



Transition Year 2025/2026 Information Evening

St John Bosco Community College, Kildysart

Information Evening - 28th January 2025



Ms Róisín Meaney - TY Coordinator

Ms Josephine Ryan - Guidance Counsellor

Ms Mary McGee - Parent

Daniel McMahon - Student President

Sinead O'Leary - Past TY Student

Katie Troy - Current TY Student

Information Evening - 28th January 2025



- Introduction
- A brief overview of the Transition Year Programme- social and academic benefits of Transition Year in St John Bosco Community College
- Subject sampling
- Work Experience and the opportunities to explore career options in Transition Year
- Workshops, Guest Speakers and Additional Optional Opportunities
- Assessment & Certification
- TY Fee



What exactly is Transition Year?

Transition Year is a one-year programme that bridges the gap between the Junior and Senior Cycles.

It's so much more than just an extra year in school.

It's a year of exploration, growth, and preparation - a bridge that helps students transition from adolescence to young adulthood and from the Junior Cycle to the Senior Cycle.

Overview of the TY Programme



- Our school's Transition Year (TY) program is all about helping the student grow as a person.
- It give students chances to learn in fun and meaningful ways
- The programme helps students discover all the different paths they can take in the future
- The TY programme will evolve continuously to support the learning and development of the student
- Students and Parents are invited to have an input into the programme
- A survey will be given to participants to enable us to plan a programme around the student
- Feedback from parents and students is always welcome – share with us your skills and ideas

Benefits of the TY Programme



- TY offers students the opportunity to try out a range of new experiences and develop new skills through a variety of modules that they would not be able to experience in the Leaving Certificate.
- The TY programme offers in a wide range of of workshops/initiatives
- It gives students the chance to develop new hobbies and skills that they can take with them long after they leave school. Of course, all these activities give students the opportunity to mix with new people and meet new friends. A lot of the activities focus on teamwork and friendship.

Benefits of Transition Year - Student Survey



I think TY made me more mature as I had a year to develop my personal skills before entering senior cycle
TY Class 2023/2024

I improved my public speaking, communication, teamwork and organisational skills as TY offered many opportunities to use and practice these skills.
TY Class 2023/2024

It helped me decide what subjects I thought would be worthwhile doing and helped me mature before going into senior cycle
TY Class 2022/2023

I think TY influenced my self esteem and helped me grow and mature.
TY Class 2023/2024

I gained more confidence in speaking publicly in front of big groups of people. I also felt we worked very well as a year group together which further developed teamwork skills.
TY Class 2022/2023

I think it influenced me to do well in 5th year as I had the break I needed
TY Class 2023/2024



Benefits of Transition Year - Student Survey



After the break of TY,
I felt ready to put
in the work in 5th year.

TY Class 2023-2024

It is a year that you grow as a person
and put yourself outside your comfort
zone which is always a good thing. I
also loved having a break after the
junior cert and it made coming into
fifth year a little bit easier.

TY Class 2023-2024

TY benefitted me
as I feel I am better able
to concentrate on
studying in fifth year.

TY Class 2023-2024

I feel it has
benefitted me because I
am more confident
and mature after TY

TY Class 2023-2024

I feel a lot more
prepared
and ready to get back into
the routine of 5th year again

TY Class 2023-2024

The extra year was majorly beneficial
to me. I came back into fifth year with
a new appetite to learn and do well in
my Leaving Cert as it gave me the
vision to see the end goal. I found that
my ability to study was greatly
improved as my motivation was far
stronger.

TY Class 2022-2023



Parental Review of Transition Year

Mary McGee

Subjects



- TY students are afforded the opportunity to sample all Senior Cycle subjects during the year, helping them with their subject choices going into Senior Cycle
- The taster programmes offered in TY give students a much better chance of choosing the right combination of subjects for them.

