

# Introduction to Transition Year 2024-25

Sandymount Park ETSS



# Overview of Transition Year

1. Benefits of Transition Year
2. Aims and Values of TY in Sandymount Park
3. Subject Opportunities
4. Assessment
5. Work Experience
6. Student Experience
7. Trips/Speakers
8. Fees
9. Keeping Updated
10. Important Dates

I will send on this PowerPoint so please don't worry about taking details down



# Benefits of Transition Year

- The Transition Year Programme challenges students to develop a **broad skill set**.
- TY candidates more likely to be '**educationally adventurous**'- try new subjects, discover topics linked to their subject independently.
- TY students **generally achieve higher grades** when completing Leaving Cert.
- Students can make **informed choices** about academic studies and work placements.

(Statistics from Education by the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI))



# Expectations of Students

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- **Attendance**
- **Engagement**
- **Enthusiasm**

**‘YOU GET OUT  
WHAT YOU  
PUT IN’**

## **Aims of Transition Year**

**In Sandymount Park ETSS our aims are to empower  
Transition Year students with opportunities:**

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To discover and develop their individual talents,  
aptitudes and abilities.

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To experience a year where the emphasis will be on self-  
awareness and independent learning.

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To engage in experiences with an emphasis on  
individual responsibility and participation.

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To broaden their educational experiences beyond the  
classroom within a safe working environment.

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To experience the world of work and further develop as  
confident, considerate, active members of society.

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To facilitate a smooth transition of students from Junior  
Cycle to Senior Cycle.



# Values of Transition Year

Transition Year is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop several personal, social, and academic skills to prepare them for their future.

In all areas of Transition Year, we strive to encourage, promote and uphold our 4 featured values – *Fun, Friendship, Freedom and Future*.

Tailoring this programme to meet the needs of our students is a priority for us.

Student participation and engagement enhances their experience and allows them to gain the most from every opportunity this year provides.

## FUN

Providing opportunities for students to become involved in a variety of activities that are new, challenging and enjoyable

## FRIENDSHIP

Activities during the year are largely centered around teamwork and friendship. This allows students to get to know each other better than before and new friendships to blossom.

## FREEDOM

Students have the freedom to develop and discover new talents. They participate in extra curricular activities and get a taste of the working world.

## FUTURE

Students' experiences help shape their decisions when moving to senior cycle and beyond

# Subject Opportunities

Core	Modules	Optional Subjects (23/24)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• English</li><li>• Irish</li><li>• Maths</li><li>• MFL</li><li>• PE</li><li>• SPHE</li><li>• Ethical Education</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Humanities (Classics/Geography/History)</li><li>• World of Science (Biology/Chemistry/Physics)</li></ul>	Band 1	Band 2
	<p data-bbox="756 872 1597 986"><b>Other Learning Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aesthetics(Music/Performance/PR)</li><li>• Microsoft Skills</li><li>• World of Work</li><li>• Japanese</li><li>• Podcasting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art</li><li>• Enterprise</li><li>• Politics &amp; Society</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• German</li><li>• Psychology</li><li>• YSI (Young Social Innovators)</li></ul>



# Assessment

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At the end of the year students are awarded an overall accreditation of Gold, Silver or Bronze from the school based on the following:

1. Portfolio 1
2. Interview
3. Portfolio 2
4. Showcase



# Assessment

## Portfolio 1

- **Due Date:**  
**6<sup>th</sup> December**

This is a physical or digital record highlighting all experiences during the first terms of TY and allowing the student to reflect on the experiences

- Students will have success criteria, exemplars of work and a brief to support this continuous piece of work.

## Interview

- **Dates:**  
**12/13<sup>th</sup> Dec**

- Students will be interviewed based on their portfolio, work experience and engagement in TY

## Portfolio 2

- **Due Date:**  
**23rd May**

- This is a physical or digital record highlighting all experiences during the second terms of TY and allowing the student to reflect on these experiences
- Students will have success criteria exemplars of work and a brief to support this continuous piece of work

## Showcase

- **Date:**  
**27<sup>st</sup> May**

- Takes place on graduation day where students create a display based on the 4 values of TY.
- This is prepared in school in the final days of the year

# Work Experience

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## *Aims of Transition Year Work Experience Programme*

- To prepare students for adult and working life
  - To develop an awareness of work and the workplace
  - To develop their self-confidence and personality
  - To increase their information about specific areas of work
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- Work experience is seen as a key part of Transition Year in Sandymount Park ETSS.
  - Students are encouraged to source their own work and therefore must take responsibility for this.
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> placement is based on Community Contribution. Each student should endeavour to obtain a placement which involves direct contact with the needy, the elderly, the disadvantaged, the sick, the underprivileged – children or adults; refugees/immigrants.
  - **Garda Vetting is required in some circumstances for students over the age of 16. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain this**



# Some Examples of Work Experience Placements



Chapters Bookstore	NCAD	AVOCA	Drury PR	NCBI, Ringsend
SOAR	Ringsend Rockscool	The Law Library	Ringsend and Irishtown Community Centre	Artmines
Haven Pharmacy	Detail Design Studio	Runzone	School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin	Ringsend Community Forum
Specsavers	Temple Street Hospital	Primary Schools	Tesco, Sandymount	Bread 41
Mira Mira	Chapters	Books Upstairs	School of Art and Design, TUD	RTÉ

