



# St. Peter's College TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME An Overview



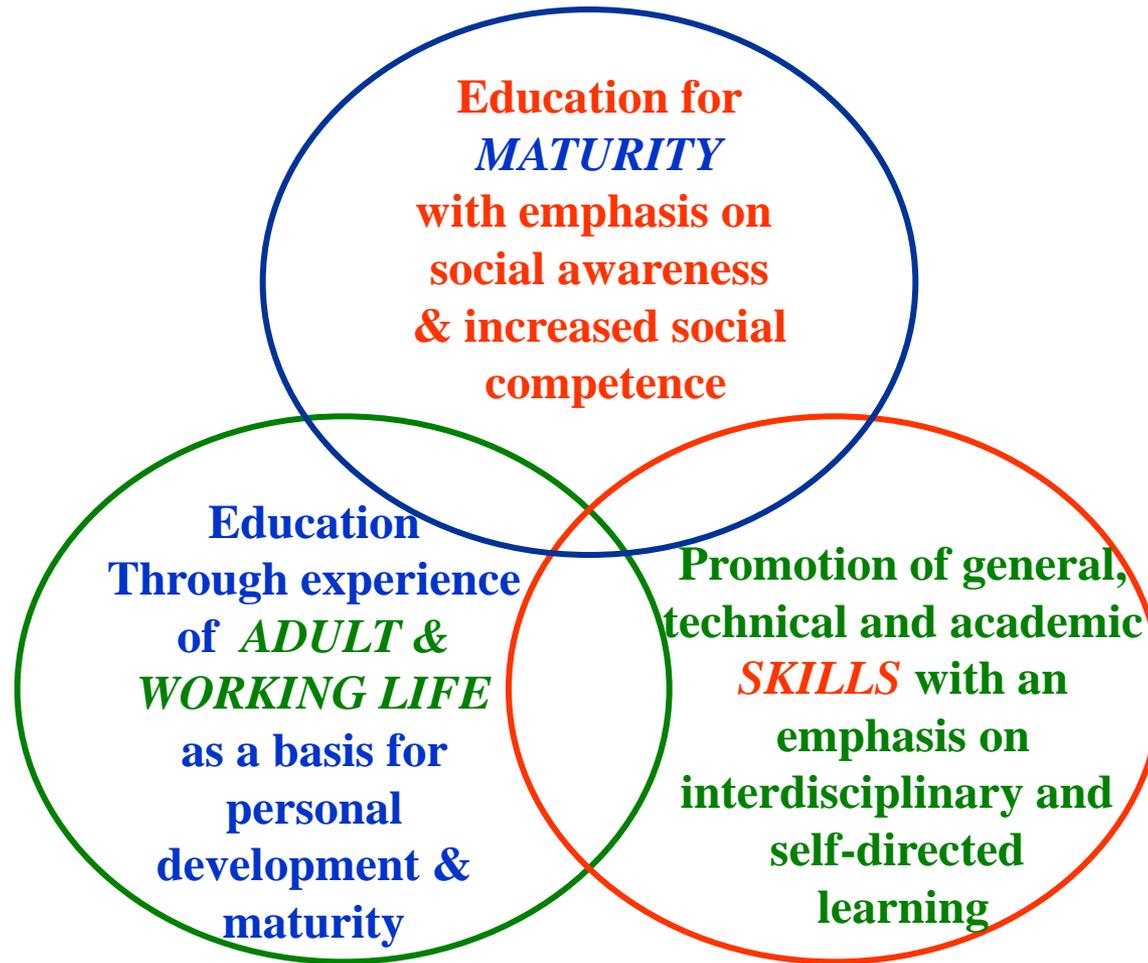
*St. Peter's College  
2019 Parent Evening  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 2019*

# Transition Year

- Transition Year is a one year school based programme between Junior and Senior Cycle.
- It is designed to act as a bridge between the two by facilitating the smooth transition from the more dependent learning of the Junior Cycle to the more independent self-directed learning required for the Senior Cycle



# AIMS of Transition Year



# Mission Statement of Transition Year

- “To promote the personal, social, vocational, and educational development of students and to prepare them for their role as autonomous and participative members of society”

(DES, Transition Year Guidelines 1994/1995 )



# Transition Year Guidelines

- Enable students to take a greater responsibility for their own learning and decision making.
- Help students to develop a range of transferable critical thinking and creative problem solving skills
- Prepare students for the world of work.



