



Loreto Secondary School

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11th February 2021

Dear Sixth Year Parent/Guardian,

As you are aware, since January 11th, we have been operating school online, as per public health advice. Despite much speculation, no firm decision has yet been taken about the reopening of Post Primary schools. Additionally, no decision has been made by the SEC about what form centralised Leaving Certificate Assessments will take.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend all of the students for their engagement and commitment to online schooling, in what is a challenging time for everyone. I would also like to thank the students for their feedback and communication with their teachers and urge them to continue this dialogue with us.

As you are aware, we had intended to run Mock Examinations for Sixth Year students beginning on Monday 22nd February. However, because no decision has been taken by the State Exams Commission (SEC), we have taken the decision in Loreto Bray that **Mock Examinations will not take place at that time.**

Mock examinations will not take place online.

Any decision that we do take regarding Mock Examinations for you will take a number of factors into consideration. We cannot make a final decision about whether Mock Examinations can take place, and what form they will take if they do, until we have more information from the SEC.

We are also conscious of the impact of preparation for Orals and Practical exams, (again, dependent on SEC decisions), as well as the tight timeframe between mid-term and Easter. Any decision that we take here in Loreto Bray will take these factors into consideration.

In taking student wellbeing into account, **please be assured that students will have a minimum of one week of tuition upon return to physical school,** before they would have any kind of formal assessment. This will give them time to settle back into physical school, and its routine, and to see their teachers and peers in a normal classroom setting.

I encourage that all students take a balanced approach over the mid-term break, planning any time spent studying in proportion, ensuring to make time to rest, relax and to exercise.

I would like to thank all Parents/Guardians for your support of your daughters and of the school, which is invaluable as current circumstances can be very stressful for the students at times.

I have also written to your daughters to inform them of this update.

I hope that you and your families stay safe and well,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emma Raughter', with a horizontal line underneath.

Emma Raughter
Principal