Subject Sampling



- All students will study both **core and optional subjects** throughout Transition Year.
- **Core areas** of study will include the following: Irish, English, Maths, French/German, Physical Education, SPHE, Career Guidance

Students will also get to try all Leaving Cert subjects in Transition Year

Business & Accounting

Geological Studies

Construction Studies

World of Science

Coding

Historical Studies

Culinary Studies

Electronics & Engineering

Preparation for Work

Artistic & Environmental Education

Drama Studies

Subject Sampling - Culinary Studies

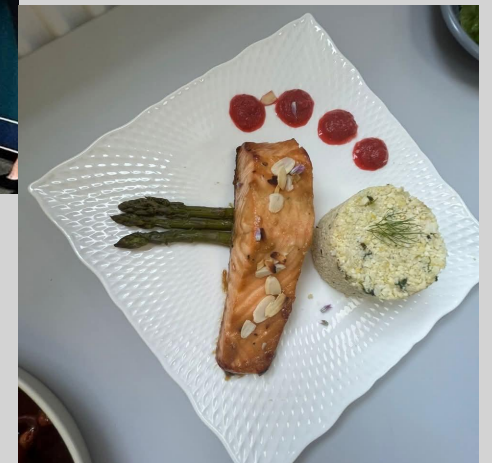


- Visits to local food businesses
- Ethnic food projects,
- Cooking competitions
- Crafting

The Healthy Home Chef Cookery Competition - ATU, St Angela's



Eimear McGee took part in the Healthy Home Chef Competition last year.



Subject Sampling - Business



Clare Local Enterprise Competition



Student Enterprise



Subject Sampling - MFL (French & German)



In 2024 St. John Bosco Community College was awarded Erasmus+ Accreditation and is valid until 2027. The accreditation has succeeded in forging strong links with European Educational Institutions. As part of the plan, Transition Year students and their French and German Teachers Ms Fitzgerald and Ms Ryan are this year working on a project called *Exploring Wellbeing in Western and Northern Europe: A school & community-centred project focusing on Ireland, Latvia, France and Germany.*



Erasmus+



Erasmus - French & German Exchange

In May 2024, TY students travelled to Lille in France and to Gladbeck in Germany. Over the course of their visits, they got a taste of school life and explored the surrounding areas. They stayed with host families and their exchange partners made return visits to Kildysart in May.



Coding

Coding is an introduction to block coding using Microsoft Micro Bits. A micro bit is a powerful portable coding device which allows us to create programs through a web based software. These programmes can be to make Games, personal fitness devices such as step counters, tools such as compasses and thermometers and many more uses. As students progress they will use the micro bits to solve engineering problems in a group format.



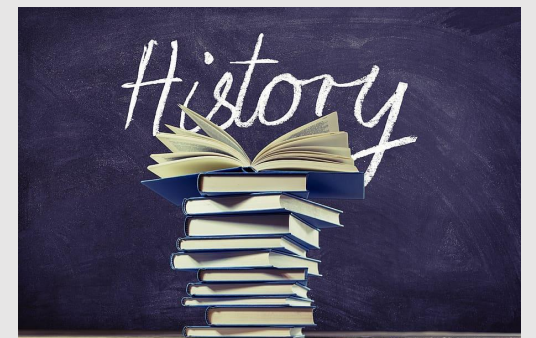
Subject Sampling - History



A project based approach is taken in TY History.

Students engage in many projects based on such topics as, The Great Irish Famine, History through Sport and People in History. Students use a variety of mediums such as Google Slides, Google Docs and Oral Presentations.

The projects introduce students to some of the elements that will be required for Leaving Cert History and their Research Project, elements such as evaluating source material and independent research.



Benefits of Subject Sampling - Student Survey



It gave me an opportunity to have a taster of all subjects and pick the best ones for my Leaving Cert
TY Class 2022/2023

TY allowed me to make sure I picked subjects that I can be successful in as well as helping me pick the best career path in the future
TY Class 2022-2023

It helped me decide what subjects I think would be worthwhile doing at Senior Cycle and helped me mature before going into senior cycle
TY Class 2023/2024

I think the year helped me to decide what subjects I should pick in senior cycle. My choices would have been very different if I hadn't done TY, which I'm glad about
TY Class 2023/2024

TY gave me ideas of what I would like to do after school which impacted my subject choices in senior cycle.
TY Class 2023/2024





