



**SUBJECT CHOICE INFORMATION  
FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS  
OF FIRST YEAR STUDENTS  
JANUARY 2017**

# TIME MANAGEMENT

Finding the *right balance* between:

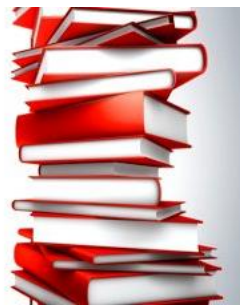
**Homework**

**and**

**Extra Curricular activities.**



The importance of both of these cannot be over emphasised.



# HOMework

It is expected that first year students do a minimum of

1 ½ hours per night.

It is important that Parents/Guardians *check the journal regularly* to ensure homework is completed.

The journal is also used as a means of communication. Teachers may put notes in here for you to read and you can do the same if you wish to send a note to a teacher.

The journal *must* be signed at the end of every week. **Please have a look at our Homework Policy in your son's journal.**

# EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

*Getting involved* in extra curricular activities is very important and there are a variety of opportunities open to students at CBS Thurles.

Taking part *builds friendships, social skills, team-work and self- confidence* therefore helping the student to reach their potential on many levels.

*Encourage your child to try out new sports and activities outside class time.*

# **CORE SUBJECTS:**

**Geailge**

**Banded**

**English**

**Banded**

**Maths**

**Banded**

**History**

**Geography**

**Science**

**C.S.P.E ( Civic Social & Political Education)**

**Religious Education**

**S.P.H.E ( Social Personal & Health Education)**

# **CHOICE SUBJECTS**

**Art**

**Business Studies**

**French**

**German**

**Materials Technology (Wood)**

**Music**

**Technical Graphics**

# ART, CRAFT, DESIGN.

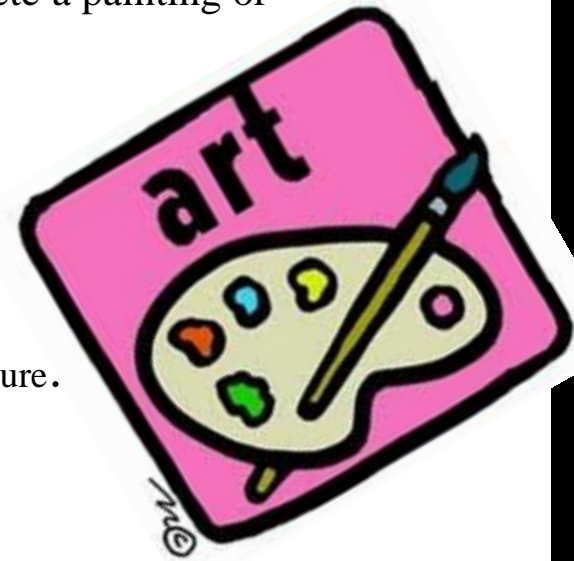
- Learn a variety of new crafts.
- Learn to work in 3-D e.g. sculpture or clay work.
- Learn about the design process and how to use it to create new design object and images.

**In Art, Craft, Design, you will be examined in two ways:**

1. Course-work -in third year, you will do a school-based project, chosen from a list of themes. You will research your theme, do preparatory work and complete a painting or graphic design, a craft piece, and a 3-D piece.
2. An examination in which you will draw an object and a person

There are many career opportunities in Art including:

Photography, Illustration, Interior/industrial/fashion design, Education, Architecture.



# Business Studies

## Some of the things you will learn:

- what your rights and responsibilities are as a consumer
- how to calculate your wages when you start working
- about why our membership of the European Union is so important to our economy.



## Some activities you may carry out with your teacher and classmates:

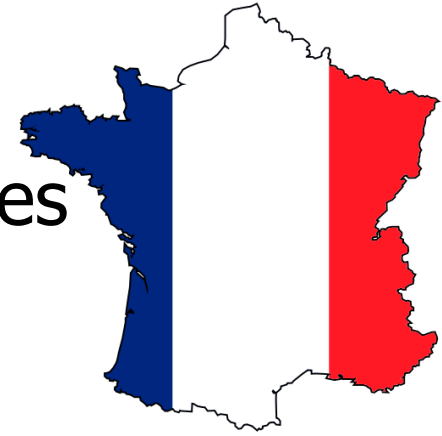
- ⦿ Form a club in class to learn what it is like to be a club member
- ⦿ Prepare advertisements for different events to learn more about sales promotions
- ⦿ Practise recording transactions
- ⦿ Keep records of your pocket money •learn about the benefits of saving
- ⦿ Take part in a mini-company enterprise as part of an out-of-class activity.

