



## Subject Descriptions

(Based on 2020-21 availability, but subject to change)

### Core Subjects

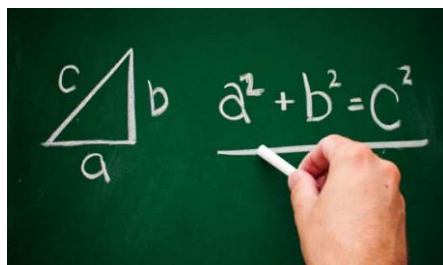
*(Studied all year, at the same day/time all year, with the same teacher)*

**English:** The English Department wants TY English to be engaging and rewarding. We want students to experience the joy of reading for pleasure, to help them find their voice as a writer, and to hone their skills of written course is really intended as a bridge the Junior Cycle and Leaving course content covered includes: PowerPoint, shared Google docs, biography; Essay writing; Elements poetry; Creating poems; Oral in TY will be examined by



communication. However, the TY to cover the widening gap between Certificate courses. Some of the Novel studies; Film studies; IT-Teams, etc; Research e.g. poet's of drama; Project work; Spoken word presentation skills. Much of the work continuous assessment.

**Irish:** TY offers the opportunity to explore further the cultural aspect of the language, including folklore, film studies and stair na teanga. It is also an ideal time to focus on the Irish oral exam, representing 40% of their final grade. Course work for the leaving cert including poetry and prose will also be covered, making it ideal preparation for both Higher and Ordinary level students.



**Maths:** In teaching mathematics in Transition Year, teachers will focus on increasing student engagement with mathematics, and building confidence in students' mathematical abilities. Students will be introduced to careers in mathematics, and inform them about the mathematics requirements and content of third-level courses.

### **MFL (Modern Foreign Languages):**

*(Students will continue to study their Junior Cycle MFL in TY – students who did not take a language will be offered an alternative option)*

**French:** The TY French module will prepare students for their Transition into Leaving Certificate French. This module will improve competency in the four language skills: reading, writing, listening & speaking. Cross-curricular links will be formed with Geography, History, IT, Careers & Home Economics.



**German:** TY Deutsch allows students to reflect on what they have learned already from their Junior Cycle course & to build upon that learning. It will provide students with a very strong foundation for the LC in the areas of reading, writing, oral communication & aural skills. German Film & a particular focus on German festivals and celebrations will give students a real insight into German culture & traditions.



**Spanish:** Activities in TY will focus on the areas of Communicative Proficiency, language awareness and cultural awareness. Specifically the following areas will be addressed: Revision of Junior Cert Syllabus material/ grammar in order to maintain and improve skills prior to entry into Fifth Year; Reading comprehension extracts (drawn from as wide a variety of sources as possible); Oral development; Listening skills; Cultural awareness (history/ biography/ geography/ cuisine etc). This will be addressed via independent research and through liaison with the Home Economics Department. Two projects will be assigned addressing aspects of Spanish history, sport, cuisine, politics or general culture.



### **Banded Programmes**

*(Students will be asked to choose one of the following three programmes, which they will work on for the duration of the year)*



**Art Development & Curation:** The Art Development and Curation program presents TY students with the opportunity to develop the school's visual identity through the production of large scale artworks/installations, the restoration and renovation of existing displays around the school and the curation of exhibitions of student work. Students will be expected to make regular inspections of displayed artworks and put forward new initiatives to enhance the awareness of Art in the school. Each group/student will take an active role in the planning of Art installations/projects.

**Enterprise:** Students learn the fundamentals of setting up and running their own business. Theory becomes reality with the establishment of mini companies in individuals, pairs or small groups. All mini companies have the opportunity to be entered into the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Junior Enterprise Competition in March. Support and input from the LEO on a regular basis throughout the Christmas and early in the Spring terms. Opportunities to run and to attend trade fairs in-school, in other schools and in local shopping centres. If successful in Louth competition, mini companies may go on to represent Louth in National Finals in May. End of year reflection on lessons learned, what might have been done differently, personal and academic development.



**Young Social Innovators (YSI):** YSI is a team-based action programme in which students design innovative solutions for real-world problems impacting people, communities, and the environment. Through YSI, students are given a voice and an opportunity to get involved on the issues that matter to them. Project evaluation and certification are presented at the end of the year.



