive Digital Art and Design (Level 8)
- SE212 TV and Media Production (Level 7)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) Athlone

- US803 Graphics and Digital Design (Level 8)**
- US715 Software Design with Digitalisation (Level 8) *
- US778 Animation and Illustration (Level 7)**

Munster Technological University, Cork (MTU)

- MT824 Creative Digital Media (Level 8) *

St Patrick's College Carlow

- PC4100 Arts and Humanities (Level 8)

* Applicants to these courses must meet specific Maths requirements. Please check the relevant HEI information.

**Applicants to these courses must present a portfolio of work as part of their application.

Careers

Although many graduates of this programme progress onto further study, there are some entry level roles that graduates may be considered for. These include entry level positions such as Library or Information Assistant.

Graphic Design

This foundation course in graphic design is one year, and students will learn a wide range of visual communication skills with an emphasis on creative problem solving for graphic design. The course has been designed to offer students an opportunity to develop core skills required for continued study in the areas of graphic design, visual communications, digital media, photography, and illustration.

Students will explore the Graphic Designer's role in the context of branding, marketing, advertising and communication and develop practical skills in visual language, drawing, mixed media, illustration, design and image making. You will build on these practical creative skills and generate and evolve ideas into finished projects.

Contact: **Niamh Whelan** on **057 8630157**
or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May **QOI Level 5 Certificate in Graphic Design 5M1995**

What will I study?

- Graphic Design
- Design Skills
- Drawing
- Computer Illustrated Graphics
- Digital Photography
- Image Processing
- Work Experience
- Teamworking

Further Study:

Progress to further study and careers including:

- Graphic Designer
- Freelance Designer
- Illustrator
- Typography
- Exhibition and Event Display
- Editorial Design Creative
- Technical and Illustration
- Visual Merchandiser
- Web Designer

Software Development and Criminology

A QQI Level 5 course in Software Development and Criminology combines the technical skills of programming and software design with the analytical study of criminal behaviour and justice systems. This unique interdisciplinary programme is designed for students interested in applying technology to fields such as cybersecurity, digital forensics, criminal justice, and data analysis, while also providing a foundation for further study in either software development or criminology.

This course is ideal for school leavers or mature learners interested in technology and its application in addressing crime and security challenges. It requires no prior

programming or criminology experience, making it accessible to those looking to explore both fields.

What will I study?

- Criminology
- Criminal Law
- Fundamentals of Object-Oriented Programming
- Software Architecture
- Maths for Information Technology
- Teamworking
- Work Experience
- Web Authoring
- Programming and Design Principles

Contact: **Darren Stones** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May **QOI Level 5 Certificate in Software Development (5M0529)**

Certificate in Applied Social Studies

This course is an ideal starting point for anyone pursuing a career in social care. It provides both an academic foundation and practical experience essential for advancement in the social sciences. Learners will explore relevant subjects, gaining insight into contemporary social issues, including equality, diversity, and marginalisation.

What will I study?

- Psychology
- Social Studies
- Intercultural Studies
- Teamworking
- Equality and Disability
- Health & Safety at Work
- Human Growth and Development
- Care Support
- Work Experience

Further study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

St Patrick's College Carlow

- PC404 - Applied Social Studies - Professional Social Care (Level 7)
- PC414 BA in Psychology (Level 8) - Fees apply to this course

South East Technological University (SETU) Carlow

- SE926 Professional Social Care Practice (Level 7)
- SE405 Law (Level 8)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)

- US782 Applied Social studies in Social Care (Level 7)(Athlone)
- US921 Social Care Practice (Level 8)(Athlone)

St Angela's College Sligo

- AU988 Home Economics Teaching (Level 8)

University of Galway

- GY104 Psychology (Level 8)

Careers

Although many graduates of this programme progress onto further study, there are some entry level roles that graduates may be considered for. These include Junior Support Worker or Programme Assistant positions in services for marginalised groups. These entry level positions may require previous relevant work or volunteering experience.



Contact: **Proinsias Loughnane** on **057 8630157** or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



QQI Level 5 Certificate in Applied Social Studies (5M2181)

Certificate in Community Health with Psychology

This course prepares students for a rewarding career supporting vulnerable people in the community. It combines theoretical knowledge of health and social care with practical experience through work placements in settings such as resource centres, homeless hostels, addiction services, and youth projects.

What will I study?

- Understanding Mental Health
- Psychology
- Care Support
- Family Studies
- Customer Service
- Intellectual Disability Studies
- Human Growth & Development
- Safety and Health at Work
- Work Experience

Further study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

Dublin City University (DCU)

- DC209 Health & Society (Level 8)

University College Cork (UCC)

- CK113 Criminology (Level 8)

South East Technological University (SETU)

- SE205 Psychology, (Waterford)(Level 8)
- SE422 Legal Studies, (Carlow)(Level 6)
- SE904 Sports Coaching and Performance, (Waterford)(Level 8)

University College Dublin (UCD)

- DN620 Criminology with Psychology (Level 8)

Careers

Although many graduates of this programme progress onto further study, there are some entry level roles that graduates may be considered for. These include Junior Support Worker or Programme Assistant positions in services for marginalised groups. These entry level positions may require previous relevant work or volunteering experience.

