

INCOMING
1ST YEARS
2026

Colaiste Eamonn Ris



Wexford CBS



Fáilte

- Mr John Nolan (Deputy Principal)
- Mr John Hegarty (Deputy Principal)
- Ms Leanne Goff (Guidance Counsellor)
- Ms Aideen Byrne (SENCO)
- Mr Adrian Gleeson (Olive)

CAREER GUIDANCE & COUNSELLING

Ms. Leanne Goff - Guidance
Counsellor for Incoming 1st Years
2026/2027

*“True guidance is like a small
torch in a dark forest. It does not
show everything at once, but
gives enough light for the next
step to be safe”*

Email: lgoff@wexfordcbs.ie



Role of the Guidance Counsellor

1

- **Educational** – Subject Choice, Study Skills etc.

2

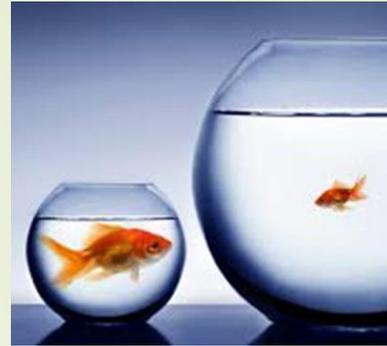
- **Careers** – CAO, careers classes, Open days, Guest speakers etc.

3

- **Personal** – anxiety, panic attacks, self esteem/confidence, mental health etc.

What changes in Secondary School?

- More subjects and teachers
- A larger school environment
- Greater independence and responsibility
- Homework and study expectations
- New friendships and opportunities
- Childhood – Adolescences





Organisation is KEY

- Use a school journal or planner
- Pack your school bag the night before
- Keep books and notes organised
- Check homework every day
- Bring materials to class

Building Friendships



- Many students feel nervous at first
- Everyone is starting something new
- Join clubs and activities
- Be kind and inclusive
- Talk to teachers if you're worried

Wellbeing Support



- Students may feel nervous or excited
- Talk to a trusted adult
- Support from teachers
- Year head or tutor support
- Guidance counsellor support

Expectations in Secondary School

- Be respectful
- Try your best in class
- Complete homework
- Follow school rules
- Take responsibility for learning





Tips for Students

- Ask questions
- Stay organised
- Get involved in activities
- Manage your time
- Give yourself time to adjust

Tips for Parents

- Encourage independence
- Check the school journal/vsware
- Help create homework routines
- Keep communication open
- Contact the school if needed

SUBJECT CHOICE



CORE SUBJECTS

- ▀ Irish
- ▀ English
- ▀ Mathematics
- ▀ History
- ▀ Geography
- ▀ Science
- ▀ Religious Education (RE)
- ▀ Wellbeing (CORE):
 - Civic, Social & Political Education (CSPE)
 - Physical Education (PE)
 - Social, Personal & Health education (SPHE)
 - Treoir

NON-CORE SUBJECTS

- ▀ Visual Art
- ▀ Business Studies
- ▀ Classics
- ▀ Music
- ▀ Wood Technology
- ▀ French
- ▀ German
- ▀ Technical Graphics



3rd Language Requirement

Certain **NUI universities** require a modern language for entry to many degree programmes. These include:

- University College Dublin
- University College Cork
- University of Galway
- Maynooth University

Typical requirement:

- **H4/H7 in a modern language at Leaving Certificate**

If a student **does not study a language**, they may be **restricted from applying to some courses in these universities**.

However, there are **many exceptions**.

Subject

A Third Language



- 189 courses definitely require A Third Language
- 3 courses may require A Third Language
- 1419 courses do not require A Third Language

Total: 1611

DO REQUIRE

Common examples include:

- ▶ Arts (in many cases)
- ▶ Humanities
- ▶ Some Social Science degrees
- ▶ Business in certain universities
- ▶ Law in some institutions
- ▶ Requirements vary by course and university.

WHEN YOU SHOULD NOT CHOOSE A LANGUAGE

Students may drop a language if they:

- ▶ Have significant literacy difficulties
- ▶ Have additional learning needs
- ▶ Experience high academic overload
- ▶ Need to prioritise core subjects
- ▶ The decision should always be made **carefully with guidance input.**

DO NOT REQUIRE

Students without a third language can still access a wide range of degrees. Examples include:

- ▶ Engineering
- ▶ Nursing
- ▶ Science degrees
- ▶ Computer science / IT
- ▶ Education (primary teaching requires Irish but not a third language)
- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Many business programmes
- ▶ Health sciences

For example, institutions like:

- ▶ Trinity College Dublin
- ▶ Technological University Dublin

Generally, **do not require a third language for most programmes.**



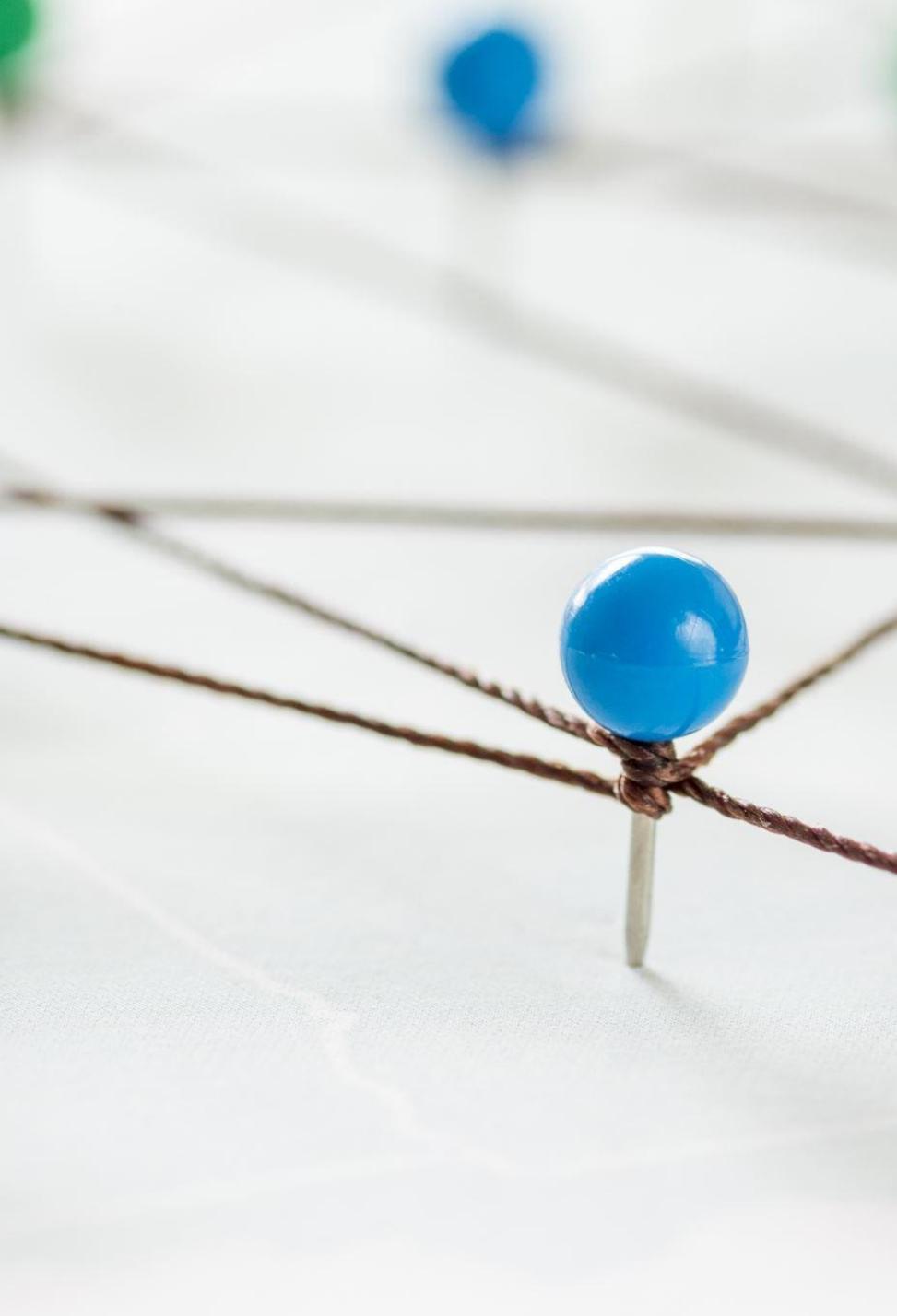
KEY MESSAGE

Not choosing a third language:

✘ does **not stop you going to college**

✘ **does not limit most career paths**

But it **can restrict certain courses in some universities**, particularly within the NUI system.