# Transition Year Guidelines

- Enable students to develop basic competencies in key areas according to their individual needs:
- Identification and elimination of weakness
- Express himself and overcome “shyness”
- ✓ Continued Learning Support in some cases.
- ✓ Extra time on subject areas where students’ struggled during the Junior Cycle
- Development of **self-confidence**
- The development **of transferable and specific skills in students.**



# TY Programme

- Learning led not exam driven.
- Continuous Assessment in modules.
- Attendance marks
- School based assessment and certification
- Student focused
- Individual syllabi written
- Wide variety of modules
- **5 rotations** per year to keep your son's experience fresh and motivating



# TY Programme

- Varied teaching & learning
- Varied modes/techniques of assessment
- How do we assess your son's progress?
  - ✓ Assignments
  - ✓ Individual and group presentations
  - ✓ Written work
  - ✓ Continuous Assessment through “booklet keeping”
  - ✓ Meeting deadlines
  - ✓ Production of a product to sell and work as a team to do so.



# Rewarding

- **Feedback to student and parent is every term.**
- Access his reports on VSware
- Removed traditional grading of A/B etc and replaced with the system outlined on the right.

Grade	% Range
Distinction	>85%
Higher Merit	70-84%
Merit	55-69%
Pass	40-54%
Incomplete	<40%

# TY Homework and Tasks

- Each module is assessed in very different ways.
- Some give essay based assignments, group presentations, individual presentations, written exams or the completion of a booklet.
- All modules have a minimum of 25% for attendance.
- Some give homework, check his journal to make sure he is listing what is due and when.
- There will be a module list available to parents online from September so you can see exactly what is due and when!
- We try to make the year unique and not a copy of the Junior Cycle for this reason the volume of Homework is much lower, but remind your son his assignments still need to be completed!



# Why Opt for TY?

- Challenges facing our Young People
- Changing attitudes to Education
- Need for Skills based learning
- Age of your son sitting his Leaving Certificate
- Time to mature and develop
- Space to reflect and plan
- Develop new competencies
- Develop new friendships



# Challenges Facing Young People – Leaving Certificate

- ❑ Informed Subject Choice
- ❑ Independent self-directed learning
- ❑ Assessment /Self assessment
- ❑ CAO choices /Course requirements
- ❑ CAO driven trips, Maynooth University and Carlow IT
- ❑ Time to grow up and make adult decisions



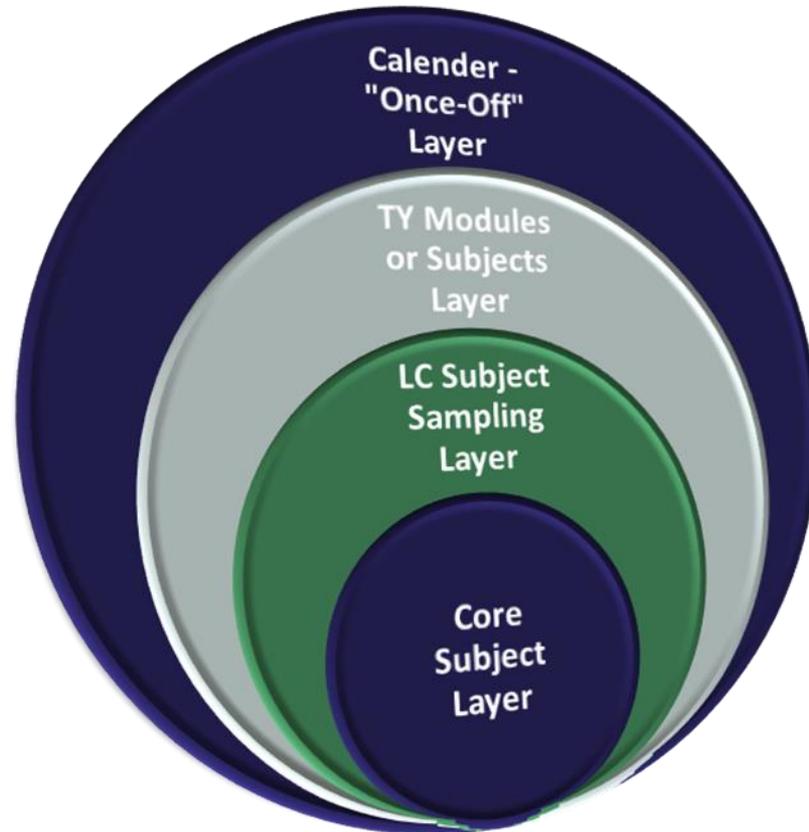
# Challenges Facing Young People – Third Level

- Self management skills
- Time management skills
- Group skills
- I.C.T. skills
- Computers is mandatory for ALL students, they can achieve up to a Masters Certificate in Microsoft Office if they work hard enough.



