

St. Kilian's Deutsche Schule Dublin



TRANSITION YEAR



Exzellente
Deutsche
Auslandsschule



PROGRAMME
2025/2026

www.kilians.com



St. Kilian's
Deutsche Schule Dublin



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TY YEAR HEAD & COORDINATOR



IAN LACEY



TADHG
O'SCANAILL

INTRODUCTION TO TRANSITION YEAR

Transition year at St. Kilian's is compulsory for all students and we provide a full and busy schedule for our students.

TY is a one-year education programme provided to students who have successfully completed their Junior Cycle education. TY offers a broad educational experience and helps students grow in maturity and take greater responsibility for their own learning and decision making before proceeding to the Senior Cycle.

The modular structure of the TY programme allows students to experience a wide range of extracurricular activities in addition to their academic subjects. The programme also offers considerable emphasis on outward bound experience, career guidance and future subject choice, together with a number of subject based expeditions.

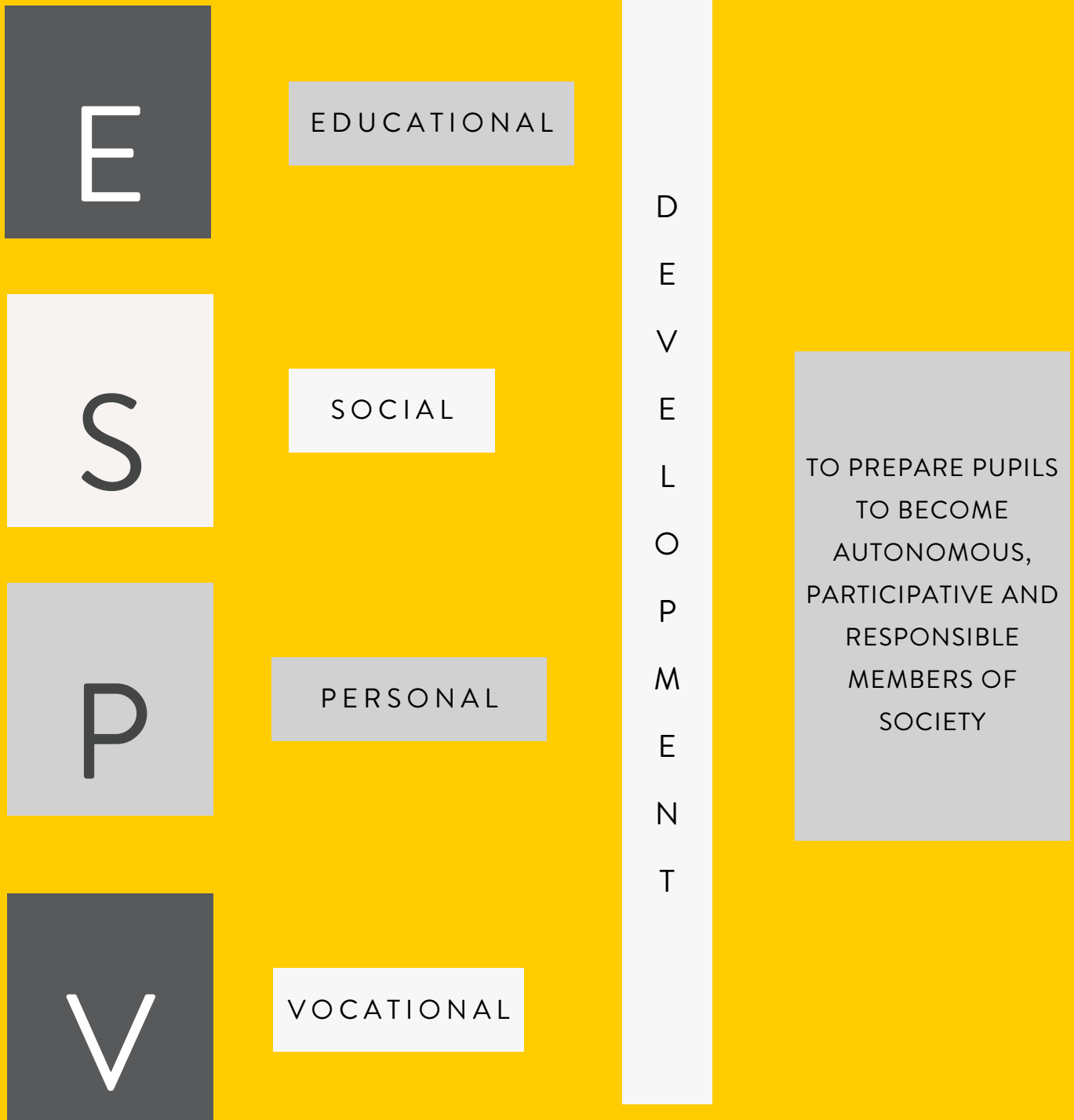


FEATURES OF THE YEAR

- Modules
- Career guidance
- Work experience
- Hamburg exchange
- Gaisce
- Subject sampling
- Assessment

AIMS

St. Kilian's Transition Year Programme, aims to promote the personal, social, educational and vocational development of the young person, and to prepare the pupil for his/her role as an autonomous, participative, and responsible member of society.



The overall aims of the Transition Year:

- PROVIDING A BRIDGE BETWEEN JUNIOR AND SENIOR CYCLES, AND THEREBY LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR FURTHER ACADEMIC STUDY.

- PREPARATION FOR SPRACHDIPLOM II, DELF AND TEG EXAMS.

- PROMOTION OF GENERAL, TECHNICAL AND ACADEMIC SKILLS WITH AN EMPHASIS ON INTER DISCIPLINARY AND SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING.

- EDUCATION THROUGH EXPERIENCE OF ADULT AND WORKING LIFE AS A BASIS FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MATURITY.

- EMPHASIS ON WELL-BEING AND MINDFULNESS, ENCOURAGING GREATER SOCIAL AWARENESS, EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, AND THE ABILITY TO RELATE TO OTHERS AND ONE'S SELF WITH KINDNESS, ACCEPTANCE AND COMPASSION.

ADVANTAGES OF TRANSITION YEAR

- A more rounded, mature and responsible pupil
- Improves academic potential and performance
- Promotes independent learning
- Offers opportunities not normally available within school