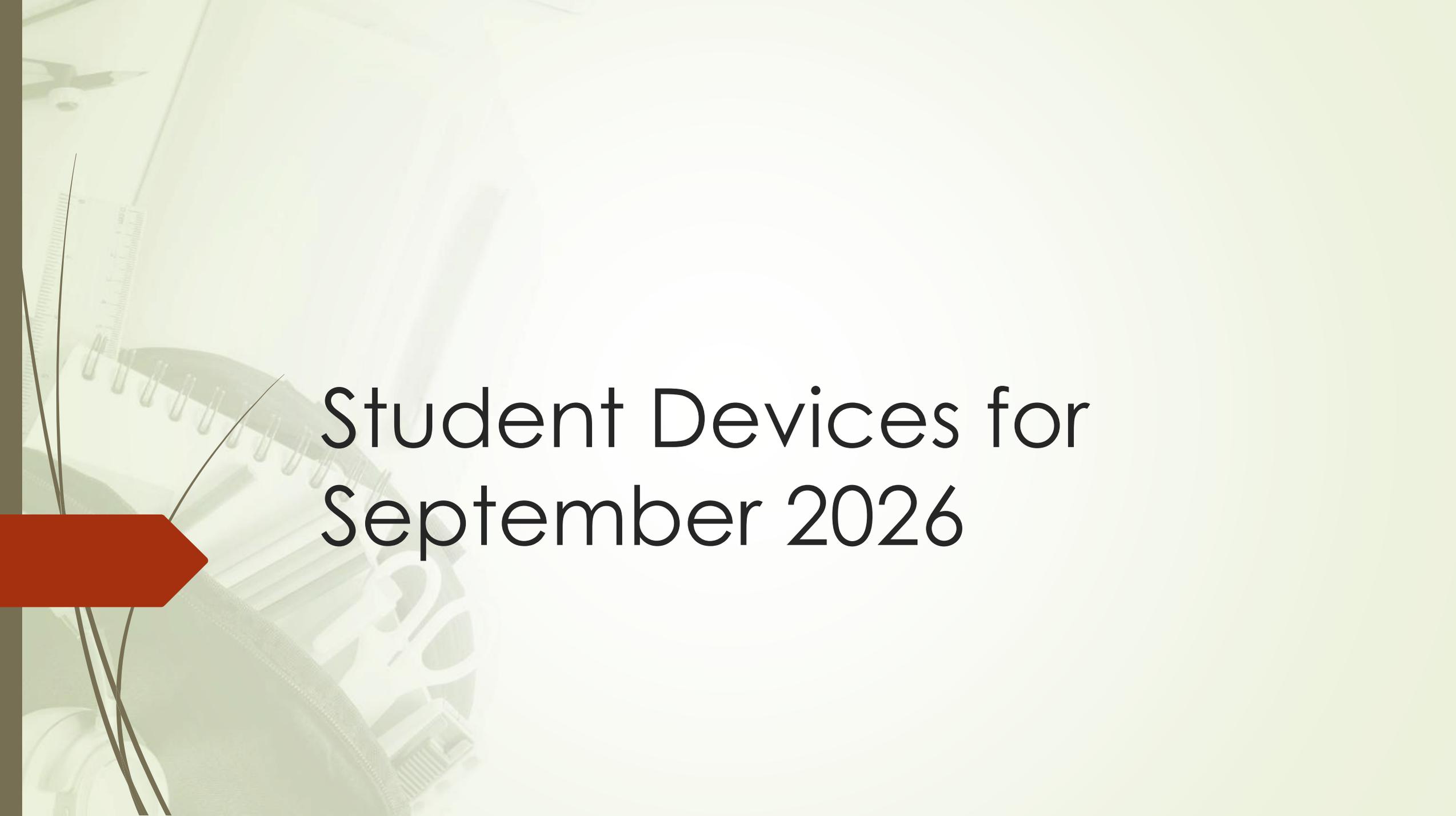


JUNIOR CYCLE INFORMATION

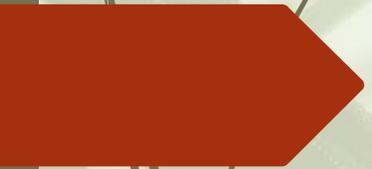
Information on the new Junior Cycle (Framework, Subjects & Short Courses) can be found at:

www.ncca.ie/en/junior-cycle

<https://curriculumonline.ie/junior-cycle/junior-cycle-subjects/>



Student Devices for September 2026





OLIVE for Education

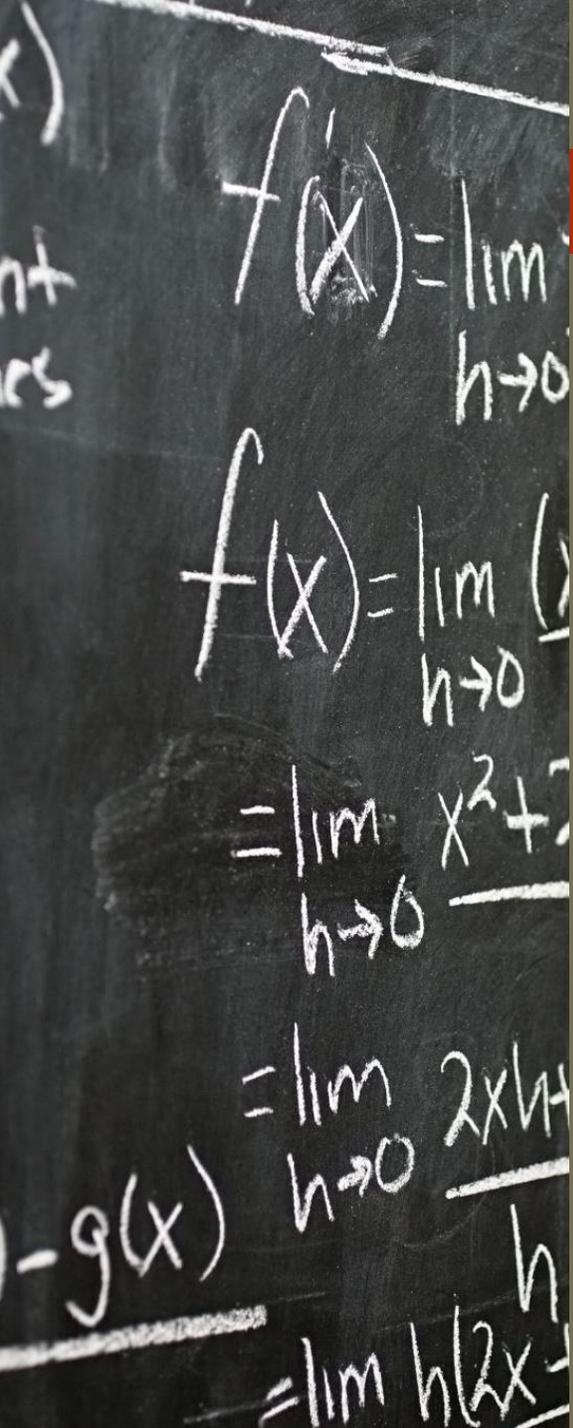


Adrian Gleeson



First Year 2026/2027

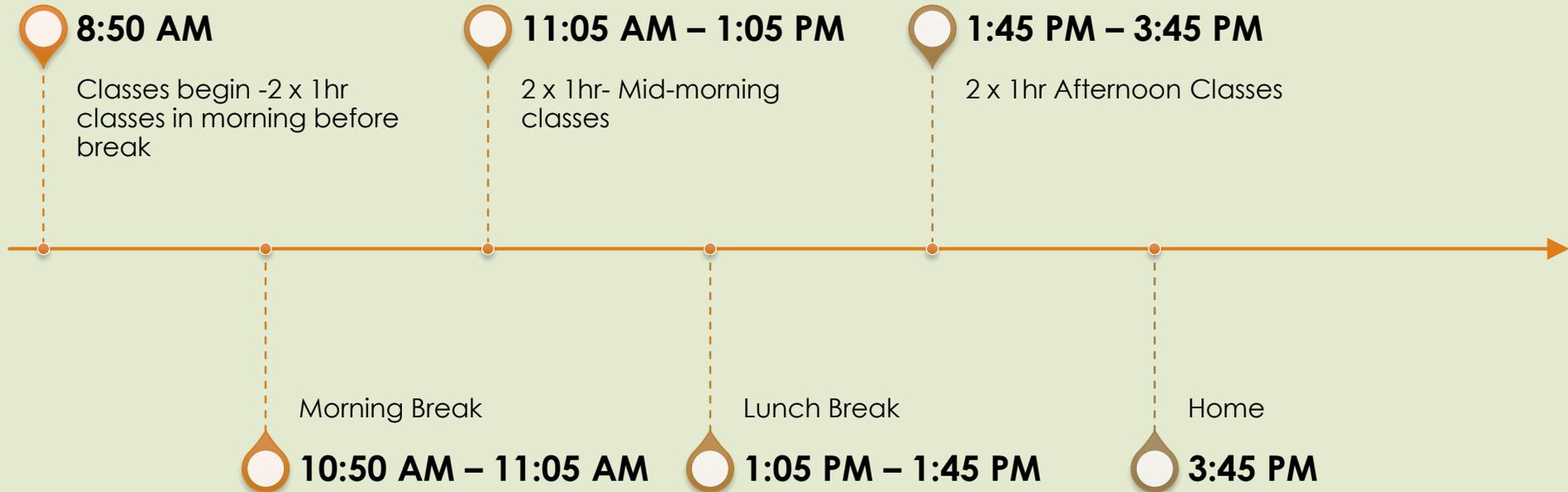
- ▶ 120 Students
- ▶ Four core classes/ 30 students per class
- ▶ JCP-Junior Cycle Programme
- ▶ Subjects
- ▶ English
- ▶ Irish
- ▶ Maths
- ▶ History
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ Religion
- ▶ PE
- ▶ Science
- ▶ + 3 optional subjects



