

self-directed learning orientation towards working life **Learning-led** rather than examination driven **LEARNING HOW TO RELATE TO OTHERS** sample subjects **A DISTINCT ONE YEAR PROGRAMME** Teamwork skills **leading to more informed choices** **develop new skills** **personal development** *enhancing self-esteem* **trips** *extending learning beyond the classroom* **Project Work** **activity based learning**

Transition Year – a different year of learning

Alexandra College TY

Year Head: Dr. John Hennessy

Co-ordinator: Ms. Evelyn Hearn

Assistant

Co-ordinator: Reuben Ó Conluain

For more information:

<http://ty.slss.ie/>

TRANSITION YEAR
KEY DATES 2010-2011

Monday 6th September

T.Y. term starts
9am Student Induction Day
7.00pm Parents' Meeting

Monday 18th – Friday 22nd October

Trip to Delphi Outdoor Education Centre

Monday 14th – Friday 25th March

Work Experience
(Students may undertake an extra week of Work Experience at a later date)

Wed. 18th May

Transition Year Presentation Night

Thursday 26th – Friday 27th May 2010

Wicklow Way Overnight Hike

Alexandra College



Transition Year

2010– 2011

Department of Education and Science Mission Statement for Transition Year:

“To promote the personal, social, educational and vocational development of pupils and to prepare them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society.”

WHY TRANSITION YEAR?

- Transition Year offers students space to learn, mature and develop.

- The Transition Year programme offers students a broad variety of learning experiences inside and outside the classroom.

- Students are encouraged to see TY as providing opportunities to discover personal strengths and to develop their potential.

- In addition to traditional style homework, TY students are also asked to undertake projects, assignments, interviews, research and other demanding tasks.

- The Transition Year programme assists young people to connect with adult and working life through the provision of work experience and career guidance

Keys elements of the Transition Year programme in Alexandra College:

- Core Subjects include.... English, Irish, Maths, a Modern Language, History, Geography, ICT, Science, Religion, Careers, Games, Steer Clear.
- Optional Modules in... Art Appreciation, Website Design, Videography, Culinary Arts, Textile Craft, Choir, Creative Writing, Latin, Classics, Art Appreciation, ECDL, International Relations, a second Modern Language, Effective Communication, Digital Creator, Introduction to Psychology, Guitar, Music Technology.
- Performance Module (Dance, Drama & Stage Management, Music, Animation, Videography, Fashion Design)
- Cross-curricular activities
- The President's Award (GAISCE)
- Social Awareness (Education for Living and Young Social Innovator), Royal Hospital Donnybrook
- World of Work (Careers and the Young Entrepreneur Mini-Company Competition)
- Work Experience
- Outings / Trips (Outdoor Education Centre, Wicklow Way Hike, Language Trip Abroad..) and Guest Speakers

What's the purpose of the Transition Year Programme?

To promote maturity:

- Maturity in studies by making students more self-directed learners.
- Maturity in relation to work and careers by developing work-related skills.
- Personal maturity by providing opportunities to develop communication skills, self-confidence and a sense of responsibility.
- Social maturity by developing greater people skills and more awareness of the world outside school.

Is Transition Year suited to all students?

All young people can benefit from the programme. Transition Year, in particular, can allow for the development of an individual's multiple intelligences - linguistic, logico-mathematical, spatial, musical, bodily-kinesthetic, interpersonal, intrapersonal and naturalist. What you get out of the year is based on what you put in to it!

What about exams?

Assessment is a key part of any learning programme. However Transition Year is an opportunity to move beyond the narrow focus of end-of-year, written exams. Project work, each student's TY Diary and the end-of-year Display of Work are important elements of the Alexandra TY student's year. Certificates are presented at this end-of-year Finale.

Can the Transition Year be part of a three year Leaving Certificate programme?

No. That is not to say that the programme lacks intellectual content; it challenges students in all areas of their development. Indeed, after following the TY programme young people should be better equipped and better motivated for a Leaving Certificate programme.

How are parents involved?

Some parents make their particular expertise available to the school during TY (e.g. offering work experience placements, being a guest speaker.). But most of all, parents can support their daughters by encouraging them to avail of the numerous opportunities offered by this unique programme.