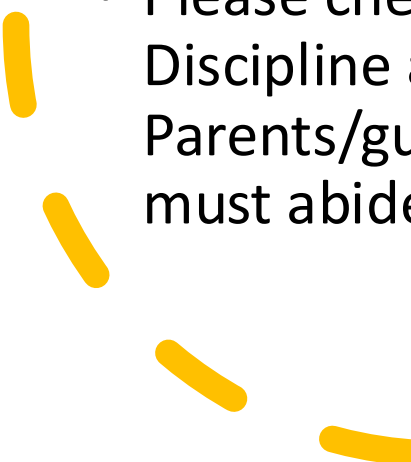




TY Information 2024/2025



Welcome from Mr. L. Ferguson

- Thank you for attending this information night regarding a very important year for Transition Year students.
 - At HFCS we will work very hard to ensuring that it is a productive, enjoyable and rewarding experience for everyone.
 - It will involve students working diligently, participating positively and engaging respectfully with their peers and everyone in the HFCS community.
 - Please check the school's website www.hfcs.ie for the updated Code of Behaviour and Discipline and relevant policies. **All students must adhere to the schools' policies.** Parents/guardians and students are expected to read these policies and students must abide by all school policies.
- 

Pastoral Care Team

- Tutors
- Rang 41 – Ms. Phipps
- Rang 42 – Ms. Ralph
- Rang 43 – Mr. Kavanagh
- Rang 44 – Mr. Coyne

Pastoral Care Team


- Guidance Counsellors Ms. C. Perris/ Ms. U. McDonnell & Ms K. O'Connell
- AN Coordinators Mr. M Savage & Ms. H O'Keeffe
- Deputy Principals Ms. Denise O' Keeffe,
• Mr. Liam Ferguson
Dr. Derek Maher
- Principal Ms. Ingrid Fallon
- Student Support Team



Communication between school and parents

- **VShare** is the management and communication system used by the school.
- Parents/guardians can look at their child's timetable, attendance, assessment results and behaviour record on VShare.
- **Absence notes must be communicated to the school through VShare.**
- VShare is also the system used to communicate messages to parents/guardians.
- In order to receive messages, please ensure that you download the VShare app on your mobile device and allow notifications.
- **Please ensure that you have the APP downloaded on to your phone.**
- Instructions on how to download the VShare app can be found here: <https://support.vshare.ie/en/parent-app-overview>

CHECK VSHARE
REGULARLY!

A screenshot of the VShare login interface. The background is blue with a large, semi-transparent 'VSHARE' logo. Below the logo, there are two white input fields: the first is labeled 'Login' and the second is labeled 'Password'. Below the password field, there is a 'Reset Password' link with a green checkmark icon to its right. At the bottom, there is a blue 'Sign In' button.



School Procedures

Parent/Guardian to School Communication

- *The School Secretary, Ms. Lorraine O'Connell, is the main channel to contact teachers, Tutor, Year Head, Deputy Principals and Principal*
- Phone calls (01 4580766 / 01 4580031)
- Emails to info@hfcs.ie
- Absence notes sent via VShare
- Notes in dialann for individual subject teachers or contact made through email/phone call
- All meetings between parents/guardians and staff members must be made by appointment.

School Procedures

Classes begin at 8.45am and finish at 3.40pm (1pm on Wed.). Students must be in school **5 minutes before** first class in the morning and first class in the afternoon


Morning break is from 10.45am - 11.00am (varies slightly on Wednesdays)

Lunch break 1.00pm – 1.40pm

Senior students are allowed to go down to the village for lunch on the condition that they will return **on time** for class. Sanctions will apply if students return late from the village.

All students are expected to take a turn at the lunch time cleaning roster.

Students will be notified in advance of the week they will be on the lunch time cleaning roster.



Personal
Electronic
Devices – Please
read the
school's AUP
policy on hfcs.ie

- Must be off and out of sight at all times during school day
- Students must not take photographs or recordings of any member of the school community
- Students must not use their personal electronic devices to abuse, threaten, harass or bully other students or staff or use these devices to invade the privacy of any member of the school community. Infringement of these rules is taken very seriously by the school.
- **Parents/Guardians must not phone students during the school day**
- Please read www.cybersafeireland.org and www.webwise.ie

Uniform

Students must wear full school uniform

Students must wear school P.E. uniform on P.E. day.
Only the official school P.E. gear is allowed

Students must have a note if not wearing the uniform
(note only covers one day and this should rarely happen)

Please make sure your son/daughter has all the books/
iPad etc. listed on their book lists

Your son/ daughter should check his/her timetable
each night to make sure they are prepared for their
classes the next day.