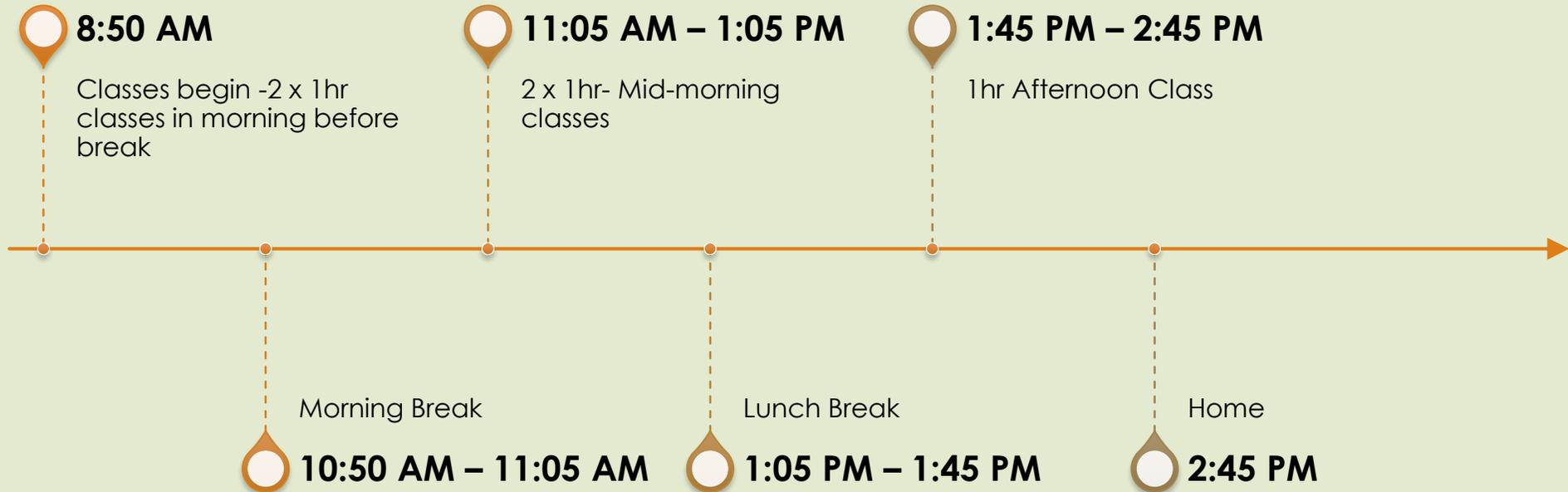
Junior Cycle

- ▶ 9 exam subjects
- ▶ 2 short courses (P.E., S.P.H.E.)
- ▶ Formal Certification - **Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement** – RESULTS IN THESE SUBJECTS PLUS OTHER AREAS OF LEARNING
- ▶ Wellbeing – (Made up of P.E., C.S.P.E., S.P.H.E., Guidance)

School Day (Monday-Wednesday)



School day (Thursday-Friday)



School Day continued



First Year students are not allowed to leave the school premises at any time during the school day unless accompanied by a teacher or parent/guardian (Rule applies to all Junior Cycle students)



Those wishing for son to go home for lunch must collect the student on a daily basis-No exceptions



REASON FOR
ABSENCE/NOTIFICATION OF
APPOINTMENT ON VSWARE



MOBILE PHONES ARE NOT ALLOWED
IN SCHOOL



FEES 2026/2027

- ▶ Voluntary Contribution €90 (or €90 per family)
August 2026 (VShare)
- ▶ School Pitch €30 or €50 for family
August 2026 (VShare)
- ▶ Lockers €15 collected by Parents' Council (VShare)

All Payments-Fees Tab on VShare

Uniform

- ▶ Black Shoes
- ▶ Navy Trousers
- ▶ Pale Blue Shirt
- ▶ Grey Jumper with School Crest
- ▶ Navy tie with pale blue stripe
- ▶ School Jacket (Various options available-O'Neill's website or local stores)
- ▶ Good idea to have a backup uniform

School Transport



All queries re school transport should be directed to Bus Éireann on 051 873401 or e-mail schools.waterford@buseireann.ie.



To apply, go to www.buseireann.ie/schooltransport and follow links and submit form or alternatively download and submit by post to Waterford School Transport Office, Bus Eireann, The Quay, Waterford. You need to know the school's roll number: 63640R.



DES Phone 057 9325466/7 or e-mail school.transport@education.gov.ie For more details go to www.education.ie

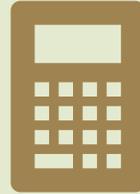


Eligibility for new entrants will be determined by reference to the distance they reside from their nearest Post Primary Education Centre

FREE Book Lending Scheme



Book Lending Scheme to cover
all subjects and stationery



Calculator/Mathematical set/Art
sketch pads also covered



Onus on students to take care of
the books as damaged/lost
books will have to be replaced.



Assessment Day

CAT 4

Use to inform us about your son's strengths across a number of competencies

Scheduled for Saturday 21st March at 9am

Primary School Educational Passports (forwarded by Primary Schools)



SEN Coordinator



Ms. Aideen Byrne



Learning Support

Ms. Aideen Byrne (SEN Co-ordinator) abyrne@wexfordcbs.ie

Mr Ger Forde (ASD Unit) gforde@wexfordcbs.ie

Professional Reports (Psychological Assessment, OT Report, Speech and Language Report), **Student Support Files, Student Care Plans.**

Irish Exemption Certificates: Copy of certificate must be sent into the school.