- Introduction to the world of work
- Develops self-discipline and self-motivation
- Thinking outside the box



SEK I PROGRAMME

PARALLEL PROGRAMME WITHIN THE TRANSITION YEAR

Sek I pupils (20), will participate in the TY programme in all aspects outside of the Sek I curriculum. This includes participation in Sports, Career Guidance, Performance, the Friday modules, and other selected activities. They will complete the one-week work-experience in November, and the two-week work placement around Easter. Some of them very often, take part in the Hamburg exchange programme.

In order to ensure that Sek I pupils can successfully complete their exams in the second school term (February/March), they may not be absent from school for prolonged periods during the weeks before the exams.





ENROLMENT POLICY

The school supports the principles of inclusion within the context and parameters of the regulations and programmes for secondary schools prescribed by the Department of Education and Skills. We also take into account the rights of the Patron as set out in the Education Act 1998, within the funding and resources available.



“

*Transition Year is great fun!
I love it! I wish every year was
like this!*

EVALUATION

Pupils earn credit through active participation, and by completing the tasks given to them by teachers/facilitators. At the end of the year, pupils will be awarded a School Certificate at one of three levels, based on the following criterion:

PARTICIPATION 60-40 CREDITS

MERIT 80-60 CREDITS

DISTINCTION 80-100 CREDITS

For me TY has been a year of exploration, I had the opportunity to try out a lot of different new things and I did as much as I could especially the areas I was interested in.





The year is assessed on a weighted system for each unit of study, and the level of participation.

Marks are given from 1 to 5 with 1 being excellent and 5 being poor.

The assessment includes feedback from all the participating teachers and facilitators, taking into account traditional subject areas, assignments on Teams (project work, written, photos, videos etc.), module reports, work-experience reports, involvement in sport activities, as well as participation in charity initiatives, or other school-based projects.

I have enjoyed the opportunities that it has given me so far, such as being able to express my opinions through art in Human Rights and to get an idea of some of the courses offered for the Leaving Certificate.

