



7<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## **Re: Programme Choices**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As your son/daughter is approaching the end of his/her Junior Certificate Cycle programme, it is now time to think about what avenue to take next year to continue their educational journey. In Bush Post Primary we offer three programmes, and it is important for you and your son/daughter to make an informed decision. The three options are as follows:

1. Transition Year
2. Leaving Certificate Applied
3. Traditional Leaving Certificate

### **Transition Year**

The Transition Year Programme is a unique one-year programme that promotes the personal, social, vocational and educational development of students and prepares them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society. TY provides a bridge to enable students to make the transition from the more dependent type of learning associated with Junior Cycle to the more independent learning environment associated with Senior Cycle. It encourages the development of a wide range of transferable critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills.

In TY students will study the core subjects of English, Irish and Maths together with Career Guidance, French or Spanish, SPHE and PE. Students will choose 7 option subjects from the 19 options. An MS form will be sent to students in early January to gather their preferences. Students will also go on 2 separate weeks of work experience where they will gain an insight into various occupations that interest them while also gain an insight into the joys of working life. All necessary documentation needed for employers, including the school's insurance will be given to students prior to going to their work experience.

TY also enables students to participate in a myriad of once off educational activities that they would not normally get the opportunity to experience. These include, mini company, Gaisce, BT young scientist, First Aid & Manual Handling certification, voluntary work, Drive for Life and careers exhibitions to name but a few. The cost of the TY programme is €450 approximately which can be paid in three installments throughout the year.

Students will be selected for the Transition Year programme based on their:

- Application form.
- Track record in the school.
- Suitability for the programme.

If oversubscribed, interviews for Transition year may take place.

### **Leaving Certificate Applied**

This is a two-year Leaving Certificate, aimed at students who want to follow a practical programme. It is designed to meet the needs of those who are not adequately catered for by the traditional Leaving Certificate. The main objective of the programme is to prepare students for adult working life. Students will study English, maths, a language, social education and 2 other specialisms such as ICT, Hotel, Catering & Tourism, Graphics & Construction. They may also study other modules such as hair and beauty, childcare, engineering and agricultural beauty. What is so unique and wonderful about the LCA programme is that students gain credits for attendance and their assignments throughout the year. It is perfectly designed for students who enjoy practical subjects and hands on learning. Students will also attend work placement every Friday.

Students will be selected for the LCA programme based on their:

- Application form.
- Track record in the school
- Suitability for the programme.

### **Traditional Leaving Certificate**

This is a two-year programme, also known as the traditional leaving certificate. Typically, students take seven subjects. Subjects can be taken at higher and ordinary levels. Students will study the core subjects of English, Irish and Maths, together with Career Guidance and SPHE. They will choose 4 option subjects from the following subjects: Accounting, Agricultural Science, Applied Maths, Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Construction Studies, Design Construction & Graphics, Engineering, French, Geography, History, Home Economics, Link Modules, Music, PE, Physics and Spanish. Option classes will run if there are sufficient numbers.

If oversubscribed interviews may take place for Transition year and LCA. All students who want to apply for TY or LCA must complete an MS application form which have been emailed today to each 3<sup>rd</sup> year student. The final closing date for applications is **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022**. Late applications will not be accepted. All students have been given a detailed description of each programme today at assembly. Career Guidance teachers have also explained the various programmes on offer to students to assist them in making an informed decision that suits their needs.

I would advise you to speak with your son/daughter and decide on the most suitable programme for them and assist them to fill in their application form. If they are

continuing to fifth year to complete the traditional leaving certificate, there is no need to complete a form. Please do not hesitate to contact me on [sgartland.bpp@lmetb.ie](mailto:sgartland.bpp@lmetb.ie) if you need any further information. I look forward to working with your son/daughter next year.

Yours faithfully,

Sheena Gartland.

**Programme Coordinator**