Transition Year Review

Current TY Student Katie Troy

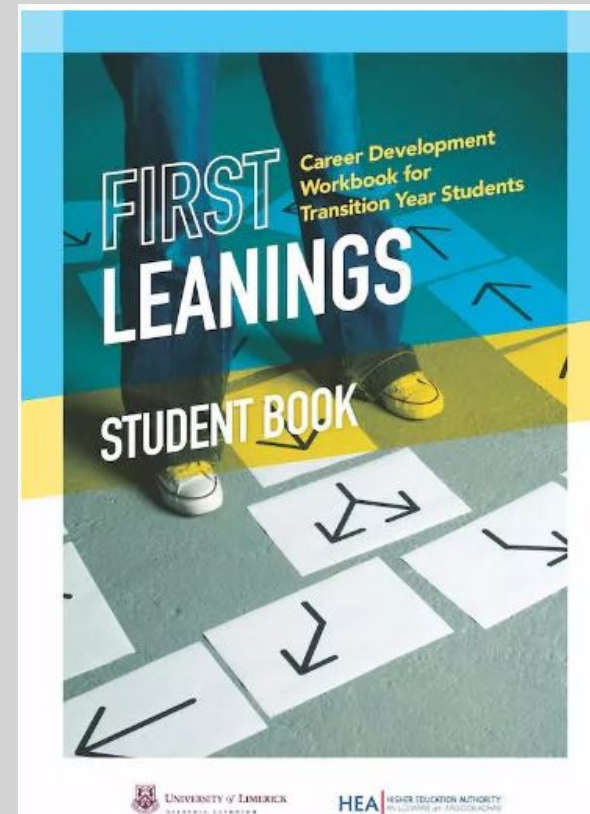


CAREER PLANNING
Ms. Ryan
Guidance Counsellor

Career Exploration



- Career guidance is an integral part of the TY programme and Transition Year offers a valuable opportunity for career exploration. Throughout the year students learn about the pathways available to them and make more informed decisions about their future decisions that will impact their subject choices for Leaving Certificate



Introduction

Section 1 • Self-assessment

- Worksheet 1.1 · Career Interest Summary
- Worksheet 1.2 · Personality Test Summary
- Worksheet 1.3 · Skills Cards
- Worksheet 1.4 · Personal Values
- Worksheet 1.5 · Self-assessment Summary

Section 2 • Researching the options

- Worksheet 2.1 · Qualifax
- Worksheet 2.2 · Careers Portal/CAO Wizard
- Worksheet 2.3 · CAO Course Search
- Worksheet 2.4 · Taking a Detailed Look
- Worksheet 2.5 · Career Investigation

Section 3 • Subject choices

- Worksheet 3.1 · Subject Choices: What I Need to Consider
- Worksheet 3.2 · Subject Evaluation
- Worksheet 3.3 · My Possible Subject Choices

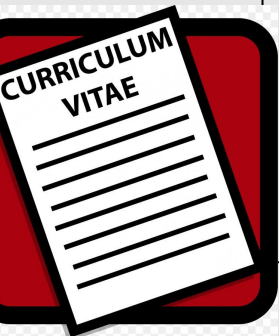
Section 4 • Work experience

- Worksheet 4.1 · CV
- Worksheet 4.2 · Cover Letter
- Worksheet 4.3 · Elevator Pitch
- Worksheet 4.4 · Interview Skills
- Worksheet 4.5 · Mock Interview
- Worksheet 4.6 · Employability
- Worksheet 4.7 · Work Experience Diary
- Worksheet 4.8 · Work Experience Review

Year to mature



- Many students who proceed straight into 5th year will find themselves being 17 when they are looking to embark on college life.
- TY offers young people the chance to mature and develop which will in turn help them to navigate this transition easier.
- College dropout rates are higher in less mature students. The extra year of maturity TY offers can not only help them make the right college choices but also settle into college much easier when they go.
- Students in TY have a distinct advantage over those who proceed directly into 5th year when it comes to gathering up experience, skills, hobbies and references for their CVs.



Work Experience



- One of the most valuable elements of TY programmes is the opportunity it offers students to take part in Work Experience. This is valuable for a number of reasons:
 - Students can gain a valuable insight into careers of interest (or discover that they don't like a particular career area)
 - They can get an insight into the 'real world' of work
 - They can gain valuable transferable skills
 - They can get the chance to gain experience/references and can gain part-time employment

Work Experience



- Students participate in 3 work experience placements during the year. The placements gives them invaluable exposure to real-life work environments.
- Parents/Guardians are required to use their contacts to find work placement for son/daughter
- Students are encouraged to try a variety of workplaces throughout the year
- Garda vetting may be required
- All students are covered through school insurance
- Students & Parents will be informed of work experience dates in due course

Work Placement Reviews



A highlight of my work experience in a primary school was how rewarding it was to have an impact on young children's life even if it was just for a week.