A Distinction can only be awarded when the pupil has demonstrated a high level of motivation and positive commitment to successfully completing all aspects of the Transition Year Programme. An exception would have to be made if a pupil is absent on a school sanctioned exchange, (provided all assignments are submitted as required, and on time).

Pupils who display a serious lack of engagement with the TY Programme, or who fail to attend (for reasons other than academic or work-experience), may have Certificates withheld at the end of the year.

Evaluations and feedback are recorded on Compass, with assignments on Teams with a common rubric, and using Teams and Forms to include a contract of learning, monthly progress reflection, module assessment, record of field trips and guest speakers, work experience, and overall final reflections.

I have tried many new and exciting things, with work experience, trips and modules.



TRANSITION YEAR EVENING



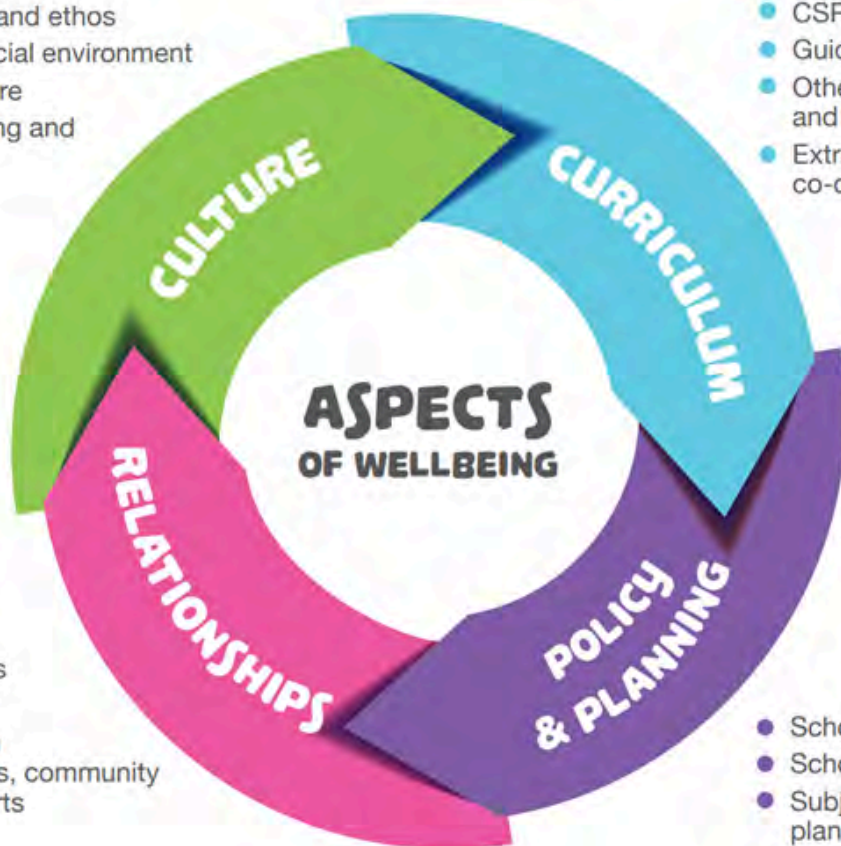
At the end of the year, parents are invited to a Transition Year celebration, where the pupils showcase in an evening of entertainment, some of the highlights and achievements from throughout the year. Sek I Certificates are distributed beforehand. Where appropriate, some of the best presentations will be selected for inclusion in next year's St. Kilian's Jahrbuch 2026, or (with agreement), for posting on our website.

WELLBEING

This year we have introduced a yoga module as well as our mindfulness class. We have pencilled in regular outdoor walks during the KL arrangement, and hope to visit the sanctuary centre early next year.

- School mission and ethos
- Physical and social environment
- Classroom culture
- Teaching, learning and assessment

- CSPE, PE and SPHE
- Guidance
- Other subjects and learning experiences
- Extra-curricular and co-curricular learning



- Student/teacher relationships
- Peer relationships
- Student voice
- Partnerships with parents/guardians, community and wider supports

- School policies
- School self-evaluation
- Subject and whole-school planning
- CPD planning



WELLBEING

PART 2

SUBJECTS AND MODULES PROGRAMME

CORE SUBJECTS:

Academic subjects continue to be studied during Transition Year and constitute an important component of the Year overall. Although not specifically directed towards the State Examinations, instruction in the core areas of German, Maths, English, Irish, French (or Business), and Sports provides not only key content, but allows pupils the opportunity to reinforce and build on subject knowledge acquired at Junior Cycle. These core subjects remain as main elements of the TY programme, and as such positive participation is required in . . .

