

Dear Guidance Counsellor/Principal,

I hope this email finds you well. Just a short note to update you on a few items in advance of the 2025 application season.

### 1. CAO Handbook 2025

The postal mailing to schools containing 5 CAO Handbooks, a CAO poster and letter, and the HEAR DARE application literature is being distributed this week, so should be with you over the coming days (all schools that were previously registered on our postal mailing list will receive one pack). To view the accompanying letter, please go to the Schools Message Board in the `Guidance/Schools` section of the website. If you go to [www.cao.ie/handbook](http://www.cao.ie/handbook) you can view the PDF and as well as the condensed PDFs (by level) of 2025 course listings. The layout of these new PDFs will allow for all of the course listings to be printed on 12 double-sided pages if desired.

The 2025 personalised handbook will be available at [www.cao.ie/handbook](http://www.cao.ie/handbook) from 23 September

### 2. Guidance Counsellor Resources

The 2025 website will go live in early November, with applications commencing from noon on 5 November. In the Guidance/Schools section of the website, we have updated some of the resources that you may find useful, e.g. 2025 posters. You can locate these resources in the interim by going to the `Guidance Counsellor Resources` section and clicking on the 2025 tab. The remaining resources will be updated and available from 5 November on the 2025 version of the website.

### 3. Autumn Conferences

The provisional dates for the 2024 CAO Autumn Conferences, in association with the Institute of Guidance Counsellors and the Higher Education Institutions, are: 5 November in Kingsley Hotel Cork, 6 November in Clayton Hotel Limerick, 12 November in Glenroyal Hotel Maynooth and 13 November in Farnham Estate Cavan respectively. An online webinar will also be offered on 8 November for those who are unable to attend an in-person event. Full details and an online registration link will be available on the CAO website (Guidance/Schools section) from the 7 October at noon. Online registration will close on 25 October at midnight.

### 4. CAO Online Information Evening for Students and Parents

An online information evening for Students and Parents, in association with the Institute of Guidance Counsellors and Admissions Officers from Higher Education Institutions, will take place on Thursday, 17 October at 6pm. Registration for this event will open on 4 October at noon at [www.cao.ie/webinar](http://www.cao.ie/webinar)

I look forward to meeting you all at an upcoming event in November.

Yours sincerely,  
Eileen Keleghan  
Head of Communications