TY Class 2023-2024

I got to experience what a full work week would look like and the skills necessary to be successful

TY Class 2022-2023

In the Eye and Ear Hospital in Dublin, I got to watch operations such as cataracts. I also got to experience the consulting part of the job and see various different types of patients. It was a great experience.

TY Class 2023-2024

I was very proud when a sports article that I wrote was published in the local newspaper

TY Class 2022-2023

My work experience in a veterinary clinic helped me really get an insight into what it's like

TY Class 2023-2024

During my work experience in a Garda Station, I visited a courthouse and saw how the cases are handled. I also we got to go to the Garda Training College in Tipperary which gave me an insight into how to become a garda

TY Class 2022/2023



Work Placement Reviews



Work experience solidified my interest in what I want to do (after my Leaving Cert).
TY Class 2022-2023

From doing work experience in my local national school I learnt that it is definitely the career path I want to persue
TY Class 2022-2023

My work experience in TY helped me figure out what i would like to do and skills I'm good at and the ones I need to work on
TY Class 2023-2024

After my work experience in TY I now know what I don't want to do in the future
TY Class 2023-2024

TY Work Experience gave me ideas of what I would like to do after school which impacted my subject choices in senior cycle.
TY Class 2023-2024



Past Pupil Work Placements



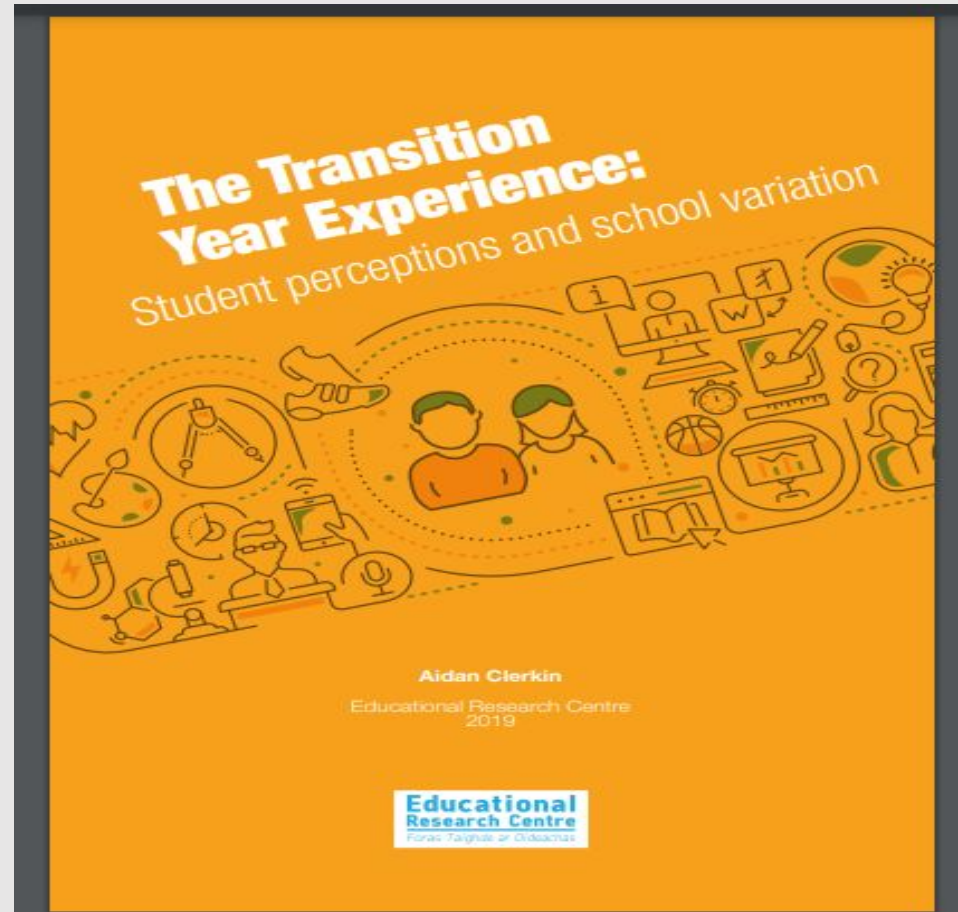
Students that have completed the Transition Year Programme in the past have availed of work placements in such places as:

