

Parents' information
evening(additional information
has been added since this
presentation)

19th March

Welcome

Transition Year
26/27





New Transition Year Programme

Four student dimensions

- **Personal Growth:**
Taking part in a team-building trip or giving a presentation in class to build confidence and resilience.
- **Being a Learner:**
Completing a self-directed project (like researching a topic you're interested in) and reflecting on what you learned. Giving students the skills to prepare them for the LC.
- **Civic and Community Engagement:**
Volunteering for a local charity or community clean-up, helping others and understanding social issues.
- **Career Exploration:**
Doing work experience in a job area you're interested in (e.g. working in a business, hospital, or office).

Subject choices

Category	Subjects		Notes
Core Subjects	Religion Irish Careers Folder Class	English Mathematics Computer Studies PE	All students study these subjects for the full year as per the timetable above.
Subject Rotation Group (All Students do all subjects)	Music History Biology Sustainable Living Chemistry Research & Referencing (Prep for upcoming AACs in 5 th Year)		Each of the six base classes study all subjects in this category - 3 classes per week for 5 weeks each, No choice required – The Base classes move onto the next subject in the list every 5 weeks.
Option Group 1 (Choose 2)	Geography Home Economics Art Construction Agricultural Science Business		2 periods per week: One subject studied until Christmas. Second subject from Christmas to Summer
Option Group 2 (Choose 1)	German English & Communications Design & Communication Graphics (DCG) Accounting French Physics		2 periods per week - studied for the full year.
Option Group 3 (Choose 1)	Stage Design (Woodwork) Junk Kouture Theatre and Stage Media Textiles & Crafts Formula One		1 period per week - studied for the full year.

Transition Year Sample Timetable 2026-2027

Times	Period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
08.55 – 09.53am	1	Computer Studies	Irish	Geography (1 of 2 chosen – changes over at Christmas)	Work Experience	Religion
09.53 – 10.05am	12 Mins	Cúram Class	Cúram Class	Cúram Class	Work Experience	Cúram Class
10.05 – 10.03am	2	German (Chosen - Full Year)	SPHE	Sustainable Living (Rotated – Every 5 weeks)	Work Experience	Geography (1 of 2 chosen – changes over at Christmas)
11.03 – 11.18	BREAK					
11.18 – 12.16pm	3	Religion	English	German (Chosen – Full Year)	Work Experience	Mathematics
12.16 – 1.14pm	4	Irish	Media Studies (Chosen – Full Year)	Careers	Work Experience	Sustainable Living (Rotated – Every 5 weeks)
1.14 – 1.59pm	LUNCH					
1.59 – 2.57pm	5	Sustainable Living (Rotated – Every 5 weeks)	PE	Mathematics	Work Experience	
2.57 – 3.55pm	6	Folder Class	PE	English	Work Experience	

TY Specific modules:

- English Communications and Media
- Mini Company
- Career Guidance
- TY reflective folder class
- RCSI Mini Med
- Poetry Ireland
- Creative writing workshop
- Movie making/editing
- Cyber Security
- Forensic Science workshop
- Fund literacy through State Street
- RSA road safety
- Driving School workshop
- International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL)
- Wellbeing
- Self Defence
- Yoga/Pilates
- Circuit classes
- Junk Kouture
- Child safeguarding
- Intro to Gaelic Games course

Extra-Curricular and Community Enrichment activities

Baltinglass Adventure Centre

Dunmore East Adventure Centre

Carlingford Overnight Trip

Guest speakers from the world of Engineering, Payroll, Medical Industries, financial trading

Alumni speakers

Footgolf

Emerald Park

Careers Options Fair, Women in Technology, SETU Waterford

Workshop on healthy relationships

K-Bowl Christmas Party



Extra-Curricular and Community Enrichment activities

- Primary School Debating Trip
- Primary school GAA coaching
- Pirates Cove Adventure Centre
- Young SVP
- Gaisce
- Amnesty, Bagenalstown Nursing home visits
- Direct Provision visits
- Green Schools projects
- Liaising with Bagenalstown Improvement Group
- Intergenerational technology teaching in Bagenalstown Library
- Selling Mini Company Products at Christmas Markets
- Organising Primary school quiz nights in PDLS
- Coaching and referring with local clubs.



Work experience

- **Work experience takes place every Thursday. Thursday is not a school day, and attendance at the work placement is required.**
- Every Thursday – 3 Blocks
 - September to November
 - November to March
 - March to May

Strong relationships with many local employers, and we encourage students to reach out over the Summer and contact businesses in the local area.

