TRINITY ACCESS
Engage, Innovate, Inspire

Bridge to College Programme

Description:

Our Bridge to College Programme is designed in three parts. Students will visit us in either Oriel House, Trinity College, or Citywise, Tallaght.* Students work in teams to complete different tasks and activities over two sets of 4 day programmes, culminating in a Leadership Project.

- · **Week 1** - Digital Media Literacy, Project Management & College Awareness

- · **Leadership Project** - Students use project management skills to develop a project/initiative for their own school community

- · **Week 2** - STEM, Information Literacy, Research and Analysis of Data

The overall aim of the **Bridge to College** programme is to provide a learning experience for young people to become confident learners through the use of technology and teamwork. The programme seeks to positively engage students and encourage them to raise their personal learning aspirations. Both weeks of the programme are designed to provide opportunities for students to explore topics/themes with an emphasis on engaging them in challenging learning activities involving digital media, gaming, animation, mobile technology and web design, across a range of subject areas. Each part of the programme is focused on preparing TY students for third level and further education by helping them to develop their critical thinking, communication, creativity and project management skills. Students will be introduced to the Leadership Project in Week 1 and will be guided through the project with ongoing virtual and in-person meet-ups throughout the year with a Trinity Access staff member. The aim is to introduce leadership through the lens of social justice and community development with the goal of students producing or developing a project they themselves lead and manage with the skills gained from Bridge to College.

*Alternatively an online/remote version will be available in light of Covid-19 restrictions.

Duration:

Week 1 runs for 4 days, Tuesday-Friday inclusive and this happens before Christmas.
Week 2 runs similarly for 4 days, Tuesday-Friday and will be run after Christmas.
The Leadership project will start before christmas with project development running after christmas.

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 on recruitment and supervise carrying out a Leadership project in school
- A minimum of 12 students to participate (for in-person programmes)
- If the programme runs online, students will participate from home and will need to have a device and stable internet connection
- Time commitment from students:
  - 4 days (Week 1) before Christmas
  - 4 days (Week 2) after Christmas
  - Time for students to develop their Leadership projects in school after Christmas (e.g. dedicating 1 hour per week to their projects)
  - One day after christmas for Megan to run in-school/online session
- Teachers will need to ensure that students who sign-up for Bridge to College are willing to complete the whole programme, including Leadership project

Sessions:
- 9:30am-3pm Tuesday-Thursday for both Weeks 1 and 2
- 9:30-1pm Fridays for both Weeks 1 and 2
- After Christmas break, the Leadership project will begin in the implementation phase of starting a project. Timeline will be January to early March.

Time	Description	Skills/Info
Week One		
Tuesday	● Welcome & Film Projects ● Students receive an introduction to what Bridge to College is about, Ice-breakers, brainstorming and teamwork activities, movie making & team presentations	● Group Work ● Use of Technology ● Presentational Skills ● Confidence/Creativity
Wednesday	● Future Technology Day ● Developing ideas/concepts on the question 'If the world was perfect in 2050 - what are the things that have gone away? ● Create multimedia advert campaigns to sell their future technology product, including: Slogan/catchphrase, Logo, Product design, price, and possibly a Prototype or model.	● Critical Thinking ● Use of Technology ● Group Work ● Presentation Skills ● Creativity/innovation
Thursday	● Leadership Day ● 'Brain Game' is a simulation of a team task where they need to organise and deliver. Tasks will pile up if their project management skills are not being used! ● Megan our Leadership Coordinator will be present to chat and explain the Leadership Programme in more detail	● Project Management ● Critical Thinking ● Group Work ● Leadership ● Self-Reflection Skills

Friday	● Education Day ● College Q&A with team ● Presentation: What I would change about School/Education System?	● Public Speaking ● Critical Thinking ● College Awareness ● Self-Reflection Skills
Leadership Project Students explore and engage with social justice, community development, leadership and project management, through a leadership project.		
January - March	● Post-Week 1 follow up activity where students begin planning their Leadership project by making initial inquiries and a timeline. ● Virtual and/or in-school visits with Megan to help students develop their projects and skills. ● Students to carry out the project themselves in school during this time.	● Projects can be simple like a social media campaign or exhibition. ● Emphasis is on the skills learned rather than the project!
May	● Award Ceremony and Best Project	
Week Two		
Tuesday	● STEM Day ● Students will focus on problem solving and critical thinking through science/maths based tasks with an emphasis on scientific method ● Dummy Diving: students develop methods for estimating and calculating the height of a drop	● Critical Thinking ● Use of Technology ● Group Work ● Problem solving

Wednesday	● Information Literacy Day ● Students will discuss, explore and investigate topics such as storytelling, fake news through projects, presentations and debates	● Critical Thinking ● Information Literacy ● Communication
Thursday	● Survey Day ● Introduction to Research Skills. Looking at different ways of presenting and analyzing data. Students in their groups will design, carry out, and then put together their major findings on a survey of their peers.	● Group Work ● Public Speaking ● Critical Thinking
Friday	● College Day ● Students will explore college courses in more depth as well as talks and activities on access routes and supports for going to college.	● Group Work ● Public Speaking ● Use of Technology