

Transition Year Information

- Students who complete Transition Year gain 46 CAO points more in their Leaving Certificate compared to the students who choose not to do Transition Year. *Research study by the NCCA .*
- Some 3rd level courses have a minimum age entry of 17 years. T.Y. allows students to reach this minimum age requirement.
- Numerous research studies from a variety of sources have reported that “students are more mature as a result of the Transition Year experience.” (Jeffers, 2002)

Thanks to:

Principals, teachers and all contributors to the T.Y. programme



St Patrick's & Presentation Secondary School

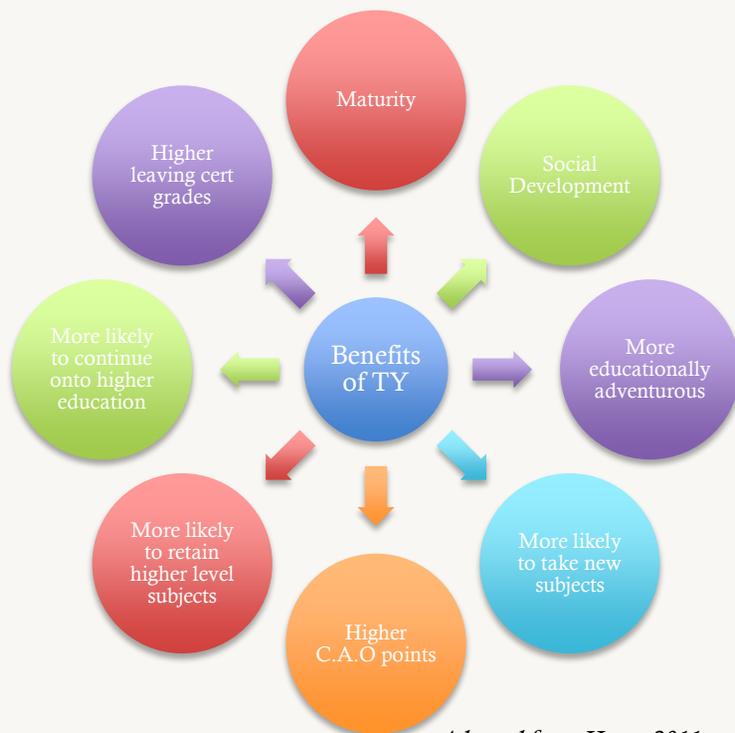
Transition Year



2015/16

Core Values

- Provide an holistic education
- Provide for the academic, sporting, and social development of each student
- Promote and ensure strong links between school and home
- Encourage all students to develop their talents
- Nurture and develop the pastoral needs of each student
- Provide a safe and happy environment for all students