**You will learn about the world of work which will introduce you to many possible careers such as; accountancy, finance, sales, marketing, and management. It also gives you a good foundation for the two Leaving Certificate business subjects Accounting and Business**



# LANGUAGES

We offer 2 Modern European Languages  
French & German



In studying a language you learn to:

- how to speak in the language about yourself, your family and friends, your hobbies, your school, etc. This will help you to talk to people who speak the language
- the skills of **listening to, reading and writing** in the language
- the grammar of the language
- **information about the countries** where people speak the language, and their way of life.

**Languages** are key skills and can open opportunities across all career areas:

**Business/ Management**

**Education**

**Tourism**

**Journalism**

**International Marketing**

**European Studies**

**Translation**

**Cultural Studies**



*and many more!*

# MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY: WOOD (MTW)

In **MTW** students will learn:

- To design small projects; and the skills required to use tools and equipment to make their designs.
- Students will work mainly with wood but also with other materials.
- Students will learn about wood as a material and how it is produced.
- This leads on to Construction Studies at Leaving Cert level.

•**There are two parts to the exam:**

**Coursework** – you will design a project based on a given design brief (instructions). You will then make the project and prepare a project folder to accompany it (66%).

**Written examination**– there will be a two hour written paper which examines the woodwork theory you have learned over the three years(33%).

# MUSIC

Some of the things you may do with your teacher and classmates are:

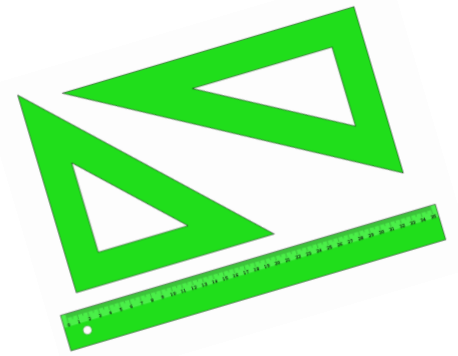
- sing and play different instruments
- listen to music and discuss what you hear
- use technology and watch music-related DVDs
- use a textbook and workbook
- read music, write tunes
- do music-related projects.

In Music you will be examined in 2 ways:

- A practical exam** - you can sing or play an instrument for this exam - on your own or as part of a group
- A combined aural and written exam** in composing and listening to music.



# TECHNICAL GRAPHICS



- Can be studied on its own or to complement another Technical Subject such as MTW.
- In Technical Graphics students will learn how to represent 3-D objects on paper and on computer.
- Students will develop problem solving and creative thinking skills through the solution of graphical problems
- Technical Graphics builds on skills learned in mathematics for example: 2-D and 3-D shapes, lines and angles.
- This leads on to Design and Communication Graphics DCG at Leaving Cert level.

# THE THIRD LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT:

The National University of Ireland (NUI) require that students have a third language (English & Irish being the first two) to gain entry into that college.

There are **exceptions to this rule** in relation to Science, Engineering and Agricultural Science courses.

Other colleges do not go by this rule, however, if a language is part of your chosen degree then that language will be a requirement to gain entry to that course.

**It is best to explain using an example such as the following:**

Trinity College Dublin does not require a third language, however, if you choose to study French and Law you must have taken French for your Leaving Cert.

# **COLLEGES THAT REQUIRE A THIRD LANGUAGE (MODERN EUROPEAN LANGUAGE)**

- NUI Maynooth (NUIM)
- NUI Galway (NUIG)
- University College Cork (UCC)
- **University College Dublin (UCD)**
- **Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland (RCSI)**
- St. Angela's College, Sligo
- National College of Art & Design (NCAD)
- Shannon College of Hotel & Catering
- Cadets & Defence Forces

# **EXCEPTIONS TO THE THIRD LANGUAGE RULE:**

- **Engineering, Science & Agricultural courses at UCD.**
- **Engineering and Science courses at NUI Maynooth. NUI Galway and UCC.**
- **University of Limerick (UL): English & another language.**
- **Dublin City University (DCU) ; English & another language.**
- **Trinity College Dublin (TCD) accepts a “language other than English” e.g. Irish.**
- **Institutes of Technology accept English or Irish for entry purposes.**



# **COLLEGES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A THIRD LANGUAGE**

You *do not* have to have a third language to gain entry to the following colleges:

**University of Limerick (UL)**

**Dublin City University (DCU)**

**Trinity College Dublin (TCD)**

**Any of the Institutes of Technology**

**(e.g. Athlone IT, Dublin IT, Limerick IT, etc.)**

# FOCUS ON POTENTIAL

We encourage students to work to achieve their full potential from the beginning as this work lays a solid foundation for Junior Certificate and on to Senior Cycle and the Leaving Certificate examination. Teachers and parents encourage students to work towards achieving their full potential and to aim towards the highest level possible in each subject.

