



TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME



LORETO SECONDARY SCHOOL
FERMOY, CO. CORK
2017 / 2018

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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 the Senior Cycle.



THE T.Y. TEAM AT LORETO FERMOY

**Senior
Management:**
Mrs. Ring &
Mrs. Holland

**Programmes
Coordinator:**
Ms. McCarthy

Year Head:
Mrs. Ring

**T.Y. Programme
planning &
delivery**

TY Coordinators:
Ms. Hogan & Ms.
Hennessy

SENCO:
liaises re Special
Educational needs of
students in TY

Subject Teachers:
create schemes of work with
Senior Cycle skills prioritised

WHY OPT FOR TRANSITION YEAR?

- ▶ Time to mature
- ▶ Develops greater self-awareness, self respect & self esteem.
- ▶ Active teaching and learning methods.
- ▶ T.Y. facilitates skills based learning e.g. oratory and intrapersonal skills.
- ▶ Opportunity to sample Senior Cycle subjects to inform subject choice decisions.



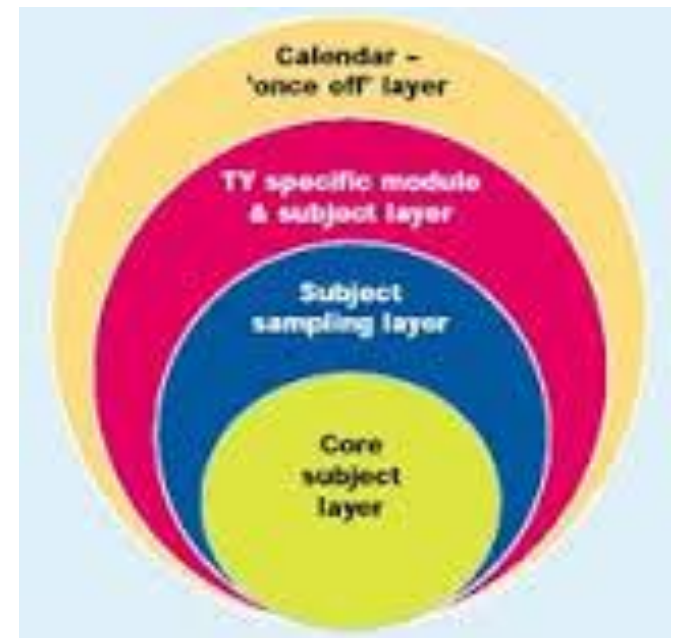
PEELING THE LAYERS OF OUR T.Y. PROGRAMME.

1. CORE SUBJECTS.

2. SUBJECT SAMPLING.

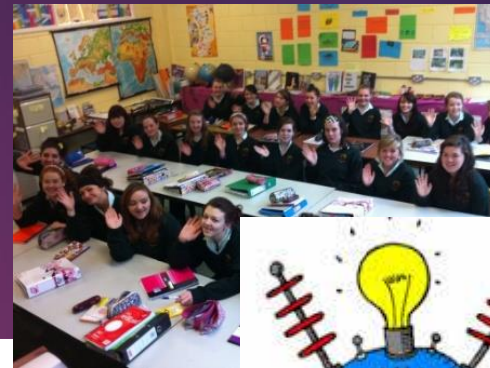
3. TY SPECIFIC SUBJECTS

4. CALENDAR ACTIVITIES ENHANCE LEARNING.



TY CORE SUBJECTS

- ✓ ENGLISH
- ✓ IRISH
- ✓ MATHS
- ✓ FRENCH or GERMAN
- ✓ ICT/Computers
- ✓ CAREERS
- ✓ WORK PREPARATION
- ✓ COOKERY & CRAFTS
- ✓ P.E - Horseriding, swimming, self defence, zumba, driving range, 1st & 2nd year sports days
- ✓ DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION /RELIGION
- ✓ GAISCE / PRESIDENT'S AWARD
- ✓ REFLECTIVE PORTFOLIO CLASS



