



12th May 2021

A Chairde,

We hope this letter finds you all well as we begin to emerge from restrictions and look forward to the bright days of summer. This past school year has been unique in so many ways and we would like to thank our 6th Year students for their understanding and cooperation throughout it all. The resilience built up over the past two years will see this group overcome so many obstacles they may face in life in the future.

We would like to provide you with some updates on upcoming events:

1. **Graduation:** In line with public health guidelines we will not be able to have an in-person graduation ceremony for our Leaving Certificate students of 2021. We hugely regret that this is the case but hope you can understand the reasons why. We will be hosting a Virtual Graduation Ceremony online on Monday 24th at 20:00. A link to this will be shared through the 6th Year Microsoft Teams page. Families will be able to enjoy celebrating this milestone together from the comfort of their own homes. We would ask that no large groups would congregate to watch the ceremony.
2. **Accredited Grades:** This Friday May 14th sees the end of the window for submission of work to be used as part of the Accredited Grades process. Students have been engaged in a number of in-class assessments over the last number of weeks. It is important to note that the accredited grade submitted by the school is not solely based on those particular tests. Teachers will use a range of available evidence from across the two years of study to support their judgement-making in estimating the marks to award. These estimated marks will be subject to an in-school alignment process and subsequent to this a national standardisation process.
3. As of now we anticipate that in-school classes will continue for our Leaving Certificate students who will be sitting examinations, up to and including Friday 28th May. We are looking into the feasibility of providing a study room for students during class periods for subjects where they have chosen not to sit the exams. We will update students on these arrangements through Microsoft Teams.
4. **Leaving Certificate exams:** Many of our students have chosen to sit a number of Leaving Cert exam papers from June 9th onwards. Every student taking a Leaving Cert exam has to be very conscious of their social activities over the coming weeks and in particular the closer we get to the 9th June.

The Chief Medical Officer Tony Holohan has given the following advice to those sitting the exams and their families in relation to reducing the risk of contracting Covid-19 or being a close contact of a confirmed case:

Príomhoide
Principal
Mr Niall Murphy

Leas-Príomhoide
Deputy Principal
Ms Fiona Nic Chárthaigh

Uimhir Rolla 76086P
Roll Number 76086P



"We want to ensure that we help students facing the Leaving Cert to take every measure that they individually can to prevent themselves from getting infected in the first place. The best way to ensure you complete the Leaving Cert is to stop yourself picking up this disease. As the month goes on the importance of cutting your contacts, trying to just stay away from other people, and effectively quarantining yourself in the run into the exams, particularly over the course of the last couple of weeks, will become more important."

Therefore we ask that all students who are sitting examinations in June would heed this advice.

We also wish to stress that all students sitting exams must follow public health guidance throughout the examination period.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of our students all the very best over the coming weeks. We continue to be here to support them and please do not hesitate to reach out and ask for help at any stage.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Niall Murphy', written over a horizontal line.

Niall Murphy

Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona NicCharthaigh', written over a horizontal line.

Fiona NicCharthaigh

Deputy Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eamon Scully', written over a horizontal line.

Eamon Scully

Year Head