

# 2024-25 Transition Year Work Experience



# The Benefits of Work Experience

- ▶ You will learn more on work experience than any other part of Transition Year.
- ▶ You will learn:
  - ▶ About yourself
  - ▶ About what you are good at
  - ▶ Lots of new skills
  - ▶ All about careers and jobs and qualifications

# You will learn:

- ▶ Self confidence
- ▶ Time keeping
- ▶ Social Skills
- ▶ Organisation skills
- ▶ How to travel to and from work
- ▶ About the working world



# You will learn:

- ▶ What you like in a job
- ▶ What you don't like in a job
- ▶ How people interact with each other
- ▶ How interesting some jobs are...
- ▶ How boring other jobs are

# You will learn:

- ▶ What your interests are and where you might like to work when you leave school.....
- ▶ Where you can get qualified in that area and how to get those qualifications...
- ▶ Which subjects to choose for 5<sup>th</sup> yr to help you get into the courses to qualify in a particular area.

# You will only learn all this if you try out many different types of placements

- ▶ If you go to the local shop and stay there for the year, you will only learn about that one job
- ▶ Transition year is about pushing yourself out of your comfort zone and trying new experiences
- ▶ Go for it... try and get 8 or 9 placements

# How many work placements?

- ▶ As many as possible.....
- ▶ You have 8 months in the year – can you get 8 placements or more?
- ▶ The more you do and the greater variety will give you a better experience of Transition Year and you will learn so much more.

# So.... What you need to do.....



- ▶ Get a C.V. ready (sample given )
- ▶ Make a list of the jobs you would like to try in Transition Year
- ▶ List the opportunities for doing those jobs near you - think of family, friends, neighbours - are any of these people working in any job you wish to try?
- ▶ Ask them if they will get you an introduction, a link to the company?



# Plan for Work Experience

- ▶ As soon as the Junior Cycle exams end start looking for work experience placements, going into places and handing in your CV's, keeping note of details in your pink work placement calendar (given)
- ▶ Do not wait until you come back in September – it will be too late

# What do you do?

- ▶ Make the contact in person where possible
- ▶ Explain what you are looking for e.g. 4 Fridays.....
- ▶ Talk about the hours you will work - be very clear
- ▶ Ask what you will be doing
- ▶ Find out who your contact person will be - get an email address and phone number for them
- ▶ Write the details in your calendar (calendars given)
- ▶ NB Contact the person about a week or 10 days before you are to start to check it is all ok and they are expecting you.

# Line up work placements until Christmas

- ▶ List them on your calendar
- ▶ Know exactly where you will be going and when - no 'I think' or maybes.....
- ▶ Yes it is work for you but.... so worth it

# How long in each placement?

- ▶ It depends – 4 Fridays is probably enough
- ▶ Some places might want you to stay longer – talk to them about how long it will be.....
- ▶ **DO NOT STAY IN ONE PLACE FOR THE WHOLE YEAR – THIS IS A WASTE OF A WONDERFUL CHANCE TO DO LOTS OF DIFFERENT PLACEMENTS**

# This is hard work – but you must set it up for yourself

- ▶ It is not your parents' responsibility to get the work for you
- ▶ Part of the process is you getting it for yourself
- ▶ It is all about getting out there and going for it
- ▶ Just do it ...the first call or meeting is the hardest.

# Go for it!

- ▶ You will be so glad at the end of T.Y. when you have had many great experiences and you will gain so much confidence.

# Forms

- ▶ You will find all the forms for your employers on the school website.
- ▶ NB - Remember you will need to download these for each work experience and give them to each employer every time you go to a new placement.

# Enjoy the Journey!

