



**Creagh
College**

Coláiste na Craobhai Guaire

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Learning for life



To all of our 6th year students.

April 20th 2020

We would like to welcome you back to remote teaching and learning. We hope you've all taken a break over the Easter holiday period. We know how stressful and uncertain the current situation is for you in particular. Looking at social media feeds and news speculation about what's going to happen in the summer must be very worrying for you, so we want to provide you with as much clarity as we can.

The FACTS about The Leaving Cert Exams (including LCVP and LCA exams)

- The Minister of Education has issued instructions and advice for schools and students. It is the Minister's advice we should follow, not random journalists or social media speculation.
- The exams are going ahead.
- We don't know the exact dates yet but they will be starting in the last week of July or in early August.
- Practical tests and project work for Leaving Cert, LCVP and LCA students will go ahead in July/August too.
- We will have a more detailed timetable for the exams in June.
- The Minister wants you to focus on study and online learning from now until May 29th. That's a six-week period. Our teachers will be providing work and guidance online during these six weeks.
- At the beginning of June the Minister wants you to take a two-week break. We agree with that advice and you should follow it.
- The Minister wants to have you back in school for two weeks before the exams begin.
- During the period between the beginning of June and the exams, teachers will stay in touch online to provide support and advice.
- Please try to ignore speculation about the exams. What is listed above is the current situation.

Other advice for students

- Focus on the next 6 weeks only
- Engage with all of your teachers and ask for help where needed.
- Set a daily routine - Try to follow the normal school day (9am - 4pm) and set small achievable tasks for each day.
- Build exercise into your day.
- Keep in touch with your friends.
- You will have good days and bad days; this is completely normal.
- Ms. D'Arcy and Ms. Travers are making updated careers information available on Microsoft Teams.
- Ms. D'Arcy and Ms. Travers are available to meet and discuss study plans with you remotely. Please get in touch with them if you need help with this.

Graduation

- The current situation has taken your graduation ceremony off the table... for now. We are determined to hold a ceremony to mark your time in Creagh College; we will do so when the time is right and when it is safe for all of us. Everyone in Creagh College is really looking forward to celebrating that graduation ceremony with you

Calendar:

- April 20th to May 29th: Six weeks of school work and study with remote classes and support from teachers.
- Early June: 2-week break.
- Early June: Publication of detailed timetable for Leaving Cert/LCVP and LCA exams.
- Mid June to Mid July: Resume study and preparations for exams. Teachers will be available online to provide support and advice wherever possible.
- Mid July: Two weeks back in school to prep for exams.
- End of July/Early August: The Leaving Cert Exams (including LCVP and LCA).

Summary

You are living through a momentous historical event that has never happened before. This event impacts you particularly by delaying your Leaving Cert and taking you away from your teachers and friends at a crucial time. You will get through this and you will have a unique story to tell for the rest of your lives. As crazy as this situation is, it will pass, and life will go on; and even though the next few steps will be unusual, you will all get to follow your path into the future. Good luck in your studies, and don't forget to look after yourselves and each other.

Best wishes,

Paul Glynn, Principal