Higher		Ordinary	
GRADE	POINTS	GRADE	POINTS
H1	100		
H2	88		
H3	77		
H4	66		
H5	56	O1	56
H6	46	O2	46
H7	37	O3	37
H8	0	O4	28
		O5	20
		O6	12
		O7	0
		O8	0

## Leaving Certificate Points from 2017

**The current bonus of 25 extra points for students who take Higher Level Mathematics at Leaving Cert reinforces the importance of staying focused from 1<sup>st</sup> year.**

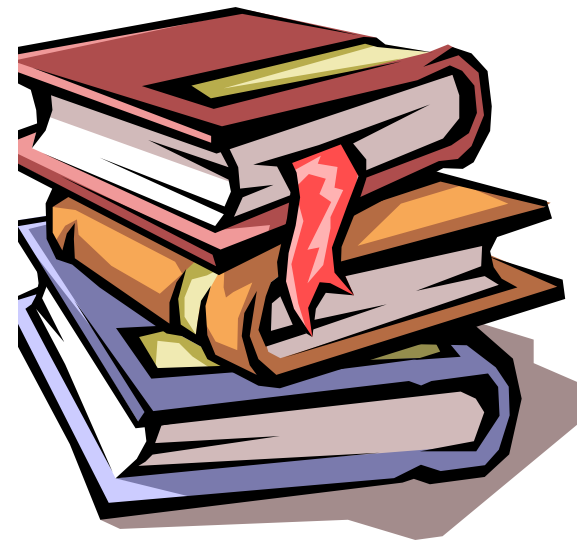
# HOW DO YOU CHOOSE?

Research

Supports

Discuss

Reflect



# RESEARCH

## Subject Websites:

- [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie) – Fact Sheets on each subject
- [www.curriculumonline.ie](http://www.curriculumonline.ie)
- [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)
- [www.scoilnet.ie](http://www.scoilnet.ie)
- [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)

## Career Websites:

- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
- [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
- [www.careersdirections.ie](http://www.careersdirections.ie)

Junior Certificate Textbooks

# RESEARCH

**Interests** – choose subjects you like

It is very difficult to learn without having a genuine interest in the topics.

**Learning Style** – Ask “what type of learner am I?”

Take a test online:

<http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/learning-styles-quiz.shtml>

# DISCUSS

Discuss your thoughts with:

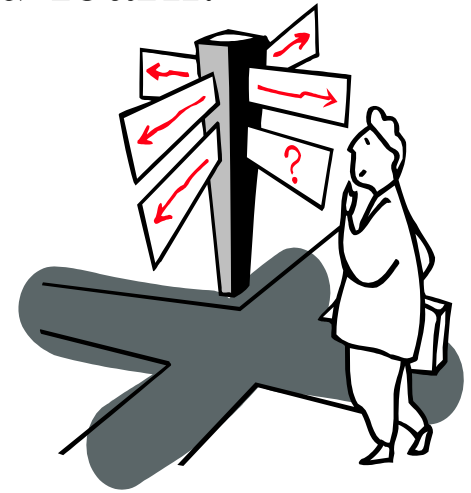
- Subject Teachers
- Parents/Guardians, Older Brothers & Sisters
- Guidance Counsellor – Mr. Tobin
- Older Students

# REFLECT

Think about your interests and how you learn.

Ask yourself the following questions:

- Do **I like** this subject?
- Am I **good at it**?
- How have I performed up to now?
- Is there a chance I might need it for further study/career?
- Am I keeping **my options** open?



# SUPPORTS

- Partnership between home and school is vital
- An open honest dialogue with the school is essential
- If there are any difficulties let us know:
  - Senior Management
  - Year Heads
  - Guidance Counsellor
  - Tutor





# COMPLETING THE SUBJECT CHOICE FORM: ORDER OF PREFERENCE

- Your son must list their subject choices in order of preference.
- The one they **would like to do the most** must be put down as **Number 1**.
- **4 subjects** are chosen from the list and **each student will be assigned to 3 of those subjects**.

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**

