

Transition Year Admissions Policy

1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Athboy Community School offers Transition Year as an optional one-year programme post Junior Certificate.

The aims of the Transition Year Programme reflect those specific to the guidelines published by the Department of Education and Skills, namely:

- Education for maturity with the emphasis on personal development including social awareness and increased social competence.
- The promotion of general, technical and academic skills with the emphasis on interdisciplinary and self-directed learning.
- Education through experience of adult and working life as a basis for personal development and maturity.

2. PROCEDURES

The maximum number of places available in each Transition Year Class in the programme group is 24.

An information evening for Parents and information seminars for students are held in the spring time of the year of entry. The Transition Year Programme is not necessarily suitable for all students.

Transition Year applications are supplied by and returned to the Transition Year Coordinator.

A closing date will be indicated on the application form and late applications may not be considered. Acceptance of the application form does not confirm or imply an expectation of a place on the programme.

External applicants fill in the enrolment application form for Athboy Community School as new entrants and such students who meet the criteria can fill out an application form for TY.

The TY Coordinator will consult members of the Teaching Staff with respect to the TY Applications list.

Applicants will be interviewed by 3 members of the TY Selection Committee. Final Selection will take place at a meeting of the Selection Committee. Composition from : TY Coordinator, Year Head-3rd Year, Guidance Counsellor, TY Teachers, Principal, Deputy Principal.

Following interview a short list of suitable applicants, in order of merit, will be drafted taking into consideration the admissions criteria.

Where the number of shortlisted students is above the maximum allowed the shortlisted applicants will be offered a place on the TY programme in multiples of 24. The remaining shortlisted suitable candidates will be offered places in order of merit, where they become available.

Parents/Guardians may appeal the decision of the selection committee to the Board of Management if so desired.

3. ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

The following criteria will help ascertain suitability:

- Level of serious commitment indicated by the student in the application process.
- Level of serious commitment indicated by the student at interview.
- Willingness to participate in all elements of the TY Programme both school based and external.
- The student's satisfactory attendance record in school.
- The student's adherence, as a Junior student, to the Code of Conduct of Athboy Community School. (Journal, Report Cards, Detention, Credits etc)
- The assessment of the student's competence and value to be derived from participation in key elements of the TY Programme.
- What contribution the applicant can make to the TY programme.
- The student's age and/or pastoral needs as communicated by the Year Head, Guidance Counsellor and/or other professionals in the school.

Successful applicants will be required to pay a fee to cover the additional expenses arising from their participation in the programme and to organise their own work placements.

A Transition Year student who does not actively participate or jeopardises the programme may be offered a place in the Traditional 5th Year Programme for the current or subsequent year.