Local primary schools
Construction Companies
Brothers of Charity
Cancer Charity Shop
Garda Station
Post Office
Architect Office
Montessori
Mechanical Engineering Company
Medical Labels, Galway
Pharmaceutical Company
Eye & Ear Hospital, Dublin

Estate Agents & Auctioneers
Eirtech, Shannon
Local Carpentry Companies
Regeneron
Dell
Tax Consultant Firm
Local Pharmacies
Veterinary Centres
Agricultural College
Beauty Salons
Catering Companies
Physiotherapist

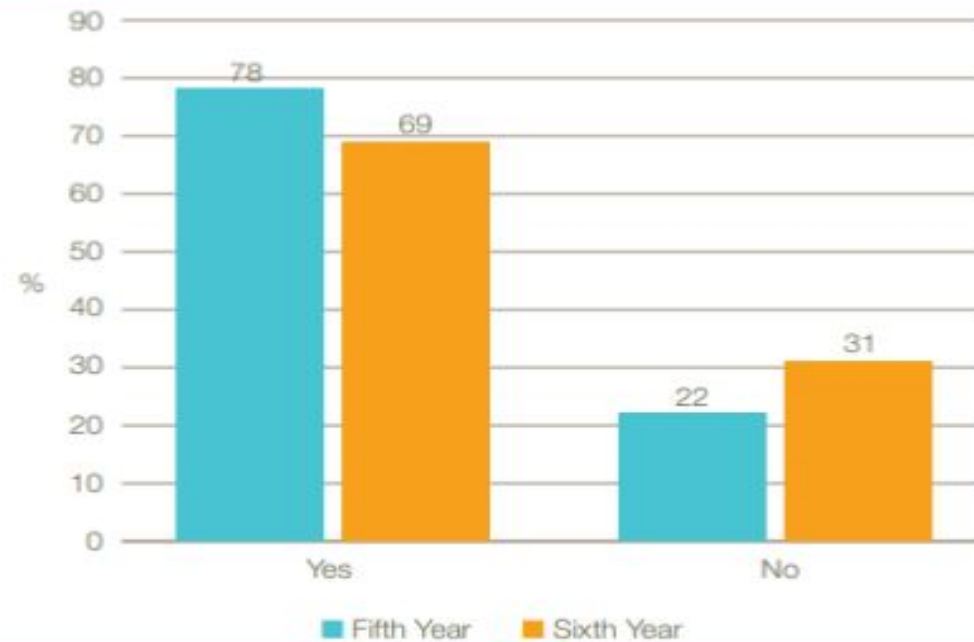


RESEARCH



Fifth- & Sixth-Year Students, who had completed T.Y.

Figure 5.2: Percentage of Fifth Year and Sixth Year students (who had previously taken part in TY) who would recommend TY to Third Year students



Fifth- & Sixth-Year Students, who had completed T.Y.

- Positive perceptions of TY that remained, a full one or two years after participation, included:
- feelings of increased confidence when trying new things (74%),
- learning how to work as part of a team (68%),
- making a better choice of subjects for the Leaving Certificate than would have been the case without the year out (65%),
- having a stronger idea about what the student wants to do after school (65%),
- acquiring and implementing new organisational and time management skills (53%).



“I don’t know what career I want”

How can Transition Year help to answer the question?



Some suggestions:

- try new subjects you haven't done before
- go on trips and events
- develop your hobbies and interests
- try a new hobby
- attend open days and career fairs
- research careers you are interested in
- do career assessments
- choose a work experience placement in an area of genuine interest
- consider volunteer work
- get as much as information as possible about jobs from family, relations and friends
- speak with your guidance counsellor, career coach or parent about the careers you are interested in