TY SUBJECT SAMPLING

- ✓ BIOLOGY.
- ✓ CHEMISTRY.
- ✓ PHYSICS

- ✓ HISTORY.
- ✓ GEOGRAPHY.
- ✓ TECHNOLOGY

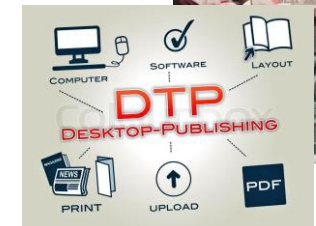
- ✓ BUSINESS STUDIES.
- ✓ ACCOUNTING.
- ✓ ECONOMICS

- ✓ MUSIC
- ✓ ART & DESIGN
- ✓ HOME ECONOMICS



T. Y. SPECIFIC SUBJECTS

- ✓ MINI-COMPANY.
- ✓ SOCIAL INNOVATION (YSI).
- ✓ FILM PRODUCTION & MEDIA.
- ✓ MANDARIN CHINESE.
- ✓ SPANISH.
- ✓ DEBATING & PUBLIC SPEAKING.
- ✓ CHOIR
- ✓ DESKTOP PUBLISHING
- ✓ GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS
- ✓ ANIMATION & PHOTOGRAPHY
- ✓ ARCHIVING



Student Enterprise Awards
County & City Enterprise Boards

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- ▶ Young Social Innovators encourages, motivates and creates new opportunities for young people to actively participate in the world around them.
- ▶ Students learn to grapple with different social issues, advocating reform and advancing change.
- ▶ Activities: guest speakers, presentations, peer teaching, Speak Out & drama events, national YSI showcase in Dublin.



WORK EXPERIENCE

2 WEEKS OF PLACEMENT

- ▶ An opportunity to sample different jobs. Students complete a diary 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 3RD level education, training or work)
- ▶ Eliminates options which may have appealed but where reality dawns when experienced!!



SOCIAL PLACEMENT

1 WEEK PLACEMENT

- ▶ 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.



GOOD
things
ARE GOING
to **HAPPEN**

CAREERS INFORMATION FOR T.Y. STUDENTS

Some samples from recent years:

- careersportal.ie & qualifax.ie profiles
- **Business and Law** courses at UCC
- Shannon College of **Hotel Management**
- Law courses at the University of Limerick
- The Loreto Careers Fair
- Process & Chemical **Engineering**
- Business Courses at the University of Limerick
- **Science** Careers Conference
- **Open Day in UCC**





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, 3rd level courses, national & international topics & local expertise.

VARIED CALENDAR OF EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITIES INCLUDED 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 Seminar
- Moorepark Research Centre
- UCC Open Day
- YSI Speak out in Cork & Showcase in Dublin
- Fresh Film Festival in Limerick
- Student Enterprise trade fairs & competitions
- Orienteering event



OUTDOOR PURSUITS & PE

- ▶ Bonding & personal development day trips to Blackwater Activity Centre
- ▶ A three day trip to Kenmare in May
- ▶ Gaisce related activities
- ▶ Orienteering events
- ▶ Horseriding
- ▶ Self defence
- ▶ First aid certification
- ▶ Swimming



ASSESSMENT & HOMEWORK

'Assessment should be an integral 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 and Summer reports.**
- **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.

TRANSITION YEAR PORTFOLIO COMPLETION



T.Y. PROGRAMME STATISTICS AT LORETO FERMOY

UPTAKE RATES AT OUR SCHOOL:

93% of 3rd Year students last year are currently completing Transition Year.

The programme teaches independent learning skills & is not every student/learner.

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 3rd year into 5th year.

*national average increase in performance is 20 points.

ADVICE TO TY STUDENTS 2017/2018:

Attitude is Altitude in TY



**POSITIVITY
IS THE
KEY**