

**(1) The Purpose of Transition Year**

The Transition Year Programme is a one-year programme that provides a bridge to enable students to make the transition from the more dependent type of learning associated with Junior Cycle to the more independent learning environment associated with Senior Cycle. The core values of TY are Maturity, Responsibility, Accountability, Trust and Participation. We actively encourage students to develop in these areas and encourage parents to enhance this process by giving their sons opportunities to put these values into practice.

**(2) The Benefits of Transition Year**

Transition Year can help students to:

- discover more about their personal strengths.
- uncover new interests.
- develop maturity and self-confidence.
- improve their self-esteem.
- build interpersonal and team skills.
- make wiser subject choices for Leaving Cert. and Further Education.
- extend the learning experience beyond the classroom.
- develop a more independent approach to their learning.
- explore the working world.
- extend their repertoire of learning styles.
- achieve improved Leaving Certificate results.
- make new friendships.

**(3) The Transition Year Programme**

*Please note that the programme below is from 2019 - 2020. The programme for 2020 - 2021 will vary from this.*

**Core Subjects Layer – classes all year**

- English
- Maths
- Irish
- French/Spanish/German
- T.Y. Portfolio
- P.E. (various activities)

In English, Irish, Maths and Language, the students will have assignments, End of Module assessments, and End of Module Reports. This format ensures that there is continuity between the Junior and Leaving Cert. Programmes for the students.

**Subject Sampling Layer – modular (6 weeks)**

Accountancy	Business Studies	DCG	Music
Ag. Science	Chemistry	Economics	Physics
Art	Classical Studies	Geography	
Biology	Construction Studies	History	

These subjects give a taste of the optional subjects on offer for the Leaving Certificate.

**TY Specific Layer – modular (6 weeks)**

- Art History
- Career Guidance
- Chinese
- Computer Studies
- Cookery
- Creative Writing
- Current Affairs
- Dance
- Design
- Drama
- D.I.Y.
- Enterprise
- Environmental Studies
- Etiquette
- Finance
- Green Schools
- Humanities
- Human Rights
- Italian
- Legal Studies
- Lego
- Leisure
- Literacy
- Mental Fitness

- Mindfulness
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Singing
- Sustainability
- Modern Music
- Photography
- Religion
- Sign Language
- Education
- Nutrition
- Public Speaking
- Self Defence
- Sports Psychology

These subjects are interest courses offered by our staff & some external teachers.

### **Activity Fridays – modular (6 weeks)**

#### Early Morning

- Pool
- Hockey
- Basketball
- Sports Science
- Forensic Science

#### Mid-Morning

- Bowling
- Yoga
- Skiing
- Tennis

#### Afternoon

- Quiztime
- Cookery
- Social Education
- Horticulture
- Coaching Skills

### **TY Calendar Layer – throughout year**

- Work Experience
- Guest Speakers
- Outdoor Pursuits (Carlin)
- Excursions
- T.Y. Musical

### **(4) ECDL\* & T.Y. Options**

Students will pick one of the subjects from the list below. This subject will involve 3 class periods per week and will run for the whole year.

Student Option Preference must be completed via our College Management System VS Ware.

This facility will be open from **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** until **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**.

Students must select ALL 5 subjects in order of preference from the following list:

- Art
- E.C.D.L\*
- Music
- Woodwork

**Please note that whilst every effort will be made to accommodate all students with their number 1 preference, it may not be possible to facilitate every student with his number 1 preference.**

\*We offer the **European Computer Driving Licence** as an optional course in TY. The cost is **€150**. Places are limited. In the case of over-subscription, places will be offered through random selection. Students will be informed if they have secured a place on the E.C.D.L Course when they receive their T.Y. offer letter. Those who have not received a place will be given their number on the waiting list.

### **(5) TY Work Experience**

**STRICTLY:** (1) 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Please **do not** arrange additional work experience placements outside these dates. Please consult the school if you have any queries.  
(2) 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Work experience needs to be MEANINGFUL and helpful to the student in deciding his career goals. Please encourage the student to find work, rather than doing everything for him! Important: the details of the work experience must be submitted to the school to allow us to extend our insurance cover. Garda Vetting may apply to certain placements – ask potential employers if this is required.

Can you offer a TY work experience? Please let us know: [afitzpatrick@stbenilduscollege.com](mailto:afitzpatrick@stbenilduscollege.com)

## (6) Monitoring TY Students

Transition Year provides increased freedom and encourages the students to learn how to handle this properly, being both reflective and responsible about their own performance in T.Y. In conjunction with this freedom, formal rules and procedures are in place to monitor progress.

- College Code of Behaviour
- Weekly T.Y. Portfolio classes with the Co-ordinator
- Formal Self-Evaluation by the students
- Homework tasks, Class tests, Projects set by teachers
- End of Module Evaluations
- Work Experience Evaluation from the employer
- End of Module Assessments & Reports
- E-Portfolios & End of Year Interviews
- Transition Year Co-ordinator

## (7) Admission to TY

- The Transition Year Programme in St. Benildus College is not compulsory.
- The maximum number of available places will be dependent upon staffing, facilities and resources and will be determined annually by the Board of Management.
- For acceptance on to the Transition Year Programme, the school must be of the opinion that a student is capable of benefiting from participation in Transition Year and, equally, that his participation will not prevent any other student(s) from benefiting.
- The T.Y. Admissions Committee will be responsible for assessing applications and offering places.

## (8) The Application Process

- **Application Form**
- **Personal Statement**
  - research into the Transition Year Programme
  - reasons why they are applying for a place
  - the commitment that they will give if they are offered and accept a place.
    - critical factor in the application process.
- **Signed** by their parent(s)/guardian(s).
- It is imperative that the student **personally** completes this Application Form.
- **Criteria**
  - Application Form
  - Personal Statement
  - Professional Advice and Judgements of the teaching staff
  - Student's record
- The T.Y. Admissions Committee reserves the right to interview students and meet parents in relation to suitability for participation in the TY Programme.
- The T.Y. Admissions Committee may also meet with the parents of students with SNAs to discuss their needs.



