

DCW

TY Information

booklet

2021 / 22

TY is compulsory for all students in
DCW



What is Transition Year?

Transition Year (TY) is a one year programme taken after the Junior Cycle and before the two-year leaving certificate programme.

The aims of TY are:

1. Education for maturity with the emphasis on personal development including social awareness and increased social competence.
2. The promotion of general, technical and academic skills with an emphasis on interdisciplinary and self-directed learning.
3. Education through experience of adult and working life as a basis for personal development and maturity.

Benefits of TY.

- TY promotes maturity; social maturity, personal maturity and maturity in relation to work.
- TY develops independent learning skills.
- TY develops personal responsibility in relation to work and personal choices.
- TY gives students the chance to sample a broad range of subjects which in turn enables them to make better educated decisions for senior cycle.
- TY offers a wide range of new experiences to students.
- TY allows students to move out of their comfort zone in a safe and controlled environment.
- A year spent away from the pressures of exams is beneficial for mental and emotional health.

You get out of TY what you put in!

TY in DCW

In DCW TY is divided into 4 sections:

1. Core subjects
2. Modular subjects
3. Trips & tours
4. Activities / workshops & events

1. Core subjects

The core subjects are:

- English
- Irish (unless department exemption is in place)
- Maths
- Modern Language: French, Spanish, German
- PE
- Religious Education

All students will study the core subjects for the entire year and will be formally assessed in English, Irish, Maths and Modern Language.

Modular subjects

Modular subjects are rotated on a 10 / 11 week cycle to enable all students to experience all subjects. Modular subjects can change from year to year depending on the expertise and skill set available on the staff.

Modular subjects include:

- History
- Geography
- Science
- Women's Health
- Music
- Art
- Photography
- Coding
- Career Guidance
- First Aid

- Sign Language
- Well being
- Peer mediation
- Dance
- Craft
- Up-cycling
- Journalism
- Enterprise
- Environmental Studies
- Cooking / Interior Design
- Fitness
- Physics / Chemistry
- Yoga
- Chinese
- Psychology

2. Trips and tours.

Trips and tours include:

- Bonding day
- Retreat
- Zeminar in the RDS
- AXA road safety
- Photography trip
- Geography fieldtrip to the Beach
- Enterprise trip to a chocolate factory
- Christmas reward trip
- Positive steps walk – Gr8 2b Yng
- Gaisce Physical challenge
- YSI – Shoutout
- Le Chéile conference
- Carlingford
- End of year trip
- School tour
- I Wish conference

3. Workshops / activities / events.

- Beauty workshop
- Law day
- Great to be young workshop
- YSI – Young Social Innovators
- School Bank – build a bank
- Hospice coffee morning
- Trampolining
- Careers workshop
- Junk Kouture
- Musical
- Charity bag packs
- Charity no uniform days
- Gaisce
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Lá gan Bhéarla
- No phone challenge
- DCW Bake off
- STEM talks
- AA talk
- Homework club
- Riding for the disabled Ireland
- Spring / Christmas Fair
- Carol service
- Gym
- Rugby sessions
- CSI workshop

Work Experience.

Work experience will take place in 3 blocks in the academic year 2021 / 2022. Dates are yet to be finalised.

All students must secure their own work placements – start early!

Students may have more than one work placement.

Most placements are covered by the school's insurance and insurance documents are distributed at the beginning of each work placement. References and letters are available upon request – just ask!

Students can also apply for extended leave in order to carry out work experience as some companies prefer to have block placements at certain times of the year. Eg. Guards, Nursing, midwifery.

Placements will not be allowed during the 3 assessment weeks.

Some workshops / placements must be applied for through the school. Some are run as a lottery. If your daughter is interested in applying for any of these courses the responsibility is hers to let me know. Others will come into the school and I will make the girls aware of these.

Paperwork must be filled out **prior** to extended leave.

Garda Vetting is facilitated by the school but cannot be done until students are 16 years old.

Gaisce

Gaisce is the President's award and the chance to achieve the bronze level award is available to all TY students. We encourage all students to sign up for Gaisce but be aware that while the school facilitates the programme it is the responsibility of the student themselves to complete the tasks!

Gaisce has 4 requirements

1. Develop a new personal skill
2. Complete community service
3. Complete school community service
4. Complete a physical challenge

TY Portfolio.

All students complete a portfolio during the year in which they record all their experiences, good and bad, happy and sad! This is provided to the girls and is covered as part of their fee.

The girls will also be given a scrap book which they will work on throughout the year.

Assessment in TY

The students are formally assessed 3 times during the year. An academic report will be sent home at these times. Assessment times are October midterm, February midterm and summer time.

All TY students will sit an interview as part of their final assessment. They must bring 3 chosen pieces of work, their portfolio and scrapbook to the interview.

Text Books

There is no booklist for TY. Teachers may give out booklets / photocopies etc. Some subjects may request a book / novel / aural book. Copies will be needed.

Fees: €350

This fee covers:

- Registration costs; locker and diary.
- Portfolio & scrap book.
- Photocopying.
- All school based workshops / activities / events
- YSI registration
- Gaisce registration
- First aid exam and certificates
- CAT 4 exam
- Buses to TY activities
- Food safety certificate registration
- Buses to and from Carlingford

Additional costs:

- Carlingford trip - €220 for 3 nights, 4 days tour in March
- Students may be asked for a €5 contribution when going on **voluntary** trips off campus.

The cost of Carlingford can be paid over time and in whatever quantities you prefer.

Communication:

I will send out a message via VSware every weekend outlining the activities for TY students for the coming week. I will also message you during the year to alert parents / guardians to different events etc.

Please contact me via VSware as I teach a normal timetable and therefore cannot always answer phone calls etc. VSware is a much faster way to contact me.

Encourage your daughters to contact me themselves via Schoolwise.