Transition Programme

We are contacting Primary Schools in relation to students who are in receipt of learning support.

It is the *Responsibility of PARENTS* to send all documentation to our school. **Deadline 20th March.**

Do not expect your son's Primary School to do this.

Once Professional Reports have been received and reviewed, **school visits will follow where necessary.**

Information gathered is essential to inform planning for learning support. Please prioritise providing the school with all relevant reports, exemptions, support plans.



Transition Programme



Contact Your Primary School
Principal/Learning Support Teacher to
request documents & ensure all necessary
information is sent to us before **20th March.**



Digital files can be sent to
abyrne@wexfordcbs.ie



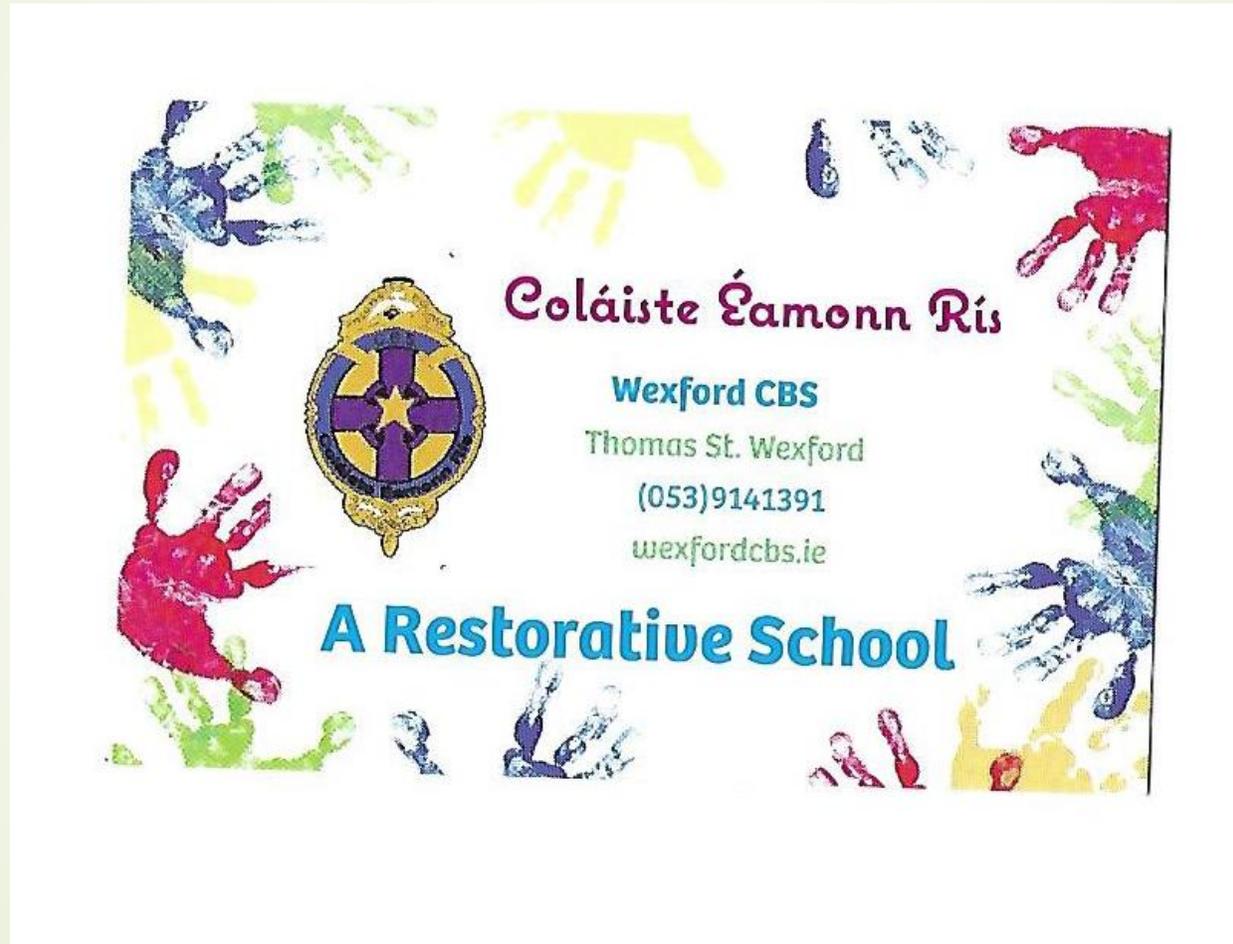
Contact **abyrne@wexfordcbs.ie** if you have
further questions or concerns.



