



Naas CBS Transition Year



Transition Year - Back to School 2023

Information for Transition Year Parents and Students.

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Dear TY Parents/ Guardians & Students,

We hope you are keeping well and we look forward to communicating with you throughout the year. We are looking forward to welcoming students back to school this Thursday. Plans have commenced for Transition Year and we intend to proceed with the same spirit and determination that makes the TY program in Naas CBS unique to all other schools.

Some important points:

- **It is vital that parents update the medical form available on the school app. The Medical Form is located on the left-hand blue panel under 'My Student'.**
- **Class lists and timetables are still being finalised. Keep an eye on the app for updates regarding class allocation.**

Student Induction and Return to School

The Transition Year group will start their year doing a 2 hour induction session with their form classes and Year Head.

Class lists and timetables are still being finalised. Keep an eye on the app for updates.

This will take place on Thursday 31st August

Thursday 31st August		Room
4A + 4B	9.00 - 11.00	2/20
4C + 4D	11.10 - 13.10	2/20
4E + 4F + 4G	14.00 - 16.00	2/20

Please note:

- Students need only to come in for their induction start time, not beforehand.
- Students can go home after their induction session.
- On Friday 1st September students will attend normal classes beginning at 9.00a.m.



Camping Adventure Trip 27th & 28th September

Our first major team building event of the year will take place from the 27th - 29th September. This is a one night camping trip for students to the Blessington lakes. More details to follow.

This is one of the highlights of the year and a great opportunity for students to experience new thrills whilst getting to know one another.

Please contact me if you have any queries about this trip, or if you know that your son cannot attend.

It is also important that we have up to date medical information for your sons.

Work Experience

Work experience is one of the drawing factors for many students to do Transition Year. For many it is the highlight of the year giving invaluable experiences and helping students grow toward maturity.

The following are our timetabled blocks for work experience which were decided upon last May:

Block 1	Week 1	13th - 17th November
	Week 2	20th - 24th November
Block 2**	Week 3	6th - 10th February
	Week 4	20th - 24th February

****We are reviewing the dates of the weeks in February.** The school is potentially moving the Mock exams to the two weeks before the mid-term break. We normally coincide work experience with these weeks to help with the exams.

Therefore the work experience weeks in the new year will most likely be changed to the following:

Block 2**	Week 3	29th January - 2nd February
	Week 4	6th - 10th February

I will send out a notice once this has been confirmed.

It is expected that students will complete work experience in a workplace environment. Students must obtain a placement for the dates outlined above.

If a student has the option of doing work placement outside of our timetabled blocks we will also try to accommodate this on an individual basis.

In the meantime if you know of someone, or perhaps a business/company that might be interested in linking in with the school for our work experience modules albeit in any virtual/ physical capacity I would love to hear from you. Please contact me at any time sc@naascbs.ie

Communication, School App & School Website

The school app is my main method of communication with students and parents. All TYs and parents must download the school app. It will be used to communicate all of the various elements and important notices that happen throughout the year.

I will set up two 'Chat Boards' - A parents group and a students group where I will send short messages regularly.

These messages are found under the 'Chat Board' section of the menu.

Please enable push notifications within this chat itself. This is done by:

- Locating and opening the chat board
- Selecting the settings option in top right corner
- Enabling push notifications

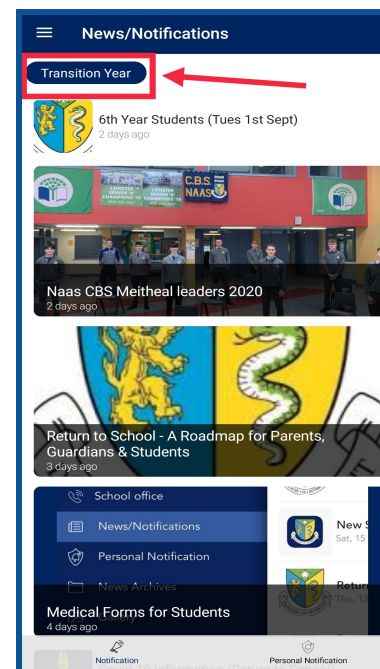
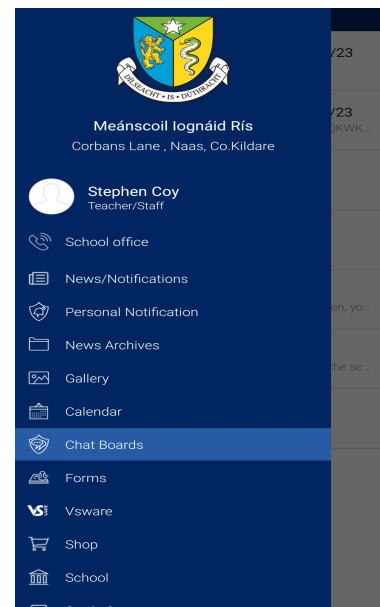
Check these regularly for updates.

