

Transition
Year
Programme

De La Salle College



Transition Year Co-Ordinator



Mr. McGrath

» Run the programme – co-ordinate events, programmes, work experience, assessment etc.



What is Transition Year?



 TY is designed to ease the 'transition' or change from the Junior Cycle to the more important Leaving Cert.

What is Transition Year?



TY eases the transition by providing:

- Students with time to explore different subjects & areas that they may not get to do in LC.
- Students with time to explore potential careers through Work Experience placement.
- Students with the skills needed to perform better academically at LC.
- Students with the life skills to be a better, more-rounded person in life.





MATURITY

with an emphasis on personal development, social & communication skills.

Students should be more self-confident, resilient & adaptable.



SKILLS

with an emphasis on acquiring actual skills (work in & out of school).

Students should be better equipped to cope with the demands of the LC & life in general.



STUDY

with an emphasis on acquiring independent & self-regulated study habits.

Students should be better equipped for the LC, making more informed subject choices & course/career choices after LC.



RESEARCH INTO TY

carried out by the ESRI, NCCA & Dept. Inspectorate

- ✓ Higher points score in LC in comparison with students who went straight from 3rd-5th Year.
- ✓ More 'educationally adventurous' take higher levels, new subjects.
- ✓ Take a broader range of courses at Third Level.
- ✓ Develops self-confidence & self-esteem.
- ✓ Develops study, entrepreneurial, coping & social skills.



THE IRISH TIMES

Thu, Jan 31, 2019

NEWS

SPORT

BUSINESS

OPINION

LIFE & STYLE

CULTURE

Transition year: Why other countries are copying the Irish 'doss' year

Educators around the world increasingly see its value in reducing stress and anxiety

O Tue, Jan 29, 2019, 00:00

Peter McGuire











• If the student is willing to push themselves, get involved, embrace new challenges & try something different.

• If the student wants to know more about LC subjects & potential career areas.

 If the student wants to develop as a person – social & personal skills



What Happens in TY?



TY is a combination of Academics & Experiences...



Subjects are grouped into three categories:

1: Core – English/Irish/Maths/MFL

2: Carousel choices - all other subjects

3: TY only subjects





- 1: Core Subjects English/Irish/Maths/MFL
 - Subjects are co-timetabled & may be streamed
 - Excellent preparation for LC Courses
 - End of year exams





2: Carousel Choice Subjects

- Students get an introduction to potential LC subjects for one week.
- Students will then choose at the end of the fourth week which subject to retain for the rest of the year
- Up to 30 subjects can be covered



Carousel Choices To Be Made				
Monday 10.15	Maintenance*	Physics*	History	Music*
Monday 13.54	Applied Maths	Home Economics*	Agricultural Science*	Accountancy
Tuesday 8.50	Computers	Look Into Law	Personal Development	Computers
Tuesday 11.13	Global Citizenship Education (GCE)	Classical Studies	Lasallian Studies	Health Education
Tuesday 12.11	Art	Biology*	Chemistry*	Business
Wednesday 12.08	Environmental & Social Science	Financial Life Skills	Film Studies	Future Leaders
Thursday 11.13	Future Leaders	Technology*	Politics & Society	Green Schools
Thursday 12.11	Economics	Drama	Design & Communication Graphics (DCG)*	Enterprise



3: TY only subjects

- Specialist subjects or modules for TY
- GAISCE, Classical Studies, Global Citizenship Education etc.



Students will participate in some courses on

- a) A whole-class basis
- b) An individual basis









Examples include:

- First Aid & CPR Qualification
- Film Making Workshop
- European Youth Parliament
- Digital Champions Ireland
- Erasmus+ Programme (TBC)
- Work Experience Preparation Workshops







- Activity Centre Trip
- RNLI Clogherhead Visit
- Consent Education Programme
- Driving School/Online Driving
 Course
- GAISCE Awards
- GAA Future Leaders Course









- e-Portfolio & CV Preparation
- Clar Raídio
- Go Quest Adventure Zone
- Go Karting
- Internet Safety Workshop
- DkIT TY Weeks





Learning Is Different in TY...



Learner-led, not exam-led



 More responsibility on the student – deadlines, selfdirected learning etc.

Working in pairs, groups

Project based work



What Happens in TY?



It is a DOSS year!

- D Doing
- O Other
- S Sorts of
 - S Stuff!





Work Experience



 Work Experience (WE) will take place in week-long blocks during the year – autumn, spring & summer terms. There will be 3-4 blocks – exact structure to be finalized.

• WE should take place in an area the student is considering for third level or a career.

Students should not be afraid to look beyond Dundalk!



Work Experience



 Students will take part in a 'Work Experience Preparation Workshop' in September.

 Students needs to get placements sorted asap due to demand.

Additional placements, over & above the assigned weeks, can be allowed.



Work Experience



 Students will be required to complete a 'Work Experience Diary' during each placement.

 There may also be a 'community placement' organised for the student – more details will follow

There is no such thing as a 'bad' work experience –
 even a 'bad' week can have a positive outcome.







Assessment & Reporting is different in TY:

Reports 3 times a year – December, March
 & May



 Not just academic – development of skills, social & personal skills, behavior & attitude, motivation & effort.



Reports direct to parents through VSWare.



Students will reflect on assessment periods
 & set targets for the next module.



Ongoing assessment in all subjects, on a regular basis.



 End of year exams in the Core Subjects & Languages.



- A 'credit' system is used to calculate final grades at the end of the year.
- Credits will be awarded in four areas:
- 1) Academic based on scores given in reports & end of year exam
- 2) Engagement based on scores given in reports & involvement in activities during the year
- 3) Attendance based on attendance records
- 4) Discretionary based on students approach & attitude to the year







- Students will also complete an e-Portfolio, recording their TY experience.
- Graduation takes place in May.
- TY Profile of Achievement (TYPA) will be presented to all students, containing:
 - Final grade
 - Summary of credits
 - All certificates received
 - Work Experience Feedback forms



Application Forms



- Applications for TY are conducted in line with the TY Admissions Policy available on the school website.
- Parents/guardians will be contacted in early January to ascertain their preference for Senior Cycle TY, LC or LCA.
- TY applicants will be contacted by me with an application pack.
- If students wish to proceed to Fifth Year or LCA, they will be contacted by the LCA coordinator (LCA) or Guidance Team (LC)



Application Forms



 Completing the form requires thought & information – reasons why, work experience plans etc.

• Terms & conditions apply, as per the Admissions Policy.



Application Forms



- A waiting list applies to late applicants.
- Places are limited 106 maximum.
- Candidates may be interviewed.
- Past behaviour may be taken into consideration when places are being allocated.
- Places confirmed in late February.
- Contract of learning to be signed upon offer of a place.

Costs of TY



Currently €500 – same cost since 2020.

Very few books needed – most materials provided

 Registration fee covers all year-wide courses, events, buses etc. Does NOT cover individual events.

Rental of TY laptop for the year.

Costs of TY



- €250 deposit to be paid with your completed application form by the date indicated. To be paid via VSWare or by cash to the school office.
- Payment of deposit does <u>not</u> guarantee a place in TY.
- €250 balance due by the end of May 2025 can be paid in instalments.
- Families having difficulty meeting costs can contact Mr. Breen.