Contact: **Proinsias Loughnane** on **057 86301** or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



QQI Level 5 Certificate in Community Health Services (5M4468)

Applied Psychology with Criminology

The QQI Level 5 Applied Psychology with Criminology course introduces students to the principles of psychology and criminology, exploring human behaviour, mental health, and the causes of crime. It provides an excellent foundation for further study or careers in psychology, criminal justice, social work, and related fields. Designed for school leavers and mature learners, it requires no prior knowledge and offers accessible, engaging content for those interested in the psychological aspects of behaviour and crime.

What will I study?

- Human Growth and Development
- Psychology
- Criminology
- Criminal Law
- Teamworking
- Work Experience
- Safety and Health at Work
- Intellectual Disability Studies

Contact: **Proinsias Loughnane** on **057 8630157** or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie



FULL-TIME



1 Year, Sept. to May



QQI Level 5 Certificate in Community Health Services (5M4468)

SNA and SPEECH THERAPY

SNA and Social Care

This full-time, one-year programme introduces the theory and practice of Social Studies and Special Needs. It focuses on practical applications of social and psychological theory while developing the skills required of a Special Needs Assistant. The course is ideal for those interested in applying psychological principles to Special Needs Assisting in educational settings. Graduates can progress to various third-level courses or employment as a Special Needs Assistant (SNA).

What will I study?

- Special Needs Assisting
- Understanding Special Needs
- Teamworking
- Work Experience
- Family Studies
- Intellectual Disability Studies
- Care Skills
- Understanding Mental Health
- Safety and Health

Further Study

Maynooth University

- MH107 Social Science (Level 8)

South East Technological University (SETU Carlow)

- SE936 Physiology and Health Science (Level 8)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)

- US782 Applied Social Studies in Social Care, (Level 7)(Athlone)

St Patrick's College Carlow

- PC404 - Applied Social Studies - Professional Social Care (Level 7)

Galway University

- GY110 -Children and Youth Studies (Level 8)



Progression Options

- Arts (Level 8), Community and Youth Work (Level 8), Social Science (Level 8) at Maynooth University
- Professional Social Care Practice (Level 8), Psychology (Level 8) at South East Technological University (SETU)
- Applied Social Care (Level 7) Applied Social Care (Level 8) at Atlantic Technological University

Careers

While many graduates progress to further study, some may qualify for entry-level roles such as Junior Support Worker or Programme Assistant in services for marginalised groups. These positions may require prior relevant work or volunteer experience.



Speech and Language Therapy Assistant

The QQI Level 5 Speech and Language Therapy Assistant course is designed for those interested in supporting individuals with communication difficulties. It provides essential knowledge and practical skills to assist Speech and Language Therapists in clinical and educational settings. This programme is an excellent pathway to careers in allied health or further studies in speech and language therapy, healthcare, or education.

Ideal for school leavers or mature learners who are empathetic, patient, and eager to help others, the course requires no prior experience, making it accessible to beginners passionate about making a positive impact in healthcare or education.

What will I study?

- Speech & Language Therapy Theory
- Speech & Language Practice
- Special Needs Assisting
- Understanding Special Needs
- Care of the Older Person
- Care Support
- Teamworking
- Work Experience.

Careers

This QQI Level 5 qualification prepares graduates for roles as Speech and Language Therapy Assistants within the HSE or as a foundation for further study in healthcare, speech and language, or social care.

Contact: **Shauna Fitzgerald** on **057 8630157** or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



Certificate in Health Service Skills QQI Level 5 (5M3782)



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



Certificate in Health Service Skills QQI Level 5 (5M3782)

Certificate in Health Care Assistant

This course aims to give learners the opportunity to gain employment with the HSE, private agencies or nursing homes in the Healthcare sector. It will also enable learners to explore whether the pre-hospital care field is a suitable area for them, while gaining essential life skills in a structured programme.

What will I study?

- Care Support
- Safety & Health at Work
- Care Skills
- Teamworking
- Work Experience
- Care of the Older Person
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Palliative Care Support
- Activities of the Living Person

Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

St Patrick's College Carlow

- PC404 - Applied Social Studies - Professional Social Care (Level 7)

South East Technological University (SETU) Carlow

- SE936 Physiology and Health Science (Level 6)
- SE926 Professional Social Care Practice (Level 7)
- SE935 Early Childhood Education and Practice (Level 7)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) Athlone

- US782 Applied Social Studies in Social Care



Technological University Dublin (TUD)

- TU654 Pharmacy Technician Studies (Level 6)
- TU651 Applied Biology (Level 6)

Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT)

- DK710 Business and Management (Level 7)

Careers

Due to the demand in our community for skilled care workers, this course is designed for learners to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for a career in this field.

This qualification enables graduates to work in nursing homes, day care centers, and residential homes or as agency care workers within the community.

Contact: **Sarah Gardiner** on **057 8630157** or email portlaoiseinstitute@loeth.ie

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May **QQI Level 5 Certificate in Health Care Assistant (5M4339)**

Certificate in Pre-University Nursing Studies

The Nursing Studies course offers a comprehensive understanding of the professional nurse's role and the importance of effective interpersonal communication. Designed for aspiring nurses, it provides specialist knowledge, practical skills, and the competence needed for a successful career in nursing or related fields. Through core nursing modules and hands-on work experience, you will develop essential expertise while bridging the gap between theory and practice.

The programme equips learners with the essential skills to work as healthcare assistants across a variety of settings, including hospitals, nursing homes, day-care centres, and home care environments.



What will I study?

