



Our Lady's School

Founded 1953
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5th November 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

We would like to give you some information on the Transition Year Guidance Programme. Students attend a weekly guidance class during the year. During these classes students complete a number of self-assessment questionnaires and are introduced to useful websites that will assist them to explore various career options. This year students are using the REACH+ Careers and College Preparation Programme. Details on this programme are available on www.careersportal.ie.

In November the students will take the Eirquest and Cambridge Profiles Aptitude Tests. **B4 and C4 will take these assessments on Tuesday 13th November from 9.10 to 12.10. L4 and P4 will take these assessments on Wednesday 14th November from 9.10 to 12.10.**

The Eirquest assessment reveals a picture of the student's stronger occupational and academic interests, related abilities and personal qualities. The Cambridge Profile Aptitude and Ability Tests access seven aptitudes: Verbal Reasoning, Numerical Reasoning, Abstract Reasoning, Spatial Reasoning, Spelling, Arithmetic Calculation and Working Quickly and Accurately. These results are relevant in making university course and career decisions and they also explore a student's thinking and learning styles. These assessments are used to assist students in recognising their strengths and so aid them in making their subject choice for the Leaving Certificate.

It is vital that students are in school, on the above days to complete these assessments. The tests will be completed during the school day and students will be given further information about them prior to the tests. These tests require each student's full attention but no preparation is required. Once they have completed the tests they will return to class.

The results of the tests will be discussed with each student during an individual meeting and a workbook of their results will be given to the students to bring home. These workbooks contain the student's results and provide a guide to further careers research and advice on leaving certificate subject selection. We would encourage you to look at these workbooks with your daughter. If you have any queries or require further information regarding the assessments please contact us. In January we will be writing to you with further information about Leaving Certificate subject choice.

Yours faithfully

Lesley Porter
Guidance Counsellor

Fionnuala Bannan
Guidance Counsellor