



Loreto Secondary School

Bray, Co. Wicklow. Telephone 01 286 7481 Fax 01 286 7481

info@loretobray.com www.loretobray.com

8th January 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you are aware an announcement was made by the Minister of Education that schools would move to online teaching and learning, for a period until 31st January 2021, to support the efforts to contain the spread of Covid-19. This is in line with the advice of the National Public Health Emergency Team.

Therefore, our remote provisions will be in place from Monday 11 January for all students, in accordance with our contingency plans for online teaching and learning. Timetables for 'live lessons' have been created for each class. They are posted on www.loretobray.com and have been emailed to student email addresses. These timetables are structured in accordance with research conducted with our students, staff and parents conducted last year and on advice from Education partners as well as the Department of Education & Skills (DES) requirements and guidance (<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/7acad-reopening-our-post-primary-schools/>). The timing of classes coincides with that of our students' in-school timetables.

All of our online teaching and learning will be conducted through G-Suite, including Google Classroom. As outlined by the DES, our remote learning provision incorporates: regular engagement with students, a blend of guided and independent learning tasks/experiences, appropriate and engaging learning opportunities with two-way feedback between home and school. Within our own school context, our school review of remote teaching and learning, it was recognised by all our stakeholders that a balance between 'live lessons', (when teachers will be online with classes via Google Meets), and assigned work (posted in Google Classroom) was most suitable.

Furthermore, it has been acknowledged that students' mental and physical health and wellbeing should be a priority. Therefore remote learning slots for PE, Wellbeing, SPHE, Religion, Careers and Form Class have been incorporated across Junior and Senior Cycle timetables.

There will be some Staff meetings over the next few weeks and classes will not be online during those times.

Staff Meeting Monday 11th January 8.45am-9.00am

Staff Meeting Tuesday 12th January 1.45-3.45pm

Staff Meeting Thursday 28th January 2.30-3.45pm

Remote teaching and learning will begin on **Monday 11th January 2020 from 9.00am** and will continue throughout the day as per the timetable. (This will facilitate a short staff meeting at 8.45am on Monday so will shorten the first class by 15 minutes.)

Students are reminded that they are *'expected to follow the same standards and expectations of behaviour online, on social media and through any other forms of communication as they would in person'* (Code of Behaviour 2020/2021).

If students experience difficulty accessing their Google Classroom or their email account, they should email Ms Fernandez at googleclassroom@loretobray.com

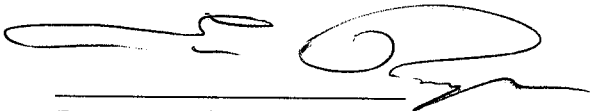
Please note that the online communication arrangements are for teacher-student use only. Any parental queries should be emailed to info@loretobray.com as normal.

It is important for students to keep a routine. We would ask that students stick to their online school timetable. By keeping a routine, they will maximise the use of their time and a routine/timetable will also make them feel much more positive about their day's work.

As information becomes available to the school from the Department of Education and Skills and the State Examinations Commission, we will communicate that information. However, parents are encouraged to continue to monitor the relevant websites for updates.

We hope everyone stays well and healthy during these weeks and look forward to having everyone back to normal routines as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Emma Raughter
Principal