



Trinity Access Aspiration in Education Programme

Description:

Our Transition Year Aspiration in Education Programme consolidates and augments Junior and Senior Cycle Key Skills. Each session is focused on preparing TY students for third level and further education by helping them to develop study, critical thinking, and communication skills. The sessions are grouped into three broad themes;

- Managing and Processing Information
- A Taste of Third Level
- Personal Development & Self-Management

These sessions provide opportunities for students to explore current topics through an emphasis on digital and media literacy, experience a third level subject such as Law, Sociology, Philosophy, etc., and develop a portfolio of work that will allow them to work towards a Trinity TY Skills certificate.

Duration:

This is an 8-week course with one two-hour session per week. Students will participate in a one-hour online session, accompanied by an hour-long offline session to complete supplementary work.

Commitment from Schools:

In order to participate in the programme, schools would need to commit to the following;

- A linked teacher to liaise with the programme facilitator and monitor attendance and offline tasks
- An 8-week block within the TY timetable
- A minimum of 16 students to participate
- As the programme is currently facilitated online, students would need access to devices

Sessions: (Flexible as per School Timetables)

11am-12pm (online session): these will include interactive lecture-style sessions, workshops and panels

12pm-1pm (offline task): these will include reflection and research tasks, collaborative group work within Microsoft Teams/Google Classroom, preparing presentations for future sessions

Session	Description	Skills/Info	Example Offline Assignments
Managing and Processing Information			
How to Google	An interactive session structured around educating students on the relationship between information and its internet sources	Research skills/information management	Comparison piece where students investigate the differences between a pre-Google and a post-Google world
Digital Literacy	A lecture style session focusing on honing students' critical thinking and analysis skills in the face of persuasive and obtuse language across digital media	Critical thinking/information processing/research	Analysing current headlines across a range of publications for content, language, accuracy, perspective
A Taste of Third Level			
TAP Ambassador Panel	A panel session with TAP ambassadors attending a range of courses in Trinity where students submit questions to contribute to a discussion about third level experience, access and support	Communication skills/research/reflection and personal focus skills	Preparing a reflection piece on the views expressed during the discussion with a focus on the student's personal responses and thoughts
Sample Lecture	A third level style lecture from a Trinity lecturer. Lecture content will depend on lecturer availability but will draw from both AHSS and STEM strands	Note-taking/critical thinking/self-management	Students will be directed to take notes during the lecture and will use these and further research resources to answer a question set by the guest lecturer
Workplace Panel	Representatives from across Trinity and industry engage in a panel session discussing their paths to work and workplace experiences. Students will be encouraged to ask questions	Note-taking/critical thinking/self-expression	Preparing a comparison piece on views held before and after the session. Plotting a possible path to a specific position in a particular industry
Personal Development and Self-Management			
Study Skills	A workshop style session offering students a chance to identify and consolidate their	Time management skills, information processing, self-	Creating a personalised study plan encompassing all

	positive study patterns and mitigate against their less productive behaviours.	assessment, critical thinking, project management skills	TY subjects, identifying concrete, attainable goals and building in points for reflection and self-assessment
Communication & Expression	An interactive lecture session that explores informal and formal modes of expression, particularly in relation to email and essay composition, presentations and debates	Communication, verbal and written expression, presentation skills	Students will be tasked with composing a formal email to a future employer/a university lecturer requesting information on a vacancy or college course
Future Goals	A workshop session based on the Wish, Outcome, Obstacle, Plan framework, introducing students to the idea of personal goal setting	Reflection, personal development, self-knowledge, planning skills	Producing a Future Goals reflection piece with the view to returning to said piece in 5 th and 6 th year