# Transition Year Loreto Secondary School Fermoy



#### WHAT IS TRANSITION YEAR?

- A highly structured one year school-based programme with a full weekly timetable.
- An educational bridge between Junior and Senior Cycle.
- Smooth transition to the more independent, self-directed learning required for Senior Cycle.



Senior Management Ms Forde & Mr Franks

SENCO:

liaises re Special Educational needs of students in TY

Subject Teachers:

create schemes of work with Senior Cycle skills prioritised T.Y. Programme planning & delivery

Transition Year Coordinator

Programmes Coordinator:

Ms. McCarthy

Year Head:

Same as Junior Cycle



#### WHY OPT FOR TRANSITION YEAR?

- Time to mature
- Develop self-awareness, self respect & self esteem.
- T.Y. facilitates skills based learning e.g. oral and interpersonal skills.
- Opportunity to sample Senior Cycle subjects to <u>inform subject choice</u> <u>decisions.</u>

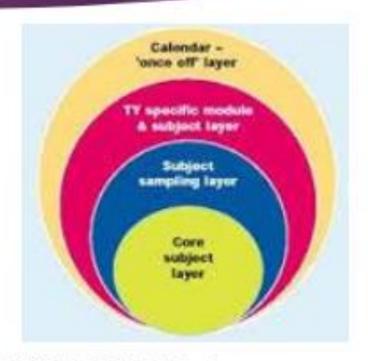




1. CORE SUBJECTS.

2. SUBJECT SAMPLING.

3. TY SPECIFIC SUBJECTS



4. CALENDAR ACTIVITIES ENHANCE & CONTEXTUALISE LEARNING.

#### TY CORE SUBJECTS\*



- ✓ ENGLISH streamed for levels
- IRISH/English as an Additional Language (EAL) streamed for levels
- MATHS streamed for levels
- FRENCH or GERMAN (currently being reviewed for those who wish to study both MCLs)
- ICT/Computers
- ✓ WORK PREPARATION & TY REFLECTIVE PORTFOLIO COMPLETION
- ✓ Wellbeing GUIDANCE / CAREERS
- Wellbeing PHYSICAL EDUCATION Horseriding, swimming, self defence, zumba, driving range, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year sports days, outdoor pursuits programme
- Wellbeing RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (including guided meditation & mindfulness)

<sup>\*</sup>Curriculum varies each academic year & is dependant upon DES resourcing

ADDITIONAL T. Y. SPECIFIC SUBJECTS\*

- GAISCE / PRESIDENTS' AWARD PROGRAMME
- ✓ PSYCHOLOGY
- MANDARIN CHINESE
- SIGN LANGUAGE (ISL)
- ✓ ORAL IRISH FLUNCY DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ SPANISH
- DEBATING & PUBLIC SPEAKING
- ✓ THEATRE & PERFORMANCE
- WEB DESIGN & SOCIAL MEDIA STUDIES
- GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS



## STUDENTS MUST SELECT THEIR COMPETITION ELEMENT SUBJECT BY RANKING THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- Click on this link for a video demonstration on how to complete subject options: <a href="https://vsware.wistia.com/medias/kr62eqh02z">https://vsware.wistia.com/medias/kr62eqh02z</a>
- Log onto your VSWare Parent account & rank the four options provided in order of choice: 1-4
  - Film Production & Media Studies
  - Cork Film Festival/ Fresh Film Festival competitions.
    - Young Social Innovators
  - YSI showcase competition & national exhibition competition.
    - Project Science
    - Scifest &/or BT Young Scientist competition.
      - Student Enterprise Awards
- Student Enterprise trade fair competitions & national awards showcase.

### GUIDANCE/ CAREERS INFORMATION FOR T.Y. STUDENTS

#### Some samples of programmes & visiting speakers from recent years:

- careersportal.ie & qualifax.ie student profiles
- Business and Law courses at UCC
- Shannon College of Hotel Management
- Law courses at the University of Limerick
- Annual Loreto Fermoy Careers Fair
- Process & Chemical Engineering
- Business Courses at the University of Limerick
- Science Careers Conference
- Open Day in UCC
- iWish STEM conference
- Future Sparks convention in Dublin







- An opportunity to sample different jobs. Students complete a reflective journal of learning whilst on work experience as one of their assessments
- Provides skills such as team building, communication skills and commercial awareness
- Work experience helps students to decide what to do after school (in 3<sup>RD</sup> level education, training or work)
- Eliminates options which may have appealed but where 'reality dawns' when experienced by students!!