I. CLASS-WORK

II. HOME WORK

III. STUDY & REVISION



- [This year we have divided the two classes 10A & 10B, into 4 groups for English. This is to facilitate four main areas of focus: Creative Writing, Drama, Poetry & Comparative Media.]
- [Pupils may choose between French and Business Studies ; however, pupils wishing to continue the study of French at Senior Cycle must take the French classes.]
- [Pupils studying for Sek.1, Sprachdiplom Level I, DELF or TEG – it's important to note that these exams are not optional !]



SUBJECT SAMPLING

6 OPTIONS: 2 PERIODS, 3 X 10 WEEKS

I. BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS

Subjects are timetabled in parallel blocks to allow students experience the complete subject range in a third of the year, which helps them to make informed decisions regarding subject choices for next year's Leaving Certificate course. These subjects are grouped in such a way as to facilitate each student's participation in all the key areas involved. As part of the Science programme, pupils will be required to prepare a project for (a) our own in-house Science Competition, and (b) the National Young Scientist Competition.

II. ART, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY

III. YOGA, PHOTOSHOP, SPORT-SCIENCE

IV. STREET ART, FASHION, MUSIC

V. PHILOSOPHY, SPANISH, FILM-MAKING

SUBJECT SAMPLING





VI. POLITICS, ENTREPRISE, HUMAN- RIGHTS

Pupils will look at contemporary human rights issues and produce a creative response, short films, music, art etc. which will be showcased at the TY Showcase evening in May. Similarly in enterprise, pupils will focus on developing a mini-business idea.

“

I have found TY to be a fun and relaxing year while still being educational and academic-based enough that it does not feel like we are taking a complete break from school before our Leaving Cycle.

TY MODULES

I. FRIDAY MODULES: (3 PERIODS, 6 X 5 WEEKS)

Each pupil participates in one of the modules for 5 weeks, then they swap over to the next one. By the end of the year they'll have sampled all 6. This year we have changed 3 of them:

- COOKING
- PSYCHOLOGY
- MINDFULNESS
- FILM APPRECIATION
- LEADERSHIP
- CHINESE

Pupils are encouraged to be motivated, work as part of a team, be innovative and complete their tasks from start to finish, within a set time.

Each Year the modules are reviewed and updated.



TY MODULES



TY is a great experience and a nice change. The regular modules are great and so far the half-day modules in January were a real highlight.

II. HALF DAY MODULES

(END JANUARY; 1
WEEK; OFF-CAMPUS)

Students are given a list of 10 possible
modules to vote on. This year they chose:

- BOULDERING
- DANCING
- COOKING
- BOXING
- SAILING
- GOLF



The modules have helped me further explore my own interests, I learned about what I enjoy and what I don't enjoy so much. It gave me time to also try new things, hobbies outside of school.



ADDITIONAL TRIPS (OPTIONAL):

These trips take place during
mid-term breaks (November
2025 & February 2026).
TY students may choose to
take part in trips such as a
Ski Trip/Japan. These outings
will incur an extra cost.

WORK EXPERIENCE

(3 X 1 WEEK)

There are three designated work-experience weeks scheduled throughout the year. One in November, then once again in April after the Easter break, for two weeks. Since not all pupils participate in the Hamburg exchange, those who do not are expected to undertake a two-week work experience here in Ireland. We will endeavour to facilitate placements through the German-Irish Chamber of Commerce, (where feasible). This is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to observe & experience the world of work. The School needs to be informed in all cases of the relevant details and provided with a name and phone number of a contact person familiar with the pupil's participation at each work-experience placement.