# Peeling the Layers of a TYP

“The TY  
Onion”



# Core Subject Layer

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- European Language  
(French/German/Spanish)
- Religion
- PE
- ICT
- SPHE



# TY Subject Sampling Layer

## Leaving Cert Subjects on offer in the School

- Science Subjects
- Languages
- History
- Geography
- Business Subjects
- Applied Mathematics
- Art
- Music
- Technology Subjects



# Transition Specific Layer

- Enterprise
- Well Being
- Media Studies
- Literacy
- Theology
- Sports Psychology
- IRFU Certification
- Self Defence
- ICT
- Horticulture
- Philosophy
- Driver Theory
- Programming
- CV making
- Career Guidance
- New for 2019 : Spanish
- Literacy
- Consent work Shop
- Explorative Mathematics



# Proposed for 2019-2020

- **Modular selection:**
- Students will participate in one of the following for half of their academic year and then choose another option for the second half of the year.
  1. TY-Cycling and Cycling Safety
  2. Future Leaders
  3. St. Vincent de Paul Community involvement
  4. Computer Programming
  5. Technical Graphics (Exclusive to students who did not have it as an option for JC)
- This would be run on a bi-annual rotation.



# Calendar Layer

- Work Experience Placements
- Outdoor Pursuits
- Field trips
- Community Outreach
- Competitions
- School musical



# Calendar Trips

This Year we had/will have approximately 19 outings for your son to participate in.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5
Ploughing Match	Carlow IT open day	BT Young Scientist	Croke Park History and Skyline Tour	Sheilbaggan (3 days)
Carne Overnight	Leisure Max	GPO	Dublin Zoo	Surfing day 1
IOAS Adventure centre	Just one life road safety work shop			Surfing day 2
Hook Lighthouse and Loftus Hall	Maynooth University guided tour			Mixed Tag Rugby
Develop me course				



# Class allocation

- Random selection across all of the three groups 3AEIOU
- Your son may find this daunting initially but very quickly he will settle down and make new friends.
- Enterprise will be an opportunity to work with classmates from third year.
- **We do not allow swapping or switching of classes.**



# Rotations

- Each term your son will have a new timetable
- A new set of modules to complete
- He will complete two rounds of Tuesday work experience
- Receive a report at the end of his term from each teacher that both you and he can access on VSware.
- Please make sure you have your Vsware login details and check them at the end of each term.



# Work Experience

- Each Term is a new Work experience Cycle
- Your hand book outlines the cycles used.
- Every Tuesday
- Simple form for your son and the employer or parent/guardian to sign
- Insurance form
- At the end a feedback form to be completed by their employer



# The purpose of Work Experience

- Explore what life is like outside of school.
- Integrating with the public
- Completion of tasks and to become intrinsically motivated.
- Learn new skills
- Experience the “Real World”
- Appreciate financing and how money is earned.
- Receiving feedback on progress.



# Insurance and Work Experience

- Your son's school based insurance is payable at the start of the year, approximately €8.
- **He is not covered to use:**
- A blade of any description
- Work on a building site/farm
- Work on a boat
- Should he wish to explore employment in these areas you should check **with your own or the employers** insurance company for adequate cover.



# Work experience for 4A/40

- If your son is allocated to either of the above classes your work experience forms will be posted out by the end of June.
- He will therefore have some time to source work experience and have the paper work in place.
- It will start immediately upon return to school and the dates will be clearly outlined.
- All other classes will receive their complete pack of work experience forms in September, please keep them safe!



# Gaisce/Charity work

- Gaisce is an option to all in TY
- €15 is collected in September and your son will be signed up.
- He will complete the following in school:
- Computers as his special skill
- Carne overnight and 25km walk
- PE as his physical activity



He must organise 13 hours (1 hour per week for 13 weeks volunteering himself)

At the end of this time he will receive his Gaisce Award in May.

# Charities

- Currently we work with
- Down Syndrome Wexford Branch
- Samaritans
- Wheelchair association Wexford branch

Both of the above we collected almost €10000  
in street collections.