Detention

- Is on Wednesdays from 1.15p.m. to 2.15p.m.
- Parents/ Guardians will be informed by the school when detention is given and the reason for detention
- Parents must organise transport home for their son/daughter
- Failure to attend detention may result in suspension
- If a student is unable to attend detention, a note must be presented to the Behaviour Management Co-ordinator, Ms Brona Redmond.

Students in HFCS

We want our students to be happy in HFCS.

Bullying will not be tolerated and should be reported to the school.

In the school, we promote and encourage RESTORATIVE PRACTICE amongst the school community. This involves building positive relationships and caring cultures.

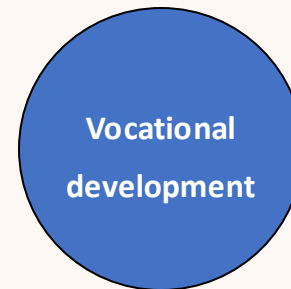
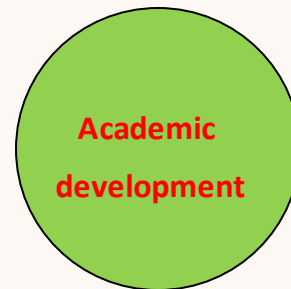
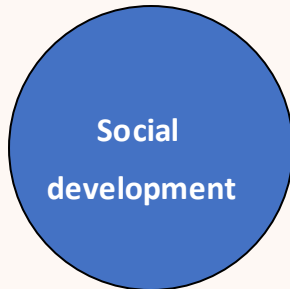
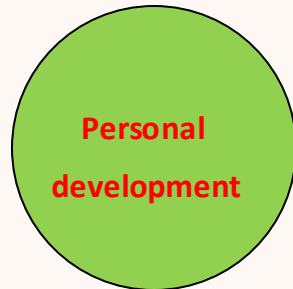
Students are expected to show manners towards all staff and students. TY is based on a model of TRUST.

Students are expected to show respect for each other and to watch out for one another.

Students are asked to treat others as they would like to be treated.

Transition Year Programme Aims

- At the age of 15-16 young people are at a critical stage in growing up
- It is very much a time of **transition**
- One transition is from the dependence of childhood towards the relative independence of adulthood
- Within school it is a time of transition between the Junior Certificate and the Leaving Certificate
- Young people growing up have many needs, for example;



Purpose of Transition Year

Space provided to grow and mature

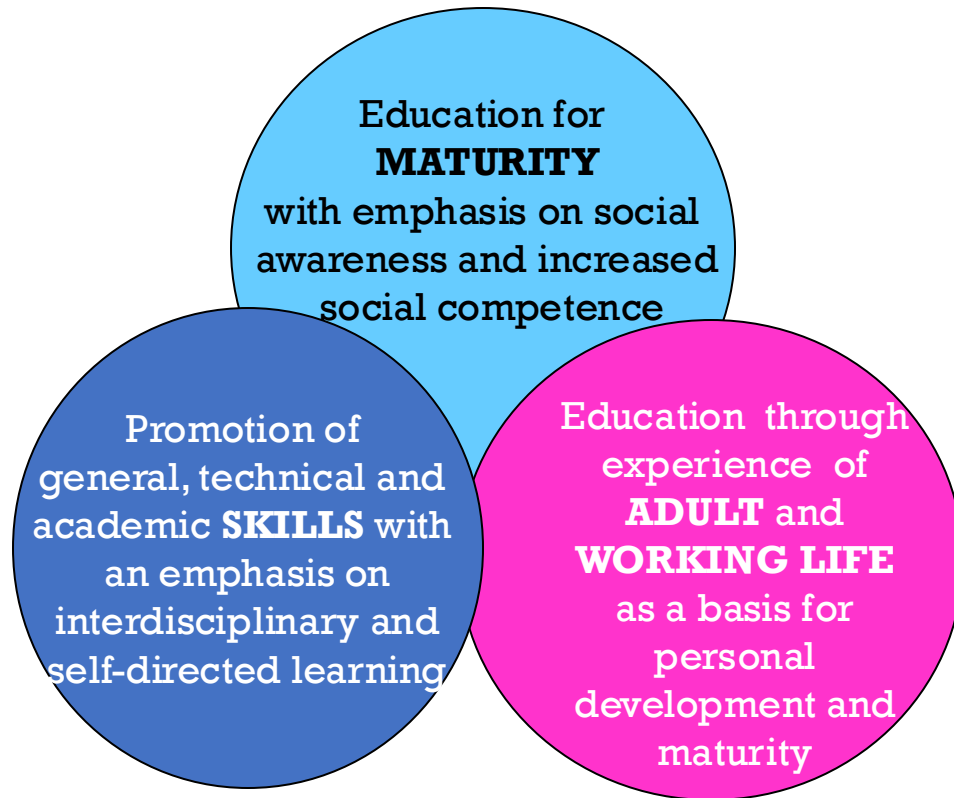
Students have many opportunities to practice teamwork skills, research skills, IT skills, project skills