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Care Skills
- Human Growth and Development
- Nursing Theory & Practice
- Communications
- Care of the Older Person
- Activities of the Living Person
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Work Experience
- First Aid Response

Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

Dublin City University (DCU)

- DC216 Mental Health Nursing (Level 8)

Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT)

- DK870 General Nursing (Level 8)

South East Technological University (SETU)

- SE900 Health Sciences (Level 8) (Waterford)
- SE936 Physiology and Health Science (Level 6) (Carlow)
- SE901 Sport Rehabilitation and Athletic Therapy (Level 8) (Carlow)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) Athlone

- US877 General Nursing (Level 8)
- US878 Mental Health Nursing (Level 8)

Marino Institute of Education

- CM020 Early Childhood Education (Level 8)

UCAS: Applications can also be made for Nursing degree courses in the UK, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Careers

The programme also aims to provide learners with all the skills necessary to work as healthcare assistants in hospitals, nursing homes, day-care centres, and in-home care.

Contact: **Patricia Creery** on **057 8630157** or email portlaoiseinstitute@loeth.ie

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May **QQI Level 5 Certificate in Nursing Studies (5M4349)**

Certificate in Nursing with Midwifery

This course offers an introduction to the nursing and midwifery professions, equipping learners with the essential knowledge and skills for a career in these fields. Taught by experienced professionals, it combines academic learning with practical experience to provide real insight into the caring profession. The course supports progression to nursing or midwifery degrees in Ireland, Northern Ireland, and the UK through CAO and UCAS, with a strong track record of student success.

What will I study?

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Care Skills
- Human Growth and Development
- Nursing Theory & Practice
- Maternity Care Support
- Safety and Health at Work
- Communications
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Work Experience
- First Aid Response

Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

Dublin City University (DCU)

- DC215 General Nursing (Level 8)

South East Technological University (SETU)

- SE513 Analytical Science (Level 7) (Carlow)

University College Dublin (UCD)

- DN452 Midwifery (Level 8)

Maynooth University

- MH107 Social Science (Level 8)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) Athlone

- US877 General Nursing (Level 8)

St Patrick's College, Carlow

- PC404 Applied Social Studies, Professional Social Care (Level 7)

Munster Technological University (MTU)

- MT777 Pharmaceutical Science (Level 7)

UCAS: Applications can also be made for Nursing degree courses in the UK, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Careers

The programme also aims to provide learners with all the skills necessary to work as healthcare assistants in hospitals, nursing homes, day-care centres, and in-home care.



Contact: **Mairead Doherty** on 057 8630157 or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May QQI Level 5 Certificate in Nursing with Midwifery (5M4349)



Certificate in Children's Nursing

As a Children's Nurse, your role can range from caring for a newborn with health complications to treating a teenager with a sports-related injury. This course will guide you through the journey of a child's development into adulthood, highlighting the physical and emotional challenges posed by illness and accidents along the way.

Children's Nursing takes place in a variety of environments—from hospitals and clinics to day care centres and family homes. Throughout the course, you'll explore how multidisciplinary teams—including doctors, play specialists, healthcare assistants, psychologists, and social workers—collaborate to support children's health and well-being.

What will I study?

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Care Skills
- Caring for Children in Hospital
- Communications
- Human Growth & Development
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Nursing Theory and Practice
- Work Experience
- Safety and Health

This major award may be used to apply to all branches of Nursing and Midwifery in the CAO through the Higher Education Links Scheme. Our graduates secure a significant number of the available places in all branches including:

- General Nursing
- Midwifery
- Children's and Integrated General Nursing
- Intellectual Disability Nursing
- Mental Health Nursing

Contact: **Patricia Creery** on 057 8630157 or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May QQI Level 5 Certificate in Nursing Studies (5M4349)

Certificate in Pre-Paramedic Studies

This one-year full-time course offers you the ideal grounding in the skills and knowledge needed to embark on a career in the paramedic or healthcare fields.

This course is designed to introduce learners to the challenges and opportunities of working in emergency services.

What will I study?

- Care Support
- Teamworking
- Work Experience
- Care Skills
- Emergency Department Care Skills
- Human Growth and Development
- Nursing Theory and Practice
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Safety & Health at Work
- First Aid Response

Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements.

University of Limerick (UL)

- LM103 Paramedic Studies (Level 8)**

University College Cork (UCC)

- CK708 Paramedicine*

St Patricks College, Carlow

- PC404 Applied Social Studies- Professional Social Care (Level 7)

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)

- US661 Dental Nursing, (Athlone)(Level 6)
- US730 Applied Biology, (Limerick)(Level 7)
- US735 Medical Technology, (Limerick)(Level 7)

**** Applicants must provide evidence of a Valid Full clean B and either a Provisional C1 or Full clean C1 Licence, prior to offer of a place on the course. *Applicants must present specific QQI modules to be eligible for this course. Check HEI information for details.**

If you want an exciting and challenging practical course that can lead to a career in the emergency services, this course is for you. Before starting the course, it is advisable to work towards obtaining a driving licence as this will enhance your employment prospects.

Additional Training/Courses:

- First Aid Responder (FAR)
- Manual Handling
- Paramedic Skills Back Slabbing
- Emergency Medical Training

Paramedic training

This course also meets the QQI entry requirements for the Student Paramedic BSc Honours degree with the National Ambulance Service College. Information on this programme is available on **www.nationalambulanceservice.ie**. Applications to this programme are advertised on **HSE.ie**

Careers

This qualification enables graduates to work in nursing homes, daycare centres, and residential homes or as agency care workers within the community.



