

Spanish: Transition Year

Overview of skills

Transition is an important year as it helps pupils to bridge the gap from Junior Cycle to Senior Cycle.

Topics

The approach to learning the language is still largely topic based and builds upon previous knowledge. Pupils prepare a detailed written project entitled 'Mi vida' (My life). This significant piece of written work covers: family, friends, home life, school life, holidays, interests, summer holidays and aspirations. It can be very useful to pupils as they prepare for an oral exam. Pupils will also learn to write: a biography of a famous person, about a Spanish speaking region or country, a film review and about their work experience.

During the year classes will read a short Spanish reader and watch a couple of films that will be the basis of class work.

Pupils will also have opportunities to learn more about Hispanic culture and will learn about traditions and festivals from various Spanish speaking countries as well as learning more about food, geography, history and cultural life in Spain. A highlight of Transition Year is the yearly 'flamenco' workshop.

Grammar

Pupils will review grammar from the Junior Cycle and also learn the Imperfect, Perfect and Conditional tenses. Grammar will be taught in conjunction with the topics and be fully relevant to the assignments pupils complete.

Homework and assessment

During Transition Year pupils will submit regular written assignments, complete tests and end of term exams. For the summer exam pupils will have their first oral exam.