*Adapted from Hayes 2011.
Resource and Research Guide.*

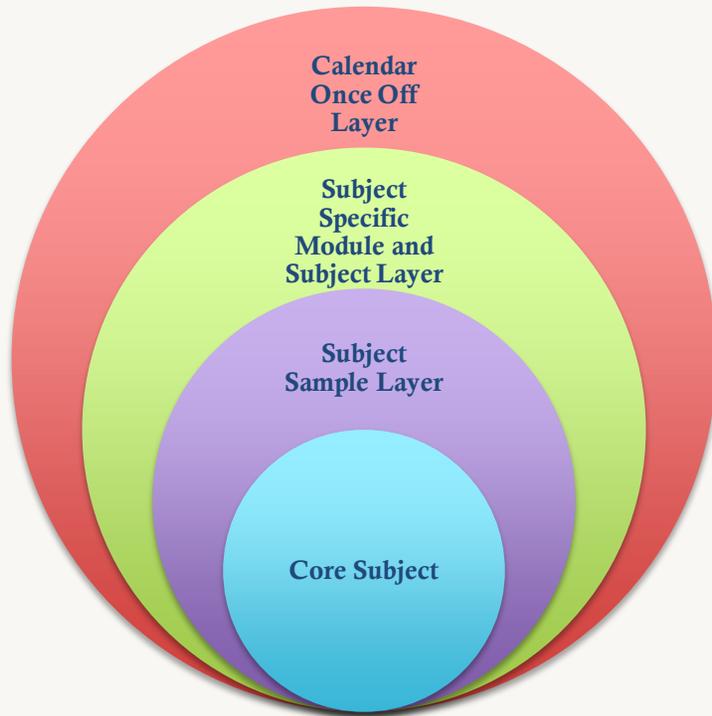
Transition Year Homework

- Homework many take many forms in transition year. Some examples are project work, presentations, research, paired work etc. However, there will also be some “traditional” homework to keep the students in tune with the habit of study.
- When homework is assigned, the student is expected to complete the homework and make it available for inspection/correction by the teacher.
- Students are required to have their journals in their possession while in school.
- Students are required to record homework for each subject each day.
- Students should provide a note if homework is not done or is incomplete.
- Coordinators will check journals weekly.

Transition Year Trip

As part of the educational experience of T.Y. a trip is organised – with the permission of parents – to incorporate visits, activities, tours or sightseeing. This is an opportunity for students to broaden their horizons and learn about a different location.

T.Y. Programme



Core Subject Layer	Subject Sampling Layer
Irish	Business & Enterprise
English	Design & Engineering
Maths	Arts & Crafts
Modern languages (French/Spanish)	Culinary Skills
I.T.	Business & Enterprise
Physical Education	History
	Sciences
	Geography

Subject Specific Modules	Calendar Once Off Layer
Cultural Studies	Car Safety
Communication & Language Skills	First Aid Training
Young Scientist Competition	Guest Speakers
Young Entrepreneur	Fundraising
Cooper Fitness Test	Mock Interviews
Life Skills	Team Activities

Work Experience

Work experience one day each week for half of the year. 4 X 4 day placements in a place sourced by the student. This encourages links with local business and an opportunity to improve their communication skills. Work experience gives the student the opportunity to find out about potential areas of work that they are interested in pursuing as a career. They will complete a work diary on each placement to help them reflect and fully investigate the chosen placement.

Gaisce Bronze Award

An internationally recognised award from the President of Ireland

- Community Involvement
- Personal Skill
- Physical Recreation
- Adventure Journey



Students View

A current students perspective

My Transition Year experience has blown all expectations right out of the ballpark so far this year. I have been given the opportunity to experience many new things which would not have been a possibility had I decided not to do Transition Year. Some of these encounters have been surfing, trips to Cappanalea, first aid, work experience and trying out new subjects like DCG, engineering and Y.S.I. All of these experiences have been most enjoyable and I am extremely happy with Transition Year so far.



One of my favourite experiences of Transition Year was the surfing we did in Castlegregory. When I first heard that we were going surfing I was not looking forward to it at all because it was in September and I thought I would freeze to death. I have to admit that I could not have been more wrong about the surfing and it was the best day out ever! On that day we were all given wetsuits so my fears of getting hypothermia were reduced. After we got changed we received our surfing boards and headed down to the beach. Since it was September there was nobody else on the beach so we had the whole place to ourselves. We got a quick instruction on how to stand up on the board and then we were left off into the water. Once I got adjusted to the temperature it was great fun splashing around trying to get up on the board. The instructors helped us to catch a

Students View

helped us to catch a wave and stand on the board but I always fell off straight away! I have to say I wasn't any good at it but I still had an enjoyable time. After we got out of the water we were allowed to go back in for a quick swim before we had to go. It was a great bonding day for the whole class and the craic was unreal.