Contact: **Mairead Doherty** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

FULL-TIME 1 Year, Sept. to May Community Health Services (QQI Level 5 Certificate) (5M4468)

SPORTS, RECREATION and EXERCISE

Certificate in Gym Instruction and Sports Injury Studies

This one-year course aims to equip graduates with the practical skills and knowledge to pursue careers as fitness instructors and sports coaches, or to provide an alternative route to third level education in a wide range of subject areas.

This course offers a broad introduction to Sport, Exercise and Recreation studies, providing learners with the necessary skills to take up employment at entry level in the leisure industry. Learners will improve their knowledge, competence and understanding of physical fitness and sport both practically and theoretically.

What will I study?

- Sport & Recreation
- Exercise & Fitness
- Customer Service
- Work Experience
- Sports Anatomy & Physiology
- Sport & Exercise Injury Prevention
- Massage & Figure Analysis
- ITEC Cert in Gym Based Exercise
- Emergency First Responder



Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements

University College Cork, (UCC)

- CK125 Physical Education, Sports Studies and Arts (Level 8)

University of Limerick

- LM105 Exercise and Health Fitness Management (Level 8)
- LM090 Physical Education with concurrent Teacher Education (Level 8)*

South East Technological University SETU Carlow

SE901 Sports Rehabilitation and Athletic Therapy (Level 8)

SE936 Physiology & Health Science (Level 6)

Technological University of the Shannon (Thurles)

US789 Applied Sports Science with Performance Technology (Level 7)

*Applicants may need specific Leaving Cert subjects depending on their chosen elective.

Careers

This course provides a foundation for learners who wish to work as a health and fitness instructor or as a sports coach. Successful graduates can apply for roles as Leisure Centre Assistants.

Contact: **Sandra Molloy** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

FULL-TIME 1 Year, September to May

Certificate in Gym Instruction & Sports Injury Studies (5M5146)

Certificate in Exercise and Fitness Instruction

Students will gain the knowledge base and practical experience required by a health fitness professional in today's leisure industry.

Successful students will be proficient in areas such as screening, fitness testing, programme development, class instruction and the general day to day running of a gym or leisure centre. They will acquire the relevant knowledge in anatomy, physiology and nutrition to ensure they are competent in their delivery of safe and effective fitness programmes.

What will I study?

- Sport & Recreation
- Exercise & Fitness
- Customer Service
- Work Experience
- Sports Anatomy & Physiology
- Leisure Facility Administration
- ITEC Cert in Gym Based Exercise
- Emergency First Responder

Further Study

This course is recognised as a QQI progression route into a range of courses in higher education including, but not limited to the following. Please note, some courses may have additional entry requirements

- South East Technological University (SETU) Carlow**
- SE905 Sport and Exercise Science (Level 8)
 - SE910 Sport, Business and Coaching (Level 8)
 - SE903 Strength & Conditioning (Level 8)

Maynooth University

- MH412 Business with Sports Science (Level 8)*

Technological University Dublin (TUD)

- TU955 Sport and Leisure Management (Level 8)

Atlantic Technological University, (ATU) Sligo

- AU862 Human Nutrition (Level 7)*

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)

- US950 Nutrition and Health Science (Level 8)*
- US784 Applied Sports Science with Sport and Exercise Nutrition (Level 7)
- US961 Applied Sports Science with Sport and Exercise Nutrition (Level 8)

** Applicants to these courses must have specific grade in a QQI Maths module or Leaving Cert Maths*

Applicants who wish to train as coaches for specific sports usually have to gain qualifications from the National Governing Body (NGB) of the specific sport, e.g. GAA, FAI, etc. Many NGBs run a programme of training through the National Coaching Development Programme, supported by the National Coaching and Training Centre (NCTC) Sport Ireland.

Careers

This course provides a foundation for learners who wish to work as a health and fitness instructor or as a sports coach. Successful graduates can apply for roles as Leisure Centre Assistants.



Contact: **Sandra Molloy** on **057 8630157** or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



Certificate in Gym Instruction
& Sports Injury Studies (5M5146)

BEAUTY and HAIRDRESSING

Certificate in Beauty Therapy

This is a one-year course which will introduce the student to the world of Beauty Therapy, leading to internationally recognised qualification, employment, or further study opportunities. This course offers a comprehensive introduction to the latest Beauty Therapy techniques. Students explore a diverse range of areas such as manicure, pedicure, waxing, facials, and skincare. They also build a solid foundation in anatomy and physiology, which is essential for understanding the body's systems and how they relate to beauty treatments. Additionally, students have the opportunity to study holistic massage, gaining well-rounded skills in both traditional and holistic beauty practices. Learners will attend complete work placements in salons/spas throughout the course.



What will I study?

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Skincare & Eye Treatments
- Electrical Treatments
- Makeup
- Waxing
- Manicure and Pedicure
- Work Experience
- Professional Conduct & Business Awareness

Contact: **Doireann Burke** on **057 8630157**
or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



Certificate in Beauty Therapy (5M3471)

Holistic Wellbeing and Skincare

Our Holistic Wellbeing and Skincare course offers students a comprehensive introduction to the principles of skincare, beauty therapy, and holistic health. This programme is designed for individuals passionate about promoting self-care and wellness, combining practical beauty techniques with an understanding of overall physical and mental wellbeing. It prepares students for careers in the beauty and wellness industry or further education in related fields such as beauty therapy, holistic health, or spa management.

This course is ideal for school leavers or mature learners who are passionate about

health, beauty, and holistic wellbeing. Whether you're new to the industry or looking to enhance your skills, the programme provides a well-rounded introduction to the beauty and wellness profession.