We have also added a Transition Year notification category within the main news feed of the school app to allow users to filter content specific to TY.

This can be seen at the top of your notification feed.

This content is specific to the notification/news feed and does not include the 'Chat Board' messages.

See image on right.





Additional TY Information

TY Calendar

I use a specific shared TY calendar to mark in all events that happen during the year.

[It can be accessed here](#)

It will fill up quickly over the coming weeks as dates are finalised so keep an eye on it.

Class Timetable

Students timetables will currently have several blank spaces. These will be filled in on their return to school as they are classes that require allocating students e.g languages, science etc.

Google Classroom & Sites

Students this year will be working mainly in a digital format. Our school's digital learning platform is Google Classroom. Most students will be familiar with this from previous years.

It will be imperative that students use their school Google accounts for all school work and communication. Personal accounts will not be allowed. During induction we will aim to have every student access their account again.

It is important that students have Google Classroom, Gmail and the school app downloaded onto their phone as these will be our main sources of communication.

This year students will compile a digital portfolio using Google Sites. The students will be given all the relevant guidance to do this.



Gaisce - The President's Award

All students will partake in the Gaisce programme. Over the year students must participate in personal, physical and community challenges. We will set this up once students are in school.

Some clubs who have opened applications to TY students are listed below.

Arch Club

[Arch Club Gaisce Application Form](#)

Naas No Name Club

Registration Link can be found here: <https://linktr.ee/naasnnc>

Naas Park Run


Naas parkrun, a free 5k event that takes place every Saturday at 9.30am throughout the year at Naas racecourse. <https://www.parkrun.ie/naas/>

Naas parkrun is run by volunteers and it is a wonderful opportunity for TY Gaisce students to fulfill their community volunteering requirements.

Every parkrun depends each week on a wide range of volunteers to deliver a free event to their community and there is a volunteer role to suit all interests.

Students would be required to volunteer from 9.00am -10.30 on Saturday mornings for 13 weeks over the academic year. All the roles are very simple and include setting-up the course, time-keeping, handing out finishing tokens to scanning barcodes. Full training will be given to students.

It is the mission of parkrun to break down all barriers to physical activity for all members of society. As a result, participating in Naas parkrun would be an excellent way to complete that aspect of the Gaisce journey.



All volunteering and parkruns completed are documented online and every event will have a Run Director who can sign off on volunteering completed every week.

If any of your students are interested in volunteering please email us at naas@parkrun.com for more details or come down to Naas racecourse any Saturday at 9.30am.

Katherine Kissane

Event Director

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/naasparkrun/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/naasparkrun>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/naasparkrun/>

Community Weeks

Each class group will do one week of voluntary community work.

4G	18th - 22nd September
4C	2nd - 6th October
4A	16th - 20th October
4E	4th - 8th March
4D	15th - 19th April
4F	29th April - 3rd May
4B	13th - 17th May

[Please see the information here](#)

We do this so that our students get the opportunity to give back to their local community, to experience the fantastic voluntary work undertaken by so many on our behalf, and to see another side to community organisations and people within our communities.

Where should I look for my placement?

Firstly ask your parents, friends, relatives and especially past TY students for ideas. Some examples...charity shops, sports clubs, Tidy Towns, Nursing homes, Animal rescue shelters, any one of the many school clubs and extra - curricular activities, St Vincent De Paul, GAA club, Nursing home, local library, all Schools, Saplings, Churches and Parish activities, sports clubs, local resident's associations, Dog home, Environmental organisation, Food Bank,and so on.

What hours / duties are required of me?

We would hope you can provide at least 6 hours a day for 5 days. Work this out with your contact but try to give a meaningful amount of time in order to make a difference and try to undertake real tasks and duties which make a difference in our community.

This could also contribute to the community aspect of your Gaisce award.

The year is yours for the making!

We encourage students to make the year their own and use it as an opportunity to do the things they might not ordinarily get the chance to do.

Parental support is key in this process.

If any incoming students have something they would like to see incorporated into the year please let me know and we can look to make it happen!

There are a huge number of external TY specific programmes and events run throughout the year. I will send out notice of any information I receive but it is a good idea to start having a look online now, or speak with current TY students to get an idea of what options are out there.

Some include:

- <https://sia.ie/school-education-program/> (School of Archaeology)
- [DCU Early University Entrance](#)
- [STEPS Engineering](#)
- [STEM@ Universi-TY \(Trinity College\)](#)
- [Barretstown Residential Programme](#)
- [TCD School of Physics](#)
- [CIT School of Music Programme](#)
- [Trinity College TY Programmes](#)

I look forward to the year ahead.

Mise le meas,



Stephen Coy

(TY Coordinator and Year Head)

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