# Studying abroad?

- Some students like to go to a European Country during their TY.
- We do not offer an exchange programme.
- Usually there is no issue with a student going abroad to study.
- Normally it occurs during one term of the year.
- Please talk directly to the Year Head if this is something you are considering to do.



# What is expected of your son?

- Excellent attendance
- The willingness to participate
- The willingness to try new things.
- Not treating the year as a “year off”
- Being responsible and getting involved.



The strength of the TY programme relies on what your son is willing to put into it. Negative antidotes pollute the experience and jeopardise what he may gain from it.

# What is expected?

## What to avoid

- Poor attendance
- Incompletion of work
- Signing up for a TY trip and not showing up on the morning of the event.
- Lack of participation in class and in group work
- Truancy
- Poor behaviour in class

## Consequences

- Normal school rules and sanctions apply in TY
- In addition:
  - ✓ May miss TY trips
  - ✓ Replace TY trips with days catching up on missed work in school
  - ✓ Not receive certification for the year.



# The Goal

## Your son will have

- Matured
- Make his own decisions and reflect on them.
- Has made an informed subject selection for his leaving certificate.
- Has made new friends
- Has grown in confidence

## End of Year Certification

- If your son has reached >85% and participated to the best of his ability he will receive a Distinction Award from the school on behalf of the DES.
- Further module awards and charitable participation certificates also given on the day.



# TY Application and Costing

## Application

- Have an open and honest discussion with your son about the reasons why he wants to do TY.
- Do not accept “I need a break..., my friends are doing it etc”
- Discuss the age he will be when sitting his LC in 2022
- Discuss subjects regarding his leaving certificate

## Application

- Your son must complete the detailed application form and have it signed by you.
- **A deposit of €250** is payable to the school by **May 17th** and the **balance of €200 by Friday August 30<sup>th</sup> 2019.**



# What has your son attended so far?

## Student Presentation

- This happened last Thursday March 1<sup>st</sup>
- What is expected of them in TY was clearly laid out
- It is not an entertainment year
- Application forms were distributed and **must be returned by March 29<sup>th</sup>**

## For you and your son

- Check the Parent info booklet for a list of questions you can discuss with your son regarding his application for TY.



# Balance in the TY Plan

***Traditional Subjects  
and  
New modules***

***Individual Study Habits  
and  
Group Work Skills***

***Traditional School  
Tests  
and  
Assessment /Portfolios***

***Class based learning  
and  
Out of school activities***



***Didactic Teaching and Learning  
and  
Active Teaching and Learning***

# As a parent/guardian

- What can you do to ensure the year is not wasted?
- Stay **positive** about the year.
- If your son starts to lose interest contact his Year Head or myself immediately
- Keep an eye on colleges for their TY courses and sign him up to them.
- Encourage him to explore new avenues of work experience.
- Give him responsibility for signing up to trips and being independent.
- Remind him LC1 and LC2 will be very different years with a lot to ask of him and he should use TY to grow up and mature.
- Do not accept weak excuses for poor attendance.
- Remember; he has the option not to do this year and go onto LC1 so let his decision to do TY be for the right reasons.
- Remind him to make the most of it.



# Working together

- The success of the programme relies entirely on what your son is willing to put into it.
- The programme is varied, constantly under review and adapting to your sons needs.
- Like any programme it does not fit all students so we must work together to ensure your son benefits from the year.
- You can contact the TY phone on 0861415165 during school hours if you are concerned Or talk directly to a teacher/guidance team member or the Year Head.
- There will be a specific TY Edmodo group so students will be reminded about trips etc. Parents/Guardians are also welcome to join!!
- Keep an eye on the school website for updates and calendars
- Talk to your son about what he is doing.
- Encourage him to fulfil tasks and not just let them pass him by.



# Summary of timelines

<b>TY application</b>	<b>Completed by your son and signed by both of you. Returned to office by March 29<sup>th</sup> Applications after this date may not be considered</b>
TY Deposit of €250	Paid by May 17 <sup>th</sup>
TY balance of €200	Paid by August 30 <sup>th</sup>
June	Students in 4A and 4O will be written to with work experience forms and insurance forms, please use the summer to source Tuesday work experience and keep the form safe until their return to school in September
All students in September	Parent/Guardian information pack outlining important trips etc. Full complement of work experience forms given to all students. If they become lost please see the school website to reprint them.



Thank you for your time!  
Questions?

