



Guide to the Transition Year Programme 2021/22

Meeting for 3rd Year Parents/Guardians on 27th May

Aims of Transition Year



- ▶ To provide a transition between Junior and Senior Cycles and to lay the foundations for further study
- ▶ To introduce a new range of experiences beyond the scope of the traditional curriculum
- ▶ To encourage initiative, self-reliance and responsibility
- ▶ To develop the qualities of courtesy, co-operation and concern for other people.

Aims of Transition Year



- ▶ To develop self-awareness, decision-making, critical-thinking and coping skills
- ▶ To establish realistic educational, occupational and life ambitions
- ▶ We also aim to allow students to experience working life as a basis for personal development and maturity



The key to success in TY is that all students push themselves as hard as they can in all areas of TY and try as many **NEW** subjects / activities as possible.

Key expectations:

- Completion of assignments and personal reflections
- Punctuality and attendance
- Embracing new challenges, diversity and change

The Shape of the Year



- Students will study the **4 core subjects** all year - English, Maths, Irish and a Modern Foreign Language and **2 P-Tech subjects** – Skills for Business & Career and Skills for a Digital World
- The remainder of the year will be broken into **two 15 week blocks** where students study a range of modules
- Students will have **a 6 week PAID internship** (in Spring - specific dates TBC)



Modular Programme

Students may then choose from a selection of subjects to study in 15 week modules. In previous years TY students have been offered:

- ▶ Mechanics
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Animation
- ▶ Home Economics
- ▶ Outdoor Education
- ▶ Coding/Robotics
- ▶ Peer/Fun fitness
- ▶ Woodwork
- ▶ Geography, History, etc.



P-Tech modules

The P-TECH VALUES

There are 4 values underpinning the curriculum which were fundamental to its development



**VALUING
MYSELF**

MAKING THE
MOST OF MY
POTENTIAL



**VALUING
OTHERS**

LEARNING TO
WORK
TOGETHER



**VALUING
CHALLENGE**

SOLVING
PROBLEMS &
FINDING NEW
WAYS



**VALUING OUR
WORLD**

ENGAGING IN
TRANSFORMATION

Valuing Myself

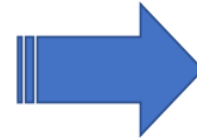
Making the most of my potential

- *Enabling students to see their strengths and abilities*
- *Empowering them to experience a sense of achievement and success*
- *Building confidence, self-belief*
- *Connecting to education and the working world*

Valuing Others

Learning to work together

- *Working well with others to achieve a common purpose*
- *Development of skills such as Teamwork & Collaboration, Communication*
- *Valuing diversity and inclusion - valuing each other's opinions and contributions*



SKILLS FOR BUSINESS & CAREER



Valuing Challenge

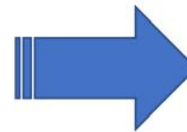
Solving problems and finding new ways

- *Valuing the opportunity to learn in all situations and particularly from challenges*
- *Opportunities to show creativity, problem-solving*
- *Developing innovative thinking, trialling approaches/solutions*

Valuing our World

Engaging in transformation

- *Learning about SDGs and questioning how they relate*
- *Thinking about ways to have an impact - changing something that matters in a global or local context*
- *Thinking about different contexts and different environments*



SKILLS FOR A
DIGITAL WORLD





The P-TECH Abilities define the achievements and set out an architecture for the P-TECH curriculum across two modules. There are **16 in total – 8 per module**



SKILLS FOR BUSINESS & CAREER

VALUING MYSELF

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

CAREER PATHWAYS

LEARNING

BELONGING

VALUING OTHERS

TEAMWORK & COLLABORATION

RESPECT & INCLUSION

LEADING RESPONSIBLY

COMMUNICATION

SKILLS FOR A DIGITAL WORLD

VALUING CHALLENGE

PROBLEM-SOLVING & QUESTIONING

PROJECT WORKING

CREATIVITY

GOALS & ACTIONS

VALUING OUR WORLD

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

WORLD OF WORK

THE DIGITAL WORLD

Partnerships

► Students will be working with our outside partners which include:

- ❖ Irish Life
- ❖ IBM
- ❖ Virgin Media
- ❖ Irish Water
- ❖ Cisco
- ❖ Marks and Spencer
- ❖ Localise
- ❖ TU Dublin
- ❖ Business in the Community
- ❖ NEIC

Internships & Work Experience



- ❖ We work with NEIC on sourcing work experience for students. Below are some of the companies and organisations involved:

- Matheson
- Department of Health
- An Garda Siochana
- PWC
- Solas
- Iarnrod Eireann
- AIG

Workshops and Trips

Another really interesting part of TY is the opportunity to take part in different workshops and trips. We really hope and look forward to be able to get back to face-to-face workshops this year.