What will I study?

- Reflexology
- Indian Head Massage
- Skincare
- Reiki
- Body Massage
- Japanese Facelifting
- Work Experience
- Understanding Mental Health

Contact: **Doireann Burke** on **057 8630157** or email portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie



FULL-TIME



1 Year, September to May



QQI Level 5 Component Certificates in Reflexology, Indian Head Massage, Skincare, Body Massage, Work Experience and Understanding Mental Health

Pre-Apprenticeship in Hairdressing (QQI Level 4)

Our QQI Level 4 Pre-Apprenticeship in Hairdressing is designed to provide students with the foundational skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to pursue a career in hairdressing. This programme acts as a stepping stone for those who

wish to progress to a formal hairdressing apprenticeship. It combines practical training with essential theory, preparing learners for the dynamic and creative world of hairdressing.

What will I study?

- Hairdressing Basin Skills
- Blow Drying Hair
- Roller Setting
- Communications
- Mathematics
- Computer Studies
- Teamworking
- Work Experience
- Career Planning
- Customer Service
- Workplace Safety



Contact: **Julia Mullally** on **057 8630157** or email **jmullally@loeth.ie**

FULL-TIME **1 Year, September to May** **QQI level 4 in General Learning (4M2010)**



Apprenticeship in Hairdressing

The National Hairdressing Apprenticeship will provide successful apprentices with a Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Hairdressing which will be the only recognised national qualification for fully qualified hairdressers in Ireland.

The National Hairdressing Apprenticeship programme is designed to ensure that the apprentice receives training both on and off the job over a minimum of three years.

With a blend of on-the-job training (80%) in full-time employment, and one day a week off-the-job training (20%) at Portlaoise Institute, we provide apprentices with all the necessary skills, techniques, theory, and confidence in assisting them to become a fully qualified hairdressers.

Entry Requirements

Applicants should be of Leaving Certificate standard or have achieved an Applied Leaving Certificate with Distinction. Portlaoise Institute welcomes applications from mature students. Mature students are assessed on their merits and do not require the above qualifications. All applicants are required to complete an assessment and interview before commencing a course in Portlaoise Institute. This assessment confirms if the student has the required level of English to complete a Level 5 course.

Contact: **Julia Mullally** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loeth.ie**

COURSE CONTENT

Stage 1

- Induction
- Health and Safety
- Client Consultation
- Shampooing, Conditioning and Treatments
- Styling and Finishing 1
- Salon Reception and ICT Skills
- Colour 1
- Cutting 1

Stage 2

- Customer Service and Retail
- Styling and Finishing 2
- Colour 2
- Cutting 2
- Team - Leadership
- Career in Action

Stage 3

- Perming and Neutralising Hair
- Cutting 3
- Colour 3
- Styling and Finishing 3
- Capstone Module



EDUCATION and TRAINING

iTEC Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training

Suitable for those who have a qualification and experience in their vocational area- Hair, Beauty and Sports who wish to gain a qualification to teach within their vocational area.



What will I study?

- Wider Professional practice and development in education and training.
- Teaching, learning and assessment in education and training.
- Theories, principles and models in education and training
- Teaching in a specialist area.
- Preparing for the mentoring role.
- Inclusive practice
- Action research

Duration

- 26 weeks
- Every Monday 9am – 4pm
- 6 hrs face to face contact with tutor

Assessment

- 50+ hours teaching practice in vocational area
- Portfolio of work – assignments
- Continuous assessment

Contact: **Nicola Reilly** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**



DEGREE PROGRAMMES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS)

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT



A new route to a degree in Software Development

Begin your Software Development Degree locally in Portlaoise!

Through a partnership between South East Technological University (SETU) and Laois and Offaly ETB (LOETB), you can complete the first year of a four-year Honours Degree in Software Development at Portlaoise Institute, with the remaining three years at SETU's Carlow campus—no CAO application required.

This co-delivered programme offers local access to third-level education and equips you with skills for careers in everything from local businesses to global tech firms. The first three years cover a broad range of subjects and include an industry placement, while Year 4 focuses on advanced topics like secure app development, data science, distributed systems, and a major project.

Students are registered with SETU from Year 1 and have full access to its student services. Transport to Carlow is provided in Year 1 for cross-campus workshops.



Contact: **Darren Stones** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**

Eligibility

Those wishing to be accepted onto the programme should meet the following minimum entry criteria:

- Leaving Certificate; 2H5 & 406/
- H7; including English or Irish O6/H7;
- Mathematics O6/H7, or
- Level 5 major award, or
- Other qualifications equivalent to a major award at level 5 on the NFQ