## Transition Year Programme Subject Descriptions

### Rotational Core Subjects

*(Subjects that will be studied for the year but, for timetabling reasons, will change position on the timetable & may result in a change of teacher for each module)*

**MOS - Microsoft Office Specialist:** The only computer qualification recognised by Microsoft, MOS allows students prepare for & sit exams in the MS Office suite of programmes (Word, Excel etc.) using online lessons & testing. An excellent opportunity to get some formal computer related qualifications & a good introduction to parts of the new LC Computer Studies course. *The continuation of this qualification is currently under review & may change for 2021-22.*



**Physical Education:** TY PE builds on students' experiences of Physical Activity and Sport from Junior Cycle. It gives students an introduction to different activities such as Boxing, Weight Training and Yoga. Students are encouraged to develop a broader understanding of PE through completing certificates and undertaking projects. They will also get a taster of PE as a Leaving Cert exam subject.

**Religious Education:** TY Religious Education (RE) focuses on developing knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes, and values to enable young people to come to an understanding of religion and its relevance to life, relationships, society, and the wider world. The common link in the TY RE course is 'Justice'. Students will examine Global Goal 16: Peace & Justice as part of the WorldWise Global Schools (WWGS) programme and develop an understanding of worldviews and Global Citizenship. Students will take part in the Young SVP Champions programme, in which they will learn about social justice and social action.







# De La Salle College, Dundalk

## Transition Year Programme Subject Descriptions



### Modular Subjects

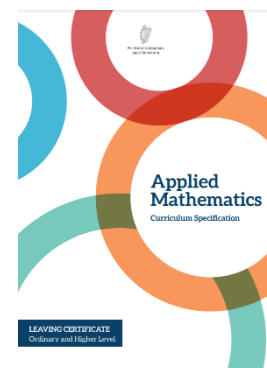
*(Studied for one module (8-12 weeks) only, designed to give students a 'taster' of potential subject choices for Leaving Certificate)*

**Accounting:** This module builds on the Junior Certificate Business Studies course and provides a foundation in the basics of budgeting and accounts preparation. Focusing on the practical aspect of accounts helps students to develop organisational, logical thinking, planning and solving skills for future study and life. All accounts are created and completed using Microsoft Excel which helps enhance student IT skills.



**Agricultural Science:** This module continues on with the JC science course and leads students into the area of agriculture in a laboratory sense. Preparing students for the Individual Investigative Study component of the course. Focusing on areas such as environmental and climatic aspects of agriculture, genetics and biotechnological approaches. Creating scope for students to develop interesting areas for investigating at senior level.

**Applied Maths:** Many of today's challenges faced by science & engineering are so complex that they can be analysed and solved only through mathematical & computational modelling. Mathematical models create representations of complex real world phenomena in a precise, quantitative way. TY Applied Maths can enable students to solve real life problems using mathematics as the tool, which they can later apply to any other field such as medicine, architecture, economics, pharmacy, engineering, design, technology, business & actuarial studies. Students will be introduced to the subject at a level that can be understood by students who have studied maths & science at Junior Cycle.



**Art:** All TY students will not have studied Art at Junior Certificate level, therefore TY Art is a great opportunity for students to explore and develop their creative skills. The TY Art course is structured so that students of varying capabilities and experience can fully participate and learn from all projects. Each TY student will take part in one Art project. Each group will choose between Zentangle Mindful Portraits, Lasallian Art Projections, 2D Sculpture, 3D Sculptures or Contemporary Painting.

**Biology:** TY biology takes a look at the scientific method and aims to enhance the students problem solving skills. Students also engage in detailed studies of topical issues such as vaccine development and genetic engineering, with an emphasis being placed on independent learning and the ability to formulate and communicate informed opinions. We also take a brief look at the extra detail involved in Leaving Cert biology study of topics covered at Junior level, for example microscopy.