# ***Flexible Learning Opportunities for Transition Year Students***

*Look into Law (Bar of Ireland Transition Year Programme)*

*Mini- Med Transition Year Programme (Royal College of Surgeons)*

*Walk in My Shoes (St. Patricks Hospital)*

*Transition Year Programme (Google)*

*An Garda Síochána Transition Year Programme (Kevin Street)*

*Transition Year Programme (Bristol Myers Squibb)*

**Dates of  
Transition Year  
Work  
Placements  
2024-2025**

**Week 1:**

18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> November

**Week 2:**

10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> February

**Week 3:**

12<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup> May



# Trips and Speakers

- A large part of TY is taking part in excursions in and outside of the school grounds.
- Students will need a topped-up leap card throughout the year as we will be using public transport for many of our outings.
- Students are expected to be responsible and follow all school rules while representing the school while out.
- Students must dress appropriately for the activities/events being engaged in
- Students will leave/return to the school building during trips unless otherwise specified.



- Kilmainham Jail
- Malahide Castle
  - Ice Skating
  - Aran Islands
  - Abbey Theatre
    - IFI
    - Rowing
  - College open days
    - Boxing
    - Irish Aid
  - Henrietta Street
  - Rediscovery Centre
  - Covanta Plant
    - Dublin Zoo

# School Trips Policy

Before committing to a trip it is incredibly important to read the school trips policy

Once any deposits are paid all communication should be directed to the tour company.

[https://sandymountparketss.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Sandymount-Park-ETSS\\_School-Trips-Policy\\_2022.pdf](https://sandymountparketss.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Sandymount-Park-ETSS_School-Trips-Policy_2022.pdf)



# Transition Year Fees

- The fees for Transition Year 2024/25 are €495.
- This cost includes a 2 night trip to Delphi, Co Mayo in September, transport, all trips, events, workshops, speakers, competition entry fees, sports costs, psychometric testing (to aid senior cycle subject choice). It also includes a new Microsoft Office Specialist Certification Programme.
- **The cost of any overseas trip will be separate and in addition to the €495 TY fee.**
- The Materials Fee for Transition Year students for 2024/2025 is €80. The fee includes the following school costs – 24-hour student insurance, journal, photocopying, locker rental, class resources, REACH guidance platform and bus rental for school events.
- The Transition Year Fee is due by August 14<sup>th</sup> , it and the Materials Fee can be paid in two installments of €287.50 – on June 14<sup>th</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup> .



# Microsoft "Skills"

- Globally & Industry Recognised
- Develops your Self-Directed Learning Skills
- Adds Value to your CV
- Enhances Employability Opportunities
- Entry to MOS World Championships
- Makes you more efficient in the use of Microsoft Office which will benefit you in both University and Workforce

**C.V.**  
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**Experience**

2015 – Present **Law Institute of Dublin**  
**Legal Assistant** – Providing general legal administrative and secretarial advice to legal team. Structure contracts and agreements with clients, vendors and employees.

2013 – 2015 **Cassidy Family Solicitors**  
**Summer Legal Associate** – assist with case analysis, draft letters and prepare legal files and documents.


**Computer Skills**  
Excellent writing skills, good working knowledge and proficient in use of Microsoft Excel, Word and PowerPoint.

**Professional Skills**

- Prioritising and managing own workload effectively by managing diary lists and appointments for instructions.
- Always discreet in handling of sensitive and confidential customer, staff or business data and information.
- Extensive experience drafting precedent and bespoke contracts, key policy documents, legal letters and other supporting documents.
- Dealing with client queries and legal correspondence regarding compliance, audit and regulatory matters.

**Josh Walker**

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**Summer Legal Associate** – assist with case analysis, draft letters and prepare legal files and documents.

**Computer Skills**

Certified by Microsoft in the use of Excel, Word and PowerPoint and have successfully received 3 Microsoft Office Specialist Certificates validating my Office skills.



**Professional Skills**

- Prioritising and managing own workload effectively by managing diary lists and appointments for instructions.

# Keeping Up To Date

Student

One Note/ Teams

Student Journal

Monthly Updates from TY Coordinator

TY X (Twitter) Account



# Student Journal

TY students have a specific journal which is designed to encourage students to reflect on their school year.

It outlines key guidelines in line with TY assessments, Work Experience forms and reflection areas which are a key part of the TY Programme.

It contains important forms for various activities throughout the year which will need to be used at different intervals

The Journal is a fundamental feature of engagement and communication between students, teachers and parents. It is imperative that the usual standards of engagement are maintained.

# Important Dates to Note

DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT
September 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup>	Delphi
September 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>	Italy
November 18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Work Experience 1
December 6th	Portfolio 1 Due
December 12 <sup>th</sup> /13 <sup>th</sup>	Interview
January 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup>	Musical
February 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	Ski Trip
February 10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	Work Experience 2
May 12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	Work Experience 3
May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Portfolio 2
May 27th	Showcase/Graduation



# Bring on TY 24/25