Students become more self-directed learners through the development of general, technical and academic skills

Students gain in maturity in relation to work and careers by developing work-related skills and career planning

Opportunities to develop communication skills, self-confidence and a sense of responsibility

Multiple Aims of Transition Year



- Bridge between childhood and adulthood
- Bridge between Junior Cycle and LC programmes
- Broad educational experience
- Active and experiential learning
- Education for maturity
- Skills development
- Experience of adult and working life
- Promote personal, social, educational and vocational development
- Autonomous, participative and responsible citizens

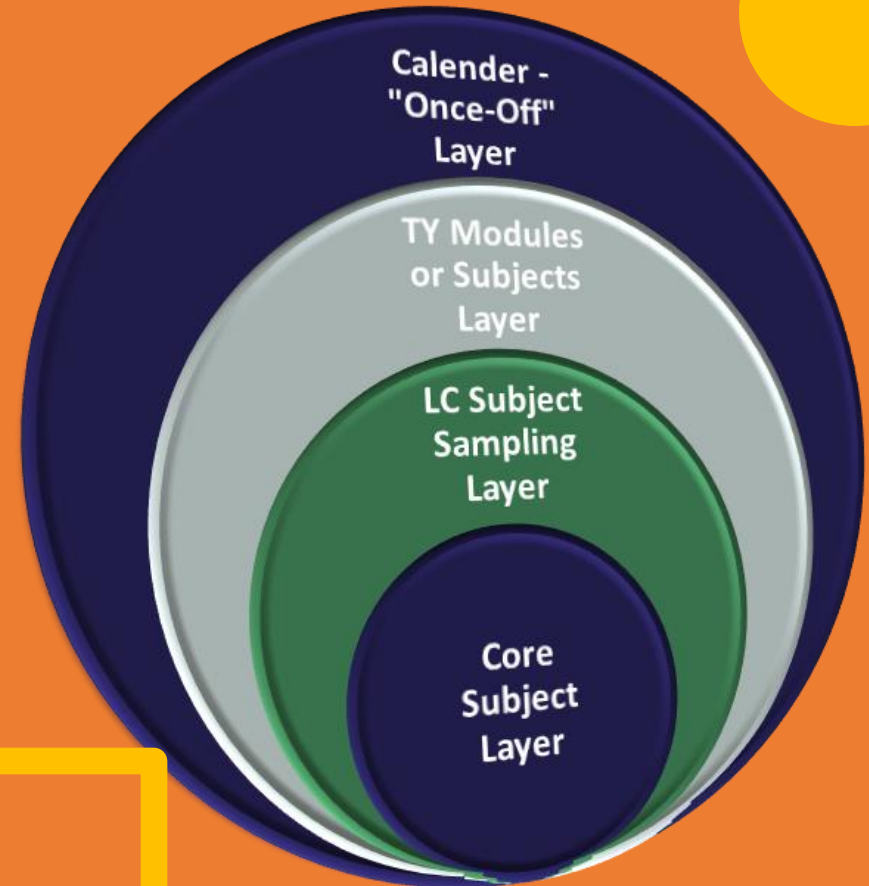
Transition Year Mindset -

*"You get out of TY
what you put into it"*

- Need to embrace the change that comes with Transition Year:
 - Transfer to Senior Cycle – additional privileges and responsibilities.
 - CV Booster (Barista course, Forensics, Microsoft Specialist etc.)
 - New subjects.
 - New friends.
 - Different types of learning.
 - New experiences.
 - Gaisce/Future Leaders
 - Students are responsible for their own learning.
- Need to maintain study/work pattern outside of school:
 - Different approach to that utilised when studying the traditional curriculum – project-based, reflective.

