



**OUR
LADY'S
SCHOOL**
TERENURE



November 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

As your daughter is now in her final year in school, we would like to inform you about the guidance programme in 6th Year. In the coming year students will have to make important decisions in relation to their future. The following programme is provided to facilitate students to make the best possible choices as well as accurate and effective applications.

Career Classes

Students attend one careers class a week. During these classes students will learn about the different opportunities open to them and the details of various application procedures.

Individual Consultations

We will meet with students for an individual consultation to discuss their personal choices and applications and follow up with further consultations as required.

Small Group Work

Work will be done in small groups where a number of students are making common applications, for example, applications to the UK colleges.

Higher Options

Higher Options is an annual education expo for second level students run by The Irish Times. This year's virtual event will provide a space where students can meet with representatives from universities, colleges and education institutions from Ireland, the UK and Europe. They can attend a full programme of talks and live Q&A sessions. It will take place on **Wednesday 4th November from 1pm to 6pm** and we encourage all students to engage with this event. All students will be given a ticket for this event. More information on this event can be found at <https://higheroptions.vfairs.com/>

Visiting Speakers

A number of representatives from the colleges will make virtual presentations to students on the options available in their colleges. We will also invite past pupils to make virtual presentations to 6th Year students and share their experience of starting college.

Virtual College Open Days

Many virtual career events and college open days are due to take place over the coming months. A list of these events is available on the following link https://www.qualifax.ie/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=22 and on the school guidance website. We would encourage students to engage with these virtual events in

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order to gather as much information as possible about their courses and colleges of interest enabling them to make informed decisions.

We wish to inform you of two access routes available into Higher Education. The HEAR and DARE programs may assist students, who meet certain criteria, to access college. Information on both is available on www.accesscollege.ie or feel free to contact us for further information.

Information on financial support for college is available on www.susi.ie and www.studentfinance.ie. We advise early application.

The 6th Year Parents career information event will be available online on Thursday 26th November 2020. We will provide an online presentation on CAO college applications. We will also provide information on PLC (post leaving certificate) courses, grants and access routes to college (DARE & HEAR). We will provide you with more information on this event prior to the date. Should you have any queries regarding any of the above, do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Porter Mary Costello
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