

Transition Year Unit.



SAINT VINCENT'S
CASTLENOCK COLLEGE

Subject: Agriculture Science

Number of Periods per week: 2 periods a week

Class Teacher: ED

Aims and objective:

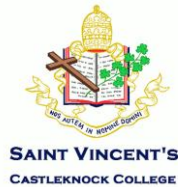
- Introduce the students to agriculture science, make students aware of the importance of agriculture in Ireland and careers available.
- Compare dairy and beef farming.
- Discuss the future of farming in relation to genetics, organic farming, technology. Discuss the implications for the environment.
- Research and analyse common diseases of farm animals.
- Compare the ruminant and monogastric digestive system.
- Discuss the importance of farm safety.

Course content:

1. Dairy and beef breeds – look at common dairy and beef breeds and discuss the difference between them.
2. Dairy Production – lactation cycle of a cow, milk hygiene and milk solids, rearing a calf, the importance of genetics in dairy animals.
3. Beef Production – beef prices and recent protests, rearing a beef animal the correct way.
4. Genetics, selective breeding and A.I. and their importance in agriculture.
5. The future of farming – genetic engineering, GMO's, organic farming, intensive farming. Discussions of the best way forward.
6. Diseases of farm animals – zoonotic diseases, notifiable diseases. Testing and tracing of particular diseases.
7. Farm safety.
8. The digestive system of a ruminant animal.
9. The importance of earthworms in soil and in agriculture.



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Method of assessment:

Students will research an area of agriculture science that they found interesting over the course of the module and they will produce a project on this topic. This project is worth 75% of the module. Students will present their project in the last week of the module.

Students will have a digital assessment at the end of the 6 week module worth 15%

Students will be asked to participate in class discussion and classwork 10%

Digital Learning Skills :

Students will submit their project online using Microsoft teams.

Students will use and gain research skills while producing their project.

Students will complete two online assessments during the module carried out through Microsoft teams.

All homework will be assigned through Microsoft teams.