Restorative Practices, Positive Affirmation, Extra-curricular activities

John Hegarty- Deputy Principal

Restorative Practice





Traditional Methods v restorative methods



A traditional approach to discipline focuses on the school rules that were broken, apportioning the blame and makes the wrongdoer accountable by punishing them.



Restorative practices focuses attention on the relationships that have been damaged, what needs to happen on all sides to rebuild these relationships and what can be learned from the experience.



A change of perspective

Traditional Discipline	Restorative Approach
Viewed in terms of rule-breaking	Viewed in terms of harm done to individuals
Focus on establishing blame or guilt	Focus on establishing responsibility and way forward
Authority figure with power to decide on penalty	Dialogue involving all parties in the incident
Accountability=getting punished	Accountability = working to put things right
Punishment to deter	Repair, apology and reparation
The needs of those affected are often ignored	The unmet needs behind the behaviour are addressed
Wrong doer feels hard done by and bitter	Wrongdoer has opportunity to face up to poor decisions
Victim has no involvement and feels powerless	Victim has involvement in process and contribution to outcome
Resentment, denial, anger, fear, revenge are common during and after process	Empowerment, honesty, openness, opportunity to move on, peace of mind after process

Target outcomes of Restorative Practices

- The victim is able to feel safe again
- The focus is on harm to people and acceptable behaviours. This reduces the likelihood of blame or denial.
- The wrongdoer and his/her family are more likely to accept responsibility for what has happened
- The wrongdoer will develop a greater empathy from the experience and is less likely to re-offend as a result
- The offending student will be reintegrated into the wider school community

Positive Affirmation

- Positive Affirmation Committee (PAC)
- Merit Points
- Your part in Positive Affirmation



Extra-Curricular activities in Wexford CBS

- ▶ Leadership opportunities
- ▶ Students Council
- ▶ Debating/Public Speaking
- ▶ Young Entrepreneur/Enterprise opportunities
- ▶ Christmas Fair
- ▶ Christmas show
- ▶ 1st Year Tour
- ▶ School Musical (with Presentation Secondary School)

Extra-Curricular activities in Wexford CBS

- School choir
- Cycle Against Suicide
- Sport in 1st Year
- Hurling
- Gaelic Football
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Rugby
- Athletics



CBS Astroturf Pitch



Digital Communications



COMMUNICATION

- VS Ware/Text Alert
- Parents to sign off on absences, appointments etc.
- Monitor attendance, behaviours, results
- Journal
- Newsletter
- www.wexfordcbs.ie
- Twitter - (@wexCBS)
- Instagram - (@wexfordcbs)
- Facebook - (Wexford CBS)
- DES Website - (education.ie)



Welcome to VSware

School

 Christian Brothers Secondary School

Username *

J.Nolan

Password *

[Create or reset your password](#)

Login

Don't have an account? [Learn more](#)



Click here to create your password

Password Reset



Username

Enter user name here



Last 4 digits of registered phone number

Enter last 4 digits of your mobile here



Send code

Resetting your student password? [Learn more](#)

Don't have an account? [Learn more](#)



Parent Dashboard



Welcome to the Dashboard

This page is your one-stop-shop to view live notifications on your child's attendance, behaviour, reports and more. If you want to explore further, click into your child's profile.



Your Children



[Redacted]



Your Contact Details

Linda Scallan

Telephone: [Redacted]



Notifications

Nothing to report!

Notifications related to your children will appear here when available.



Attendance

Monitor your child's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson.

[Learn More >](#)



Assessment

View your child's full academic record, track progress over time and download term assessments.

[Learn More >](#)



Behaviour

Keep track of your child's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback.

[Learn More >](#)



Timetable

View your child's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time.

[Learn More >](#)



Personal Info

Overview of your child's key info. Ensure that this is up to date.

[Learn More >](#)



Fees

Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card online.

[Learn More >](#)



Student Options

Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the school.

[Learn More >](#)

There are 8 optional subjects on the school curriculum which are : Art, Business, Classical Studies, French, German, Materials Technology Wood, Music, Technical Graphics Please note, as there are limited places in some subjects a lottery will be used to decide who gets into a subject that is over subscribed. Also serious consideration needs to be given to the order in which you select your subjects, starting with the subject you most want to study and working all the way down to the subject you least want to study. Please talk to your son about this and submit your sons preferences by Friday 28 March 2025

