



# **Transition Year Policy**

Gaelcholáiste Carraig Uí Leighin offers an optional Transition Year Program after third year. Students in third year and their parents are advised to inform themselves about this comprehensive program before making an application. The maximum number of places will depend on staff, facilities and resources and will be reviewed annually by the Principal.

#### The Mission of the School

Learning is the cornerstone of Gaelcholáiste Carrig Uí Leighin. Every student under our care is supported and challenged to achieve their academic, personal and social potential in an all Irish environment where respect, equality and integrity are given priority.

#### Mission of the Transition Year

To provide an innovative Irish-medium educational environment based on respect, equality and integrity that fosters the student's personal, social, educational and professional development and prepares them for independent, responsible participation in society.

#### **Aims**

- 1. To provide an education that encourages maturity with an emphasis on personal development, increasing social awareness and social competence.
- 2. To promote general, technical and academic skills and emphasize interdisciplinary learning as well as self-directed independent learning.
- 3. To facilitate education through experience of adult and working life as a basis for personal development and maturity.

### **Admission Process**

- 1. To accept a student on the Transition Year Programme, the school must be of the opinion that the student is able to benefit from participation in the Transition Year and that their participation will prevent any other student(s) from benefiting from the year.
- 2. This decision will be made by the Transition Year Admissions Committee.
- 3. The Transition Year Admissions Committee consists of the Principal, Deputy Principal, Transition Year Coordinator, Head of the third year and the Career Guidance Teacher.

- 4. The school will provide an information evening about the Transition Year for Parents/Guardians and students.
- 5. It will be explained that knowledge about the transition year is vital. Students will have to research and prepare for their application, explain what they want to achieve during the year and how they can contribute to the various activities taking place during the year.
- 6. Certain aspects such as school attendance, use on the Irish language, punctuality, the ability to work as part of a group, attitude towards work, student behaviour, evidence that the student is involved in all aspects of school life in the classroom and outside of the classroom will be important aspects which will be taken into account as part of the application.
- 7. The students will have to fill in an application form containing a personal statement explaining what they want to achieve during the year and how they can contribute to the various activities of the year. The student will have to make a commitment to participate fully in the activities should they be offered a place.
- 8. Parents will also be asked to sign this form and make sure they believe their child will benefit from the year.
- 9. Late applications will not be accepted. The final date for completed applications will be clearly notified.
- 10. A student may be interviewed as part of the application.
- 11. Parents and students will be informed whether or not they have succeeded in reaching a place before Easter.
- 12. Students who do not succeed in getting places will be offered a place in the fifth year.
- 13. If a parent is not satisfied with the decision, an appeal can be made to the Board of Management.

## Accepting a place

- 1. Parents will have to accept in writing any offer made.
- 2. Any students wishing to change their mind and wish to move to fifth year will need to apply to enter fifth year before the October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 3. At this point, it is expected that both the student and their parent(s)/guardian(s) will arrange work experience for the specified periods during the academic year.
- 4. The school can withdraw an offer of a place in the transition year due to unsatisfactory attendance or behaviour.
- 5. Fees will be charged for aspects of the Program not funded by the Department of Education.

# **Garda Vetting**

 Those students who are 16 years of age or older may have to complete Garda Vetting prior to undertaking certain Work Experience Placements. This can be completed with Cork ETB through the TY Co-Ordinator.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on March 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2023.		
It will be reviewed regularly and is available to all stakeholders.		
It was last reviewed on May 30th 2024.		
Síniú an Cathaoirligh:		
Síniú an Phríomhoide:		
Dáta:		