



Transition Year Update

April 2020

To students,

I hope you are all safe and keeping well during these uncertain times.

This update will hopefully provide some guidance for you and your parents over the next six weeks. It is unfortunate that our Transition Year was cut short with so many trips and events planned to see us to the end of May. Thankfully we completed some of the core work involved with TY such as work experience and many of you engaged in opportunities that you wouldn't otherwise get to do in a normal school year. It's a very challenging time for students, teachers and parents.

Our mission in TY is to enable students to grow towards maturity. Many of you hoped to become more self-directed, autonomous and independent individuals. I'm asking now for the TY class of 2019/20 to demonstrate these qualities over these final few weeks and bring closure to a turbulent year that you can be proud of. Engage with me and your teachers to prepare for your portfolio assessment and grant yourself the reward you deserve. TY doesn't stop once the school year ends. You will carry the effort, successes and benefits long after you finish in the CBS.

Portfolio Assessment and Project Work

Well done to the majority of students who have worked very hard over the course of their Transition Year.

Firstly I want to emphasise that the TY portfolio encompasses all elements of TY that students engaged with. Project work is an integral part, but not the entirety of it.

Given that it is unlikely TY students will return to school this term, my aim is to conduct the TY portfolio assessment in a digital format.

There will be no interview, but instead I hope to use Google Forms to gather the relevant material that can be used to award students.

As the format will be different to the normal, each student's individual award will rely heavily on teacher's feedback of their engagement throughout the year including grades achieved in project work.

I will be distributing a Google form to all students in the **week starting 18th May** where they will submit all relevant information that will be used to assess them.

Awards will be finalised in the week that follows (what would have been our normal portfolio assessment week 25th – 29th May)

Students will be required to submit details of a minimum of 10 graded projects.

They can reuse projects from Christmas.

There is no maximum number of projects which can be included.

I will not be asking for the projects themselves to be submitted but just the details (Name of project, teacher, subject, grade etc.) These details must coincide with the information I will receive from corresponding teachers.

The Google Form will also include other aspects such as student's goals and achievements, Gaisce etc. More details will be provided closer to the time.

Students have 5 weeks to get organised for this assessment.

Work experience projects can be included as two separate projects.

With the extra time at home I am also offering students the option to do additional project work, of their own choosing and to their own design. This work can be submitted to me at any time for grading.

Google Classroom

Please regularly check Google Classroom for updates. Most of the portfolio assessment updates will be issued here.

Students must complete all project work assigned in the Tutorials classrooms which I set up. These projects are compulsory towards your portfolio assessment.

To date:

- All work experience files were to be uploaded here. Including photos of all written material.
- A personal project, which was originally to be used for the parents evening, but which will now be used as part of your portfolio assessment.

End of Year Trips

I am in contact with Topflight regarding the two end of year trips to Manchester which have been cancelled. Once I receive more information I will pass it on.

I am available at any time should you need to contact me.

Many thanks,

S. Coq

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