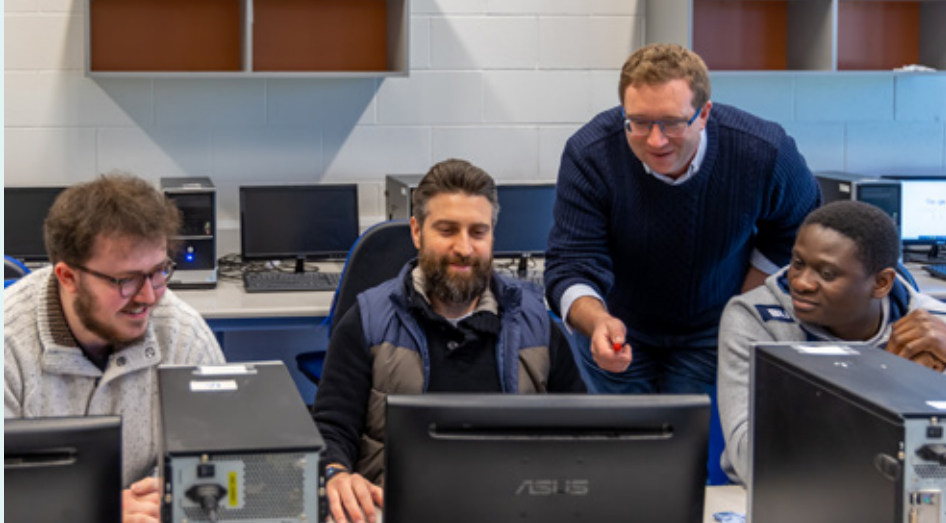
However, we will also accept your application if you are aged 21 or over but do not meet the minimum entry requirement. Your application will be assessed based on merit, taking into account your life experience, work or community experience.

If your first language is not English, the standard required is B2 (or equivalent) on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages in writing, reading, listening and speaking. Evidence of achievement of this standard is necessary for entry to the programme.

LOETB and SETU's Unified Tertiary Programmes aim to encourage the participation and success of students from sections of society that are under-represented in higher education, by offering degree programmes at a local level. In the event of over subscription to the programme, priority will be given to applicants who most demonstrate local need.

Fees

There are no registration fees for the first year of the programme, which will be delivered in Portlaoise Institute. Students may be eligible to apply to SUSI for a grant to cover fees for Years 2, 3 and 4.



Year	Location	Embedded Award
Year 1	Portlaoise Institute	Certificate in Computing (Component Award)
Year 2	SETU Carlow Campus	Higher Certificate in Computing (Programming) (NFQ Level 6)
Year 3	SETU (Carlow)	Bachelor of Science in Software Development (NFQ Level 7)
Year 4	SETU (Carlow)	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Development (NFQ Level 8)

Year	Semester 1 Subjects	Semester 2 Subjects
Year 1	- Applications and Interpersonal Communications - Computer Hardware 1 - Mathematics 1 - Networking 1 - Programming 1	- Computer Hardware 2 - Mathematics 2 - Networking 2 - Programming 2 - Operating Systems
Year 2	- Web Programming and Databases 1 - Digital Logic - Data Structures and Algorithms - Object Oriented Software Development 1 - Systems Analysis and Testing	- Assembly and C - Discrete Structures - Object Oriented Software Development 2 - Web Programming and Databases 2 - Project
Year 3	- Software Engineering - Advanced Programming - Operating Systems - Advanced Data Structures and Algorithms - Cloud Development	Group Elective 1 - Approved Semester Abroad - Work Placement - Project
Year 4	- Concurrent Development - Data Science and Machine Learning 1 - Agile Software Development - Agile Software Verification - Project (Software Development) (part 1)	Mandatory - Project (Software Development) (part 2) - Data Science and Machine Learning 2 - Secure Application Development Range of Group Electives

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS) IT MANAGEMENT



New Pathway to an IT Degree – Start in Portlaoise, Finish in Carlow

A new co-delivered Information Technology degree from South East Technological University (SETU) and Laois and Offaly ETB (LOETB) allows you to complete Year 1 at Portlaoise Institute, then continue Years 2–4 at SETU's Carlow campus – all without a CAO application.

This four-year degree combines business and IT, focusing on practical skills essential for modern IT management. Year 1 is assessment-based with no final exam, helping students track progress throughout the year.

Graduates will gain expertise in:

- Network and database management
- Strategic and financial information management
- IT department operations
- Teamwork and leadership skills

Students are registered with SETU from Year 1 and have full access to university services. Transport to Carlow is provided in Year 1 for cross-campus workshops.



Year	Location	Embedded Award
Year 1	Portlaoise Institute	Certificate in Computing (Component Award)
Year 2	SETU Carlow Campus	Higher Certificate in Computing (Programming) (NFQ Level 6)
Year 3	SETU (Carlow)	Bachelor of Science in Software Development (NFQ Level 7)
Year 4	SETU (Carlow)	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Information Technology Management (NFQ Level 8)

Eligibility

Those wishing to be accepted onto the programme should meet the following minimum entry criteria:

- Leaving Certificate; 2H5 & 406/
- H7; including English or Irish 06/H7;
- Mathematics 06/H7, or
- Level 5 major award, or
- Other qualifications equivalent to a major award at level 5 on the NFQ

LOETB and SETU's Unified Tertiary Programmes aim to encourage the participation and success of students from sections of society that are under-represented in higher education, by offering degree programmes at a local level. In the event of over subscription to the programme, priority will be given to applicants who most demonstrate local need.

Fees

There are no registration fees for the first year of the programme, which will be delivered in Portlaoise Institute. Students may be eligible to apply to SUSI for a grant to cover fees for Years 2, 3 and 4.

