



Monday April 20<sup>th</sup>. 2020

Dear Parent/ Guardian.

I hope that you and your families are managing to keep well and safe as the covid-19 crisis continues. We as a school community are very much aware of the difficulties that many of our students and their families may be experiencing at the moment. I would very much like to offer you as much support as I possibly can. I would like to make you aware that I can be contacted personally at [principal@mounسیونcbssecondary.ie](mailto:principal@mounسیونcbssecondary.ie). The normal school supports for students such as year heads, home school liaison, school administration, technical issues for students are all still in place. These can all be contacted through [info@mounسیونcbssecondary.ie](mailto:info@mounسیونcbssecondary.ie)

At the moment, we do not know when schools will reopen for students. The minister for education announced last week that the Leaving Certificate exams would be postponed till the end of July or August and that the Junior Certificate exams would be replaced with school based exams at the beginning of the next school year.

My advice to our sixth year students is to try to keep yourselves organised. Have a study timetable, decide on how much time to allocate to each of your subjects each day. Take regular breaks and get plenty of exercise. It is particularly unfortunate for this cohort of students but I would like to reassure them that the school will do everything it possibly can to support them over the next few months. Subject teachers are there for you and can be contacted by email or through google classroom.

I would like to make you aware of how we will be doing our summer assessments and reports for all of our first, second, third, transition year and fifth year students in the event of school not reopening. Our assessment will be based on two parts;

1. Assessment based on student performance up to the 12<sup>th</sup>.of March.
2. Assessment based on online engagement and completion of online assignments since the 12<sup>th</sup>.of March.

I would strongly advise and encourage you to help your son with online participation and to ensure that he sets time aside to engage with his teachers on google classroom and that assignments are completed. I fully understand that this is getting more difficult as time moves on and the weather is getting warmer but it is really important to understand that this is still school time.

Finally, I am very conscious of the unprecedented nature of these days and the challenges that our students are facing. Student wellbeing remains central to the education that we provide. I encourage therefore, all students to take breaks, get exercise and eat well in order to mind their physical and mental health. I would also encourage students to use their time constructively and to try out some new or maybe old pastimes such as reading.

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We will continue to provide you with any further updates as they become known to us and until then, I hope that you and your families keep well.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Kennedy.

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