

# GUIDE TO TRANSITION YEAR

Within this booklet you will find the details around the opportunities  
afforded our students during their Transition Year

*Our Lady's Grove*

2018-19

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## Transition Year Vision Statement

Through the Transition Year Programme, we wish to enable our students to reach their full potential both academically and socially, to have an appreciation of the spiritual and aesthetic dimension of life and the ability to use leisure wisely.

## What Is Transition Year?

Transition year is compulsory for those students who have completed the Junior Certificate. It is intended as a year of study which provides a transition between Junior and Senior cycles and gives students the opportunity to learn, mature and develop. **There is a strong emphasis on academic subjects to ensure continuity of a study ethic into Senior Cycle.** The year introduces students to a new range of experiences beyond the scope of the traditional Senior/Leaving Certificate curriculum and develops student's aspirations for higher education occupations and life ambitions.

## Our Transition Year Programme

Our Transition Year Programme changes from year to year and is tailored to suit the needs of the incoming group. Therefore, this is just a sample of subjects, modules, events and trips that may happen during the year.

### Principal Aims of Our Transition Programme

- To provide a transition between Junior and Senior cycles and give students the opportunity to learn, mature and develop.
- To promote education for maturity with the emphasis on personal development including social awareness and increased social competence.
- To introduce students to a new range of experiences beyond the scope of the traditional curriculum and encourage higher educational, occupational and life ambitions.
- To promote general, technical and academic skills with an emphasis on interdisciplinary and self-directed learning.
- To provide an education through experience of adult and working life as a basis for personal development and maturity.
- To develop study and research skills to enable students to become more effective learners and foster self-management skills.

# Transition Year Programme

We have two groups taking Transition Year. The programme is divided into seven main areas:

1. *General Studies* - to include Irish, English, Mathematics, French, Spanish, Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology), History, Geography, Classical Studies, Art, Crafts, Business, Enterprise, Culinary Skills, Music Technology, and Legal Studies.
2. *Work Experience*. University Placement Programmes.
3. *Computer Studies* -Microsoft Office Specialist.
4. *Personal and Spiritual Development*, Speech Training, Community Work, Portfolio Assessment, Career Guidance, Choir and Gaisce.
5. *Research Skills* - Theory of Knowledge.
6. *Leisure Pursuits*, First Aid and Driver Education.
7. *Chinese Language* (Mandarin).

These areas are divided into core subjects which run for the duration of the academic year and modules or short courses.

Any module will rotate as two or three teachers will teach "back to back" thus widening the scope of the programme and allowing all students equal access to all the modules.

## Transition Year Programme-highlights

- Work Experience and University Placement Programmes.
- Community Work.
- Driver Education.
- Leisure Pursuits.
- Young Scientist and Sci-Fest Competition.
- Portfolio Assessment.
- Gaisce.
- Chinese Language.
- Enterprise Workshop.
- Forensic Science Day.
- Activity Week.
- Horse Riding and Sailing.
- Trip to China
- Speakers and Competitions -European Youth Parliament.
- One Act Drama Festival
- Paired Reading

## Activity Afternoon: Tuesday

Each Tuesday afternoon throughout the academic year, students undertake a range of activities. The year is divided into three modules. The module dates are set out below.

### **Module 1 September –November 2018.**

Students choose to do horse riding at an additional charge of €180 (approx) or community work.



### **Module 2 November 2018- March 2019.**

Students choose to do fencing at an additional charge of €80 (approx) or community work.



### Module 3 March – May 2019.

Students choose to do sailing at an additional cost of €130 (approx) or community work.



Any students who do two or three modules will fulfil their Gaisce commitment of 13 or 26 weeks of work experience.

All details of the Gaisce award programme will be given to students when they return to school.

## Community Work

- Community work is undertaken by students on Tuesday afternoons from 12:40 onwards.
- A small number of students are offered community work opportunities in the school every year.
- Community work is defined as any reasonable help given in the local community e.g. : primary schools, nursing homes.
- Some of the students may opt to do community work for the entire year.
- Students with their parents/guardian source their own community work.
- The school has the right to veto community work considered not appropriate to the module.
- Students should not be paid for community work.
- The form below must be completed and submitted to the school in advance of commencing community work.
- The school will contact student placements to verify the nature of the community being done by the student.
- Garda vetting may be required for some community work placements. Students cannot apply for vetting until they reach their sixteenth birthday.
- Students should check with their placement contact if vetting is required and start the vetting procedure immediately.