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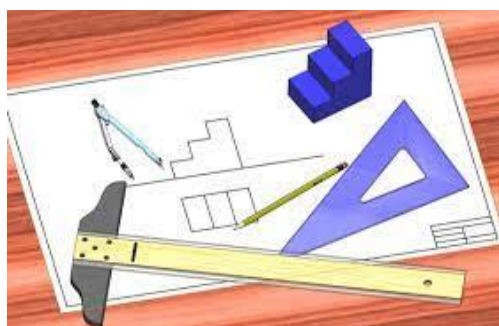
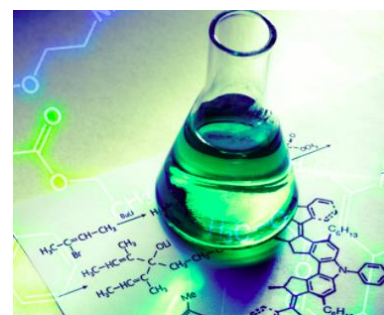


**Business:** Transition Year Business continues on with the Junior Certificate Business Studies course. This module will prepare students for Business at Leaving Certificate level and for adult working life. The module will focus on areas such as Management, Consumer Law, Marketing and Insurance.



**Careers:** Students will be provided with information on Senior Cycle course & subject choices & their implications on career/course options & will learn to use the REACH careers portal & Qualifax, which will provide them with all details needed. Career guidance will be provided through CV preparation, interview skills courses, interest inventories, aptitude testing & multiple intelligence assessment.

**Chemistry:** This course provides a bridge to enable students to make the transition from the more dependent type of learning associated with Junior Cycle science to the more independent learning environment associated with Senior Cycle Chemistry. The course recaps on the basics of chemistry, as studied at junior level, gives the students a taste of leaving cert chemistry and also covers some everyday chemistry that students who do not wish to continue their study of chemistry at senior cycle will find interesting and useful.



**Design & Communication Graphics (DCG):** TY DCG introduces students to the basics of technical drawing & geometry (physical drawing board skills, measurement, shapes, patterns, reading drawings, visualisation skills, circles, etc.) Students will cover orthographic projection & 2D logos/diagrams, followed by the use of a cloud-based CAD (Computer Aided Design) package called 'Onshape', which introduces the principles & concepts associated with 2D/3D

CAD, a major requirement for LC DCG & the Student Assignment in 6th year. For the students who have studied DCG for JC, they will be introduced to LC orthographic projection (1st/3rd angle), Auxiliary Elevations & Plans (including true shape/length etc.) & CAD.

**Economics** Topics covered include: Information on LC Course – topics, assessment, exit strategies to third level study and careers; General introduction to economics; Definition of Economics; Economic Systems, consumers, economic goods; Factors of production, opportunity cost, production possibility frontiers; Skills needed for drawing accurate and clear diagrams, reading and interpretation of data in graphical form; Introduction to Demand & Supply - all of these topics are relevant to the LC Economics course.





## Transition Year Programme Subject Descriptions



**Environmental & Social Studies:** Environmental & Social Studies (ESS) is a module in which students explore, investigate & develop an understanding of the natural, human, social & cultural dimensions of local & wider environments. At the heart of this module is the 17 Global Goals on sustainable development, which will assist students in developing an understanding of the challenges facing our environment & a feeling of Global Citizenship. Students will examine various regions around the world, gain an understanding of biodiversity, examine climate systems and build on knowledge of physical landforms from JC Geography. The module will give students a good introduction to LC Geography, & has close links with Politics & Society.



**Film Studies:** A module that gives students an introduction to the language & form of Film Studies, now part of the LC English course. Students learn about narrative structures & film style analysis as part of a broader course introducing the world of film as an art form, not just a form of entertainment!

**Global Citizenship Education:** A module that helps students become aware of their role as global citizens in the 21st century. GCE teaches students about some of the United Nations Global Goals, seventeen areas of global development that were identified in 2000 & asks them to get actively involved in raising awareness & creating solutions of the goals. There are close links here with LC Geography, RE, History & Politics & Society.



**Health Education:** TY Health Education currently incorporates two areas: a Road Safety Module & a Relationships & Sexuality Education (RSE) Module. The Road Safety Module raises awareness of road safety issues for TY students who are becoming more diverse road users at this time. Students will develop the skills/techniques needed to pass the driving theory and practical tests & will be introduced to the websites and forms needed to apply for theory test/learner permit. All going to plan, students will get some practice at the driver theory test, as well as some hands on experience at the Rosemary Smith “Think Awareness” Driving School. The content of the RSE module is under review at this time.



