



**OUR
LADY'S
SCHOOL**
TERENURE



10th March 2020

Re: Covid-19

Dear Parents/Guardians

As the Covid-19 situation continues to develop, we are putting in place contingency measures should the school be forced to close. Were this to happen, it would likely be at very short notice, after which there will be no access to the building. **We have no information at present that this will happen or even that it is likely, but we feel it is prudent to be prepared.**

Therefore, we recommend the following:

1. Students should ensure that they have access to **key texts and notes**, ie they are to be brought home each evening and not left in school.
2. Students should be able to access their **gmail account** and should inform their tutor if they have a problem.
3. It is envisaged that teachers will continue to deliver content and mark work through gmail for the duration of any school closure.
4. Students should log in and familiarise themselves with the **Google Classroom** platform in advance.
5. Please reinforce with your daughter the importance of the **hand hygiene and coughing protocols** which are displayed around the school.

As communicated previously, we will follow all HSE and DES (Department of Education and Skills) advice with the health and safety of our school community to the forefront of all decisions.

Please read the following statement from the Department of Education and Skills:

The Department of Education and Skills is liaising closely with the Department of Health on a continuing basis.

*Any decision to close schools will be made on public health advice. **There is no such advice at this point.** It is essential that any decisions regarding responses to Covid-19 are proportionate, necessary and based on specific public health advice. No other response is appropriate.*

Public health professionals will contact schools if there is any action to be taken. Schools should not take unilateral action.

Schools, pre-schools and higher education settings have been provided with advice and guidance in respect of Covid-19. There is up to date guidance for schools and parents on education.ie/covid19.

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The Department is deeply conscious of the significance of decisions concerning school closures, and the potential impact any such decisions would have on parents, families and the wider community.

This is an evolving situation and the health advice is being updated on a daily basis. The Department of Education and Skills and Department of Health will continue to work closely together on this issue.

We will continue to keep you updated should the situation change.

Yours sincerely

Marguerite Gorby

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