# Our Lady's Grove.

## Transition Year 2018-19

### Community Work Placement Form

Please tick the module for this community work.

Module 1.     Module 2.     Module 3.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Community Placement: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/email contact details: \_\_\_\_\_

Community Placement Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Description of community work.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

This form should be returned to Mr. Doran.

## Community Work Placements

- Absorbent Minds.
- Busy Bees Childcare.
- Dimples Montessori.
- Donnybrook Youth Club.
- Grove after School.
- Holy Cross School.
- Holy Family Residence.
- Human Appeal Charity Shop.
- Human Appeal International
- Irish Cancer Society.
- Jesus and Mary College.
- Koeners Kids after School Club.
- Lycée Francais d'Irlande.
- Our Lady's Grove
- Our Lady's Clonskeagh Parish National School.
- Our Lady's Grove Montessori.
- Our Lady's Hospice and Care services.
- Oxfam Ireland.
- Samuel Beckett's Campus.
- Simpson's Hospital.
- St Patrick's National School.
- St Vincent de Paul.
- Sue Ryder Charity Shop.
- The Dundrum Village Charity Shop.
- Tree House, De La Salle Palmerston
- Young world Montessori

## Horse Riding

- Horse riding is also offered to students in module 1. At Killegar Equestrian Centre.
- This will take place over a duration of 9 Tuesdays from 2:30-3:30pm commencing in September.
- Students will make their own way to the venue by use of the 44 bus which is a 10 minute walk from the school.
- Hats and boots will be provided.
- No experience required to take part.
- Students should bring leggings and rain gear.



# Sailing

- This is a 9 week course at Surfdock, Grand Canal Basin.
- Students go into the city on the 11 bus and make their own way home when they are finished at around 3.30pm.
- Students bring swimsuit, towel, old runners and a change of clothes.
- Surfdock provide wetsuits and buoyancy aids.
- Activities include kayaking, paddle board, windsurfing, wakeboarding and dragon boat.



## Work Experience

- There are two weeks of work experience. Week one commences Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018. Week two from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019.
- Students with their parents/guardian organise their own work experience.
- Students are encouraged to do work experience in a field they enjoy and may pursue e.g. Veterinary , Legal Firm etc
- Generally, school insurance covers work experience and insurance forms are available from the office.
- In addition to the designated weeks of work experience students can apply to do other work experience if an exceptional opportunity arises. Students must apply for this additional work experience at least 4 weeks before the proposed week.
- Students keep a diary of what they did each day while out on work experience.
- The school will contact work experience placements to verify the work that students are doing.
- Students cannot be paid for work experience.
- The school has the right to veto any work experience considered inappropriate.

## Previous work experiences placements

- Allianz.
- Analytic Ltd.
- Boston Scientific.
- Cartrawler.
- Charlemont Vets.
- Cosgrove Gaynord Solicitors.
- DCU School of Health and Human Performance.
- Dell.
- Drogheda Hospital.
- Enchancia.
- Halton Construction Rathmines.
- Holy Cross School.
- Holy Trinity Primary School.
- Human Appeal.
- Icon Plc.
- Image Vision Software.
- Lloyds Pharmacy.

- Mercury Engineering Company.
- Misery Hill Art Gallery.
- Mulveys Pharmacy Dundrum.
- National Virus Laboratory UCD.
- Nutgrove and Loreto Early Years Education. PayPal.
- Pennys.
- Plan International.
- PWC
- RK Designs.
- Royal Irish Academy of Music.
- Sandymount Stretch and Grow.
- Shakira.
- St James' Hospital.

## Competitions

### European Youth Parliament Regional Session

European Youth Parliament holds its annual Dublin Regional Session in October for 3 days. Students from our Transition Year attend the session which is held in a school in the area.

On the first day, all participants (approx. 150 students from 4th and 5th year across Dublin) meet in the school and are split into the various categories that had been selected for them. There are twelve committees with approximately 14 people on each committee.

On the last day there is a General Assembly day, or GA. On this day, members of each committee stand up individually and present every one of their proposals, resolutions and clauses. Each committee had a certain criteria of speeches to get through; the Opening Speech, the Attack Speech (made by any other delegate on an opposing committee), the Response to the Attack Speech, 4 rounds of Open Floor Debate and the Responses to that, and finally, the Closing Speech.



## Junk Kouture

- National contest which encourages young designers in second level education to create striking couture designs out of recycled materials.
- Part of Art course.
- Can be designed individually or as a group of up to three participants.
- Grand final in 3 Arena.