Transition Year Review

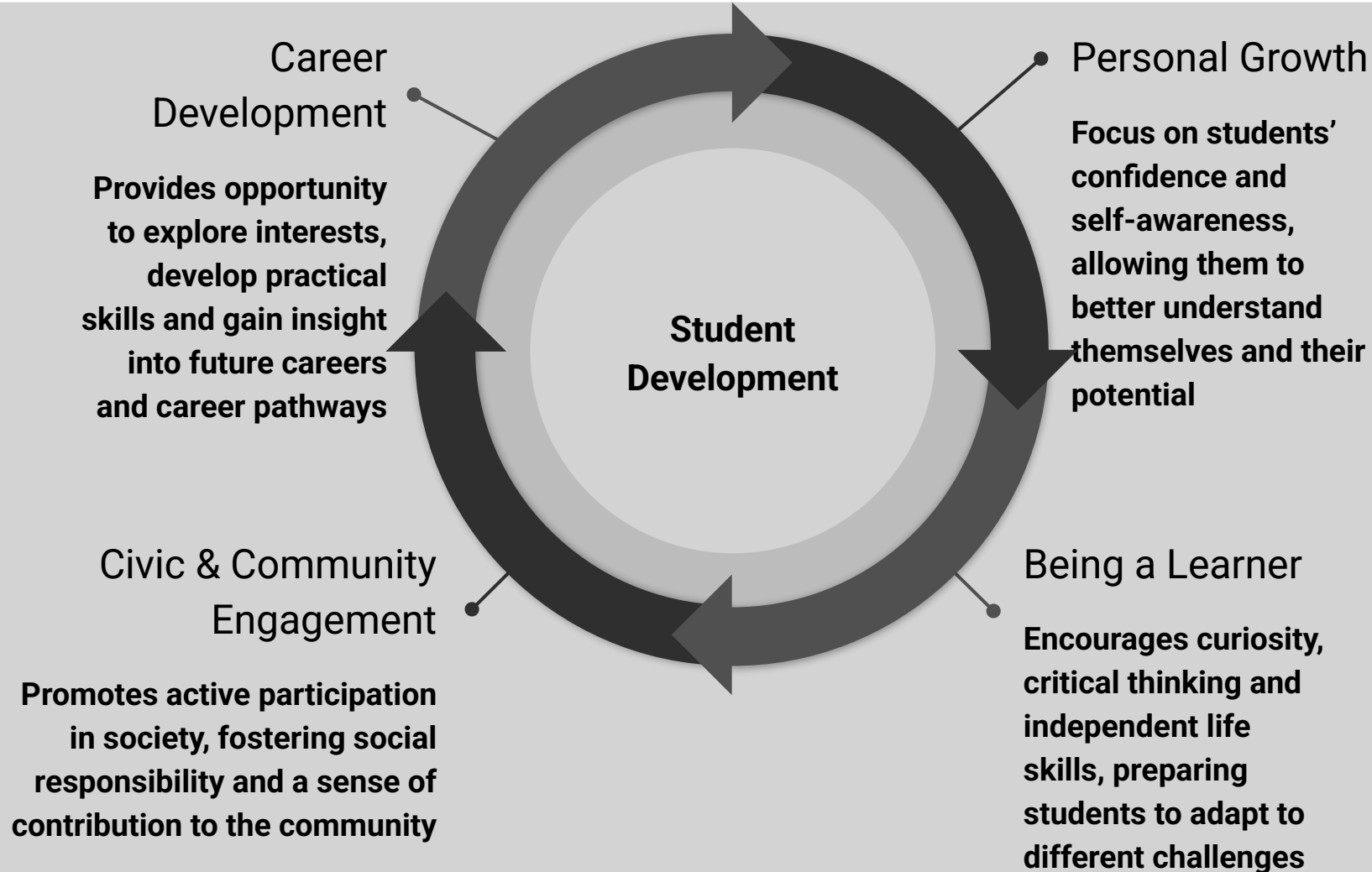
Former TY Student Sinéad O'Leary

Student Dimensions



Within the TY programme, **four** Student Dimensions are the key foundations upon which TY programmes are designed. They describe how students can develop in TY and the experiences that can support this development.

Student Dimensions



Petersburg - Overnight Trip



The TY group travel to Petersburg Outdoor Activity Centre in Co. Galway for a 2 day programme full of activities. It's an opportunity for the group to work on their team building and leadership skills and bond as a group. Throughout the time spend there they participate in various activities, canoeing, abseiling, an obstacle course and orienteering. There is also a focus was on raft building and testing the assembled raft on the waters of Lough Mask to take them to a nearby island.



Workshops and Guest Speakers - A balance of academic, career focused & civic workshops afford opportunities to develop socially, physically and emotionally.



- Road Safety Education
- Drama Workshop
- Self Defence
- Communication Workshop
- Jiving



Driver Education



Drama Workshop



Self Defence Classes



TY Drama Workshop

- Animal Welfare - Dogs Trust
- Forensics Workshop
- First Aid
- Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind

Initiatives & Competitions

Students are afforded opportunities to engage with many initiatives offered in the school to aid social, physical and emotional development.