FOUR LAYERS OF A TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME

“The Onion”



Calendar “Once Off” Layer

- Work Experience Placements.
- Visiting Speakers (Forensics, School of Life, Skincare etc.).
- Outdoor Pursuits (Slade Valley Hike, Tidy Towns).
- Field Trips (Lilliput, Zipit, Oireachtas, Tenderfoot).
- Community Care- Localise Youth Volunteering Programme.
- Focus Ireland Sleepout
- Pieta House- Darkness into Light
- Gaeltacht Trip*
- Gaisce - 'The President's Award' *



TY Modules/Subjects Layer



- Science Communications
- Equine Studies
- Restorative Practice
- Social and Emotional Learning
- School Self Evaluation
- Enterprise
- Artistic Performance
- Classical Studies
- Guidance
- Development Education
- First Aid
- Coding (ICT- *CSinc- Computer Science Inclusive*)
- Future Leaders
- Microsoft Office Specialist:
 - Word, PowerPoint, Excel.

LC Subject Sampling



- Design and Communication Graphic
 - Engineering
 - Art
- Enterprise (Business/ Accounting)
 - Music
 - History
 - Politics
- Geography
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Physics
- Home Economics

Core subject Layer for TY

All students will take :

- Mathematics
- English
- Gaeilge
- Modern Foreign Language
- Religion
- PE
- SPHE



Transition Year Assessment

Credits for:

- All Modules
- Modules: class projects/assessment
- Christmas and Summer Reports (throughout the year rolling report model)
- Work experience diary & Guidance
- Portfolio of Achievement (This is a reflective journal that students complete throughout the year)

Portfolio of Achievement (e-Portfolio via Teams)

- Portfolio pieces are selected from class work (projects, presentations, artwork, essays etc.)
- Tour/trip evaluations
- Guest speaker evaluations
- Event evaluations (e.g. Future Leaders, Coffee morning, Dev Ed STG Day)
- Work Experience Diary (for their different workplaces)
- Photographic Diary
- Portfolio Tasks Unique Activities (e.g. Gaisce, Barista, Future Leaders, Forensics, SFX Makeup, talks)
- e-Portfolio is corrected by Tutor and Year Head



Work Experience – Compulsory

Two Blocks of Work experience:

Block 1: 25th of November – 6th of December 2024.

Block 2: 4th of February- 14th of February 2024.

- **Students** are responsible for finding their own placements.
- Book placements early as there is a demand for places with the increasing number of TY students.
- **A variety of placements is recommended.**
- Students have been given a hardcopy of work experience documentation including a copy of their insurance. This has also been emailed to their office 365 account and they can access them in their e-portfolio.
- ***Work Experience throughout the year (outside of these 2 blocks) must be approved by Year Head***
- Students who require Garda Vetting need to speak with Deputy Principal D. Maher ASAP, **as it can take up to 3-4 weeks for clearance.**



TY Fund

- **TY Fee is €350 and is now overdue.**
- TY Fee covers the cost of the following;
 - Costs of certification
 - TY Graduation
 - Costs of external experts/programme costs
 - Fieldtrips
 - Guest speakers
 - Workshops
- Spontaneous & Ad-hoc trips/opportunities which companies/venues offer will incur extra small costs such as bus fees & admission fees throughout the year. To reduce transportation cost the Luas or other forms of public transportation may be used. Therefore, a leap card is required.
- **HFCS commits to being flexible and as forewarned & transparent as possible regarding costs. We will strive to achieve a balance between a richly rewarding programme & value for money.**



Gaeltacht Trip (optional)



- **Price – approximately €220.** This cost includes transport, food (breakfast, lunch and dinner), activities. Students may bring extra money for the Coláiste tuck shop/shop on the way to Mayo if they wish.
- Activities include but are not limited to surfing, kayaking, coasteering, bog snorkeling/obstacle course, abseiling, Canadian canoes. These activities are decided based on the tides/currents on the day.

Ski Trip



Parents Association

AGM – Tuesday October 8th at 6:30pm in the school

Get involved in the HFCS Parents Council

Follow us
on
Facebook



HFCS Parents Council Group

Follow us
on
Instagram



@hfcs_parentsouncil

To join the
Parents Council
email



parentsouncil@hfcs.ie

Thank you for your attendance tonight, we are delighted to have you all as part of our school community

