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TRANSITION YEAR 20 POINTS FOR PARENTS

1. Transition Year focuses on promoting maturity and confidence.
2. The emphasis is on developing skills rather than on simply remembering facts.
3. Transition Year encourages activity based learning, research skills and self-directed learning as a result students can develop more independent study habits.
4. Students become practised in meeting deadlines for assignments.
5. The year lays a solid foundation for a Leaving Cert programme.
6. Transition Year allows for space and opportunity to concentrate on aspects of learning which don't always feature on either the Junior or Leaving Certificate courses.
7. Students have the opportunity to discover more about job and career opportunities beyond school.
8. Young people can gain realistic insights into adult and working life.
9. Transition year Programme offers young people a broader variety of topics and subjects.
10. Transition Year Programme gets students and teachers out of the classroom and into other learning environments.
11. Transition year places a heavy emphasis on learning from experience.
12. Students explore the possibilities offered by computers and information technology.
13. Students who have missed out on parts of the Junior Certificate course can use Transition Year to catch up or fill in gaps in their learning.
14. Students learn about leadership, co-operation and dealing with conflict - assembling the skills that allow for dealing with people in practical ways.



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15. Attention to careers, third level courses, the realities of employment and unemployment are central concerns in Transition Year.
16. Transition Year students can follow and develop special interests.
17. Transition Year links schools more directly with their immediate communities.
18. Each school is free to design its Transition Year programme to meet the needs of its own students.
19. Students engage with civic, social and political issues of the day – helping to develop thoughtful, considerate citizens.
20. Transition Year can encourage more mature relationships between parents and their children. At the end of a day's work experience or a particularly stimulating field trip, parents are often the person best positioned to listen.