TY work experience programmes:

Engineers Ireland, The Defence Forces, An Garda Síochána, RCSI
MINI Med online information week delivered in school & lottery for in person

All these programmes will be based on an application process carried out through the TY Coordinator.

- Additional employment information available on TY notice board and hard copies available for parents

All relevant paperwork is available in the TY folders beside the TY notice board

Work Experience

TY students do **not attend school on Thursdays**, as this day is dedicated to **Work Experience**. Ideally, students complete their placements in **three blocks throughout the school year**.

Example – Johnny

- From **September to November**, Johnny works in an **engineering firm** every Thursday.
- From **December to February**, he completes a placement with a **local radio station on Thursdays**.
- From **March to May**, he gains experience in a **local primary school each Thursday**.

Finding Work Experience / Placement

- Students are expected to **source their own work experience placements**, with the support and guidance of their parents/guardians and the school.
- This is an important part of the TY programme, as it encourages **initiative, responsibility, and independence**.
- The school also provides support throughout this process. A **list of suggested placements** is available, featuring businesses that have an **established relationship with the school**
- Engaging in work experience plays a vital role in students' development. It helps them to:
 - Build **confidence and communication skills**
 - Develop a strong **work ethic and sense of responsibility**
 - Explore potential **career interests**
 - Gain valuable **real-world experience**

Overall, this process supports students in becoming more **independent, motivated, and prepared for future opportunities**.

TY PE	4A	4B	4C	4D
September 23rd	Footgolf	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing	Self Defence
September 30th	Footgolf	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing	Self Defence
October 7th	Footgolf	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing	Self Defence
October 14th	Footgolf	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing	Self defence
October 21st	Zumba	Footgolf	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing
November 4th	Zumba	Footgolf	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing
November 11th	Zumba	Footgolf	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing
November 18th	Zumba	Footgolf	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing
November 25th	Self Defence	Zumba	Footgolf	Patric Fitness
December 2nd	Self Defence	Zumba	Footgolf	Patric Fitness
December 9th	Self Defence	Zumba	Footgolf	Patric Fitness
December 16th	K-Bowl	Zumba	K-Bowl	K-Bowl
January 6th	Self Defence	Zumba	Footgolf	Patric Fitness
January 13th	Wellbeing	Self Defence	Zumba	Footgolf
January 20th	Wellbeing	Self Defence	Zumba	Footgolf
January 27th	Wellbeing	Self Defence	Zumba	Footgolf
February 3rd	Wellbeing	Self defence	Zumba	Footgolf
February 10th	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing	Self Defence	Zumba
February 24th	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing	Self Defence	Zumba
March 3rd	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing	Self Defence	Zumba
March 10th	Patric Fitness	Wellbeing	Self defence	Zumba

Transition year PE

- Full PE Uniform must be worn
- Note must be provided if correct uniform is not worn.
- If students are leaving school, they will be supervised by their teacher.
- Each student samples at least 5 different PE classes, rotates after 4 classes.
- Diverse curriculum to satisfy many different physical needs.
- Additional PE classes to be delivered March-May, introduction to GAA, Swimming, hiking etc.



Communication

- TY Notice board in school
- Student email
- Face to face interaction
- Access to Coordinator and Year head in their classrooms
- Text Messages to Parents
- School calendar published on the school website <https://www.pdlsbagenalstow.n.com/Calendar>
- Social Media
- Student surveys
- Continuous verbal feedback from students, staff and parents



