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*Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
an Longfoirt agus na hIarmhí*
Longford and Westmeath
Education and Training Board



Ballymahon Vocational School

Ballymahon

Co Longford

Tel: (090) 6432211

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope you and your family are keeping well and we look forward to communicating with you throughout the year. Plans have already commenced for Transition Year and we ask for your support and understanding while we attempt to navigate these uncharted waters.

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

The TY programme will be as full and rewarding as ever. Students can expect to be busy in all subject areas with as much interactive learning as possible and teachers are very busy preparing the programme in their respective subject areas. As well as the core subjects of English, Irish and Maths students will get to sample all of the option subjects throughout the year. This will help the students to make an informed choice later in the year when choosing their option subjects for 5th Year. There will be a greater emphasis on blended learning this year.

As well as the various subject areas the TY students will also undertake modules in the following areas:

- Career Guidance and the world of work
- I.T. - improving and developing I.T skills necessary for blended learning and the world of work
- Road safety
- Student safety in the workplace
- Disability Awareness and Inclusion
- Mental Health
- Looking at the Law
- Business and Enterprise
- Creative writing
- Debating
- Media studies
- Tourism
- Food and Nutrition
- Junk Kouture



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- B.T Young Scientist

Every year the Transition Year students participate in a **Community Module** and while their actual involvement in the community will be limited until public health advice changes, the students will learn about the various aspects of community work and participate where possible. We will be linking up with St Vincent de Paul again this year for their 'Young SVP' programme.

We have spent the last number of weeks restructuring the costs of TY to ensure we keep them as low as possible. Many of our workshops and courses have switched to online delivery and we have replaced or included certain modules to ensure COVID compliance. There will be an initial deposit of €50 per student. There will be further costs throughout the year if public health advice changes and trips and activities are permitted. Parents and Guardians will be notified of further costs as they arise. Any families experiencing financial difficulties or concerns about payment should speak in confidence to Mr Higgins and arrangements can be made.

TY Work Experience is currently under review.

The Transition Year group will start their year on **Wednesday 9th September 2020**.

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Brian Higgins
Principal

Ms Zara Mc Cabe
Transition Year Co-ordinator