



12th March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Many thanks to parents/guardians and students for the patience and cooperation shown in response to today's announcement. As directed by An Taoiseach, the school will remain closed from 6pm this evening until March 29th. In light of these extraordinary circumstances I would like to outline some points to you.

Staff and students have been preparing for the possibility of remote teaching and learning for a number of weeks. We are well equipped to keep both teaching and learning well on track over the coming weeks.

- Students have school Gmail accounts and access to Google Apps including Google Classroom platforms, which all teachers have set up.
- Subject teachers and form teachers have been actively working with students to ensure any access issues have been resolved.
- Students have been instructed to bring home any books/resources they will need.
- Teachers will be setting work, correcting work and covering content from the relevant courses.
- Students need to follow their school timetable during the day to keep up with work set by their teachers.
- Some Learning-At-Home pointers are attached on another document for students and parents.
- Please support your daughter in establishing a structured and consistent approach to her school work over the coming weeks.
- Encourage your daughter to engage fully with the supports available to her through the online platforms and instructions her subject teachers have given her.

It is important to note that while the school is in this period of closure:

- Any queries should be emailed to <u>admin@olschool.ie</u>.
- No exceptions will be made regarding access to the building.
- The school phone lines will not be tended.
- On-line supports and channels of communication are available to our students.

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Principal: Marguerite Gorby Deputy Principals: Stephen Rhatigan, Aoife Ronan





• We ask that the school community observes an email etiquette of communicating within regular school hours (8am - 4pm approx.).

Please read the following extract from today's statement by the Department of Education and Skills:

An announcement was made this morning by the Taoiseach Leo Varadkar TD of the closure of schools, pre-schools and further and higher education settings, for a period until 29 March 2020, to support efforts to contain the spread of Covid-19. This will take effect from 6pm this evening, Thursday 12 March. This is in line with the advice of the National Public Health Emergency Team.

All pupils and students, from pre-school to third level are urged to practice social distancing, and to minimise physical contact with each other, to help avoid the spread of Covid-19. This should include minimising social contact, avoiding meeting up and keeping physical space between them. Parents and guardians are urged to support their children to maintain this approach.

We will keep you informed via the school App of further relevant information as it becomes available to us through official channels.

I hope that you and your families stay safe and well during the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Marguerite Gorby Principal

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