



# Naas CBS Transition Year



## TY Back to School 2021

Information for Transition Year Parents and Students.

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Dear Parents & Guardians,

We hope you are keeping well and we look forward to communicating with you throughout the year. As you are aware we are working towards a full return to school in the coming week. Plans have commenced for Transition Year and we ask for your support and understanding while we again attempt to navigate these uncharted waters.

The following information is important for your son's safety, please take the time to read it carefully.

We intend to proceed with TY with the same spirit and determination as we did with our pre-Covid programme but of course there may be changes, losses and a lot of positive and creative thinking required.



The school has introduced a number of measures to help create a safe environment for everyone in the building. It is imperative that our Transition Year students follow these measures and act in a responsible manner.

Students are expected to:

- Wear a mask or face shield at all times inside the building.
- Follow the one way system which has been implemented throughout the school.
- Sanitise hands when entering and exiting classrooms.
- Practice good coughing/sneezing etiquette and hand washing.
- Be punctual to classes/ designated rooms and not to congregate in corridors or common areas.
- Sit in assigned seats and adhere to social distancing.

For all activities planned students will be further divided into 'Pods' of 5 - 6 students.

**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.**

## Student Induction and Return to School

The Transition Year group will start their year with a 2 hour induction session with their form classes and Year Head. All students must wear face coverings.

We are following the same Covid 19 procedures as last year within the school.

Look at the following link for more information:

[Naas CBS Covid Procedures and Information](#)

As we gradually increase numbers in the school to the 1000 threshold we plan to stagger transition year students return.

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

**This will take place over Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th September.**

Tuesday 7th September		Room	Wednesday 8th September		Room
4A	9.00 - 11.00	2/20	4D	9.00 - 11.00	2/20
4B	11.10 - 13.10	2/20	4E	11.10 - 13.10	2/20
4C	14.00 - 16.00	2/20	4F	14.00 - 16.00	2/20

Please note:

- Students are only to attend school at the times outlined. Please arrive for that time and not before, going straight to room 2/20. Please be punctual.
- Students can go home after their induction session.
- Students in classes 4D, 4E and 4F **will not be in school on Tuesday 7th.**
- Students in classes 4A, 4B and 4C will attend normal classes beginning Wednesday 8th at 9.00a.m. These students will finish school at 13.10p.m that day.
- **All students will then attend normal classes on Thursday 9th.**



## Carlingford Adventure Trip 4th - 6th October

Currently, we still aim to travel on our first major team building event of the year to Carlingford Adventure Centre. This will be reviewed on a weekly basis to ensure it is safe for us to travel.

Last year's trip was a huge success due to the level of organisation on the schools part, and on the adventure centres part.

I have been in continuous contact with Carlingford Adventure Centre since early August again to ensure that such a trip would be safe for our students. This falls under the category of outdoor educational pursuits which is under the same category as schools. Carlingford have been hosting groups all summer for kayaking, high-ropes, axe throwing, climbing, zip lining etc. All wetsuits are steeped in Milton fluid after every use. Activities are strictly timed and staggered.

'Pods' of students will be created based on room allocations. Each 'pod' will eat together and do the activities together so as to limit students mixing.

Carlingford has also reassured me that sleeping arrangements will accommodate social distancing and there will be no more than 6 students per room.

Carlingford have also provided me with their Covid plans and risk assessments. Their Safety Statement can be viewed through the following link.

[Carlingford AC Safety Statement 2021](#)

We will be travelling via bus and I am in contact with Tom Cross regarding the logistics behind this. All Public Health and Safety Guidelines will be followed. Students will have to sanitise hands when entering and exiting the bus, be seated in assigned seats and required to wear masks at all times.

The option of parents bringing their son to and from the adventure centre is also possible if they have any reservations with them travelling on a bus.

The school's insurance provider and Board of Management are happy for us to travel knowing that all reasonable precautions are being taken to ensure that the undernoted activities are in compliance with public health guidelines and restrictions.

Should a student develop any symptoms of Covid-19 while on the trip they will be kept in isolation and we will be contacting parents to collect them.