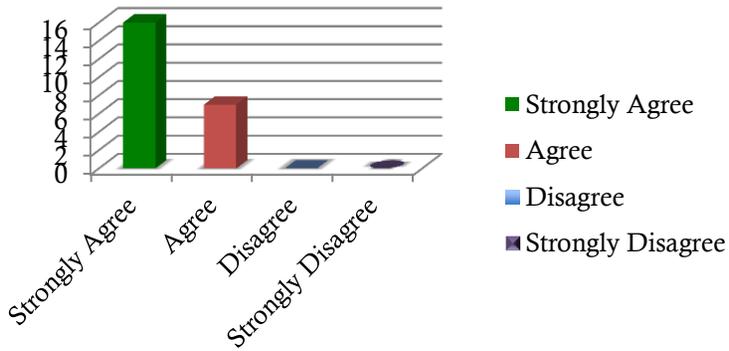
In Transition Year you are also given the opportunity to improve and develop new skills. My communication and computer skills have come along miles since I started. I have had to contact different businesses and companies for work placement and communicate with them before and during my experience. In I.T. class I have learned to create presentations using different programmes and how to create websites. I have also improved on core subjects especially in Irish and English and this gives me an advantage for Leaving Certificate. My computer and communication skills will also stand to me for future job interviews.

For the above reasons I would have to recommend Transition Year to all students. It is an extremely useful year full of fun and days out which would not happen if you continue on into 5th year.

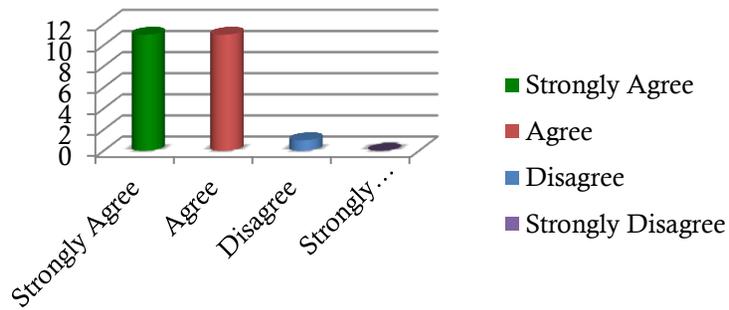
Molly O' Callaghan, T.Y Student 2014-2015.

Feedback from previous students

I became a more mature person



I made better subject choices on entry to fifth year



A glimpse of TY



Community Care

Community Care once a week for half of the year allows students to develop skills and also to contribute to their local community in a meaningful and fulfilling way.

Students View

A current students perspective

With it being the first time the school was doing T.Y. going into it I didn't know what to expect. I heard mixed reactions towards other T.Y. programmes but felt this could be better. And I wasn't wrong.



The best thing T.Y. did for us was give us a chance to do new things which there is no time for in 5th year. It gave me a huge opportunity to achieve personal goals outside of school. With an interest in sport I wasn't weighed down by essential Leaving Cert homework. That being said there was still more than enough homework to be done.

Throughout the year education with enjoyment was always the main aim, teachers always tried to combine the two. Not only were we introduced to new subjects like home economics we also kept in touch with all the subjects that I am now studying for the leaving cert. It's given me a head start on other students and without realising it I know things that are being taught to others, that's because of Transition Year.

At the start of the year it didn't take long to be introduced to the life of T.Y., within the first two weeks we went on a trip to Cappanalea. This was an all fun and team building journey where we went kayaking and orienteering. One of nearly countless days out.

Throughout the year we went all over the county for a variety of events and trips that I couldn't have dreamed of doing during the leaving cert programme.

We entered various competitions during the year like Formula 1 in schools, young entrepreneur and the young social innovator programme. With F1 in schools we were divided into four teams of 6 and the objective was to design a miniature formula 1 car along with finding sponsorship and marketing. An unexpected but enjoyable experience. We were in the top four in the country for young social innovators; this is an initiative to tackle social problems in our community.

Personally the highlight of the year was our three-day journey to Delphi adventure center on the Mayo-Galway border. The activities were endless in the three action packed days we spent there. The fact that we were in the countryside made way for more next level orienteering, proper mountain biking and various other activities. It was a great way to finish off an enjoyable and more than beneficial year.

The benefits of the year are endless, we learned about any career we wanted during work experience. We also gave back to the town by doing community placement, something I wouldn't have done of my own accord. For half the year the class were on work experience while the other half went on work placement.

T.Y. was an experience I'll never forget because of the opportunities it gave me. T.Y. matures you to the working world and much more. I've been asked more than once would I do it again and the answer has been yes every time!

Cathal Hanafin, T.Y Student 2013-2014.