- Active School Flag Programme
- Gaelbhratach
- Gaisce - President's Award
- Mentoring Programme
- Science Week
- Maths Week
- Christmas Shoebox Appeal
- Young Environmentalist Awards
- Student Enterprise Awards
- Stand Up Week
- BT Young Scientist Competition



Trips



Croagh Patrick



Trip to Glór



(Junior German): Too Far Away/Zu Weit Weg presented in association with IFI Education

Book tickets



glór
ENNIS



TY Activities



An Ghaeltacht

Trip to London



London - Day 1



London Day 2



Missionvale



Volunteer Trip-Missionvale

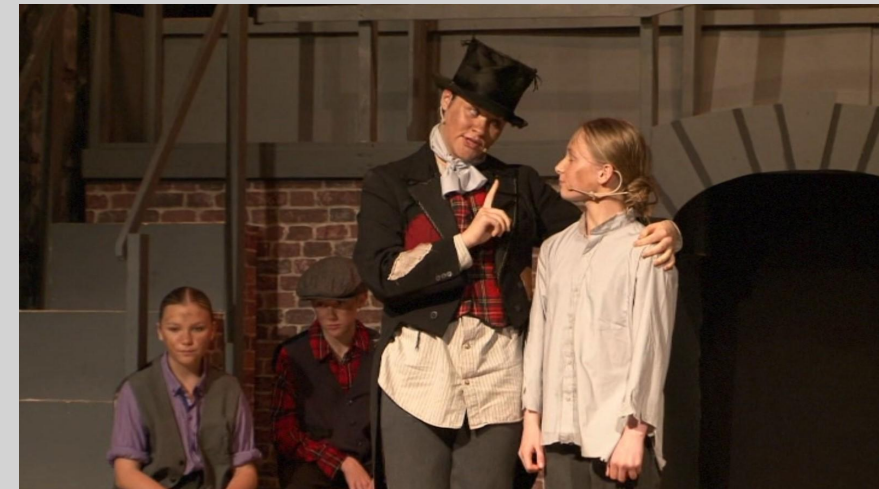


Drama / Musical



"This time was filled with memories I will always treasure and I enjoyed spending so much quality time with my friends"

"Nothing can compare to the three nights we spent performing. The laughs we shared getting our makeup on or just singing the songs in the empty hall before it opened, I loved every minute of it!"



Tuck Shop



- The lunchtime school shop is run by the transition year students.
- Students apply for the positions
- Opportunity to work in retail
- They experience the stages of setting up a business
- They learn about planning, preparing a cash flow forecast and adapting a pricing strategy.
- Any profits made goes towards funding events for the TY class.






Transition Year Review

Former TY Student Daniel McMahon

Assessment and Certification



- Progress Reports- November, February, Easter and Summer
- TY Certificate at TY Graduation
 - Points awarded per subject
 - Work Experience Diary graded
 - Attendance / Engagement

Transition Year end of year assessment		
Student Name:		
Subject/module	Max points per subject/module*	Score/Point achieved
English	100	75
Maths	100	70
Irish	100	70
Woodwork	50	34
Engineering	50	40
Religion	50	35
German	50	30
Art	50	35
History	50	40
French	50	40
Home Economics	50	35
Business/Enterprise	75	50
Science	50	35
Geography	50	25
Drama	50	15
Coding	25	22
Career Investigation	100	90
Supervisors Report/Work experience Diary	100	100
ATTENDANCE/Engagement	100	100
Total	1250	941
Overall Grade	Higher Merit	
Distinction	1000-1300	
Higher Merit	700-999	
Merit	600-699	
Below expectations (BE)	<599	

Queries / Further Information



If you have any questions regarding Transition Year or require any clarifications around the information presented tonight, please email:

kildysartcc@lcetb.ie

Míle Buíochas

Transition Year Fees



- The initial Transition Year fee for 2025/2026 is €500. This includes all school based workshops, guest speakers and an outdoor educational trip
- Payment of this fee can be made through Way to Pay. A notice will be sent to parents once Transition Year payments are being accepted.
- Additional Costs - A foreign trip

Application / Interview Process



- Parents will receive an application form via SMS link. - **Wednesday 29th of January 2025**
- Application closing date is - **Friday 14th of February 2025**
- Interviews held **after mid term break**
- Interview score sheet is available on school website (End of Admissions Statement)