I do appreciate that some people may still have reservations about travelling.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions or concerns. If you know that your son can not attend this trip will you please inform me ASAP via email [sc@naascbs.ie](mailto:sc@naascbs.ie)

If you are happy for your son to travel can you please confirm this through the following link.

[Carlingford Student Attendance Form](#)

## 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:

Block 1	Week 1	8th - 12th November
	Week 2	15th - 19th November
Block 2	Week 3	14th - 18th February
	Week 4	28th Feb - 4th March

It is expected that students will complete work experience in a workplace environment. If access to work experience is delayed, or a student encounters difficulties in sourcing a work experience placement due to COVID-19 we will explore putting alternative learning experiences in place for those students.

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

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](mailto:sc@naascbs.ie)

**The Queally Group** have opened applications for their TY programme. Any student who wants to apply can send their CV, an optional cover letter, and their preferred email address for future correspondence to the TY Programme Co-Ordinator Marie, at [mreilly@queallygroup.ie](mailto:mreilly@queallygroup.ie) before Wednesday, September 22nd. Interested students will be contacted in early October regarding programme content, dates, and the interview process.

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

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

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

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

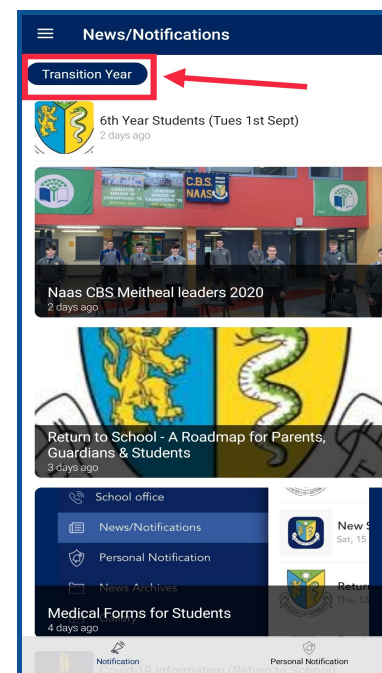
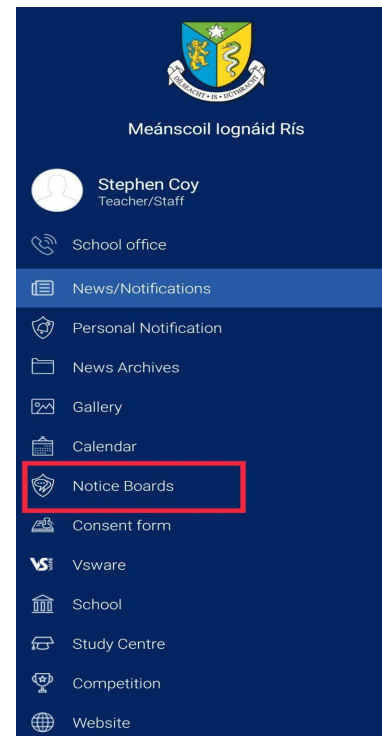
Check these regularly for updates.

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 'Notice Board' messages.

See image on right.





## Additional TY Information

### 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, maths 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 last year.

**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.

### Language Subjects & Books

Students who studied French or German for their Junior Cycle will continue to study those languages. Students who did not study any language will study basic Italian, and get a taster of different languages.

For French and German we are asking that students to purchase the following textbooks:

#### **German:**

**"Los geht's! - Transition year German" - CJ. Fallon, First Edition, Jacinta Cleary & Gemma Kelly**

#### **French:**

**"On Découvre" - Mentor Books**



## 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.

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

### **Arch Club**


[Arch Club Gaisce Application Form](#)

[Arch Club Parents Form](#)

### **Naas No Name Club**

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





I hope to keep the year as enjoyable as any other, providing as many different learning opportunities and experiences as possible.

As well as a variety of curricular aspects being explored we hope to get the lads active and outdoors doing some local/hill walks, orienteering, mountain biking and other sports based activities.

Additional information will be provided but should you need to contact me for any reason please do not hesitate to.

Looking forward to getting started!

Stephen Coy

TY Programme Coordinator & Year Head

Naas CBS

[sc@naascbs.ie](mailto:sc@naascbs.ie)