



10th February, 2021

Re: Leaving Cert Mock Examinations

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

I hope that you and your families are keeping safe and well.

A big well done to all our students and their families for the excellent engagement with remote teaching and learning. I know that there are many challenges for families at these times. The high level of student engagement and support from home has been exceptional.

I fully appreciate that our 6th Year students have added concerns around their Leaving Certificate examinations and their Mock exams and are looking for clarity. The lack of clear direction from the Government about the return to school and the State Examinations means that it is challenging for schools to make clear decisions in a vacuum. We recognise how challenging it also is for our students to maintain motivation without any set dates to work towards. We have put an interim plan in place to provide some clarity to our 6th Years in relation to their Mock exams.

Mock Examinations

We hope to see our 6th Year students back in the school building soon. If their return date is in March we plan to hold 6th Year Mock Exams on the 4th day of their return to the school building in line with public health guidelines. This will allow all students 3 days with their teachers to get accustomed to being back to school and also to have class time with their teachers. The in-school Mock examinations will allow our students get a real experience of sitting examinations with crucial time management practice.

If students return to school the week of February 22nd the earliest start date for the mock exams will be March 4th. This will allow all of our 6th Years to take a well deserved rest over the mid term break. We are all working to be as flexible as possible and to adapt each aspect of traditional school life where necessary. Please note that this plan can of course change depending on any relevant Department of Education announcements and public health guidelines.

We hope to see all of our students return to their learning, whether that be in person or online, on February 22nd with the same determination and positive attitude that they have shown throughout the opening weeks of 2021. The 6th Years of OLS are to be commended on their resilience and commitment to their studies despite the many challenges that they have been presented with.

Yours sincerely

Marguerite Gorby

Principal