## Christmas Bake - Off



- Last day of term.
- 4 student teams and 3 teacher teams.
- Had to bake a chocolate cake with the given ingredients.
  - Could decorate the cake how we liked.
  - Other students came in to watch.

***Prize for best looking/tasting cake***

## Wesley Interschools Music Festival

- Competition run in Wesley College.
- 3 part harmony category.
- Practiced every Wednesday before school, and during some classes.
- Fix You by Coldplay.
- Overall came 5<sup>th</sup> with 87 points.
- Choir consisted of about 20 students from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> year.

## Drama Festival in St Andrews College

- Students are encouraged to write their own play.
- Only one play can be entered.
- If the play is accepted, a cast will be chosen from TY.
- Time will be availed for practice of the play.
- English teachers help with staging and speech.
- Sound and light check will take place in St Andrews College.
- Play will be performed alongside other entrants at St Andrews.
- Parents are welcome to attend.
- Play will also be performed for the school.



# Activity Week: September 24th-27th 2018

## First Aid

- Professional paramedic will give a one day workshop on practical first aid.
- Students will be taught basic first aid.
- Workshop includes how to:
  - Deliver CPR
  - Deal with burns
  - Approach and attempt to help someone in a critical condition
  - Stop someone from choking
  - Act in the case of seizure
- Students will get the chance to practice on dummies.
- Students will receive a certificate and a tutorial book for first aid.

## Law Day

- Students will receive a talk about the Law from a barrister.
- The floor will be open to any question regarding this.
- Mock trials will take place in the afternoon.
- Students also got to see a video about life on the inside of a jail.



## Matrix Day

- Inspires Self-direction, Imagination, Smarter-thinking and Confidence.

- Activity based workshop.
- Tips and tricks for coping with school.
- Open discussions.
- Works on discovering personality and character.
- Brain teasers.
- Exam and study tips.

## Larch Hill

- Scouts outdoor activity Centre.
- Students were divided into groups for orienteering.
- Grass sleigh races.
- Obstacle course races.
- High ropes.



## AXA Road Safety Show

- Students will learn from first-hand experiences what devastating effects of unsafe behaviour on roads can lead to.

- Students are spoken to by many emergency first responders also and learn a lot about what to do in case of emergency and how to prevent such events from occurring.
- It is a very important day in TY.



## Gaisce – Personal Skill

- Personal skill is a part of what every individual does when partaking in any form of the Gaisce awards.

- It involves any personal skill that is not physical, such as music, art, baking etc.
- Many people do art and musical instruments as their personal skill, which is did for either 13 or 26 consecutive weeks, based on what the participant wanted to do.

## Gaisce- Physical Activity

- The physical aspect of Gaisce is to take up a new sport or physical activity in your everyday lifestyle.
- The most common activities done are team sports like GAA, horse-riding, gymnastics etc.



## Gaisce Hike

### Provisional Date April 2019

- After completing their Gaisce work, students just have their Adventure Journey to do.
- Hike for 33k over one night and two days.

- Walk from Kilmashogue Carpark to Knockree Hostel in Enniskerry where students overnight and have dinner.
- The hike is extremely good fun and everyone who takes part usually really enjoys themselves but it won't be easy as students will be walking for over 6 hours on both of the days.



## Scifest

- All students in transition year take part in the Scifest Competition.
- It is a science competition but your project can be on pretty much anything you can think of.
- You can do it by yourself or in a group of up to 3 people.
- The first round of the competition is held in the school and then everyone who qualifies goes into the second round that's held in Tallaght.
- Each project needs to have a display board and a folder.



## Assessment in TY

- Students graduate at the end of the school year and the various awards and certificates are given out at our annual Awards Ceremony.
- Student assessment for graduating in TY is marked as follows;
  - Portfolio Interview 60%
  - Attendance 10%
  - Behaviour 10%
  - Participation in TY activities 20%
- The student with the highest overall mark at the end of the year is awarded TY student of the year.

## Folder of Achievement

- All TY students keep a folder containing everything they have done in TY.
- This is called their Folder of Achievement.
- All of the activities they do in TY are included in this folder along with worksheets and projects in the various classes only offered in TY.
- Throughout the year we get 3 green reflection sheets where we reflect on our progress through TY.



## Portfolio Interviews

- In the portfolio interview, we have to talk about 6 pieces from our folder.
- We get given 6 white sheets beforehand to reflect on the individual pieces that we are going to be talking about.
- Overall the interviews are a nice way to show off everything you have done in TY and the teachers always love hearing about the different things that have been going on.