Trips away

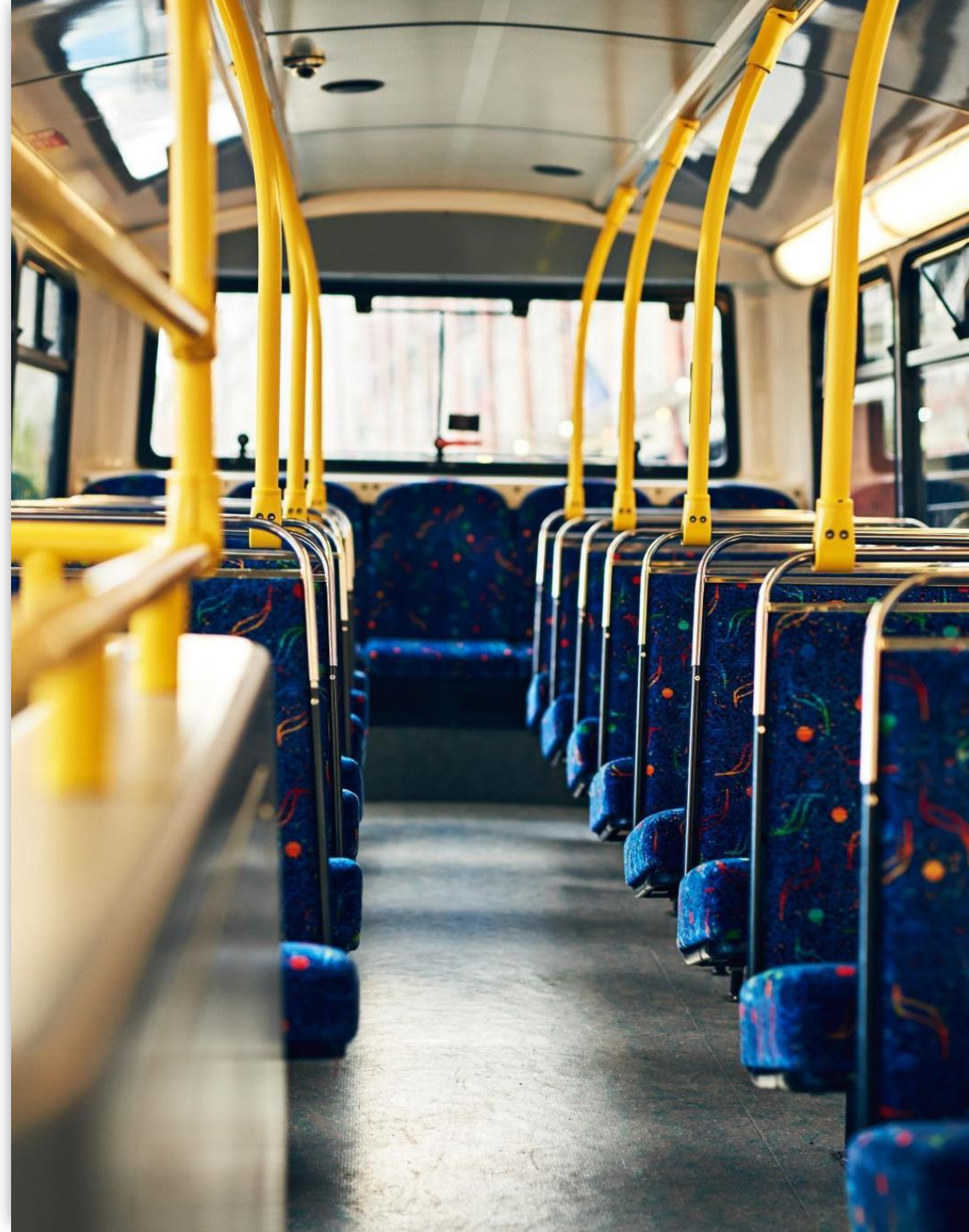
- Currently in the planning phase for Erasmus 26/27. Based on application and availability of teacher ability
- Baltinglass, Dunmore East and Adventure Centres.
- Carlingford Adventure Centre

April/May 2027 at a cost of around €220 per student, parental subsidy will be needed, this year we have asked parents to pay €120 towards this cost.