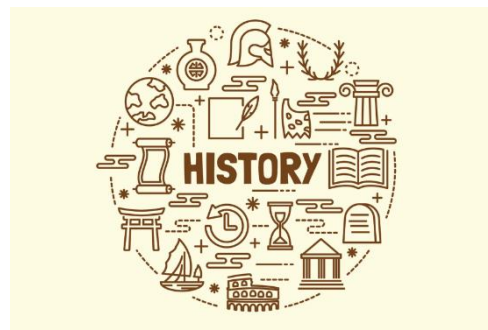
**Home Economics:** During this module we look at nutrition, food for wellbeing & indicators for wellbeing & mental fitness. We introduce the idea of food science & for some build on the Junior Cert Home Economics learning. Students new to Home Economics will get a detailed introduction to the subject, with a focus on the LC syllabus. The course normally has a practical element, revolving around the planning & preparation of healthy snack foods. TY Home Economics also links in with the ‘Nutrition’ module of the GAA Future Leaders Programme which involves keeping food diaries for fitness & health.





## Transition Year Programme Subject Descriptions

**History:** The aim of TY History is promote in students an attitude of historical enquiry and discovery through individual work, team work and class-directed work. It will contribute to students' general education through involvement in the process of historical investigation and understanding while developing an understanding of historical facts and principles. It strives to enhance an interest in and develop an appreciation of history in the world around them. Student's will become aware of the application of historical knowledge to modern society. They will be encouraged in their development of transferable critical thinking and creative problem solving skills. TY History will help to provide a bridge to enable students to make the transition from the more dependent type of learning associated with Junior Cycle History to the more independent learning environment associated with Senior Cycle History. Skills learned (Researching, Information processing, Critical and creative thinking, Communicating, Working with others, Being personally effective, Literacy & Numeracy Skills) will help to link the student with the world of work and the community.



**Lasallian Studies:** An exploration of the life and legacy of the Founder of our schools, St. John Baptist de La Salle. Students will study the life lived, and commitment made, by John Baptist de La Salle in creating the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (De La Salle Schools). They will make sense of their place and role as a member of an international community that involves the daily education of more than 1,000,000 students in over 80 countries throughout the world. They will develop a greater awareness and understanding of what it means to be a Lasallian student in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Lasallian school, encouraging a pride in this identity. This course will promote the student's sense of responsibility as they progress on their Lasallian journey and it will provide a bridge to future opportunities of developing leadership skills, such as the Lasallian Student Leadership Course.



LASALLIAN  
EDUCATION

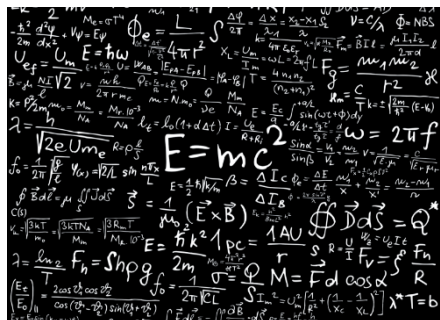
*Transforming Lives Since 1680*



**Music:** This module endeavours to introduce students to Music Technology and an instrument. In particular, students learn the basics of the ukulele. By the end of the module students are equipped with the ability to play songs of their choice as they develop the ability to read chord charts and tablatures. Furthermore, students are introduced to a number of production software involved in Music Production.

**Personal Development:** A module in TY which covers Nutrition for physical and mental wellbeing. We also introduce students to meditation techniques and introduce Tai Chi as a way of relaxing a improve concentration.





**Physics:** TY Physics aims to stimulate and sustain learners' interest in and enjoyment of physics, whilst developing an understanding of the fundamental principles underlying physical phenomena and illustrating how humanity has benefited from the study and practice of physics. To provide an introduction to some physics topics with an emphasis on understanding concepts. To discuss ideas in physics in a qualitative way. To gain experience of practical physics by doing experiments.

**Politics & Society:** This subject allows all Transition Year students to have the opportunity to study part of the new Leaving Certificate subject Politics and Society. Over the course of the module students delve into various topics such as Human Rights, Climate Change, Brexit, Covid-19, Trumpism and more. This subject encourages students to develop their ability to debate their points of view with reason and evidence. Students also study political and social philosophies which they can apply to their own environment and that of the wider world.



**Technology:** This module is a short insight into the research, design and manufacture elements of this subject at Leaving Cycle. Students are given a topic to research, then they must produce a design which will meet the criteria in their research element and finally they must produce a model of their chosen design.

