



**Coláiste na Carráige**

**Subject Choice Policy**

# 1<sup>st</sup> Year Subject Choice Policy

## General

**Coláiste na Carraige** aims to provide as broad a range of subjects to its pupils as possible. It endeavours to utilise its resources and staff to the maximum, within the constraints of teacher allocation, health and safety issues etc.

Up to Junior Certificate students follow a core curriculum of Irish, English and Maths. All students take a European Language, French and they also take Science. All students are obliged to do SPHE and CSPE. In exceptional cases, some students have exemptions from Irish and/or French.

In addition to the above, students have four sets of optional subjects. Currently students select four from the following list: History, Geography, Business, Technical Graphics, Music, Metalwork, Home Economics and Woodwork.

## Timeline

An **Open Night** for incoming first year parents is held in the month of February. This is followed in the month of April by a visit to the Primary schools by the Pastoral Care co-ordinator.

At the **Primary School Visit** the sixth class students will be given a sheet which outlines the proposed subject choices for the forth-coming academic year. They are asked to take this sheet home and discuss their preferred choices with their parents.

This sheet should be returned to Coláiste na Carraige on **Induction Day**, which is held in the month of May. A reminder will be sent to the parents to fill the sheet prior Induction Day. They are not asked to rank the subjects just to select four. A careers talk is incorporated into the day for the parents and students.

At the **start of the academic year**, the 1<sup>st</sup> year students are given a four week taster period, where they are all given the opportunity to try each subject for two weeks. On the **Friday** at the end of this period, the students are given a form, on which they select their optional subjects. They are asked to prioritise the four subjects that they have selected, in order of importance to them.

This form is returned on the following **Monday**, signed by the parent/guardian. An analysis of the forms is made that day, if it emerges

that there is an oversubscription to any class, then those students who have selected that subject as their least preferred option will be spoken to. The careers teacher will also consult with the subject teacher, seeking his/her advice as to whether they consider that the student "has a flair for the subject or not". In addition the school will also consult with the parents of these students.

If at the end of these consultations there is still oversubscription to the subject then all parents of the students wishing to do this subject will be invited to a meeting where a final resolution will be made. In order to allow students and teachers to get started with the Junior Cycle curriculum, this meeting will be held as soon as possible during the week, preferably on the Thursday night at 8pm.

This policy has been ratified by the Board of Management.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of BOM

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of next review: \_\_\_\_\_