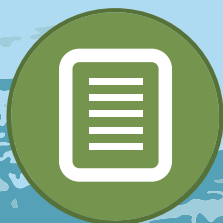


# *study abroad in* **IRELAND**



Ireland offers an exciting alternative to other English-speaking destinations for High School students. Famous for its rolling hills and dramatic coastlines, the country is equally well known for the lively and generous spirit of its people. Studying in Ireland also exposes students to typical Irish sports, and the Irish language itself.



## *our* **PROGRAM**

- Placement in both public and private schools
- Students need to be 12-17 yrs old at start of program
- Limited availability for students already 18
- Stay one term or remain multiple years and graduate high school



## *our* **TEAM**

- Our team has welcomed thousands of international students to the Emerald Isle for 15+ years
- As a family run business, we have developed strong bonds with the many repeat host families
- We remain in contact with students many years after they return home with a distinctly Irish accent



## *our* **HOST FAMILIES**

- Irish people are renowned for their friendly and welcoming nature and our host families are a wonderful example of this culture.
- Students are placed in a carefully selected and vetted host family.
- Host families vary. Many have teenagers, others are retired couples and some have young children.



## *the* **SCHOOLS**

- We have long-standing relationships and work closely with most of our schools
- Students are carefully placed where they will have access to the subjects and support they need
- Students with an EU passport can study at a public or private schools
- Students without an EU passport need to enroll at a private school
- Private schools follow the same curriculum as public but the benefits of private include smaller classes sizes, more subjects and more extra-curriculars



## *the* **COMMUNITY**

- Students are placed primarily in Munster, around well-known cities like Cork, Killarney and Tralee.
- Located in the southwest of Ireland, the area is famous for its breath-taking coastlines, stunning national parks, and historic buildings.
- Sports play is an important part of the local community life and boasts one of Europe's top rugby clubs.
- Likely to be introduced to new sports like gaelic football and hurling.



## *the* **UNIFORMS**

- In Ireland, schools have a strict uniform policy that is compulsory in every school and pupils must also wear black shoes.
- Some schools have a PE uniform and others allow students to wear their own sports clothes.
- The uniform encourages a sense of community throughout the school.

# IRELAND Q&A



## WHY choose Ireland?

- Unique culture
- From 12 years old
- No minimum language requirement
- Study for multiple years
- Graduate after only 1 year
- Simple visa process for most nationalities



## HOW long is the program duration?

- Academic Year - Late August to May / June (Public and Private school)
- Semester – January to May (Public school only)
- 1 Term – Fall Start (Public school only)



## WHO can study in Ireland?

- 12 – 18 years old
- EU passport holders (Public & Private schools)
- Non-EU passport holders (Private schools only)



## WHAT is included?

- School Placement
- Host Family Placement
- Arrival + Departure transfer (requested airport)
- Supervision services
- Full Board



## WHAT is NOT included?

(See price list for estimated fees)

- Host Family fees if student stays for Christmas or Easter
- School uniform and books
- School bus where needed
- Transition Year Fees (if applicable)
- Junior and Leaving Certificate exam and preparation exam fees (if applicable)
- Special diet – Vegan, Gluten, Lactose

# THE IRISH SCHOOL SYSTEM



The Irish high school system is broken up in to two distinct segments: the Junior Cycle, and the Senior Cycle. Between these two segments, student can also participate in the Transition Year. At the end of the Junior Cycle, students take the Junior Certificate and at the end of the Senior Cycle students take the Leaving Certificate.

## JUNIOR CYCLE

Junior Cycle is the **FIRST THREE YEARS** of secondary school.



Students are 12 or 13 when they begin the Junior Cycle, and 14 or 15 when they complete it. Pupils usually take a number of core subjects. *Core subjects follow a common course in the first year and students are assessed for higher or ordinary level from the start of second year onward.*

In addition to the core subjects, all first year students taste the remaining subjects on the curriculum. Having completed the first year taster program, *at the end of first year, students choose the option subjects they wish to continue with into their second year based on interest, ability and potential for success.*

Students preparing for their Junior Certificate will be required to take a maximum of 10 subjects for examination in the third year.

## TRANSITION YEAR

Transition Year is a very successful and popular part of the school curriculum. TY, as it is also known, is a **ONE YEAR OPTIONAL** program but is not offered in every school in Ireland. Students participate in a wide range of activities including:



**WORK EXPERIENCE • TRIPS  
EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES  
WORKSHOPS • FIRST AID  
PUBLIC SPEAKING  
EDCL • GAISCE AWARD**

*TY allows students to experience the world of work and offers them new opportunities for future development and provides a bridge from junior to senior cycle.*

TY usually carries an extra fee and this can vary between each school. Transition Year programs are only available for students participating on a full Academic Year program. They can be especially useful for students with a lower level of English.

## SENIOR CYCLE



Senior Cycle is the **FINAL TWO YEARS** of school

leading to the Leaving Certificate Examination. Subjects are normally studied at either Ordinary or Higher Level. Two subjects, Irish and Mathematics, can be studied at Foundation Level. Foundation Level is geared to the needs of students who might have difficulty with those subjects at Ordinary or Higher Level.

*Students normally study 6 or 7 subjects during the Senior Cycle. English, Maths and Irish are compulsory subjects but International students are exempt from studying Irish and are either offered extra English lessons or a study period at the discretion of the school.*

The school will then offer 3-4 subjects as optional subjects. Sometimes the International student will have a choice and sometimes it will be limited due to availability.

*Students attending the last year of the senior cycle can choose to sit their Leaving Certificate exams and graduate.*

## ACADEMIC YEAR



The Irish school year is broken into **THREE TERMS**:

- TERM 1 – From Last Monday August to Christmas break approx. 22 Dec
- TERM 2 – Early January until the Easter Break
- TERM 3 – From after the 2 week Easter Break until the end of May

*Students sitting for the Leaving Certificate exams will do so during the first three weeks of June.*

International students can attend for a full academic year, or one term starting at the beginning of the academic year, or a semester running from January until the end of the academic year. Students choosing a private school need to attend for a full academic year.