Previous TY workshops have included:

- ▶ Public speaking
- ▶ Personal safety
- ▶ Drama and creative writing
- ▶ Genetics

Previous TYs have visited Squirrels Scrambles, Airfield, Awesome Walls, Hugh Lane Gallery, 14 Henrietta Street and lots more.

Mentoring Programmes

NEIC Flash & P-Tech



All TY students were given the opportunity to take part in Flash Mentoring where they can have chats with mentors from a wide variety of industries and professions. Next year students will also have the benefit of the P-Tech Mentoring Programme.

A student this year has said that the Flash Mentoring Programme

'taught me about jobs that I did not know existed... helped me understand what college will be like... I found it really useful.' (LK 2020/1)

P-Tech Accreditation- Begins in TY and can continue in 5th & 6th Year & beyond

**STUDENTS DEVELOP NEW SKILLS IN TECHNOLOGY, BUSINESS, PROJECT WORKING,
CREATIVITY AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Learning takes place over the 3 year senior cycle. A large part of the curriculum is covered in Transition Year through classroom work, special learning events and a work placement. Classroom engagement in 5th and 6th year is reduced to minimise impact on other schoolwork. The Certificate in P-TECH comprises two modules: ***Skills for Business & Career*** and ***Skills for a Digital World***.

How is P-Tech Assessed?

ASSESSMENTS ARE CONTINUOUS WITH NO EXAMS

Assessments are aligned to clear learning goals that students and teachers can track easily. Assignments in the programme differ from traditional forms of school written exams or assignments and focus on building skills, positivity and confidence through authentic assessment approaches that reflect students' learning in areas such as:



BUSINESS
COMMUNICATIONS



TEAMWORK &
DIGITAL PROJECTS



DESIGN THINKING,
CREATIVE PROJECTS



REFLECTION ON
LEARNING



WORKPLACE
LEARNING EVENTS

Overview of Assessment Approach

SKILLS FOR BUSINESS & CAREER

This module will use an E-Portfolio to contain a range of development tasks and reflection activities



SKILLS FOR A DIGITAL WORLD

Assessments will involve 4 x projects with a range of activities designed to enable students to build digital technology, project-working and problem-solving skills



Reflection Tasks
designed to capture learning.



E-Portfolio
Students track all their assessments & learning.



Career Planning
Students will gain credits preparing useful career docs



Presentations
Students will learn to present ideas in a range of formats



Goal Setting
Students will develop techniques that apply to personal and work setting



Digital Communications
Students will demonstrate skills using technology



Creative Ideas
Students will have chances to show their innovations and solutions



Projects & Team
Students will gain credit for experiences on projects



Social Responsibility
Students will show awareness of global and local issues



Reports
Students will gain knowledge on how to create business documents.

Transition Year

- ▶ Students graduate from TY with a distinction, a merit or a pass. Their grade depends on the amount of credits they build up over the course of the year.
- ▶ When awarding credits we seek to acknowledge **both the academic and non-academic sides** of Transition Year.
- ▶ Credits are awarded for **effort and attainment** in academic subjects (based on exam/ project results)
- ▶ Credits are awarded for **effort and enthusiasm** in other areas such as work experience and workshops.
- ▶ The eportfolio is assessed and students gain credits for writing reflections of their experiences during the year. There are also credits available for punctuality and good attendance throughout the year.
- ▶ Next year students will also graduate from TY with a **P-Tech certificate** – they can choose to continue with P-Tech in 5th & 6th year. Students can continue on with their studies at 3rd Level in NCI
- ▶ *All of these are subject to change*

Transition Year Trip



- ▶ Students may be given the option of a trip during the year.
- ▶ Location and cost will depend on interest from the students. It will also depend of course on restrictions that may be still in place.