



Avondale Community College

Transition Year 2026 Admissions Policy

Mission Statement

“Learning to Grow through Respect and Trust”

1. Overview

Avondale Community College has offered the Transition Year Programme since 1995. As the school has evolved and the cohort of students grown, the school moved from a compulsory programme to an optional one. This decision was influenced by the attendance and participation levels of the students involved and feedback from both existing and potential students. Transition Year is a one-year programme designed to bridge the gap between the Junior and Senior Cycle and to prepare students for adult life. Our school endeavours to achieve the mission of Transition Year which is:

‘To promote the personal, social, educational and vocational development of the students and to prepare them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society’

2. Procedures for Admission

- 2.1. Application for admission to Transition Year is open to all students in Junior Cycle Year 3.
- 2.2. For students currently enrolled in Avondale Community College, application for admission to Transition Year is made via the Senior-Cycle Options Programme.
- 2.3. A closing date will be indicated on the Application Form and late applications may not be considered.
- 2.4. All applicants scoring below 70 (as per 4 criterion) will be interviewed following receipt of their Application Form.
- 2.5. If a student is not offered a place on the TY Programme a letter is issued to the student’s parent/guardian informing them of such. The parent/guardian may meet with the Principal or Deputy Principal (if they wish) to discuss the matter further. The Principal may offer a student an opportunity for the remainder of the academic year to demonstrate the required behaviours deemed necessary for acceptance into Transition Year. A full review of their Transition Year application, on completion of the Junior Cycle Examinations, will then take place. If there is a waiting list students will be informed of their number on the waiting list.



3. Transferring students

- 3.1. Transferring students must, in the first instance, complete an official Enrolment Form for admission to the school. These applicants will be subject to the terms, conditions, procedures and criteria outlined in the school's Admissions Policy.
- 3.2. Applicants will be interviewed by the Principal and/or the Deputy Principal and/or the Transition Year Co-ordinator/Year Head, should a space be available on the programme.

4. Criteria for Admission

Each application will be considered on its own merit. However, the following criteria will apply in assessing a prospective Transition Year student's application:

- 4.1 The number of students that can be accommodated in Transition Year will be decided by the school's Board of Management prior to the design of the Senior Cycle Options Programme annually. The total number on the Transition Year programme will not exceed 96 students.
- 4.2 The student's attendance, participation and punctuality record. The attendance score is calculated regardless of absent notes submitted, to be fair to all. The review of dates are; September 1st to January 30th of the current academic year.
- 4.3 The student's demonstration of personal interests and personal development.
- 4.4 The student's record of compliance with the school's Behaviour Management Policy and the School Rules.
- 4.5 The student must submit a TY Application Form detailing his/her interest and suitability for the TY Programme. (Application Form attached)
- 4.6 Students may be accompanied by a parent/guardian at the interview *in exceptional circumstances. This will need to be arranged prior to the interview taking place.*

See Appendix 1

5. Accepting a place on the Transition Year Programme

- 5.1 The closing date for applications to Transition Year will be 30th of January 2026. First round offers of a place on the programme will be



made by the 13th February 2026. On receipt of an offer of a place on the Transition Year Programme the student & parent must confirm their acceptance by 6th of March 2026. This will also include a contract of learning associated with the programme. In order to secure this place, a deposit of €150 must be paid by Friday 6th of March.

- 5.2 Those who score under 70 will be required to attend an interview follow the mock examinations and the outcome from this interview will be issued by 6th of March.
 - 5.3 The successful candidate accompanied by a parent/guardian must attend an information evening in the first term to complete enrolment.
 - 5.4 It must be noted that demand is high for places in Transition Year and should any of the criteria not be adhered to, the offer of a place may be withdrawn and assigned to the next student on the waiting list.
- 6 Avondale Community College acknowledges its duty to promote equality of access to and participation in the Transition Year Programme subject to the procedures and criteria outlined in this policy.

Board of Management Ratification

Date 21st of October 2025

Board of Management Review

Date October 2026



Appendix 1

Avondale Community College
Transition Year Programme
Interview Score Sheet

Student's Name: _____

Date of Interview (If applicable): _____

Criterion 1	Interests/Personal Development	10 marks
Criterion 2	Attendance & Participation	30 marks
Criterion 3	Code of Behaviour	30 marks
Criterion 4	Application Form	20 marks
Criterion 5*	Interview (Applicants who have scored below 70 in criterion 1-4)	10 marks

Criterion 1 10 marks	Criterion 2 30 marks	Criterion 3 30 marks	Criterion 4 20 marks	Criterion 5* 10 marks
Interests/Personal Development	Attendance & Participation	Code of Behaviour	Application Form	Interview
0 Poor 1-3 Fair 4-7 Good 8-10 Excellent	0-5 days = 30 6-10 days = 25 11-15 days = 20 16-20 days = 15 21 plus days = 10	No SBR = 30 1 SBR = 25 1-3 SBR = 20 4-5 SBR = 10 6-7 SBR = 0	<u>Form</u> 0-4 Poor 4-9 Fair 10-15 Good 16-20 Excellent	<u>Interview</u> 0 Poor 1-3 Fair 4-7 Good 8-10 Excellent

Signature: _____ Date: _____