

DCW

TY Information

booklet

2023 / 24

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 full year and will be formally assessed in English, Irish, Maths and Modern Language.

2. 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
- Personal Health
- Music
- Art
- Photography
- Coding
- First Aid
- Sign Language

- Well being
- Peer mediation
- Dance
- Craft
- Up-cycling
- LIFT
- Enterprise
- Cooking
- Fitness
- Digital Literacy
- Yoga
- Chinese
- Self defence
- Dietetics

3. Trips and tours.

Trips and tours include:

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

4. Workshops / activities / events.

- Law day
- Great to be young workshop
- School Bank – build a bank
- Hospice coffee morning
- Careers workshops
- Junk Kouture
- Musical
- Charity bag packs
- Charity non-uniform days
- Gaisce
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Lá gan Bhéarla
- No phone challenge
- DCW Bake off
- STEM talks
- AA talk
- Homework club
- Spring / Christmas Fair
- Carol service
- Gym
- Rugby sessions
- Golf sessions
- GAA refereeing course
- Work experience bundle
- CSI workshop
- Archaeology workshop

Work Experience.

Work experience will take place in 3 blocks in the academic year 2023 / 2024. The dates are as follows:

Block 1: October 16th – 20th inclusive

Block 2: February 22nd – 26th inclusive

Block 3: April 8th – 12th inclusive

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 available on request. References and letters are available upon request also – just ask!

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

Placements will not be allowed during the 3 assessment weeks.

Assessment 1: 13th – 17th November inclusive

Assessment 2: 26th Feb – 1st March inclusive

Assessment 3: Summer exams – 27th & 28th May

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. eg. Learn an instrument, Sign language, Chinese
2. Complete community service. eg, meals on wheels, local nursing homes
3. Complete school community service. eg, homework club
4. Complete a physical challenge – done as a group at the end of the year.

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 available on VShare at these times. Assessment times are November, February midterm and summer time – see dates above.

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.

The maths book for the leaving cert is bought at Christmas time but this book will be used in 5th and 6th year also.

Uniform:

Usual school uniform is worn, Navy jumper, blouse, skirt, black socks and black shoes, school jacket.

Usual PE uniform is worn – school hoody, white school t-shirt and navy tracksuit bottoms (not leggings)

Depending on activities there will be days when PE uniform is worn all day.

Only stud earrings are allowed in ears.

No nose piercings are allowed.

No extreme hair colours are allowed.

Gel nails are not allowed, natural nails should be kept at a reasonable length.

No extreme make-up is allowed.

Communication:

I will send out a message via VShare 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 VShare as I teach a normal timetable and therefore cannot always answer phone calls etc. VShare is a much faster way to contact me.

Encourage students to contact me themselves via schoolwise or ask me in person in school.

Fees: €400

This fee covers:

- Registration costs & journal.
- Portfolio & scrap book.
- Photocopying.
- All school based workshops / activities / events
- Gaisce registration and certificate
- First aid exam and certificates
- CAT 4 exam
- Buses to TY activities
- Food safety certificate registration
- Buses to and from Carlingford
- Ty work experience bundle
- Musical production
- All non-curricular subjects eg Yoga, self-defence, Chinese, sign Language, First Aid

Additional costs:

- Carlingford trip - €270 for 3 nights, 4 days tour in March
- Students may be asked for a contribution when going on **voluntary** trips off campus.

Payment options for both fees and Carlingford.

Option 1:

Easy payments: This link is on the website. There is the option here to pay in full or in 3 instalments.

This option will be available from August 1st 2022.

Option 2:

Both can be paid in cash in the admin office.

Option 3:

Both can be paid by credit card over the phone by contacting the admin office.

Option 4:

Bank details can be emailed to you to facilitate money transfer. Please contact the admin office if you would like to avail of this option.

Barrettstown Ty programme

This year we are introducing this as a new option for students.

It involves fundraising for Barrettstown. Students must raise €500 each in order to take part in this programme. This can be done individually or in a group. It can also be corporate sponsorship.

Students will spend 5 days / 4 nights at Barrettstown campus in Kildare. They will not be working with the children who attend. They will be setting up for the weekend visits, doing adventure activities and learning leadership skills.

The cost of the 5 days is €250. This will have to be paid soon and is non-refundable if a student pulls out during the year so serious thought has to be given to signing up.

Barrettstown have a minimum of 25 students in order to make the programme viable for them to run. I have spoken to them and asked if there is any flexibility in this number given it is our first year running it.

It will be hard work and it is a huge commitment but the advantages and benefits of the programme are worth the effort.

The school will not be able to facilitate all the fundraising activities for students but we will help out with some. A team from Barrettstown will come to the school to talk to those involved about fundraising if we sign up.

Students can start collecting money over the summer if they wish. They would certainly need to be brainstorming ideas asap.

Provisional dates to note:

- 28th & 29th August: Musical rehearsal for Tys in Fatima Hall.
- 30th August: Ty induction in the am and musical rehearsal in the pm for all Tys.
- 31st August: Normal school day for all.