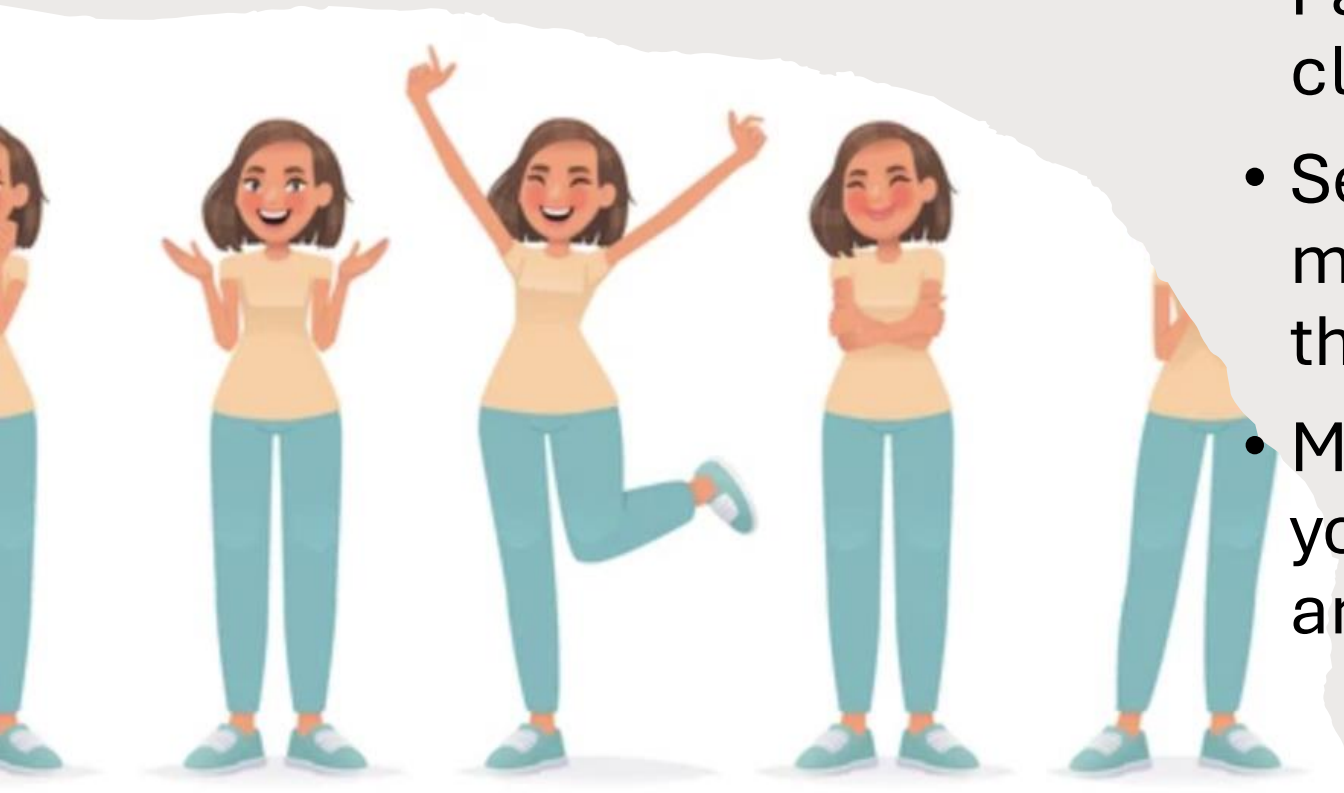
What do I get for my €450?

- All activities **except** for Erasmus Trips and the overnight trip to Carlingford Adventure Centre (€120 subsidy in 2026) are covered in the cost.
- ICDL licence €6550
- Busses - €18,000 spent on TY buses over the last academic year, Eg Dunmore East Bus cost is €1200 this year.
- €43pp Dunmore East, Carlingford €96pp, Waterford Greenway €15pp, Baltinglass Adventure centre €40pp.
- Speakers, Forensic science, Driving school course, Poetry Ireland, TY PE classes (€9000), Bowling, GAA & Safeguarding course, Movie editing...
- In previous years, €535 has been the average spend per student.



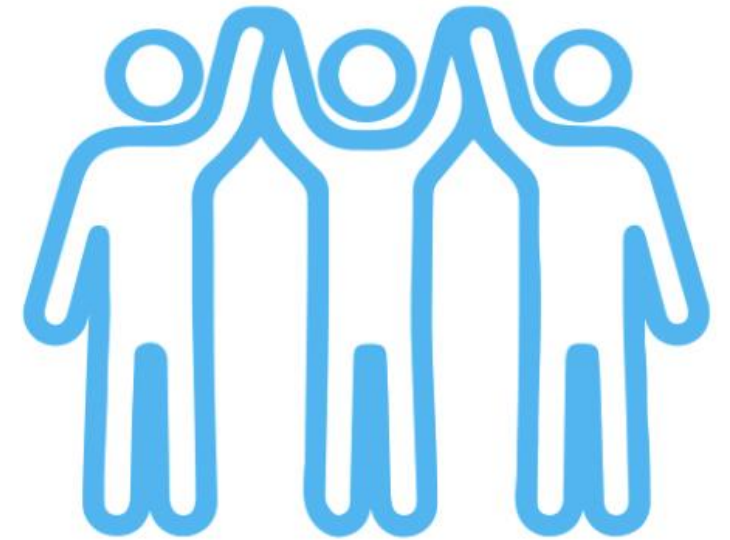
How to make the most of TY!