HAMBURG EXCHANGE



The pupils have the opportunity to take part in international city trips: *The Hamburg Exchange Programme, a three-week stay in Germany before Easter 2025. The pupils live with a German family and carry out a two-week work-experience placement while there. The pupils have a fantastic opportunity to enhance their language proficiency and knowledge of German culture which are key components of the Sprachdiplom exams, and indeed the Leaving Certificate as well. An extra financial contribution applies to the Hamburg Exchange.

*Due to re-scheduling with the Immanuel Kant Gymnasium, unfortunately the Exchange Programme will be suspended for the year 2025/2026.



HAMBURG EXCHANGE

- EXCHANGE PROGRAMME WITH IMMANUEL-KANT-GYMNASIUM IN HAMBURG SINCE 1987
- 3 WEEKS
- STAY IN EXCHANGE PARTNERS HOME
- 2 WEEKS WORK EXPERIENCE PROVIDED BY THE ROTARY CLUB IN HAMBURG
- VARIOUS DAY TRIPS TO PLACES OF INTEREST AROUND HAMBURG, AS WELL AS TO BERLIN
- GERMAN PARTNERS (BOYS AND GIRLS, AGED 14/15 YEARS) ALSO COMPLETE TWO WEEKS OF WORK EXPERIENCE IN PLACEMENTS DURING THEIR STAY IN IRELAND
- EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY BOTH TO OBTAIN WORK EXPERIENCE AND TO IMPROVE LANGUAGE SKILLS

“

The Hamburg exchange was an eventful and culturally enriching experience that allowed me to experience Germany in an authentic way. It would have been nice to see more sights and work less, nonetheless it was a great time.



CAREER GUIDANCE (3 PERIODS @WEEK)

Beginning in Transition Year, pupils will all take a profiling test, which helps to identify their strongest intelligences & capabilities. They are also given the opportunity to study and experience the world of work. This is preparation for life after School. Guidance regarding best subject choices for later life is provided through testing, individual interviews and classwork.

These key components allow pupils investigate their subject choices for Senior Cycle, and thereby encourages them to weigh up adequately their strengths and weaknesses. Currently the classes are timetabled parallel to a Relationships & Sexuality class.



CHARITY - COMMUNITY ACTION:

The TY pupils are the core of the School's charity group. This is an ideal opportunity for pupils to demonstrate a willingness to give of their free time for the benefit of others in the community around them. It serves both as an element of work-experience, and towards the Gaisce award challenge. During the year, pupils will be required to engage with local charities like Focus Ireland, DSPCA, Christmas Child, Daffodil Day, etc.

They will also be involved in the organisation and planning of fundraising events for the above. This works as an awareness raising experience, requiring a dedication to improve the lot of the disadvantaged living at the margins. It very often involves commitment outside of school hours, while also fostering organisational and marketing skills, team leadership, etc. Individually pupils take part in Gaisce where they become involved outside of school, through charity work or at community level.



GAISCE - THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Registration while optional, is strongly encouraged, and should take place at the beginning of the year. Participation is monitored by our Gaisce liaison staff member (PAL) ; currently Mr. Lacey. Pupils are encouraged to compete for the Bronze level of Gaisce during their Transition Year. This prestigious award requires that pupils complete a challenge in each of the following areas:



I. PERSONAL SKILL

II. PHYSICAL SKILL

III. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

IV. ADVENTURE ACTIVITY





MENTOR PROGRAMME:

By the end of February, we will be encouraging around 12 to 15 pupils to put themselves forward as mentors to the upcoming first year pupils starting at the end of August 2025.

Pupils will be interviewed, as not everyone is chosen. A special workshop is organised to foster the relevant aspects of stewardship necessary for those who have been selected

LEADERSHIP MODULE:

This project, currently runs for 5 weeks. We have established a link with the chair of youth activities at the Rotary Club, Dublin who also have facilitated the setting up of an Interact Club.

Glad Kilian's facilitates the TY programme.



CULTURAL TRIP - OUTDOOR PURSUITS LAST WEEK OF MAY

Pupils participate in an outdoor pursuits challenge held at the end of May. The pupils spend three days at specific skills training, (canoeing, abseiling, orienteering, camp-craft etc). The tasks are structured to engage pupils in planning and decision-making exercises which have immediate consequences on how successfully they carry out the assigned tasks.