Year	Semester 1 Subjects	Semester 2 Subjects
Year 1	› Applications and Interpersonal Communications › Computer Hardware 1 › Mathematics 1 › Networking 1 › Programming 1	› Computer Hardware 2 › Mathematics 2 › Networking 2 › Programming 2 › Operating Systems
Year 2	› Web Programming and Databases 1 › Introduction to Data Analytics › Systems Administration › Networking: Switching and VLAN Concepts › Business Management	› Web Programming and Databases 2 › Financial Maths › Systems Infrastructure and Security › Networking: Wireless and Routing Concepts › Project 2
Year 3	› Information Systems › Project Management › Secure Systems Administration › Web and Cloud Applications › Networking III	› Work Placement › Project › Approved Semester Abroad
Year 4	› Advanced Database Systems › People Management Skills › Innovation and Technology › Management › Networking Systems Management › Project (part 1)	› Project (part 2) › Emerging Technologies for IT Managers › Information Systems and Digital Strategy › Financial Techniques for IT Managers › Group Elective 1 › Data Visualisation › Data Intensive Applications › Linux Infrastructure Engineering › UI/UX Design and Development › Bias in Computational Systems › Cloud Data Centers

Contact: **Darren Stones** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**



BACHELOR (HONOURS) BUSINESS STUDIES



New Business Degree Pathway – Start in Portlaoise, Finish in Carlow

Begin your Business Honours Degree locally at Portlaoise Institute, completing Years 1 and 2 before moving to SETU's Carlow campus for Years 3 and 4 – no CAO application needed.

Delivered through a partnership between SETU and LOETB, this programme offers accessible third-level education for learners in Portlaoise and surrounding areas.

The course provides a solid foundation in business, with expert guidance to help you explore career options in areas such as manufacturing, finance, and the public sector.

Students are registered with SETU from Year 1 and have full access to university services. Transport to Carlow is provided in Years 1 and 2 for cross-campus workshops.

Eligibility

Those wishing to be accepted onto the programme should meet the following minimum entry criteria:

- Leaving Certificate; 2H5 & 406/
- H7; including English or Irish O6/H7;
- Mathematics O6/H7, or
- Level 5 major award, or
- Other qualifications equivalent to a major award at level 5 on the NFQ

However, we will also accept your application if you are aged 21 or over but do not meet the minimum entry requirement. Your application will be assessed based on merit, taking into account your life experience, work or community experience.

If your first language is not English, the standard required is B2 (or equivalent)

on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages in writing, reading, listening and speaking. Evidence of achievement of this standard is necessary for entry to the programme.

LOETB and SETU's Unified Tertiary Programmes aim to encourage the participation and success of students from sections of society that are under-represented in higher education, by offering degree programmes at a local level. In the event of over subscription to the programme, priority will be given to applicants who most demonstrate local need.

Fees

There are no registration fees for the first year of the programme, which will be delivered in Portlaoise Institute. Students may be eligible to apply to SUSI for a grant to cover fees for Years 2, 3 and 4.

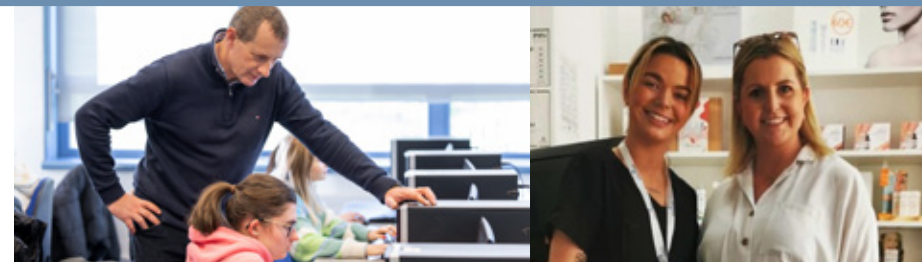
Contact: **Will Flanagan** on **057 8630157** or email **portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie**



Year	Location	Embedded Award
Year 1	Portlaoise Institute	Certificate in Business (Component Award)
Year 2	SETU Carlow Campus	Higher Certificate in Business (NFQ Level 6)
Year 3	SETU (Carlow)	Bachelor of Business (NFQ Level 7)
Year 4	SETU (Carlow)	Bachelor of Business Honours (NFQ Level 8)

Year	Semester 1 Subjects	Semester 2 Subjects
Year 1	- IT for Business - Business Financial Accounting 1 - Microeconomics - Quantitative Techniques 1 - Communications and Academic Writing	- Management - Business Financial Accounting 2 - Macroeconomics - Quantitative Techniques 2 - Business Psychology 1
Year 2	- Business Law - Introduction to Marketing - Business Applications 3 - Human Resource Management 2 - Business Psychology 2 - Intermediate Financial Accounting 1	- Business Management Accounting - Supply Chain Management - Macroeconomy of Ireland - Contemporary Marketing Practice - Intermediate Financial Accounting 2 or Human Resource Management 2
Year 3 & 4	On completion of Year 2, you will have the option to choose from the following streams: - Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Management - Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Human Resource Management - Bachelor of Business (Hons) in International Business - Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Supply Chain Management - Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Accounting & Finance - Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Marketing	

PART-TIME COURSES



Business and Law

Course	Start Date	Duration
Digital Marketing	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Customer Service	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Business Administration	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Criminology	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Legal Studies	Sept 2026	13 weeks

Childcare

Course	Start Date	Duration
Early Learning and Care – Stage 2	Sept 2026	26 weeks

Healthcare

Course	Start Date	Duration
Care Skills	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Care Support	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Palliative Care Support	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Infection Prevention & Control	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Care of the Older Person	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Emergency Department Care Skills	Sept 2026	13 weeks

Special Needs Assisting

Course	Start Date	Duration
Special Needs Assisting (Day)	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Special Needs Assisting (Evening)	Sept 2026	13 weeks

Social Studies

Course	Start Date	Duration
Development Psychology	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Family Studies	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Psychology	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Intellectual Disability Studies	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Intercultural Studies	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Speech Therapy	Sept 2026	13 weeks