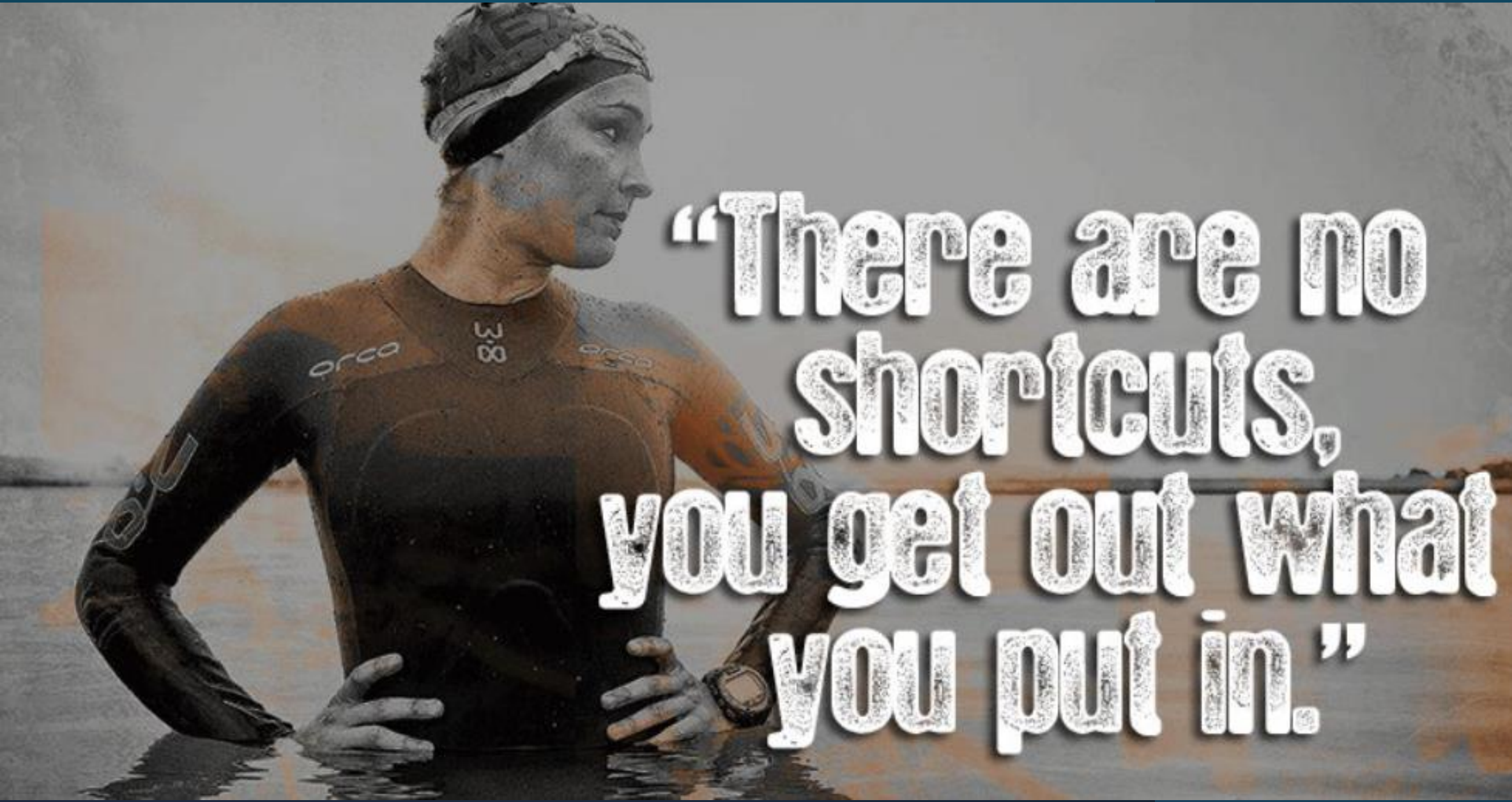
- Have excellent attendance
- Be open-minded – you might be surprised!
- Take advantage of all opportunities
- Actively engage in the programme
- Participate in whatever is on offer – clubs, trips, competitions
- Seek out additional activities that might interest you, we can support that.
- Maintain a detailed record of your activities, skills developed and achievements for your CV



Advice for Parents

- **STRONG SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS ESSENTIAL FOR SUCCESS**
 - **BE INFORMED** – Check out the TY Calendar online
 - **SET THE TONE AND OFFER ENCOURAGEMENT** – You have significant sway over your children.
 - **ONGOING COMMUNICATION AND INVOLVEMENT** – keep communication lines open with your child.
 - **THE WORK PLACEMENT** – Help your child seek suitable work experience
 - **LOOK FOR ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL PROGRAMME** – You know your child best!
-



A triathlete wearing a black and orange Orca wetsuit and a swim cap is standing in shallow water. The wetsuit has 'orca' and '3.8' printed on it. The athlete is looking off to the side. Overlaid on the right side of the image is a large, white, stylized quote.

**“There are no
shortcuts,
you get out what
you put in.”**