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Chez Nous Homestay Limited

SCHOOLS IN IRELAND: SECOND LEVEL

There is a possibility of attending private schools and boarding schools in Ireland. However, all the schools we use for foreign students are public schools.

Schools in Ireland are regulated by the Department of Education. Teaching qualifications and examination standards are regulated by the state.

At second level, there are in general three types of school.

Secondary schools run / or owned by religious orders, mainly Catholic orders. These schools have a Catholic ethos.

Vocational Schools run by the Government, VEC schools. The teaching standard and examinations are the same as in secondary schools, some may have a slightly more practical orientation towards technical and engineering subjects.

Educate Together Schools are multi-denominational schools.

Second Level Curriculum The curriculum for Ireland's primary and post-primary schools is determined by the Minister for Education and Skills who is advised by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). The curriculum sets out, not only what is to be taught, but how learning in the particular subject area is to be assessed.

Junior Cert

The programme of study followed in junior cycle varies. At the moment, almost all students take courses leading to the Junior Certificate, the State examination taken at the end of the third year of junior cycle when students are ~14 years of age on average. (Ages vary depending on school starting age generally 1st year age 12, 2nd year age 13, 3rd year=Junior cert year age 14.)

T.Y.

Transition Year is a one-year, school-based programme between Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle. This programme is not exam oriented and gives students some practical work experience, projects, as well as core subjects such as Mathematics and English. Many schools allow students tasters of subject areas such as Chinese language & Culture and staging of musicals or operas as well as visits to events such as the National Ploughing match, sports outings and a mini trip abroad. Approx. age 15-16. Participation in TY year is optional in some schools.

Leaving Cert

The established Leaving Certificate is a two-year programme, containing a range of distinct subjects normally studied at either Ordinary or Higher Level. The senior cycle may be directly after 3rd year or may follow TY

L.C.A.P.

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a distinct, self-contained two-year Leaving Certificate programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life.

Exemptions

The circumstances in which a student will be given exemption from Irish are very limited.

Registration: The best time to register for a school year placement starting in September is the previous February – April. Secondary schools close for summer holidays at the end of May and the state exams start in June. We have a limited number of schools which will accept students arriving at times other than the commencement of the school year in September.

Applying for a school place in Ireland

We will supply a **school application form**, and each application for a place submitted must be accompanied by an application fee of €200.00.