

## **Transition Year (TY) Programme – Briefing Note March 2018**

Hansfield ETSS offers a Transition Year (TY) Programme that provides an opportunity for a dynamic and worthwhile learning experience for students where they explore a wide variety of topics through a blend of practical and applied teaching methodologies. TY is an optional programme of study taken directly after Third Year. The programme provided during 2017/18 was received well by parents and students and we hope to build on this into the future.

TY is particularly suitable to students who:

- may be too young for Fifth Year and would benefit from an opportunity to mature
- show enthusiasm for their studies and are willing to put in a lot of effort in Fourth Year
- would benefit from a year away from an examination focus to explore future career paths and delve deeper into the world of work.

Students wishing to enter TY must apply in advance and final selection is on the basis of an assessment of their application to school work, extra-curricular, their attendance to date and an interview which they must undergo. There may be some changes to the programme below depending on the number of students that select to participate.

The suite of learning experiences will fall under four broad areas (see below):

- **Core Areas of Study**
- **TY Modules**
- **Leaving Certificate Sampling Layer**
- **One-off Calendar Events.**

### **A. Core Areas of Study (will account for approximately 14 hours a week)**

All students will study the following on a weekly basis:

- Irish (Oral, Literary and Cultural studies) – those with Irish exemptions will not be expected to take part
- English (Literary Texts, Creative Writing, Film Studies, Journalism, Communications Skills including some attention to public speaking and presentation skills)
- Maths (Applied and Problem Solving focus)
- Modern Language (expansion of oral and written competencies, cultural studies)
- Physical Education
- Life skills ( including Relationships & Sexuality), Wellness, Personal Effectiveness
- Ethical Education (which may include reference to philosophy and psychology)

All students will study the following on a rotation basis:

- Information Technology (Revolving on term basis, focus will be becoming more proficient in using and managing ICT skills)
- Preparation for work and future careers (study skills, careers, work experience)

### **C. TY Modules (will account for between 10 – 12 hours a week)**

The following modules will be offered on a rotational basis:

- Chinese Studies
- Tourism
- Enterprise Development and Entrepreneurial Skills
- Horticulture Studies Film Studies
- Food Studies
- DIY – General skills
- Technology
- Art
- Music
- Animal and Pet Welfare
- STEM (Science , Technology, Engineering , Maths)
- Humanities (a blend of History, Politics, Geography, Social Studies).
- Event and Project Management

Each module will typically be 20 hours in duration but some may be longer or shorter.

## **B. The Leaving Certificate Sampling Layer**

This aspect of TY is supported by the other three areas of learning and may be embedded into the **Core Areas of Study and or the TY Modules**. The focus is to enable students develop a greater understanding of the leaving certificate subjects with special reference to overall content, teaching and learning approach, student interest and ability and career possibilities.

## **D. Other Areas of Exploration**

- Work Experience – one community or care focus & one general focus (may be in block release or weekly with an approximate value of 15 days)
- Day Trips and Occasional Workshops x 10 approximately (there may be small charges involved)
  - Cultural and Historical Sites
  - Science related e.g. Science Gallery, Young Scientists
  - Theatre, Music Related, Film
  - Art Galleries
  - Others depending on expertise available from parent body, local community or national bodies.
- Research Skills – these will be dispersed throughout various aspects of the overall programme
- First Aid ( 2 x half day workshops or 1 x full day)
- Team Building: All students will be involved in at least one team building exercise held away from the school. The cost of this will be included in the charge for the programme. Other team building activities will be incorporated throughout the programme.

All students will be invited to complete the Gaisce Award.

## **Assessment in Transition year**

There is no state examination at the end of Transition Year. Assessment will be carried out on an on-going basis and will include school-based assessment of projects or portfolios, oral, aural, practical and written activities. Evaluation of activities such as work experience or community service will involve the providers or hosts of such activities. Some modules may have their own assessment arrangements. At the end of the year students will be issued with an official Transition Year Certificate and school-based certification. **You will find more details at the link below**

<https://www.curriculumonline.ie/Senior-cycle/Transition-Year>