The preparation culminates in a two-day overnight, self-guided mini expedition. At the end of the course a separate Certificate is awarded. Essential to completion of this exercise is the ability to lead a team for those chosen to be leaders and for the team members, the ability to follow through on instructions and take the initiative where required. Each of these personal attributes are at the core of the Transition Year educational ethos!



PART 3

ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS

NAMES OF COORDINATOR AND CORE TEAM



IAN LACEY
YEAR HEAD



TADHG O'SCANAILL
COORDINATOR



ANJA MEIER
PRINCIPAL



**NIGEL
MACMILLAN**
PRINCIPAL
SECONDARY
SCHOOL



**PATRICK
DRECHSLER**
DEPUTY
PRINCIPAL



**THORSTEN
HENKE**
GERMAN
DEPUTY
PRINCIPAL &
SEK 1
COORDINATOR



**AISLING
SHERIFF**
GUIDANCE
COUNSELLOR



TEAMS/ TY STUDENT JOURNAL

In St. Kilian's the students use Microsoft Teams and a specifically designed version of the Student Journal to record their TY work. It is designed to allow students to record, evaluate and reflect on the activities and projects they part-take in during the year.

All formal assessment will be entered by teachers in the Compass system.

All student work is recorded in Microsoft Teams. Embedded in this is their class notebook where they can save the best of their work from each subject. All subjects will give assignments through Teams with a common rubric. Each student will be given a school email address with access to the Microsoft Office suite and full training on how to use it.



LIST OF SUBJECTS AND MODULES, CORE AND OPTIONAL

CORE SUBJECTS

German, Maths, English, Irish, French (or Business), Sports.

SAMPLE SUBJECTS

Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Art, History, Geography, Yoga, Photography, Sport-Science, Fashion, Music, Philosophy, Spanish, Film-making, Politics, Enterprise, Human-Rights.

MODULES (6)

Drama, Chinese, Leadership, Cooking, Mindfulness, Psychology (Craft) and Film Appreciation.



ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION DETAILS

ST. KILIAN'S TY CREDIT SYSTEM

CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT DETAILS	CREDITS AWARDED
ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY	90% MIN	20
CORE SUBJECTS MATHS, IRISH ETC.	10 CREDITS PER MODULE/SUBJECT.	20
MODULES/SAMPLE SUBJECTS WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY ART/ GEOGRAPHY/HISTORY SCIENCES ETC.	10 CREDITS PER MODULE/SUBJECT	20
WORK EXPERIENCE	ATTENDANCE, EVALUATION, EMPLOYERS REPORT	20
STUDENT PROFILE E-PORTFOLIO TY PROJECT EXTRA-CURRICULAR	INTERVIEW, CONTENT: STORAGE, WORKSPACE, SHOWCASE,	20
TOTAL		100



ASSESSMENT

EXTENDED ABSENCES DURING TRANSITION YEAR

Here in St. Kilian's, we offer a very comprehensive and varied programme in Transition Year as you can see from this brochure. Students are expected to take part in all aspects of the year.

However, Transition Year does offer some flexibility and as parents you may have the opportunity to facilitate trips, work experience or studying abroad.

We are very happy to assist as much as possible individual requests and as much prior notice would be helpful.

In such cases the following criteria must be adhered to:

- Any request by parents to facilitate alternative arrangements for their children requiring absence from school, has to be formally applied for through the school management, (i.e. Principal) - furnishing the school with an address & a contact phone number for purpose of verification, should the need arise.

- Any absences due to the above situation can only take place after the 30th of September. The reasons for which have to do with the Dept of Education timelines regarding teacher allocation and student numbers.
- Pupils registered for the Sek I cannot be absent for any part of the year until their exams are completed in May. Similarly, any pupils required to sit the Sprach-diplom I exams could not be absent either.
- Any absences should be limited to a maximum of 3 months.
- Parents are expected to pay the full fees for the year.

Generally, while the school is supportive & happy to accommodate parent's wishes in this regard any absence will inevitably lead to an element of disruption i.e. unfinished projects/assignments, participation in outings/half-day modules/guest-presentations etc.



ABSENCES

OTHER

FINANCES

Students pay a supplement of €790.

*Fee will be reviewed for next year





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