- Gives students opportunities to volunteer at local organisations or charities and work with/ for people who may be less fortunate than themselves.
- It is an important part of our core values that our students learn to provide service to the community within which they live.
- Students present their experiences back to their peers via individual/ group presentations.



#### T.Y. CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Our calendar of activities support, extends & enhances the educational experiences of our Transition Year students beyond the classroom.

Activities within the classroom also support the creation of projects, presentations, group work assignments & skills development for Senior Cycle studies.

Students have the opportunity to learn from the advice and knowledge of guest speakers on myriad careers, 3<sup>rd</sup> level courses, national & international topics & local expertise.



## EXCURSIONS TO...

- Sive' in the Everyman Palace Theatre
- Bord Gais Energy Theatre
- Boole Exhibition in Cork
- Crawford Gallery Tour in Cork
- Cork Film Festival Cork Mental Health Conference
- Moorepark Research Centre & Farm
- UCC Open Day
- YSI Speak out in Cork & Showcase in Dublin
- Fresh Film Festival in Limerick
- Student Enterprise trade fairs & competitions
- Orienteering events
- Outdoor Pursuits trip to Kenmoare
- Future Sparks Convention, Dublin
- iWish Conference (STEM) Cork





#### **OUTDOOR PURSUITS & PE**

- Bonding & personal development day trips
- A three day trip to Kenmare in May
- Gaisce related activities
- Orienteering events
- Horseriding
- Self defence
- First aid certification
- Swimming
- Sports Leadership: refereeing courses, junior team mentoring & coaching, primary blitz co-ordination, Sports Days co-ordination, Whole School Mile Challenge co-ordination



#### **ASSESSMENT & HOMEWORK**

'Assessment should be an <u>integral</u> part of the learning process in Transition Year not separate from it.' (D.E.S. Guidelines).

- Homework will be more research, task & skills based but is equally important in TY
- Portfolio: reflective/ evaluative document which builds upon year's learning experiences inside & outside the classroom.
- Peer-assessment through evaluation and discussion of learning outcomes.
- Regular written evaluation of activities and learning outcomes from trips.
- Christmas & Summer formal examinations in core subjects
- Christmas and Summer progress reports.
- School based certification at end of Transition Year.
- DES Inspectorate monitor T.Y. within all schools.
- Skills assessment practical demonstrations of learning.
- Written /Practical Class tests.
- Oral /Aural assessment beyond just language subjects.
- Project work written and creative variety.
- Self-assessment by students through interviews.







#### UPTAKE RATES AT OUR SCHOOL:

95% of 3rd Year students last year are currently completing Transition Year.

The programme teaches independent learning skills & is highly recommended by teachers, students & parents alike.

#### ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE BEYOND T.Y AT OUR SCHOOL:

At Loreto Fermoy, students who complete our T.Y. programme achieve an

#### average of 85 points more\*

in their Leaving Certificate results than those students who moved directly from 3<sup>rd</sup> year into 5<sup>th</sup> year.

"national average increase in performance is 20 points.

### TY EU CULTURAL TOUR – EASTER 2019

- BOM have approved an EU cultural school tour for the TY cohort of 2018/2019. In addition to all usual TY activities & therefore, additional charge for trip.
- Destination: PARIS.
- Four days three nights.
- Supervised by Loreto Fermoy teachers group leader Ms. Aislinn Barry.
- Will take place around Easter time.
- Participation is totally optional but for any student to travel on the trip, TY programme expenses must be paid in full.
- More details including cost will issue in due course.



## ADVICE TO TY STUDENTS 2019/2019:

In TY, Attitude is Altitude





#### Costings

Deposit by **Easter 2019** €100 Payment 1 by **September 2019** €150 Payment 2 by **Late January 2020** €150

Total Cost of activities

€400

#### More Information or queries...

- Complete competition-based subject choice ranking via Vsware by February
- www.loretofermoy.ie
- Twitter for events updates and news
- Facebook Business Page
- Office: 025 32124
- Programmes Coordinator: <u>programmes@loretofermoy.ie</u>