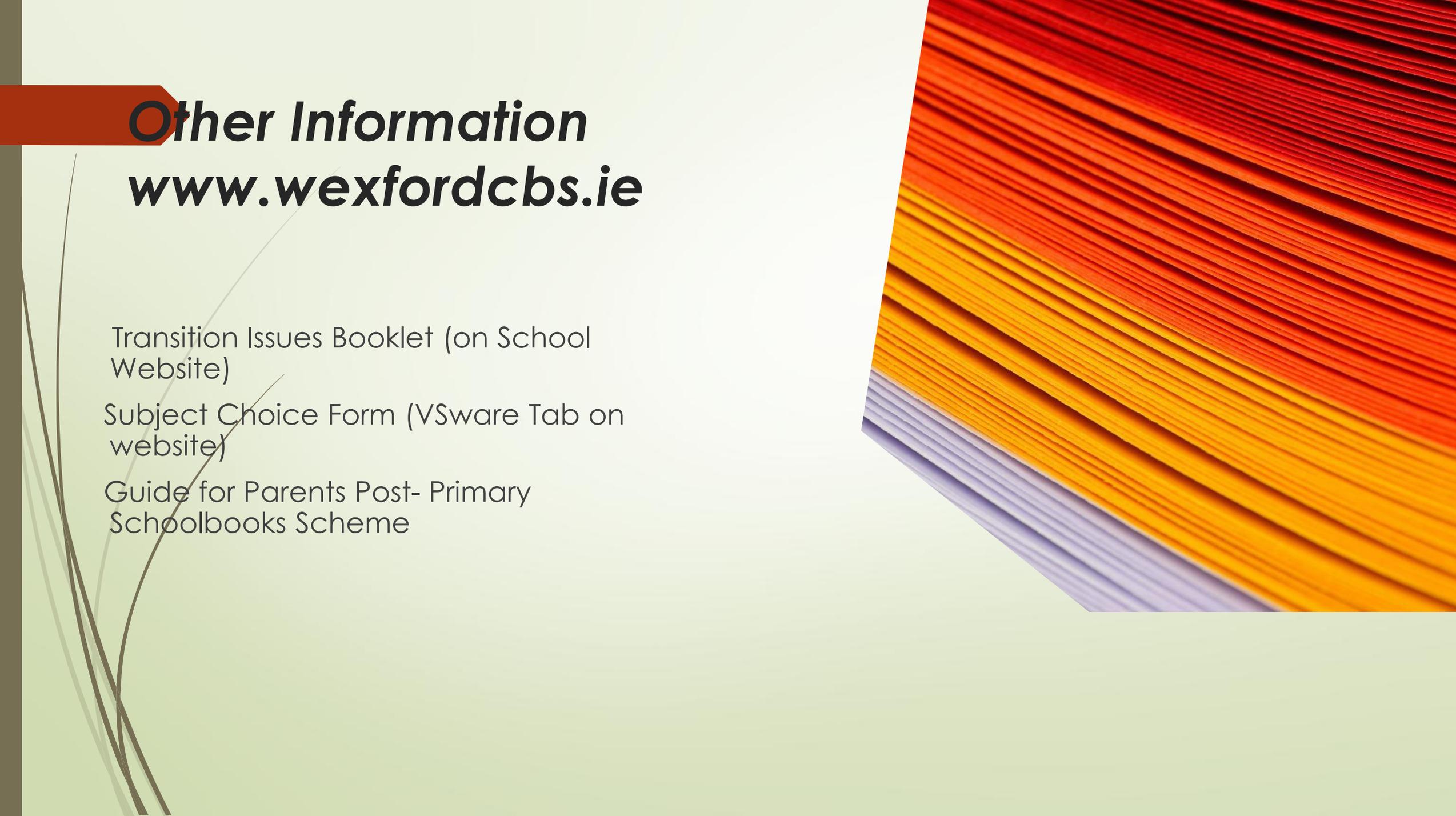
On the table(s) below choose subjects in order of the highest priority of preference (1, 2, etc).

Closing date: 28/03/2025

Subject Set 1

Preference	Subject Choice
1	<input type="text" value="Select a subject"/> ▼
2	<input type="text" value="Select a subject"/> ▼
3	<input type="text" value="Select a subject"/> ▼
4	<input type="text" value="Select a subject"/> ▼
5	<input type="text" value="Select a subject"/> ▼

Confirm



Other Information

www.wexfordcbs.ie

Transition Issues Booklet (on School Website)

Subject Choice Form (VShare Tab on website)

Guide for Parents Post- Primary Schoolbooks Scheme



Contact details

principal@wexfordcbs.ie

jhegarty@wexfordcbs.ie

jinolan@wexfordcbs.ie

lgoff@wexfordcbs.ie

gforde@wexfordcbs.ie

abyrne@wexfordcbs.ie

fdavey@wexfordcbs.ie



Reminder

Forms required (to be returned by Saturday 21st March)

School Record Form*

Code of Behaviour Form *

Acceptable Use Policy Form *

Acceptable Use Policy (E-Mail) Form *

School Trip Permission Form *

Circular 0023/2016-Data Collection Form *

Sensitive Personal Data Form *

Guidance and Learning Support Consent Form *

Subject Choice Form (to be filled in online by Friday 20th March 2026)



Questions

Any queries or clarification needed