Beauty

Course	Start Date	Duration
Indian Head Massage	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Reflexology	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Laser and Microdermabrasion	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Reiki – Level 1 (Evening Class)	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Body Massage (Evening Class)	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Blow Drying	Sept 2026	13 weeks

Creative Arts

Course	Start Date	Duration
Image Processing	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Computer Illustrated Graphics	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Drawing Skills	Sept 2026	13 weeks

General Part-Time

Course	Start Date	Duration
Safety and Health	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Word Processing	Sept 2026	13 weeks
Work Experience	Sept 2026	13 weeks



email: portlaoiseinstitute@loetb.ie

Application Process for All Courses *September 2026*



1. APPLY ONLINE

Applications are open from
20th January 2026 at:
www.portlaoiseinstitute.ie



2. ATTEND INTERVIEW

Interviews will take place in March, May,
June and August



3. COMPLETE BKSB ASSESSMENT

Applicants must complete an assessment to
assess their suitability for the course



4. ATTEND REGISTRATION & INDUCTION

Registration and Induction will take
place in June and August



5. START YOUR COURSE

Courses will start the week
of 7th September 2026



FUTHER INFORMATION

Information common to all courses

Entry Requirements

Applicants should be of Leaving Certificate standard or have achieved an Applied Leaving Certificate with Distinction. Portlaoise Institute welcomes applications from mature students. Mature students are assessed on their merits and may not require the above qualifications.

All applicants are required to complete an online assessment and interview before commencing a Further Education course in Portlaoise Institute.

As well as the entry requirements specified here, there are additional entry requirements for some programmes. Further details are outlined in the relevant course pages.

Course Duration

All full-time courses run for one academic year, September to May.

Part-time courses either run from September to December or January to May.

Garda Vetting

All programmes have a mandatory Work Experience or Professional Placement module. All learners for certain courses must be Garda vetted before being permitted on work placements.

Fees

The cost of the majority of full-time courses is €50. To secure a place on a

course, this non-refundable fee must be paid within 3 weeks of when a place is offered on a course. Other costs (books, uniforms, exam fees, additional training etc.) may also be payable. These costs vary according to course and will be outlined at Induction.

Attendance

At Portlaoise Institute, we firmly believe that consistent and active attendance is fundamental to ensuring students achieve their full potential. Regular attendance supports academic success.

To help students understand the importance of this, our detailed attendance policy will be clearly outlined during the Induction session. This policy is designed to set expectations, highlight the connection between attendance and achievement, and ensure students are aware of the support available to help them maintain good attendance.

Student Services

Guidance Counselling

At Portlaoise Institute, students can avail of the services of a comprehensive Career Guidance Service by booking an appointment with our Guidance Counsellors.

Our service is student centered and aims to assist students with all aspects of career planning and the transition to higher education and/or the world of work. We aim to help students through individual or group appointments, careers and progression workshops,

and guest speakers from both the world of work and Higher Education Institutes (HEIs). We also provide a support service for students in the area of CV preparation, interview techniques and job search skills. In addition, students can avail of the guidance counsellor for personal and pastoral support in times of need.

Students with Additional Education Needs

Portlaoise Institute is committed to providing the best possible learning environment for all our students. Through our Student Support officers and the LOETB Access Officer, we make provision, wherever possible, to facilitate access and participation in the academic courses and student life of Portlaoise Institute. We strive to create an inclusive community where all students are afforded the same opportunities to learn, socialise, participate and progress. Applicants with special requirements should notify the Institute at time of application and at induction and arrange to speak to the Student Support Officer. Early contact with the Student Support Officer is vital as there is an application procedure to follow and this will facilitate the provision of such services from the beginning of the year.

We aim to provide supports that allow every student ensure they reach their academic potential.

Student Council

The Institute encourages learners to participate fully in the Student Council. Learners from each course elect two representatives to the Student Council. The Council then meets regularly to discuss issues related to learners needs. The Management Team regularly meets with the Students Council and values its contribution to Portlaoise Institute.

Events

At Portlaoise Institute, we pride ourselves on fostering a vibrant and inclusive learning environment, enriched by a variety of events organised throughout the academic year. These events, including Inclusion Week, educational trips, Wellbeing Days, and more, are thoughtfully designed to promote a strong sense of community among our students.

Student Card

All students of Portlaoise Institute can apply for either an LOETB student card or a LEAP card. Both have various student discounts associated with them.



Portlaoise Institute is proud to be an active partner in the EU-funded Erasmus+ programme. Erasmus+ provides opportunities for students to study, train, gain work experience or volunteer abroad.

Since 2019, 120 staff and students have taken part in work placements in Spain and Hungary. The Erasmus+ Programme offers Portlaoise Institute students the opportunity to apply to work abroad (usually for a two-week period). Placements will be arranged with employers in the host country with support from Portlaoise Institute. You can experience living in another culture, enjoy travelling, improve language skills, add this experience to your CV and get that valuable job.

Placements normally take place in February. If your application to work abroad is successful, you will qualify for a grant towards the cost of the mobility programme including travel, accommodation and living expenses.



Why should you go on an Erasmus Programme – The Benefits of Erasmus:

- Experience staying in a country where you might like to live in the future
- Taking an internship abroad increases employability and adds to your CV
- Learning to stick to a budget and balance your finances
- Gain international and intercultural competencies, as well as cultural awareness
- Make friends that could last you a lifetime





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