**Student Worksheet for a Careers Fair.**

It is important to plan what you want to ask before visiting college stands at a careers fair. Based on the list below, tick [√] three to five areas that are of priority to you. Course Choices must be one of your areas of priority.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Area: | √ |
| 1. Course Choices: | √ |
| 2. Location/Transport: |  |
| 3. Societies/Clubs: |  |
| 4. On Campus Accommodation: |  |
| 5. Campus Size/Class Size: |  |
| 7. Financial Aid: |  |
| 8. Access Routes: |  |
| 9. Support Services: |  |

Below is a sets of questions that you could possible ask related to the areas you ticked above.

**1. Course Choices.**

* How many years is this course?
* What Leaving Cert subjects do I need to study this course (subject/entry requirements)?
* Am I able to do an Erasmus (study abroad)?
* Does this course involve work placements?
* How will I be assessed on this course, examinations, continuous assessment (assignments, presentations or group projects) or a combination of both?

**2. Location/Transport.**

* How long does it take to travel to the city centre (for nights out!)?
* Are there free parking spaces?

**3. Societies/Clubs.**

* What type of societies can I participate in?
* What is the most popular society in your college?
* Has any society achieved something significant?
* Tell me about your sport facilities.

**4. On-Campus Accommodation.**

* Have you got on-campus accommodation?
* How many spaces are reserved for first year students?
* What is the price?
* Is there a high demand for rooms?
* Do you recommend alternative accommodation?

**5. Campus Size/Class Size.**

* How many students attend this college?
* What is the average class size for lectures and tutorials?

**6. Financial Aid.**

* Do you offer financial assistance?

**7. Access Routes.**

* What access routes (HEAR/DARE) are available in your college?
* Do you have a foundation course? What are the entry requirements?

**8. Support services.**

* What supports are available for students with a disability?
* Do you offer health services?
* Do you offer any academic support to students?
* Do you have a counselling service?

Now that you have identified three to five areas of priority, you can use the table below to compare your priorities against three or more colleges of your choice. See example of a completed table on the following page.

**Instructions:**

* Fill in your choice of colleges across the first row of the table.
* After speaking to a college representative, rank each college based on your areas of priority identified in the previous activity, for example, course choices, location/transport and so on.
* Based on the answers to your question, rank each college using Excellent, Good or Fair.
* Add any factors relevant to you in the blanks spaces at the bottoms of this table.

**Tip:** Everyone has different needs in selecting a college to attend. For example, one student may like a large campus with a busy social calendar, while another student may prefer a smaller campus size with reduced class sizes.

**Example Table.**

*David identified three areas of priority: course choices, location/transport and on-campus accommodation. He selected three colleges to compare: Gryffindor, Hufflepuff and Slytherin. Based on the information received from each college, he ranked his three priorities: excellent, good or fair.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *College:* | *College:* | *College:* | | *College:* | *College:* |
|  | **Gryffindor:** | **Hufflepuff:** | **Slytherin:** | |  |  |
| *Areas of Priority:* |  |  |  | |  |  |
| *Course Choices.* | Fair. | Good. | Excellent. | |  |  |
| *Location/Transport.* | Good. | Fair. | Excellent. |  | |  |
| *Societies/Clubs.* |  |  |  | |  |  |
| *On-Campus Accommodation.* | Fair. | Fair. | Excellent. | |  |  |
| *Campus Size.* |  |  |  | |  |  |
| *Financial Aid.* |  |  |  | |  |  |
| *Access Courses.* |  |  |  | |  |  |
| *Support Services.* |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  |  |

**Fill in the table on the next page following the instructions provided above.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *College Name:* | *College Name:* | *College*  *Name:* | *College*  *Name:* | *College*  *Name:* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Areas of Priority:* |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Course Choices.* |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Location/Transport.* |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Societies/Clubs.* |  |  |  |  |  |
| *On-Campus Accommodation.* |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Campus Size.* |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Financial Aid.* |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Access Courses.* |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Support Services.* |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Reflection:**

After you completed this activity, identify the college that you gave the highest number of excellents to and reflect on the reasons for this result.