

Grange Community College

Transition Year Programme

2015/2016



TY Co-Ordinator: Lucia Griffin

1.0 Introduction

Grange Community College has been offering a Transition Year Programme (TY) to students since 2008. It has proven to be a great success in promoting the maturity and independence of our students. There are three main areas that we focus on; Civil Awareness, Personal Development and interdisciplinary learning.

Our aim is to promote independent learning, encourage active participation and inspire our students to become self-motivated learners. We also aim to promote maturity and independence by preparing our students for adult life, through work experience, community involvement and social awareness. There is great emphasis on encouraging our students to reach their full potential academically, physically, emotionally and socially in a positive and happy environment.

1.1 TY Induction

TY induction begins in Third Year with the TY Co-ordinator. An assembly of all Third Year students is held and they are given all the required information about the TY Programme. An information evening is held in May for parents/ guardians where they are informed about TY and are given the opportunity to ask questions about the programme.

In September, all TY students will go through an induction for one day where they will be given their “Folders of Achievement” and their responsibilities for the year. This will be organised by the Co-ordinator and the class tutor.

1.2 TY Student Responsibilities

- To be respectful to others at all times.
- Follow the rules and routines of the school at all times.
- To actively participate in all activities.
- To take personal responsibility for their “Folders of Achievement” and all other materials for their classes.
- Keep their base room tidy at all times.
- To engage in positive behaviour.

Student Core Team

The student core team will include the class rep, the assistant class rep and a TY ambassador. They will meet with the coordinator regularly to communicate any issues, ideas or developments in TY.

1.3 Assessment

TY students are assessed in a number of different ways throughout the year. TY students engage in many practical, oral, aural and written examinations where individual subject teachers grade their work throughout the year. All students are required to organise their “Folder of Achievement” at the beginning of the school year. This folder is important as it will contain any certificates, awards, reports, assignments, work experience evaluations and any other relevant material that students acquire throughout the year. Students will be interviewed in May by the co-ordinator and their folders will form a substantial part of that assessment.

Once all of the students work has been correlated and assessed, they will be awarded one of the following:

- 1st Class Honours
- 2nd Class Honours
- Pass
- Fail

1.3 TY Finances

Parents/Guardians are asked to provide a contribution to teaching and learning resources. Other expenses include the Journal, insurance, class trips and the TY tour.

ECDL and Gaisce are being covered by the TY budget.

1.4 The TY Co-ordinator and The TY Core team

TY Co-ordinator: Lucia Griffin

TY Core Team: Co-ordinator, class tutors.

The role of the core team is to focus on providing students with opportunities to meet the aims and objectives of the TY Programme.

2.0 The TY Calendar

3.0 TY Programme Structure

3.1 Core Subjects

English

Irish

Maths

Spanish/French

Design and Communication Graphics

Geography

History

Construction Studies

Engineering

Home Economics

Art

Business Studies

Film Making

Law

Furniture Design

Architecture

First Aid

Sign languag

Biology

Religion

Physical Education

Career Guidance

Computers Studies

Music

Art Appreciation

ECDL

Drama

Public Speaking

Crafts

3.2 TY Timetable

See VsWare

3.3 Work Experience

It is compulsory for all TY students to go on work experience for a week. This runs the week before October midterm break. It is a vital part of the TY programme and prepares students for adult life. Students are encouraged to take responsibility and source their own work. Work experience can range from working in the local primary schools, libraries, science labs in DCU, etc. Each student will be monitored by the core team. Students must complete at least 35 hours of work a month. They will also keep a diary of their work experience which can be added to their Folders of Achievement. Employers will be asked to complete a report at the end of the placement which will be part of their assessment.

3.4 Community Outreach Programme

Community Awareness is a vital part to the personal development and maturity of students. All TY students will engage with local agencies and volunteer to work with organisations. Students will be expected to go on community awareness experience for one week before the Easter holidays. It is their responsibility to organise this and it will be monitored by the core team and the co-ordinator.

3.5 Charity Work

Throughout the year students will be involved in raising awareness and funds for a number of different charities. This teaches students how to be involved and aware of those less fortunate and develop a sense of giving back to their community. Activities could include bag packing, raffle ticket selling, sponsored walks/runs, cake sales, etc. In 2015/2016, TY students will aim to pair with a secondary school in Africa. We aim to create a positive relationship with the paired school.

3.6 The TY Tour

All students will be given the opportunity to apply to go on a school tour in TY. Students must have shown exemplary behaviour throughout the year and must have contributed in a positive way to TY in order to be eligible for the tour.

Once dates, locations and prices have been organised parents/guardians and students will be notified. The tour usually occurs towards the end of the school year.

3.7 Personal Development

Students will be given the opportunity to apply for the Gasice Bronze Award. The Bronze Award is a 26 week programme where students are required to commit to a number of challenges for a minimum of one hour a week for thirteen weeks. The challenges must incorporate community involvement, personal skills, physical recreation and an adventure journey. An additional thirteen weeks must be completed in a challenge of the student's choice. On completion of all the challenges students will receive a Bronze Medal which has been awarded by the president.

Students will be briefed on the Gaisce Award during their TY information evening in Third Year.

3.8 International Students

In 2015/2016 Grange Community College will be accepting applications from international students who come to Ireland to study for a year. We have partnered with ISI and Dorset College to provide a place in our school for a number of TY students. These students will fully take part in every aspect of the year including any foreign trips, competitions and events. This will bring a new dimension of cultural knowledge and social awareness to Grange CC.

4.0 Special Events and Courses

4.1 Introduction

Over the course of the year students will be involved in a variety of workshops and courses. We actively encourage all students to participate and contribute in a positive way.

Below are samples of activities/events that students may be involved in:

- BT Young Scientist
- Student Enterprise
- Youth Connect
- Nursing and Health Care, Tallaght Hospital
- Mini-med programme, Beaumont Hospital
- SCIFECT
- Gaisce
- Gaiety Acting School
- ECDL Accreditation
- First Aid Training